



**YONKERS COUNCIL *of* PTA/PTSAS  
ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD CEREMONY**



**THURSDAY, MAY 10, 2018**

**SAUNDERS TRADES & TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL**

183 Palmer Road, Yonkers, New York 10701

## **PROGRAM**

### **Welcome**

Sophia Wu

2nd Vice President, YCPTA Citizenship and Scholarship Awards Committee Chairperson

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Elijah Washington

Mabel Bell Scholarship Award Recipient, Riverside High School

Maxine Smith

Paul M. Mitchell Humanitarian Award Recipient, Yonkers Middle/High School

Samuel Figueroa

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

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

Sally Pinto

President, YCPTA

### **Nominating Committee Chair**

Mercedes Rios

3rd Vice President, YCPTA

### **Greetings**

Mayor Mike Spano, City of Yonkers

Dr. Edwin M. Quezada, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Frank Siragusa, Husband of Mrs. Rosemanie Ann Siragusa

### **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: Stephanie Henriques***

Stephanie is a hard working 5th grade student. She frequently helps other students in class. Stephanie has consistently achieved Honor Roll in 5th Grade. Her academic success combined with her positive attitude and willingness to help others make Stephanie an excellent candidate for this award.

##### ***Boy: Alex Tacuri***

Alex is a conscientious 5th grader. He is a role model for his younger brother. Alex is inquisitive and always adds insight into our classroom lessons and discussions. Alex is an active member in his church, St. Peters and St. Denis. He excels in sports, especially soccer and swimming. Alex is an eager classroom helper and well-liked by his peers. This is a well-deserved honor.

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

##### ***Girl: Miriam Tenisa***

Miriam has a high level of thinking skills. She is a good reader and writer. She is a good class citizen. Mathematics is her favorite subject. With her free time, Miriam likes to ride her bike, play soccer and swim.

##### ***Boy: Donagh Purcell***

Donagh is respectful of authority, a good student and self-disciplined. Donagh is an exemplary student as well as an outstanding citizen. He is kind and gentle and carefully aware of other people's feelings.

#### **SCHOOL 9**

##### ***Girl: Alexa Guadalupe Escamilla***

Alexa 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 great effort into her classwork and homework. Alexa is on Safety Patrol, was Student of the Month, and is always on the Honor Roll. Alexa is a great candidate for this award. It is a pleasure to have her in class.

##### ***Boy: Javier Moran Flores***

Javier is an exceptional student with excellent grades resulting from his diligent work habits. Javier has strong interpersonal skills and is well regarded by his peers and other teachers. Javier displays good leadership skills in his active participation as a safety patrol member. He is an asset to the School 9 community and is especially worthy of being the recipient of the 2018 Siragusa Memorial Award.

#### **THOMAS CORNELL ACADEMY**

##### ***Girl: Brittany Fuentes Galaviz***

Brittany is a very respectful and conscientious student. She is always on task and puts forth great effort into her classwork and homework. Brittany participates in the after school program and she is a member of the Cornell Academy track team.

**Boy: *Jayson A. Cardona***

Jayson is an upstanding citizen of our classroom with respect for his classmates and teachers. He is a conscientious student and strives to complete all his classwork and homework. Jayson arrives to school every day punctually, prepared and ready to learn. He participates in the after school program and is a dedicated baseball player.

**SCHOOL 13**

**Girl: *Sophia Rojas***

Sophia is an intelligent, mature, responsible and a kind young lady. Her diligent efforts in her academics are contagious among her peers. She enjoys assisting her classmates or teachers whenever needed, especially during her recess time.

**Boy: *Andres Mendoza***

Andres is an intelligent, hardworking, motivated and compassionate young man. He completes his assignments with ease and accuracy. His commitment to his academics is honorable and inspiring. He is well liked by his peers and is always assisting them whenever they need.

**ROSEMARIE ANN SIRAGUSA SCHOOL**

**Girl: *Jada Strong***

Jada Strong is a conscientious student who challenges herself every day to do her best. She possesses the qualities of an avid reader and possesses a high vocabulary; she is strengthening her writing skills as a result. She is quite helpful with her peers and patient. These qualities have allowed her to be an exemplary student who is successful in school. We are proud of her accomplishments.

**Boy: *Jonathan Velasco***

Jonathan Velasco 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. Jonathan is a knowledgeable young man who is principled and displays honesty and fairness among his peers. Jonathan is respectful towards authority figures as well as fellow students. Jonathan readily accepts new responsibilities and often takes leadership roles within small cooperative groups. Jonathan is an enthusiastic learner who exhibits an unquenchable thirst for knowledge and always strives to do his best. Congratulations!

