

Highlights from 2014-2015 School Year

Academics and Student Achievement

Our high school students earned over 7.5 million dollars in scholarships, awards, and grants in 2015.

Central High students Katy Axel, Jack Moran, and Hannah Quick were selected as 2015 Alcoa Scholars. These three students are participating in a two week, environmental program in Yosemite National Park, including 10 days in the field. There were only 24 students selected out of 190 who applied, and three of them were from Central.

Mid City High student Luke Liska received the Scott Community College Future Leaders Scholarship. Luke will attend Scott Community College to pursue a business degree.

Central High's Ahilya Khadka won this year's Dr. Thomas Anthony Dooley Memorial Scholarship, a \$20,000 award for a Davenport senior in the upper 10% of his or her class, who has shown a continued interest in the field of medicine and plans to become a medical doctor. Ahilya has been accepted to Harvard University and will major in Biochemistry and Economics.

The five finalists for the Bechtel Trust History Scholarship Award were North High's Halie Dodd, West High's Alicia Luebbe and Katelyn Griffith, and Central High's Bailey Johnston and Thompson Teasdale. Thompson won first place and received a \$5,000 scholarship; Bailey won second place and received a \$3,000 award; Katelyn won third place and received a \$1,000 award; and Halie and Alicia received \$100 Gift Cards.

North High's Sam Bral was a recipient of multiple awards, including the University of Iowa Scholars Award & Old Gold Scholarship and the Central College Presidential Scholarship.

Out of the 706 students at Sudlow Intermediate, an incredible 435 students (62 percent of the school) received academic honors this year. 70 students received Academic Excellence, 228 received First Honors, and 137 received Second Honors.

Central High's Pablo Haake and Grace Schebler were this year's recipients of the Sophia N. Hapke Scholarship. These are \$5600 scholarships awarded by the Delta Kappa Gamma Society, Alpha Chapter.

West High students Kyle Verdon and Helena Hansen were recognized at the Iowa High School Athletic Association Governor's Scholar Program. They were selected due to their high academic standing at West and their school involvement.

2015 Rotary Club of Davenport Scholarship winners were Guadalupe Chavez (\$10,000, West High), Letha Wallace (\$10,000, Central High), Bennett Robertson (\$10,000, North High), Joyclyn Behren (\$2,500, Mid City High), and Carina Grady (\$16,000, West High).

Davenport Community Schools received the official Dropout and Graduation Rate for the previous school year (2013-14)

from the Iowa Department of Education. The District showed improved graduation rates again, up nearly 4% from the previous year.

Katelynn England, Courtney Jones, Noah Nickell, Scott Lake, and Ashley Fry, five students from Mid City High, attended the iJAG Career Development Conference and placed 3rd in the Outstanding Team category. Each student received a medal and the school received a trophy. The school's banner, designed by Noah Nickell, also placed 3rd overall.

The Central High 2015 Hall of Honor Scholars were Arika Allen (Jim Hester Scholarship); Pablo Haake (Keith Jurgens Scholarship); Maddie Spain (Kneipp Family Scholarship); Myra Vasquez (Russell and Ellen Meyer Scholarship); and Luke Eure, Emily Howell, and Letha Wallace (Hall of Honor Scholarships).

North High's Nicholas Kaperka was a recipient of multiple awards, including the Iowa Bar Association American Citizenship Award, the University of Northern Iowa Distinguished Scholar Award, and the St. Joseph's College Dean's Scholarship & Performance Scholarship.

Winners of the 2014-15 Jerry Jurgens Memorial Award were Luke Eure and Mary (Emmy) Marker. The award is given to a male and female graduating senior from Central High School who have achieved excellence in athletics, academics, and outstanding citizenship.

The winner of the 2014-15 Bernie Saggau Award was Jacob Houghton. The award is given to a male graduating senior from Central High School who has achieved excellence in athletics, academics, and outstanding citizenship.

North High's Rachel Garlock was a recipient of multiple academic awards, including the Iowa State University Academic Scholarship, Cardinal Leadership Scholarship, and the Helen G. Pohling Scholarship.

The Iowa Department of Education presented Central High with one of only four Iowa College and Career Readiness awards in the state. The annual program, organized through a partnership with ACT, recognizes the exemplary efforts of one student, one school, one community college, and one employer in Iowa in advancing the goal of getting students to graduate from high school ready for success in college and the workplace. Central was the school selected to receive the "College and Career Transition Award."

Central High's Madeline Spain, Hailey Smith, and Jacob Houghton were all recipients of the CVM-Illinois Youth Mentoring Health Scholarship. These students were selected as one of 15 recipients area-wide to receive the \$2,000 scholarship from a pool of more than 100 applicants.

West High's Kyle Verdon was named one of the two Wendy's High School Heisman Award winners in the state of Iowa. Kyle was a multi-sport, 4.0 GPA, student athlete that participated in football, swimming, track and baseball. DCS had other students who also advanced in the competition, including West's Anna Hedges and Central's Luke Eure who were State Finalists, and Central's Mary Marker, who was a winner at the school level.

Central High's Luke Eure was named as a member of the Iowa Boys' Academic All-State Swim Team and the state's Senior Scholastic Award Winner. The latter is a distinguished honor determined by the points a swimmer scores in individual events and the student's grade point average. Luke had the highest GPA and points scored this year. As winner, Luke received a plaque and is now a member of the Iowa Hall of Fame.

Jenna Hartman, a North High School junior, was selected to become a member of the National Society of High School Scholars. The NSHSS was formed in 2002 to recognize academic excellence at the high school level, and it encourages members to apply their unique talents and potential for the betterment of themselves and their communities.

Central High's Pablo Haake was selected as a semifinalist in the 2014-2015 Coca-Cola Scholars Program. Pablo was chosen from nearly 103,000 applicants because of his outstanding leadership, academic achievements and dedication to his community.

North High's Hannah Bosco was a recipient of multiple awards, including the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen Award, the University of Iowa Academic Scholarship & Heritage Award, the Governor's Scholar Recognition Program, and the Kathryn Bell Tate Scholarship.

Central High's Luke Eure, Pablo Haake, and Gabe Lance were all named Finalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program, selected from 16,000 semifinalists nation-wide. In addition to those three finalists, West High's Annalise K. Buehner and Central's Nick DeBlois were named Commended Students in the competition.

District and Teacher Accolades

The Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) International awarded Davenport Community Schools the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting award for having met or exceeded the program's high standards for financial reporting and accountability. DCS was recognized for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ending 2014. This was our 14th consecutive year to receive the award.

Two DCS teachers received their highly-prestigious National Board Certification this year: Sarah McGlynn and Janelle Renee Vanerstrom are now both certified in Literacy - Reading & Language Arts/Early & Middle Childhood. Our district currently has a total of thirteen National Board Certified Teachers in our classrooms.

West High teacher Jason Franzenburg received the 2015 STEM Education Award for the Southeast Region for Inspiring Teaching by the Governor Branstad's STEM Advisory Council. Mr. Franzenburg was one of over 50 nominations, and in winning this award he and West High were presented with a check for \$3,000 from Kemin Industries.

Guy Dierikx, Davenport North's Head Football Coach and Physical Education teacher, was invited to the NFL High School Character Development Summit, a seminar that focuses on student leadership and character development, in Orlando, Florida. Mr. Dierikx was also selected to the coaching staff of the 15-Under team at the U.S. International Bowl in Dallas, Texas.

