

***AAHS Teacher of the Year!***

Mrs. Henna Sharif has been a member of the UCVTS professional community since 2011. Prior to teaching at UCVTS, Mrs. Sharif taught in Baltimore, Maryland for 5 years. In her time at UCVTS, Mrs. Sharif has served as a teacher of Biology and AP Biology for the Academy for Allied Health Sciences. In addition, Mrs. Sharif has also served as advisor of 9/10th and 11th grade student government.

Mrs. Sharif completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Maryland and has earned her Masters of Arts in Teaching. Mrs. Sharif also participates in Summer Institutes for AP Biology and the Rutgers Center for Integrative Proteomics Research.



### ***AIT Teacher of the Year!***

Mrs. Kneisel teaches Computer Applications in Business and Accounting. She has been the mainstay of FBLA, serving as an advisor to that organization for more than a decade. She is always working to learn and grow to meet the needs of her students. To that end, her summer months included; curriculum articulation, FBLA Nationals, and participation in Code.org's Professional Learning Program at TCNJ.

It is Mrs. Kneisel who conceptualized the digital portfolio and who has spearheaded that effort amongst the AIT faculty. As a result of her efforts in this area, beginning with the Class of 2020, all AIT students will graduate with a standards based portfolio that captures the career and technical education they received at AIT.

Mrs. Kneisel's classroom is never empty. In that space, she has created a welcoming environment for all students. As a testament to the rapport she has established with students and faculty alike, she has been nominated for this award by a colleague and former student.



### ***APA Teacher of the Year!***

Dawud D.H. Jackson is a choreographer, dance educator, and the founder of The Well Performance Project. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in speech, theatre, and communications from Kean University and undertook postgraduate work in dance education at the University Of North Carolina School of the Arts before embarking on his professional dance career. Prior to joining the APA Dance Faculty in December 2014, Mr. Jackson served on the APA advisory board and as Adjunct Faculty for APA dance majors at Kean University.

He is a dedicated educator, and choreographer having taught Jazz, Latin, Zumba and Modern dance at Kean University for over 16 years. He served as a member of the American Dance Council at the Dance Africa Dance conference in Kigali, Rwanda, and taught dance workshops and choreographed for the Friends to Mankind, Dance4Charity in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Mr. Jackson is a member of the National Dance Education Organization and Dance New Jersey, also a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. The Academy for Performing Arts is proud to call Mr. Jackson our Teacher of the Year.



### ***MHS Teacher of the Year!***

The Union County Magnet High School's 2017-2018 Teacher of the Year is Mr. Joseph McMenamin. He is in his sixth year of teaching social studies, primarily World History and AP US Government and Politics. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree in both English and History and is presently obtaining his Master's degree in Global & Comparative History at Rutgers.

Mr. McMenamin is recognized in the school community for his challenging instructional philosophy, thoughtful and reflective approach towards teaching and learning, and overall love for teaching his content. Amongst his students, he is known for his self-deprecating yet funny sense of humor, booming voice, and penchant for using pop culture to illustrate politics.

Mr. McMenamin also plays a vital role in both the Magnet and UCVTS community, outside of the classroom. He serves as the building's curriculum coordinator and Middle States co-coordinator, as well as co-advisor of the UCVTS Drama Club.

Magnet is proud to recognize Mr. Joseph McMenamin as our Teacher of the Year!



### ***UCCTI Teacher of the Year!***

Union County Career and Technical Institute (UCCTI) would like to congratulate Lieutenant Guy Steward as our teacher of the year. He is our Criminal Justice teacher.

Lt. Steward worked for the Elizabeth Police Department as a police officer for ten years and then retired after twenty four years as a Lieutenant from the Union County Prosecutors office. He also taught at the police academy for twenty-two years.

Lt. Steward integrates real world criminal justice scenarios with his class curriculum. He takes his student on field trips to visit many historical places such as the 911 Memorial in N.Y.C., United States Supreme Court and the Capital in Washington, D.C. He also takes his students to visit the Holocaust Museum in N.Y.C., Union County Superior Court, and the Union County Jail.

He works with the Union County Police Academy in providing mock trial experiences for our students which fosters courtroom environment. His commitment to his students and our school is recognized and is appreciated.



### ***UCTECH Teacher of the Year!***

Union County Vocational-Technical High School (UCTECH) would like to congratulate Mrs. Jenifer Manzione for being selected the UCTECH 2017-2018 Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Manzione began working in the Union County Vocational-Technical School District in 2006 as a Health and Physical Education teacher. In 2011, she led the initiative to create the Exercise Physiology and Related Sciences Academy (ExPRS). This was UCTECH's first career-academy. She is currently the Lead Teacher in this academy and her students achieved a 100% pass rate on the end of course assessment in 2017. She has taken on a variety of extra-curricular roles in the district including proctoring intramurals, staffing the district fitness center after school and she has also been a class advisor. We are truly proud of all of her accomplishments.



