

The Jefferson Awards Students in Action
Alexis I. DuPont High School Press Release



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ALEXIS I. DUPONT HIGH SCHOOL ANNOUNCES JOSHUA LE'MON, SAMANTHA ARTZE, CRYSTAL RODRIGUEZ, AND SHANE WITT RECEIVES THE JEFFERSON AWARD

Wilmington, Delaware, January 6, 2010

Joshua Le'Mon is being recognized as our **September winner** for his outstanding efforts as a volunteer with United Cerebral Palsy (Camp Menito). He assisted children from the ages of 4 – 16 in wheel chairs get in and out of the pool, assisted with diaper changing of children with disabilities, and also helped with arts and crafts. This summer he volunteered to tutor his neighbor's son to help him prepare to go to summer school so that he could bring his score up on the DSTP. The young man had received a "1", but after receiving tutoring from Joshua he took the make-up and received a "3" and was able to pass to the 8th grade. Presently, Joshua still tutors the young man and his sister on Monday and Tuesday during the week.

Samantha Artze is being recognized as our **October winner** for her volunteer work in her community. She is an excellent citizen who has done many good deeds to better our society. Some of her outstanding personal acts are serving as a nursery caretaker for her church and feeding the homeless every first Monday of the month for the past year.

Crystal Rodriguez is being recognized as our **November winner** for her efforts in volunteering at Meadowood to help mentally challenged kids. At age 14, Crystal volunteered at Meadowood by supporting and giving hope to kids that they can do a lot of great things in life since it was hard for them to know things. She helped them count money and taught them how to do the right things with money. She was always there to make the kids smile and they were always happy to see her helping them. Crystal believed that helping these kids made her feel very proud knowing that these kids knew what life really had in store for them. She also assisted with giving them advice with life and friends.

Shane Witt is being recognized as our **December winner** for his four years of outstanding efforts in volunteering at Alexis I. DuPont High School and in his community. From Shane's freshman year to his senior year, he has volunteered over 185 hours assisting the PTSA with numerous events such as the meetings, used books sale, book fairs, dances, dance committee, dance clean up, and after prom. He has been a consistent helper to the school principal with the school marquee, making sure the sign is up to date with the different events, dates, and information. He also assisted with the fall and spring clean

up days and school open houses over the years. Shane has volunteered in his community at the Brandywine Zoo. He participated as a Naturalist intern and a camp counselor. He is truly a great asset and a role model in the AI community.

ABOUT THE JEFFERSON AWARDS

In 1972, the Jefferson Awards for Public Service were founded by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, U. S. Senator Robert Taft, Jr. and Sam Beard to create a Nobel Prize for public and community service. The Jefferson Awards are presented on two levels: national and local. National award recipients are a “Who’s Who” of American history makers. Four Supreme Court Justices have been honored including Thurgood Marshall and Sandra Day O’Connor; seven Secretaries of State including Cyrus Vance and Colin Powell; three first ladies: Barbara Bush, Rosalyn Carter and Betty Ford; as well as Alan Greenspan, Bob Hope and Lance Armstrong, among over 100 others.

The Jefferson Awards Students in Action was created in partnership with Deloitte in order to encourage high school students to get involved in volunteering and community service. The goal is to double volunteering in America’s high schools, build student leadership and encourage ethical decision making.