Candy Reed, counselor at Garfield Elementary, was named the 2014 Iowa Elementary School Counselor of the Year. Ms. Reed, who has been a counselor at Garfield since 2006, was recognized by the Iowa School Counselor Association for the outstanding counseling program she has developed at the school. Ms. Reed has also been named Gilda's Club Volunteer of the Year in 2010, received national recognition from the American School Counseling Association in 2010, and won the Excellent Educator Award in 1990.

Business Education teachers Meredith Tangen and Steve Verdon were honored at the Iowa Business Education Association (IBEA) State Convention. Meredith received the “Outstanding New Secondary Business Educator” award; she was nominated by 30 of her former students and several of her colleagues. Steve received the “Excellence” award for 15 years of service. Both teachers received the “IBEA Best Award.”

Iowa’s 21st Century Community Learning Centers hosted a day of workshops at Davenport’s River Center this fall. DCS elementary school Principals T.J. Schneckloth, Steve Mielenhausen, and Tonya Wilkins, along with DCS staff members Sarah Harris, Beth Evans, Tarrah Parrish, and Shaney Ford, presented a variety of educational topics to over fifty staff and administrators from across the state.

Athletics

Many students from Central, North, and West High Schools qualified for the State Girls & Boys Track Meet in Des Moines.

- From West, Kyle Verdon took 8th place in the discus finals, Anna Hedges took 3rd places in shot put finals, Tiraël Malone placed 12th in long jump finals, and the 4-by-200 meter relay team of Savannah Strunk, Dyon Hickman, Zaria Lambert, and Diamond Combs took 9th place in the finals.
- From North, Mariah Anderson placed 22nd in the girls’ 400 meter dash finals. The 4 x 200 relay team of Josh Reid, Zeke Hayslett, Calvin Conger, and Kevin Murphy placed 22nd in the finals.
- From Central, Bella Solis earned a 4th place medal in the 400 hurdles finals, and Lauren Lamourt earned a 6th place medal in the long jump finals. The 4-by-800 relay of Alex Dodds, Bailey Nelson, Bella Zepeda, and Kara Jakubsen finished 20th in the finals. Nick Hairston placed 10th in the high jump finals and Duane Sleet placed 3rd in Boys 110 meter hurdle finals.

Complete information on preliminary heat placements is available at <http://www.iahsaa.org/Track/2015/index.htm>

Sudlow Intermediate student Mason Gersdorf competed in the Major League Baseball Pitch, Hit, and Run Competition, which was held at historic Wrigley Field in Chicago. Mason competed in the 13-14 age group and was up against other competitors from Illinois, Iowa, and Indiana. Mason took first place in his age group and earned a chance to make it all the way to the MLB All-Star game.

West High senior Sydney Howard finished 4th overall at the 42-person Maquoketa Golf Invitational.

At this year’s Drake Relays, North High’s 4x100 Meter Relay Team made finals as one of the eight best relay teams in the entire state, including all classes. Central High’s 4x200 Meter Relay Team finished 7th overall; their 4x400 Meter Relay Team finished 8th overall; and Kevin Kurth finished 13th overall.

This season, each athlete on Central High’s Special Olympics Track and Field Team received 1st place in at least 1 event. The entire team competed in the 2015 State Competition at Iowa State University, where Hunter Songolia, Baylee Norris, Claire Tibbetts, Jalynn Nunnelly, Antonio Salazar, and Tony McDonnell won gold medals. Athen Carington-Parker received two silver medals. Nick Laster, Jalynn Nunnelly, Karl Lantzky, Dwight Cooke, and Esston Menke all returned with ribbons for their hard work and effort.

The Central High Special Olympics Basketball Team of Baylee Norris, Jalynn Nunnally, DJ Cooke, Nick Laster, Athen Carrington, and Esston Menke won a bronze medal at the State competition. Tony McDonnell won bronze in a solo skills competition.

The West High Girls Track Team won the Lancer 9/10 Invite by a margin of 40 points. West had 1st place winners in shot put, high jump, discus, the 3000, the 400, the 200, the 100, the 4 x 200 relay, and the 4 x 100 relay.

Boys Basketball All-Metro Honors: West's Isaiah Ross and North's Nasir Shabazz made the Second Team. Honorable Mentions went to Central's Trey Hollingshed and Tim Rummels, North's Jayden Clayton and Shawn Butler, and West's Michael Evans.

Girls Basketball All-Metro Honors: West's Chrislyn Carr, along with North's Jinaya Houston and Jacionna Stowers, made the First Team. Honorable Mentions went to Central's Makayla Buck, North's Paige Bradford, and West's Sydney Mayes and Mariah Mayfield.

Two members of North's Girls Basketball team received All-State honors from the Iowa Newspaper Association (INA). Sophomore Jacionna Stowers received 1st-team recognition and sophomore Jinaya Houston received 2nd-team honors.

West High honored its wrestlers at the end of the 2014-15 season. Along with his Most Valuable Wrestler award, John Behrens took 2nd Team All-Conference and All-Metro Honorable Mention. In addition, Brad Belz won the Warrior Award, Garrett Brooks was named Most Improved Wrestler, and Kyle Oberbroeckling was named Most Valuable Freshman.

The Central High Girls Bowling Team took 2nd place at Substate. The team of Sarah Walsh, Caley Crausby, Ashlee Diefenbach, Lauren Ferguson, Nicole Meyers, and Grace Herington finished the season with their highest pin fall of 2716. Individually, Nicole Meyers advanced to the State Bowling Tournament by finishing with the highest total among all girls at Substate with a score of 420 for 2 games. Nicole was the only girl to score over 400.

The North High Lady Wildcat basketball team set a new single-season win mark this year, totaling 17 wins on the year and surpassing the previous school total of 16 wins. Their season started off with a 13-game winning streak, during which they were ranked #7 in the state.

West High's girls basketball team had a great year. Chrislyn Carr broke the school record in scoring with a 46-point game, and also broke the school 3-point field goal record with 8 in one game. In addition, Chrislyn has been selected to the 1st team All Eastern District Girls' Basketball Team of Iowa and 1st Team All MAC conference. Students Sydney Mayes, Mariah Mayfield, McKenzie Dunn all were selected to the All MAC Conference Team as well (Honorable Mention).

DCS Members of the All-Iowa Honor Dance Team are, from North High: Kaitlyn Collins and Carmen Moss; from West High: Tristan Blumer, Katelyn Cooper, Grace Geering, Chelsie Oberbroeckling, Savannah Roseman, and Karlee Shaffer; and from Central High: Madeline Darland, Cassidy Jarrett, Caitlyn Oligier, Justine Doyle, Dayna Tanner, and Victoria Taylor. These students performed at the pre-game and/or half-time performances of the 3A State Basketball Championship Game.

Central High qualified for the boys' State swim meet in three events this year. The 200 yard Medley Relay team consisting of Luke Eure, Andrew Shie, Joseph Shie, and Jack Reemtsma broke last year's school record by almost 1 second and went 1:40.78 at State, placing 14th out of 24. Individually, Luke Eure took 5th place in the 200 Individual Medley and 4th in the 100 Backstroke. At the District swim meet earlier in the season, Luke became the fastest Quad City student in the record books for the 100 Backstroke.

