

Amy Gillson

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Middle College

March 2024



Senior

Middle College is proud to recognize Amy Gillson as our March 2024 Student of the Month.

Amy's two teachers are individually in agreement that she stands out as one of the most intellectually curious and engaged students of each of our educational careers. Amy shows genuine interest in the mysteries of our world and human experience, and she deeply values the opportunity to learn from others. In (and outside of) class, we can count on her curiosity, original thinking, and authentic participation, and we are thankful for the way that Amy's engagement often provides the impetus for other students to engage as well. At Middle College, Amy has been able to feed her love of learning through Foothill's diverse offerings, earning strong grades in disciplines like Physical Education, Spanish, Psychology, Computer Science, Astronomy, and Creative Writing. She has even taken extended opportunities to explore her interests, as when she participated in Foothill's annual Business Innovation Challenge.

Amy has had many academic successes, but she does not feed a climate of academic stress or anxiety. She seeks out challenges for herself, without being competitive; she knows how to be independent, but is not individualistic; she is just as comfortable asking questions as she is sharing insights; she can advocate for herself, but she can also be humble, flexible, and patient; she aims to do her best, but doesn't fixate on grades. Amy is exceptionally deliberate, reflective, and conscientious about her impact: she once wrote "When I think about what I value most, I always come back to people." Time and again, Amy chooses to be warm, welcoming, and collaborative. Her peers, experiencing her genuine regard for them, deeply respect, trust, and delight in her. Amy has been a crucial leader and a strong ambassador for our program, enhancing our experiences and inviting us to invest in responsibility for our shared community. We will miss her so much next year and are so happy to have this opportunity to celebrate her.