

September 2021

Award Winning Engineering Academy

Congratulations to the American High School Engineering and AOIT Academies for their recognitions as 2021 Katherine Blasik Distinguished Academies, representing the National Academy Foundation (NAF) highest level of achievement. The Engineering academy has entered another level of growth in its effort to prepare students for careers in the STEM fields, and to become life-long learners. At the beginning of the 2020 school year the Engineering Academy was accepted into NAF and it has now become one of 43 academies joining the group of newly Distinguished academies in a network of more than 600 academies. NAF helps develop institutions into organizations with the relevance, rigor, and relationships to produce leaders that can utilize the best qualities of education for the benefit of the entire community. The inclusion of paid summer internships and curriculum tracking gives students an opportunity to use their acquired skills in the work force while they are still learning.



EASE students Anibal Gonzalez, Andres Madueno, Daniel Mejia, Andres Gomez, Ericka Maldonado, Leanne Belizaire, Juan Sabogal and Shon Barthell pose in front of the murals on the first-floor walls.



SECME Students Gain National Recognition

The SECME Club at American Senior High School continues to excel as Miya Aviles becomes one of three Dade County students to win the first annual NextEra Energy Scholarship for Black students in SECME. NextEra Energy is the parent company of Florida Power & Light, and FPL is committed to supporting our communities to help make them better places to work, live, and raise a family. One way they do this is by supporting education programs that enrich student experiences, as it relates to science and math programs. In its effort to demonstrate that commitment to encouraging students to pursue careers in STEM, FPL is awarding graduating seniors who participate in SECME with a \$20,000 scholarship. The SECME Club also won second place in the Miami Dade SECME Water bottle rocket competition. Leandra Belizaire and Shon Barthell represented the American Patriots with a rocket that soared approximately seven seconds across the basketball courts behind the school. This result along with the documents submitted scored the second highest among all high schools in Miami Dade County. Congratulations Shon and Leandra on a great job.



Engineering and SECME Students Take Their Talents to College

SECME Club officers pictured above celebrate their entry to state colleges to continue their education. Miya Aviles (treasurer), and Scarlet Mendez (secretary not pictured) are attending the University of Florida. Elizabeth Lopez (president) is attending Nova Southern University, Apiphanie Hill (historian) is attending Florida State University, and Jadan Cedenio is attending Florida International University. The captain of the VEX Robotics team Juan Sabogal (pictured below) is attending Florida Polytechnic University.



Silver STEM Designation

American Senior High School has been designated a silver level STEM school. This culmination of instructional professional developments, cross curricular activities, Career Technology Education programs, and student competitions are too numerous to list, but the highlights are below:

- Gregory Stewart places fourth in the Miami Dade County Virtual Bridge Building contest
- Shon Barthell places in the 2021 SER Community Day National Contest
- Students participating in the 2021 Miami Dade County Student Youth Internship Program
- Jordan Molina and Shon Barthell were accepted into the US Department of Defense – Joint Science & Technology Institute
- JROTC led VEX Robotics Team competes in district and regional VEX Competitions



Habits of the Mind!

Remain Open to Continuous Learning.
 Learn from experiences.
 Have humility and pride when admitting you don't know. Resist complacency.