

CLASS OF 2022

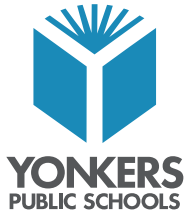


YONKERS
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**VALEDICTORIANS
& SALUTATORIANS**
CELEBRATION

FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 2022 • 9:00 A.M.
Westchester Manor • Hastings-On-Hudson, NY





Innovation • Inspiration • Excellence for All

One Larkin Center
Yonkers, New York 10701
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Dr. Edwin M. Quezada
Superintendent of Schools

April 22, 2022

Dear Valedictorians and Salutatorians,

The 44th president of the United States Barack Obama noted, *“If you’re walking down the right path and you’re willing to keep walking, eventually you’ll make progress.”* This quote personifies each of you, the top academic achievers of the **Class of 2022**. You chose to stay on the right path and to persevere since March 2020 to earn **your** outstanding accomplishment. Congratulations!

Your high school experience was an unprecedented journey. The global pandemic required you to quickly adapt to remote learning and social distancing. Each day brought new challenges to overcome and information to process. Be proud of your achievements and resilience. The path you took provided invaluable life lessons for the many amazing paths you will venture to take in the future.

As you begin your post-secondary studies, I am confident you have the tools necessary to competently embrace every opportunity that will cross your path. Thank the outstanding Yonkers Public Schools’ principals, 12th grade assistant principals, school counselors and teachers, who kept you focused on your graduation requirements and helped you navigate the college application process. Most importantly, always remember to thank your parents, guardians and mentors for their love, support and faith in you.

It is my belief that the Yonkers Public Schools Class of 2022 valedictorians and salutatorians will change our world in astonishing ways. Through creativity and determination strive to build an inclusive, respectful and caring society where all people, from all backgrounds and beliefs, are respected and valued. By giving back through civic involvement and volunteering, you will foster a brighter future for our country.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ed. M. Quezada".

Dr. Edwin M. Quezada

PROGRAM

Welcome and Remarks	RoseAnne Collins-Judon Assistant Superintendent Curriculum, Instruction, School Supervision Secondary Administration
Pledge of Allegiance	Brianne G. Barredo Valedictorian Palisade Preparatory School
National Anthem	Annly S. John Valedictorian Lincoln High School
Greetings.....	Rev. Steve Lopez President, Board of Education
Remarks.....	Dr. Edwin M. Quezada Superintendent of Schools Mike Spano Mayor, City of Yonkers

PRESENTATION OF HONOREES

Yonkers Montessori Academy – Dr. Eileen E. Rivera, Principal
Yonkers Middle/High School – Rodney Arthur, Principal
Saunders Trades and Technical High School – Steven Mazzola, Principal
Roosevelt High School – Early College Studies – Edward DeChent, Principal
Riverside High School – Dr. Don Solimene, Principal
Palisade Preparatory School – Dr. Robert Vicuña, Principal
Lincoln High School – Ian Sherman, Principal
Gorton High School – William Shaggura, Principal

Closure..... RoseAnne Collins-Judon



CHARLES E. GORTON HIGH SCHOOL



Elham E. Al Shareqi **Valedictorian**

Weighted grade point average of 100.12

Advanced Placement (AP) and College Link (CL) Courses

CL College Reasoning, CL Writing & Research,
CL Anatomy/Physiology I, CL College Algebra &
Trigonometry, CL Medical Terminology, American

Government & Issues, Introduction to Health Information Management,
Advanced Health Information, Introduction to Sociology

School Activities

P-Tech student

Awards, Honors and Scholarships

Star Student in English, Star Student in College Algebra & Trigonometry,
Superintendent's Honor Society Club 90, High Honor Roll and Principal's
List 2018-2022

Community Service and Work

Quran student teacher at local Mosque, during Ramadan held fundraisers to
donate to different charities, participated in orientation for Cohort 2 students,
contributed to preparations of school events, Auntie Anne's crewmember

Hobbies and Interesting Facts

Traveling, cooking, writing, journaling, painting and reading; emigrated to the
United States 9 years ago, taught herself English, fluent in English and Arabic,
currently engaged in Clinical Rotations at St. John's Hospital, will graduate
with 27 college credits towards her Health Information Technology Associate's
degree from Westchester Community College.