North High swimmer Brennan Bladel was crowned District Champion in the 100m Butterfly, and went on to compete at the State swim meet. Brennan placed 6th in the 100m Butterfly and 10th in the 100m Backstroke. Brennan is now the school record holder for North High with a time of :53.03 in the 100m Butterfly.

Wood Intermediate 8th grader Matt Dibbern ran in the 5k Frostbite Run in Scott County Park, winning an impressive 2nd place overall among all male competitors.

The Central High Varsity Cheer Team attended the National Cheerleading Association Summer Camp and won several awards, including 1st place in the Champion Chant and 1st in Game Time Cheer. In addition, Morgan Teel, Lynn Nguyen, and Bella Volfson made the All-American team.

The West competition cheer team won the Iowa High School Coed State Cheerleading Championship title for the fourth time in the past five years. The team also had two individual coed stunt groups place first and second against the other individual stunt groups. In addition to the success at State, the team competed at the Triton Challenge in Fort Dodge, where they won Grand Champion.

The Central High “Blue Illusion” dance team won multiple awards at the MA Dance Camp, including a Superior rating for their home and team routines, the 110% award, and many individual student honors.

The West High Diamond Dancers performed at Cedar Rapids Prairie in the “Stack the Stands” Competition, bringing home a 1st Place in 5A Poms Category, 1st Place in 5A Kicks Category, and 2nd place overall combining all categories and classes.

The North High Varsity Pom Cats attended the Universal Dance Association Summer Camp at Western Illinois, where they earned a Superior rating. The team also won several awards, including 1st Place in the Home Routine Competition, the Leadership Award, and the Team Full-Out Award. Individually, Nekya Hall, Emily Happel, and team captain Hannah Rohlf were chosen as All-Americans.

Central High’s freshman football team was crowned the 2014 MAC Champion. Their hard work and dedication resulted in a very impressive 8 and 1 season.

North High cheerleaders PJ Hilligoss, Melanie Curby, Janae Caruthers, and Caroline Haugen were selected to the All-American Cheer Squad, granting them the opportunity to perform in the halftime show of the Capitol One Bowl in Orlando, Florida.

For the 2nd year in a row, North High was awarded the Zimmerman Spirit Award from Zimmerman Honda and WQAD. Because of this win, North received a \$2,500 award for its athletic department.

West High golfer Jordan Rhoades competed at the Greyhound Invitational and placed 4th overall in the 72–player field.

Central High student Emily Delleman and other area students on the Y Quad Cities Junior Rowing team competed at the US Rowing Youth National Rowing Championships in Rancho Cordova, California. The team competed in the quadruple sculls event, winning the gold medal with a time of 7:19.3 while crossing the line two full boat lengths ahead of the other teams.

North High golfer Tyler Josund earned a medal in the JV division of the Davenport City Golf Tournament. His score of 45 on the front 9 at Emeis earned him a tie for 5th place.

The West High Boys Varsity Golf Team took 2nd place at the 10-team Lancer Invitational. With his 2-over-par round of 74, Jordan Rhoades finished tied for 2nd in the 56-player field. Quinton Baenziger tied for 5th overall with his 5-over-par 77.

Music, Art, Theatre, and Dance

Three musicians from Central High's Blue Devil Orchestras placed at the Iowa String Teachers Association High School Honors Orchestra held at the University of Northern Iowa. Collin Bracey placed 6th in cello, Michelle Hernandez placed 5th in violin, and Gabriel Lance placed 3rd in viola.

Wood Intermediate 6th Grade String Orchestra students Sophia Heller (cello) and Meredith Sloat (violin) were accepted into the Iowa String Teachers Association Middle School Honors Orchestra in Cedar Falls, Iowa.

The North High Orchestra was one of only five orchestras from across Iowa to be invited to the University of Northern Iowa Orchestra Invitational. Following the performance, the orchestra was treated to a clinic by the entire UNI string staff.

Central High and Creative Arts Academy students Chloe Thompson, Lily Castel, and Taylor Chandler were recipients of three of the four 2015 Brand Boeshaar Scholarships. This highly competitive scholarship awards \$12,000 over four years to students pursuing degrees in art-related fields of study.

Sudlow Intermediate 7th grade student Michael Hill was selected as the recipient of the Quad City Symphony Orchestra Etude Club Scholarship.

At the 2015 Fame Aspire Awards during the Fame National Championships in Chicago, the Great River Show Choir Invitational was awarded "Best Regional Competition" for the second year in a row. Great River is hosted by the West and Central choral departments each year at the Adler/River Center and attracts top show choirs from across the Midwest.

In the Junior Duck Stamp Contest, all three West High contestants received awards. With 529 contestants competing for honors within 4 different divisions, Courtney Schaeffer won 1st place in the 7th-9th grade division, Gary Landstrom placed 2nd in the 10th-12th grade division, and Brenna Diedrich received an honorable mention for her 10th-12th entry.

Wood Intermediate's award-winning 7th-8th grade select choirs had record-setting performances in the Music in The Parks Competition held at Six Flags Great America. Twelve schools representing six states were in attendance, and Wood choirs won 1st Place in Combined Mixed Chorus, 8th Grade Mixed Chorus, and 7th-8th Men's Chorus. Wood won several other awards, including the prestigious Esprit de Corps Trophy, given to the group who demonstrated proper social behavior as well as musical self-control and encouragement.

At the IHSMA Solo and Ensemble festival, superior ratings went to the Central High Chamber Players chamber orchestra, as well as soloists Adam Hendershott and Michelle Hernandez on violin, Gabe Lance and Nate Trasowech on viola, and Collin Bracey on cello. Michelle Hernandez was awarded a perfect score. Vocal students also performed, and Samantha Lyle, Brian Dennis, Lexi Sweeney, Nate Trasowech, Logan Fraker, John VanderWal, Jack Theiling, and Nick Fahrenkrug received Division One “Superior” ratings. Taylor Wells was named “Best In Center,” giving him the opportunity to perform a special concert at Iowa State University.

Central High art students Taylor Chandler, Chloe Thompson, Lily Castel, and Bruce Patrick were honored guests at the Iowa Scholastic Art and Writing Awards ceremony, held at the University of Iowa’s Belin Blank Center.

Davenport Community Schools was well-represented in the 2015 All-State Visual Art contest. 111 students throughout Iowa participated in the juried art contest, each submitting a 10-piece portfolio to be judged, and the top 22 students were awarded the distinction of the All-State Honor. 2015 All State Recipients from Davenport Community Schools are:

- 3rd place: Austin Robertson, senior from North High
- 6th place: Chloe Thompson, senior from Central High/Creative Arts Academy
- 10th place: Taylor Shaw, senior from West High/Creative Arts Academy
- 16th place: William McKay, senior from Central High/Creative Arts Academy
- 17th place: Deven Skaff, senior from North High
- 19th place: Taylor Chandler, senior from Central High/Creative Arts Academy

Davenport Community Schools had a wonderful showing at the 38th Annual High School Invitational Exhibition at Quad City Arts. Many student and teacher artworks were selected for the exhibition, and several were selected for honors and awards.

Central High: Kennedy Hill - 2nd Place, Cutting Edge Award, and Most Creative Concept. Rachel Lyle - 3rd Place. Nash Foderberg - Deborah Doehler Studio Award. Taylor Chandler - Left Bank Art League Scholarship and “1000 Words” Award. Rachel Spring - QC Arts Staff Award.

