

Mingkuan Yan

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Mountain View High School

March 2021



Junior

Mountain View High School is honored to present junior Mingkuan Yan as our March Student of the Month. We are very proud of all the work Mingkuan has put into bettering our school and community.

At school, Mingkuan enjoys English and History, and has a special interest in Computer Science. He enjoys computer science because of how its essence depends on logical thinking and creativity. Mingkuan is currently ranked at Silver in USACO, a national coding competition, and also enjoys putting his skills into practice and helping other students by being a TA for our computer science teacher Mr. Nguyen.

Mingkuan is also passionate about music and plays the French horn in the school wind ensemble, the California Youth Symphony's Senior Orchestra, and California's All State Wind Symphony. Aside from playing instruments, he also is an avid music listener of many diverse genres, from classical to pop and rock and from movie soundtracks to game music.

When the pandemic hit last Spring, Mingkuan built a team of volunteers to sew cloth face masks for pediatric families at Ronald McDonald House and Joey's Wings Foundation - two nonprofits that help pediatric patients by providing them with housing facilities or by funding pediatric cancer research. His volunteers come from all walks of life, including his French horn teacher's mom and elementary school students, and they helped sew the durable and reusable masks. To acquire materials for the project, Mingkuan created a GoFundMe page last June and has since raised over \$3,500 and since beginning last April, his group has donated 7024 face masks!

Additionally, with a passion to raise awareness for the plight of numerous incurable types of pediatric cancer, Mingkuan has met twice with the offices of our state representatives and senators to advocate for increased cancer research funding. The collective efforts of he and his team members last summer led Congress to pass a \$50 million federal budget dedicated to kidney cancer research!

Mingkuan is also a Boy Scout, working towards earning his Eagle Rank, plays on the Mountain View tennis team, loves to travel, and enjoys learning about different languages.

Mingkuan has been described by his teachers as someone who "genuinely loves all academic subjects and has an incredible love for learning" and who is "extremely appreciative of the education he has received."

Congratulations again to our incredibly well deserving March Student of the Month!