

## **Plainview-Old Bethpage students named 2024 Regeneron Science Scholars**

Three students from Plainview-Old Bethpage John F. Kennedy High School have been named 2024 Regeneron Science Talent Search Scholars. Congratulations to Syon Khatter, Christina Pan and Richard Wong who were among 300 high school seniors that were selected from 2,162 applicants. Scholars are chosen based on their exceptional research skills, commitment to academics, innovative thinking and promise as scientists. The 300 scholars and their schools will receive \$2,000 each.

The Regeneron Science Talent Search is considered the nation's oldest and most prestigious science and math competition for high school seniors. It provides students with the opportunity to present their research on a national stage while celebrating the hard work of young scientists. Below are the projects which earned the students scholar status:

- Syon Khatter – “Investigating Impacts of Sucralose on Hedonic Feeding Behaviors in *C. elegans* as a Model for Prevention and Treatment of Obesity and Eating Disorders”
- Christina Pan – “A Novel Application of the Fenton Reaction in the Chemical Upcycling of Polystyrene”
- Richard Wong – “Temporal Phage Therapy: A Strategy for Managing MRSA Resistance Utilizing Bacteriophage Sb-1”

Forty of the 300 scholars will be chosen as finalists on Jan. 24. In March, the finalists will compete for more than \$1.8 million in awards from Regeneron, with the grand prize winner receiving \$250,000.

“On behalf of our entire school district, we extend our congratulations to Syon, Christina and Richard for this extraordinary accomplishment,” said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Mary T. O’Meara. “Their dedication to scientific excellence and innovative research has inspired us all. Your achievements are a testament to your passion and hard work and we are immensely proud of your success.”