Creative Arts Academy: Joseph Nguyen - Quad City Arts Aquatic Award. Stephen Martinez - Best in Film Award. Lily Castel - Rock Island Art Guild Award.

North High: Austin Robertson - Best in Show. Deven Skaff - 4th place. Amber Neece - Juror’s Choice Award. Teacher Dave Schaeffer won first place in the teacher’s division for his 3D portrait.

Mayli Grady, student at West High and the Creative Arts Academy, was selected for the Governor’s Show during Youth Art Month. Her artwork took a place of honor among over two hundred other pieces of student work from all over the state of Iowa. Other CAA Students receiving recognition were 6th graders Sarah Dyar and Tiara Soppe, and senior Lily Castel.

North High’s Andrea Figg received artistic praise this year for her quilt that won Best of Show at the Mississippi Valley Fair and a second place award at the Iowa State Fair. Her quilt was part of a Figue Art Museum exhibit of 30 award-winning quilts from the Mississippi Valley Quilters Guild.

Walcott 7th grade student Kylie Welch won first place in the Meyer and Frances Shnurman Holocaust Visual Arts Contest with her painting of the Amsterdam row houses where Anne Frank and her family went into hiding. The contest was open to 7th-12th grade students in the Greater Quad City area, and Kylie won \$500 for her first place award.

Several string players at Central High were selected to the state-level Iowa String Teachers Association Honors Orchestra, held at the University of Northern Iowa. Congratulations to violinists Aldon Dorsett and Michelle Hernandez, violist Gabriel Lance, cellist Collin Bracey, and bassist Connor Essary.

Lily Castel, Taylor Chandler, and Shailah Harris, students enrolled at Central High and the Creative Arts Academy, received the prestigious Gold Key designation at the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards. Artists with Silver Key winning works were Lily Castel, Taylor Chandler, Shailah Harris, and Chloe Thompson. Honorable Mentions included Lily Castel, Taylor Chandler, Nathan Cunningham, Nash Foderberg, Tommy Garrett, Shailah Harris, Bruce Patrick, and Skyrah Spice.

Twelve Central High students were chosen to participate in this year's Augustana Honor Band Festival. Abby Luntz, Ally Luntz, Hannah Quick, Maddie Spain, Nick DeBlois, Becca Frederick, Grace Schebler, P.J. O'Dacre, Graham Atkinson, Mitchell Harksen, Maggie Stone, and Thompson Teasdale were nominated by Band Director Alex Wilga based on their abilities, devotion, and citizenship in the band.

The art departments of North and West High Schools were part of a large community mural project memorializing Martin Luther King, Jr. The artwork is on display at Saint Ambrose University and will move to Davenport's new Martin Luther King Memorial Plaza upon completion of the plaza. Participating North students were Deven Skaff, Austin Robertson, Audrianna Knox, Cassidy Barker, Kristine Tran, Alexis Mace, and Taylor Smith. Participating West students were Mayli Grady and Brianna Hillyer.

Davenport Community Schools students took seven or the thirteen awards at this year's Festival of Trees High School Art Exhibition, with Austin Robertson of North High receiving the Best of Show award. Hailey Forrest of North High took first place in photography, Taylor Chandler of Central High won third place in Drawing, and Darius Klinker of West High received third place in Painting. DCS students swept the 3 Dimensional category with Shailah Harris of Central High taking 1st place, Brayton Connor of North High receiving 2nd place, and Kennedy Hill of Central High capturing 3rd place.

Central High student TJ Green's "The Last Man in The World" was selected for the Best of No Shame Theatre and was performed at the Mabie Theatre at the University of Iowa. TJ wrote this original play and also performed in two other entries.

The North High Wildcat Thespians participated in the annual Iowa State Thespian Festival, and their studio version of "Children of a Lesser God" won the Chapter Select designation in the Studio Theater category. The production will advance to the International Thespian Festival. In addition to that honor, Christian Owens advanced with his Solo Musical Theatre piece, and North's Ensemble Acting Piece "After the Revolution," featuring Christian Owens, Spencer Barton, and Morgana Osborn, took 3rd place overall. During the festival, sophomore Hannah DeFauw was elected to serve on the board, representing our state at the International Thespian Festival.

Central High School's competitive acting troupe #2951, also known as "The Rhinocorns," competed at the annual Iowa State Thespian Festival. Junior Ben Greiner received 2nd place for Stage Management and was selected to represent the state of Iowa at the International Thespian festival. During the closing ceremonies, Jon Quigley and Kayla Kinkaid were honored by Waldorf College for receiving their highest scholarship prizes. Kayla received a \$40,000 dollar scholarship and an additional \$10,000 annually; Jon received a \$48,000 dollar scholarship and an additional \$12,000 annually.

The Blue Devil Marching Band, led by Director Alex Wilga, was selected to represent Iowa in Washington D.C. during the 2015 National Independence Day Parade. Groups invited to attend the parade can only participate with a congressional nomination, and Central was nominated by Congressman Loeb sack.

The Marching Blue Devils received a Division I rating at the State Marching Band Festival, continuing the streak of receiving a Division I rating every year the band has performed at State. The Marching Blue Devils also delivered an amazing performance at the Bands of America Grand National Championships in Indianapolis. The band was one of ninety-four that competed over the three day time frame, and students earned a Division II rating while finishing 9th place in their class.

Show Choir, North High: Caitlin Montegna and Pierre Young were awarded outstanding performer awards at the “A Touch of Class” Show Choir Invitational. Jose Corrales was named Best Male Soloist at an invitational competition at Western Dubuque High School. At the Fort Madison “Stars on Stage” Invitational, Northside Establishment was crowned Grand Champion for the 8th consecutive year and won Best Band and Best Vocals, while Jose Corrales was once again named Outstanding Male Soloist.

Show Choir, Central High: At a difficult competition in Wisconsin, “Central Singers, Incorporated” finished First Runner-Up, only a half point out of the Grand Champion position. CSI was also awarded Best Choreography, their fifth award of this kind in the past two seasons. At a Mt. Pleasant event, “Blue Vibrations” placed 1st Runner-up in the prep division, and CSI was named Grand Champion, also bringing home awards for Best Vocals and Best Choreography. In addition, TeNesha Hawkins was named Best Female Soloist for the second week in a row.

Show Choir, West High: At the Midwest Invitational in Mt. Zion, IL, “West Connection” won the People’s Choice award, and “This Just In!” was crowned Grand Champions in the prep division, also receiving Best Vocals and Best Choreography in the prep division. At an invitational event in Missouri, “West Connection” was named 1st Runner Up and won the People’s Choice award, and “This Just In!” was crowned Grand Champion in the prep division.

At the Fort Madison Marching Classic, Central High’s Marching Blue Devils won Best Percussion, Best Guard, Best Horn Line, Best Drum Majors, and 1st place in 4A. They then traveled to the Mount Pleasant Marching Invitational where they won Best Percussion, Best Horn Line, Best Drum Majors, 1st place in 4A, and won the Sweepstakes Award for having the highest combined score between Fort Madison and Mount Pleasant.

