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# Students IN THE Spotlight

## Mock Trial Champs



After a fierce season of competition, Northport High School's Mock Trial team emerged victoriously as the Suffolk County champions for the first time in the program's history. They faced off against Bay Shore and were declared the winners in a very close decision by Judge David T. Reilly.

## Amazon Future Engineer



NHS senior Elliot Macolino has been selected as a recipient of the Amazon Future Engineer Scholarship and will receive a \$10,000 per year scholarship for four years, as well as a paid engineering internship with Amazon after his first year of college.

## News 12 Scholar Athlete



NHS senior Sydnie Rohme has been selected as one of only 30 News12 Scholar Athletes across Long Island. This program, sponsored by Bethpage Federal Credit Union, spotlights outstanding Long Island student-athletes who display leadership as well as academic and athletic achievement.

## National Merit Finalists



Northport High School seniors Madeleine Kestler-DeWan, Katie Sierra and Nathaniel E. Wang were recently named National Merit Scholarship Competition finalists! Each of the three students will now be competing with the top 1% of finalists nationwide for one of the 7,500 National Merit Scholarships.



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# The Advantage Of *In-School Academies*

During students' high school careers, the Northport-East Northport School District seeks to help them make the best decisions for their future and gain as much real-world experience as possible. Teachers, guidance counselors and administration all play a part in encouraging students to pursue areas in which they excel.

For students who would like to explore careers in the business world,

Northport High School has special tracks of study to enable and prepare them to pursue highly skilled positions, as well as prepare them academically for the challenges of higher education.

In a research study done by Internships.com, 89% of companies surveyed reported that they believe high school students who have completed internships have an advantage when applying for college-level internships as well as full-

time jobs. Fortunately, Northport High School has two incredible in-school academies to help students gain this kind of real-world experience: The Academy of Finance and the Academy of Information Technology.

### THE ACADEMY OF FINANCE

The Academy of Finance is a specialized business program for high school sophomores through seniors. It helps students

make connections between the classroom and the workplace by integrating career-focused curricula and work-based learning projects with real-world opportunities. It also enhances students' core curricula. The program currently boasts over 300 students, and it continues to thrive with the overwhelming interest in the field of financial services.

Students progress along a continuum of



Northport High School AOF students go to KPMG for a "Lunch and Learn" seminar.

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# The Advantage Of *In-School Academies*

work-based experiences designed to build awareness and enable exploration, and culminate with an internship to prepare them for a future career. Students in the Academy of Finance program enroll in college-level business classes and are expected to obtain and complete a paid internship.

Thanks to the Academy of Finance's dedicated advisory board, students have worked with a number of prestigious businesses in the fields of law, health care, real estate, insurance, finance and technology.

"Students receive tremendous opportunities from the AOF," said

***"I feel like it's given me a huge head start in beginning a career in business one day, and I hope future students will take advantage of the invaluable experience of AOF."***

– Student Nick Tabert



AOF students practice new-hire protocols of business etiquette.

adviser Alison Schwabish. "Having access to special opportunities like industry mentors, guest speakers, job-shadow days, mock interviews and paid internships really makes a difference for these students, and each year I am highly impressed with the students' pursuit of excellence and professionalism."

Academy of Finance students Rachel Ewanyk, Alexandra Linnane and Ryan Rosenblum worked as KPMG interns during the summer of 2018. Over the span of six weeks, students shared responsibilities such as administrative duties, managing and uploading Push Button Configurations (PBCs), updating tax library deliveries, organizing returns test work, and researching board of directors and annual reports of various organizations.

"The amount of experience and knowledge we gained from participating in the accounting and business world from a different perspective was invaluable and will last a lifetime," said the students in a group response to the internship.

Not only does Northport believe in the

success of the Academy of Finance, but so does the National Academy Foundation. Northport's academy has been named one of only 28 Distinguished Academies nationwide.

"The AOF shows us the inner workings of the business world – something that most people will encounter at some point – and teaches us skills that are not generally taught in regular high school courses," NHS senior Nick Tabert said. "I feel like it's given me a huge head start in beginning a career in business one day, and I hope future students will take advantage of the invaluable experience of AOF."