College Acceptance - Plans to major in Health & Medicine/Human Resources/Nursing

Accepted — Columbia University, Harvard University, New York University,
Pace University, Yale University



Kwadwo Osarfo-Akoto **Salutatorian**

Weighted grade point average of 98.96

Advanced Placement (AP) and College Link (CL) Courses

AP World History, AP English Literature
Composition, AP Psychology, CL Statistics,

CL College Reasoning, CL Writing & Research

School Activities

My Brother's Keeper, YPIE Scholar, YPIE Debate Team, Creator Club,
Baseball Team

Awards, Honors and Scholarships

University of Massachusetts Amherst Chancellor Award, Yonkers Historical
Society American History Recognition Award, YPIE Debate Team Winner

of three debates, 5th place in junior ranking, Black History Celebration
Honoree, Seal of Civic Readiness, Superintendent's Honor Society Club
90, High Honor Roll and Principal's List 2018-2022

Community Service and Work

Church of Pentecost USA volunteer assistant technology manager and
advisor, Camp Ray's counselor in training

Hobbies and Interesting Facts

Baseball, debating, building and fixing computers, coding, typing, cycling,
solving Rubik's cube, jigsaw puzzles, red-black belt in Taekwondo, started
a free computer repair service at his church, interest in Japanese culture
and the stock market

College Acceptance - Plans to major in Computer Science/Engineering

Attending — University of Massachusetts Amherst



LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL



Anny S. John - Valedictorian

Weighted grade point average of 97.86

Advanced Placement (AP) and College Link (CL) Courses

AP World History, AP Biology, AP English Language/Composition, AP United States History, AP Environmental Science, Jump

Start Courses at College of Westchester - Human Biology, Psychology, Computer Forensic, Financial Accounting I, Digital Design & Graphics, Medical Terminology, Healthcare Law & Ethics

School Activities

YPIE Scholar, Program for Scientific Inquiry Committee, Mental Health Awareness Club, One Love Club, Purple Guardians, Student Body Government, Nepperhan Community Program, STARR Program through Hope's Door, Summer STEM Academy with Fordham University Trio Academic Talent Search, Soprano Singer

Awards, Honors and Scholarships

National Honor Society, Rho Kappa History National Honor Society, National Social Studies Honor Society, Math Honor Society, Science National Honor Society, Harvard Book Award, Yonkers Historical Award, Commended Lincoln Lancer Award, President's Volunteer Service Award, Valued Choir Member

Award, Lincoln Arts Academy, Quest Bridge Match Finalist, Superintendent's Honor Society Club 90, High Honor Roll and Principal's List 2018-2022

Community Service and Work

Volunteer babysitter, tutor, Teacher Assistant, Church Social Media Youth Coordinator, Internships at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Sarah Lawrence Writing Studio, Sarah Lawrence Urban Water River Beczak Blue Team Summer and Winter Water Academy; Mentoring in Medicine Monday weekly webinar, PepsiCo STEM Mentorship Program

Hobbies and Interesting Facts

Singing, playing ukulele, hiking, spending time with family and friends, bilingual, Certified American Red Cross Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED, active church volunteer, church choir, proud Christian

College Acceptance - Plans to major in Biology

Accepted — Drexel University, Lehigh University, Quinnipiac University, Seton Hall University, University of Rochester, Connecticut College, Franklin & Marshall College, Le Moyne College, Mercy College, Trinity College, Union College, Rochester Institute of Technology, SUNY Buffalo State College, SUNY Oneonta, SUNY University at Buffalo, SUNY University at Albany, CUNY Brooklyn College, CUNY City College, CUNY College of Staten Island, CUNY Hunter College, CUNY Lehman College, CUNY Queens College



Daniel Pereira - Salutatorian

Weighted grade point average of 97.13

Advanced Placement (AP) and College Link (CL) Courses

AP World History, AP Chemistry, AP English Language/Composition, AP Spanish Language/Culture, AP Spanish Literature/Culture

