



PFTSTA Awards, Honors & Publications 2015-2016



Patrick F. Taylor Science & Technology Academy

2016 Saints/Progressive Waste annual recycling contest 2nd place

Patrick Taylor Academy is ranked 169th in the US in [US News and World Report's Best High Schools](#) and 3rd in the state of Louisiana. The school also received a rank of 41st in the US for magnet schools and 113th in schools specializing in STEM.

Faculty and Staff:

Janell Simpson (science) won the James de la Houssaye Mentor Award (\$1000 + \$1000 for school), Patrick F. Taylor Foundation Award for student research (\$1250), American Petroleum Institute Mentor Award (\$75) at the annual Greater New Orleans Science Fair (GNOSEF).

Amanda Allison (science), **Susanna Klusendorf** (math), and **Kelly Maher** (technology) and **Brad Womack** (PE) all received Donors' Choose grants to fund special projects in their classrooms.

Scott Theriot (theatre) was named the teacher of the year.

Jaime Zapico (principal) was named [Educator of the Year Region 1 by the Louisiana Association of Computer Using Educators](#) (LACUE).

Lisa Valence (math), **Maggie Grindstaff** (math), and **Susie Klusendorf** (math) received a Quality in Science and Mathematics (QSM) grant for 2015-16 to purchase new math materials for their classrooms.

Elizabeth Kahn (library) was named a [2016 Local PBS LearningMedia Digital Innovator](#) for Louisiana.

Students:

Sam Tejeda was named a 2016 Gates Millennium Scholar.

Duke Talent Identification Program (TIP) 7th Grade Talent Search

The following students had the qualifying scores (about 38 percent of all talent search participants) to be invited to attend a state recognition ceremony

Christian Blakely

Samuel Imseis

Hermione Lam

Austin Pellegrin

Brian Sasso

Joseph Schexnayder

Sterling Scott

Evan Scully

Joshua Trochez

Logan Trosclair

Jalen Xia

2016 Louisiana Mu Alpha Theta State Convention

Hustle Team (**Alexandra Miserendino, Jacob LeBlanc, and Andre Bourque**) placed 9th.

Jacob LeBlanc placed 15th in the state for the Theta Area Test: Equations and Inequalities.

Andre Bourque placed 5th in the state for the Individual Test in Geometry and placed 1st in the state for the Theta Area Test: Geometry.

Jacob LeBlanc was elected LA Mu Alpha Theta District II Governor for the 2016-17 school year.

District VI Honor Jazz Ensemble.

Quint Adkins was selected as the first chair percussionist.

MathCounts State Competition

Andre Bourque was recognized for earning 5th place overall in the individual competition.

Alex Fryer, Ethan LeBlanc, Bruce Quach and James Westman were recognized for earning 6th place in the team competition.

2016 MathCON Finalists

This nationwide online test invites the top 554 out of 44,073 students to travel to the University of Illinois in Chicago to complete the competition. The following middle school students were invited: **Faith Kelley, Alexis Labarrere, Savannah Nelson, William Oliver, and Kyle Smith.**

The following students have been selected as alternates for the MathCON 2016 contest:

Allie Johnson

Elliette Vorhoff

Spencer Martinez

Preston Jones

Christian Blakely

New Orleans Literary Rally		
Hayley Hughes	Physics	5 th place
Kiara Horton	Psychology	5 th place
Judy Vu	World Geography	5 th place
Qualified for Louisiana Literary Rally		
Bruce Quach	Algebra I	1 st place (Overall Winner)
Chau Nguyen	Algebra II	3 rd place
Devin Nguyen	Biology II	3 rd place
Tyler Libert	Calculus	2 nd place (tied)
Rayne Torry	Chemistry	3 rd place
James Westman	English I	1 st place (Overall Winner)
Jacob Leblanc	English III	1 st place
Michaela Brown	English IV	4 th place
Alexander Walker	Geometry	2 nd place
Eduardo Paternostro	Health	4 th place
Lindsey Moffett	Spanish I	2 nd place
Johnny Thai	Spanish II	4 th place
Harris Dorado	Spanish III	3 rd place

Greater New Orleans Science & Engineering Fair (GNOSEF)

GNOSEF Grand Award Winners

(All expenses paid trip to INTEL Science Fair in Phoenix, AZ and \$1000 college scholarship)

1. **Tyler Libert**: How does the composition affect the reactivity of perovskites? 1st Place Chemistry

2. **Mason Varuso**: How does the thermal conductivity of liquids affect heat absorption in photovoltaic troughs?

1st Place Environmental Engineering, American Petroleum Institute Award, Tulane Summer Scholars Program Scholarship (\$1250)

GNOSEF I-SWEEEP Winner (All expenses paid trip to the 6 day event in Houston, TX)

Joye Pate: What are the trends in lead emissions by major industries in Louisiana over time and space?

1st Place Earth and Environmental Science, Association for Women Geoscientists Award, ASU Sustainability Solutions Award,

(Alternate) **Kiara Horton**: What type of system can schools nationwide use to evaluate use of green infrastructure?

2nd Place Environmental Engineering

Rayne Torry: What type of filter will outperform other smoothing mechanisms in removing detrimental noise and microevents without distorting the shape of a signal? Neuroscience/Machine Learnings Scholarship (\$4000)

Madison Pierce: What factors are most influential in determining success of post-operative physical therapy?

2nd Place Biomedical Sciences, Gulf Coast Safety Award

Devin Nguyen: What is the effect of the angle of attack on the amount of energy generated by water turbine?