**PAIDEIA SCHOOL 15**

**Girl: *Kasey Devitt***

Kasey is an intelligent, motivated and inspiring young lady who excels in all she attempts. Beyond her academic successes, she demonstrates a kindness and willingness to help out in any way she can. Whether she is working to help her peers, or her school community at large, she can be counted on to use her strengths to benefit those even beyond herself.

**Boy: *Mateo Castillo***

Mateo prides himself in excellence in all areas. Mateo is not only a leader, but a responsible team player. He tirelessly extends himself to help both his peers and the adults in his school community. Mateo is an empathetic individual and his kindness exudes through his daily peer interactions. He takes great pride in an overall positive educational, emotional, and social educational experience within the Yonkers Public Schools.

## **SCHOOL 16**

### **Girl: *Dora Ortega***

A role model for all students, Dora is responsible, hard-working and mature. Her work habits make her academically successful and her character makes her well-respected by all.

### **Boy: *Diego Klinger***

Diego Klinger is a very responsible fifth grader who leads by example. He has a strong work ethic and makes good decisions both academically and socially. He is always willing to help anyone who may need help. He comes to school each day with a positive attitude and a willingness to learn.

## **SCHOOL 17**

### **Girl: *Maria Calixto***

Maria Calixto is a very responsible and motivated student. She comes to school every day with a dedication to giving her best effort on every task she is given. Maria pays close attention to details and makes sure that her daily work is not only accurate, but neatly done. Maria is a role model who sets a positive example for her peers. Her work ethic and focus on doing well is an inspiration to her classmates. Maria is also a kind and considerate student who is respected by her peers. She treats other students with fairness and understanding. In addition, Maria is a member of the School 17 Safety Patrol as well as a helper in Pre-K and kindergarten classes. Maria is a wonderful young lady and well-deserving of this award.

### **Boy: *Giovanny Edenilson Portillo***

Giovanny is an exceptional student who contributes to his school in many ways. As a member of Safety Patrol, Giovanny monitors and assists younger students during breakfast. During the Dr. Seuss Read Aloud, Giovanny read stories and did activities with second grade students. In addition, Giovanny has consistently supported fundraisers and other initiatives during the school year. He is a positive person, who is always willing to help others. For these reasons, Giovanny is very deserving of the Citizenship Award.

## **SCHOLASTIC ACADEMY FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

### **Girl: *DayraLupita Cruz***

Dayra is an exemplary student and an excellent role model for all of her peers. Her selfless acts in the school community and compassionate nature are qualities that we only hope all of our students will cultivate. A student council representative, she takes pride in working hard for the greater good of the student body. Her academic achievements in all subject areas reflect her commitment to being a lifelong learner, and emphasize the value she places on education.

### **Boy: *Gerardo Maldonado***

Gerardo is a person of excellent character, morals, and values. Gerardo exemplifies compassion and kindness throughout the school and neighborhood community. Gerardo's academic achievements reflect his dedication to his schoolwork and enthusiastic approach toward learning. His diligence in his studies and natural leadership skills surpass teacher expectations, making him a wonderful role model for all those around him.

## **EUGENIO MARIA DE HOSTOS MICRO SOCIETY SCHOOL**

### **Girl: *Cinthya I. Santos***

Cinthya is an amazing young lady. She is a hard-working and responsible student. Not only is she a great student in the classroom, but she is a manager in the Hostos MicroSociety program. Cinthya is the CFO for our Weather Station.

**Boy: *Luis Villa Ahuat***

Luis is an excellent student who excels in and out of the classroom. He is a respectful and hard-working young man. Luis has shown leadership skills through his involvement in the Hostos MicroSociety program. He is currently a professor at the Hostos Micro University where he has taught courses about the Solar System.

**SCHOOL 21**

**Girl: *Celine Liranzo***

Celine is respected and well-liked by her peers and all her teachers. She enjoys reading, writing, dancing and vacationing with her family. Celine is an active participant in all school programs. She is a helpful student and a truly awesome young lady.

**Boy: *Dariel Rivera***

Dariel treats everyone the way that you would like to be treated. He is always available and willing to assist another student if the need arises. Dariel takes school seriously and his attendance and punctuality are top notch. He is responsible for a younger sibling and he takes that very seriously. He has also shown the ability to work without direct supervision and is a true leader in our class.

