For Immediate Release

Macaulay Honors College Senior Receives Prestigious Jonas Salk Award
Ebrahim Afshinnekoo Took Part in DNA Research Study on NYC Subways

(New York, NY – April 21, 2015) – Ebrahim Afshinnekoo ’15 Macaulay Honors College at Queens College has received the Jonas E. Salk Award. The Salk scholarship identifies students entering the fields of medicine and the biological sciences who are most likely to make an impact on medicine and research. Afshinnekoo, who will continue his studies at New York Medical College in Westchester County, made the news earlier this year after research he co-authored became one of New York City's hottest topics. The Weill Cornell Medical College project research found that some dangerous pathogens and mystery microbes exist on NYC’s subways.

“It is humbling to see that the kind of the work I've been doing through this pathogen mapping project (PathMap) is being recognized,” said Afshinnekoo. I want to use some of the funds to help keep my research going. It’s really excited to be recognized by this scholarship, and for the whole field of biomedical research to be recognized.”

The Jonas Salk scholarships are awarded annually to eight graduates of the CUNY senior colleges. The scholarships are awarded to students who have been accepted to a U.S. medical school and have performed scientific research as an undergraduate. The students’ research papers are reviewed and recipients are selected for their potential to make significant contributions to medical research. The winners receive a total of $8,000 ($2,000 per year) for four-year medical schools to help defray the cost for the M.D., Ph.D., D.Sc in Biomedical Sciences or D.O. degree.

About Macaulay Honors College

Macaulay Honors College at The City University of New York offers exceptional students a uniquely personalized education with access to the vast resources of the nation’s largest urban university and the largest city, New York City. Selected for their top high school records and leadership potential, Macaulay students receive a full tuition scholarship, a laptop and technology support, and an Opportunities Fund to pursue global learning, research and service opportunities. Macaulay students enroll in one of eight CUNY senior colleges: Baruch, Brooklyn, City, Hunter, John Jay, Lehman, and Queens Colleges and the College of Staten Island. For more information, see macaulay.cuny.edu.