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Seven Jericho Students Named INTEL Semifinalists

Represents Long Island's Largest Number of Semifinalists

By Denise Nash

Anuja Shah, Christine Kim, April Pun, Jill Dolowich, Sagar Rambhia, Anirudh Chandrashekar and Neil Mehta, all seniors at Jericho High School, were recently named seven of the 300 Semifinalists in the Intel Science Talent Search 2012, a program of Society for Science & the Public. Jericho's seven students represent the largest number of students from any school on Long Island this year.

The semifinalists of the Intel Science Talent Search were chosen from over 1,800 entrants nationwide. Each of the semifinalists, as well as their schools, receives \$1,000 for this honor.

The students worked on the following projects:

*Anirudh Chandrashekar- Identification of *Drosophila melanogaster* Gustatory Receptor 23a Response in Olfaction Mechanisms

*Jill Dolowich - Memory retention of landscape learning in honeybees (*Apis mellifera*)

*Neil Mehta - Co-restoration of Type III Nrg1 back signaling through depolarization: Implications for schizophrenia

*April Pun- DNA Repair Mechanisms: Investigations of Base Excision Repair Pathway in Differentiated and Proliferative Neuronal CAD Cells

*Sagar Rambhia - Rupture Risk Assessment Of Cardiovascular Pathologies: Patient-Based Fluid-Structure Interaction Simulation Study

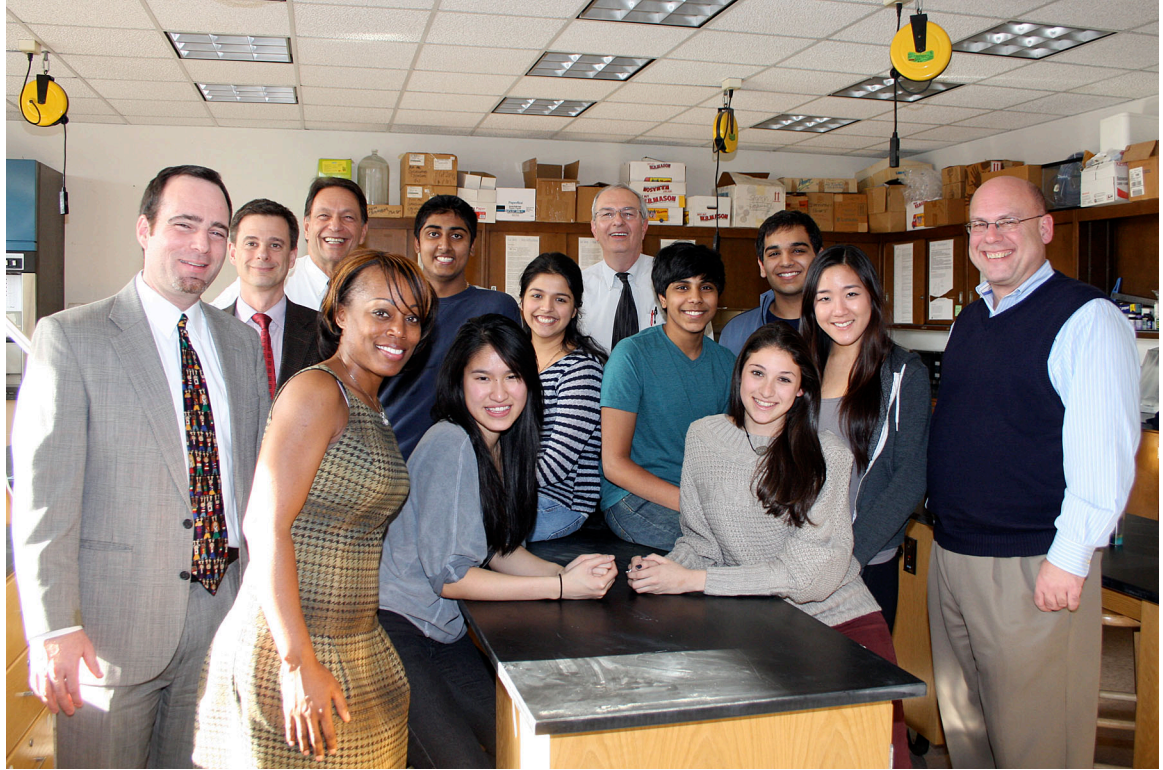
*Anuja Shah - Locating Brain Connectivity Hubs: A Novel Use of Connecting Coefficient to Minimize Threshold Effect

*Christine Kim's project, which was submitted in the social science category, is entitled The Effect of Technological Devices in a Teen's Bedroom on the Amount and Quality of Sleep.

"This is a group of intelligent, highly motivated young scientists who have performed doctoral-level research in sophisticated laboratories and, as a result, earned numerous awards in many prestigious competitions during the past several years," said Frank DiMartino, Jericho's Curriculum Associate for Science and Technology.

From this group of 300 Semifinalists, 40 Finalists will be chosen later this month to attend the Science Talent Institute in Washington, D.C. in March. During their trip to Washington, the Finalists will participate in a final judging process and share in \$630,000 in scholarships. Serena McCalla is the advisor for Anuja, April, Jill, Sagar, Anirudh and Neil and Anthony Scarnati is the advisor for Christine.

As the nation's oldest and most prestigious pre-college science competition, the Intel Science Talent Search brings together the best and brightest young scientific minds in the United States to compete for \$1.25 million in awards.



Pictured (Back row, L-R) are High School Principal Joe Prisinzano, Curriculum Associate for Social Studies, Libraries and Business Eric Sundberg, Superintendent Hank Grishman, student Anirudh Chandrashekar, Curriculum Associate for Science and Technology Frank DiMartino, student Neil Mehta, student Christine Kim and teacher Anthony Scarnati. (Front row L-R) teacher Serena McCalla, student April Pun, student Anuja Shah, student Sagar Rambhia and student Jill Dolowich.