



Birchwood School of Hawken

BIRCHWOOD SCHOOL OF HAWKEN PRESS RELEASE

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Forty-one Birchwood Students Soar on Noetic Learning Math Contest

Birchwood School of Hawken's second through fourth grade math students recently participated in the Fall Noetic Learning Math Contest. The third and fourth grade teams won a Team Achievement Award for placing in the top 10 percent of participating teams in their age division. Thirteen mathletes won National Honor Roll Awards individually for finishing in the top 10 percent of participants in their age division, and 28 received National Honor Roll Awards for placing in the top 50 percent of participants.

Students who received National Honor Roll are: Ted Alten, Joshua Gordon, Angela D'Souza, Brooke Gemechu, Gavin Waffen, Giving Chao, Jordan Gordon, Benjamin Miyares, William Day, Sinan Haufe, Saumya Mahajan, Manan Raina, and Kyna Shah. Students who received Honorable Mention are: Jinan Berard, Fiona Boyd, Jasmine Chen, Fayez Issa, Ayyoub Salem, Areesha Nouman, Omar Elbadawy, Calvin Lei, Reena Mustafa, Su-Kyi Ng, Alexander Sideris, Jad Alsouss, Sebastian Boyer, Lydia Chen, Cadence Guo, Omar Issa, Connor Krewson, Dilan Nadkarni, Ryan Vaziri, Caroline Maline, Johnny Mulloy, Stephen Parrino, Kartik Gulati, Ayat Jaffar, Ashton Houry, Gage Kufner, Manya Raina, Jonathan Samulak, and Eva Waffen.

The Noetic Learning Math contest is a semiannual math contest for elementary students in grades 2-8. More than 20,645 students in 46 states participated in the fall 2016 contest. Participating students were given 45 minutes to solve 20 problems. The goal of the competition is to encourage an interest in math, develop problem solving skills, and to inspire students to excel. A list of top ranking teams and individual students is available at <http://www.noetic-learning.com/mathcontest/results/2016Fall/index.jsp>.

Birchwood's strategic use of quality academic competitions in its curriculum is unique. By addressing students' academic, social and emotional needs, the process embraces the entire academic experience. Children are immersed in the essential structure of a discipline and experience deep learning over an extended period of time. Competitions also provide opportunities for academic performance against top students in Ohio and the nation. Most importantly, Birchwood uses competitions to teach children how to compete, excel and reach for one's highest performance.

Birchwood School of Hawken math teacher, Hannah Bontje, remarked "The Noetic contest has been such a wonderful way to expose our students to all different types of problem solving. Our goal has always been to help each child fall in love with math no matter their level of aptitude. The Noetic contest aides us in this endeavor as a great resource to help make problem solving come alive in the classroom. It also provides a way for students to experience success. You should see their faces when they earn that Team Achievement Award. They just glow! You can also sense how eager and inspired they are to face the next challenge to try to do even better. That makes it all worth it."

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Birchwood School of Hawken is a private, coeducational school in Cleveland, Ohio. Founded in 1984, Birchwood serves students in preschool through grade 8. Birchwood's mission is to provide an educational setting where challenging academics build solid work habits, an achievement culture nurtures healthy attitudes, and a caring environment forges social responsibility.