School Activities

Program for Scientific Inquiry Committee

Awards, Honors and Scholarships

National Honor Society, Rho Kappa History National Honor Society, Science National Honor Society, Dominican Student Scholarship, Superintendent's Honor Society Club 90, High Honor Roll and Principal's List 2018-2022

Community Service and Work

Young Life Summer Service Adventures, Dominican Republic Donation Drive, Food Drive, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center SEP Internship, dental receptionist, busser

Hobbies and Interesting Facts

Hiking, biking, gardening, art, analyzing music, avid lover of nature and the outdoors, wrote a Science Research paper on Computational Biology, participated and placed in Junior Science and Humanities Symposium, organized an initiative to donate over 250 book bags with assorted school supplies to rural schools in the Dominican Republic

College Acceptance - Plans to major in Biomed or Neuroscience

Attending - Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education



PALISADE PREPARATORY SCHOOL



Brianne G. Barredo **Valedictorian**

Weighted grade point average of 99.29

**Advanced Placement (AP) and
College Link (CL) Courses**
SUPA English

School Activities

Yearbook Committee, Senior Committee treasurer, Emergency Medical Services Cadet Program

Awards, Honors and Scholarships

National Honor Society, Majority Leader Senator Stewart-Cousins and Senator Mayer's Citizenship Award, Superintendent's Honor Society Club 90, Principal's List 2018-2022

Community Service and Work

Summer Reading Buddies, BossGirls online program, The Purpose Driven Scholar program sponsored by Unilever, caretaker and 4th grade Math, English and Science tutor

Hobbies and Interesting Facts

Sewing, painting, crocheting, cooking, baking, caring for her niece and spending time with her cousins, strong work ethic, creative and CPR and First Aid Certified

College Acceptance - Plans to major in Nursing

Accepted — University of Connecticut, Long Island University, Pace University, St. John's University, Mercy College, Sienna College, SUNY at Albany, SUNY New Paltz, CUNY Brooklyn College, CUNY City College, CUNY Hunter College, CUNY Lehman College



Vanessa Vidal-Salgado **Salutatorian**

Weighted grade point average of 97.32

**Advanced Placement (AP) and
College Link (CL) Courses**
SUPA English

School Activities

YPIE Scholar

Awards, Honors and Scholarships

Yonkers Historical Society American History Recognition Award, Superintendent's Honor Society Club 90, Principal's List 2018-2022

Community Service and Work

Yonkers Riverfront Library volunteer, IHOP host and To-Go employee

Hobbies and Interesting Facts

Gaming, dancing, writing, management and multitasking skills

College Acceptance - Plans to major in Business – Accounting - Finance

Accepted — Clarkson University, Pace University, St. Lawrence University, Iona College, Le Moyne College, Manhattan College, Mercy College, SUNY at Albany, SUNY New Paltz, SUNY Oswego, CUNY Baruch College, CUNY Brooklyn College, CUNY City College of New York, CUNY Lehman College, CUNY Queens College



RIVERSIDE HIGH SCHOOL



Daniel Leon Silva **Valedictorian**

Weighted grade point average of 98.40

Advanced Placement (AP) and College Link (CL) Courses

AP World History, AP United States History, AP Computer Science, AP European History, AP United States Government & Politics,

CL Introduction to Engineering Technology, CL Introduction to Mechanical & Electrical Technology, CL Computer Draft & Design, CL College Algebra & Trigonometry, CL Pre-Calculus, CL Writing & Literature, CL Elements of College Writing

School Activities

YPIE Scholar

Awards, Honors and Scholarships

National Honor Society, History Honor Society, Math Honor Society, Nominated

by Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins to the 2022 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program for Career and Technical Education, Superintendent's Honor Society Club 90, High Honor Roll and Principal's List 2018-2022

Community Service and Work

Fiveable – Community, Trivia and Pomodoro Connector, Ambassador, Spanish Language Cluster leader for teens; and an IBM P-Tech Intern

Hobbies and Interesting Facts

Reading, watching movies and soccer, favorite soccer players are Mo Salah and Luis Diaz, favorite soccer team is Liverpool, favorite food is pepperoni pizza and challenging himself

