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SUMMER OF STEM FOR SPOTSWOOD STUDENTS

SPOTSWOOD, NJ - This past summer, Spotswood High School students were well represented at a number of national Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) programs. Nine students participated in initiatives in New Mexico, Newark, and New Brunswick and were able to develop and deepen their skills in mathematics, physics, astronomy, computer science, robotics, web design, and mobile application development. Students were also able to network with their peers and receive mentorship from some of the top executives and professors in the STEM field.

Joanna Youssef, a senior at Spotswood High School, spent seven weeks at the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) in Newark, New Jersey, where she was selected to attend the Girls Who Code (girlswhocode.com) Summer Immersion Program. Joanna further developed her robotics, mobile development, web design, and computer science skill set while also gaining exposure to female entrepreneurs, engineers, and executives. These relationships do not stop once the seven weeks have ended, as another goal of the program is to provide lasting academic and career mentorship. More information about the program can be found here: <http://girlswhocode.com/programs/>

Dushyant Singh, a senior at Spotswood High School, spent five and a half weeks at the Summer Science Program (SSP) in Socorro, New Mexico on the campus of New Mexico Tech. SSP is one of the longest running and most prestigious programs of its kind in the world. Dushyant was one of only 36 international students selected to attend the program, whose central aim is to have participants determine the orbit of a near-earth asteroid via direct, astronomical observations. Dushyant was able to further develop his already strong computer science skill set, while also gaining skills in the physical sciences, astronomy, and mathematics. More information about the program can be found here: <http://www.summerscience.org/home/index.php>

David Guardiola, Rahman Khaliq, Eddie Lesko, Nicholas Palella, and Jake Williams, seniors at Spotswood High School, were joined by juniors Andrew Buiko and Shivani Vyas at the Samsung Mobile App Academy, a free one-week program for rising 11th and 12th grade STEM students. Participants in the program learned about mobile application concept development and coding basics, as well as all facets of the application development lifecycle. Students were able to “pitch” their application ideas to actual Samsung executives, and they received valuable feedback and advice. Students walked away from the program with a free Samsung tablet computer, and, through further development of their application concepts, will have a chance to win a \$20,000 college scholarship. More information about the program can be found here: <http://www.scholastic.com/samsungacademy/index.aspx>

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