

Press Release:

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Riverview Students Attend the Rome International Model UN Conference

Last month, 5 Senior members of the Riverview Model United Nations team participated in their first international conference, in Rome, Italy. The team was invited to attend the eleventh edition of the Rome International Model United Nations, a conference that had 450 participants from 26 high schools from 16 different countries. The conference, which follows European THIMUN Model UN procedure, chose the theme of Nationalism for its 2017 focus and divided students into many different General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Committees in order to promote discussion of the problems facing the current world. Model United Nations always enables students to discuss current issues, but holding these discussions with students who bring different cultural ideals and understandings to the conference opens the door to more fruitful and eye-opening conversations and solutions. Over the course of 5 days, our students discussed, in English, the issues facing the people of the world with students from Istanbul, Mauritius, Romania, Jerusalem, India, Sweden, and many other countries. In the shadow of Ancient History, our students became the decision makers of the future. The members of the team, Tyler Aber, Dana Grover, Danielle Hanlon, Lena Ison, and Emma Patterson, were leaders throughout the five day simulation and their ideas and thoughts became the basis for many of the discussions during the conference.

It is with pleasure that Mr. Ken Kubistek (Model UN Sponsor and Social Studies teacher) and the Riverview family announce that two Riverview students were recognized during the Closing Ceremonies of the conference.

Danielle Hanlon - First Place Best Delegate for her role as a Syrian Delegate in the General Assembly 3: Social Humanitarian and Cultural Committee

Emma Patterson - Second Place Outstanding Delegate for her role as a Syrian Delegate in the General Assembly 6: Legal Committee

Congratulations to all five Riverview delegates and to teacher, Mr. Ken Kubistek, for their performance and leadership at the conference and for their interest in immersing themselves into an unfamiliar situation and embracing the challenge. The students and sponsor Mr. Ken Kubistek would like to thank the Riverview administration, school board, and all family, friends, and businesses (Jendoco and Riverview Education Association) who donated their money, suggestions, and support to make this trip of a lifetime happen. Visit the Travel Blog at <http://www.travelpod.com/travel-blog/rmunrome/1/tpod.html>.

This truly was a **SERIOUSLY SUCCESSFUL** experience!