

Ashley Zhang

Montgomery Township, New Jersey

EDUCATION

Montgomery Middle School
Princeton Day School
Orchard Hill Elementary School

Montgomery, NJ · 2024–Present
Princeton, NJ · 2021–2024
Montgomery, NJ · 2019–2021

ACADEMIC HONORS & STEM

- **Expeditions Program (Gifted & Talented)** – Montgomery Upper Middle School (2025–Present).
- **Rate-Sensitive Achilles Tendon Protection Device** – Independent Engineering Project (2026). Designed a wearable device that reduces Achilles tendon rupture risk using a rotary damper and shear-thickening fluid, which flows freely during normal motion but stiffens under sudden stretch. Submitted to the **ORISE STEM Showcase; U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 64/126,846**.

FENCING – WOMEN’S SABER

C26 Rating · Two-time Team USA Member

Aura Fencing Academy, Monmouth Junction, NJ

- **International**
 - **Bronze**, Pre-Cadet – Pan American Youth & Veteran Championships, Lima, Peru (2025).
 - **Silver**, Youth B – Pan American Championships, Montevideo, Uruguay (2023).
- **National**
 - **7th** of 88, Cadet Challenger – October North American Cup (Oct 2026).
 - **5th** of 130, Division II – Summer Nationals and July Challenge (Jul 2026).
 - **3rd** of 92, Y-10 – Summer Nationals and July Challenge (Jul 2023).
 - **3rd** of 61, Y-10 – March North American Cup (Mar 2023).
- **Regional & Super Youth Circuit**
 - **2nd** of 28, Cadet (U17) – Nittany Lion Cup (Sep 2026).
 - **5th** of 60, Junior (U20) – Absolute Clash (Mar 2026).
 - **8th** of 84, Y-14 – Absolute Clash (Mar 2026).
 - **6th** of 33, Junior (U20) – Ben Gutenberg Memorial (Oct 2025).
 - **7th** of 120, Y-14 – Capitol Clash SYC (Jan 2025).

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

- **Peer-Nominated Member, Hope Squad** – Montgomery Upper Middle School (2025–Present). Selected by peers as a trusted student leader and mental-health advocate.
- **Co-Founder, Bake It Forward** – Student-run 501(c)(3) nonprofit (2025–Present). Organizes monthly *Bake Drives* mobilizing home bakers and on-demand *Surplus Rescues* partnering local bakeries to provide home-baked or unsold goods to local shelters and community centers (bakeitforwardnj.org).
- **Volunteer, Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK)** (2026–Present). Meal service and kitchen help volunteer, 12 shifts (40+ hours) since March 2026; help serve ~300 meals per shift.

MUSIC, ARTS & ATHLETICS

- **Piano** (2019–Present): highest “Excellent” rating five consecutive years (2019–2023) at the NJMTA Spring Piano Festival, incl. a 3-year milestone award; **Gold**, 2020 Golden Key Music Festival, with winner’s recital at **Carnegie Hall**; **1st Place** (duet), 2023 Apex International Music Competition; Distinction, ABRSM Grade 2 (2022).
- **Saxophone** (2024–Present): member of school concert and jazz ensembles; performs in regional showcases and school-wide events.
- **Cross Country & Track and Field**, Montgomery Middle School – endurance (XC) and sprint/relay (Track) athlete; daily training and team competition.