



SEM Students Receive National Recognition

College Board National Hispanic Recognition Program 2008- 2009

Congratulations to Ashley Ake (Scholar), Ruben Diaz (Honorable Mention), Guadalupe Jasso (Scholar), Roger Larson (Honorable Mention), Jose Montelongo (Honorable Mention), Brooke Packheiser (Scholar), David Shoemaker (Scholar), Adrian Trejo (Honorable Mention), Abel Valle (Honorable Mention) for their outstanding achievement!

The College Board's NHRP was initiated in 1983 to identify outstanding Hispanic/Latino high school students and to share information about these academically well-prepared students with subscribing colleges and universities. In order to be eligible, students must be at least one-quarter Hispanic/Latino as defined by the NHRP. Each year the NHRP identifies nearly 5,000 of the highest scoring students from a nationwide total of more than 200,000 high school juniors who took the PSAT/NMSQT and designated themselves as Hispanic, as well as approximately 150 of the top scoring PAA students from Puerto Rico.

2009 National Achievement Scholarship Program Outstanding Participants Referred to Colleges

Congratulations to Solomon Gardner, Camaaron Jackson, David Oyedapo, and Zeynu Amar for their outstanding achievement. These students were among 3,100 Outstanding Participants in the National Achievement Scholarship Program being referred to U.S. colleges and universities. These students scored in the top 4 percent of more than 150,000 Black Americans who requested consideration in the 2009 National Achievement Program when they took the 2007 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). A roster of these students' names, high schools, and tentative college major choices is being sent to about 1,500 colleges and universities.

2009 National Merit Scholarship Program Commended Students

Congratulations to Ashley Ake, Phillip Anderson, Kyle Breece, Evan Doyle, Bailey Jones, Fabian Salas, and Cynthia Vint for their outstanding achievement. Commended students are being recognized for the exceptional academic promise demonstrated by their outstanding performance on the qualifying test used for program entry.

Texas Instruments DMOS6 Fabrication Facility Tour

Forty seniors have been invited to tour Texas Instruments' DMOS6 fabrication facility on October 15, 2008. Dr. Charles Tuttle, Mr. Calvin Boykin, Mr. Paul Taylor, and Mrs. Granger will chaperone the students throughout the field trip. **Mr. Taylor could use one or two parent volunteers, preferably female to help balance the male/female chaperone ratio. This is a great tour for parents to experience.** Upon arrival, Alan Gilkes, (SEM Site Based Decision Making Committee Chairman/TI employee) along with Travis Smith (SEM SBDM committee member/TI employee/SEM alumni) will be on hand to welcome the students. www.ti.com/corp/docs/landing/45nm/index.htm

Parent-Teacher Conferences Monday, October 13 – 4 to 8 p.m.

To make it possible for parents to see more teachers, we will be trying out a new system:

- ◆ Pick up report cards, schedules and classroom maps by the SEM office, near the front entrance of the school
- ◆ Sign in outside each teacher's classroom and pick up student progress report
- ◆ Meet with teacher for maximum of 6 minutes
- ◆ If needed, schedule a follow-up meeting
- ◆ Repeat for each teacher you wish to see

Given the number of students and teachers, and the limited amount of time available, we may not achieve 100% success, but we hope this will be an improvement.

Don't worry about dinner on parent-teacher conference night. **We can feed you!** The SEM PTSA will be selling pizza and drinks at the front entrance to Townview. Not only is this an easy way to grab a quick bite to eat, it will also help the PTSA raise a few dollars.

Volunteers Needed!

Last chance to volunteer to serve food during Parent-Teacher Conferences. One hour shifts available from 3:30 to 8:30 pm. Plan to volunteer before or after you see the teachers. No food preparation, just cold drinks, pizza and snacks. Contact Kathy Priester at kathypriester@tx.rr.com.

October PTSA Meeting

National Junior Honor Society Induction and College Planning

The next PTSA meeting is **Tuesday, October 21 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Townview auditorium. Please join us! The program will begin with an induction of students to the National Honor Society. After the induction, Mrs. Wells, Ms. Kashyap and Mr. Flores will present new scholarship information and take questions about college planning.

