

**Fall 2010**

**MHS Italian Students Earn Scholarships**



*Sadia Islam*



*Caitlyn Levine*

Congratulations to the two Medford High School seniors, Sadia Islam and Caitlyn Levine, who will be honored at a dinner dance on October 16 at Filippo's Restaurant at the North End. At that time they will each be presented with a scholarship check in the amount of \$1,000 from the FAA-USA (Federazione Associazioni Abruzzesi in USA). At this social event, both students are expected to deliver a speech all in Italian, in front of some 150 members of the organization. Each student will cite highlights from the essay which was written by them during the summer and submitted to the FAA-USA with their scholarship applications.

FAA-USA, Inc. is an organization that began in 1990 and it comprises eight associations, among which are associations representing Massachusetts, California, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, and New York. The president of the organization is Rosetta Romagnoli, who teaches Italian at the McGlynn Elementary School. With the support of the Consulate General of Italy in Boston, the scope of the FAA-USA is to keep alive and sustain the traditions and culture, not only of the region of Abruzzo, but of all of Italy.

Among other accomplishments, the FAA-USA has published books on immigration of Italians to the United States and has collaborated with the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston celebrating current and past events tied to the region of Abruzzo through films. On December 6, 2008 they held a centennial commemoration at the Dante Alighieri Society in Cambridge remembering the Italians who died in the worst mining disaster in American history, which occurred in Monongah, West Virginia on December 6, 1907.

Every October the FAA-USA honors high school seniors in the Boston area who have excelled in the study of Italian and are planning to continue to study Italian in college.