



HILLCREST HIGH SCHOOL

Academics & Activities

Congratulations to the DECA Chapter members that participated in the State Career Development Conference in Decatur. At the conference, students utilized a variety of methods and models to measure their knowledge and skills through the process of completing multiple-choice economics and career cluster examinations. In addition, participants engaged in two problem solving-based role plays in the various business environments. More than 1,300 students participated in this year's event! The following Hillcrest students competed: Buying and Merchandising Team, Marchand Henderson and Jorge Reyes; Quick Serve Restaurant Management, Lea Farhoude; Marketing Management, Christian Hammond.

Key Club members traveled to the Victory Centre of Sierra Ridge assisted living center in Country Club Hills to celebrate St. Patrick's Day with the residents. The Key Club members led the festivities with "Lucky Bingo." All the prizes were donated by the Hillcrest faculty, staff and supporting clubs. The residents enjoyed their prizes consisting of gift cards from McDonald's, picture frames, stationery, lotion and bath sets, puzzles, sports memorabilia, and much more. The Key Club members enjoyed reaching out to their community and sharing their talents.

During National Foreign Language week the Family and Consumer Arts teacher collaborated with the French program to create a mouthwatering culinary experience for the students. Ms. Jean Sweeny provided a stocked culinary cart and a traditional French crepe recipe. Ms. Erin Johnson's French students were able to "taste" a little part of France. The two teachers integrated rich culinary experiences with foreign language skills to enhance learning. Not only did the students complete their oral demonstrations in French, but they acquired a firsthand look at important aspects of French cuisine and culture. Students were able to mix batter to perfection, learned to achieve a "perfect" flip, and practiced final preparation techniques. This was the perfect exercise in using French conversational and communication skills through cooking.

On March 24 we hosted our Fourth Annual College Fair. The fair featured over 50 universities. In addition, Regency Beauty Institute, Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts, Elite Ambulance, and the Art Institute of Chicago sent representatives. The fair offered a great opportunity for juniors and seniors to receive assistance with their decisions. Students and parents were able to meet with the representatives to discuss everything from academics to campus life.

Eight Hillcrest advanced placement Spanish IV students were driven to northern Minnesota to spend three days in Concordia College's Immersion Village. Students were chaperoned by Spanish teacher Mrs. JoEllen Lee. Students enjoyed using their "passports" to enter the country, exchanged their money for pesos,

used the pesos for purchasing, and "swore off" the English language for four days. The students really enjoyed immersing themselves in the sights, sounds, tastes and experiences of the Spanish-speaking world.

The Drama Group performed the award-winning "Antigone Now," a modern re-telling of the classic Greek tragedy by Sophocles, at the South Suburban Conference Drama and Group Interpretation Festival. Seven conference schools participated. This is the first year the Hillcrest performers participated in this competition under the direction of Mr. Gregory Fitch, Mrs. Jamilah Adebesein Mason and Mr. George Macabobby. Noteworthy performances were given by actors Jesse Craig, Kalila Hunter, Nylle Graham, Robert Wilk, and Maurice Edmonson. Hillcrest received the "Tech-celligence" award for "Best Small Dramatic Performance." Senior member Jesse Craig was awarded the All-Conference Drama Performance medal for individual accomplishment. The talented Technical Crew included Devin Turner and Art Society members, Kennedy Warfield, Christopher Shivers, James Thompson and Jacklyn Porter.

Six seniors took Second Place at the Fourth Annual Financial Literacy Bowl, which was hosted by the Illinois College Advising Corps at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Robynn Alsup, Kim Chi Dang, Kendria Jenkins, Constance McCullah, Symone Varnado and Kendra Warfield each received a \$750 college scholarship! In addition to their scholarship money, Kendria Jenkins won a Samsung Galaxy Tablet 4, and Symone Varnado won a Kindle as raffle prizes. Students prepared for the event throughout the Fall and Winter by attending financial awareness training workshops facilitated by their ICAC advisor Ms. Jessica Schraft.

Athletics

The Athletic Department would like to congratulate the Boys' Basketball program on another outstanding season. The Varsity Boys' won their twenty-seventh CONSECUTIVE Conference Championship with an undefeated record. They also won the Regional and Sectional Championships. The Boys' lost a tough one to Morgan Park in the Super-Sectional. Special congratulations is also extended to Coach Don Houston for earning Co-Coach of the Year in the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association.

Congratulations to Varsity Softball team for opening the season with two victories over St. Francis De Sales and Seton Academy.

Congratulations Luther Newburn for placing second in the Triple Jump at the Illinois Top Times Meet. This meet is the indoor equivalent to the outdoor State meet.

The outdoor Track season is finally underway after the weather forced cancellation of the first few meets. Both the Boys' and Girls' Teams are looking forward to the season.