

SIMON ARNOLD

High School: Academy of Arts and Academics (A3)

Subject Area: Theater Arts

Plans: Taking a gap year then pursuing a theater major at New York University, Columbia University or University of Northern Colorado.

Nominated By: Carolyn Hatefi, Secretary, A3

Theatre is one of Simon's passions. He has been very successful taking lead roles in numerous plays, such as "Children of a Lesser God", "Extremities", "Bang Bang Your Dead" and others. When he takes on a role, Simon researches it and spends hours developing his characters.

In addition, Simon has taken a leadership position in many aspects of our school, tackling some hard issues. Simon was instrumental in helping start A3 and communicates the school's success. He represents A3's students to the Springfield School Board. He was also instrumental in starting the student director program. Simon has also worked tirelessly to help the district advocate for a vital downtown business district in Springfield.

Educator Who Has Made a Difference: Nissie Ellison

She taught me to appreciate failure. With Nissie Ellison if you don't fail the first time you try a project, it means that you aren't challenging yourself enough. She knows the artistic and academic learning process inside and out; with her guidance there is no learning pitfall or roadblock that I haven't turned into a personal success. When I first entered A3 I could spell less than a thousand words and had never written a full paper. At the end of my freshman year, with Nissie as my sole writing teacher, I turned in a paper graded above CIM writing standards. This was possible due to repeated failures and continued support. I would write paper, she would tear it apart, I would put it back together, and she would do it again. My average paper that year had five or more drafts, with a page of editing notes for each draft. Nissie is a teacher that can get me to face failure over and over and encourage me through the entire process until I achieve my goals; I'm proud to have worked with her throughout my high school education.

KEONI CAMPOLLO

High School: Springfield High School

Subject Area: Traditional Trades

Future Plans: Attending Lane Community College and majoring in manufacturing technology.

Nominated by: Randy Wilson, Teacher, Springfield High School

Keoni has taken courses in all four areas of Technology Education with an emphasis in Metals and Drafting. He has a unique combination of academic, computer and hands-on skills that will serve him well in his pursuit of a career in the manufacturing trades. He has been involved in the Vocational Industrial Club at Springfield High School providing leadership in fundraising for the technology trip to San Francisco this spring. He has been active in the Springfield High School after school program working on video recording projects and recently produced a video on the subject of occupational safety.

Keoni is a pleasure to have in class --- a role model and peer tutor to younger students. His work ethic, commitment and personal character will surely propel him to success.

Educator Who Has Made a Difference: Randy Wilson

My high school teacher, Mr. Wilson, has had the most significant impact on my education. Mr. Wilson has been my teacher for machine technology, welding and advance metal processes. Through his courses and leadership program, VICA (Vocational Industrial Club of America), he has inspired me to enroll in manufacturing technology, apply for apprenticeships, and become a journeyman through Lane Community College.

AARON CLEMENT

High School: Springfield High School

Subject Area: Math and Science

Future Plans: Attending US Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs

Nominated by: Sue Ann Shih (*Shee*) -Rangeloff, Counselor, Springfield High School

Aaron has excelled in all subjects, but especially in math and science. He has also taken and excelled in the advanced level science courses from Springfield High School.

Aaron has been accepted into the Air Force Academy and is a recipient of a highly competitive scholarship. The selection is based on academics, extracurricular activities, athletics, leadership, and interviews. Out of over 10,000 applicants, Aaron was one of only 1,500 selected to attend the Academy. As a result, he will receive the equivalent of a \$414,000 scholarship.

Aaron played football all four years and baseball as a sophomore and junior and participated in the Youth Day of Caring.

Educator Who Has Made a Difference: Terrisa Cook

Though I have only had the pleasure of being in Mrs. Cook's class for one semester, she has been one of the best examples and mentors I could ask for. There are adults that say they know what it's like to be my age, but by the way Mrs. Cook connects with her students, I know she is sincere when she says it. She has had a very influential role in my success, and I will not soon forget her.

RILEY FORREST

High School: Thurston

Subject Area: Music performance

Future Plans: Attending Corban College studying vocal music performance and worship arts, minoring in math

Nominated by: Joan Schryvers, Springfield Education Foundation Board member

Riley has been nominated due to his musical talents in which he has received numbers awards including: 1st Place District 12 Solo competition. He has been member of the All-State Honor Choir since 2007 and a Member of 2008 All-Northwest Honor Choir.

He is an accomplished athlete as well: he earned varsity letters in Cross Country, Track, and Swimming. He was a Mr. THS participant this spring. Riley volunteered for Springfield Education Foundation at the Young Artist Celebration, Springfield Education Foundation Kick-off Event, and sang for Guy Lee students as part of an Opera Workshop.

Educator Who Has Made a Difference: Michael Gwynn

Mr. Gwynn really spurred me on in my studies during my senior year. Calculus was my hardest class and Mr. Gwynn always motivated and challenged me. He is a real example. He's always there to help and explain, best of all he's friendly about it! He has inspired me to challenge myself as I go into college and later in my life, begin a career and family. He's a great guy! I am so thankful fro Mr. Gwynn and other teacher I've been fortunate to study under that truly have a passion for their subject area and love to encourage students to succeed.