**SCHOOL 22**

**Girl: *Alexandra Daley***

Alexandra is a kind girl who is always willing to help others. She is a conscientious student, always putting her school work first. Alexandra is a considerate and compassionate young lady. She cares about others and is always willing to help out where she can.

**Boy: *Cristian Vasquez***

Cristian is an excellent student and is very responsible for his work and behavior. He is considerate of others and respects everyone. In addition, Cristian fulfills his civic duties to his school community by helping his teachers and other students.

**SCHOOL 23**

**Girl: *Zanyah Keye***

Zanyah is an outstanding student and is attentive, cooperative and helpful to all. She is a caring student who is always willing to lend a helping hand. She strives to do her best in the classroom and out of the classroom.

**Boy: *Jeremy Martinez***

Jeremy 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. Jeremy 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.

**PAIDEIA SCHOOL 24**

**Girl: *Karla Escobar***

Karla is an exceptional young lady, she exemplifies the finer qualities of a student at Paideia 24. She attends school every day ready to learn and to help others. She assists others in the classroom and in the school community. She has been a member of our student council for the past two years and a member of our safety patrol.

**Boy: *Brennen Columna***

Brennen has remained the same person, in school and in the community; respectful, honest and hard-working. Brennen is a good student who volunteers his time by being a safety officer at Paideia School 24. He takes his job seriously and ensures that everyone is safe and doing the right thing.

**MUSEUM SCHOOL 25**

**Girl: *Mirnmoyi Banik***

Mirnmoyi Banik is an outstanding student who is on High Honors. She respects all school rules and would go above and beyond to help students in need. She is a peer expert in our room and the students feel comfortable going to her for help when needed. Mirnmoyi reads on an 8<sup>th</sup> grade level and has a 90 average in math. She scored a 4 on both her ELA and Math State exam last school year. Mirnmoyi loves to draw and puts heart and soul in all her work.

**Boy: *Fabian Valdez***

Fabian is an ENL student who has shown such growth in the classroom. He is secretary on the student council and shows great leadership in his position. Fabian is a firm believer in no bullying in the schools and wants to make sure his school is bully free. Fabian is a high honor student. He is on a 7<sup>th</sup> grade reading level and a 91 average in Math. Fabian participated in all afterschool, holiday, and Saturday academies. He is a peer expert in his room and all of the students go to him for help.

**CASIMIR PULASKI SCHOOL**

**Girl: *Alyssa Palackal***

Alyssa is an outstanding student, she is respectful and cooperative. Alyssa is caring and shows sensitivity toward the needs and feelings of her peers. She exhibits a sense of personal commitment to helping her classmates. Alyssa respects the values of her peers and is open to their points of view. She is brave and articulates in defending her beliefs.

**Boy: *Anthony Nukho***

Anthony is an outstanding role model who is respectful, kind and committed to learning. He is truly a young man who is well on his way to major success. He respects the ideas and contributions of his peers and is open and tolerant of their views. Anthony is patient and respectful towards the diversity of his peers always showing a genuine interest in each person's individuality.

**MONTESORI SCHOOL 27**

**Girl: *Kayla Perez***

Kayla Perez is a well-rounded student with a kind heart and a warm smile. She voluntarily offers her services to assist the teachers and students in the lower grades. Kayla also serves on the Media Crew and helps staff and students with technology problems. She is a wonderful role model for her peers.

**Boy: *Jose Gomez***

Jose is a very respectful young man. He is kind to his peers and always willing to help. He has shown compassion towards a classmate this year that has a disability. Jose always has a smile on his face and comes to school enthusiastic and ready to learn. He is a wonderful asset to our class and school.

**KAHLIL GIBRAN SCHOOL**

**Girl: *Georeliz Nunez***

Georeliz enjoys ice skating, basketball, reading, and helping her mother with meal preparation. Georeliz is interested in learning about others and can often be found reading a biography when finished with her

homework or before bedtime. Georeliz assists students in class who need extra help and often gives up her recess time to help teachers in the school building.

**Boy: *Pierce Coffey***

Pierce enjoys playing sports, reading, and spending time with his family. He is an avid reader of historical fiction. Pierce spends time with his family when possible and helps his younger brother with his homework. Pierce looks forward to Sunday lunches at his grandparents' house with all his extended family. Pierce eagerly assists in class with those who need help and is always willing to help his teachers.

**WESTCHESTER HILLS SCHOOL 29**

**Girl: *Hazel Garcia***

Hazel is a sweet, cheerful and cooperative student who enjoys helping others. She enters the classroom with a positive approach towards learning and a positive disposition. Hazel enjoys discussing methods on how we can all help to improve our environment. She leads by example and is a wonderful role model for other students.

