



Quality education in a faith based environment

Union Catholic Announces National Spanish Examination Awardees

Congratulations to the world language students from Union Catholic High School who attained national recognition for excellent performance on the 2009 National Spanish Examination.

Students from Union Catholic earned a total of five gold, eleven silver and ten bronze placements along with ten honorable mentions. "Attaining any placement or honorable mention for any student on the National Spanish Examinations is very prestigious", said Kevin Cessna, National Director of the Exams, "because the exams are the largest of their kind in the United States with well over 107,000 students participating in 2009."

Students from Union Catholic have a long history of high achievement on these exams and were taught by Spanish teacher, Cathy McHugh. The National Spanish Examinations are administered each year in grades 6 through 12, and are sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese.



Receiving national recognition: Michelle Ryngel, Ann Cierpial, Adrianna DeGazon, Gabrielle Aquino and Demie Teixeira achieved gold status.

Silver status was by Christopher Brown (not pictured), Roberto Gomez (not pictured), John Szilagyi (not pictured), Alex Bricki, Jaime Ciocon, Thomas Kaluzny, Brian Hartnett, Sean Siburn, Sean Sarra, David Schanz and Kathryn Lubin.

Bronze status was achieved by Melissa Carey (not pictured), James Lubin (not pictured), Nina Napolitano (not pictured), Megan Carr, Alex Tran, Brian Milanese, Meghan Gaczynski, Michelle Peters, Sarah Fox and Jonathan Reidinger.

Honorable mentions went to Ashley Wytenus (not pictured), Gina Egidio (not pictured), Kelsey Mahler (not pictured), Ryan Carr (not pictured), Magan Mauro (not pictured), Samantha Marques, Colleen Cassidy, Kimberly Esguerra, Kathleen Sullivan and Timothy Leach.

Additionally, the New Jersey Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese awards prizes to New Jersey students based on the results of the National Spanish Examination. The following students received awards from the NJAATSP: Ann Cierpial - 3rd Place (below right), Roberto Gomez - 3rd place (not pictured) and honorable mention to Gabrielle Aquino (below left) and John Szilagyi (not pictured).



Michelle Ryngel, (above center) Class of 2011 residing in Union, received the First Place award in the National Spanish Examination, New Jersey Chapter. This is an award given by the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese awarded to students based on the results of the examination. Michelle is an honor roll student in UC's Accelerated Program, a founding chapter member of the club REACH (Raising Educated Awareness for the Causes of HIV), a member of the Performing Arts Company, a Big Sister and a Peer Minister.