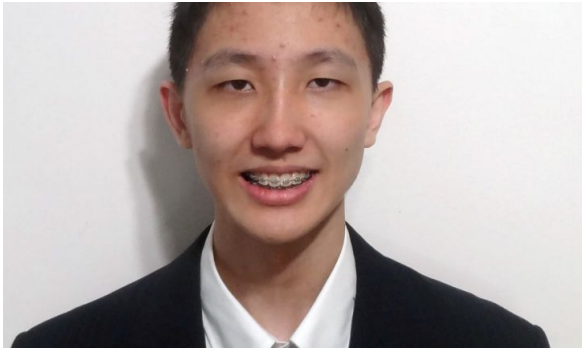


LONG ISLAND / EDUCATION

LI students named national finalists in USA Biolympiad

Victor Li. Credit: The Center for Excellence in Education

By Michael R. Ebert

michael.ebert@newsday.com

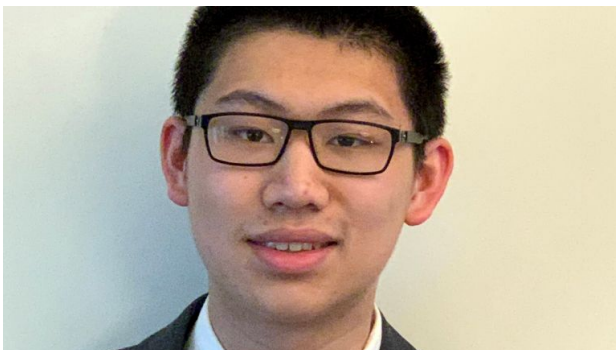
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Two Long Island students were among 20 finalists nationwide who recently competed for an opportunity to participate in the International Biology Olympiad Challenge 2020.

Victor Li, a senior at The Wheatley School in Old Westbury, and Max Yin, a senior at Syosset High School, competed in the 18th Annual USA Biolympiad (USABO) National Finals, which was conducted virtually due to the coronavirus outbreak by the Center for Excellence in Education.

The finals, which resulted in four students being chosen to represent the United States, consisted of 10 days of biology instruction followed by two days of testing in July.

"For me, the USABO camp was a unique opportunity to experience biology at a level not available to most high school students," Yin said. "It was very exciting participating in challenging activities in topics ranging from animal physiology to bioinformatics with a group of similarly minded peers."



Max Yin. Credit: The Center for Excellence in Education

"The finalist experience ... was stellar beyond belief," Li said. "Although it was very difficult for all of us as we learned years of content in weeks, this free opportunity, recognizing our success and hard work, is possibly one of the best programs for high school students."

This year, about 10,000 students registered to compete, with Li and Yin being the sole finalists from New York.

—
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