**Boy: *Azem Srdanovic***

Azem is a kind, polite, curious and smart young man. He always works to his full potential and is an avid learner. He has a fascination with science and enjoys sharing his thoughts, ideas and facts with the class. Azem is helpful and is always willing to work with struggling students. He is inquisitive, humble and bright.

**SCHOOL 30**

**Girl: *Jenna Santiago***

Jenna is a respectful student. She comes to school eager to learn and expand her knowledge. Jenna is a role model to her classmates and shows leadership skills. It has been a pleasure to watch Jenna grow this year.

**Boy: *Fintan Clery***

Fintan likes to play soccer, video games and read books. His favorite author is Rick Riordan. He is inspired by his dad to become a mechanical engineer so that he will be able to fix and build stuff just like his dad.

**MONTESSORI SCHOOL 31**

**Girl: *Kayleen Manzueta***

Kayleen Manzueta is a conscientious dedicated student. She works well in all content areas excelling in Language Arts. She has a strong moral compass and isn't afraid of standing up for what is right. She is helpful and kind towards her peers and is incredibly respectful with adults. She is mature and quick to resolve conflicts when they arise. She is very worthy of this prestigious award.

**Boy: *Elmer Hernandez***

Elmer is a respectful, caring and considerate member of our classroom community. He is always willing to help out a classmate or teacher. Elmer has a true love for learning. He contributes thoughtful and interesting ideas to our discussions regularly. Elmer is a true Montessorian in every way. He is genuine and always remains true to himself.

**FAMILY SCHOOL 32**

**Girl: *Julia Chwedoruk***

Julia Chwedoruk is a focused, motivated fifth grader who takes schoolwork and academics very seriously. She comes to school ready to learn and is always willing to help others. She is respectful to adults and students alike. She enjoys new tasks and is always willing to try new things. She is a role model to others.

**Boy: *Christian Paska***

Christian is an excellent student. He always helps out other students around him by motivating them to do better in class, as well as complete their homework. He scores high on tests, participates in class, is well behaved and is an overall pleasure to have in class. Christian has a bright future ahead of him.

**MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ACADEMY**

**Girl: *Yuritzzy Bello***

Yuritzzy is a kind student who works well with her peers, is always ready and willing to help in class, and takes care of her responsibilities. She is respectful and hard working.

**Boy: *Antaries Butler***

Antaries Butler is a prime example of what it means to be a kind citizen and student leader. He is continuously looking for ways to support his peers and effectively delivers words of encouragement to both students and teachers. Antaries encompasses many character traits we hope for our future influences.

**CROSS HILL ACADEMY**

**Girl: *Jogita Dutta***

Jogita is a respectful fifth grade girl who has good manners and is always considerate of the feelings of others. She treats her classmates the way that she would like to be treated by being kind and using a proper tone of voice. Jogita always raises her hand and waits to be called on before she speaks. She has excellent attendance, she is always at school on time, prepared and ready to learn.

**Boy: *Kevin A. Mayorga Alvanes***

Kevin is a respectful and responsible fifth grade student. He listens carefully to both adults and students when they are speaking. He has excellent manners, always saying please and thank you. Kevin is an excellent role model. He is a leader, not a follower. He attends school daily, on time, and prepared.

**CEDAR PLACE SCHOOL**

**Girl: *Hailey Novick***

Hailey is an asset to Cedar School's community, as a member of the school's safety patrol, she takes her job seriously and assists the younger students each day. Hailey is always offering help to her fellow classmates and her teachers as well. Her homework, classwork and projects are completed with her best efforts and she applies herself in everything she does.

**Boy: *Issa Mdanat***

Issa always puts his best foot forward, he arrives to school early each day to begin his position on our school's safety patrol. He is a positive role model for all students in our class and our school as well. He has never missed an assignment and is always willing to lend a hand to anyone in his class and school community.

**ENRICO FERMI SCHOOL**

**Girl: *Gloria Espinal***

Gloria is an exemplary student who takes pride in her academic progress as well as her social ability to be a leader. She is always extremely respectful to authority, her peers and provides a helping hand when they are in need. Gloria demonstrates an excellent attitude toward school and is an enthusiastic learner.

**Boy: *Jeffrey Valdera***

Jeffrey is a kind and cooperative boy. He comes to school daily and is always ready to learn. He puts forth consistent effort and takes pride in his work. Jeffrey is an excellent role model for his peers.