Sudlow Intermediate vocal music students Abby McClelland, Chloe Logsdon, Michele Antonucci, Alenna Darland, Sophia Davis, Ella Davis, Isabella Guy, and Anna Thompson were named to the Southeast Iowa Choral Directors Association Honor Choir.

North High’s Hailey Forrest was the recipient of a national award given by the Photography Society of America. Her photograph “Words Hurt Stop Bullying” was selected as the most outstanding image in the photojournalism category at the PSA Youth Photography showcase. Hailey was honored in a feature article in the PSA journal, and her image was presented at the opening ceremonies of the PSA Annual Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Central High student Grace Schebler was the recipient of the 2014 Fred J. Miller Memorial Scholarship. In addition to maintaining a high GPA and planning to pursue a degree in music education, Grace had to submit a resume demonstrating her musical leadership achievements and an essay addressing the importance of music in life and education.

The following Sudlow Intermediate band students were selected to participate in the Southeast Iowa Bandmasters Association Honor Band in Iowa City: Olivia Penniston, Lucas Thompson, Rachel Wernke, Anna Winn, Jenny Mahl, Laura Sitz, Emma Berger, Hannah Coonfare, Joey Hathaway, Michael Hill, and Joe Shanks. In addition to that honor, Lucas and Rachel were selected to participate in the Iowa Bandmasters Association All-Iowa 8th grade Honor Band.

Students from Central, North, and West High Schools auditioned for the Southeast Iowa Bandmasters Association Honor Band in Fairfield, Iowa. West High was honored with five students accepted into the Honor Band: David Aust, Collin Bell, Sophie Buckley, Jacob Clearman, and John Ward. Central High congratulates ten students who were selected to the Honor band: Ally Luntz, Audrey Killip, Hannah Quick, Maddie Spain, Tommy Hathaway, Sarah Howell, P.J. O’Dacre, Graham Atkinson, Isaac Thompson, and John McAtee. North High celebrates the following five instrumentalists who were selected for Honor Band: Kevin Birdsong, Hailey Dodd, Rachel Garlock, Cole Neese, and Marisa Robertson.

Several DCS students were selected to the Iowa All-State Band this school year. Central High’s Grace Schebler, Becca Frederick, and Korben Wilson were selected, and Mitchell Harsen was named a 1st Alternate. Angelica Rua Rodriguez from West High was one of only two alto clarinetists selected from across the state. And from North High, Aryana Sarvestaney was selected for the Band.

Many DCS students made this year’s All-State Choir. North High selectees were Jose Corrales, Jenna Hartman, Josh Reid, and Isabella Rosario, with William Snowball and Henry Runge were selected as alternates. Sophomore Pierre Young was selected as a Solo Finalist for the Choir, a high honor. Central High selectees were Charlie Carr, Michael Helmich, Sam Callaway, Nick Fahrenkrug, Logan Fraker, Adam Borders, Tyler Browne, Madison Goree, Lexi Sweeney, and Sammie Lyle.

Several DCS student singers were selected to be a part of the 2014 OPUS Honor Choir, held in Ames in conjunction with the All-State Music Festival. From North High: Darius Green, Katelyn Miller, Will Snowball, Kaitlyn Sparbel, Zion Tatum, and Tony Wriedt. From Central High: John McAtee, and Anania Williams. From West High: Rebecca Casad. From Sudlow Intermediate: Kami Knutsen, Lucas Thompson, Alex McLeland, and Christopher Norberg.

Only 120 students from Iowa are accepted into the Junior Honors Orchestra. This year, the following students made the cut, representing the best of the best: JB Young K-8: Kaia Colvin (violin), Sudlow Intermediate: Laura Sitz (cello), Walcott K-8: Turner Sperry (cello), Williams Intermediate: Jarrod Hulme (cello), Wood Intermediate: Hannah Savely (viola), Central High: Yana Young (violin) and Elyse Dye (cello), North High: Kelsey Harrell (violin), Haley Nicholson (cello) and Emma Saskowski (cello).

North High’s Audrianna Knox was awarded 2nd place in the “It’s our Community” art contest, organized by QC United.

Several Central High Talented And Gifted students received many awards in this year’s River of Words Iowa Environmental Poetry and Art competition. Victoria Taylor was the winner in the poetry category, with Lorraine Pereira winning runner-up and Honorable Mentions going to Alexis King, Arika Allen, and Collin Herington. In the Art category, Michael Helmich received the runner-up award, with Rachel Lyle and Hannah Hansen receiving Honorable Mentions.

History, Geography, Social, and Literary Studies

West High seniors Olivia Grubbs and Mitchell Dunn both qualified for the National Speech and Debate Tournament. This was Olivia’s 4th time qualifying in Original Oratory, making her the first student in West High history to qualify for Nationals during all four years of his or her schooling. Olivia will receive a scholarship from the National Speech and Debate Association that will be presented on stage during the final rounds at Nationals. This was also not Mitchell’s first time at Nationals – he has now qualified twice in the United States Extemporaneous Speaking category.

In addition to their qualification to Nationals, West High's Olivia Grubbs placed first in Original Oratory and Mitchell Dunn placed second in Extemporaneous Speaking at the Columbus Wildcat Classic. Olivia also placed 6th at the Dowling Catholic Speech and Debate Tournament. She was the only Iowan to advance to this level. Her advancement to the final round at that tournament, along with her 3rd place finish at State last year, qualified her to attend the National Individual Events Tournament of Champions (NIETOC).

John McAtee, Hannah Baez, and Claire Trimble, staff members of Central High's student newspaper, are among the finalists in the Emerging Journalists Program, an Iowa High School Press Association Program that recognizes students who demonstrate promise in journalism.

West High senior Solomon Yoke was named a national winner in the 2015 Quill and Scroll International Writing and Photo Contest. Solomon was one of 28 winners in the Feature Writing category, out of 266 entries from across the nation. Solomon's feature article "Cassie gives back after battling cancer" appeared in the school newspaper, the Beak 'n' Eye. He received a gold key medallion from Quill and Scroll, an international honor society for high school journalists.

Thirteen Buchanan Elementary students in grades 3-5 competed in the Iowa Challenge, a contest where students read from a list of 25 books and take an online test against students from all over Iowa. Buchanan's Eva Martinez finished 4th, Maicy Scace finished 8th, and Nathan Martinez finished 9th in the contest.

Central High's Jaylin Buckley and Cederick Thomas are two young boxers who won the Junior Olympic Regional Tournament this May. Both earned the right to advance to the National Competition in West Virginia.

Nick Nahnybida, 8th grader at Walcott Intermediate and winner of the school's Geo Bee, participated in the preliminaries of the 2015 Iowa National Geographic Bee. The National Geographic Society invited students with the top 100 qualifying test scores to compete at the state level, and this year marked Nick's third consecutive appearance in the state competition.

"A Reality," a play written by West High's Roudaina Alzohby, was selected to run in the 2015 Quad City Playwrights' Festival, sponsored by Augustana College.

Congratulations to Adams Elementary for winning the Davenport Public Library Summer Reading Award.

Central High's Katie Wilt won 2nd place in the Iowa Juneteenth essay contest. Juneteenth is an international observance marking the end to slavery on June 19, 1865, and Katie's essay addressed the ways education influences freedom, liberty, and responsible citizenship in a culturally diverse society.

"The Book Thieves," Central High's Battle of the Books team, qualified for this year's State Battle of the Books Competition, where they placed 2nd in the state of Iowa.

