



# The Lion's Roar

March 2013

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Millennium Charter Academy Events Worth Roaring About



## MCA Science Olympiad Winners

Science Olympiad is a national competition made up of over 6,800 teams across all fifty states. The purpose of the competition is to provide rigorous, standards-based challenges in all STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) areas to expose students to practicing scientists and career choices, and to motivate classroom teachers with fun and dynamic content for their classes. This year is the 4<sup>th</sup> year that MCA has competed in Science Olympiad, and this year, the team brought home a second place win at the regional level, which puts them in the state competition, scheduled for April 27 in Raleigh.

Posing after the Science Olympiad Tournament with their big trophy are: Back row: **Jonah Hodges**, and **Sarah Shepherd**, **Dalton Collins**, Coach Mike Drury; Middle row: **Malcolm Malone**, **Andrew Burciu**, **Kaela Simpson**, and **Oscar Hampton**; Front Row: **Hana Rose Kinder**, **Derrick Cashatt**, and **Jake Gunter**

Individual Placement Levels for the Team are:

- Anatomy: 1<sup>st</sup> Place **Andrew Burciu**
- Boom lever: 3<sup>rd</sup> place **Dalton Collins**
- Bottle Rocket: 3<sup>rd</sup> place **Malcolm Malone**
- Disease Detectives: 2<sup>nd</sup> place **Andrew Burciu** and **Dalton Collins**
- Dynamic Planet: 2<sup>nd</sup> place **Emory Bray** and **Jake Gunter**
- Elastic Launch: 2<sup>nd</sup> place **Emory Bray** and **Jake Gunter**
- Food Science: 2<sup>nd</sup> place **Sarah Shepherd** and **Hana Rose Kinder**
- Forestry: 2<sup>nd</sup> place **Andrew Burciu** and **Jonah Hodges**
- Heredity: 3<sup>rd</sup> place **Hana Rose Kinder** and **Jake Gunter**
- Meteorology: 3<sup>rd</sup> place **Malcolm Malone** and **Jonah Hodges**
- Mission Possible: 1<sup>st</sup> place **Andrew Burciu** and **Malcolm Malone**
- Rocks and Minerals: 3<sup>rd</sup> place **Malcolm Malone** and **Oscar Hampton**
- Shock Value: 1<sup>st</sup> place **Hana Rose Kinder**
- Sounds of Music: 2<sup>nd</sup> place **Oscar Hampton** and **Sarah Shepherd**



## NC Student Academy of Science Research Paper Competition

Four MCA students participated in the Northwest Regional research paper competition, advancing them to the state level of competition, and these same four students all won awards at the state level. At the state level, **Drew Morrow** won second place in the Biological B division, and **Elizabeth Campbell** won third place in the same division. **Sarah Shepherd** won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Physics division, and **Laura Browne** won the US Navy Award for a project in the Technology and Engineering Division. **Drew Morrow** and **Sarah Shepherd** are now invited to a special speaker presentation at Pembroke University as a furtherance of their awards.

Pictured at right: **Drew Morrow**, **Elizabeth Campbell**, **Sarah Shepherd**, and **Laura Browne**



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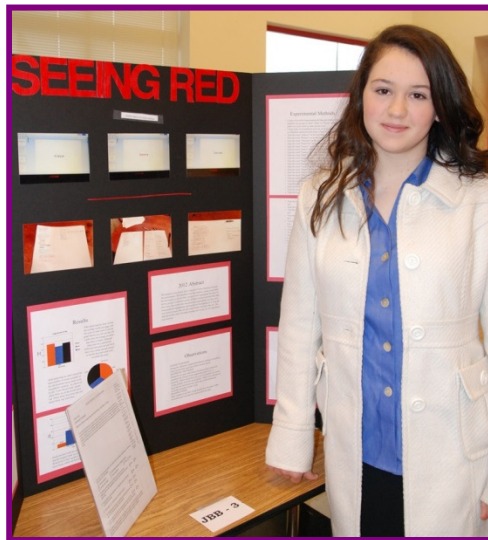
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**Elizabeth Campbell** received an honorable mention at the state level of the NC Science and Engineering Fair.



## North Carolina Science and Engineering Fair State Winner

**Elizabeth Campbell**, MCA 8<sup>th</sup> grade, won an honorable mention at the state level of the NC Science and Engineering Fair, held at Meredith College in Raleigh, for her science fair project entitled "Seeing Red," a study to determine if text and font color can help people better remember what they read. The purpose of the NC Science and Engineering Fair is to provide an opportunity for students who are interested in science and technology to pursue personal areas of interest, display their work in a competitive setting, and to promote inquiry based learning.

## National History Day Competition

Thanks to MCA history teacher Matt Elder and the efforts of the History Department at Surry Community College, MCA students participated in the first ever Northwest North Carolina Regional National History Day Competition held at Surry Community College. The mission of National History Day is to provide opportunities through the study of history for students to learn and develop research, thinking, and communication skills. The focus of this year's competition was "Turning Point," and students had to develop a project to explain a historical event and how that event was a turning point in history. MCA's team chose to write and act a play about the 1927 trial of Italian immigrants Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti, who were falsely accused and executed for a murder they did not commit, primarily as a result of their political beliefs, a trial which helped to bring about significant judicial reform in the US. MCA's team will now travel to the NC History Museum on April 27 for the state competition.



National History Day winners are **Lindley Williams**, **Laura Browne**, and **Andrew Burciu**.

## MPACT Hosts Catawba Science Festival

MPACT recently hosted the Catawba Science Festival for all MCA students. This is the second year MPACT has provided this opportunity, and the school is most grateful. At the festival, which was held in the MCA Lion Arena, students got to visit six hands-on stations that featured guided scientific investigations into environmental concerns that affect our earth, challenging the students to develop and sharpen their inquiry skills as they made general hypotheses, observations, and interpreted their findings. Most of all, students, and volunteers alike, had fun while learning about science! Pictured at left are eighth graders **Jennifer Doggett** (center) and **Amber Arnett** (right) who helped younger students better understand static electricity. Many thanks to ALL MCA parents and grandparents for their work in helping to man the stations for our students.



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