



# Tenafly High School's Library Media Center

Special Edition by David Di Gregorio, Supervisor of Library Media Services



## William Francis Gibbs 'Made in the USA' Interscholastic Engineering and Design Competition

On May 1, Tenafly High School Library Media Center hosted an event put together by Ms. Ghania Layachi, engineering and design instructor. Ten teams competed from New Jersey Interscholastic STEM League for a landmark engineering and design competition with "Made in the USA" theme. The event was named for famed naval architect and designer of 'America's Flagship' the SS *United States*, William Francis Gibbs. Each team was supplied with materials and 2.5 hours' time to design & build a model ship for speed.



Teams were judged on their documentation, CAD drawings, prototype, and presentation.



A concluding boat race took place in an adjoining courtyard with an amphitheater temporarily filled with water. One side representing the SS United States home port, New York City and the other, Bremerhaven, Germany – her European destination.



Prior to the competition, students learned about the SS United States from keynote speaker Mr. Elvis Negron an Architectural Designer with CSA Group. He presented his thesis project – an innovative vision for a future preservation and redevelopment of 'America's Flagship,' the SS United States. His vision returned America's Flagship to her home port of New York City to serve as an important icon of America's past, joining her with America's future functioning though joining her many decks and providing space for artistic creativity. Mr. Negron explained how he first became interested in ships and building models of them. His own hand constructed model of the SS United States used for his thesis project was on display.



Thomas Basile of the [SS United States Conservancy](#) the non-profit dedicated to preserving the fastest ocean liner ever built explained the historic importance of SS United States and how this ship represented the culmination of American ingenuity and dominance of American engineering and design following the Second World War. His description of how the SS United States was seen by onlookers as it approached its destinations in post war Europe were both moving and motivating.



## Competition Winners



Tenafly for 1st place, and Best Computer Aided Design (CAD) Alia Munn, Hojoon Kim, Yoav Dekel, Maria Parotkina, Louis Spencer, James Lev



New Providence: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place  
Liza Alexandrov, Mary Riccio, Patrick Lamanna, Alec Fox(foreground), Jonathan Laberov, and Kedhar Narayan



Northern Highlands: 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Best Prototype:  
Rob DiMartino, Antonio Shanely, Matt Korevec, Rishi Bachani, Marc Maroldi, Adam Borowczak



Northern Valley Old Tappan: Presentation & Documentation Tudor Rus, Aayush Singh, Alex Klapowitz, Basil Tweedy, Aiden Choi, Simon Yung

