



Outstanding Young Woman

Katherine Swartz

Katherine is currently a senior at Gregori High School where she maintains a 4.34 GPA. She is an AP student, a member of the Mock Trial team, a member of the concert band, MoBand and a four year member of the Gregori Jazz Band where she is section leader for the saxophones. She also participates in the Academic Decathlon.

Katherine's field of choice is journalism and it is one where she excels. She is a member of the Jag News Network (JNN) where she is involved with learning the craft of video journalism. She is now the sole producer for JNN. She manages every show from story selection, to anchor scripts, to set design and lighting, to coaching talent, to editing and final packaging. Some of her work includes stories of student refugees and family members from Syria, a report which focused on Modesto City School Districts slow response to securing permanent English teachers as well as their plan for implementing student laptops. Not afraid of controversy, she covered the internet outage in Modesto City Schools and Gregori's inability to manage overflow student parking on campus. Katherine has earned an Excellent Award at the JEA/NSPA National Journalism Convention in Orlando Florida.

Her activities off campus also show her leadership. She volunteers regularly at the public library and at Bethany Home, a retirement facility, where she plays music during afternoon tea. She also works for the Modesto Nuts Baseball team

Her nominator sums it all up: "Katherine is one of the top five most powerful students I have had the good fortune to teach and advise during high school"