

Paris High School Student Recognized for Academic Excellence

Ms. Anne Park, a rising junior at Paris High School, was recognized by the Paris Independent School Board at their July 19th meeting for being selected to attend the Craft Academy for Excellence in Science and Mathematics at Morehead State University this fall.

The Craft Academy offers exceptional high school students the opportunity to finish high school while earning up to two years of college credit. Anne will take college-level Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) courses, in addition to electives in the arts and humanities. She will live on the campus of Morehead State University in a residence hall specifically designed for high school-aged students. The program is designed for her to get the full college experience by taking classes, eating in the University's dining halls and interacting with MSU students on a daily basis. The application process is highly competitive and is limited to 60 students per year. Students are selected based on ACT and SAT scores, academic grades from their first two years of high school, interest in advanced STEM careers, responses to application essay questions, interview by the Academy selection committee and recommendations from teachers and others who can attest to the student's need and preparedness for the program.

To be eligible to attend the Craft Academy, you must:

- Be a current resident of the state of Kentucky
- Be a high school sophomore
- Complete Geometry, Algebra and Algebra II by the end of your sophomore year
- Score a minimum ACT score of 18 in English, 22 in reading, and 22 in math
- Three letters of recommendation, one of which must be written by school personnel and at least one written by a community member, as well as five essay responses.

Anne was selected as part of Craft Academy's second class that will begin in August 2016. There were 177 viable/eligible applicants (273 total but about 100 of those missed the application requirements by even one point). Of 177 the applicants were narrowed down to 135 to interview. From 135, 60 were selected (30 boys and 30 girls) from across the Commonwealth. The average ACT score was a 27.45 which is high for a sophomore in high school. The submitted applications from year one more than doubled! It is a prestigious program and a great opportunity for exceling students. It is basically a \$40,000 scholarship opportunity with a study abroad component! The class that Anne is with are slated to travel to Ireland at the end of year one.

This opportunity for academically exceptional Kentucky students and acceptance into the Craft Academy for Academic Excellence in Math and Science at Morehead State University is a direct

result of a supportive family and the strong foundation of learning provided throughout her education at Paris Independent.