



French Team Scores Big in Competition

More than 800 students from the state of Florida participated March 15-17 in the Congrès de la Culture Française en Floride held at the Doubletree Hotel in Orlando. This year we had a double celebration at our state French competition; we commemorated the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Congrès as well as the 450th anniversary of the first French settlement in Florida at Fort Caroline in Jacksonville. Many dignitaries were in attendance to mark these very special occasions, including the founder of Congrès, Mme Suzanne Carrell, as well as representatives from the French consulate in Miami and the French embassy in Washington, D.C. Eastside High School placed first in our division of 3A as well as first overall. The students were coached by M. Cheikh Thiam, Mme Rachel Daignault and Mme Patricia Killian.



The team events included a French one skit entitled Le Petit Chaperon rouge, and an excerpt from the play

Knock by Jules Romain. Both of these dramatic performances were awarded supérieur as well as judges' choice for the top plays. Actors for Scénette included Derek Li, Andrew Rollins, Mariam Mohamed, Nika Sourakov and Camille Kima. The students who acted in the play included Owen O'Grady in the role of Knock, Nora Moraga-Lewy, Madison Housden, Julia Holbrook, Nicolas Vander Meer and Ignacio Villalon. Our team scrapbook compiled by all team members under the direction of Anni Xin and Tatyana Mann won a supérieur. The project by Anastasiya Zolotukhin was ranked supérieur and received a judges' choice award. In addition, the Brain Bowl team received an honorable mention.

All of the students performed extremely well and supported their teammates with enthusiasm. In the individual competitions, EHS received 22 supérieurs and three excellents. We also won the the judges' choice award in five individual events. Kelly Seeger was awarded a \$500 scholarship from Mme Suzanne Carrell, the founder of Congrès. This award was especially meaningful on the 60th anniversary of the competition which she founded.

In This Issue

Forensics	2
Attendance	2
Culinary	3
Student Information	4
Chorus	5
NEHS	5
Science Fair	5
Band	5
Boys Soccer	6
Boys Basketball	6
NJROTC	6
Spanish	7
French Team	8
Yearbook	8

ADMINISTRATION

PRINCIPAL

JEFF CHARBONNET

ASSISTANT

PRINCIPALS

SHERRY ESTES

JAMES SHEPPARD

ADELE TURNAGE

EASTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

1201 SE 43RD ST.

GAINESVILLE, FL 32641

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Forensics Team Qualifies for Grand Nationals: When a Ram Speaks, Everyone Listens

Eastside High School's forensics (speech and debate) team continues its winning season with three of its members qualifying for the National Catholic Forensics Grand National Tournament in Baltimore, MD May 24-28. Senior JaeWon Jang qualified in student congress, an event which requires him to argue his original legislation and that of other students on a mock congressional floor using proper parliamentary procedure. Senior Jon Yoo qualified in Lincoln-Douglas debate, a value proposition debate. Sophomore Mickey Tegegn qualified in oratorical declamation, a category which requires competitors to choose a famous historic speech and deliver it appropriately. These students advanced by placing in the top six in each of their categories at the North Florida Catholic Forensics League Grand Finals at Lake Mary Preparatory School near Orlando on March 9 and 10. Alternates to Grand Nationals include junior Akshaya Nataraj and sophomore Michaela Iwinski.



This school year has brought the team other trophies. At the Harvard University Debate Invitational on Feb. 17-21, Jang advanced to the

semi-finals of student congress. At the Florida Forensics League District Qualifier at Lake Highland Prep School on Feb. 4 in Orlando, Nataraj was named as second alternate to FFL state in original oratory. At the North Florida Catholic Forensics League District Tournament on Jan. 28 at Wekiva High School in Apopka, Fla., freshman Maria Merolle placed first in declamation, sophomore Wenli Zhao placed second in declamation, Nataraj placed third in original oratory, sophomore Evon Scarlett was named best novice in original oratory, and sophomore Lulu Cao was named best novice in humorous interpretation. At the Crestian Classic on Jan. 13-15 in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., Jang placed sixth in student congress, Nataraj placed sixth in original oratory, and Yoo advanced to double-octo finals in the Lincoln-Douglas debate. At the NFCFL district tournament on Nov. 13 here at Eastside High, Yoo placed first in Lincoln-Douglas debate, Tegegn placed first in declamation, Nataraj placed first in original oratory, Cao placed first in novice dramatic performance, Scarlett was named best novice in original oratory, and freshmen Andrew Rollins and Derek Li placed first in novice public forum debate. At the NFCFL District Tournament on Oct. 8 at Cypress Creek High School in Orlando, Jang placed second in student congress, and sophomore Hope Pan placed second in declamation.