West High's Ethan Jones has been selected to spend the 2015-16 school year in Norway as part of the Rotary Youth Exchange Program.

Central High students Taylor Brooks, Reilly Moeller, and Bree Connors earned Honorable Mention awards in the State of Iowa Letters About Literature contest. They were honored in a ceremony in Des Moines.

Several Central High students received outstanding attorney and witness honors in the Mock Trial Regional Awards. Hannah Mandell received an “Outstanding Attorney” award, and Andrew Thompson, Lorraine Pereira, Louis Delvecchio, Amiah Gooding, Hannah Hansen, and Pablo Haake all won “Outstanding Witness” awards.

The Eisenhower Elementary team won this year’s District Battle of the Books competition.

Central High’s Pablo Haake won 2nd place in the nonfiction division of the Midwest Writing Center’s “Iron Pen” Contest.

National History Day winners, Walcott Intermediate: Sarah Schwien and Michaela Sperry are junior individual qualifiers for their group exhibit on Susan Brownell Anthony. Connor Bollmann and Turner Sperry were junior individual qualifiers for their group exhibit on General MacArthur. Connor and Turner received the Military History Special Award (award from Rock Island Chapter Association of the United States Army) for their exhibit. Andrew VanNice won the Conservation Special Award (award from Scott County Soil and Water Conservation District) for his website, “Henry A. Wallace – A Compassionate Leader / American Dreamer.”

National History Day winners, Central High: Rachel Lyle and Stefanie Nussbaum were given the Award for Excellence in the History of Science for the best project in science for their documentary about Dr. Benjamin Spock and his legacy of childcare. Mickey Sloat is a state qualifier for the 4th year in a row. Her individual performance focuses on the leadership and legacy of Grace Hopper, a Navy Admiral who created the computer language COBOL. Mickey went on to qualify for Nationals for the 4th year in a row.

National History Day winners, Smart Intermediate: Cody Neeper-Burris, Alyssa Rodriguez, and Connor Quinn are state qualifiers for their junior group website, “Strategic Leadership Successes: The Legacy of Dwight D. Eisenhower.”

National History Day winners, Wood Intermediate: Meredith Sloat is a junior individual qualifier for individual performance with her piece “Who’s the Leader of the Club: The Leadership and Legacy of Walt Disney.” Esmee Belzer is a junior individual qualifier for individual performance with her piece “Oskar Schindler: From Terror to Trust to Triumph.” Esmee received a special award from the Jewish Federation of the Quad Cities for her project.

National History Day winners, Sudlow Intermediate: Lauren Posten is a junior individual qualifier for her individual performance, “The Man Behind the Magic: Bringing Cartoons to Life.” Linnea Teasdale and Courtney Hart won 3rd Place in Best Local Research with their junior group website, “John Deere: The Man Who Changed the Way of Farming with a Single Steel Plow.”

The Varsity History Bowl team from Central High had a highly successful year. Team members Pablo Haake, Hannah Hansen, Cameron Moeller, Josh Mostaert, and Thompson Teasdale beat teams from Pleasant Valley, Muscatine, and Bettendorf to earn first place at a local competition. At the Avery Enterprises’ Fall 2014 High School Recent Events Challenge, Central was the only Iowa high school team competing, and students finished 10th out of 40. Finally, the team took second place at the regional History Bowl tournament, where they qualified for the National Competition in Washington, D.C.

Wood Intermediate student Jack West qualified for the State National Geographic Alliance Geography Bee in Des Moines.

The National Council of Teachers of English recognized Central High’s “Indigo Ink” with a Superior Rating, the highest award given in the category of Literary and Art Magazines.

West High's Wylie Halferty placed 3rd at the Midwest Novice Championships Debate tournament in Iowa City. He was also elected as presiding officer at the debate.

Central High students Graham Atkinson, Luke Eure, Pablo Haake, Josh Mostaert, and Emma VanVooren were crowned Champions of the Thinkers Throwdown Tournament. The team defeated Rock Island, North Scott, and Pleasant Valley in live, televised rounds, ultimately winning 1st place.

At the Journalism Education Association conference in Washington, D.C., Central High's Natalie Lawton received a Superior rating in the Yearbook Copy/Caption category, and Will McKay received a Superior rating for his photography portfolio. One of Will's photos was chosen to be featured on the cover of the magazine "Communication: Journalism Education Today." This is an incredible achievement, as his photo was chosen from a gathering of student photos from all across the country.

At the Iowa High School Press Association Journalism Conference, our high school student writers and photographers received high honors. North High won second place in the yearbook contest, and Central High won second place in the school newspaper graphics contest. Individual students from North, Central, and West received many other awards in categories such as illustration, performance writing, and sports action photography.

North High senior Nicholas Kaperka was selected by the Davenport American Legion as a representative at Boys' State, a program that educates students about government, leadership, and citizenship.

Students and Staff as Civic Leaders

Four of our students have been named statewide winners in this year's Martin Luther King Jr. Writing Contest. Jimmy Brooke, first grade student at Eisenhower Elementary, took first place in the age bracket of 1st and 2nd graders. In that same age bracket, Arianna Miranda, a second grade student at Adams Elementary, won second place. Oliver Klipsch, a fourth grade student at Washington Elementary, won first place in the 3rd-4th grade age bracket. Calvin Moulton, a sixth grade student at JB Young K-8, placed second in the 5th and 6th grade category. These winners were invited to the Greater Des Moines Botanical Gardens to be honored by Governor Terry Branstad.

Mid City High student James Salkil went to Des Moines for iJAG Legislative Day. Out of 30 visiting iJAG students, only 8 were chosen to talk to Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds, and James was chosen due to his confidence, presence, and ability to speak with others. James presented Ms. Reynolds with information about iJAG and thanked her for her support of the program in the schools. James was also named best-dressed iJAG student and the top candidate for the day.

Central High's Environmental Club averaged 25 students every Wednesday who worked for 45 minutes each week for a total of 400 hours of volunteer effort for the year. This past year, the club recycled approximately 6,000 refundable cans and bottles and 20,000 non-refundable cans and bottles.

West High's Student Senate raised \$6000 for the Wounded Warriors Project with help from their teachers, the student body, and the public.

During the month of April, McKinley Elementary School raised over \$1,800 for Juvenile Diabetes Research.

Central High's Ashlee Diefenbach, Corrie Sabel, Ashley Durham, and Christopher Allen are members of "Shades of Success," a tobacco prevention/leadership club at Central. Together with Adele Ackert from the Center For Alcohol & Drug Services, the students presented to about 60 junior high students at the Quad City Youth Conference. The students spoke about the negative effects of tobacco products on the body. The students also presented on the dangers of second hand smoke, chewing tobacco, e-cigarettes and advertising.

Throughout several weeks, Sudlow students collected over \$300 in donations for King's Harvest Animal Shelter.

This Spring, nearly 100 Cadets from the Army JROTC program traveled to the Veterans Administration Hospital in Iowa City to visit and interact with VA staff and the veterans in the hospital.

Mid City High's iJAG students took part in Living Lands' "Plant a Million Trees" initiative. Students volunteered at different stations and prepared tree roots for the mass planting.

