

Cedar Cliff Special Interest News

Teacher- Mrs. Kamps

January 2017

Congratulations to Cedar Cliff's Voice of Democracy Audio Essay Winners!



Pictured above from left to right: Nada Rahmouni, Caroline Kaiser, and Maura Fleming

Congratulations to Cedar Cliff students who placed first, second, and third for the school in the VFW Post 537 Voice of Democracy Audio Essay Competition. All students from Cedar Cliff were invited to participate in the scholarship competition. **Congratulations to Caroline Kaiser, 11th grade, who won first place and \$750.00; Maura Fleming, 12th grade, who won second place and \$500.00; and Nada Rahmouni, 12th grade, who won third place and \$250.00.** These winners worked on their entries through Mrs. Kamps's Special Interest program.

The students wrote and recorded audio essays addressing the theme *My Responsibility to America*. Student winners will be recognized at a banquet on January 19 at the James A Danner VFW Post 537. The students' audio recordings will advance to the next level of competition, where students may win additional scholarship money, including a \$30,000 national first place prize.

Congratulations to our Cedar Cliff students who demonstrated their responsibility to America through their written and spoken form!

Cedar Cliff Special Interest Alumna returns to speak about Cornell University

On January 10, Special Interest welcomed back to Cedar Cliff Liz Mueller. Liz graduated from Cedar Cliff in 2014 and is a former Special Interest student.

Liz came back to the Cliff as a Cornell University Winter Ambassador. We were happy to welcome her to two of our flex periods to talk with the students about Cornell University and the opportunities the college offers. Liz spoke about her major in ecology and how she arrived at that choice. In addition, she spoke about the music program and minoring in music. Liz also discussed the different colleges within the university and the requirements of different majors.

Students asked questions about the application and interview process. We also discussed the coursera.org courses, which are offered through Cornell University.



Pictured above from right to left: Liz Mueller- Cornell Winter Ambassador, Garrett Helvy, Max Clark, Haven Smith, Jillian Daggs, Caroline Moore, and Anthony Perez

Cedar Cliff Special Interest Students Take 3rd Place in the Region for the PA Stock Market Game



Pictured above from left to right: Naomi Englehart and Thussenthan Walter-Angelo

Congratulations to freshmen Naomi Englehart and Thussenthan Angelo-Walter. This dynamic duo took first place out of the nine teams competing through Cedar Cliff's gifted program in the 10-week online fall PA Stock Market Simulation. They took third place out of 230 teams competing in the region, going up against other schools in our area.

They started the simulation with \$100,000 to invest in the market. They ended with equity of \$111,174.97. Their highest earning stock was AVXL, a biotechnology company. Their highest percentage gain was a 25% gain in FBMS banking which went from \$22.22 a share to \$27.50 a share.

The PA Stock Market Game is sponsored by Economics PA. Well done Thussenthan and Naomi!

Course Selection Time Special Interest Independent Study

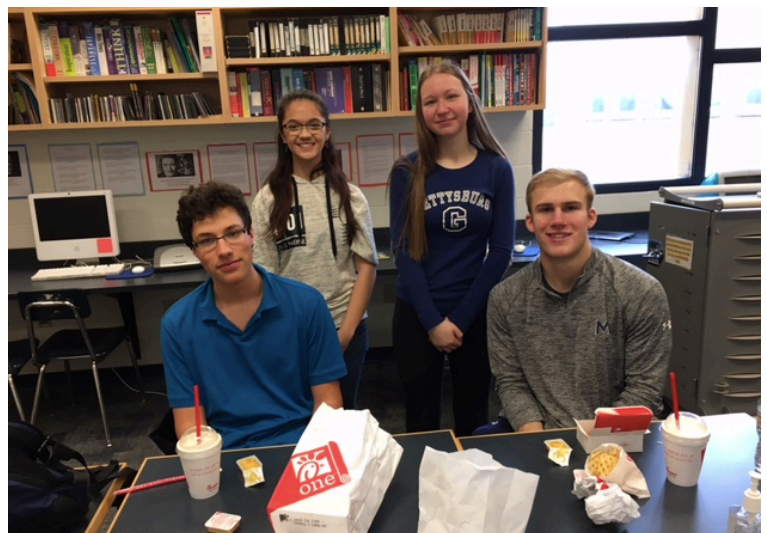
Special Interest Independent Study Course 888600

With course selection approaching, Special Interest students are reminded that they may take the Special Interest Independent Study elective course for a grade and .5 credit.

The course is available to 9th-12th grade students in the Special Interest program. Students meet every day for class for a semester. They have the opportunity to devote more time to projects of interest and fulfill GIEP goals.

Students this semester completed scholastic writing and entries. Several seniors entered the scholastic writing portfolio competition.

Others completed online coursera courses or online coding courses. In addition, students used their time to research and compete in the stock market game simulation. Students also focused on music composition, creating 3-D printing structures, perfecting college application essays, and researching scholarships. Students also discussed philosophical topics in a classroom setting focusing on *The Prince* by Machiavelli, Ayn Rand's speech *Philosophy Who Needs It?*, and the Growth Mindset.



Pictured above: Sixth block Special Interest Independent Study class (from left to right, front to back: Nathan Helvy, Grant Breneman, Abigail McBeth, and Maura Fleming).

Congratulations to the sixth block Special Interest Independent Study class who won a Chick-fil-A award for winning the lateral thinking puzzle competition among the first semester Special Interest Independent Study classes.

If you're interested in taking the course, list the course number on your course selection guide. If you don't have space for Independent Study, you may always participate through your flex periods.

Special Interest Students Compete in the fall Academic 3-2-1 Competition



Congratulations to the 22 Special Interest students who competed in the 3-2-1 Academic Competition this past December. We placed 8 out of 20 of schools competing in Pennsylvania. Senior Aidan Hilt served as the elected captain, and senior Aidan Moretz served as the assistant. Students were tested on all subjects in this two-hour online competition.

Students Enter Scholastic Writing and Art

This fall Special Interest students prepared creative writing pieces and artwork for the Scholastic Writing and Art competition. Some students worked on their writing during the Special Interest Independent Study classes; others worked on pieces during flex periods and at home. The following students entered the following categories:

Student	Category
Allison Dalby 10	Poetry
Lenora Pierce 12	Portfolio
Emily Guk 10	Art
Garrett Helvy 10	Short Story
Maura Fleming 12	Portfolio
Patrick Yohe 12	Poetry
Rhiannon Loza 10	Art
Nada Rahmouni 12	Portfolio
Trevor Flick 9	Flash Fiction
Hannah Edwards 12	Art
	Poetry
Hannah Flick 12	Art
	Poetry
Abigail McBeth12	Portfolio