



*Yonkers Council of PTA/PTSAs  
Annual Scholarship Award Ceremony*

Thursday, May 11, 2017  
Saunders Trades & Technical High School  
183 Palmer Road  
Yonkers, New York 10701

**PROGRAM**

***Welcome***

Sophia Wu and Rob Rijos

*YCPTA Citizenship and Scholarship Awards Committee Members*

***Pledge of Allegiance***

Jennifer G. Madrid

*Mabel Bell Humanitarian Award Recipient, Lincoln High School*

Jennifer S. Niola

*Dr. Paul M. Mitchell Humanitarian Award Recipient, Saunders Trades and Technical High School*

Luis Angel Caldero, Jr.

*Millie Yochman Special Recognition Award Recipient, Charles E. Gorton High School*

***YCPTA Meeting to Order and Elections***

Sally Pinto

*President, YCPTA*

***Nominating Committee Chair***

Robin Brumfield

***Greetings***

Dr. Edwin M. Quezada, Superintendent of Schools

Mayor Mike Spano, City of Yonkers

Mr. Frank Siragusa

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***Awards Presentation***

**Rosemarie Ann Siragusa Citizenship Award**

*5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders*

**Patricia A. DiChiaro Memorial Award**

*8<sup>th</sup> Grade*

**Mabel Bell Scholarship Award**

*High School*

**Paul M. Mitchell Humanitarian Award**

*High School*

**Millie Yochman Special Recognition Award**

*High School*

**Closing**

# **Rosemarie Ann Siragusa Citizenship Award**

*(Sponsored by the Siragusa Family)*

Awarded to an outstanding Boy and Girl from the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade and the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade classes on a city wide basis, who have demonstrated respect for authority and fellow students, attendance and punctuality, care of school property and outstanding contributions to the school and the community.

## **5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BOYS AND GIRLS**

### **SCHOOL 5**

#### ***Girl: Belinda Torres***

Belinda is a soft-spoken, well-liked fifth grade student at School 5. Belinda will always volunteer to help in the classroom, as well as, being a peer tutor to her classmates. Belinda has perfect attendance and consistently completes her work. Belinda is detail oriented when creating projects and taking part in science labs. Belinda has been on the honor roll.

#### ***Boy: Jay Almanzar***

Jay is a quiet, friendly student. He is always on time for school. Jay helps his classmates when they need help. Jay is an honor roll student who works very hard in all academic areas. Jay is a pleasure to have in class and a huge asset to the School 5 community.

### **PATRICIA A. DICHIARO SCHOOL**

#### ***Girl: Abigail Gallicchio***

Abigail enjoys being around people and has a way of making an impact on everyone she encounters. She is a loyal and caring friend, family member and peer. Abigail strives for success in all that she does whether it is in school, sports or at home. She shows respect to authority figures and is a good class citizen. Abigail is thoughtful, polite and patient. She is a natural leader who is considerate and inclusive of her peers. Abigail is a motivated student and a self-starter who strives to do her best every day.

#### ***Boy: Matthew Fitzgibbon***

Matthew is an enthusiastic student who strives for excellence in school and outside activities. He is a very driven young man who is already looking forward to his future. Academically, he works very hard to achieve success; he puts a lot of effort into his schoolwork and pushes himself to succeed. Matthew respects authority, is eager to please and tries to make a good impression through his efforts. He prides himself on being punctual and loves to go to school – he rarely misses a day. Matthew gets along well with his peers and is always willing to help those in need. He is a well-rounded boy, who has a thirst for knowledge but still loves to run around and have fun with his friends.

### **SCHOOL 9**

#### ***Girl: Brianna Martinez***

Brianna is a thoughtful and articulate fifth grade student who is well balanced in all subjects. She is very motivated to do well and has a strong work ethic. Her favorite subject is English Language Arts and she would like to become an orthopedic surgeon in the future. She sets a great example for all, with her great attitude and behavior in and out of the classroom. It is a pleasure to have Brianna in the class.

#### ***Boy: Yazan Amer***

Yazan is a highly motivated, responsible and pleasant fifth grade student. He always puts great effort into his work. Yazan is self-confident and has excellent manners. He also assumes responsibility well. Yazan was student of the month in October, and he is a positive role model for his classmates. It is a pleasure to have Yazan in the class.

## **THOMAS CORNELL ACADEMY**

### ***Girl: Keyla Krystin Laaz***

Keyla is a very respectful and pleasant student. She has grown, both academically and socially, since the beginning of the school year. She is always on task and puts forth great effort into her classwork and homework. Keyla participates in the after-school program, and she is a Student Council advocate. Keyla is a great candidate for this award.

### ***Boy: Ryan Li***

Ryan is a friendly child. He has a great sense of humor and gets along well with all of his peers. He participates often and contributes to discussions with great questions and comments. His absences are minimal and he arrives at school on time and ready to learn. He is responsible and participates in all after school programs. Ryan is an upstanding citizen and deserves this award.

## **SCHOOL 13**

### ***Girl: Lillian Velez Rivero***

Lillian is an intelligent, motivated and compassionate young lady. She strives to achieve success in all academic areas. Lillian is also an eager assistant to both teachers and classmates. Her ability to assist her classmates is both welcomed and to be commended. Lillian encompasses all the hallmarks of a Siragusa recipient, citizenship and academic excellence.

### ***Boy: Julio Torres***

Julio is an intelligent, mature young man, who exemplifies the crucial balance of academic excellence and humility. He volunteers to assist his peers and teachers. His respect for property and person reflect his citizenship. Commonly referred to as the "President of the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade", Julio is indeed well deserving of the Siragusa award.

## **ROSEMARIE ANN SIRAGUSA SCHOOL**

### ***Girl: Savanna Green***

Savanna is a cooperative, responsible and respectful student. She enjoys reading challenging books and merits recognition for her scholastic achievements. Savanna has worked well with her fellow peers and comforted students who were upset. She possesses a positive attitude towards learning and this has allowed her to succeed.

### ***Boy: Eyas Moumani***

Eyas was chosen for the Citizenship Award at the Rosemarie Ann Siragusa School because he displays the attributes of an internationally minded student, which are promoted within the Siragusa Global Academy. Eyas is a knowledgeable student who eagerly tries new things and confidently shares his beliefs and experiences. He is a principled young man who displays honesty and fairness among his peers. Eyas is respectful towards authority figures, as well as, his fellow students. He readily accepts new responsibilities and often takes leadership roles within small cooperative groups. Eyas is an enthusiastic learner who exhibits an unquenchable thirst for knowledge and always strives to do his best.

## **PAIDEIA SCHOOL 15**

### ***Girl: Samantha Barca***

Samantha is an intelligent, compassionate young lady who excels as a 5<sup>th</sup> grade scholar citizen. She is well respected by her peers and the larger school community too. Samantha always goes above and beyond to help anyone in need. She is kind and supportive in our classroom and she loves to help her classmates persevere to success. She is focused, prepared and filled with girl power.

***Boy: Justin Sheeky***

Justin is well deserving of this award. He is a diligent student, as well as patient and kind to his peers. Justin works well in both large and small groups. He is cooperative and always willing to help out in community projects. Justin worries about his friends, especially those with special needs. He voluntarily takes on the caregiver role and is well respected by his peers. He was chosen by his peers, as well as his teachers to receive this award because of his compassionate nature.

