

Joe Martino, News Director 908.243.6608 jmartino@gannettnj.com

March 5, 2020

Dear Principal:

The work of your great students sometimes goes unacknowledged. The goal of the Academic All-Stars program sponsored by MyCentralJersey.com, the Courier News and the Home News Tribune is to ensure the best and brightest students get their moment in the spotlight. So, once again, we're asking you to nominate a member of the senior class for this recognition, working with your school's guidance department or whomever else you deem appropriate.

We are inviting some 80 public and private schools in Central Jersey to nominate one graduating senior. The application form enclosed with this letter explains the selection criteria. It also asks for information on extracurricular clubs and activities, community and church associations, and after-school employment. We also require information about the student's academic performance, and ask that the applicants write a short essay.

Part of the application is to be filled out by the student you nominate, and part is to be completed by you. Please send us *four completed copies of the application and essay, as well as one original photo of the student.* Please do not send parts in separately. Ask the student to return the completed information and essay to you, and then mail or email in a completed packet. The completed forms and jpeg photo of the nominee may be emailed to csampson@gannettnj.com. The application packet must be received Monday, April 20 to be considered. **There can be no exceptions to this deadline.**


We have solicited leaders from our three community colleges to review the nominations. The committee will select 10 winners. Each will receive a gift card, and will be invited to attend the Somerset Patriots baseball game on June 4.

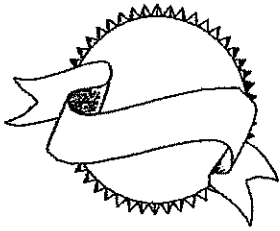
All the nominated students will be featured in our annual special graduation feature on June 7.

We appreciate all you are doing in your community to recognize excellence in the classroom. This program helps us expand the recognition our schools and students receive for an outstanding commitment to learning. We hope you will help us applaud these achievements.

If you have any questions about the program, or want a word version of the forms emailed to you, please call 908-243-6624, or e-mail csampson@gannettnj.com.

Sincerely,


Joe Martino
News Director
Courier News/Home News Tribune
Enc.



MyCentralJersey.com Academic-All-Stars

Student's Name: _____

School: _____

Complete Home Mailing Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Information about the student (to be filled out by the student):

1. List any school activities, including sports, in which you participate.

These are extracurricular activities that are not required as part of your normal academic program. Give the length of time you've been involved, if you've held any offices and the name of a faculty member who is most familiar with your participation.

Organization	Years Involved	Titles or Offices	Faculty Member
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

2. List activities that you participate in outside of school.

For example, Scouting or civic organizations, involvement with a church. Give the length of time you've been involved, if you've held any offices and the name and phone number of an adult leader who is most familiar with your participation.

Organization	Years Involved	Titles or Offices	Adult leader/phone #
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

3. List employment

Have you held a job since the start of your junior year? Please list each, the address, the phone number and the name of your supervisor. Include the dates employed and the number of hours you worked each week.

Employer/Address/Phone	Supervisor	Dates of employment	# of hours
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

4. Special honors

List any special recognition or honors you have received during your high school career. You may attach a separate page if necessary.

5. Essay.

In 250 words or less, please answer the following questions. Please use a separate sheet, and it must be typed.

In our digital age, we share a lot of information about one another. What key piece of information would you share about yourself if you wanted someone to know the type of person you are or want to become?

After completing this information, please return the application to your school guidance counselor.

Academic Record
(To be filled out by school official)

1. Grade point average: _____ on a _____ -point scale.

2. Rank in class: _____ of _____ seniors.

3. SAT scores:

Date of test	Verbal	Math	Writing
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

4. Advance placement and honors courses taken:

	Honors	AP	Honors	AP
English	_____	_____	_____	_____
Math	_____	_____	_____	_____
Social Studies	_____	_____	_____	_____
Natural Science	_____	_____	_____	_____

Others, please list: _____

5. In your opinion, what is this student's greatest strength?

6. Anything else we should know about the student?

Name of school official _____

Title _____

Daytime phone number _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Have you included?

Four copies of the application, an essay,
and **original photo** of the student.

When completed, please return this application and required documentation to:

Academic All-Stars
Courier News/Home News Tribune
92 E. Main St., Suite 202
Somerville, NJ 08876

Or e-mail Word document attachment and jpeg attachment to:

csampson@gannettnj.com

The application must be received no later than **April 20.**

There can be no exceptions to this deadline.