2nd Place Energy: Physical, American Institute of Aeronautics Award, New Orleans Federal Executive Board Award, Stockholm Junior Water Prize

Marissa Nguyen: How can medical prostheses be improved based on specific accommodations and patient experience?

1st Place Engineering Mechanics

Sam Tejada: Given that design of hurricane protection structures changed after Katrina, will the new/current design provide adequate protection when sea level rise?

3rd Place Engineering Mechanics, ASU Sustainability Solutions Award, Society of American Military Engineers Award

Marco Flores: What is the effect of various web vulnerabilities on the user-end root access? Office of Naval Research Award

Social Media Awards went to **Joye Pate, Sam Tejada, Rayne Torry**

The following students were selected to participate in the annual Academic Games Leagues of America tournament in Atlanta, GA: **Patrick Grindstaff, Andreas Palmer, Bruce Quach,** and **James Westman.**

Artwork by **Elizabeth Bundick, Marissa Nguyen, Valerie Ruiz, and Laura Smith** was selected for the Teen Art Exhibition 2016 at the Contemporary Arts Center.

Rayne Torry was named to the LHSAA Academic All-State 2015 Girls' Soccer Composite Team.

Madison Pierce was named to the LHSAA Academic All-State 2015 Girls' Volleyball Composite Team.

Madison Pierce was selected as the high school student of the year by the faculty. **Emily Kraus** was selected as the middle school student of the year for Jefferson Parish Public Schools.

George Evangeloulis and **Alexandra Miserendino** were named National Merit Finalists in the National Merit competition.

Hayley Hughes and **Joye Pate** were named POSSE Scholars.

MathCounts New Orleans Chapter competition at UNO.

The team consisting of **Alex Fryer, Ethan LeBlanc, Bruce Quach** and **James Westman**, placed 2nd, earning the opportunity to advance to the state-level competition. **Andre Bourque** placed 2nd overall as an individual competitor, and will also advance to the state competition.

Andre Bourque placed 2nd, **James Westman** placed 3rd and **Bruce Quach** placed 10 as members of the top 10 with their individual scores. The three competed in the final round (called the Countdown Round) where **James Westman** earned 3rd place.

Brother Martin MAO Math

Bruce Quach	Algebra I	1st place
Alex Gelpi	Algebra I	2nd place
Logan Barrios	Algebra I	3rd place
Judy Vu	Algebra I	Honorable Mention
Hayley Hughes	Calculus AB	Honorable Mention

Math 1 - 2nd place Team A (**Jacob LeBlanc, Austin McDonnell, Bailey Andres, and Andre Bourque**)

Math 1 - 3rd place Team D (**Ethan LeBlanc, Shayne Shelton, Bruce Quach**)

Mu Alpha Theta tournament at Lafayette High School

Jacob LeBlanc	Individual Geometry	1 st place
Andre Bourque	Algebra I	1 st place
Ethan LeBlanc	Algebra I	4 th place

The team consisting of **Ethan LeBlanc** and **Andreas Palmer, Andre Bourque, Jacob LeBlanc**) took 1st place in Comp I team event and in the Interschool Team test.

Together they took 1st place in the Division 2 Sweepstakes, earning more points than any other school in the division.

Mu Alpha Theta tournament in Abbeville, LA

Ethan LeBlanc	Algebra 1:	1st place
Ryunn Naquin	Algebra I	3 rd place
Jacob LeBlanc	Geometry	1 st place
Eduardo Paternostro	Geometry	2 nd place
Chau Nguyen	Algebra 2(teams)	3 rd place

Andre Bourque, Jacob LeBlanc, and Eduardo Paternostro) won 1st place in Geometry (teams).

Ethan LeBlanc, Ryunn Naquin, and Carlie Rojas won 2nd place in Algebra 1 (teams)

The school team earned 3rd place in the Interschool Test.

Cabrini High School Middle School Math Tournament

Allie Johnson, Alex Kraus, Veronica Nguyen, and Kyle Smith,

7th Grade Math Team - 2nd Place

Myles Mackie (team of one) Pre-Algebra Team - 2nd Place

Kole Bourgeois, Salma Heram, Emily Kraus, and Ethan LeBlanc

Algebra I Team - 3rd Place

Kyle Smith	7th Grade Math Individual	1 st place
Veronica Nguyen	7th Grade Math Individual	2 nd place
Alex Kraus	7th Grade Math Individual	3 rd place
Myles Mackie	Pre-Algebra Individual	2 nd place
Emily Kraus	Algebra I Individual	3 rd place
Ethan LeBlanc	Algebra I Individual	5 th place

2015 LSCL All-Girls Tournament

K-6

Jordan Pembo 4th place

Sarah Melder 1st place

K-12

Catherine Wertz 2nd place

Darcy Schneider 1st place

Ben Franklin High School Mu Alpha Theta Math Tournament

Geometry Individual Winners

Jacob LeBlanc – 2nd place

Hannah Porta – Honorable Mention Individual

Geometry Team Winners – 2nd place Math Bowl

Jacob LeBlanc, Bailey Andras, Eduardo Paternostro, and Christian Otero

Algebra I Individual Winners

Andre Bourque - Honorable Mention Individual

Bruce Quach - Honorable Mention Individual

Algebra I Team Winners – 3rd place Math Bowl

Andre Bourque, Judy Vu, Emily Gibbons, and Bruce Quach

2015 DigiLACUEza Contest Winners

Joye Pate 9-12 – Infographic

Emily Kreller 6-8 – Infographic

[Tap vs. Bottled](#) Water

[Tire Recycling](#)