The Periodic Tabloid

Astronomy Students Join Panel Discussion

At the invitation of Dr. Sharon Spalding, Direction of Education at the Frontiers of Flight Museum, Mr. Taylor's Astronomy class will participate in a panel discussion with visiting NASA astronauts at the museum on October 17, 2008.

Sad News

Freshman student Jonathan Steelman's mother passed away on Friday from complications after giving birth a week ago to a baby boy named Noah. The family has set up a fund to help with the funeral arrangements and for the children. Jonathan also has a ten year old sister name Gabrielle.

The fund is set up at:

American National Bank of Texas
1023 N. Highway 175
Seagoville, TX 75159
Phone # (972) 287-5080

If you would like to donate items for a gift basket, such as gift cards, baby clothing and or baby formula (Similac Advance Early Shield Baby Formula) you may do so. Please bring items to the SEM office and we will make sure that the family receives them.

Please help if you can. Thank you in advance.

Help Students Attend the Presidential Inauguration

We need your help. Following President Bush's visit to SEM last year, SEM students will have the opportunity to participate in another historic event. Eight SEM class officers will attend the Presidential Inauguration in Washington, D.C. in January 2009. To raise the funds needed to send these representatives, SEM students will be selling food at Townview over the next six weeks. **We are asking all SEM parents to help out with donations of food:** hot chocolate, ice cream, ice cream toppings, brownies, chips, candy bars, baked cookies, and hard candies (such as skittles, blow pops etc), nacho cheese dip-tortilla chips-and jalapenos. Ask your child for details.

**** **Food sales will begin October 13, 2008** ****

We also need parents to help out front. If you can help, contact faculty advisor Rita Hines at realstarbaby@hotmail.com.

Congratulations to SEM HAS alumni!

This past summer, seven SEM students attended an internship program at NASA for a week as High School Aerospace Scholars (HAS). Those attending were: Matthew Krueger, Gabriella Dodd, Matthew Patrick, Ana E. Alvarez, Phillip Anderson, Robert Reyna and David Shoemaker. They also achieved an advance science credit on their transcripts and made many contacts with educators, scientists and engineers employed by NASA. It's amazing how many universities have research programs linked to NASA. Way to go!

N.A.S.A. Is Calling!

SEM Juniors, this is your opportunity to experience the time of your life. If you are at all interested in the Aerospace industry or any scientific area of study this opportunity is perfect for you. NASA is recruiting. You can become a High School Aerospace Scholar (HAS). The time is now. Applications are due at the beginning of November. This is your chance to be selected to participate in an internship at NASA next summer. The criteria is



Attention SEM Students!
Your PSAT score is critical in determining if you are a National Merit Scholar!

9th, 10th, & 11th Graders

will be taking the **PSAT** on Wednesday,
October 15, 2008!!

Study your PSAT Review Booklet!

The Day of the Test – Remember:

- ♦ Get a good night's sleep the night before.
- ♦ Eat a good breakfast. Lunch will be in the cafeteria, just later than you are used to. (The PTSA is providing a snack for you!)
- ♦ Bring your calculator – make sure the batteries are working! Bring two sharpened #2 pencils.
- ♦ Testing Policy: Cell phones must be taken up! Bring a bag with your name on it for your cell phone.

Snacks Needed

On Wednesday, October 15, all SEM freshmen, sophomores and juniors will be taking the PSAT. To help the students maintain their energy levels during the test, **Mrs. Kashyap has requested donations of at least 350 individually wrapped, healthy snacks and 350 small bottled waters.** (No candy, sodas or other items with high sugar.) Bring donations to the parent-teacher conferences on Monday, October 13, or simply bring them by the SEM office at your convenience. We could also use a couple of volunteers to distribute the snacks and waters the morning of the test. If you can help with that, contact Dianna Krueger at rainbows_01@msn.com or (972) 233-4189.

Got SEM Student News?

The Tabloid LOVES to sing the praises of SEM students. If you learn of news about an SEM student (including your own!), please send word so we can share the good news. Academics, clubs, band, sports – you name it. Don't be modest. This is the place to share the news. Send news to iimkipp@sbcglobal.net.

