



## NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Ellen Morgan (213) 241-6766

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### LAUSD STUDENT HAS THE MOMENTUM TO ELECTRIFY THE 2013 PHYSICS OLYMPIAD

Zach Markos, a senior at Francisco Bravo Medical Magnet in the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), has joined Team USA in the 2013 Physics Olympiad.

Markos is one of the elite 20 students from across the U.S. to emerge through a rigorous exam process that began last January. He was one of 4,435 students, who participated in the Fnet=ma exam, to qualify for the opportunity to become a member of the 2013 U.S. Physics Team.

The Olympiad is sponsored in the U.S. by the American Association of Physics Teachers, as a way of selecting the top 20 students in the nation. They will train at the University of Maryland at College Park, competing for a spot on the five-member traveling team for the International Physics Olympiad scheduled this summer in Denmark.



*Left to Right: Bravo Medical Magnet Senior Zach Markos and Teacher Michael Morgan*

As a sophomore, Markos qualified for the American Institute of Mathematics Exam (AIME), not once but twice. He attained the highest score ever achieved by a Bravo student in this competition. In his junior year, Markos was a "triple threat" by also qualifying as a semifinalist in the Chemistry and Physics Olympiads. His score on the chemistry semifinal earned honors from the American Chemical Society by ranking in the top 100 nationwide. He also qualified for the American Invitational Mathematics Examination (AIME) again, progressed to the USA Mathematics Olympiad (USAMO) exam and placed in the top 100 students in the country.

(more)

**Zack Markos**

**#12/13-204**

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In addition to the Olympiads, Markos has been a member of Bravo's Math Day at the Beach team for three years. This is a regional event hosted by Cal State Long Beach every March. In his junior year, Markos rated as the number one student for Los Angeles and Orange counties in this event. This year, his team took first place overall for Division B. He has participated in the American Regional Mathematics League (ARML) competition for three years, and placed in the top 50 students nationally. Markos also has been very active in Bravo's Science Bowl Squads and finished in the top 10 in the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's Science Bowl for the last two years.

Markos plans to attend the University of California at Los Angeles in the fall. He has been coached through all of these events by longtime Bravo High School Science Teacher and Science Department Chair Michael Morgan. In the last seven years, Morgan has coached 32 semifinalists in academic Olympiads.

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