



CHELMSFORD
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Twenty CHS Seniors Earn Massachusetts DESE State Seal of Bilingualism

Rodriguez earns Seal in two languages; Hussain, Soliman and Ashok also earn dual honors

CHELMSFORD, MA (May 4, 2021) – Senior **Sofia Rodriguez** earned the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Seal of Bilingualism in two languages and led 25 Chelmsford High School seniors to similar honors, the CHS World Languages Department announced Thursday.

The Seal of Bilingualism is an award granted by state-approved school districts that recognizes high school graduates who attain high-functioning and academic levels of proficiency in English and at least one other world language – through reading, writing, listening and speaking – by graduation. Students who received a score of six in all four categories earned the Seal of Bilingualism.

Additionally, seven CHS seniors received the Language Opportunity Coalition Bilingualism Achievement Award, presented to those students who scored at least a five in the four categories of their language of choice. In 2021, nine students earned the Seal of Bilingualism while eight seniors earned LOC Achievement Award honors and 10 seniors the LOC Bilingualism Attainment Award.

Of the 25 seniors honored, Ms. Rodriguez earned the Seal of Bilingualism in both Spanish and French and was among four seniors who earned dual honors. **Fawad Hussain** also earned the Seal of Bilingualism in Spanish as well as the LOC Bilingualism Achievement Award in Urdu while **Lara Soliman** earned the Seal in Arabic and LOC honors in French.

Athul Ashok earned the LOC award in both Spanish and Malayalam.

"We are thrilled that so many seniors are taking advantage of the opportunity to demonstrate and be recognized for their multilingual skills," said **Jessica Nollet**, Coordinator of World Languages at

Chelmsford Public Schools. “There are over 60 different home languages spoken by families and students in the Chelmsford Public Schools, and taking an exam to qualify for the Seal of Biliteracy is a wonderful way for these students to be celebrated.

“The ability to communicate in a world language is an incredibly valuable skill in many fields and career paths for students,” Ms. Nollet added. “Colleges and universities are starting to award college credit for students who earn the Seal of Biliteracy.”

Also achieving the Seal of Biliteracy in Spanish were seniors **Arina Kondakchyan, Brianna Figueroa, Ganesh Danke, Jennica Hamm, Joseph Baker, Kara deMoulpied** and **Katherine Mason** along with **Maggie Li, Ruby Collins, Shoumik Kundu** and **Vishant Raajkumar**.

Along with Ms. Rodriguez, three seniors earned the Seal in French including **Aidan Phuong, Lily Daigle** and **Larry Yang**, while **Abdul Rafay** and **Daniel Jeong** earned the Seal in Korean and **Cheyenne Paladini** in Portuguese.

Also earning LOC Achievement Awards were **Alyson Moore** and **Samantha Malone** (Spanish); **Allison Shalek** (French) and **Vanshika Singh** (Hindi).

CHS’s 25 seniors covered eight languages: Spanish, French, Hindi, Portuguese, Arabic, Korean, Malayalam and Urdu.

2022 Massachusetts DESE Seal of Biliteracy, Language Opportunity Coalition Biliteracy Achievement Award Recipients

Seal of Biliteracy	Language
Joseph Baker	Spanish
Ruby Collins	Spanish
Lily Daigle	French
Ganesh Danke	Spanish
Kara deMoulpied	Spanish
Brianna Figueroa	Spanish
Jennica Hamm	Spanish
Fawad Hussain	Spanish
Daniel Jeong	Korean
Arina Kondakchyan	Spanish
Shoumik Kundu	Spanish
Maggie Li	Spanish
Katherine Mason	Spanish

Cheyenne Paladini	Portuguese
Aidan Phuong	French
Vishant Raajkumar	Spanish
Abdul Rafay	Korean
Sofia Rodriguez	Spanish, French
Lara Soliman	Arabic
Larry Yang	French

Language Opportunity Coalition Biliteracy Achievement Award

Athul Ashok	Spanish, Malayalam
Fawad Hussain	Urdu
Samantha Malone	Spanish
Alyson Moore	Spanish
Allison Shalek	French
Vanshika Singh	Hindi
Lara Soliman	French

About Chelmsford Public Schools

The Chelmsford Public School District provides all students with multiple pathways to optimize their own potential for academic excellence, leadership, and social and emotional wellness. The mission of the Chelmsford Public Schools is to educate, engage, prepare, and empower well-rounded and knowledgeable learners to PERSEVERE through challenges, demonstrate RESPECT and INTEGRITY in their words and actions, are DEDICATED to their community, and display EMPATHY as global citizens while discovering and pursuing their full potential. This PRIDE-driven culture enables all members of the school community to support the growth and development of students. For more information, please visit www.chelmsford.k12.ma.us.

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