**SCHOOL 16**

***Girl: Alexandra Brito***

Alexandra takes her work seriously. She always gives her best effort in school. She is very active in her community through her participation in Girl Scouts. Alexandra shares information on her community activities with her classmates. She lets us know about the causes she is passionate about.

***Boy: Aron Stephen***

Aron is a hard-working, polite boy. He follows all classroom and school rules. His attendance is excellent and he demonstrates great respect to both classmates and staff. Aron is a motivated eager learner whose hand is up to participate at all times. He also participates in the school band.

**SCHOOL 17**

***Girl: Brianna McDermott***

Brianna is an excellent candidate for the Siragusa Award for a variety of reasons. She is an outstanding role model for all students. Brianna demonstrates hard work and determination at all times. She respects authority and her fellow students as well. Brianna is an "A" student who always takes pride in her work and surpasses expectations. In addition, Brianna sacrifices her recess each day to assist Kindergarten students with their work and daily routines. For these reasons and many more, Brianna exemplifies the spirit of the Rosemarie Siragusa Award.

***Boy: Angel Minor***

Angel is a positive role model for his peers. He exhibits a positive attitude both in and out of the classroom environment. Angel is a kind, respectful and cooperative student. He is always willing to lend a helping hand. Angel is always prepared and ready to learn.

**SCHOLASTIC ACADEMY FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

***Girl: Hilary Marte-Aguilar***

Hilary is a pleasure to have in class and is an excellent role model for all her peers. Her selfless acts in the school community and compassionate nature are qualities that we only hope all students will develop. Her grades in all subject areas reflect her commitment to being a lifelong learner. Her strong work ethics and curiosity have enabled her to achieve above grade level performance in all subject areas.

***Boy: Francisco M. Arroyo Jr.***

A person of excellent character, morals, and values, Francisco demonstrates compassion and kindness throughout the school community and is loved by all teachers and peers. Francisco's academic achievements reflect his commitment to his schoolwork and eagerness to learn. Francisco's values and kindhearted nature are qualities we as educators only hope to succeed in instilling in all of our students. His diligence in his studies and natural leadership skills exceed expectations, making him a terrific role model for his peers in and outside the classroom. Francisco's proactive approach and exemplary efforts in all subject areas are exemplified in his academic excellence and achievements.

## **EUGENIO MARIA DE HOSTOS MICROSOCIETY SCHOOL**

### ***Girl: Yaretzi Aguilar***

Yaretzi is an excellent student and an avid reader. She enjoys helping others. Yaretzi has been actively involved in civics throughout her elementary years in the Hostos Microsociety program. She is currently a Chief Financial Officer of the Photo Studio where she manages the business's finances.

### ***Boy: Aaron Charran***

Aaron is an all-around great student. He loves math in particular, but is always enthusiastic about reading a good book. Aaron is an extremely kind and helpful student. He is currently the CEO of the Peacekeepers in the Hostos Microsociety Program. In his spare time, Aaron enjoys soccer, football and video games.

## **SCHOOL 21**

### ***Girl: Alexandra Mitov***

Alexandra maintains the highest grades and contributes to all school programs. She is a terrific student and a very nice young lady. Alexandra has tremendous respect for authority and respects all of her fellow students. She is the first one to lend a hand for someone in need and does not expect anything for it. Her attendance record is stellar and she is always one of the first students to arrive each day. Alexandra seems to always have a smile on her face and gives forth her best effort always.

### ***Boy: Shaun Ramos***

Shaun is an Honor Roll student at School 21 and is an active participant in all school programs. He is an awesome student and a true gentleman. He is respected and well-liked by his peers and all his teachers. Shaun attends Karate School and CCD classes on weekends. He enjoys making friends with the elderly. He has a great sense of humor. Shaun is a true scholar and has admirable work ethics. He also enjoys playing the piano, violin, and guitar.

## **SCHOOL 22**

### ***Girl: Gabriella Magat***

Gabriella is a kind girl who is always willing to help others. She is a conscientious student, always putting her school work first. Gabriella is considerate and compassionate. She cares about others and is always willing to help. She is a pleasure to have in the classroom.

### ***Boy: Ousmane Diallo***

Ousmane is a bright young man. He is an excellent student and is very responsible for his work and behavior. He is considerate of others and respects everyone. In addition, Ousmane fulfills his civic duties to his school community by being the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President of the Student Council. Ousmane is an outstanding student and a pleasure to have in class.

## **SCHOOL 23**

### ***Girl: Malaika Zafar***

Malaika is an outstanding student in every way! She is intelligent, organized and extremely helpful to students and her teacher. Malaika's work is always completed and presented beautifully. Her attendance and punctuality is perfect.

### ***Boy: Harold Morales***

Harold is a very respectful and honest student. He is an active learner throughout the school day and always tries his best. He has never missed an assignment and is always working efficiently during instruction. Harold uses his time wisely, is well prepared and always arrives to school on time. His attendance is outstanding. He is well liked by his classmates and has compassion for his peers and others. Overall, Harold is a great student who takes responsibilities for his learning.

## **PAIDEIA SCHOOL 24**

### ***Girl: Issa Belle Morrison***

Issa was chosen by an outstanding majority of her peers and confirmed by the staff here at Paideia 24. Issa is always respectful of her fellow students as well as adults. She is a fine citizen as well as a strong student who offers her help whenever she can. She maintains excellent attendance and is always cooperative as well as attentive. She especially enjoys writing both creatively as well as for assignments. As a fourth grade student, Issa was the President of the Kiwanis Kids Club here at Paideia 24. She was also chosen as one of the speakers when our school was chosen as school of the month. Outside of school, Issa enjoys playing recreational soccer, reading, and has taken piano lessons since the age of 4. In addition, she is a member of the AAA All Star Choir and has performed at numerous citywide events.

### ***Boy: Mohammed Islam***

Mohammed is new to Paideia 24, yet his peers overwhelmingly chose him as the Rosemarie Ann Siragusa Award winner. Mohammed comes to school each and every day ready to learn. He works extremely hard in the classroom and always helps his peers. He is not only a hard worker, but an excellent citizen. He is respectful to all the adults in the building and to all of the students. He is truly a role model for the other children in the school.

## **MUSEUM SCHOOL 25**

### ***Girl: Madelyn Sow***

Madelyn is a respectful and hardworking young lady. She is a wonderful student and kind to her friends. Madelyn knows the importance of family. She holds her education at high importance as well.

### ***Boy: Tajaunie Chaplain***

Tajaunie is a confident, hard-working student. He is always focused in class and achieves success in all areas. Tajaunie is a natural leader and takes pride in helping others achieve success. He sets goals for himself and understands the importance of hard-work and dedication. He exhibits respect and treats others kindly.

## **CASIMIR PULASKI SCHOOL**

### ***Girl: Brianna Blanchfield***

Brianna is a fantastic student and young lady. She is self-motivated, cooperative, respectful and kind. She has tremendous confidence yet, is very humble. Brianna is both a leader and team player depending on the situation. Her ability to interact successfully with her peers from diverse backgrounds shows that she is to be commended on her sensitivity towards the needs and feelings of all around her. Brianna truly values her education and is a positive role model not only to her peers but for the younger students who look up to her as well.