College Acceptance - Plans to major in Computer Science

Accepted – Fordham University, Pace University, Iona College, Manhattan College, Mercy College, SUNY Purchase, CUNY Baruch, CUNY City College of New York, CUNY Hunter, CUNY Lehman, CUNY Queens College



Giulia G. Capobianco **Salutatorian**

Weighted grade point average of 95.25

Advanced Placement (AP) and College Link (CL) Courses

AP World History, AP United States History, CL Introduction to Mechanical & Electrical Technology, CL Computer Draft & Design,

CL College Algebra & Trigonometry, CL Electrical Technology I, CL Programming Logic, PT Tech at SUNY Westchester Community College - Digital Logic, Power Circuit Analysis, Electronic Communications, Pre-Calculus, Introduction to Psychology, Elementary Italian I, Writing and Research, Alternating Current & Non-Sine Waves, Computer Programming I

School Activities

P-Tech student, YPIE Scholar, Game Club, Anime Club, Cooking Club, Robotics Club, Drawing and Comic Club

Awards, Honors and Scholarships

National Honor Society, Superintendent's Honor Society Club 90, High Honor Roll 2018-2022

Community Service and Work

Volunteered at CHOICE of New Rochelle Food Pantry during Thanksgiving week

Hobbies and Interesting Facts

Programming/coding in Python, attending SUNY Westchester Community College as a full-time student in her senior year

College Acceptance - Plans to major in Electrical Technology

Attending – SUNY Westchester Community College



ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL

EARLY COLLEGE STUDIES



Sydney M. O'Malley **Valedictorian**

Weighted grade point average of 102.94

Advanced Placement (AP) and College Link (CL) Courses

CL Anthropology, CL Health, CL U.S. History, CL Business Communications,

CL Composition & Literature I, CL Economics/Government, CL Physics, CL Composition & Literature II, CL Applied Communications, CL Pre-Calculus, CL Introduction to Psychology, CL Virtual Enterprise

School Activities

Softball Team Captain, Soccer Team Captain, Spanish Club President, A-Team Volunteer, Senior Class Committee, Junior Achievement Youth Tutor, Media Team Journalist, YPIE Science Researcher, Majority Leader Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins Youth Advisory Council

Awards, Honors and Scholarships

National Honor Society, Langston Hughes Society, Excellence in Medical

Research Award, Girls Soccer Team MVP, All-League Softball Award, Superintendent's Honor Society Club 90, High Honor Roll and Principal's List 2018-2022

Community Service and Work

A-Team student volunteer, Breast Cancer Awareness Month Fundraiser, Westchester Parks Foundation volunteer, You Matter Fundraiser, support clothing donations, Untermeyer Gardens Conservancy Summer Internship

Hobbies and Interesting Facts

Photography, writing, baking, athletics and community service

College Acceptance - Plans to major in Business Administration

Acceptance — Clemson University, Louisiana State University, Mississippi State University, Penn State University, Trinity University, University of Oregon, Iona College, CUNY Baruch College



Robert C. Coon **Salutatorian**

Weighted grade point average of 101.47

Advanced Placement (AP) and College Link (CL) Courses

CL Health, CL United States History, CL Composition & Literature I, CL Drawing & Painting, CL Economics/

Government, CL Physics, CL Pre-Calculus, CL Composition & Literature II, CL College & Trigonometry, CL Business Law, CL Public Speaking, CL Financial Math, CL Biology

School Activities

Gateway Program Gaming Club

Awards, Honors and Scholarships

National Junior Honor Society, Mayor's Certificate of Recognition, Provost Scholarship for Academic Achievement, St. John's University Legacy Award, Superintendent's Honor Society Club 90, High Honor Roll and Principal's List 2018-2022

Community Service and Work

Teachers' assistant — tutored students

Hobbies and Interesting Facts

Football, Boy Scouts, Tae Kwon Do

College Acceptance - Plans to major in Pharmacy (Doctor of Pharmacy)

