

# USNCO-2024

ACS USNCO-Maryland Section Chair/Program Coordinator

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April 20<sup>th</sup> marked the beginning of a strong collaboration between CCBC, Essex, CCBC, Catonsville and ACS Maryland Section. This is the third time that professors at these colleges have hosted the US National Chemistry Olympiad.

**Collaboration brings success!** The USNCO-2024 took place on Saturday April 20<sup>th</sup> at CCBC Catonsville from 8:00 A.M to 3:00 P.M. Students behave incredibly well; one could feel their enthusiasm and camaraderie among themselves. We feel that strong academic relationships were formed that day. During the lunch period students discussed the exam questions, their difficulties, and what they like best. The professors who volunteered for the event asked them questions about their future plans and career desires. All but two of them were pretty sure of what they want in the future. All mentioned chemistry and related disciplines; one mentioned that he was interested in computer science and another in AI.

## Picture Report:

### 1. The Competition

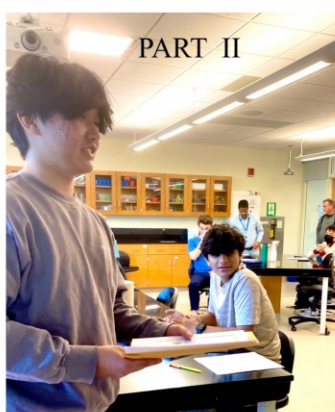
Part I is a multiple-choice questions test to cover a general knowledge of chemistry content study at the honors and chemistry levels in high school. Students use regular desks and have 1hr and 30 minutes to complete their task.

### 2. Laboratory practical

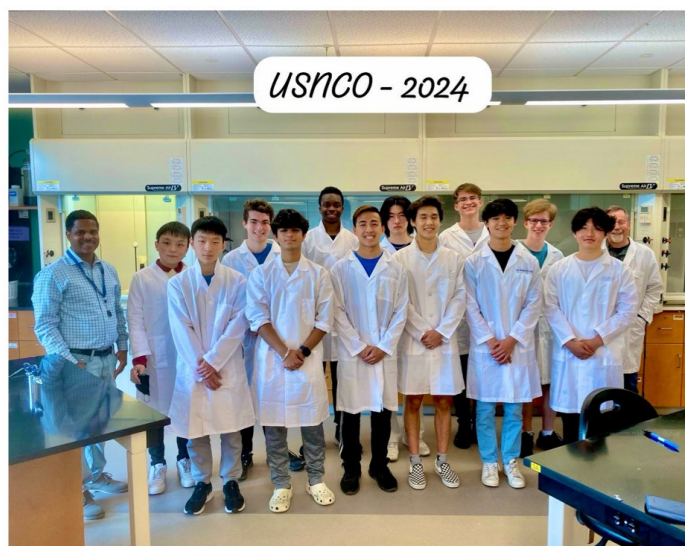
Students design an experiment to solve two Lab questions. The laboratory was already set up by George Owens, Lab. Technician III at CCBC Essex. All proctors and volunteers assist students in the approval of their procedure. Emphasis is placed on safety and a reasonable process that involves the use of materials provided.

### 3. Essay and Problem Solving

Students answer eight advanced questions in chemistry. They have to recall chemical formulas, create and interpret graphs. The exam consists of providing accurate calculations and demonstrating the results, only answers are not acceptable. A good explanation backed up with accurate calculations will generate the highest points.



*During the US National Chemistry Olympiad 2024*



Thanks to all volunteers who served as hosts, proctors and encouraged students during the [Chemistry Olympiad of 2024](#). We are a TEAM!

**THE TEAM:** Evon Ford, Ph.D. Assistant Professor of Chemistry CCBC, Essex  
George Owens, Laboratory Technician III, CCBC, Essex  
Camilo Rojas, Ph.D. former Associate Professor, JHU, also “The Pizza man”,  
Beatrice Salazar, M.S. USNCO, Coordinator, Maryland  
Jean Ashby, [Dean](#) CCBC, Catonsville





*Awards*

Students applauded the volunteers, thanked them and presented a gift and an award certificate to them.

After the last examination students received a certificate award from The American Chemical Society, a pin representing the 2024 USNCO competition and an award certificate to their respective teachers who had been key in the process of the competition since December 15, 2023, to April 19, 2024. Kudos to all these teachers and a big THANK YOU for encouraging these students in the learning of chemistry.

**2024 Olympians**

1.1 Tyler Wu, Marriotts Ridge High School

1.3 Andy Ying, Montgomery Blair High School School

2.1 Eugene Ki, Marriotts ridge High School

2.3 Joseph Richer, Mount Saint Joseph High School

3.1 Daniel Son, Gilman high school

\*3.3 Eric Duan, Glenelg High School (Chemistry Camp)

Block 1.

Block 2.

1.2 Rence Luo, Dulaney High School

1.4 Javesh Sood, Mount Saint Joseph, High School

2.2 Dinobi Offurum, River Hill High School

2.4 Maxwell Swann, Centennial High School

3.2 Caleb Shim, Centennial High School

3.4 Copper Bowmann, Aberdeen High School

Block 3.