The Periodic Tabloid

simple, you do a spring semester of lessons online exploring such things as the space shuttle, space station, the moon and Mars and NASA pays for you to intern for a week. You will be surprised as to the various fields of expertise that are employed at NASA. This opportunity is only offered to High School Students in Texas. The HAS alumni will be helping NASA to recruit this next week, for next years scholars by telling you of their experiences and giving you a packet of information. To learn more about the Texas Aerospace Scholars, visit <http://aerospacescholars.jsc.nasa.gov> or contact Jessica Cejka at 281-483-4853 or Jessica.a.cejka@nasa.gov. HT: Dianna Krueger

SEM PTSA Board Meeting

PTSA Board Meeting on Thursday, October 16, 6:00 pm at Townview. If any parent, student, or teacher has a suggestion for an activity or program, please contact a board member before October 16. Board members, please be prepared to present a summary reports of your activities.

Student Directory

The SEM student directory is coming along. If you are on the SEM email list, you will receive a draft copy of the directory in the next few days. Please check all of the information for your family. Please pardon any errors. If you have additions or corrections, please send them to Angela Perez-Michael at perezmichael@tx.rr.com. We will have printed copies of the directory soon.

Lend a Helping Can: Food Drive and Contest

In honor of World Food Day, DISD is hosting its 3rd annual food drive. This year's drive will feature a creative contest that allows students and parents to build an artistic structure made of non-perishable food donations. Please bring food donations to SEM on October 13-31, and help us reach our district goal to collect 100,000 pounds of food for the North Texas Food Bank.

Get Ready, Collect, Build!

Students, are you up for a fun challenge? Try your hand at building a unique structure made out of non-perishable food. This contest requires your school to demonstrate creativity, innovation, and problem solving skills. Prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize winning campuses.

All it takes is 4 easy steps:

1. Organize – Assemble a team and assign a team leader
2. Design – Come up with a design concept for your structure
3. Construct – Use donated food items to build a creative masterpiece
4. Submit – Show off your hard work

Visit www.dallasisd.org/cans for complete details.

Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) Exhibition

The Ice House Cultural Center exhibition features altars and artwork commemorating those that have passed on. According to ancient Mexican traditions, every year the spirits of the dead come back to visit with their families. This happens on All Saints Day (Nov 1) and on the Day of the Dead (Nov 2). This tradition sustains the conviction that life and death are inseparable. October 21 through November 14, 2008; Reception with the artists: November 1, 2008 (6-8 p.m.) Free and open to the public.

www.dallasculture.org/iceHouseCulturalCenter.cfm 1004 W. Page Street in Oak Cliff, just a few minutes from Townview. HT: Toni Lewis

Interested in Working at the Election Polls?

Dallas County is looking for *Early Voting and Election Day Clerks*. www.dalcoelections.org/Clerk_Application.pdf HT: Toni Lewis

The Merchant of Venice

Shakespeare Dallas presents The Merchant of Venice this month. The performances are held outdoors and generally people bring lawn chairs or sit on blankets. Tickets are \$10 each, except the October 19 performance, which is free. www.shakespearedallas.org

October 1-5 & 8-11:

8:00p Samuel Grand Theater

October 15-19:

8:00p Addison Circle Park

October 24-25:

8:00p The University of North Texas

Note: The play has anti-Semitic themes.

The Math Forum

The Math Forum is an online resource for improving math learning, teaching and communication. The Math Forum offers **Problems of the Week**, inventive, engaging challenges designed to get your students thinking, talking, and doing mathematics; **Activity Series**, a framework and classroom activities for those who wish to enhance student competence and confidence in problem solving and communication, and to share best practices with other teachers; and **Professional Development**, online courses for developing teacher use of technology in the classroom, mathematical knowledge for teaching, and implementation of a problem-solving and mathematical communication program. www.mathforum.org HT: Toni Lewis

South Dallas Cultural Center Seeks Volunteers

SDCC is looking for a few good people to come to the South Dallas Cultural Center and lend us their time. "We are not joking when we say that our volunteers have the best time volunteering for our various events and programs! Come to our first volunteer meeting on Thursday, October 23 at 6 pm to see what we're doing."

