



# JAGUAR NATION

APRIL 2015 • VOLUME 4, No. 6

SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

## PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Jaguar Nation,

Spring is in the air as our students and staff members continue to prepare for upcoming local SkillsUSA competitions for state placement. For those who have already competed and those yet to go, I wish everyone the best of luck!

Happy holidays and hope you have a restful spring break with warmer weather to follow.

### School Spirit Alerts for March/April:

- Baseball and Softball is in full swing so come on out in support of our teams! Go JAGS!
- National Honor Society Induction
- HOSA Club, working in conjunction with Community Blood Services, is holding their annual Blood Drive.

For a detailed list of games and activity schedules, please refer to our website's Calendar of Events page.

Sincerely,

Diane M. Ziegler



## THE RAINFOREST PROJECT: WELDING



(Back, left to right): Skylar Holland of Raritan, Lucas Francis of Somerset, Nick Carro of Belle Mead, Kenny Nieves of Bridgewater, Joe Paolillo of Hillsborough, and Logan Dolci of Hillsborough. (Front, left to right): Matt Danbury of Bridgewater, Rebecca Jackson of Raritan, Patrick Christian of North Plainfield, Gavin Scholte of Bridgewater, and Stephen Agans of Manville.

The Rainforest Project is an interdisciplinary project created and put into motion by SCVTHS Dance Department Coordinator Sheila Buttermore. Through the use of student and faculty choreography, the Dance Program is creating a rainforest-themed performance. The multimedia set, lobby installation (including facts about the rainforest), are being created by several SCVTHS Career & Technical Education (CTE) programs

The SCVTHS Welding Program's contributions to the Rainforest Project involve the creation of a set which will be used on stage during the performances. Welding Instructor Don Smith recounted how the impressively large set was built. It took his entire class nearly four weeks to fabricate, assemble, and weld together all of the square and rectangular steel tubing pieces.

The assembly involved using countless bolts and hinges to successfully create what the Dance Department envisioned. Mr. Smith explained that requiring the students to refer to drawings before cutting and assembling the final construction was a great example of the practical experiences the project made available to students in his classroom.

Students in the SCVTHS Welding Program learn many different types of welding in preparation for careers beyond graduation. Graduates from the Program may become entry-level or apprentice welders and eventually Welding Engineers. While the majority of graduating welding students go directly into the unions, some attend post-secondary institutions and trade schools to further

their education. Mr. Smith went on to add that because there is no specific union for welders, his students are hired throughout the construction field and are in great demand.

The Rainforest Project will be presented at SCVTHS on April 24th and 25th. Dinner and performance packages cost \$20 per person. Dinner is scheduled for 6:00 PM and the performance at 7:30 PM. Performance only tickets will be available for \$12. Reservations are required. Contact **Mary Lynne McAnally** at [mmcanally@scvths.net](mailto:mmcanally@scvths.net) or (908) 526-8900, x7125.

Performances for Somerset County middle and high elementary schools will be held

on April 27th, 28th, and 29th from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM. These performances will be held free of charge, however seating is limited and reservations are required.

To schedule your school visit, please contact **Sheila Buttermore** at [sbuttermore@scvths.net](mailto:sbuttermore@scvths.net) or (908) 526-8900 x7277. ✨

For more information on this story contact **James Strickhart** at (908) 526-8900, ext. 7169 or [jstrickhart@scvths.net](mailto:jstrickhart@scvths.net).

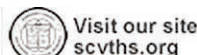


### UPCOMING EVENTS

SCVTHS Dance Dept. presents  
**THE RAINFOREST PROJECT**  
Fri. - April 24th • Sat. - April 25th  
Dinner & Performance - 6 pm  
Performance Only - 7:30 pm



**SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS**  
14 Vogt Drive • P.O. Box 6350 • Bridgewater, NJ 08807 • (908) 526-8900  
A US News & World Report Top Ranked High School!





# JAGUAR NATION

APRIL 2015

## SCVTHS STUDENTS RECOGNIZED IN SCHOLASTIC ART AND WRITING AWARDS

### SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

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*This publication was funded by the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders*

### JAGUAR NATION

Volume 4, No. 6 • April 2015

Duane Wallace • *Editor & Designer*

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Ten students from the Academy for Health and Medical Sciences at Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School were recently recognized for their contributions in the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards. The complete list of students, along with their respective awards and categories are:

**Madison Hill-Glover** (Raritan): Gold Key Award, Science Fiction/Fantasy

**Lily Chang** (Hillsborough): Silver Key Award, Poetry

**Madalyn Arcurio** (Flemington): Honorable Mention Award, Poetry

**Kristine Chin** (Hillsborough): Honorable Mention Award, Short Story

**Julia Garaffa** (Skillman): Honorable Mention Award, Humor

**Madison Hill-Glover** (Raritan): Honorable Mention Award, Poetry

**Parth Patel** (Raritan): Honorable Mention Award, Short Story

**Satyakrishna Polavarapu** (Bridgewater): Honorable Mention Award, Poetry

**Christopher Santos** (Branchburg): Honorable Mention Award, Poetry

**Gabrielle Jacob** (North Plainfield): Honorable Mention Award, Flash Fiction

**Chloe Jen** (Bridgewater): 2 Honorable Mention Awards, Photography and Jewelry

SCVTHS English Instructor Sarah Williams explained, "The Gold Key is the highest level of regional award for the Northeast Region-at-Large, with the Silver Key being the second highest. As a Gold Key Award winner, Madison Hill-Glover is eligible for consideration at the national level of competition." Madison said winning the Gold Key Award for her science fiction story was a true "confidence booster" and made her feel "pretty superb." The fifteen hundred word short story described a teenage girl coping with loss in a post-apocalyptic world. Because Madison won a Gold Key Award, she received a certificate, pin, and even had the opportunity to read her work at the Gold Key Teens Reading Live event at McNally Jackson Books in New York City.\*



Madison Hill-Glover

*For more information contact James Strickhart at (908) 526-8900, ext. 7169 or [jstrickhart@scvts.net](mailto:jstrickhart@scvts.net).*

### STUDENT OF THE MONTH

## Siddharth Shankar



Siddharth Shankar

Siddharth Shankar, a freshman in the Academy for Health & Medical Sciences, has been selected as Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School's Student of the Month for March 2015. Siddharth is the son of Shankar Srinivasan and Vrunda Shankar of Hillsborough.

Academy for Health and Medical Sciences Social Studies Instructor Dr. Tokarsky-Unda nominated Siddharth for Student of the Month because, "Sid is an enthusiastic student, who loves to discuss current events and analyze them within a cultural context. He has excellent powers of observation: he can discern and analyze social and economic patterns which others often fail to notice, and writes at a university graduate level. He frequently makes meaningful contributions to class discussions and works well collaboratively." In addition, Dr. Tokarsky-Unda remarked how Siddharth "is courteous, considerate, and has a positive outlook."

Outside of SCVTHS, Siddharth keeps very busy. He is a member of the Hillsborough High School Debate Club, Hillsborough High School Swim Team, has played trumpet in 5 different bands over the past year, is a self-taught coder, and is an avid cyclist. When not taking part in extracurricular activities, Siddharth has found time to volunteer at the Hillsborough Public Library. Siddharth's other notable accomplishments include being a Distinguished Delegate to the Model UN Conference in Philadelphia.

After graduating, Siddharth hopes to attend either MIT or Harvard University to pursue a STEM or communication-oriented career. Ultimately, Siddharth would like to start his own company. Siddharth remarked on the Student of the Month award saying, "I really appreciate this recognition. I hope to go great places in the future, and I plan to make the most of the education this institution provides me."\*