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Following is a list and a brief statement about each of the Rainbow Recognition winners announced at last Thursday's Multicultural/Multiracial Community Council breakfast.

Top award winners were **Beverly Papai**, director of the Farmington Community Libraries, and **Samir Haddad**, director of bilingual state and federal projects for the school.

Helen Akoury, an ESL teacher, worked with the Alameda early childhood diversity committee.

Hashim Al Tawil, an Oakland Community College teacher, represents the Arab American and Chaldean Council on the diversity council's steering committee.

Greg Ambrose, athletic chair for the Farmington schools, was chairman for the "Many Faces" festival last fall.

Abe Aon, a Farmington Hills businessman, is a member of the Optima Club and avid supporter of MCMR.

Bette Austin, an OCC computer paraprofessional, maintains a scrapbook about her lab helpers, who come from many different cultures.

Imogene Bailey, a co-chair of the OCC diversity committee, worked on the campus' first diversity week event last October.

Andrea Baker, a MCMR student representative from Mercy High School and helped plan the February Youth Diversity Conference.

Paul Barber, a music coordinator for Franklin schools, served on the entertainment committee for the "Many Faces" festival.

Diane Bauman, community relations director for the Farmington schools, helped publicize the many events of MCMR, including the festival last fall and a regional conference held at OCC in March.

Vera Beeciovi, a bilingual parapro born in Sweden and raised in Albania is assigned to Beechview's multilingual/multicultural classroom and acts as translator for bilingual students and great rapport with parents and staff.

Patricia Bilek, who is a member of the Social Action Committee at the Universalist Unitarian Church, helped a Kosovo refugee family in gaining access to the community resources and learn about democracy.

Ann Blanzay, a Harrison counselor recently adopted two Russian children; her caseload includes students with bilingual needs.

Rev. Ben Bohnsack, a long-time member of MCMR Council steering committee, recently

served on a plan committee for a community forum on religious diversity.

Sandi Carter, a fitness trainer at the Farmington YMCA, fosters harmony among residents; she has intertwined her own family life with friends and neighbors, arranging gatherings that foster multiracial and multicultural relationships.

Flora Chinchilla, a Longacres teacher of Spanish, is a member of the district diversity committee, and maintains colorful displays of Mexican and Spanish cultures in school; she is active in the Detroit Spanish community.

Rose Christoph, a Lonacres reading specialist, greets new bilingual families to determine their needs; she is very active in voter participation efforts.

Rob Clarkson, a supervisor at Cottick Center, always helps the MCMR efforts, and is recognized especially for his aid with "Many Faces."

Sarah Clock, a teacher at Beechview, is instructing in the first inclusive multicultural first grade program in the district; she embraces all learners and has worked on literacy efforts through West Oaks Civitan.

Don Cohen, a longtime member of the district-wide diversity committee, has presented workshops for administrators on diversity and made an Anti-Defamation League training program available for staff development; he is executive director of the school and has worked extensively on the state's hate crimes task force.

Dr. Jan Colliton, principal at Hillside, has helped create a learning community that respects, celebrates, embraces, and nurtures diversity.

Nancy Cook, a school parapro at Longacres, helps students feel comfortable by promoting diversity; she is active in PTA, Cub Scouts and her church.

Cathy Cordle, a performing arts teacher at Elm Middle School, has helped create a school improvement committee working on multicultural goals in the school; she is a member of Mosaic Club and worked on the annual Dr. King assembly.

Angela Corsi, currently serving as Miss Farmington 2000, is a Mercy grad now at MSU where she is active in a university-wide organization that focuses on inclusion in the dorms.

Nancy Comoundourous, cultural arts coordinator for Farmington and Farmington Hills, co-chaired the art exhibit at the Heritage Festival, ultimately 80

diverse pieces were assembled for the exhibit.

Bridget Dean, a bilingual coordinator for the schools, worked on FLAGs, and helped as chair of the Heritage Festival display committee.

Julie Devine, a Farmington resident, devoted much to the Heritage Festival, has developed the community-wide cultural sharing project that people like so well during the Heritage Festival.

Susan Duncan, a parapro at Longacres, works with bilingual kids; a 22-year resident of Farmington, she is active in Neighborhood Watch and as a FHS band parent.

Areej El-Jawahri, a FHS senior, has helped REACH, the school's multi-cultural organization; she is a member of Falcon Forum, a group that seeks to unite FHS clubs by finding common ground.

Almae Ergas, advocate and parent for multicultural activities at East, is a volunteer member of Mosaic Club.

Pam Finkel, who provides clerical support of the bilingual program, often encounters newcomers to the community and treats them with dignity and respect.

Arlene Frank, director of Womancenter at OCC, helped create "Girls Matters Conference" held last fall; she has helped the college create programs to assist women and girls in pursuing their goals.

Jonathan Gratz, a senior at Harrison who attends Oakland Technical Center, has assisted in community events, helping the Goodfellow, assisting in setting up a new library at St. Fabian and participating in the "Appalachian Service Project" on behalf of St. Fabian.

Helen Habib, director of International Students Services for OCC, has helped with all the Rainbow Recognition breakfasts, and co-chaired the food committee of the Heritage Festival, showcasing her Lebanese culture.

David Hales, a teacher leader for Hillside, helped present the cultural heritage of the Farmington/Farmington Hills area by working on one-hour bus tours of the historic downtown area.

Gohar Imam, a parapro at Longacres, is translating English books into her native Urdu and conducting an afterschool multicultural programming this February; she is the director of the Pakistan Association of North America.

Editor's note: The balance of this list will run in Sunday's paper.

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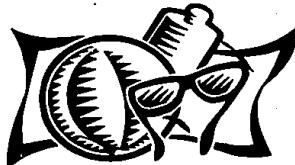
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