

# PCTI STUDENT OF THE MONTH

September 2017

## Responsible with a Penchant for Hard Work YAN ZHANG

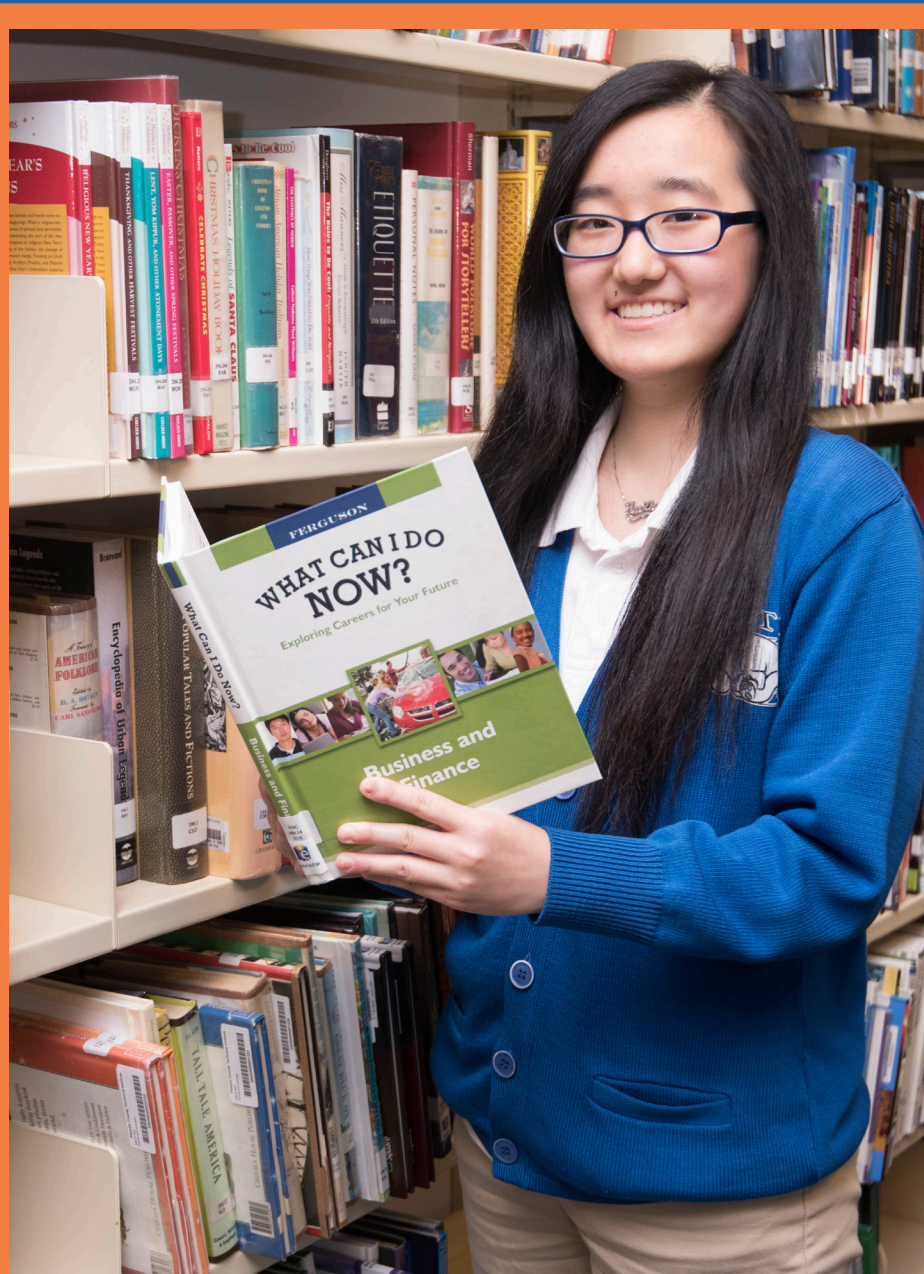
Yan Zhang is a young woman from Paterson whose interest in the business field paved the way for her enrollment in PCTI's Academy of Finance.

"Many people don't know that I spent the first five years of my life in Fujian, China," she adds. This information led to another realization. Yan is trilingual, fluent in Fujianese, Mandarin Chinese, and English. Fun fact: one translation for "business" in Chinese is "life with meaning." Yan elaborated, "I want to use my affinity for math to help people ... to be an accounting hero."

Yan's focus is second to none, most accurately demonstrated in her stellar academic achievements. She has challenged herself with a rigorous course load of AP and Honors classes and has earned the proud distinction of graduating with a potential 24 college credits. Most remarkable is Yan's impressive GPA of 4.52 and currently ranking number one in the Class of 2018!

This prestigious young woman is a member of the FBLA, Gifted & Talented, Student Council/Interact, and Book Club. She was selected for the 2017 Leadership Excellence Direct Results Program, a summer program which enhances leadership skills and prepares students for college.

Yan has received the na-



tional distinction of being declared a 2017 QuestBridge Prep Scholar. She was also selected as a PCTI Circle of Success member, has shared in the award of being declared Consumer Bowl Passaic County Champions, and has achieved regional and state awards in FBLA competitions.

It's no surprise that Yan excels in calculation and thor-

ough planning. Her penchant for hard work has earned her a position as a Student Intern for the Business Office through the School-To-Careers program.

When it comes to her future studies, Yan's pragmatic approach hints at maturity far beyond her years. "I'm among the first generation in my family to go to college, so I want to work hard and expand my ca-

reer to work in different parts of the world." Yan further explains that she aims to become an accountant who specializes in auditing. "It's like being a detective for a company's financial documents," she adds.

When asked about some of the best opportunities she's received at PCTI, Yan cited that meeting people from all walks of life was definitely at the top of her list. "Creating life-long bonds through academic resources has been life changing." She also praised the value of being exposed to a professional work environment while in high school.

Yan sees the potential in every situation and holds hard work in high regard. Congratulations to this young woman!

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Ranks in the top 1% of her class
- Will graduate with a potential 24 college credits
- Member of FBLA, Gifted & Talented, Student Council/Interact, and Book Club
- Selected for the Leadership Excellence Direct Results program, declared QuestBridge Prep Scholar
- Trilingual: Fujianese, Mandarin Chinese, & English
- Goal: Graduate from a university with a degree in Accounting, work in Auditing