Central High's Key Club volunteered and raised money throughout the community this year. Every year, Key Club sponsors a room at Gilda's Club for Noogiefest, and volunteers during the Gilda's Club Easter Egg Hunt. This year, the club also donated money for Central's Holiday Dinner Box Drive, contributed \$1000 to Central's first annual Dance Marathon for the University of Iowa Children's Hospital, and donated \$500 to the Pennies for Patients campaign, which works towards finding a cure for Leukemia and Lymphoma.

Mid City High's iJAG students made care packages for local Davenport School District families in need. The packages contained everyday household items including toiletries, water bottles, Kleenex, blankets, first aid kits, and other helpful items. Students enjoyed using funds they earned from hosting a blood drive to pay it forward.

Sudlow 7th grader Kailee Thorndike participated in this year's National American Miss Pageant in Waterloo, Iowa. Kailee was selected as one of the top 100 applicants.

Central High exchange student Lynn Miklik, visiting from Germany, was awarded the American Cultural Exchange Services' Student of the Month Award. These awards are given to exchange students who demonstrate a commitment to their academics, community, and host families.

West High student Kyle Herrick donated his vehicle in a unique way that helped raise money for Ovarian Cancer Research: he lent his old van to students and teachers who paid a fundraising fee to smash the vehicle. Safety goggles and other supplies were given to those who paid money to swing a mallet, and through this outside-the-box idea, Kyle raised \$300 for the Norma Leah Ovarian Cancer Foundation.

A representative group of 17 Central High students attended the "We Are One" Rally at the Capitol Complex in Des Moines on March 31st. This event was hosted by the Iowa Student Learning Institute and featured several speakers, including the Governor and Central's own Pablo Haake. Students collaborated on issues such as student voice and bullying, and had the opportunity to meet with legislators in the House of Representatives.

Students from Mid City High participated in the Iowa Youth Congress Lobby Day in Des Moines. The students' Hands Free Cell Phone Use bill was presented as a companion bill after the two sponsors for the bill got together and compromised on the exact details.

Several DCS students took part in The Great Walk for Climate Action, a social action effort led by people walking from Los Angeles all the way to Washington, D.C. Central High Environmental Club leaders Hannah Quick and Gracie Schebler marched with local participants of the Walk, and Mid City High hosted four of the national walkers as educational speakers, informing students about environmental and social climate issues.

Our high schools participated in the Mini Dance Marathon Fundraiser for the University of Iowa Children's Hospital Miracle Network. Students danced to help raise funds for many areas of hospital need, such as enhancement and program support, education, primary equipment, and research of current illnesses and future treatments. The combined effort of our schools raised over \$8000.

Central High student Juls Hance was crowned National Miss Amazing Teen Queen at the National Miss Amazing Pageant. The goal of the Miss Amazing pageant is to continue the celebration of the talents and abilities of girls and women with disabilities. During the National pageant, Juls performed an a capella rendition of "For Good" from the musical "Wicked," and discussed school issues in front of a panel of judges. As part of her duties as Miss Amazing, Juls is helping at food pantries and other community service events.

Students from Mid City High School represented Davenport Community Schools at the 9th annual General Assembly of the Iowa Youth Congress. Jazmine Holbrook, Izzy Parker-Tatum, Gabe Simms, Scott Boyer, Christian Hann, and Austin Winters were accompanied on the three-day event by Iowa Youth Congress sponsors Mr. Thede and Mr. Shepherd, and by school principal Dr. Klipsch. Students argued their bills on Just Compensation and Foreign Language for Elementary Students.

The Central High boys track team collected pairs of shoes for needy children in Haiti. Under the guidance of Coach Schwartzclose, the team set a goal to collect 70 pairs of shoes, but ended with a final count of over 130 pairs for students in Haiti.

The Wood Intermediate 7-8th Grade Select Choirs performed at the University of Iowa's Hospital and Clinics to a variety of patients, families and staff. Each singer personalized and crafted homemade cards of well wishes and get well soon messages to the patients in the audience, and the choirs sang for over an hour with holiday music filled with solos, small groups, instruments and full chorus.

The Central High National Honor Society, along with Aeropostale and DoSomething.Org, sponsored a "Teens for Jeans" clothing drive this winter. Over a million young people experience homelessness in the US every year, and most requested clothing item is a pair of jeans. Students took this issue to heart and collected thirty seven pairs of jeans for needy teens right here in Iowa.

DuTrac Credit union awarded \$300 Falcon Branch Scholarships to West High students Alizabeth Hardy, Aaron Willie, Kayla Riggs, Kyle Verdon, Anna Hedges, and Sydney Schneider. These six students are the volunteer Falcon Branch Credit Union Workers of the 2014-2015 school year, and each worked hard all year learning the ins and outs of how a credit union runs and operates smoothly.

The Buffalo Student Leadership Team organized a school-based food bank that served approximately 20 families.

28 freshman from West's CITI High program participated in Special Olympics Play Day in the West YMCA. Students engaged with about 45 special Olympic participants while taking on the roles of team leader and activity coordinator and helping assist with passing out awards to the participants.

ProStart culinary arts students at Central High helped those in need by interning at the Solid Rock Café during the 2014-2015 school year. Students gained experience in customer service, food preparation, and menu planning all while helping the community.

Our high schools participated in the 29th annual Student Hunger Drive, joining the efforts of other Quad City high schools to collect a combined total of 478,965 pounds of food. North High was given the Mission Challenge Award for best exemplifying the mission of the Student Hunger Drive. Central and West won Participation Awards due to Central's average collection of 18.14 pounds per student and West's 20.62 pounds per student. Central High senior Justin Sanchez was awarded the title of Student Hunger Drive Ambassador for the Quad Cities.

Coach Allison Newman's Psychology classes at North High created posters to bring awareness to the many different forms of mental illness that people in our community struggle with daily. The Wildcats also recognized Mental Illness Awareness Week with a "Green Out" at the Volleyball game vs. Pleasant Valley on October 7th.

Central High TAG students created bookmarks with their favorite literary quotes for the Students Rebuild Literacy Challenge. Every bookmark sold brought \$1.00 to help kids read via a donation to @SaveTheChildren.

Members of West Connection, West High's varsity show choir, performed as part of the HAVlife Foundation's Preventing Lost Potential Day celebration. HAVlife's mission is "To Prevent Lost Potential™ of youth through support of participation in athletics, music and the arts."

Central High's Environmental Club organized and completed a campus cleanup day on Friday, September 19th. This was another way in which TAG students came together to beautify Central and the community. Volunteers met on the Main Street steps and cleaned school grounds and the area surrounding Central, collecting several large bags of trash and recyclables.

Williams TAG students opened the Teacher Stop Coffee Shop, and all proceeds from sales were donated to K9 Kindness, a local animal rescue organization.

Victoria Taylor and Louis Del Vecchio, two Central High Iowa Safe and Supportive School (IS3) Student Leaders, presented to approximately 70 students at this year's Quad City Youth Conference. Their three workshops on "The Power of Student Voice" included activities on problem solving, creative solutions, and how to help improve school culture and climate.

Six students from the Iowa Safe and Supportive Schools (IS3) Team at Central High attended the Iowa High School Multi-Tiered Approach to Gender Violence Prevention Summit at the University of Northern Iowa. The summit focused on the importance of student voice and how students can effect school policy. Only two other schools in Iowa had student leaders in attendance.

