

Excellence

Center for Excellence in Education

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Bowen Jing (left) with Team USA member, Varkey Alumootil (right)

Bowen Jing describes his time at the USA Biology Olympiad (USABO) Finals at Marymount University this summer as an extremely rigorous academic experience, and one that he wouldn't change for anything.

"I learned more during those two weeks than I have learned from any other two weeks in my life," Jing said.

His performance during the two weeks at USABO Finals earned him a gold medal and a spot on the four-member Team USA and travel to the International Biology Olympiad (IBO) in Hanoi, Vietnam July 17-24, 2016.

"I was so excited to know that I had been selected to Team USA," he said. "I admired and deeply respected my fellow finalists and thus felt very honored to have been chosen from among them. Nonetheless, I recognized the prestige of the opportunity offered to me, and resolved to represent USABO well. The gravitas was substantial and at times very stressful."

Jing definitely rose to the challenge, scoring 10th overall amongst the 284 competitors from 70 other countries, earning gold at the IBO.

"IBO was an incredibly eye-opening and humbling experience," Jing said. "I had never had the opportunity to interact with so many international individuals and cultures within the span of one week. I learned so much about societies and education systems around the world. There is something particularly moving about meeting people from New Zealand, Indonesia, Greece, etc., with different backgrounds and cultures, and finding a common passion, whether it be biology or something completely different."

Jing is currently beginning his junior year at West Lafayette High School in Indiana where he is also the founder of his school's Science Bowl team, member of the debate team, and an All-State Symphony Orchestra violinist. He hopes to one day pursue education in a life-science related field.

"Whatever specific career path I ultimately choose, I hope to make meaningful contributions to science and society," he said.



Bowen Jing with the other three members of 2016 Team USA in Hanoi, Vietnam