In March and April, members of the team will also compete in the Gator Exchange Speech Contest, The Rotary Club Speech Contest, and the Beginner Debate Invitational. The coaches are Alice Iwinski and Heather Christian.

Attendance

Please be aware that if students exceed six unexcused absences in any class period, the state of Florida will revoke credit. Students can only earn credit back by passing the semester AND the final exam. Notes should be turned into their first period teachers on a daily basis for missing school; this includes being checked out of school early as well. Students are only allowed six parent notes for the semester. If a student arrives late to school they MUST check into school. If they do not, the absence carries over for every period even if they are present that day.

Eastside Student Chefs Bring Home State Championship Trophy and Other Awards

Students from the Eastside High School Institute of Culinary Arts took number one in the recent ProStart Culinary Teams Competition sponsored by the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association. They brought home the state championship and more than \$300,000 in student scholarships.

Eastside students took first place in both the gourmet meal and the management categories of the contest. They took third place in the edible centerpiece category. The top showings earned the school its ninth statewide trophy. Forty-seven schools took part in the competition, which was held in Orlando.

John Barli, formally of Carrabbas, is the mentor for the management team. Cheney Brothers Food Service is sponsoring the culinary team.

The winning Eastside team in each category will now go on to compete at the National ProStart Invitational Competition in Baltimore, MD at the end of April.

The top ranked Eastside team in the gourmet meal category was made up of students Holli Manche, Elizabeth Turner, Mariyanna Knight and Kiyana Reed. The first place team in the management competition included students Mike Hill, Sarah Waters, Abby Gilkey and Darrious Camel. Alisha Clayton took third place in the edible centerpiece category.

The teams are coached by Chef Billie DeNunzio, who says the students put in many extra hours before and after school and on weekends to prepare. They also get additional coaching from local chefs and restaurant owners.

“It really is a community effort,” said DeNunzio. “Whenever I call local chefs and restaurant owners, they come in to work with the students, give them ideas, critique their work – whatever help they can give.”

Teams participating in the national culinary competition must demonstrate their creative abilities through the preparation of a three-course meal in only 60 minutes. Their performance during the practical session is observed and rated by judges from leading colleges and universities.

Teams participating in the management competition demonstrate their knowledge of the restaurant and food service industry by developing a restaurant proposal, delivering a verbal presentation, and applying critical thinking skills to challenges managers face in day-to-day operations. Their performance is also rated by experts in the field.

Shanelis Villanueva Finalist in National Competition

Shanelis Villanueva, a senior in the Eastside High School Institute of Culinary Arts, was one of three finalists in the national “Cocinando un Sueño” contest sponsored by the Olive Garden and aimed at promoting culinary arts in the Hispanic community. To qualify, Villanueva had to submit a video that shows her preparing a dish and discussing what she’s doing in Spanish. More than 700 videos were submitted, and Villanueva was the only high school student to make it as a finalist.



“I almost didn’t believe it at first,” said Villanueva. “I was shocked, but I was thrilled too.”

As a finalist, Villanueva has been featured on the popular ‘Sabado Gigante’ show on the Spanish language network Univision, where she had to whip up a tomato sauce and compete in a Jeopardy-style competition—which she won.

Her dream is to attend the prestigious Johnson and Wales University for culinary arts and open her own restaurant with her brother, who also attended the Eastside culinary arts program.

Chef Billie DeNunzio, director of the program, says Villanueva definitely has what it takes to be successful in the business.

“She’s a leader,” said DeNunzio. “She has the perfect personality for the field. She can fix things, she can pull people together, she can talk with anyone, and she has the talent for cooking.”

Villanueva says she loves the creative side of culinary arts.

“I like being able to express myself through cooking,” she said. “I can put my personality in my food, that’s the fun part.”

STUDENT INFORMATION

Testing:

When we return from spring break, the state testing begins. Below is the schedule. School is in normal session every day.

