



Anne Arundel County Public Schools

STEM Students of Excellence

Awards Ceremony

Honoring Graduating Seniors
Who Exemplify STEM Student Excellence
and the K-12 Teachers Who Inspired Them



Wednesday, April 3, 2024 | 7:00–8:30 pm | Lindale Middle School Auditorium

**“Do the research. Ask questions.
Find someone doing what you
are interested in! Be curious!”**

~ Katherine Johnson

*Mathematician and NASA Scientist
whose calculations were critical to the success
of the first U.S. crewed spaceflights and numerous projects
thereafter—Johnson was a Presidential Medal of Freedom
honoree in 2015 and a Congressional Gold Medal recipient in 2019.*

**“The best way to predict
the future is to invent it.”**

~ Alan Kay

*Computer scientist and winner of the
A. M. Turing Award for his contributions to
object-oriented programming languages
and personal computing*



STEM Awards Ceremony

Opening Remarks

Mark T. Bedell, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

••• Part I •••

Students & Teachers of Excellence Awards

Keynote Address

Abigail Ward, USNA, Class of 2024
STEM Alumna, Old Mill Middle South and Northeast High School

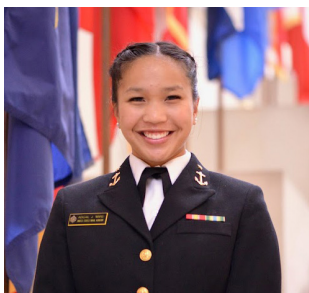
••• Part II •••

Students & Teachers of Excellence Awards

Closing Ceremony Remarks

Photo Opportunities

STEM Awards Keynote Speaker



Abigail Ward

Abigail Ward grew up in Pasadena, MD and attended the Old Mill Middle South STEM Magnet Program beginning in 6th grade. Her love of science and technology continued to grow during her middle school years where she founded a Girls in STEM club and established a school greenhouse based on work she accomplished in her STEM Changemaker project. Ms. Ward continued her STEM studies at Northeast High School and was recognized as their school's STEM Student of Excellence Awardee in 2020. She is currently studying Computer Science at the United States Naval Academy with a minor in Chinese; she specializes in Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence. Abigail is a USNA 2024 Stamps Scholar and was selected to spend a semester abroad in Taiwan engaged in intensive Chinese language study. A recipient of the Rhodes Scholarship, after her May 2024 USNA graduation, Ms. Ward will attend Oxford University and pursue an MSc in the Social Science of the Internet. Afterwards, she will serve in the U.S. Navy as a member of the Information Warfare Community.

Stamps Scholars Program

The Stamps Scholars Program was founded by E. Roe Stamps and his late wife Penny in 2006, with the purpose of enabling extraordinary educational experiences for extraordinary students. Today, it is an internationally prestigious scholarship program and community that helps exceptional students become meaningful leaders throughout society.

Rhodes Scholarship Program

The Rhodes Scholarship is the oldest (first awarded in 1902) international scholarship programme, enabling outstanding young people from around the world to study at the University of Oxford. Each year 32 young students from the United States are selected as Rhodes Scholars. These scholars are chosen not only for their outstanding scholarly achievements, but for their character, commitment to others and to the common good, and for their potential for leadership in whatever domains their careers may lead.

STEM Students and Teachers of Excellence

Student Awardees and the teachers they have chosen to honor

Student Awardee	Honored Teacher
Reagan Parker Annapolis HS	Sebastian Serrano Physics, River Hill HS
Caitlin Finkbeiner Arundel HS	Dr. Gary Van Essen Statistics, Arundel HS
Samuel Landon Broadneck HS	John Schiller Physics, Broadneck HS
Logan Spranger CAT North	Sarah Skinner Agricultural Sciences, CAT-North
Zoie Prandy CAT South	Christopher Jacobs Interactive Media Production, CAT-South
Amir Walton-Irvin Chesapeake HS	Malieka Walton Math, Chesapeake Bay Middle
Alexander Moulton Chesapeake Science Point	Dr. Jules Ngangmeni Physics & Math, Jefferson Houston HS
Kaylin Vincent Crofton HS	Jennifer McLeran Technology Education PLTW, Crofton HS
Indu Bodala Glen Burnie HS	Stacie Errico Chemistry and Bio Sciences PLTW, CECOM, US Army
Elijah Wesley Meade HS	Christine Crisostomo IB Chemistry, Meade HS
Subhashi Pradhan North County HS	Brian Turkett Physics & Astronomy STEM, North County HS
Emily Sawyer Northeast HS	Tully Fenner Bio Sciences PLTW, Northeast HS
Jesse Slingluff Old Mill HS	Hannah McVey Science, Chesapeake Bay Middle
Renee Flowers Phoenix Academy	Tiffany Harris Social Studies, Phoenix Academy
Kiran Spencer Severna Park HS	Jeanine Cosh Physics, Severna Park HS
Sara M. Hollenbach South River HS	Kevin McCoy Math, South River HS
Kaitlyn Kruemmel Southern HS	Kristin Larney Environmental Science & Marine Biology, Southern HS
Nicholas Haight Virtual Academy	Paula Perry Math, Virtual Academy

Thank you for joining us to celebrate AACPS STEM excellence with our STEM student and teacher awardees this evening.

Please enjoy time socializing and taking pictures with your family and friends following the ceremony.

Please visit the AACPS STEM website for photos taken tonight by AACPS staff.

Photos available April 15, 2024 at www.aacps.org/stem

Special Thanks to the following groups for bringing tonight's STEM Awards Ceremony to life for our awardees and guests:

South River High School String Ensemble Performances

SRHS students under the direction of Mr. Jerry Cavanaugh

STEM Awardee Photos and Videos

Mr. Louis Nesbitt, AACPS Business & Development Specialist

Ceremony Photography and Program Design

AACPS Design & Print Office Staff

Ceremony Venue Support

Lindale Staff

Ceremony Organization and Management

STEM Site-Based Coordinators and Department Chairs, Magnet Specialist,

AACPS Business & Development staff,

Advanced Studies & Programs and STEM Office staff



“Every moment in life, every opportunity is a choice to innovate and have an impact.”

~ Dr. Frances Colón

*Senior director for International Climate Policy at American Progress,
member of the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and
Medicine Roundtable on Science and Technology for Sustainability,
Co-chair of the Academies’ Global Science Diplomacy Roundtable*

“The walls between art and engineering exist only in our minds.”

~ Theo Jansen

*Dutch kinetic sculptor who fuses art and engineering as he animates
large structures, works at the intersection of creativity
and engineering design—
Jansen studied Physics at the Delft University of Technology.*



Mark T. Bedell, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Mary Tillar
Assistant Superintendent, Division of Advanced Studies & Programs

Kevin Hamlin, Ph.D.
Director, Advanced Studies & Programs

Maureen McMahon, Ph.D.
Coordinator, STEM Program

