

# The Quarterly ReCAP

## Quarters 2 & 3 2021

### 9th Grade

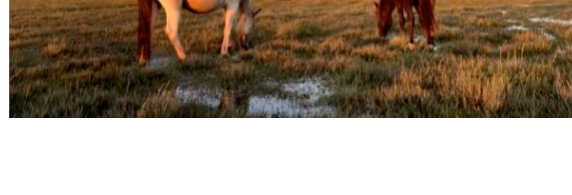
During quarter 3, ninth grade CAP students participated in the school-wide national history day (NHD) competition. The 2020-2021 NHD theme was communication in history: the key to understanding. Beginning at the start of the school year, Mr. Grossman assigned students into groups. The day that students met in their groups, they cooperatively decided what their project would be based on. The projects could take many forms, such as a paper, website, and a slideshow. Students were assigned to complete two annotated bibliographies with many sources (10 primary and 10 secondary sources for each bibliography). With this research, they were able to successfully complete their projects.

CAP freshman Alemdar Shiferaw-Uzman explains that for his project, he and his group mates (Grace Humbert, Giselle Zelaya, Philip Fraizer) did an essay. "We did our project on John Brown and his impact on slavery and the image of black people in America as a whole," says Shiferaw-Uzman. Eventually, the students presented their projects in front of judges. On the day, students were broken into many breakout rooms. They stayed there and talked among their peers until they were called to present. Shiferaw-Uzman called it "a bizarre experience," but he did take away one important lesson: "to prepare a lot."

Button below: Shiferaw-Uzman, Humbert, Zelaya, & Frazier 's NHD paper on John Brown

Shiferaw-Uzman, Humbert, Zelaya, & Frazier NHD

### 10th Grade



In the sophomore class, students worked on their submissions for the 2021 C-SPAN StudentCam competition. This year's theme was, "Explore the issue you most want the President and new Congress to address in 2021." Montgomery Blair High School won the most prizes in this year's competition out of any school in the country, totaling \$6,875 in prize money. Students placed in every ranking below first, including the "Fan Favorite" category, as determined by public voting. Students worked individually or in groups of up to three members on five-to-six minute documentaries addressing the year's topic, including in their entries video clips from C-SPAN's archival library that either supported or countered their claims.

Each documentary is expected to host a wide variety of viewpoints and have input from experts on the subject, often in the form of interviews conducted by the students. Overall, the project takes place over the course of a few months, and is the culminating project of the second semester. Congratulations to all CAP 10 students who participated in this project! More information on the StudentCam contest can be found at [Studentcam.org](http://Studentcam.org).

Video, left: "Reclamation" by Alyssa Limjuco, Gabriela Kolbe, and Charlotte Foster, that earned third prize at the C-SPAN StudentCam Competition.

Video, right: "Making it to Motherhood," by Samantha Jaffe, Eliana Finberg, and Sophia Stein, that earned third prize at the C-SPAN StudentCam Competition.