## PEARLS HAWTHORNE SCHOOL

### ***Girl: Grace Casey***

Grace is an exemplary student. She is kind, hard-working, funny, yet serious. She is always well prepared and her work reflects her desire to be an outstanding student. Grace participates in various school activities, as well as competitive Irish dancing. She is a true representative of everything that the Yonkers Public School system embodies.

### ***Boy: Sebastian Albano***

Sebastian is an outstanding young man. He is respectful, friendly and independent. Sebastian is a Principal's List student and is always willing to help others. He is a wonderful member of the PEARLS community and participates in the band program. Sebastian is well liked by his peers and teachers. We are proud of all his hard work and efforts each day!

## ROBERT C. DODSON SCHOOL

### ***Girl: Erika Orozco***

Erika is a kind and honest young lady. She is a conscientious student who is responsible, hard-working and dependable. She is respectful to all of her classmates and makes a fine student council representative.

### ***Boy: Matthew George***

Matthew is a kind and compassionate young man. He is an inquisitive and responsible student who always goes the extra mile to help himself and others. He is respectful to all of his peers and school's faculty.

## WILLIAM BOYCE THOMPSON SCHOOL

### ***Girl: Emily Jimenez***

Emily is a dedicated student who focuses on doing her best in class. She enjoys learning new and interesting things as well as constantly searching different ways to improve her overall academic performance. Part of Emily's nature is her ability to help others; she is always volunteering her time. She tutors her fellow classmates and participates in community service within the school.

### ***Boy: Elijah Florian***

Elijah has impressed the school's community with his ability to show compassion towards those inside and outside the classroom. His personal strengths are as impressive as his academic accomplishments. Elijah's active, outgoing presence in class with a great sense of humor. He is the perfect student to get a group project started but is also not afraid to take a step aside and let his peers start a project.

## YONKERS MONTESSORI ACADEMY

### ***Girl: Adriana Quishpe***

Adriana is a very inquisitive, independent and hard-working young lady. She strives to be the best student and always produces quality work. She is an active participant in classroom discussions and she always supports her peers. Her caring nature and personality allows her to work well with others in a team setting, as she always respects others' opinions even when they differ from her own.

### ***Boy: Elvis Halilaj***

Elvis is a mature, respectful, and thoughtful student who displays an outgoing and mature personality. He is always precise and thorough with additional good qualities of initiative and imagination. He takes a keen interest in all of his work and assignments. He interacts skillfully and sensitively in group roles. He is an extremely motivated student and is always applying his highest effort into all that we do in our class. Elvis' enthusiasm and interest are assets to our class.

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys and Girls**

### **\*\*District Wide winners**

#### **SCHOOL 5**

##### ***Girl: Wilianna Then Marte***

Wilianna never says no to anything asked of her. She is always willing to help any student and/or teacher. She also has the ability to understand what you may need before you even ask her. She is a determined individual who loves and respects everyone. She follows the rules and makes peace with all. Her life motto is, "Help All and Love All". She is honest and extremely trustworthy.

##### ***Boy: Julian Payamps***

Julian is a great friend and student. He is able to make great decisions and influence his friends in an extremely quiet way to follow the right path. He is fair and will give you an honest assessment of all situations. He plays baseball and soccer.

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

##### ***Girl: Emma Maher***

Emma is a student of outstanding character. She is respectful of staff and fellow students. She is a committed member of Student Government who helps fundraise for our eighth-grade class trips. Academically, Emma is on the Principal's List. She always comes to school prepared and eager to participate in each class. Emma was selected to participate in the Sarah Lawrence Writing Program. Her exceptional character serves our community well. She mentors/tutors kindergarten students. Emma is a Girl Scout with a compassion for helping others.

##### ***Boy: Sean McKenna***

Sean is an outstanding student with an exceptional character. He is part of the student government. He is a boy scout and volunteers his time at numerous community events. In addition to his academics and volunteerism he also plays hockey, gaelic football, baseball and is a second degree black belt. Above all he likes to help people and make them laugh.

#### **SCHOOL 13**

##### ***Girl: Caroline Herrera***

Caroline is a very sweet girl who has always stayed true to her academic goals and endeavors. She takes her academics very seriously and is prepared for any challenge that comes her way, regardless if she passes or fails. When a challenge is presented to her she is never afraid to take it on and isn't afraid to ask for help. 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 is an ideal student and has a bright future ahead of her.

