

KLEIN HOSA TEAMS MEDAL AT THE HOSA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

The 40th annual HOSA International Leadership conference was held in Orlando, Florida from June 20-23, 2017. HOSA or Future Health Professional students from across the world competed in 56 different events to receive the top honors of being the best. Whether an individual or team event, students first compete at an area and then at the state level where they must place in the top three in their event to advance to the international competition and compete with over 10,000 competitors from across the world.

Klein ISD had one of the largest groups advance to the international competition with 38 students from Klein High School and 5 from Klein Oak High School. After months of studying, preparing and competing, Klein High School had 2 teams place third in the world, and three students placed in the top 10 in their individual events.

Top 10 – Mustafa Arshad – Klein Oak High School

Mustafa, a rising junior at Klein Oak High School, placed in the top 10 in the nation in the event Prepared Speaking. The assigned topic was the HOSA theme for 2016-17, Leadership-Service-Engagement and competitors prepare a 5 minute speech and present to a panel of judges. Competitors are judged on the content and organization of their speech as well as the delivery of the speech.

Top 10 – Ritu Sudhakaran – Klein Oak High School

Ritu, a rising junior at Klein High School, placed in the top 10 in the nation in the event Nutrition. The nutrition event is a knowledge test where competitors study individually from recommended reference books and take a 100 question test.

Top 10 – James Henderson – Klein High School

James, a rising junior at Klein High School, placed in the top 10 in the nation in the event Nutrition. The nutrition event is a knowledge test where competitors study individually from recommended reference books and take a 100 question test. This is James' second year in a row to place in the top 10 in the world in this event.

3rd place – Medical Reserve Corps Partnership – Klein High School

The 6 member team is comprised of now graduated Seniors Kathy Nguyen, Emily Dunbar, Bailee Atencio, Bryan Wessinger, Michael Holzem, and Temoore Raja.

The Civilian Volunteer Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is a national network of over 200,000 volunteers, organized in almost 1,000 local community-based groups and committed to strengthening public health, reducing vulnerabilities, improving local preparedness, response and recovery capabilities, and building community resilience. The MRC Partnership event is a team event designed to encourage HOSA chapters to initiate and maintain a partnership with their local Medical Reserve Corps units. Through active engagement with the MRC, HOSA chapters and competitive events teams will be involved in their community and demonstrate the spirit and mission of the MRC and HOSA partnership.

The team at Klein High School formed their partnership with the Harris County MRC leader, Shawn McClain on August 4th, 2016 and began working with Mr. McClain to plan events and support MRC activities that would improve public health, increase emergency response capabilities and strengthen the resiliency of their community. Throughout the year, the team gained significant certifications such as Weapons of Mass Destruction, Psychological First Aid, and HAM radio training. They volunteered at

events throughout Harris County alongside their coordinator Mr. McClain and they planned and organized events at Klein High School and in the local community. One of their biggest accomplishments was a texting and driving awareness event where they partnered with Cypress Creek EMS to simulate a texting and driving accident complete with fire and rescue, paramedics, and police on scene to “arrest” the student who had caused the accident. Over 100 students were present to witness the simulation and afterwards signed a pledge to stop the mindless accidents and put the phone down. In total, the team volunteered 850 hours, achieved 15 certifications each, and raised approximately 3,000 dollars for specific causes the team selected such as childhood cancer.

Teams create a 16 page portfolio of their accomplishments and are then given 5 minutes to present their work to a panel of judges and answer questions about their MRC/ HOSA Partnership. The team is then rated on the quantity, scope and impact of their activities as well as their cooperative work with the MRC to reach the goals of their activities.

The third place win is the first time that a team from Harris County has brought a HOSA MRC Partnership medal back to Houston, Texas.



Pictured from left to right: Commander Skip Payne, Bailee Atencio, Kathy Nguyen, Bryan Wessinger, Michael Holzem, Temoore Raja, Emily Dunbar (not pictured)

Commander Skip Payne was in Orlando to present the awards at the HOSA International Leadership Conference. Commander Payne is the U.S. Public Service Deputy Director, Medical Reserve Corps Program Partner Readiness and Emergency Programs Division Office of Emergency Management.

Commander Skip Payne serves as the Deputy Director for the Medical Reserve Corps Program. He serves as an advisor to the MRC Director and is responsible for developing, implementing, managing and evaluating, MRC related programs, projects and activities.

3rd place – Biomedical Debate – Klein High School

The 4 member team is comprised of three rising seniors, Moiz Shah, Grace Liu, and one graduating senior, Eric Nguyen.

The HOSA Biomedical Debate event provides HOSA members with an opportunity to research the pros and cons of a biomedical issue, and showcase those skills in a debate-like format. The assigned topic for 2016-2017 was “America has the best health care system in the world”. Competitors must first take a 50 question test prepared from unlimited internet resources and must place in the top 26 teams in order to advance to the 20 minute long debate round. Competitors prepare both sides of the argument and draw for the affirmative or negative immediately before entering the debate.

Debate teams are judged on the flow, logic and relevance of their arguments, ability to effectively cross examine the opposition, and their decorum or professional behavior toward the other team. Additional points are awarded for the winning team of the debate.

The team of Liu, Davies and Nguyen placed 6th at the International Leadership Conference last summer in Nashville, Tennessee.



Pictured from left to right: Moiz Shah, Grace Liu, April Davies, Eric Nguyen

Top 25 in the nation from Klein High School:

Rachel Schrader and Shelby Brown – Emergency Medical Technician

Maliha Ahmed, Bailey Lagarde, Mira Woods – Creative Problem Solving

Amna Irfan, Elvi Casia, Bryson Upchurch, Pranav Mehta – HOSA Bowl

Klein Oak High School HOSA Advisors

Elizabeth Lee, Becky Jackson and Alexis Watts

Klein High School HOSA Advisors

Karen Velez, Anita Walther, Jill Tackett, Mark Gongora, Kristen Haggard