

PRESS RELEASE

SPOTSWOOD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS EARN COLLEGE BOARD AP AWARDS

Five (5) students at Spotswood High School have earned College Board Advanced Placement (AP) awards in recognition of their exceptional achievement on AP exams. **Christopher Chan**, a current high school senior merited the Advanced Placement Scholar Award by completing three or more AP exams with grades of 3 or higher. Additionally, four students achieved Scholar with Honors Awards. This award is granted to students who receive an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken and grades of 3 or higher on four (4) or more of these exams. Recipients are current senior **Omar Raja** and 2008 graduates **Ho Ko, Keith Price, and Isabelle Taylor**.

Research consistently indicates that AP students who score 3 or higher on AP exams (based on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest) typically experience greater academic success in college and higher college graduation rates than students who do not participate in AP courses. In 2007-2008, 64% of Spotswood students' scores were at levels 3, 4 or 5 versus the national average of 59%. In addition, only 36% of the scores were at levels 1 or 2. Nationally, 41% score at those levels. Significantly, whereas the national average of AP students taking the relevant AP exam is 74%, Spotswood scores exceed the national profile on the highest scores and have lower percentages than the nation on lower levels while having 100% participation.

Spotswood High School offers 11 AP level courses and exams preparing students with the opportunity to earn college credit and distinguish themselves in the college admissions process. Advance Placement courses added for 2007-2008 included Music Theory, Psychology and Biology. Added for the current year is AP Art History with plans to offer AP Government in 2009-2010.

AP exams are developed by committees of college and university faculty and AP teachers, ensuring that each exam is aligned with the same high standards expected by college faculty at some of the nation's leading liberal arts and research institutions. AP is accepted by more than 3,600 colleges and universities world wide for college credit on the basis of successful exam grades including more than 90% of the 4-year institutions in the United States.

The College Board is a not-for-profit membership organization whose mission is to connect students to college success and opportunity. Each year the College Board services 7 million students and their parents, 23,000 high schools and 3,500 colleges to major programs and services in college admissions, guidance, assessment, financial aid, enrollment, and teaching and learning.

The College Board's website can be accessed at www.collegeboard.com.