

AVI GUPTA

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Avi Gupta is a 2019 graduate of the Catlin Gabel School in Portland, OR and an incoming freshman at Columbia University with a passion for science, social entrepreneurship, and activism. Avi founded and leads Project32, a student-run social startup that leverages the power of education and community engagement to tackle dental disease in youth. Since its inception in 2016, Project32 has provided thousands of dental hygiene kits to children in the U.S., India, Guatemala, and Haiti. As a student researcher at Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU), Avi has performed novel research into vascular disease and synthetic blood vessel design. His work has been submitted to peer-reviewed journals and presented at national conferences, and Avi was designated an Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) Finalist in 2019. In recognition of his accomplishments as a young scientist, Avi was an invited panelist at the 2019 ScienceFest PDX (formerly March for Science).



An avid chess player, Avi co-founded Catlin Gabel Chess Club. Under his leadership, Catlin Gabel Chess has won several state and city championships. They have worked to promote chess worldwide, most notably in Equatorial Guinea, and organized numerous statewide tournaments. Avi loves to play basketball and is a lifelong Portland Trail Blazers fan. As one of fifteen teens selected from a pool of tens of thousands of entrants, Avi competed on the 2019 Jeopardy Teen Tournament, which will air in June 2019.

In recognition of his efforts, Avi has been honored with several national and regional academic and community awards including the AXA Achievement award, the Daily Point of Light award (established by late President George H.W. Bush) and the Al Tauscher Teen Recognition Award. Beginning this fall, Avi plans to pursue an undergraduate degree at Columbia University's Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science as an Egleston Scholar, the highest possible designation offered to incoming students. He plans to continue his work with Project32, partnership with the international chess community, and his efforts to promote environmental sustainability.