

Fontana Unified School District

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KAISER STUDENTS OUT-PERFORM AT DRAMA COMPETITIONS

FONTANA, CA – Over the weekend, Kaiser High School students proved they are up to the challenge once again by competing and out-performing in two drama competitions: Rancho Cucamonga High School One-Act Festival and the August Wilson Monologue Competition sponsored by Center Theatre Group, owners of the Ahmanson, Mark Taper Forum, and Dorothy Chandler Pavilion.

At the RCHS festival, Kaiser competed against 16 schools from all over the region. Their performance of Stephen Karam and PJ Paparelli's one-act play about the Columbine shootings, "columbinus", won first place in the competition. They also won Best Ensemble Overall, Best Actor Overall - Jared Sandoval, Best Actor in a Scene - Angel Nieves, and Best Teacher - Ms. Wendi Johnson. The students will take "columbinus" on tour to our middle schools in February.

Of the 236 competitors in the August Wilson Competition, only 50 students competed in the semi-finals on Saturday. Kaiser's Damaris Vizvett and Angel Nieves will be moving on to the regional finals. They will be honored at a celebration event at the Music Center in Los Angeles on January 10, receive master class series workshops, and will perform to an elite, professional audience on the Mark Taper Forum on February 29.

In addition, Damaris Vizvett and Jared Sandoval are two of 50 who advanced to the second round of the Spotlight awards - a competition encompassing 500 students.

"This is amazing news! We couldn't be prouder of these talented students," said FUSD Board President Lorena Corona.

Superintendent Dr. Leslie Boozer agreed, "Absolutely! The honors are well deserved and a testament to the students' hard work and the leadership of drama teacher, Wendi Johnson."

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