The Iowa Safe and Supportive Schools team (IS3) at Central High School presented at the IBPA's Eleventh Annual Conference in San Diego. Their presentation was "Engaging Communities in Bullying Prevention."

Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) and Vocational Accomplishments

Sam Bral, senior at North High, finished in the top ten of all contestants in the Brain Bee Competition. The competition was held at the University of Iowa, and it tests the neuroscience knowledge of high school students from around the state.

West High's award-winning "Combustible Lemons" engineering & robotics team had another successful year in competitions, ultimately qualifying for the FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) World Championship in St. Louis. Leading up to the Worlds, the team finished 5-0 in the qualification matches at the Nebraska FTC State Championship. Then, at the Iowa FTC State Championship, the team won the Inspire Award and the title of Winning Alliance Captain. Later, at the Northern Super Regional Tournament, the Lemons were selected to be part of the alliance that beat the #1 and #2 seeds, winning the Connect Award. The Lemons then advanced to the World Championship to compete against the top 3% of all teams in the world. Although the Combustible Lemons were not recognized as a finalist at this year's Worlds, the team accomplished amazing things. Senior Brendon Telman served as driver and programmer, driving the team to numerous victories, and Co-Captain Stephen Eckert received the Dean's List Award, which is given to only 10 students each year.

Mid City High's iJAG students completed 3 days of testing for the National Career Readiness Certificate, a certification that is highly regarded by employers in the state of Iowa. Alia Tyler received a silver level certificate from the NCRC, and Trey Canaday, Billy Stanger, Scott Boyer, Ashley Fry, and Angelo Dominguez all received bronze level certificates.

At the Midwest Tech welding competition in Moline, the following DCS students placed in the top ten out of 52 competitors: Sal Garcia (West), 9th place; Caelan Gast (West), 8th place; Jarrett Berner (West), 7th place; Victor Mendoza (West), 3rd place; Nate Anderson (Central), 2nd place; and Steve Como (West), 1st place. The top three students received monetary awards for their high achievements.

West High senior Carina Grady was selected for a \$2,000 NDIA (National Defense Industrial Association) Scholarship. Carina was honored at the Quad City Engineering and Science Council Banquet, hosted at John Deere World Headquarters. She plans to attend Iowa State University in the fall to major in mechanical engineering and minor in industrial engineering.

"Knights of Algorithm," Williams Intermediate's Lego Robotics team, qualified for the State First Lego League (FLL) Competition. The Knights won their bid to State by placing 7th overall at the local FLL competition at the Putnam Museum, where they also won the Project Honorable Mention Award. All of our Intermediate Schools participated in this event, where students programmed their robots to perform a series of missions and presented a project on the topic of Campus-based Learning versus Online Learning. Also winning awards were Wood Intermediate taking the Core Values Trophy and Sudlow Intermediate taking the Robot Design Honorable Mention Award.

"Falcon Fever," West High's Real World Design Challenge Team, participated in the National RWDC contest and won the Most Creative Presentation Merit Award. While in Washington DC, team members Tuyen Nguyen, Carina Grady, Tony Nguyen, Derek Geiken, Nicole Kraft, and Pardeep Saini took a tour of Discovery Communications and the Capitol. Students also met with Congressman Dave Loebsack and Senator Chuck Grassley.

Central High's Alex Mester was selected for a 100% scholarship from the Quad City Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter to go to an EAA Flight Camp in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

The West High student engineering team “Endotherm” was one of only 15 teams in the nation to receive the prestigious Lemelson-MIT InvenTeam Grant to invent a product. Tasked with creating a product that would change the world and save lives, students focused on the problem of vehicular heatstroke and the death of children and pets. Students have developed a bracelet and collar that will alert the parent or pet owner when the wearer is reaching dangerous temperature levels.

Congratulations to our DCS ProStart students who competed in the 2015 Iowa ProStart Invitational in Ames. The culinary team of Maria DeMarr, Liz Fury, Uriah Holt, Katie Ruefer, and Alyssa Pearson showed off their culinary skills to make an appetizing meal. The Management team of Christian Brown, JaLynne Browning, Alyssa Pearson, Ashley Madison, and Maria DeMarr proposed their original restaurant the “Breakfast Club,” placing 3rd and only fractions of a point away from 1st place.

West High’s Endotherm Team presented to the College of Business Board of Directors’ meeting at the University of Iowa. After Endotherm’s presentation, entrepreneur John Pappajohn donated \$10,000 to the team, Tom Bedell contributed \$1,000, and the University of Iowa STEM Innovator program contributed \$500. The University of Iowa has partnered with Davenport Community Schools on Endotherm’s initiatives.

West High students Tony Nguyen and Tuyen Nguyen were featured student guests on Discovery Education for National Manufacturing Day at ALCOA Davenport Works. Forty-two hundred schools and 150,000 students participated in the Virtual Field Trip.

Junior ROTC

The Army JROTC Marksmanship team of Ian MacDonald, Tien Thai, Joey Beard, and Kane MacDonald competed in the State of Iowa Junior Olympics in Des Moines. The team placed fourth and Ian MacDonald placed 11th overall in the state.

The JROTC Raider Team took 3rd place out of ten teams in the Rope Bridge event at the Fredericktown, Missouri, Raider (Black Cat) Challenge.

The Davenport Community Schools Army JROTC Corps of Cadets won the Best Youth Group Award for the 2015 Saint Patrick’s Day Parade.

At a drill meet in Waterloo, the Davenport Community Schools Marine Corps JROTC team placed highly in a number of competitive events, including 1st place in Armed duets, 2nd place in the marksmanship shooting match, and 3rd place finishes in the physical fitness competition, unarmed exhibition drill, new cadet IDR drill, and inspection team.

The Davenport Community Schools Army JROTC drill team presented at Purdue University, placing 5th amongst a field of 20 teams, some of which were nationally ranked.

The Army JROTC program at Davenport Community Schools received \$1000 from the American Legion Foundation, in honor of the cadets’ efforts and dedication.

The Army JROTC Color Guard served as greeters at the 29th Honor Flight reception dinner. Attendees of the dinner included World War II veterans, Korean War veterans, the Guardians who will attend to the veterans' needs in Washington, D.C., event organizers, families, friends, and Governor Branstad.

Army JROTC cadets participated in 9 different service learning projects this year, volunteering their time and service at organizations such as Kings Harvest Homeless Shelter, Humility of Mary Shelter, and Big Brothers and Big Sisters.

Davenport Schools Foundation

Great Minds programming expanded from K-5 to reach all K-8 students this year. In order, the student trips begin in kindergarten with Niabi Zoo, then Ballet Quad Cities, Vander Veer Park, Davenport Public Library, QC Symphony, Figge Art Museum and RME, Putnam Museum, Nahant Marsh, and Junior Achievement Finance Park.

The Tribute to Teachers morale-boosting campaign conducted by DSF in the spring produced 100 testimonials for current or retired DCSD teachers who made a difference in students' lives

The DSF scholarship program awarded \$67,000 to 41 students through 24 different endowed scholarships. Enhancements to scholarships include the Hanae Fujiwara Wiese Scholarship at Central High now covering a \$1,000 gift for all four years of college, and the Kathryn Bell Tate Scholarship's worth increasing to \$14,000 over four years, from a previous total of \$12,000. The newest scholarship is the Central High Class of 1964 Future Educator Scholarship.