

VIRGINIA STUDENTS WIN 2012-13 SIEMENS AWARDS FOR ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Siemens Foundation Recognizes Katherine Ho of Mclean and Mayank Mahajan of Herndon for STEM Achievement

ISELIN, NJ, February 6, 2013— Katherine Ho and Mayank Mahajan, both seniors at the Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Alexandria, today were named the Virginia state winners of the 2012-13 Siemens Awards for Advanced Placement, a signature program of the Siemens Foundation administered by the College Board. The awards recognize the nation's top achievers in Advanced Placement Program® (AP®) courses in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) with a \$2,000 college scholarship to one male and one female student in each state. Two national winners (one male and one female) are also recognized, each receiving a \$5,000 scholarship. This year, 101 high school students in all 50 states – including 93 seniors and 8 juniors – were honored.

“We commend this year’s Siemens Awards for Advanced Placement winners on their hard work and dedication to STEM subjects, and we thank the teachers, parents and schools who supported their scholarship,” said Jeniffer Harper-Taylor, president of the Siemens Foundation.

“We are proud to join our partners at the Siemens Foundation in recognizing these exceptional students. Today’s award-winners have the foundation to achieve great success in some of today’s most exciting, innovative careers,” said David Coleman, president of the College Board.



KATHERINE HO

Total AP Courses Taken to Date (all disciplines including STEM): 10

Favorite AP Class: Physics C (Mechanics and Electricity & Magnetism)

Advice to other AP students: Find the subjects you feel most moved by and interested in and follow those. Keep on letting the new information inspire you to pursue greater levels of knowledge and understanding.

Proudest Accomplishments: Completing a scientific paper on research conducted over the summer; fundraising over \$4000 for Varsity Math Team and Relay For Life team (for the American Cancer Society)

Plans for College Study: Mathematics, Engineering, Physics

Anticipated Career: Engineering

Favorite nonacademic pursuits: Participating in the Thomas Jefferson Varsity Math Team; volunteering at Lift Me Up!, a therapeutic riding center; competing in cheerleading competitions



MAYANK MAHAJAN

Total AP Courses Taken to Date (all disciplines including STEM): 11

Favorite AP Class: Physics C

Advice to other AP students: Be self-reliant. Even though the courses are advanced and may require a higher level of thinking, it is important that the ability to master new material comes from within and not from any external

motivation.

Proudest Accomplishments: Developed a method of sensing small amounts of explosives in the air using silicon nanowires at the Naval Research Lab; 2012 Lemelson-MIT Inventeams Competition National Finalist and Grant Winner; 2nd place in the 2012 Virginia State Rowing Championships

Plans for College Study: Computer Science or Engineering

Anticipated Career: I would love to pursue a career that combines my love of science and technology with my desire for real-world problem solving.

Favorite nonacademic pursuits: Member of the Spanish Honor Society; varsity coxswain on the crew team; math and physics tutor

The Siemens Awards for Advanced Placement

Established in 1998, the Siemens Awards for Advanced Placement (http://www.siemens-foundation.org/en/advanced_placement.htm) awards \$2,000 college scholarships to students from each of the 50 states who have earned the greatest number of scores of 5 on exams in the following AP® courses: Biology, Calculus BC, Chemistry, Computer Science A, Environmental Science, Statistics, Physics C Mechanics and Physics C Electricity and Magnetism. Each state potentially has two winners, one male and one female.

For complete information and photos of this year's Siemens Awards for Advanced Placement winners, please visit: <http://www.multivu.com/mnr/60242-siemens-foundation-award-students-for-advanced-placement-exceptional-stem>

The Siemens Foundation

The Siemens Foundation provides more than \$7 million annually in support of educational initiatives in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) in the United States. Its signature programs include the Siemens Competition in Math, Science & Technology, Siemens Awards for Advanced Placement, and The Siemens We Can Change the World Challenge, which encourages K-12 students to develop innovative green solutions for environmental issues. By supporting outstanding students today, and recognizing the teachers and schools that inspire their excellence, the Foundation helps nurture tomorrow's scientists and engineers. The Foundation's mission is based on the culture of innovation, research and educational support that is the hallmark of Siemens' U.S. companies and its parent company, Siemens AG. For more information, visit www.siemens-foundation.org. Follow the Siemens Foundation on Twitter [@SFoundation](https://twitter.com/SFoundation) and Facebook at [SiemensFoundation](https://www.facebook.com/SiemensFoundation).

The College Board

The College Board is a mission-driven not-for-profit organization that connects students to college success and opportunity. Founded in 1900, the College Board was created to expand access to higher education. Today, the membership association is made up of more than 6,000 of the world's leading educational institutions and is dedicated to promoting excellence and equity in education. Each year, the College Board helps more than seven million students prepare for a successful transition to college through programs and services in college readiness and college success — including the SAT® and the Advanced Placement Program®. The organization also serves the education community through research and advocacy on behalf of students, educators and schools. For further information, visit www.collegeboard.org.

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