### ***Boy: Calvin Lindo***

Calvin is an outstanding student. He is respectful and cooperative. As the situation demands, Calvin works with a group and is an active participant. Calvin is caring and shows sensitivity towards the needs and feelings of his peers. He exhibits a sense of personal commitment to helping his classmates. Calvin is a dependable communicator. He understands and expresses ideas and information confidently and creatively and in a variety of modes of communication. Calvin respects the values of his peers and is open to their points of view. He is an observer and connects with his peer's reasoning and emotions. Calvin is responsive to the diversity of the students and accepts each and every student's individuality. Calvin gives thoughtful consideration to his own learning and experience. He is able to assess and understand his strengths and limitations in order to support his learning and personal development. He exudes confidence and is generous in sharing with others. Calvin is appreciative of his surroundings and harnesses his abilities in the completion of his tasks. Calvin approaches unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought, and has the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas and strategies. He is brave and articulate in defending his beliefs.

## **MONTESSORI SCHOOL 27**

### ***Girl: Alma Sanchez***

Alma is a wonderful fifth grade student at Montessori 27. She enjoys reading fairy tales, non-fiction, and using her artistic skills when drawing. Alma often helps other students in her class with classwork and difficult homework. She helps her mom at home with household chores such as washing the dishes, vacuuming, and sweeping the floors.

### ***Boy: Calogero Joseph Sciascia***

Calogero is a friendly student at Montessori 27. He enjoys writing prompts, dirt bike riding, skiing, and helping others. In school, he regularly helps students who are having difficulty with classwork. He helps his classroom teacher with the fourth level students. He always has a smile on his face.

## **KAHLIL GIBRAN SCHOOL**

### ***Girl: Jessica Vormittag***

Jessica is a hard working student. She works at something until she accomplishes it. She is helpful in class, around the school, and with other students. Her interests are dance, math, and ELA. She enjoys helping her younger brother. Her smile lights up the room.

### ***Boy: Chandon Chansrisuriyawong***

Chandon is a conscientious young man. He works hard at every task. He goes out of his way to help other students in the classroom. He is interested in basketball and other sports and enjoys playing these with his sister.

## **WESTCHESTER HILLS SCHOOL 29**

### ***Girl: Natalya Robinson***

Natalya is an enthusiastic learner who enjoys helping others. She is passionate about math and encourages other students to try their best. Natalya is pleasant to all and is always available to lend a helping hand. She is a great friend to her classmates. You will always see Natalya with a smile on her face. She is motivated and excited to face academic challenges every day.

### ***Boy: Aden Bedford***

Aden is kind, helpful, and has shown great citizenship throughout the year. For instance, he encourages other students, stands up for what is right, and continues to be positive towards his peers and the school. He is very welcoming. He has made sure to help new students feel more comfortable and takes them "Under his Wing". Aden is new to Westchester Hills School 29, but has shown great courage, strength, kindness, and citizenship to all those he meets.

## **SCHOOL 30**

### ***Girl: Kaila Anastasia Cooper***

Kaila's dream is to be an author when she grows up, because she loves to read and write. Kaila is not only a bright young girl; she is also a giving student. Kaila is always eager to share her knowledge with classmates, and help them in any way that she can. Kaila is a strong leader in our classroom community and is very deserving of this award.

### ***Boy: Sebastian Giurca***

Sebastian is a very motivated student who takes pride in his work. He usually volunteers to coach other students in his class. Sebastian said his main inspiration is his father. He hopes to pursue a career in medicine like his father in the future. Sebastian's hobbies include playing math games, skiing, playing tennis, and soccer.

## **MONTESSORI SCHOOL 31**

### ***Girl: Mikayla Porter***

Mikayla is an outstanding member of the Montessori School community. She demonstrates respect and kindness to all each and every day. Mikayla is an exceptional student. Her drive and determination are a true model for those around her as she pushes herself beyond the normal expectations. Mikayla is always ready and willing to lend a hand by supporting a peer, working with a classmate or school store, or helping out her teachers. Mikayla is a remarkable young lady!

### ***Boy: Brayan Vazquez***

Brayan is a kind, compassionate student who is an outstanding citizen at Montessori 31 and in our school community. He is respectful, responsible and a role model for other students. Brayan makes remarkable contributions in class discussions and is an exceptional student. He approaches his education with enthusiasm and displays a sense of gratitude that is commendable.

## **FAMILY SCHOOL 32**

### ***Girl: Khadija Dewan***

Khadija's excellence as a student and a human being cannot be overstated. She is brilliant, beautiful and mature beyond her years. She consistently exceeds expectations and finds the means to catapult over seemingly unachievable heights. Khadija's interest in success is not exclusive to herself; she is genuinely concerned for her classmates as well. She is nominated by her teacher to be the poster child representing every good offered by the Yonkers Public Schools.

### ***Boy: Wilfred Roldan***

Wilfred is a sweet student who makes a conscious effort to include everyone when playing outside or working in the classroom. Wilfred is easy-going and loves to work with his classmates. He is hard-working and focused on getting the best possible grades. He is a great role model and makes sure that his homework is always done completely and accurately. He is a leader who always has nice things to say about his classmates and who is always willing to help them. His humor is one of his best traits and it makes him well-liked by all who know him.

## **MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ACADEMY**

### ***Girl: Sophia Pena***

Sophia is a bright, hardworking young lady. She is the school leader in stickers on First in Math. She regularly helps other students to work through problems. Sophia also pursues interest outside of school and has a yellow belt in Karate. Sophia is an upstanding citizen and a great overall student.

### ***Boy: Alan Cruz***

Alan is a dedicated and respectful student. His ingenuity makes him a class leader, as he is always finding ways to support his classmates. In addition, he continually strives to make improvements academically and create attainable goals.

## **CROSS HILL ACADEMY**

### ***Girl: Anabella Rijos***

Anabella is truly a role model to all her classmates. She is a pleasure to have in class. Anabella is respectful, considerate and always excited to learn. She is very passionate in everything she does in school and outside of school. Anabella is an asset to the instrumental music program at Cross Hill. She is also part of dance school.

***Boy: Ethan Estrada***

Ethan is a role model and always a pleasure to work with. He is polite, respectful and eager to learn. He shows enthusiasm in everything he does in school. He is an asset to the instrumental music program at school.

**CEDAR PLACE SCHOOL**

***Girl: Angelina Ramos***

Angelina is a remarkable student who brightens a room with her smile. She completes all homework, classwork, and projects with gusto. She strives to succeed every day. She is motivated, dedicated, and hard working. Angelina is a valued member of our school safety patrol. She helps out all students in our school community. She makes Cedar Place proud!

***Boy: Jose Murrieta***

Jose was elected as our class president. He is a sponge for knowledge and loves to help others. He is a hardworking student, and Cedar Place is lucky to have him. He is up to any challenge and goes above and beyond in all aspects of his school work. He brightens our classroom with his infectious smile. It is an honor to teach such a wonderful young man.