## THE ACADEMY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

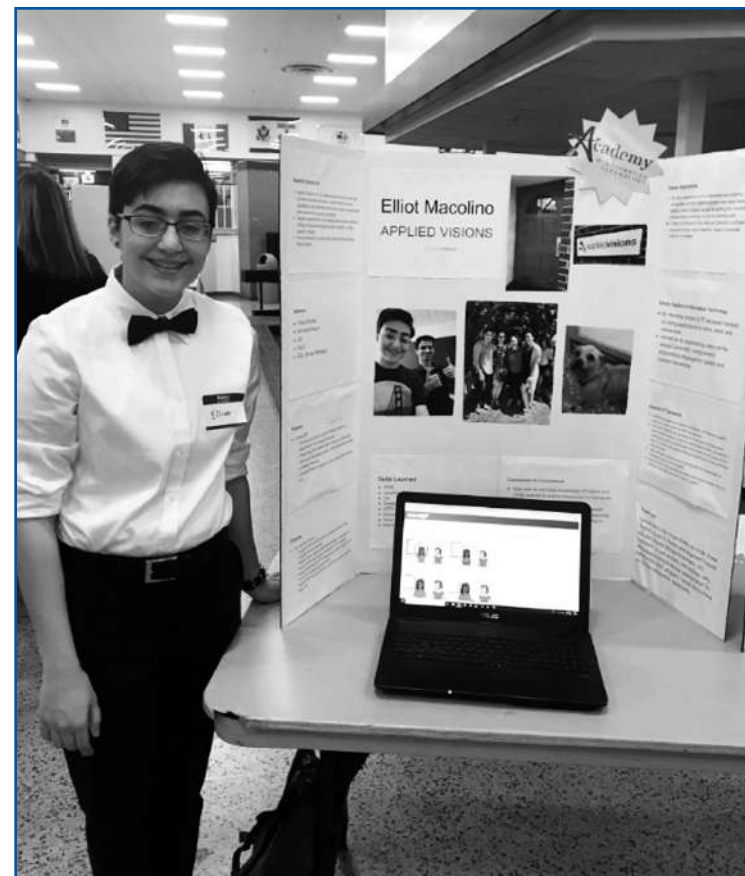
The Academy of Information Technology is an interdisciplinary program which prepares students for a career in information technology. This program is designed for students interested in computer science, video editing, web design, programming, computer networking, and computer security and forensics, and is spread across

three departments: art, technology and math. This academy is a four-year program that students can begin in their freshman or sophomore year. Academy students work together cooperatively and develop real-world personal and technical skills that will help them develop into future technology leaders.

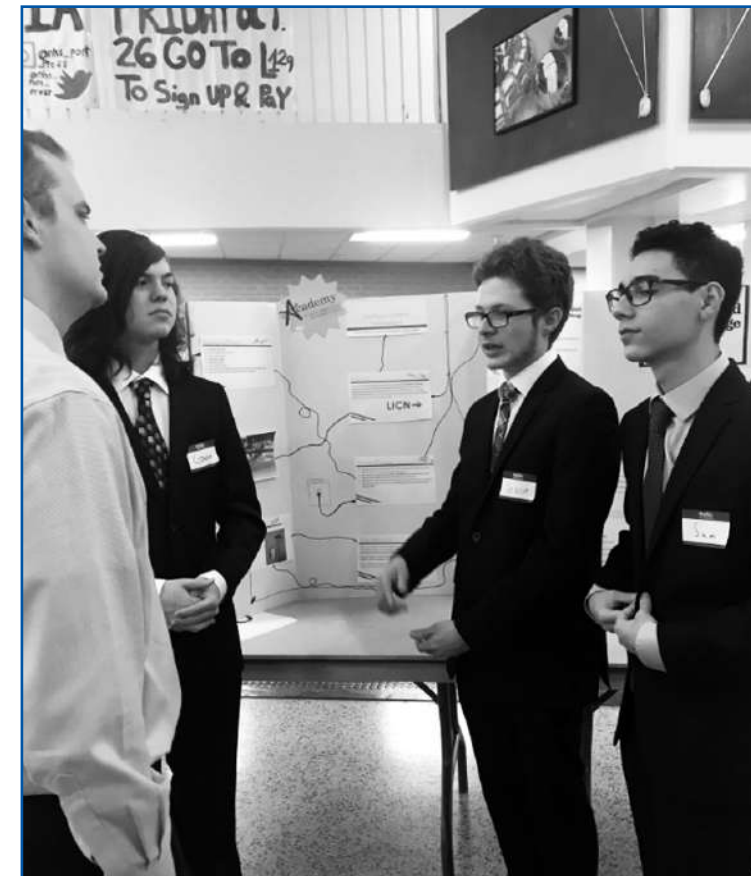
The Academy of Information Technology program gives students the amazing opportunity to see how the technology they interact with on a regular basis is created and maintained. Additionally,

it allows them to make informed decisions about their future path, whether that is to study an IT-related field in college, narrow down what type of job they wish to acquire after graduation or even determine that a different career is better suited for them.

It also gives students an edge when they do enter the field, as they will have completed an internship, prepared a résumé and practiced interviewing, things most college graduates have had limited experience with. This gives



After completing an internship, AOIT students present at the annual trade show.



AOIT students presents at the third Annual AOF & AOIT Trade Show.

them an advantage over their peers and sets them up for success.

"We've been seeing a boom in the program over the past few years," said Academy of Information Technology Coordinator Danielle Milazzo. "With the rise of STEM curriculum and programs in elementary and middle school, students are becoming more interested in seeking a career in the field of technology as they realize how valuable those skills are becoming."

Like the Academy of Finance, the Academy of Information Technology offers college-level classes, and students are expected to complete a paid internship.

Thanks to the Academy of Information Technology's committed advisory board, students have interned with companies such as Applied Visions, Cursive Security and SeniorNet.

"My internship at Applied Visions aided me greatly in deciding that I want to be a software engineer," said academy co-president Elliot Macolino. "I was able to meet other engineers and work on real code, allowing me to see what my job as a software engineer would actually entail. Thanks to the AOIT, I realized that I truly love to code and I definitely want to pursue a career in this field."