##### ***Boy: Jerard Patterson***

Jerard is a very respectful and polite young man. From the beginning, he has presented nothing but pure dedication and growth. When others failed and thought it was too hard to follow through, he chose to "buckle down" and get the job done. He has always been up for the challenge and has never feared to share his thoughts on challenging real-world issues.

## PAIDEIA SCHOOL 15

### **Girl: *Genna Szczepanski***

Genna is a lovely young woman and derives from a family with strong community values. She repeatedly aides her mother, a PTA member, set up for all the functions, which help raise money for the school.

Genna has also contributed her talents to Paideia School 15's stage performances, including Annie Jr. and the Black History Month Show.

### **Boy: *Christopher Iori\*\****

Chris is diligent, enthusiastic, and consistently pushes himself to succeed. Chris is an aggressive student in a positive way. Chris is eager to learn and does not shy away from challenges. He likes to perform on stage, volunteers his time for the Boy Scout organization; promotes service projects such as collecting items to send overseas for the Military, and participates in numerous organized sports programs such as CYO basketball and volleyball.

## SCHOOL 16

### **Girl: *Diana Silva***

Diana is a conscientious and dedicated student who enjoys reading, drawing, and studying, putting great thought and effort into her work. She is an honest person and a well-behaved student who has received a responsibility award. She consistently receives honor roll and high honor roll, and has worked her way up to principal's list. She is active in her local church, St. Peter-St. Denis, helping with the church's food pantry.

### **Boy: *Alphonse Rafaelo Sinalo***

Alphonse has consistently been a top achiever at School 16. His dedication to his work is unmatched by most. He cares very much about his success, and that is evident by his work ethic and polite, respectful demeanor. He is artistic, caring, and unselfish. He has plans for a medical career.

## SCHOLASTIC ACADEMY FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

### **Girl: *Camila Espitia***

Camila is a conscientious student and an asset to our school community. Her perfect attendance demonstrates her commitment to academic excellence, which has helped her achieve honor roll status. She hopes this determination will one day help her achieve her goal to work as a chemist in the future. She has a warm and inviting personality and volunteers her time to assist teachers as well as the larger school community. She possesses the qualities of a great leader and has served in Student Council as both Class Representative and now School President. Camila is also an avid soccer player and has been playing for the school's intramural team as well as in soccer leagues in Westchester. Camila is an exceptional young woman and has a bright future ahead of her.

### **Boy: *Mario Garcia***

Mario is as diligent, focused, and affable as they come. Whenever there is a task at hand, Mario reliably finds a way to lead his group by example and gentle coaxing. His natural leadership qualities shine through when he guides his peers seemingly effortlessly. Whether in the classroom or on the soccer field, Mario knows how to get the most out of those around him and lift his team to new heights.

## EUGENIO MARIA DE HOSTOS MICROSOCIETY SCHOOL

### **Girl: *Maha Shahbaz***

Maha has grown into a poised and accomplished young lady. She is an exceptional student with excellent grades resulting from her diligent work habits. Maha 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 the yearbook club, in Mini-Micro, and various extracurricular activities (e.g. soccer and basketball).

**Boy: *Ethan Shemar Purnell***

Ethan has grown tremendously as a student, striving for ultimate success and never settling for minimum expectations. He is a hardworking, respectful, goal oriented, and a motivated student. Since the 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Ethan has been an active member of the Micro Society Program serving as CFO and treasurer. Ethan is a positive role model and good citizen. He always takes initiative to help out fellow students who may need help with specific subjects particularly in math.

**SCHOOL 23**

**Girl: *Jasmine Linang***

Jasmine is bright, articulate, responsible, and hard working. Her ability to rise to the top of her peers sets her in a lane of her own and will be an asset to any academic community. She enjoys fishing, softball, art, and baking. She volunteers with the younger students as well as the Summer Reading Buddies Program.

**Boy: *Elían Vallejo Barinas***

Elían is the prime candidate for this award. He is an exemplary student who personifies the attributes needed for success. He is a respectful student who enjoys helping others in his community, especially at The Ark of Jehovah. He also enjoys playing basketball, soccer, baseball and football with his peers.

**CASIMIR PULASKI SCHOOL**

**Girl: *Mary Whelan***

Mary is a kind hearted and conscientious young girl. She is always bright and positive to those around her. If anyone is in need of assistance she is willing to help even if it means giving up her own lunch time. She is supportive of all her peers and helpful and respectful to all of her teachers.