April 10-12: FCAT retakes for 11-12th grade for math and reading

April 16-19: FCAT reading for 9th grade

April 23-26: FCAT reading for 10th grade

April 23-26: U.S. history EOC for 11th graders enrolled in U.S. history and honors

April 30-May 3: Geometry EOC

May 7-10: Biology EOC

May 14-17: Algebra I EOC

Senior Exams:

School days are normal days. Seniors will take exams in the normal class period. On May 25 if they do not have exams, they do not need to attend. This is the last day for seniors.

May 23: Periods 5 and 6

May 24: Periods 3 and 4

May 25: Periods 1 and 2

Awards Ceremony:

The underclassmen awards ceremony will be on Tuesday, May 29 at 1:30 p.m. Senior awards and Scholarship Night will be that night at 6 p.m. in the auditorium. Students will receive invitations if they are receiving an award. If your student has received a scholarship, please email Ms. Estes at estessl@gm.sbac.edu so we can recognize them that night.

Cap and Gown:

Cap and gown pick-up is Thursday, May 31 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. All debt MUST be cleared by then.

Graduation:

Graduation practice is Friday, June 1 at 3 p.m. at the O'Connell Center. It is required to attend in order to walk at graduation. Seniors MUST have 23 of the required credits in order to be eligible to walk at graduation.

Graduation is on Saturday, June 2 at 2 p.m. at the O'Connell Center. Seniors MUST be there at 12:30 p.m. Doors open for guests at 1 p.m. Seating is first come, first serve.

Dress Guidelines:

Not being dressed appropriately will mean no walking at graduation.

Gentleman:

- o Collared shirts
- o Tie is optional but HIGHLY recommended
- o Dark pants or khakis (NO JEANS!)
- o Dress shoes or black tennis shoes (NO other colored tennis shoes, sandals, etc.)

Ladies:

- o Dark colored dresses (Large patterns can be seen through the gown as well as light colors, but you can wear them.)
- o Dark pants suit
- o Pumps, high-heeled dressy sandals with straps, dress shoes (NO tennis shoes, flip flops, etc.)

CHORUS

Congratulations to the Eastside High School Chamber Singers for their amazing performance at the District Music Performance Assessment on Feb. 25 in St. Augustine. The singers received straight superior ratings and are now eligible for State Festival in Jacksonville, Fla. Congratulations, singers!

The Chamber Singers will close out the year with a spring concert on April 24 at 7 p.m. in the EHS auditorium. Admission is free, so come out and enjoy a night of beautiful singing. Any student interested in participating in chamber singers for the 2012-2013 school year should contact Mrs. Waybright.



NEHS

Eastside's Spiritus Mundi chapter of the National English Honor Society has received a special commendation from NEHS for its fifth anniversary. The club is an umbrella for numerous small groups actively involved in promoting literacy at Eastside. This year's induction on March 23 welcomes 45 new members to the organization, the largest group since the club's first year. Any student interested in NEHS can contact sponsor Mrs. Reynierson.

Science Fair Award Winners

Congratulations to Alexandra Sourakov and David Liu who have qualified for the prestigious Intel International Science and Engineering Fair with top finishes in the regional fair.

Sophomore Alexandra Sourakov took Best in Show with her biotechnology project "The Effect of Dietary Sugars on the Physiology and Longevity of *Caenorhabditis Elegans*." Junior David Liu won a first place award in medicine and health for his project "Synthetic Nanoparticle-Based Nanozymes for Pancreatic Cancer Therapy." The high finishes qualified both students for the international fair in Pittsburgh in mid-May.

Band



Congratulations to the Eastside High School band for its outstanding performance at the District 4 Music Performance Assessment! The band received perfect superior ratings and qualified for assessment at the state level. Band seniors Pieter DeWolf, Jesse Smith-Appelson, Gabe Linn and Angel Brown helped lead the band to unprecedented heights. Way to go, EHS concert band!

Boys Soccer

The Eastside varsity boys soccer team concluded an outstanding season, finishing with an 18-4-3 record. The Rams defended their district title with tough wins against rivals North Marion, a 2-0 victory, and Belleview, a 3-1 win. This was the third district championship in the last four years for the team. The Rams were victorious over Belleview which then sent them to the regional finals, the farthest the Rams have gone in the state tournament since 1999. Congratulations boys soccer team for a remarkable season. Go Rams!



Boys Basketball



Congratulations to the Eastside boys basketball team. It ended the season with a 25-5 record, and the boys were city and district champions this year. The team will have a lot of returning players, and they are looking forward to next season. Way to go, Rams!

