

DECA Marches Toward Nashville



On March 1st, 2nd, and 3rd at the DECA State Career Development Conference in Minneapolis, Coon Rapids DECA had a wonderful showing. Some of the highlights of the State DECA Conference included an 8th place finish for the team of Uyen Nguyen, Eli Guthrie, and Dominic Lego in the Career Development Project. A 7th place finish for Rylee Turner and Sara Abbas in General Lines Sales Demonstration and Financial Consulting respectively. Wilfred Sato Jr. and Megan Cosman earned 6th place in Hospitality and Tourism and Sales Demonstration General Lines respectively. The Coon Rapids team of Megan Cosman, Rylee Turner, and Brynn Nguyen also qualified in the School-Based-Enterprise Project by re-certifying the Cardinal Image as a gold level enterprise. The pair of Brynn Nguyen and Megan Cosman brought home a 4th place finish in Marketing and Management. Junior Megan Schultze also earned 4th place finish with her Independent Business Plan. The team of Josie Ingvaldson and Megan Schultze earned a very impressive 2nd place finish for the Minnesota DECA Gold Chapter Campaigns. Lastly, Senior Brynn Nguyen earned 1st place, state champion, in Professional Selling.

Overall, Coon Rapids had 21 state finalists in their individual or team events. Amidst the 2,200 competitors at the state conference Eli Guthrie,

Sara Abbas, Marshall Miles, and Matthew Padiken stood out by earning the top 25 test scores on their individual comprehensive exams.

In addition to all the top finishes, the Coon Rapids chapter was acknowledged with the distinction of earning the highest Achievement Level on all four national DECA chapter campaigns. The campaigns include the Membership Campaign, the Global Entrepreneurship Campaign, the Promotional Campaign, and the Community Service Campaign.



Other highlights of the conference were when Megan Cosman and Brynn Nguyen were named Coon Rapids High School's Outstanding DECA Members of the Year. Brynn Nguyen, Megan Cosman, Rylee Turner, Josie Ingvaldson, Megan Schultze and Jesus Genis earned the Minnesota DECA Speaker's Bureau Awards, for their work this year in speaking in promotion of business and marketing education to their larger community.

Along with all the student successes, advisor Blake Bodenbarg was honored to be named as one of eleven Minnesota Secondary DECA Outstanding Advisors at the conference.

In addition to all the top finishes, recognitions, and awards Brynn Nguyen, Megan Cosman, Rylee Turner, Megan Schultze, Josie Ingvaldson, Wilfred Sato Jr., and Emily Holloway all qualified to attend this spring's International Career Development Competition in Nashville, TN. At this conference Coon Rapids will be competing with 20,000 other marketing competitors from around the world in an extremely competitive international field.



Last but not least, Advisor Mr. Bodenbug, and DECA chaperones Mrs. Munce, and Mrs. Roo would like to say thank-you to all the DECA members that competed in the state conference; you represented Coon Rapids and yourselves with dignity and class. Congratulations to all!