



For Immediate Release

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Pittsburg High School Students Take Home Bronze Medal in State Competition for Web Design

Pittsburg, CA...Pittsburg Unified School District congratulates two Pittsburg High School (PHS) seniors who recently received a remarkable achievement in the California State SkillsUSA Competition, in the category of web design. Jamie Hake and Shudipto Rahman took home a bronze level award at the April competition, which took place in San Diego. "Both Jamie and Shudipto were my students from their first year at Pittsburg High School," said Romeo Simionas, Computer Science Teacher. "They built their web design and development foundation in class and participated in SkillsUSA every year during the last four years. They put countless hours of hard work, research and passion into this and made it to the top! The State is very competitive and dominated by one or two schools in California." This year's competition involved completing a series of challenges focusing on website usability and accessibility, with at least one challenge related to scripting. The challenges were documented and contestants were graded on clearly demonstrating the skills outlined in the SkillsUSDA Championships Technical Standards for 2015-2016.

Hake and Rahman are no strangers to this competition. In 2015 Shudipto Rahman and Ryan Parajas, another PHS student, received the gold medal at the California level. "Three years of SkillsUSA made me realize my passion for graphics and coding," said Shudipto Rahman, Pittsburg High School Senior. "These years have given me opportunities that I never believed would come true. I was able to work and compete in an environment filled with individuals that were all of a high caliber and work on projects with all of my passion. Through SkillsUSA, I have not only enriched my web design and development skills, but I have also been given the chance to meet the finest web designers and developers throughout the nation. SkillsUSA has allowed me to experience the world and field of a career path that I will follow at UC Irvine." Hake had

a direct contribution to this achievement by training the two winning contestants. In 2015, Hake and Rahman also represented the state of California at the National level, ranking 12 out of 35 contestants in the Louisville, KY competition.

The SkillsUSA chapter at Pittsburg High School was established in 2011. Instructor and adviser Romeo Simionas prepares his students to participate mainly in Web Design competitions, but Computer Programming is also a category he encourages students to pursue. "In my four years of doing Skills USA, I have grown, as a Web Developer, but also as a human being," said Jamie Hake, Pittsburg High School Senior. "It has challenged me to better myself, to do more than I thought I could, to discipline myself. It has also been incredibly fun, and I've traveled, seen and done things I never would have otherwise. For college, I am going into UC Davis as an Engineering major, which is my planned career path." According to Simionas, Web Design has definitely been a strength of Pittsburg High School's SkillsUSA chapter and it continues to evolve and grow each year.

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About Pittsburg Unified School District

Pittsburg Unified School District (PUSD) is a K-12 district serving the community of Pittsburg, California. Founded in 1933, the school system is committed to providing an excellent opportunity for all students to learn. Comprised of eight elementary schools, three junior high schools, one comprehensive high school, one alternative education high school, an adult school, independent study, alternative learning experiences, and early childhood education services, the school district serves more than 10,500 students. PUSD is located in the San Francisco Bay Area, fifty minutes outside of downtown San Francisco. <http://www.pittsburg.k12.ca.us/>

About SkillsUSA California

SkillsUSA California is the state chapter for SkillsUSA, a Career Technical Student Organization (CTSO) that supports high school and community college students enrolled in Career Technical Education programs. In 2015, SkillsUSA California was recognized by the National office for establishing the highest number of new SkillUSA chapters in the nation and for continued college post-secondary membership growth. <http://www.skillsusaca.org/>