**ENRICO FERMI SCHOOL**

***Girl: Michelle Flores***

Michelle is an outstanding student. She is very respectful and enjoys helping teachers and students. She is excelling in all academic areas. Michelle comes to school every day with a positive attitude and is a joy to have in class.

***Boy: Jean Carlos Perez***

Jean Carlos is a well natured young man. He enjoys learning. Jean Carlos is kind and studious. He comes to school eager to learn. He has a good attitude and is a great example for his peers.

**PEARLS HAWTHORNE SCHOOL**

***Girl: Chloe Hemani Persaud***

Chloe is a delightful young lady. She embodies all of the qualities of what is expected as a PEARLS student. She is a willing and ready participant and is a caring individual. Chloe is involved in the school community in band and as a student helper. She is always willing to help her classmates and always helping within our own classroom to make it better. She is a pleasure to know and to teach. We are so proud of all her accomplishments this year.

***Boy: Jonah Vadakkan***

Jonah possesses everything a teacher wants in a student. He is courteous and kind, intelligent and hardworking, curious and thoughtful. You can always catch him tutoring a fellow student, involved in a school extracurricular activity, or tidying up the room unprompted. He is very driven to succeed and he never fails to impress. It is with honor and privilege that I recommend him for this distinguished award.

**ROBERT C. DODSON SCHOOL**

***Girl: Sana Madiha***

Sana is a respectful, kind, hard working, motivated, and conscientious young lady. She is a role model to her fellow students and was elected by her classmates as their Student Council Representative. She displays leadership qualities and cares about her community and the world around her. She is an outstanding young lady.

**Boy: Oscar Escalante**

Oscar is a respectful, hard working student. He is a role model for his fellow students and he is always ready to help anyone who needs assistance. His attendance is very good. His favorite subject is math. Oscar is very responsible and he is preparing himself for middle school. His future goal is to become a forensic doctor.

**WILLIAM BOYCE THOMPSON SCHOOL**

**Girl: Shauna Jerin**

Shauna is a dedicated student who focuses on doing her best in class. She enjoys learning new and interesting things. Shauna is constantly search for ways to improve her overall academic performance. Helping others is part of her nature. She is always volunteering her time. Shauna tutors her fellow classmates and participates in community service within The William Boyce Thompson School. Shauna embodies the true essence of a model student.

**Boy: Philip Oppong Ampadu**

Philip is a “shining light” at Boyce Thompson. He embodies the ideas of respect for all and compassion for others. On any given day, Philip is the first to assist when someone is in need. Philip’s hard work and determination are reflected in the work he’s put forth thus far. Philip’s love for learning and curiosity are noticed by those around him. He has become a leader within our classroom. His patience with others has given him the opportunity to help those who are struggling or need assistance.

**YONKERS MONTESSORI ACADEMY**

**Girl: Peyton A. Rohan**

Peyton is a kind-hearted, intelligent, and self-confident student. She strives to reach her full potential. She shows initiative and thinks things through for herself. Peyton is eager to help out around the class and often volunteers for special jobs around the school. It is a pleasure to have her in class. She shows consideration toward others at all times. She conducts herself with maturity. She arrives at school each day with a smile, ready to learn. She is a joy to teach.

**Boy: Noel V. Lively, Jr.**

Noel is an honest, good-hearted boy who is well liked, cooperative and reliable. He is a good worker and attentive listener in class. He puts consistent effort into his work. He is always willing to accept a challenge. Noel works well with others and is a well-liked team member. He arrives at school each day with a smile, ready to learn. He has been working extremely hard in a variety of curriculum areas. He takes a keen interest in his work and most agreeable and eager to learn. He strives to reach his full potential. He shows initiative and thinks things through for himself. It is a pleasure to work with him.

**8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BOYS AND GIRLS**

*\*\*ROSEMARIE ANN SIRAGUSA CITIZENSHIP AWARD DISTRICT WIDE WINNERS*

**SCHOOL 5**

**Girl: Emily Wong**

Emily is a lovely young lady always ready and willing to go the extra mile. Emily enthusiastically assists her friends, teachers, and staff every time she sees a need. Emily is a ray of sunshine and does whatever she can to lighten the load of others, she pitches in at the drop of a hat.

**Boy: Christopher Campos Costa**

Christopher is a clear example of a model student, brilliant, persistent, highly motivated, efficient, helpful and proficient with academic matter. He is a growing intellectual and a natural leader who displays these stellar

qualities. His work is completed with thought and precision and his intellect is refreshing. In addition, Christopher's respect for educators and peers is exemplary. His comely and "down to earth" personality is quite apparent when interacting with everyone. He is always motivated and ready to assist other students in any matter. His intrinsic drive to learn spurs his peers to also strive to accomplish the best academic affairs. His passion for knowledge and people is refreshing and his School 5 family is quite proud of him.

## **PATRICIA A. DICHIARO SCHOOL**

### ***Girl: Arianna Esposito***

Arianna is a kind, creative and inquisitive young woman. She is a lifetime learner who loves to explore new topics. Her enthusiasm for learning is outstanding and she puts great effort into everything she does. Arianna is socially, emotionally and academically well rounded. She is an asset to our community.

### ***Boy: Colin McSpedon***

Colin is a bright, creative and inquisitive young man. He is a lifetime learner who loves to explore new topics. His enthusiasm for learning is outstanding and he puts great effort into everything he does. Colin is socially, emotionally and academically well rounded. He is an asset to our community.

## **SCHOOL 13**

### ***Girl: Katherine Santana Marquez***

Katherine has continuously shown hard work and dedication through all her academic endeavors. She takes her academics very seriously and is prepared for any challenge that comes her way. As a part of the School 13 community, she has grown into an independent active learner, who not only enjoys the learning process, but is also ready to help out her peers and teachers. She has a bright future ahead of her and just as she is the ideal student, she is especially worthy of also being the recipient of the 2017 Siragusa award.

### ***Boy: Shawn Forbes***

Shawn is a very respectful and polite young man. When questioned about his work, it's visible how he's anxious to "get it right" and his enjoyment shows through his writing. He is not afraid to participate in class and share his thoughts on challenging, real-world issues. As a part of the School 13 community, it's very noticeable how Shawn has grown into a very mature student who constantly pushes himself to do his best. He is a great young adult with a bright future ahead of him. He is the ideal student.

## **PAIDEIA SCHOOL 15**

### ***Girl: Madison Reyes***

Madison is a breath of fresh air. She has actively embraced the arts culture at Paideia School 15 by participating in The Black History Month show, Aladdin Jr., Hamlet, and this year's Annie Jr. Madison lends her time helping during school dances and designing/painting school decorations. Maddie loves to help and never says 'No' when something needs to be done.

### ***Boy: Jacob Aponte***

Jacob is a passionate artist and has lent his talent to creating a silent picture film for English Class, creating decorations for school dances, posters for the school's PBIS program, and artwork in the yearbook for the 2016-2017 school year.

## **SCHOOL 16**

### ***Girl: Janea West***

Janea is a sweet and hard-working eighth grader. She is always willing to lend a helping hand to a teacher or peer in need. Janea has a long list of awards received, which shows her commitment to school. She helps with the elderly outside of school: a testament to her kind and giving nature.