NJROTC

The NJROTC cadets have been very busy, and we are excited and delighted to share the successes encountered since the last report. This year we have focused on renewing our commitment to training and preparation, and it has yielded increased dividends at all competitions.

NJROTC has participated in several special events this year. We marched in the Gator homecoming parade, which was a great time for everyone. The unit received accolades from family and friends on their appearance and performance as a unit. On Dec. 1 we marched in the Tacachale Parade. This parade is always rewarding because of the great joy that we bring to the staff and residents of this important facility. This year for the first time we marched in the Annual Mebane Alumni parade in Alachua. A great time was had by all.

On Jan. 7 we participated in the SPOTO High School Challenge. We brought home several trophies again but fell short of our ultimate goal of a first place finish. On Jan. 28 we participated in the FAMU NJROTC drill meet competition sponsored by Area 7. This was an outstanding opportunity for the cadets to show their progress on a college campus that just happens to be the favored college of Eastside. We brought home several trophies once again.

On Feb. 8 we were inspected by the area manager, CDR Hebert. CDR Hebert was complimentary of individual cadet progress and the unit's progress as a whole. On Feb. 11 we traveled to the University of South Florida for another drill meet sponsored by Area 7. This drill competition was very competitive and was a great learning experience for our program.

Our final event of the year will be the "Bad to the Bone" competition sponsored by the Marion County Sheriff's Office in Ocala, Fla. This event is an obstacle course, physical agility course, tug of war, pushup challenge, sit-up challenge and individual challenges. This is our fun event to complete the school year. Come out and cheer for your Eastside NJROTC program.

To wrap it all up, our awards ceremony will be Friday, May 25 at 6 p.m. in the auditorium. Please put it on your schedule and come out and support these cadets. They have done well and deserve to be celebrated.

We need your support. We need not only your moral support, but your monetary support as well. Please contact Commander Hickmon or Chief Philippon to find out how you can help.

Thank you for your support.

¡Felicidades a los campeones!

The second week of March brought the 56th annual Florida State Spanish Conference held in Orlando. High schools from all over the state participate in the three day event. Each team can bring 16 participants to compete in the following academic areas: impromptu speaking, poetic declamation and theatrical presentation.

This year, once again, Eastside's team dominated the competition. Under the tutelage of Srta. Haedo, Sr. Avendaño and Sra. Zelaya, the 16 Eastside Rams earned 987 points out of a possible 1,000.

The dramatic presentation *Arlequina manceba de botica* is a one-act, who-done-it comedy with eight cast members that takes place in an old fashioned pharmacy. This 15-minute act earned a perfect score. Cast members consisted of sophomores Christina Pu and Mickey Tegegn, juniors Angela Acosta, Akshaya Nataraj, Jael Roitberg-Kleinman and Juliana García-Mejía, and seniors Audrey Simone, Rachel Keen and Leydi Wong.

Five of the six poetic declamations also earned perfect scores. Poetic declamation presenters consisted of juniors Ellen Yeats and Juliana García-Mejía, and seniors Will Hahn, Jennifer Kizza, Nora Moraga-Lewy and Hannah Bunkin.

The last category was impromptu speeches, where 12 out of 16 impromptu speeches earned perfect scores.

Eastside has won first place in the state 15 times in the past 16 years.

¡Felicidades! to this year's winning team:

Sophomores:

Christina Pu

Mickey Tegegn

Aliyah Miranda

Juniors:

Angela Acosta

Ellen Yeats

Akshaya Nataraj

Annie Lott

Juliana García-Mejía

Jael Roitberg-Kleinman

Seniors:

Will Hahn

Jennifer Kizza

Nora Moraga-Lewy

Audrey Simone

Leydi Wong

Rachel Keen

Hannah Bunkin

Que siga la tradición...



Math Team

A team of Eastside students was recently named one of the top teams in the 2012 High School Mathematical Contest in Modeling. More than 430 teams from around the world, including teams from China and South Korea, participated in the competition, which is sponsored by the Consortium for Mathematics and its Applications (COMAP). Only eight were named to performers. The Eastside team was made up of four sophomores, including Alexandra Sourakov, Yuxin Zhang, Wenlil Zhao, and Xingchen Li. The team's coach is math teacher Carl Henriksen.



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Thank you for your support of the Ram Country yearbook staff.