**Boy: *Valentin Berishaj***

Valentin is a bright and conscientious young man. He is a student who all can rely on and look up to as a model student. He completes all of his work timely and accurately. He is friendly with all of his peers and helpful to anyone in need. He enjoys sports, volunteering for boys scouts and spending time with his friends.

**KAHLIL GIBRAN SCHOOL**

**Girl: *Chandia Chansrisuriyawong***

Chandia has been a model scholar and athlete. She is consistently listed on the honor roll. Chandia plays on several of the school intramural teams, especially excelling in basketball, where she has led the girls' team to back-to-back district championships. Chandia is well-liked and respected amongst her peers. She has friends from all different backgrounds and never allows herself to get caught up in typical teen drama, always staying above the fray. Chandia is a leader both in word and deed, consistently setting a positive example for her classmates and the school's younger students.

**Boy: *Ali Anwar Thabet***

Ali is a well rounded student. His academic success and competitiveness on the athletic courts and fields are equally impressive, as are his contributions to our school's chess club. Ali has an easy-going demeanor and sense of maturity that belie his age. Ali is always a ready volunteer, whether it be assisting the custodians in preparing the gym for an assembly or helping with intramural sports. He makes himself available for his peers, as well as our younger students, who all admire him.

## WESTCHESTER HILLS SCHOOL 29

### **Girl: *McKenzie Denman***

McKenzie Denman is an outstanding person. McKenzie is attentive to the needs of those who surround her and is quick to help in any way that she can. Her compassion for others is visible with her many acts of kindness. McKenzie has recently endured the tragic loss of one of her sisters and has demonstrated the significance school has in her life through her consistent attendance, remarkable punctuality and constant willingness to help her fellow classmates and teachers. On the very rare occasion of an absence, McKenzie is notably missed by all.

### **Boy: *Uzair Washwell***

Uzair is a great role model. He has excellent attendance, is punctual and demonstrates great respect for authority. Uzair is eager to volunteer and was selected to be part of the Student Council. He is always excited about engaging in another event that adds to the school's environment. Uzair also independently volunteers in assisting students in other grade levels throughout the school year. Uzair's charismatic and joyful presence is appreciated by all.

## SCHOOL 30

### **Girl: *Veronika Krasniqi\*\****

Veronika is an exemplar in all things. As an elementary and middle school student at School 30, Veronika has not only exceeded all of the academic demands made on her but, more importantly and more uniquely, she has taken a deep personal interest in all of her subjects and sought knowledge and understanding of them beyond simple grade level accomplishments into a different stratum. The combination of her intellectual curiosity and academic talent is truly special. While these attributes alone make Veronika worthy of praise and this award, she has a myriad other talents and facets that make her the great person we know. Veronika is kind. She is a great friend, helpful, and conscientious. She has a sense-of-humor far beyond her years and she is often smiling or laughing. Veronika is admired by her peers and teachers alike and is the classroom benchmark for academics, behavior, personal interaction, and occasionally, moral fortitude. When Veronika moves on to high school next year she will leave a great dearth at School 30 and she will be greatly missed by all. We, however, take pride and solace in the fact that Veronika will go on to great things in her life and that she is not throwing away her shot.

### **Boy: *Julian Ortiz***

Julian is a young man who shows an interest and love of learning that has suited him well during his academic career. He also, on countless of occasions, helped a variety of his classmates, who were struggling at the time, to better understand the important concepts of the class topic. This example, in addition to his devotion to being the best Vice President that he can be for his class and school, demonstrate Julian's determination to being a valuable contributor to his community. His personable, respectful nature and wanting to succeed are certainly a great addition to any school environment.

## FAMILY SCHOOL 32

### **Girl: *Yasmin Alesayi***

Yasmin is an incredible young woman. She has consistently made Principal's List, assists with all school fundraising efforts, and serves as a peer tutor. Her character is beyond reproach, she is the ultimate "good citizen." Yasmin has a very bright future ahead of her. It is quite the privilege to have her in class.

### **Boy: *Sonny Rodriguez***

Sonny is truly a shining star. He has garnered the admiration and respect of both his peers and the adults in the building. This year, he was elected Student Body President and has proven to be a strong leader and

positive role model. He has been integral in the planning and execution of various fundraisers. He has been a great go between in relaying concerns of students and administration to the entire middle school.

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

#### ***Girl: Abreya Porter***

Abreya is an enthusiastic, energetic, and attentive student. She works well in groups and is respected by her peers. This past semester Abreya participated in a pilot program that allows 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to volunteer in an elementary classroom. The teacher she worked with enjoyed having Abreya in her classroom. She was extremely helpful and provided one-on-one help during reading time.