***Boy: Ruben Varkey Alias***

Ruben is a wonderful student with a dynamic personality. He cares very much about his performance in school, and we have no doubts about his future success in high school and beyond. He showed his dedication by participating in the Summer Steam Program this past summer. Ruben is always polite and respectful, and is a wonderful role model at School 16.

**SCHOLASTIC ACADEMY FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

***Girl: Evelyn Yahaira Rios***

Evelyn goes above and beyond to ensure that her work is neat, organized, and thorough. She has the utmost respect for authority and does not hesitate to help a friend in need. Evelyn likes to sing, dance, draw, make jewelry, and explore.

***Boy: Wilber Perla***

Wilber is a diligent and responsible student who always takes advantage of opportunities to challenge himself. He gets along well with his peers and volunteers to help teachers often.

**EUGENIO MARIA DE HOSTOS MICRO SOCIETY SCHOOL**

***Girl: Karla Garcia***

Karla is an exceptional student with excellent grades resulting from her diligent work habits. Karla has strong interpersonal skills and is well regarded by her peers and other teachers. Not only is she academically a resource for the school, but she also displays good leadership skills in her active participation in extracurricular activities. She was the Micro Society President in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Karla is always willing to help out her school community or others in need. She volunteered at the school's open house, PTA fundraisers and bake sales.

***Boy: Romulo Guadalupe Valadez Sotelo***

Romulo has demonstrated academic excellence and a commitment to his future and education. He is hardworking and motivated. I have known Romulo for the past two years, in these two years he has grown tremendously as a student, striving for ultimate success and never settling for minimum expectations. Romulo has been a shining star in the classroom with class participation and academic achievements. He is a role model to his peers and an upstanding member of our community. He is not afraid to stand up for a classmate who is in need, or take a risk that others may be too nervous or shy to attempt.

**SCHOOL 23**

***Girl: Stephanie Perez***

Stephanie is truly an asset to our school community. She is extremely bright and articulate, and she also possesses a number of personal characteristics that make her the ideal candidate. Stephanie is always willing to help her teachers and her peers alike. She takes pride in her academics and strives to do well in all areas of being a School 23 student.

***Boy: Rohaan Malik***

Rohaam is an exemplar student. He is well respected amongst his peers and teachers alike. Rohaan is dedicated to the advancement of his academics and the integrity of his classes. He is helpful to his school community by volunteering his time with school events.

**CASIMIR PULASKI SCHOOL**

***Girl: Isabella Rendino***

Isabella is an intelligent, hardworking student who demonstrates a great respect for authority and her fellow peers. She is a student who is willing to offer support and assistance to her teachers. From the beginning of

7<sup>th</sup> grade to the present time, Isabella has grown tremendously both intellectually and socially/emotionally. Her respect for the school and the community is recognized and appreciated.

***Boy: Steven Castillo***

Steven has been a wonderful student of our Pulaski Community for his entire school career. He always demonstrates an excellent respect for authority and his own peers. Steven is a child who cares for everyone he meets. Steven is the person that anyone can rely on for support or assistance with everything. He always has a smile and a positive outlook toward any situation.

## **KAHLIL GIBRAN SCHOOL**

***Girl: Reya Patel***

Reya is a model student and classmate. Of course, she is solid academically and kind to her peers. That's why she is a candidate for this special recognition. But what makes Reya special is her extremely positive disposition. She greets her teachers with a smile and warm hello each morning; and never lets a day go by without saying good-bye on her way out. She is a member of our student government and participates in several activities outside of school, including using her experiences in athletics to help younger children develop their skills.

***Boy: Nikoll Papaj***

Niki came to us a new student at the beginning of 7<sup>th</sup> grade. With the assistance of our Resource Teacher, Mrs. Kramel, he has excelled academically. Niki consistently is on the Honor Roll. What sets him apart, however, is the level of respect with which he treats his classmates and teachers. Outside of school, Niki contributes to the community by serving as a "snow angel" for those in need during times of inclement weather. He is an outstanding candidate for this award.

## **WESTCHESTER HILLS SCHOOL 29**

***Girl: Daniella Dimalanta***

Daniella has shown respect and commitment to her school through her willingness to contribute her time and efforts to assisting her peers and teachers in and outside of the classroom. She is ready and determined to complete the task assigned to her, to the best of her abilities, no matter what the task may be. Daniella exceeds the limit of expectations when it comes to working independently or within a group. She takes the role of a great leader who helps her team, and leads them to success. Daniella always gives respect to those around her, whether it is her peers or teachers. She always chooses to do the right thing for herself and for her classmates. Daniella possesses the qualities of a great leader who has respect for others opinions and choices, and always takes that into consideration when working with others. Daniella is always eager to assist the other teachers whenever needed, and uses her respect, punctuality, and kindness to make her time with others an exceptional and memorable moment.

***Boy: Ramez Dababneh***

Ramez demonstrates the qualifications for this award through his actions in our school community. Arriving to this country less than a year ago, he is constantly committed to improve academically by gaining knowledge of new topics, asking for guidance and clarification as needed, and participating in classroom discussions. Through participation, Ramez has both the commitment and courage to express original ideas in order to reach success academically and personally. It takes bravery to voice one's opinion and make others trust in that belief, yet Ramez takes on this action without ever backing down, even when he is unsure how to fully explain himself in the English language. He contributes his time and efforts to his education in every subject, to develop a deeper understanding of the content, demonstrating that he wants to succeed. He respects education and is aware of what an education can do for him in the future, which is reflected by his behavior in the school environment. This act of thoughtfulness and compassion is rare to find in a person, portraying the outstanding character Ramez has.

## **SCHOOL 30**

### ***Girl: Niamh Doheny***

Niamh is extremely helpful and encouraging towards her classmates in all circumstances. Niamh puts forth her best efforts in all of her assignments. She offers her guidance to any struggling students. Niamh is attentive and is willing to assist teachers in any school activities. Niamh is an absolute pleasure to have in our school program.

### ***Boy: Eleassar Famutimi***

Eleassar is outstanding in his school work and puts forth his best efforts. Eleassar produces work on or above his grade level. Eleassar demonstrates strength in vocabulary, reading, and writing. Eleassar consistently offers his guidance and help to his classmates and teachers.

## **FAMILY SCHOOL 32**

### ***\*\*Girl: Isabella Delgado***

Isabella is truly a shining star. She has garnered the admiration and respect of both her peers and the adults in the building. This year, she was elected Student Body President and has proven to be a strong leader and positive role model. She has been integral in the planning and execution of various fundraisers. Also, she has been a great go between in relaying concerns of students and administration to the entire middle school. Isabella auditioned and landed the lead role in a school play. She has a natural acting ability, and absolutely nailed the role of Mary Maloney in Roald Dahl's "Lamb to the Slaughter." She volunteers at PTA events, plays sports, tutors her peers. This is a renaissance (young) woman.

### ***Boy: Ebubechukwu Jack-Davies***

Ebube is an exemplary young man. He has such a gentle and kind nature. He has had so many rich experiences growing up in Nigeria. I admire how proud he is of his roots and he is eager to share them with his peers. Aside from being an excellent student, he is extremely well rounded participating in the school newspaper, yearbook committee and the various sports we offer. He is also an avid reader, which is quite impressive.

