

# Schiller donates prize money to IGSS

by Sarah Zhang

Senior Gray Schiller recently received \$500.00 as a prize in a national video contest, which she gave to the Integrated Global Studies School (IGSS) in January of 2015.

Schiller entered a nationwide contest in December of 2014, in which she submitted a video she had made that detailed money saving tips.

"The whole video was talking about different ways people could save money, especially young kids," described Schiller.

Schiller was notified that she received second place in January, and was rewarded with two cash prizes from the competition. One of the prizes was \$500.00, which was meant to be gifted to New Trier.

Schiller decided to donate the money to the IGSS program specifically. "I think New Trier is very fortunate with all of our facilities and our equipment. IGSS has been my home for the past two years, and the money would definitely help us grow," said Schiller.

The IGSS program is described as a school within a school, and the program's autonomy and thematic curriculum provides more room for different methods of learning.

Students are encouraged to direct the path of their own education, whether it be in more traditional educational outlets or more creative

ways.

This donation was extremely useful to IGSS, since specialty IGSS programs (such as guest speakers or workshops) are not funded directly through the school.

Jeff Markham, IGSS coordinator and English teacher, described what this money will help to fund, saying, "we have events, like our first semester presentation down in the student lounge. It's for publicity, but also speakers, equipment, and publication. If we can bring in more speakers, and can get more equipment, then more of our goals can be achieved."

Schiller added what she imagined the money would help cultivate, saying "We try to not teach just what's in textbooks, so a big part for the money is trying to get things from the community, and for the community to come see us. We are trying to have enough to afford anything that's not in a book."

The programs and specialty speakers contribute to what makes IGSS different. "IGSS is more about natural and organic learning. We go on field trips, and some of those cost money. If you ever want materials to try some activity, you need a budget," said Caroline Williams, junior in the IGSS program.

The donation by Schiller is a step towards what Markham and Schiller envision for what is next for



Gray Schiller, who recently donated her prize money to IGSS after winning a national video competition | Pearlman

IGSS. The program is still relatively young, and there is room for growth, both as a community and as an alternative path of education.

"IGSS has been here for about six years, and I think the more the community, both outside and within the school, finds out about IGSS, the more popular and supported it will become," said Markham.

The IGSS students themselves have dreams for the IGSS program and what's to come.

"More field trips would be

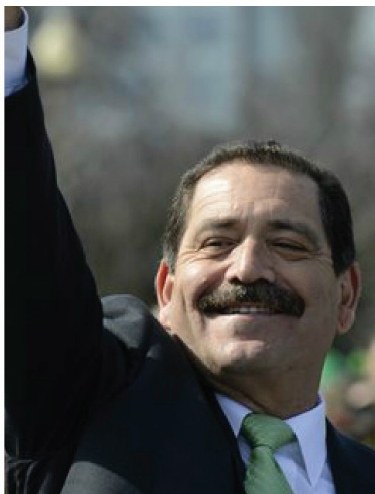
something I'd like to see, if we had a bigger budget. We try to take two a semester, since it's more hands-on learning," said junior Ryan Westerberg.

Hands-on learning is important to many IGSS students. Emily McClellan, a senior in the IGSS program said, "I'd like to see IGSS pursue more outside of school excursions. While we do a lot of experiential learning, I think the best way to really learn is to get out into the world."

Aside from field trips, speakers, and equipment, the program wants to see the general perception of IGSS change with a growth of budget and awareness.

"In general, I think awareness for IGSS needs to grow," said Schiller. "We want to show that IGSS is not just a place where the 'artistic' kids learn. If we had a little more money to get different and newer equipment, we could broadcast ourselves to a wider range of kids."

## Garcia forces Chicago mayoral runoff



2015 mayoral candidates Rahm Emanuel and Jesus "Chuy" Garcia | AP Images

by Blake Sammann

This spring, two of the biggest Chicago heavyweights will square off in a winner-take-all slugfest to decide who will wear the title of champion.

Well, sort of.

On Apr. 7, Chicagoans will head to the polls for the last leg of the 2015 mayoral election, a run-off pitting New Trier graduate and incumbent mayor, Rahm Emanuel, against Cook County commissioner Jesus "Chuy" Garcia.

It marks the end of a marathon campaign for all of the candidates. Even by the standards of Chicago politics, this election has been anything but simple.

