



The Lion's Roar

Millennium Charter Academy Events Worth Roaring About

January 2017

MCA Students Win Big at Regional Science Fair

The Northwest Regional Science Fair, covering a thirteen county region, was recently held at Appalachian State University, and MCA students did very well with many winning awards that will take them onto

state competition in March. Student projects represented serious research, and student winners will progress to the science fair board competition, held at Meredith College, or to the research paper competition, held at the NC School of Science and Math.

Martina Banas, 6th grade, examined whether pianists could type faster than those who didn't play the piano. **Sarah Shepherd**, 11th grade, will be moving forward to the state level in both competitions. Her project tested ankle braces to

examine the range of motion of the ankle joint. **Laurel Petri**, 9th grade, conducted her research to determine how different knee braces affected a runner's form. **Cameron Shaw**, 8th grade, researched how using a solar still could be used to purify water of deadly bacteria and other contaminants. **Cooper Edwards**, 6th grade, used arrows to analyze the trajectory of a projectile, and **Madison Lawson**, 8th grade, researched the most efficient liquid for cooling a convection engine. **Wil Danley**, 8th grade, studied whether or not the color of paper used in printing helped a person remember what was written on the paper. **Alayna Smith** and **Anna Gibbons**, both in 9th grade, worked together to measure how different chemicals affected the quality of compost. **Jack Bevard**, 9th grade, tested how much residue would remain on the ground or in water from spills of petroleum-based products such as oil, gasoline, diesel, and steering fluid.



Regional science fair and research paper winners are back row, from left, **Alayna Smith**, **Laurel Petri**, **Sarah Shepherd**, **Jack Bevard**, **Anna Gibbons**; front row, **Cameron Shaw**, **Madison Lawson**, **Martina Banas**, **William Danley** and **Cooper Edwards**.

Science fair board competition is sponsored by the NC Science and Engineering Fair, while the research competition is sponsored by the NC Student Academy of Science (NCSAS). **Sarah Shepherd** is president of the high school NCSAS, and **Cameron Shaw** is president of the middle school NCSAS. Both are responsible for helping keep a student perspective in the forefront of everything accomplished by the organization.

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MCA Holds Annual Spelling Bee

Students in grades three through eight participated in MCA's annual spelling bee. Winners from each classroom came together to determine overall lower school and upper school winners. This year's competition, while tense for onlookers, was completed with ease by the students. The Lower School Bee went to a record thirty-one rounds. Fifth grader **Benjamin Hiatt** placed first. His final word was "phrenologist," and his championship word was "Malacca." he runner-up was **Chandler Pharr**, and the third place winner was **Preston Brinkley**. As is the tradition at MCA, the winner of the Lower School Bee goes on to compete in the Upper School Bee, and **Benjamin Hiatt** also won the upper school competition, correctly spelling "legitimately" as his final round word, and "hors de combat" as his championship word. The runner-up was **Anna Windsor**, and coming in for third place was **Jared Brinkley**. Continuing on to compete at the district bee held at Salisbury Academy in early February are **Benjamin Hiatt, Anna Windsor,** and **Jared Brinkley**. Winners from the district bee will proceed to the Winston-Salem Journal Spelling Bee held in March.



*Lower School Spelling Bee
Winners, left to right:
Preston Brinkley with third
place), **Chandler Pharr**
(runner-up), and **Benjamin
Hiatt** (first place).*

*Upper School Spelling Bee
Winners, left to right: **Jared
Brinkley** with third place),
Benjamin Hiatt (first place),
and **Anna Windsor** (runner-up).*