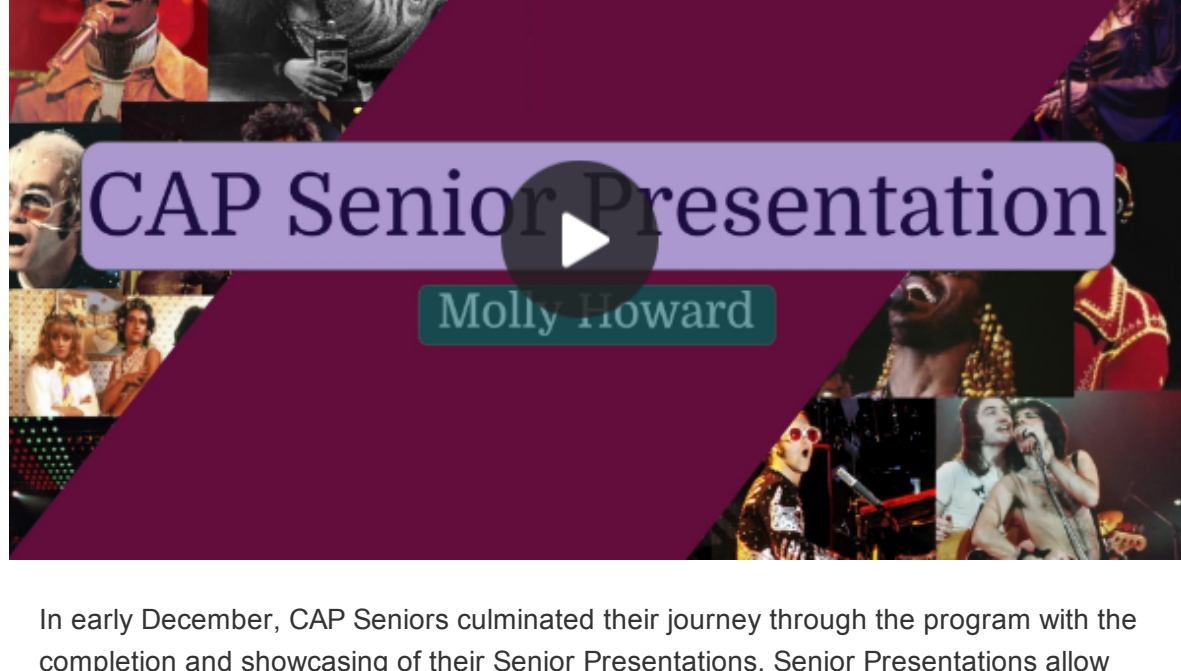
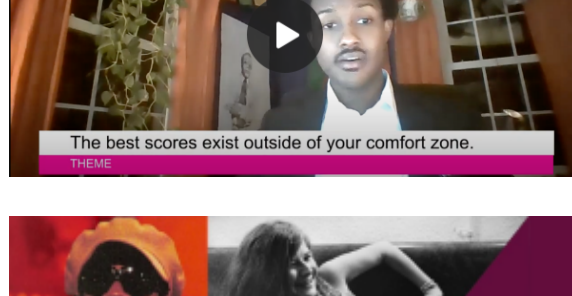
### 11th Grade

In 11th grade, students selected a columnist to analyze their writing styles and techniques in the AP Language and Composition class during the 3rd quarter. Students read and annotated columns and followed with a response. These responses included a rhetorical précis recording the essential rhetorical elements written in the column and a subjective response on the style, substance, and ramifications of the column. After reading at least 5 articles written by the columnist, juniors wrote a culminating profile encompassing the columnist's persona, agenda, and audience. Students analyzed the pattern of topic choices, concerns, values, rhetorical style, and mission presented by the columnist.

Button Below: Medhanit Desta presents a profile on columnist Fareed Zakaria

Desta Profile

### 12th Grade



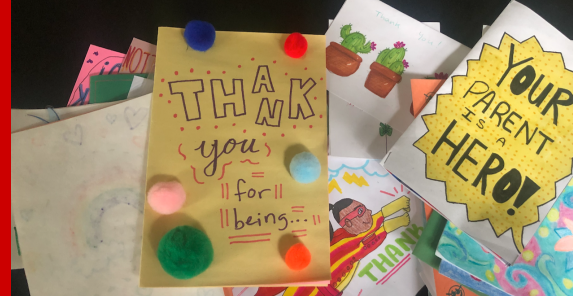
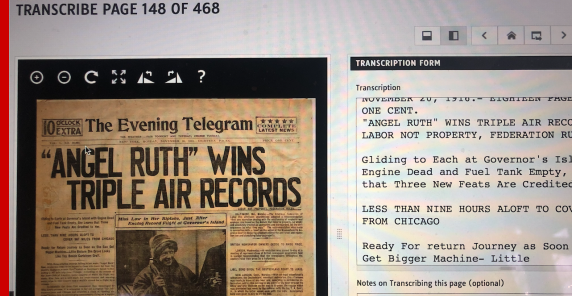
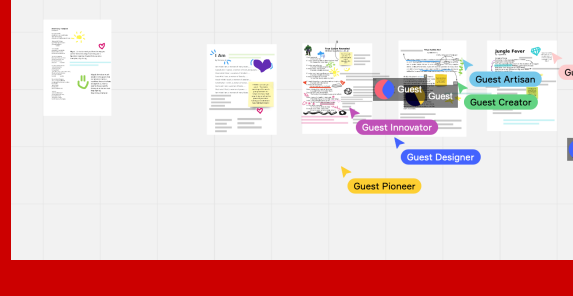
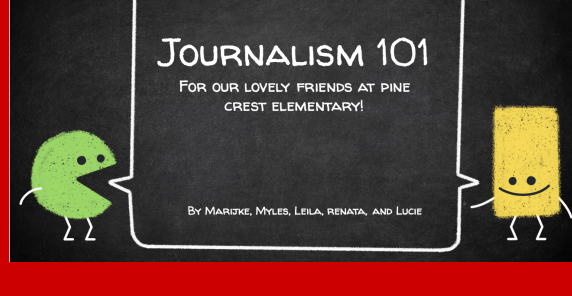
In early December, CAP Seniors culminated their journey through the program with the completion and showcasing of their Senior Presentations. Senior Presentations allow students to reflect on the aspects and assignments of CAP that had the greatest impact on their educational and personal journeys.