## **MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ACADEMY**

### ***Girl: Xochiquetzal Bustos***

Xochiquetzal is an enthusiastic, attentive and responsive student. She is a team player and volunteers her time to participate in fund raisers and school events as well as the Greystone Enviro Earth Club. Xochi is a pleasure to have at Martin Luther King, Jr. Academy.

### ***Boy: Randy Cueva***

Randy is an intrinsically motivated student. He is pleasant, respectful, caring and funny. Randy positively contributes to the school and classroom environments with his positive nature and insight.

## **CROSS HILL ACADEMY**

### ***Girl: Kamiyah Price***

Kamiyah is a valued member of the Cross Hill Academy student body. She exemplifies the ideal student, friend, and peer through the help and guidance she gives to her fellow students. She helps with the younger students and is always the first one to volunteer to help out with fundraisers and any other school community initiatives.

### ***Boy: Gabriel Alsina***

Gabriel is a valued member of the Cross Hill Academy student body. He exemplifies the ideal student, friend, and peer through the help and guidance he gives to his fellow students. He helps with the younger students and is always the first one to volunteer to help out with fundraisers and any other school community initiatives.

## **CEDAR PLACE SCHOOL**

### ***Girl: Yailin Murillo***

Yailin is an outstanding conscious student who works hard to excel and do the best that she can. Yailin is a sweet girl who focuses on what is required to be a stellar student. Yailin has a positive attitude and is pleasant to all who are in contact with her. She is respectful to everyone and is a role model to others.

### ***Boy: Diosnedy Acevedo, Jr.***

Diosnedy is an outstanding conscious student who works hard to excel and do the best that he can. Diosnedy is always willing to help others anyway he can. He is respectful to everyone and is a role model to others.

## **ENRICO FERMI SCHOOL**

### ***Girl: Jendri Rodriguez Castillo***

Jendri is an exemplary and dedicated student at Enrico Fermi School. Just shy of being in this country for two years, she is hardworking and perseverant in all aspects of her personal and academic surroundings. She is a model student who leads her peers by example. Her contributions to the school include, but are not limited to, peer tutoring, photography, yearbook, drumming, Dominican dance and community volunteer. She is an absolute attribute to the school and Yonkers.

### ***Boy: Andy Rodriguez***

Andy is an exemplary and dedicated young man. He is the epitome of leadership and is the President of Student Government. He dedicates his time before school, at lunch and afterschool to support the betterment of Enrico Fermi School. He assists and plans school fundraising activities, leads the school safety patrol group, assists in intramural sports set-up and leads by example. He is a treasure and role model at Enrico Fermi.

## **PEARLS HAWTHORNE SCHOOL**

### ***Girl: Chloe Dourmashkin***

Chloe is a model citizen and student at PEARLS. Chloe strives to excel in all areas of academics and extracurricular activities. On a daily basis, she exhibits respect, care for school property and a commitment to learning. Chloe is active in both the PEARLS Student Government and PTA. She works hard to ensure that help is given at fundraisers and events that take place in our school. She promotes active student involvement in activities as well. She serves as a true role model for her peers because of her diligence with school work and dedication to promoting the best quality of life at PEARLS.

### ***\*\*Boy: Samir Cerrato***

Samir is an outstanding 8<sup>th</sup> grade student at the PEARLS Hawthorne School. Samir is the type of student who shines both inside and outside of the classroom. He is a consistent Principal's List student who works hard to excel in all of his core and non-core classes. Samir is highly respected and liked among his peers and teachers. During his lunch and study hall periods, he volunteers to assist and tutor his classmates in Spanish and science. Samir's personable nature makes him a delight to both learn from and be around. Samir is an active contributor to the PEARLS community in many ways. He is a member of the Science Olympiad Team and the Yearbook Club. Additionally, Samir is willing to assist teachers whenever he can. For example, Samir is knowledgeable about technology and computers and will often assist with anything from changing ink to installing apps and updating programs. Lastly, Samir assisted with the creation of the PEARLS Community Garden while in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade and will assist this spring as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader.

## **ROBERT C. DODSON SCHOOL**

### ***Girl: Jillian Jones***

Jillian is an incredible student and her grades are exceptional, which often places her on the Principal's list. She is also respectful, and gets along well with her teachers and peers. She plans to participate in the

Gettysburg Oratorical contest this year. She is a part of the Student Government that raise money at fundraisers and events to raise money and awareness for certain issues in the world, including poverty.

***Boy: Roberto Ortiz***

Roberto is a quiet, yet enthusiastic person who has a variety of hobbies. He enjoys using technology to make a PSA to promote an event for Dodson. He plays baseball and enjoys going to batting cages.

## **WILLIAM BOYCE THOMPSON SCHOOL**

***Girl: Alma Kissi***

Alma is a hardworking, dedicated, and determined young girl to make her experience in school a pleasurable one. She is an active member of Student Council which oversees fundraisers to support costs of senior activities. She participates in the Yearbook Committee and gives suggestions such as Spirit Week ideas to enhance the school culture.

***Boy: Eric Belto Santiago***

Eric is a highly intelligent student and is able to apply his knowledge in the classroom, across all discipline, as well as in his daily life. Eric is thoughtful and kind toward others, and is very much liked by his peers and his other teachers alike. Some students with intellectual capability tend to be introverts, but Eric is just the opposite. He engages others and actively seeks social interaction, while at the same time maintaining his academic workload. If anyone deserves to be recognized for the distinguished award, it is Eric Santiago.

## **YONKERS MONTESSORI ACADEMY**

***Girl: Elizabeth N. Bowles***

Elizabeth is a dedicated young lady who is always willing and ready to participate in and outside of the classroom. She has demonstrated great leadership in class as the discussion director within her group in English. Also in her Algebra class, she used mathematical skills outside of the classroom, calculating how many students were needed for each letter in the word *peace*. She helped to have the school create the word *peace*. She is an exceptional young lady, with a bold and bright personality.

***Boy: Evan Rene Diaz***

Evan is an exception of example of the principles at Yonkers Montessori Academy. He is an intelligent, mature and respectful young man who has contributed to his classroom, his learning, his peers and the school. Evan is often a role model and leader in class room discussions. His leadership extends outside of the classroom with his participation and leadership during a school trip to Van Cortlandt Park and with the Dunwoodie Youth Association.

## **PALISADE PREPARATORY SCHOOL**

***Girl: Marla Wilson***

Marla is a very responsible and respectful student. She always makes an effort to do great in school and be top of her class. She is actively involved in her school's afterschool activities and helps make her school a better learning environment.

***Boy: Shemar C. Forbes***

Shemar is a committed, conscientious, and diligent student. He always tries to succeed and consider his mistakes as a tool for making improvements. He is open to learning something new daily. He enjoys watching films, reading, photography, technology, and drawing.

## **YONKERS MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL**

***Girl: Safiaz Afrah***

Safiaz is a student that was highly recommended by all of her teachers. When asked to elect a female student who exemplified respect for school staff and peers as well as academic contributions, it was unanimous.

Safiaz comes everyday prepared with her work and puts genuine care into her assignments. Safiaz asks questions to further her own learning as well as her peers. She is an academic leader and motivates her peers to succeed.

