

Meet CHS 2012 Salutatorian: Andy Chen

Andy ranked second in his class by staying determined and always trying to improve.

By [Lauren Costa](#) | June 5, 2012



Andy Chen, son of Wei and Zhen Chen of Coventry, will be recognized during graduation Thursday for being the salutatorian for [Coventry High School](#)'s Class of 2012.

Apart from earning high marks academically, Andy participated in various clubs during his time at CHS including Interact Club, History Club, World Language Club (for Spanish) and Student Council. He also spends some of his free time hip hop dancing, a not-so-well-known fact about him. Although his favorite subject is history, he chose to take a range of classes as electives such as biotechnology, microbiology, business and graphic communications.

Andy plans to attend the University of Rhode Island for pharmacy in the fall and will be living on campus during his freshman year.

He explained that many males in his family have been medicine-orientated, which helped him become interested with the field.

"I love the overall aspect of pharmacy and how something so small can help people heal or not be in pain," he said. "In ten years I hope to be in a hospital...but in a good way, maybe working with a team of doctors and pharmacists."

Andy received the Holy Cross Book Award his junior year along with a Coventry Teachers' Alliance scholarship and URI's University Scholarship.

Describing himself as "determined and sarcastic," he explained that in order to succeed in school, he would always tell himself that improving is all that matters and just to do a little better in each subject.

When asked what advice he would give another student looking to excel in school, Andy stressed the importance of having confidence in one's self.

"A lot of people say that they can't do something, that it's too hard or they don't have enough time, but they can do it, they just need to put in a little effort," he said.