

UIL Academic Team members from Goose Creek Memorial High School display their awards after winning the recent UIL Academic Invitational Tournament. Pictured are (top, I to r) Hiral Waghela, Michelle Davila, Kyrie Yong, Coach Sean Kang, Adithya Nair, Vamsi Katta, Christian Gonzalez, Pooja Bhula (bottom, I to r) Dominic Borbon and Chinmayee Kulkarni.

## **GCCISD UIL Academic Invitational Tournament**

Goose Creek Memorial High School won first place overall at the recent UIL Academic Invitational Tournament hosted by GCM. Compiling 259 total Sweepstakes points, GCM led the tournament, which included Robert E. Lee High School, Ross S. Sterling High School, Barbers Hill High School, Crosby High School, Port Neches Groves High School, Aldine High School, and Memorial High School in Port Arthur.

In Number Sense, GCM students Kyrie Yong won first place, Pooja Bhula won second place, and Chinmayee Kulkarni earned third place, and the team won first place. For Ready Writing, Alondra Garcia won second place honors, and Rachel King placed fourth. Bhula placed first in Calculator Applications, and Dominic Borbon placed fifth, resulting in a first place award for the team. In the Computer Science category, Bhula placed fourth, and in Current Events, Michelle Fresnedo received second place honors.

The team of GCM students placed first in Science, with Hiral Weghela receiving second place overall, Garcia winning third place overall and first place in Chemistry, and Bhula winning sixth place overall.

 ${\rm GCM}{}'{\rm s}$  Spelling team also won first place. Kulkarni earned first place, Utkarsh Sharma won third place, and King placed sixth.

In the Social Studies category, Borbon won first, Christian Gonzalez placed third, and Garcia placed sixth, for a first place team win. Nikki Middleton received sixth place in Headline Writing. In Mathematics, Yong received first place, Bhula won second place and Kulkarni won fifth place.

"Since 2008, the UIL Academic Program has grown by leaps and bounds," said Christi Leath, director of advanced academics and professional development. "It began with less than 10 students competing in four events and has now grown to students competing in approximately twenty events with team rosters full in almost every category."

The GCM UIL Academic Program is under the supervision of Michael Wahl, GCM principal, and is coordinated by GCM teachers Angie Johnson and Stephanie Schrull.



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