BRENDA “NIKKI” KNIGHT

- High School:** Thurston High School
- Subject Area:** Music
- Future Plans:** Nikki plans to attend Corban College in the fall, majoring in music performance and music education and minoring in English
- Nominated by:** Joan Schryvers, Springfield Education Foundation Board Member

Nikki was nominated for her talent as a soloist. She has won numerous awards including District Solo Soprano competition winner in 2008 and 2009, Outstanding Soloist 2008 and 2009 and All-State musician 2010. She also is a member of the National Honor Society.

Nikki is active in her community, volunteering for Springfield Education Foundation events and singing for Guy Lee students as part of the Opera Workshop. She assists at church as a worship leader at church and has also worked summers at Shopko for the last two years. Nikki looks forward to performing Christian music, opera or jazz professionally and may pursue a career as a music teacher.

Educator Who Has Made a Difference: Mark Huisenga

All throughout my high school years, Mr. Huisenga has been a great mentor, and teacher to me. He has given me great advice and has taught me many things that have made me the performer I am today. For instance he taught me the importance of professionalism in everything I do, whether it be in performance, or in my everyday life.

When I started high school, I had a lack of confidence and it showed through my performances. However, “Mr. H,” has taught me that if I want to succeed, I need to throw myself out there; if I am going to fail, I need to fail big, and be ready for whatever comes my way. I have taken everything he has taught me to heart and I believe it has helped me grow as both a performer and a person.

JORDAN MAGILL-STARR

High School: Springfield High School

Subject Area: English

Future Plans: Attending George Fox University to major in either music education or Christian ministries

Nominated by: Kathy Harrington, Literature Teacher Springfield, High School

Jordan maintains a 4.0 GPA and has taken numerous honors classes. Jordan is brilliant, compassionate and an outstanding citizen. He is the senior class president, member of the National Honor Society and very involved in church and community activities. Jordan is also involved in the arts and an active member of our award-winning choir. He has starred in the high school plays; most recently, he starred in "Damn Yankees" last year and in "Cinderella" this year. He also participated in the Mr. and Ms. SHS pageant where he was named Mr. SHS.

Educator Who Has Made a Difference: Jared Taylor

Mr. Jared Taylor, for the last year, has been a model of a devoted family man, servant of God, and inspiring teacher for me. He has spared no amount of effort for the betterment of my education, and has invested both time and effort into my growth as a person and brother in Christ. Though I have not known Mr. Taylor for more than a year, his ability to relate to his students rather than look down on them has made an immediate yet lasting impression on me. Should I ever become a teacher, or father for that matter, I could only hope to be as capable and passionate as he is.

JACOB MAXWELL

High School: Thurston High School

Subject Area: Electronics and Transportation Technology

Future Plans: Attending Oregon State University studying Computer an Electronic Engineering. He has a full 4-year scholarship through Air Force ROTC and will be serving four years as an Air Force officer after college.

Nominated by: Norm Eigner, Tech Teacher, Thurston High School

Jacob has been involved with the electric car class at Thurston and on the robotics team for the past two years. He is on the track team as well as being involved in theater and leadership at Thurston. He has been the “go to” person in the robotics program doing the majority of the programming for both the boys and girls teams this past year. He is also active in his church and community.

Educator Who Has Made a Difference: Norman Eigner

Mr. Eigner has taught me a lot about creativity with metal; how to weld it, bend it, cut it and drill it. But the most important thing he has taught me is how to create opportunities for myself. He says “People will remember you because you’re tall.” This Eigner-ism is a perfect illustration of why I should always stand tall with confidence and not stoop or lower myself. Mr. Eigner is one of those teachers who do more than their contracts require for the sake of the students. I am very grateful to have had him as one of my teachers!

JESSICA RADISKE

High School: Gateways High School

Subject Area: English

Future Plans: Two-year transfer plan from Lane Community College to the UO to chase her dream of becoming a high school literature teacher.

Nominated by: Sheryl Ott, Principal, Gateways High School

Jessica has proven herself to be an outstanding student in the fields of arts and communication technology. She is a creative and talented visual artist, writer, poet, and social activist. During her time at Gateways, she has blossomed into an academic leader and outspoken student activist around diversity issues. Jessica is a sensitive, engaged, and focused young artist/writer that always exceeds the expectations of the high school curriculum. All of her teachers are very proud of her accomplishments and confident in her future academic success in the college setting.

Educator Who Has Made a Difference: Janet Nelson

When I first transferred to Gateways I was at a really hard spot in my life. I had no plans for the future and even ignored the fact that there was one. Janet Nelson was the first teacher I have ever had that would push for good results. She is also the first teacher that didn't look the other way when it didn't happen. Janet was the first to treat me like I have a chance, like there was hope and there was! Over the last three years, I have had her in so many different classes, in these three years, I have grown more than I have in my entire life. It wasn't all due to her, but she shoved me in the right direction. Thanks Janet.