www.dallasculture.org/southDallasCulturalCenter.cfm HT: Toni Lewis

The Periodic Tabloid

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Time
F October 10	Fair Day – Student Holiday	
M October 13	Parent-Teacher Conferences	4:15 – 8:15p
M October 13	Food Sales Fundraiser During Conferences	4:00 – 8:00p
October 13-31	“Lend a Helping Can” Food Drive for North Texas Food Bank	
W October 15	PSAT for 9 th , 10 th and 11 th Graders	During School
F October 17	Townview Exemplary School Celebration	10:00a – 2:00p
F October 17	Early Release	2:00p
Sa October 18	UIL Meet in Richardson	
Tu October 21	PTSA General Meeting: National Honor Society Induction & College Planning	6:30p
Sa November 1	Deadline for TCU Youth Entrepreneur Award Application	
Sa November 8	AP English Prep Sessions @ Townview	9:00 – 2:30
New and changed events are in bold.		
Events are subject to change. Check the SEM calendar for updates. www.semagnetschool.org		

AP Prep Session Schedule

Please make note of the following AP prep session dates. SEM students are expected to attend the appropriate prep session corresponding with their current AP course work. ~ Jovan Wells, Principal

Advanced Placement Department AP Student Prep Sessions 2008-2009			
November 8	English	9:00-2:30	Townview Center
December 13	Math	9:00-2:30	Townview Center
January 10	Science	8:30-2:30	Townview Center
January 31	English	9:00-2:30	Townview Center
February 20	English	9:00-2:30	Townview Center
February 21	English	9:00-2:30	Townview Center
March 28	Math	9:00-2:30	Townview Center
April 4	Science	8:30-2:30	To Be Determined
April 17	Math	5:00-9:00	Townview Center
April 18	Math	9:00-1:30	Townview Center
May 9	Science	8:30-2:30	Townview Center

The Periodic Tabloid

Financial Aid & Scholarship Resources

Check out the [Counselor's Corner](#) on the SEM website for current college planning information. Ms. Kashyap and Mr. Flores have added quite a bit of new information.

College Ain't Cheap: \$50,000 Tuition GiveAway
Borders, mental_floss and Merriam-Webster will be awarding five \$10,000 scholarships. Deadline: January 31, 2009.
www.tuitiongiveaway.com HT: Mr. Peak

Voice of Democracy Scholarship Competition for students in grades 9-12 annually awards more than \$3 million in scholarships. Scholarships range from \$1,000 up to \$30,000 for the first-place winner. Deadline: November 1, 2008.
www.vfw6796.com/scholarships.htm HT: Clarence Jackson,

SEM parent and Jr. Vice Commander, VFW Post 6796

VFW Scout of the Year Scholarship. \$5,000 award to an outstanding scout who is the recipient of a Boy Scout Eagle Award, a Venture Scouting Silver Award or a Sea Scout Quartermaster Award. Second-place winner receives a \$3,000 award. Deadline: March 1, 2009.
www.vfw.org/index.cfm?fa=cmtylevel&did=4371

College Calendar

Date	Time	School	Location
Su October 5	4:30-6:00p	Naval Academy Admission Forum	Townview Theater
M October 13	8:30-9:00a	Yale University	Media Center
M October 13	7:00p	Yale University	Plano Center, 2000 E Spring Creek Pkwy, Plano, Northbrook Room
Tu October 14	7:00p	Yale University	W.T. White High School, 4505 Ridgeside Dr., in the Auditorium
Th October 16	3:30p	Columbia University	Townview Library
Su October 19	2:00p	MIT	Plano Convention Centre, Windhaven Room 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway Plano, TX 75074
M October 20	3:30p	MIT	Townview Library
Tu October 21	3:30p	Tufts University	Townview Library
Th October 23	3:30p	Carleton College	Townview Library
W October 29	3:30p	Harvey Mudd	Townview Library
October 29 and 30		Navy Representatives Visit Senior Classes	
M November 3	TBA	University of Pittsburg	TBA
New and changed events are in bold. Information subject to change. Please check school websites for updates. *An unverified event may well be accurate; we simply could not find a listing for the event on the school's website.			
If you learn of an upcoming college information session in the Dallas area, contact the Tabloid so we can add it to the list.			