PCTI STUDENT OF THE MONTH

December 2017

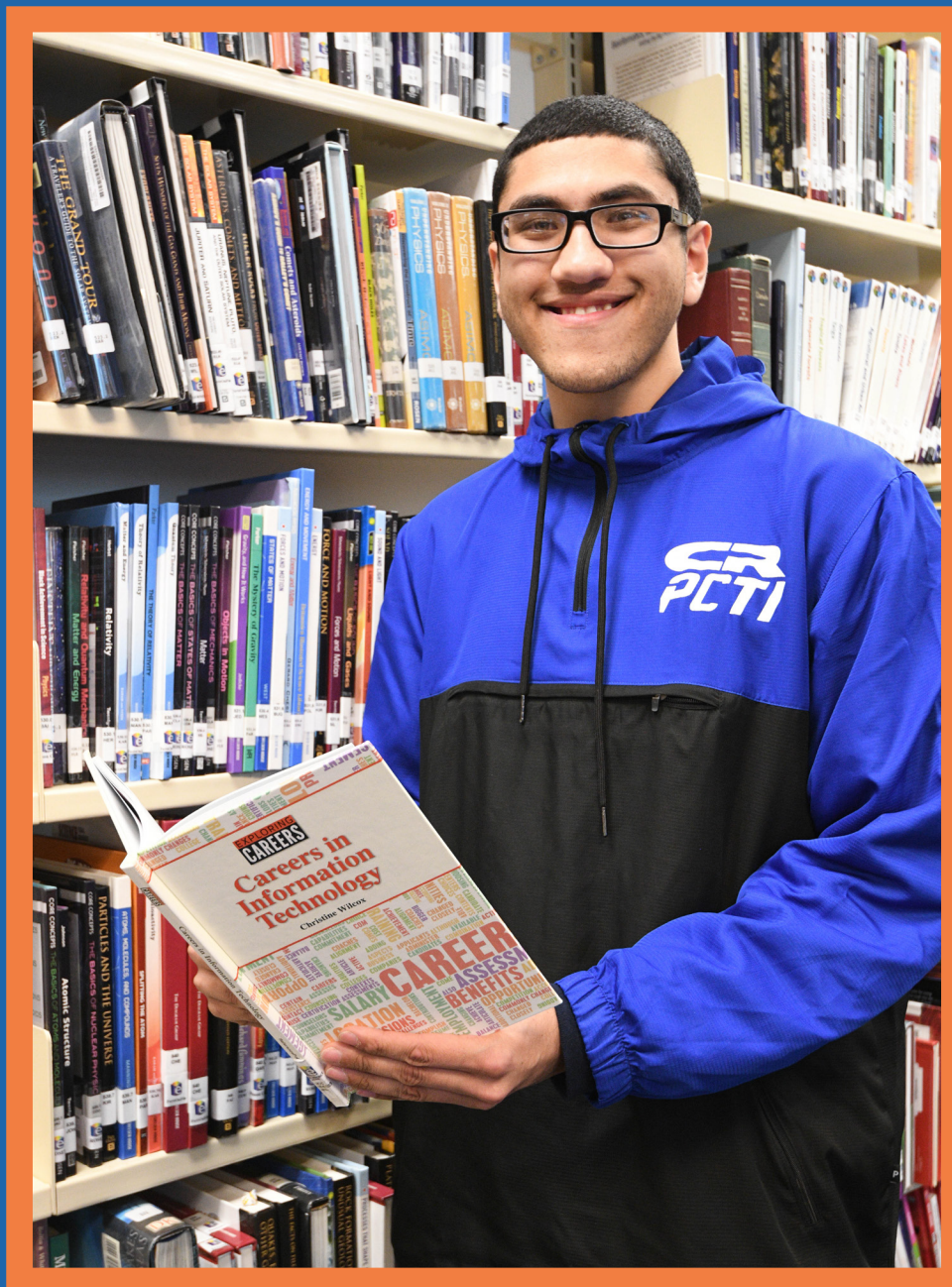## Upholding Academic Aptitude & Integrity
AKASH RANA

Akash Rana is a young man from Clifton whose analytic interest drew him to select PCTI's Academy of Information Technology as his career of choice. This academically apt Bulldog studies Computer Repair and is no stranger to days filled with problem solving and hard work.

Akash nurtured both curiosity and talent to excel in the academic arena. He constantly challenges himself with a rigorous course load of AP and honors classes which will potentially earn him twenty-nine credits towards his college career. What's more, he currently ranks number four in the Class of 2017 with a GPA of 4.51!

He's been selected for Freshmen Foundation for Success, Boys State, National Honor Society and World Language Honor Society (French). Akash has earned the following distinctions through the NJROTC program: Honor Cadet, Military Aptitude, and Academic award. He's even been declared an AP Scholar!

At PCTI, Akash is involved in Boys Varsity Tennis, the NJROTC, and the Engineering Club. He's even worked as a Teacher's Assistant at PCTI's Summer STEM Academy and currently holds a position as a student technician through the Co-Op program.

Outside of school, Akash acts as a mentor and plays violin for the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra.

When asked about his life's ambition, Akash mentions his desire to further develop future technology.

"I enjoy thinking long term and want to push new technology forward by working with quantum computers." He goes on to explain that quantum computers exponentially increase the ability for hardware and software to perform, especially in the areas of modeling, data analysis, and artificial intelligence.

It's no secret that Akash seeks to positively impact the world. After graduation, he aims to pursue an education in either Engineering or Computer Engineering with minors in physics and business administration.

Akash has always sought to study at MIT, a university that would put him on the fast track to success. He's also applied to Rutgers, NJIT, Cal Tech, Stanford, Princeton, Stevens, Georgia Tech, Boston University, Rice University, and Columbia University.

On his accomplishments and taking advantage of opportunities, he said, "Always put your best foot forward." Akash elaborated that he changed how he approached challenges. "I learned to speak in front of my class in NJROTC and became more confident in who I am as a person."

Congratulations to a young man who holds himself to the high standards of success! May you achieve all your dreams!

HIGHLIGHTS

- Ranks in the top 1% of his class
- Will graduate with a potential 29 college credits
- Achieved Principal's Honor Roll throughout all four years
- Selected for NJ Boys State, Foundation for Success, WLHS & NHS
- Involved in Boys Varsity Tennis, NJROTC, and Engineering Club
- Goal: Graduate from a university with a degree in Engineering/Computer Engineering, with minors in physics & business administration, pursue a Master's degree, work in the field of Quantum Computers