Attending — St. John's University



SAUNDERS TRADES AND TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL



Jasmine Linang **Valedictorian**

Weighted grade point average of 98.27

Advanced Placement (AP) and College Link (CL) Courses

AP World History, CL Basic Calculus,
CL Writing and Research

School Activities

Girls Who Code Club, Girl Who Code Summer Immersion Program

Awards, Honors and Scholarships

National Honor Society, Yale Book Award, Superintendent's Honor Society Club 90, High Honor Roll and Principal's List 2018-2022

Community Service and Work

St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church volunteer, Tibbets Brook Park Lake Revitalization volunteer, designed posters for local school's talent show using AutoCAD

Hobbies and Interesting Facts

Crocheting, sewing, baking, needle felting, drawing and painting; Jasmine is most proud of independently learning to crochet and starting a business creating commissioned crocheted stuffed animals, bags and wall decoration

College Acceptance - Plans to major in Computer Science

Accepted — University at Buffalo, Mercy College, Trinity College



James Olivarez **Salutatorian**

Weighted grade point average of 98.18

Advanced Placement (AP) and College Link (CL) Courses

AP World History, CL Basic Calculus,
CL Writing and Research

Awards, Honors and Scholarships

National Honor Society, Xerox Award for Innovation and Technology, The Harvard Book Prize Award, Dominican Cultural Association of Yonkers Scholarship, Superintendent's Honor Society Club 90, High Honor Roll and Principal's List 2018-2022

Community Service and Work

Completed 56 hours of computers and technology Work-Based-Learning for Electronic and Computer Circuitry magnet

Hobbies and Interesting Facts

Drawing, enjoys cooking and trying new recipes, electrical wiring, using different tools, diagnostics of networks and software; most proud of LED game he created that tests memory using lights, James is a passionate person who loves to make others laugh

College Acceptance - Plans to major in Computer Science

Attending — Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute



YONKERS MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL



Sarah Ranginwala **Valedictorian**

Weighted grade point average of 104.27

Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) Courses

AP Chemistry, AP World History, IB Biology 11 & 12, IB Biology Lab 12, IB Business Management, IB English Literature 11 & 12, IB History 11 & 12, IB Spanish 11 & 12, IB Theory/Knowledge I & II, IB Math Analysis 11 & 12

School Activities

DNA Learners Club Secretary, All-City Choir, Book Club, Film Club, Book Drive, Columbia University Science Honors Programs, Hudson River Summer Ecology Course by the Center for the Urban River at Beczak, Great Hudson River Fish Count

Awards, Honors and Scholarships

National Honor Society, Science National Honor Society, New York Institute of

Technology Presidential Scholarship, Purchase College Presidential Scholarship, Manhattan College Trustee Scholarship, University of Rochester Bausch & Lomb Science Award, Superintendent's Honor Society Club 90, Principal's List 2018-2022

Community Service and Work

Center for the Urban River at Beczak (CURB) Volunteer, Book Drive and Senior Letter drive, Math tutor

Hobbies and Interesting Facts

Enjoys reading, playing video games, creative writing, stargazing, pressing flowers, photography, and friends call her the Hijabi Hooper

College Acceptance - Plans to major in Undecided

Accepted — New York Institute of Technology, Manhattan College, SUNY Binghamton, SUNY Purchase, CUNY Baruch College, CUNY Brooklyn College, CUNY Hunter, CUNY Lehman College, CUNY Queens College



Carolin A. Pulickal **Salutatorian**

Weighted grade point average of 103.11

Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) Courses

AP Chemistry, AP World History, IB Biology 11 & 12, IB Biology Lab 12, IB English Literature 11 & 12, IB History 11 & 12, IB Spanish 11 & 12, IB Theory/Knowledge I & II, IB Math Analysis 11 & 12, IB Physics 11 & 12, IB Physics Lab 12

School Activities

Science Olympiad, FIRST FRC Robotics Outreach Department Coordinator and Mechanical Department Director, Relay for life Club, Junior Docent Program at the Hudson River Museum Secretary & Co-Chair of Advisory Board, Research Intern at Columbia Irving Medical Center, Einstein-Montefiore High School Summer Research Program, Girls Who Code Summer Immersion Program with Morgan Stanley, COVID-19 & Cancer Bioinformatics Curator for George Washington University HIVE Lab Group, Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) Research Assistant