When the polls opened on Feb. 24, Chicagoans chose from a surprisingly diverse selection of five candidates: mayor Rahm Emanuel, former 2nd ward Alderman Bob Fioretti, community activist William "Dock" Walls, self-made entrepreneur Willie Wilson, and Cook County Commissioner Jesus "Chuy" Garcia.

Chicago Public School (CPS) board president Karen Wilson was also selected but she withdrew due to serious health problems.

After the dust settled, it became clear that the winner would have to be decided at a later date. According to WTTW, Emanuel took 45.63% (218,217 votes) while Garcia took 33.53% (160,414 votes).

Wilson took 10.66% (50,960 votes), Fioretti took 7.39% (35,363), and Walls took 2.77% (13,250 votes).

Since no candidate won more than 50% of the votes, Emanuel and Garcia, the top two candidates, were entered into a runoff scheduled for April 7th.

According to DNAInfo, Emanuel's main votes came from the 42nd, 43rd, and 44th wards (downtown area), while the bulk of Garcia's votes came from south, west, and central areas, including the 12th, 22nd, 35th and 10th wards.

Wilson's votes came almost exclusively from the south and west side, where he is a role model for Chicagoans trying to escape poverty.

Fioretti was supported strongly in the 11th, 37th, and 46th wards, while community activist "Dock" Walls was strongest on the far south side.

The road to the mayor's office will not be easy for either candidate. Emanuel, while still the favorite, has faced criticism over the closing of

many CPS schools and favoring the downtown area by not giving enough attention or funds to the outlying areas of Chicago (particularly the impoverished south and west side).

However, on Wednesday, Garcia's campaign got a huge boost in the form of an endorsement from his former opponent, Willie Wilson.

According to WTTW, Wilson, a self-made millionaire and son of a Louisiana sharecropper, is viewed as a crucial endorsement, key to securing the African American vote.

Many experts cite the African American vote as essential to the success of either candidate. Both Emanuel and Garcia have been making stops trying to shore up as much support as they can in the past weeks, as neither are in particularly strong standing with the African American community.

According to WTTW, "Emanuel's support in the black community has visibly waned, as he received 42 percent of the votes from predominantly black wards, down from the 59 percent he received in 2011.

Garcia received only 26 percent of votes from these wards. This low showing could have been affected by [Willie] Wilson's appearance on the ballot, but in Garcia's case, it may also point to a deeper rift within minority communities."

However, Wilson's endorsement may not be enough to save Chuy's campaign. According to the Chicago Sun-Times, "Ogden & Fry released the results of its Saturday survey of 1,020 likely voters. Mayor Rahm Emanuel had 43.5 percent support of the respondents in the one-question poll, while challenger Garcia had 38 percent. Eighteen percent of respondents were undecided. Ogden & Fry repeated its contention that Hispanic voters are consistently underrepresented in the data, but it predicted black voters will determine the April 7 election."

## Horne wins Midwest health education award



Andy Horne has been recognized by SHAPE America for exceptional teaching | Pearlman

by Lynley Evans

New Trier health teacher Andy Horne will be honored as the Midwest District Health Education Teacher of the Year by the organization SHAPE America (Society of Health and Physical Educators). He is now up for SHAPE America's National Health Education Teacher of the Year.

SHAPE America gives this award to health teachers in

recognition of outstanding teaching performance in a health curriculum and the exceptional capability to inspire students to make healthy choices.

The award will be announced at this year's National Convention & Expo in Seattle, which will take place from Mar. 17 thru Mar. 21.

Horne will be up against three other district award winners for the award.

## Glass Slipper Project grants prom night wishes

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dress.

Each girl who enters the boutique must prove they are a junior or senior in high school.

Through the personal shopping experience, girls are allowed to claim one dress, one pair of shoes, one purse, up to three pieces of jewelry, and up to four pieces of makeup for free.

This is all accomplished with the help of volunteers.

The Glass Slipper Project has

helped more than 18,000 girls since being founded in 1999 and will continue to help less fortunate girls feel like the belle of the ball at their own prom without the large price tag.

"The costs associated with prom is something that we take for granted, but that's not always a luxury for every student," said Sheridan.

Donations of dresses to the Glass Slipper Project will be accepted up until the morning of Mar. 25 in room 200 at the Winnetka Campus.