**Boy: Luis Ariel Almarante Valdez**

Luis is a bright and respectful student. He has made great progress this year and will be accelerated to a Resource Program in General Education in High School. He has established a very positive rapport with his teachers and staff. He interacts well with his peers and demonstrates strong leadership qualities. He serves as a role model for other students in his program.

## **Patricia A. DiChiaro Memorial Award**

*(Sponsored by YCPTA)*

Awarded to an outstanding 8<sup>th</sup> Grade student, who has demonstrated a strong commitment to give generously of their time and energy, most uniquely, in service and concern for others in a selfless manner.

### **8TH GRADE BOY OR GIRL**

*\*\*District Wide Winners*

#### **SCHOOL 5**

***Briana Theran***

Briana is self-directed and committed young lady. Briana always strives to meet any goals set before her without forgetting the needs of others. Briana has a strong sense of dedication and loyalty to others and her community. Briana selflessly gives her time to help anyone in need and does it with a smile on her face. Briana is a bright light striving to make things easier on others.

#### **PATRICIA A. DICHIARO SCHOOL**

***Alexandra Scheman***

Alexandra is a bright, creative and inquisitive young woman. She is a lifetime learner who loves to explore new topics. Her enthusiasm for learning is outstanding and she puts great effort into everything she does. Alexandra is socially, emotionally and academically well rounded. She is an asset to our community.

#### **SCHOOL 13**

***John Acosta***

John was voted President of School 13's student government organization for multiple reasons. His involvement in multiple school initiatives and endless dedication to support the school community through either sports or fundraisers revealed how each challenge presented to him was met. John assisted in a fundraiser for breast cancer research in October; he encouraged many members of the community to become part of the fight to end breast cancer. He is always willing to make announcements for student government and take on certain leadership roles. His personality is contagious; he helped spread cheer during the holiday season by dressing as Santa Claus and delivering Candy Cane Grams with "Santa's Little Helpers" by his side. John is always growing, both academically and socially; he expresses his maturity to his peers which makes him a positive influence. He exhibits the utmost respect to all students and staff, and he ensures to handle whatever is given to him with responsibility and honesty. There is definitely no one more deserving of the Patricia A. DiChiaro Memorial Award than John Acosta.

## **PAIDEIA SCHOOL 15**

### ***Giuliana Ruggiere***

Giuliana is the second in her family to attend Paideia School 15. Like her brother, she consistently volunteers her time helping out at school events such as the dances, preparing for the school's PBIS program, and even being a team player on the soccer and basketball intramural team. She also comes from a family whose values run deep in education, community service, and traditions. Giuliana was actively involved in giving back to the community during the Paideia Walk 2016 which supported the Miracle League of Westchester.

## **SCHOOL 16**

### ***Mario Simao Aguiar***

Mario is a cooperative, attentive, and dedicated student. He balances his time well between school, sports, and Church. Mario donates a lot of his time assisting with Church-related activities. He is always willing to help at school, particularly in aiding an ELL student who speaks Portuguese. Mario is a valued member of our community!

## **SCHOLASTIC ACADEMY FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

### ***Randolph Medina***

Randolph is a diligent and responsible student. He is eager to participate in class and extremely enthusiastic about helping others. He frequently volunteers his time to tutor other students, as well as help teachers.

## **EUGENIO MARIA DE HOSTOS MICROSOCIETY SCHOOL**

### ***Emanuel Angel Rojas***

Emanuel is a well-rounded, hardworking and intelligent student who has made a significant impact on the Hostos Community. This year he has shown tremendous leadership skills both within the classroom and around the school building. He regularly goes above and beyond what is expected academically and has made his presence well known on the Student Government. As Student Government Secretary, he is an active member always having his voice heard.

## **SCHOOL 23**

### ***Joscelyn Galindo***

Joscelyn shows dedication to her school community by volunteering her free time to help the younger students during gym. She takes time to work with her peers in order to further academic success for everyone.

## **CASIMIR PULASKI SCHOOL**

### ***Robert Podesta***

Robert has not been a member of our school community for very long but he definitely has made an impact here at Pulaski. He is a diligent worker, reliable and extremely responsible student. Robert is always promoting a positive environment and offering his help to his peers and teachers. Robert demonstrates an outstanding level of maturity and commitment to our building.

## **KAHLIL GIBRAN SCHOOL**

### ***Jovina Thomas***

Jovina is an exemplary student and classmate. Whether it be assisting a teacher with younger students during recess or helping a fellow student to better understand a difficult concept, Jovina gladly gives of

herself. This community spirit is evidenced outside the school community through her volunteerism in local soup kitchens, as well.

## **WESTCHESTER HILLS SCHOOL 29**

### ***Alexis Cunningham***

Alexis is a bright, caring, and dedicated student who is committed to not only individual academic success, but also to the success of her peers. She is always willing to assist her peers as needed and dedicates her time and efforts when she can to support students who struggle with a lesson or assignment. Alexis is a leader in and outside of the classroom, and is willing to be a part of whatever she can to make her school shine. When she puts her mind to a task she completes it to the best of her abilities, using prior knowledge and information from the outside world to relate to, and make deeper connections. Throughout the year Alexis has taken part in assisting her peers as well as teachers throughout the building. She has assisted the Special Education classrooms during Field Day, passed out candy to students during the Halloween Parade, and has went to various classrooms to help as needed. Alexis uses her knowledge and kind heart to good use without expecting an ounce in return. She portrays a selfless student who is dedicated and committed to the success of all.

## **SCHOOL 30**

### ***Christopher Montgomery***

Christopher is an absolute pleasure to have in class. Chris is always respectful and considerate of others. Chris is always willing to help his classmates and take the lead in activities to achieve his academic goals. Chris is determined to complete all given tasks by putting hard work and dedication forth.

## **FAMILY SCHOOL 32**

### ***Matthew Kenny***

Matthew is an exemplary student and citizen at Family School 32. Not only is he consistent and excels academically, he is involved in all of our extracurricular activities. He served as a producer for both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade plays. He had a major speaking role, and also wanted to help develop the playbill, create a musical score, set up the microphone and sound equipment, and help behind the scenes. Matthew also put together the musical selections and slideshow for our 8<sup>th</sup> grade moving up ceremony as a 7<sup>th</sup> grader last year. He has been integral in setting up and even DJing school dances. Furthermore, he created a tremendous sign this year when our middle school students visited the Barclay Center for a Nets game that earned us a spot on TV. Matthew also serves on our student government and has collected for food and clothing drives. His personality is tremendous and I will always remember his charisma as he delivered Valentine's Day treats during a fundraiser dressed as our school's very own Cupid. This is a young man with a huge heart and a very bright future ahead. I highly recommend this candidate, without reservation.

## **MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ACADEMY**

### ***Esabella Aguilar***

Esabella is an outstanding student who will always go above and beyond in her studies and for her peers. Esabella takes part in the Mercy College Saturday Stem Academy, the Iona College Liberty Partnership, and also tutors her peers and younger students during her lunch periods.