Awards, Honors and Scholarships

National Honor Society, National Science Honor Society, National Math Honor Society,

American College of Musicians National & State Awards for Piano, Wellesley College Book Award & 1st Place, NYS Dental Association 9th District's "Keeping Smiles Brighter" Dental Poster Contest 1st Place Winner, Superintendent's Honor Society Club 90, High Honor Roll and Principal's List 2018-2022

Community Service and Work

Learn to Be English & Math Tutor, St. Thomas Syhro-Malabar Bronx Church Pianist, Neighborhood Network: COVID-19 Vaccine Phone Bank Volunteer, Teen Advisory Group at the Grinton Will Library, PALBOTICS Camp Mentor, Junior Docent and Secretary

Hobbies and Interesting Facts

Playing piano and singing, graphic design (make posters for school events/helped design senior hoodies/sweat pants), hiking, watching basketball games, playing badminton, photography, enjoys binge watching TV shows with friends, favorite book is Randy Pausch's The Last Lecture, Basic Life Support Certified, fluent in English and Malayalam, lives by the motto "If you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change."

College Acceptance - Plans to major in Public Health/Neuroscience

Accepted — St. John's University, Manhattan College, SUNY Albany, SUNY Old Westbury, SUNY Stony Brook College



YONKERS MONTESSORI ACADEMY



Alessandro Cocking **Valedictorian**

Weighted grade point average of 100.69

Advanced Placement (AP) and College Link (CL) Courses

CL World History, CL Composition & Literature I & II, CL Economics/Government, CL Introduction to Business, CL Italian I &

II, CL Pre-Calculus, CL College Algebra & Trigonometry, CL Forensics, CL Basic Calculus, CL United States History

School Activities

Varsity Boys' Soccer Captain, Student Government Treasurer, Florida Intersession

Awards, Honors and Scholarships

National Honor Society, Math National Honor Society, Italian National Honor Society, NY Seal of Biliteracy in English and Italian, African

American Men of Westchester Business Olympics at Morgan Stanley 2nd Place, Superintendent's Honor Society Club 90, High Honor Roll and Principal's List 2018-2022

Community Service and Work

Eastchester Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Stew Leonard's Garden Shop Assistant, Sprain Ridge Pool Foods Concession Manager

Hobbies and Interesting Facts

Sports, working out and food; 44 college link credits, Seal of Biliteracy candidate in English and Italian, career goal is to serve and give back to the community by becoming a City of Yonkers Firefighter

College Acceptance - Plans to major in Finance

Accepted — Pace University, Iona College, Manhattan College, Manhattanville College, CUNY Baruch College, CUNY John Jay College of Criminal Justice



Dotun P. Obasa **Salutatorian**

Weighted grade point average of 100.52

Advanced Placement (AP) and College Link (CL) Courses

CL World History, CL Composition & Literature I & II, CL Economics/Government, CL Introduction to Business, CL Italian I &

II, CL College Algebra & Trigonometry, CL Forensics, CL United States History, CL Pre-Calculus

Awards, Honors and Scholarships

Italian National Honor Society, Math National Honor Society, Superintendent's Honor Society Club 90, High Honor Roll and Principal's List 2018-2022

Community Service and Work

Alter Server

Hobbies and Interesting Facts

Art and programming

College Acceptance - Plans to major in Undecided

Attending — Pace University

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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RoseAnne Collins-Judon

Assistant Superintendent

Division of Equity and Access - Curriculum, Instruction, School Supervision
Secondary Administration

Gorton High School

William Shaggura, Principal

Lincoln High School

Ian Sherman, Principal

Palisade Preparatory School

Dr. Robert Vicuña, Principal

Riverside High School

Dr. Don Solimene, Principal

Roosevelt High School – Early College Studies

Edward DeChent, Principal

Saunders Trades and Technical High School

Steven Mazzola, Principal

Yonkers Middle/High School

Rodney Arthur, Principal

Yonkers Montessori Academy

Dr. Eileen E. Rivera, Principal