

# MARYLAND

Association of Student Councils

# QUARTERLY



FIRST ISSUE

BACK TO SCHOOL QUARTERLY

MASC PUBLICATIONS

SEPTEMBER 2023

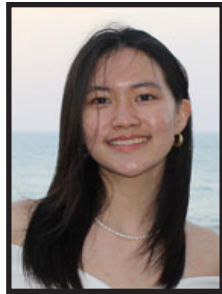
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# Officer Introductions

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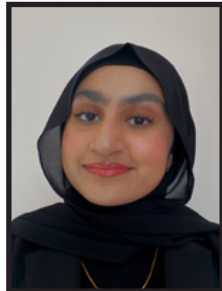
As we approach the upcoming year, it is important that we take a moment to introduce our MASC officers. These students are not only dedicated to making Maryland a better place, but they also bring a lot of enthusiasm and fresh ideas to the table. Get ready for an exciting year ahead with this incredible team leading the way! We hope to provide some insight and excitement for the year by having our 2023-2024 officers answer the question "What are you most excited about this year?"



*MASC President*

## Angelina Xu

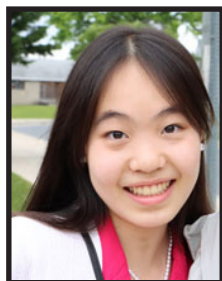
"I'm most excited for our new Convention in Ocean City -- this is the first time we'll be combining the state SMOB candidate elections and MASC bill stances from our former Legislative Session into the business of the Convention, and I'm looking forward to how students will engage with our new format. Can't wait to take beach photos with everyone!"



*MASC Vice- President*

## Anousha Khan

"I'm most excited about seeing all the new people- that sounds very cliché but with MASC coming into full swing this past year, I know we're going to have a lot higher attendance and hopefully get back to how we were before the pandemic. I'm so excited to spend my senior year with this officer team, executive board, friends, and truly a MASC family that is amazing beyond words."



*MASC Treasurer*

## Lumina Zhang

"This year, I'm most excited about fundraising more, especially in person!! We hosted a highly successful ice

cream fundraiser during Advance, which was the first time MASC tried a fundraiser of that kind. I'm looking forward to exploring more of these fundraisers to increase spirit and connect more with our student leaders."



*MASC 2nd- Vice President*

## Siya Jain

"This year, I'm excited to see the amount of middle school representation in MASC! Seeing the new, eager students, yearning to learn more about leadership and becoming involved. I hope to help highlight that experience for middle school students across Maryland by showing how inspiring and fun MASC opportunities and events are."

## Staff Development Day

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After selecting the MASC staff in the spring, the MASC Officer Team, Executive Directors, and Department Directors planned Staff Development Day. This all day event is the first event of the new school year where MASC executive board members have an opportunity to network and prepare for the year ahead. "There was a big emphasis on bonding within our department at Staff Development Day this year and I think that made the event even more productive and enjoyable," said Maggie Rathgeb, MASC's Operations Department Director. After a successful event, the MASC staff is looking forward to a productive and impactful year.

## MASC Committees

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Are you interested in getting more involved in MASC? Do you have a passion for advocacy? MASC has numerous opportunities for students to involve themselves in ongoing initiatives. The MASC committees allow students in Maryland to work closely with MASC's Officers and/or Executive Board Members to address issues they care about and to impact their communities. Committee work ranges from divisional collaboration to advocacy for special issues.

Applications for committees close on September 30th, 2023 at 11:59 pm. For more information on MASC committees and the application process, click [here](#).

## Advance Recap

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Advance 2023 brought together secondary student leaders of Maryland, all seeking to enhance their knowledge and leadership skills. These interactive sessions fostered a sense of camaraderie and encouraged

collaborative learning. The atmosphere was filled with a sense of accomplishment and pride as students received their certificates.

Day one focused on certification as students participated in a series of workshops including facilitation, workshop writing, being a team leader, group games, and visuals. Following that, students prepared and discussed ideas for workshops they may present at the Fall Leadership Conference (FLC), and socialized as they supported the Bruster's Ice Cream Fundraiser organized by treasurer, Lumina Zhang.

Day two started bright and early and kicked off with the first official executive board meeting of the 2023-2024 year! Once called to order, students were introduced to the MASC Officer and state Student Member on the Board of Education (SMOB) as they gave reports.

Discussion of new business consisted of swearing-in of the MASC Appointed Staff who were not present at the May executive board meeting, pre-filed legislation, committee application information, and more. Transitioning to reconvene business, student leaders presented staff and regional reports. The day was ultimately closed by the announcement of the MASC 2023-2024 Theme: Rock On MASC.

We'd like to dedicate a big thank you to our host The Montgomery County Regional Student Government Association (MCR), MCR Regional Advisor, Ms. Shella Cherry, and the MCPS staff at the Lathrop E. Environmental Educational Center – we could've not done it without you!



## Middle School Opportunities

Since being sworn in as MASC's Second Vice President this past spring, Siya Jain has been working hard to make sure middle school voices are being heard. One of the initiatives she is leading is the AIMS (Action in Middle School) committee. This committee encourages middle school students to take part in MASC events and to voice their concerns by working with the Second VP throughout the year. "Middle school programs in MASC are so important because of how they allow middle school students to explore the possibilities of student council earlier on," Siya said while speaking about her initiatives. Siya is also creating a quarterly newsletter throughout the year that is geared specifically toward middle school students. By doing this she hopes to keep middle schoolers across Maryland excited and informed.

For more information on middle school initiatives click [here](#).

## Green Goal



Each month, MASC's Environmental Affairs Coordinators challenge Maryland's students and families to take part in Green Goals. These goals work to help our environment and share ideas on how you can make an impact.

*September Green Goals are:*

- Select Eco-Friendly School Supplies
- Sustainable Transportation
- Digital Materials
- Properly Utilize Recycling/Composting Stations
- Participate in Local Environmental Clubs/Organizations
- Prioritize Energy Efficiency

For more green goals as well other environmental initiatives, please visit our [resources page](#). Scroll to the bottom to find the Environmental Items.

## Spirit Wear



Interested in repping MASC Merch?

Purchase MASC Spirit Wear at <https://mdprint.shop/collections/masc>

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