While presentations are normally presented live in front of CAP peers and a panel of CAP faculty, presentations looked slightly different this year due to their virtual nature. Students had the option to present live over zoom or pre-record a video for review by their faculty panel.

Regardless of the option they chose, CAP Seniors were able to fully participate in the meaningful tradition of Senior Presentations, reflecting on impactful experiences as they came to the conclusion of their time in the program.

Videos (clockwise from left): Che Moorhead, Molly Howard, and Allison Swann give their Senior Presentations digitally.

### CAP Community Day



On March 24th, CAP students and staff continued the tradition of CAP Community Day with fun and diverse virtual community service opportunities. CAP Community Day was created in 2018 as a way to promote lasting relationships between the program and the Blair community. CAP students normally take buses to various service locations in the region, spending the day engaged in volunteer work with their peers.

This year, Community Day took place in a virtual setting due to COVID-19. Nevertheless, an inspiring day of service was still planned! The day kicked off with a speech from Student Member of the Montgomery County Board of Education, Nick Asante, and continued into virtual volunteer sessions ranging from transcribing archived documents for the Smithsonian Institution to sewing masks for the community-based Makana Project.

Students and teachers greatly enjoyed the experience and the entire program discovered new ways to engage with their community, virtually and in-person.

Top Left: Students made and presented a journalism lesson for over 300 3rd-5th graders for Pine Crest Elementary School.

Top Right: Students left feedback and positive affirmations on poetry written by incarcerated people, hosted by Free Minds.

Bottom Left: A student helps transcribe and archive an article about Ruth Law, one of the first female aviators, for the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum.

Top Left: Cards made for the children of healthcare workers for Holy Cross hospital.

### Student Spotlight

CAP Junior Isoiza (Ryan) Emah was selected as one of twelve finalists for the Bezos Scholarship Program!

**Congratulations to third prize winners of the C-SPAN StudentCam Competition:**

- Alyssa Limjuco (10), Gabriela Kolbe (10), & Charlotte Foster (10), "["Reclamation"](#)"
- Samantha Jaffe (10), Eliana Finberg (10), & Sophia Stein (10), "["Making it to Motherhood"](#)"
- Simran Ohri (11) & Bridget Griffith (12), "["Champions for Justice: Supreme Court Reform"](#)"

**Congratulation to the honorable mentions of the C-SPAN StudentCam Competition:**

- Marijke Friedman (11) & Julianne Garnett (11), "["Ranked Choice Voting: More Voice, More Choice"](#)"
- Ben Rozner (10) & Gabe Prevots (10), "["What's the Big Deal: The Electoral College in Modern America"](#)"
- Samantha Frey (10), Sedise Tiruneh (10), & Sophia Houston (10), "["COVID-19's Hidden Victims- The Increasing Homeless Crisis in the United States"](#)"
- Geneva Palmer (11) & Olivia Schulz (11), "["The Forgotten Population: Prisons During the COVID-19 Crisis"](#)"
- Josh Greenbaum (10), Aisling Gearheart (10), & Max Bowman (10), "["Our Students Deserve Better: Education Disparity"](#)"
- Isaac Larson (10), Anna Marchler (10), & Henry Davies (10), "["TikTok's Ties: Digital Security in an Age of Global Connection"](#)"
- David Shukhin (10), Frederick Alfonso-Frank (10), & William Ashford (10), "["Science not Politics: How Political Polarization Hinders Climate Policy"](#)"
- Ava Barham (10), Elizabeth Leca (10), & Ila Raso (10), "["Educating Inclusivity: An Exploration of the Inequity in Public Education"](#)"

To see a full list of all C-SPAN Winners, please visit [www.studentcam.org/winners21.htm](http://www.studentcam.org/winners21.htm)

### Upcoming Events

We're hosting a Senior Q&A session for juniors to ask CAP seniors any questions or concerns about CAP, college, or just general high school advice. Although this Q&A session is mainly targeted towards juniors, other grades are welcome to attend as well. This event will be held on **Wednesday, April 28th at 3:00pm**.

If you are interested in attending this session or if you would like to be a senior panelist, please fill out this Google Form: <https://forms.gle/Xe6q8WKH7Vc7duAZ6>

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Montgomery Blair High School  
Communication Arts Program