

## SFSAS May/June 2011 Update

### Congratulations

#### Alumni Congrats

**Congratulations to Megan Belzner!** Megan is a graduate of our school who just completed her junior year of high school. Megan was admitted to the Research Science Institute at MIT for this summer. This is a program of the Center for Excellence in Education and provides six weeks of no-cost residential scientific research experience at MIT with professors from universities around the country. Up to 80 youth in the summer between their junior and senior years of high school are selected from among over 1,000 applicants from all over the world. Megan's research mates come from 31 states and 13 foreign countries. The goal of RSI is to create a worldwide core of young leaders in science and mathematics who will partner throughout their careers on issues of global importance and concern. Megan will be assigned a senior mentor in either computer science or mathematics. She will most likely be exploring a research activity in artificial intelligence with a focus on computational language processing. More information for possible future applicants can be found on the Center's website: [www.cce.org/programs/rsi](http://www.cce.org/programs/rsi).

**Congratulations to Kiera O'Brien!** Kiera is a graduate of our school who is currently attending the New Mexico School for the Arts and was just accepted to the United World College in Wales for her senior year of high school and her first year of college! There are 13 UWC colleges around the world and their admissions process is highly competitive. Their mission is to make education a force to unite people, nations and cultures for peace and a sustainable future. Our school has been a sister school with UWC for 11 years now and we congratulate Kiera on her accomplishment.

**Congratulations to Jose Byrne and Noah Wingren,** SFSAS alumni, class of 2010. Both Jose and Noah were recently honored along with the Santa Fe High School MESA (Math, Engineering, Science, Achievement) Team for their success at the North Central Regional Competition.

### **Congratulations Jocelyn and our SFSAS Moving Images Program!**

Our film students and their wonderful teacher Jocelyn all won film awards this spring!



Our filmmakers at the Lensic.

**Two of our student films won awards at this years National Geographic "Future Voices of New Mexico" film competition.** One of our 7th grade moving images film from last year, "Too Plugged In" won 1st place in the narrative category and our 8th grade film this year, "The Turnaround" won 2nd place in the narrative category. The students won \$500 and their films were shown at the Future Voices Award Ceremony at the Lencic. All of our student film are now available on compilation discs.

**Jocelyn Jansons, our film teacher, made a film called "The Baby Monitor" which has been chosen as the winner in the Sci-Fi/Horror category for the 2011 NM Filmmakers Showcase!** The New Mexico Film Office will be traveling the winning films through theatres and public access channels across New Mexico as part of its 2011 Summer Showcase. Open and free to the public, the first screening in Santa Fe will be:

Saturday, June 11th  
7:00-10:00 pm at the "The Screen" at Santa Fe University of Art & Design  
1600 Saint Michael's Drive

Warning to parents: Some of these films are R-rated. There is no RSVP necessary to attend any screening. The total running time for the winning films is 2.5 hours plus time allotted for Q&A with the filmmakers.

For more information on the 2011 Showcase or any other NM Filmmakers Program events, visit [www.nmfilm.com](http://www.nmfilm.com) or call (505) 476-5611.

Congratulations and thank you to Ben Bajema. Ben won \$200 for his award winning peace poster and he donated all of his earnings to our Japan Relief fund! Thank you Ben!



Congratulations to our students whose Water Conservation posters were chosen as winners in this year's Water Conservation Water poster contest. This year over 400 students entered this competitive contest. Our school won 8 awards this year! Here are two pictures from the award ceremony with Mayor Coss. Congratulations to our art teacher Megan Goldberg and our artistic students!

### **3rd Grade**

1st place: William Thornburg

2nd place: Jonah Zisman

3rd place: Simone Edwards

### **4th Grade**

3rd place: Makai Colvin

### **5th Grade**

2nd place: Indu Holdsworth

3rd place: Sabrina DeDomenico

### **6th Grade**

3rd place: Merit Willey

### **Grand Prize Winner: Alicia Stewart**

Alicia's poster will be featured on a city bus for an entire year and she will receive a trophy and a \$100 savings bond.





## **Sending Cards to Expeditionary Learning Students in need**

As you may have read in the news, Springfield, Massachusetts was hit hard by a tornado recently. Some EL schools were destroyed and children are having to finish out the school year divided up into other schools. I received an email from the principal at one of these schools, asking our students to send cards to EL students whose schools and portfolios were destroyed. I hope that some of our students can send cards to these students in Massachusetts.

From Stephen Mahoney, " It would be a wonderful gift to those students, kids who have lost the one constant in their lives, to hear that their situation is one that thousands of kids and families are paying attention to and that they are cared for from afar. If you send the cards to our school I will guarantee they get to the students and teachers."

Letters can be sent to:

Stephen R. Mahoney, Ed.D  
Principal  
Springfield Renaissance School  
1170 Carew St  
Springfield, MA 01108  
(413) 750.2929

## **Twilight Star visits SFSAS**

Our school was treated to a visit by actress Rachelle LeFevre a few weeks ago. She helped out backstage before Lagaan and stayed to watch our play! She then graciously agreed to come and speak with some of our

students. Rachelle is best known for her role as Victoria in the first and second Twilight films, but she is an accomplished actress who had wonderful advice to share with our students. She was inspiring and encouraging to all of our students and posed for pictures with each class (see below.) Here are a few notes written to Rachelle from our students following her visit-

"During your visit I learned to be creative no matter what, and to stay true to yourself. Everything you told us was very inspiring, and it motivated me to follow my dreams and never give up no matter what life throws at you. "

"Thank you so so much for coming to our school and teaching us all about what it means to be an actor. Not only did I learn about acting, but I learned to listen to my heart and to always keep trying. Everything you said was very inspirational and I will not forget it."





We will send out summer reading lists soon and suggestions for keeping everyone's math skills sharp!

We still have room in some of our summer camps as well.

Have a wonderful summer!