## **CROSS HILL ACADEMY**

### ***Maria Caryl Pagsuyoin***

Maria is a selfless student who is ready, willing and eager to help classmates with their academics in every class. She is a valued member of the Cross Hill Student body and volunteers to assist in classroom activities as well as school-wide activities. She has assisted in our fundraising activities through contributions, helping

with organizing and advertising, and giving her time. Maria helps with peers and younger students whenever she is asked.

## **CEDAR PLACE SCHOOL**

### ***Dimitri White***

Dimitri loves to draw, write stories, plays basketball and football. He enjoys helping his friends because he is caring. He assists his teachers whenever they need help. He likes doing his work and respects his teachers and his TA. He is focused to do his best to be able to reach what he wants to get better in life.

## **ENRICO FERMI SCHOOL**

### ***Joana Cruz***

Joana is a vibrant and dedicated young lady. She is very dedicated to her academics and strives to do well. She is an active member of the yearbook committee, photography club, student government and peer tutors. She is also involved in school community service projects and intramural sports.

## **PEARLS HAWTHORNE SCHOOL**

### ***\*\* Swaneet Anand Jha***

Swaneet is truly a "Renaissance Man." From his high academic achievements to his involvement in school and community service, he is a true role model for his peers. Swaneet is an active member of our Student Council and serves as treasurer. As noted from the Student Council supervisor at our school, "Swaneet is one of the most helpful and supportive students on the Student Council committee." In addition, Swaneet is always willing to assist his peers and teachers with any needed tasks. At times, he will attend and volunteer time with PTA events at our school and take part in fund raisers. Swaneet is also a member of the Science Olympiad and History Bowl teams at our school. Outside of school, Swaneet is involved in many committees and organizations which promote service and awareness. He takes pride in his Indian heritage and community.

## **ROBERT C. DODSON SCHOOL**

### ***Abel Enrique Cabral Feliz***

Abel is an active person inside and outside of school. He does community service around his neighborhood. On weekends, he attends Church and help collect money. He also assists people on the streets when they are in need. He is a member of the Student Council Government that offers different programs and activities, such as the Pajama Drive and WE a program to help people living in poverty around the world.

## **WILLIAM BOYCE THOMPSON SCHOOL**

### ***Justin Garcia***

Justin is a young man of faith and believes that he can help improve the world by spreading his love for Christ. He is an active member in his Church who frequently reaches out to the community to spread the Christian faith. He demonstrates strong leadership skills by being the youngest in his church to assume of the role of secretary and treasurer with hopes to become the president of his Youth committee.

## **YONKERS MONTESSORI ACADEMY**

### ***Shay Michael McElligott***

Shay has a bright and bold personality who can always be found helping his peers, teachers and the Yonkers Montessori Community. This is shown through his continuous involvement in out of school activities such as Election Day, making sandwiches for the homeless and raising money to assist students in Swasiland with food and education.

## **PALISADE PREPARATORY SCHOOL**

### ***Jaelyn Hendley***

Jaelyn is a hard-working student who likes to play volleyball. The career she hopes to be able to pursue is to be a veterinarian or to be a photographer. She tries to do as much as she can to help around the community as well as her family and friends.

## **YONKERS MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL**

### ***Jasmine Princes Cabrera***

Jasmine has made significant contributions to the Yonkers Middle High School community. As a member of the school activity committee, Jasmine contributes 2.5 hours every Thursday to promote and organize school events, such as Paint Night, Open Gym Night, and the Valentine's Day dance. Jasmine has single-handedly recruited students to join the school activity committee in addition to her own personal contributions. Jasmine's participation in our school community has not only extended to other peers but has increased parent participation in school events. Jasmine's increased interest in our school community has encouraged her mother and friends to attend events, thus, increasing parent engagement in our school overall. Her strong commitment to YMHS has served as a role model for other students who now seek to find ways of participating in rejuvenating our school culture and climate.

## **Mabel Bell Humanitarian Award**

*(Sponsored by YCPTA)*

The Mabel Bell Scholarship is awarded to an outstanding High School Graduating Senior for dedicating time and effort in a multitude of activities. A student who unselfishly volunteers of himself/herself through school and community, and who is respected by his/her peers.

**WINNER: *Jennifer G. Madrid***

**LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL**

Jennifer is an exceptional student with diligent work habits. She has superior interpersonal skills and is respected by both her peers and teachers. She is President of the Lincoln High School student government and a volunteer at Elim Church. She is bright, energetic, compassionate and genuinely well rounded.

## **Dr. Paul M. Mitchell Humanitarian Award**

*(Sponsored by YCPTA)*

Awarded to a graduating High School Senior for showing concern for others through school and community involvement. A student who has shown outstanding ability to deal justly with all regardless of racial, religious, ethnic or economic background. A student actively engaged in promoting human welfare and social reform.

**WINNER: *Jennifer S. Niola***

**SAUNDERS TRADES AND TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL**

Jennifer is a gifted student who has maintained an A+ GPA in the Biotechnology program at Saunders Trade and Technical High School. She is a member of the National Honor Society. In addition, to her academics Jennifer is captain of the girl's soccer team. Her volunteerism is outstanding. She has volunteered at the Bowery Mission, Yonkers Senior Citizen Barbeque, AFYA foundation, JCY Summer Reading for children, and UNICEF to name a few.

## **Millie Yochman Special Recognition Award**

*(Sponsored by YCPTA)*

Awarded to a High School Graduating Senior officially designated as an exceptional student by the CSE. The Student must show interest in further pursuing his/her education, and shows good citizenship by contributing to the welfare of the school. A student who shows growth in achievement within scope of a total academic program.

**WINNER: *Luis Angel Caldero, Jr.***

**CHARLES E. GORTON HIGH SCHOOL**

Luis has faced many challenges in both his academics and personal life. He did not let these challenges deter him from working hard to be successful. His teachers are inspired by his work ethic and tenacity. He is diligent and focused on his studies but is also an active participant in the Gorton High School Community. Teachers, staff and peers are awed by his perseverance to rise above all his challenges. He is well deserving of this award.

***A special thank you to all our Students, Teachers, Staff, Administrators, the Siragusa Family and the DiChiaro Family for making this event a great success and wonderful experience.***

***Thank you to Yonkers Public Schools***

Dr. Edwin M. Quezada, Superintendent  
Dr. Andrea Coddett, Deputy Superintendent  
Mrs. Christine Montero, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Instruction and Administration  
Mrs. RoseAnne Collins-Judon, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction  
Dr. Luis Rodriguez, Assistant Superintendent, Special Education and Pupil Support Services  
Mrs. Jade R. Sharp, School Administrator, District Guidance and Arts Education

***Citizenship and Scholarship Awards Committee***

Chairperson - Sophia Wu  
Arlene Burlingham  
Karen Doran  
Anna Lisa Negro  
Irma J. Pereira  
Jennifer A. Rattendi  
Rob Rijos

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***Scholarship Dinner Committee***

Co-Chairpersons – Erin Gorman and Annmarie Smith  
Monique Anderson      Irma Ashayagori      Arlene Burlingham  
Sumie Hernandez-Moss      John Carlos Macias      Marlene McGovern  
Irma J. Pereira      Amy Vaccaro      Sophia Wu

***Scholarship Application Packages proofread:***

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*Please contact or visit YCPTA at:*  
<http://www.yonkerspublicschools.org/ycpta>  
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