#### ***Boy: Day-Shawn Sanabria***

Day-Shawn has matured and shown overall improvement both academically and emotionally. His active participation in Extended Learning Time at MLK, Jr. Academy has helped him focus on academics to the point that he has earned honor roll for the first time. Day-Shawn struggled emotionally with his peers last year; however, his participation in the Summer Leadership Program and at a local church has really helped him interact positively with his peers. As a result, Day-Shawn has been a model student at MLK, Jr. Academy.

### **CROSS HILL ACADEMY**

#### ***Girl: Karen Nimoh Boyce***

Karen is a valued member of the Cross Hill Academy student body. She exemplifies the ideal student, friend and peer through the help and guidance he 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: Nicholas Edney Sylvester***

Nicholas 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. He is a long time member of the school band and helps coach and mentor younger students who are learning their instruments.

### **CEDAR PLACE SCHOOL**

#### ***Girl: Evalysse Colon***

Evalysse is an incredibly helpful student to teachers, staff, and peers. She regularly assists teachers in organizing and beautifying their classrooms. She is respectful towards teachers, administration, and fellow classmates. Evalysse is an asset to the Cedar community in that she plays an active role in the school initiatives, programs, and festivities. Evalysse is a gifted student who makes herself available to assist struggling students. She has overcome the obstacle of dealing with her mother's handicap and has been an enormous help to mom while maintaining a high academic grade point average.

#### ***Boy: Joshua Tejeda***

Joshua is a hard-working student who excels in all academic areas. He is respectful of faculty, staff, his peers and school property. He volunteers at various school functions. He also helps students that are struggling through peer tutoring. He is part of the STEAM program at school and enjoys playing chess.

### **ENRICO FERMI SCHOOL**

#### ***Girl: Syeda Anousha Ali***

Anousha is a dedicated and hardworking student always available and willing to volunteer. She is academically bright and prompt-achieving mostly A's in all classes. She is available and willing to collaborate and help others when needed.

#### ***Boy: Edwin Cortazo***

Edwin demonstrates leadership qualities, has outstanding reading, writing and problem-solving skills. Edwin is punctual, respectful and holds command and responsibility as a class representative in student government. He is a good listener and communicator among his peers and the faculty.

### **PEARLS HAWTHORNE SCHOOL**

#### ***Girl: Sophia Maron Schaeffer***

Sophia is truly a "gem" of a young lady. Just as much as she is bright and hardworking, she is kind and generous. Sophia is the type of person who would go out of her way to help someone in need or to make someone smile. Sophia is a role model for her peers in that she loves to learn and grow. As a consistent Principal's List student, she uses her successes to help tutor her peers during her free time and to participate in a variety of academically enriching programs. These programs include the PEARLS Science Olympiad, Tri-County Science Fair and the PEARLS Science Fair. Additionally, she is a member of the PEARLS Band.

#### ***Boy: Nicholas Sanchez***

Nicholas Sanchez is a well rounded student. He enjoys engaging in extracurricular activities as well as supporting our school in various academic challenges / competitions. Nicholas is a consistent Principal's List / High Honor Roll student and strives to achieve his best in all that he does. As a "Tech Savvy" individual, Nicholas is always helpful in assisting with technology use in the classroom.

### **ROBERT C. DODSON SCHOOL**

#### ***Girl: Jaylene Salazar***

Jaylene is an excellent student with strong work ethic who is full of a refreshing, pleasant personality. She consistently puts forth great effort into all of her assignments and is always up for a challenge. In addition to her strong academics, she has established a great rapport with administrators, teachers and her fellow students, and as such, was elected to the Robert C. Dodson School Student Government. Her classmates cited her maturity, leadership qualities and personality for why they thought she would make a good school leader. Jaylene takes great pride in everything she is involved in and always goes above and beyond on any task. She is a great role model who makes a positive impact on our younger students throughout the entire building.

#### ***Boy: Warren Jones***

As a leader of the Dodson Student Government, Warren helps with coordinating activities within our local community, such as the Pajama drive and food drive. He has helped on the WE School Wide Initiative Program, sent cards to our Veterans and raised money for the Special Olympics. Warren is an outstanding young man and is a notable role model. He is a true asset to the Dodson community.

### **WILLIAM BOYCE THOMPSON SCHOOL**

#### ***Girl: Anaya McVay***

Anaya McVay is a respectful and caring student who has been involved in the total school program for the past four years. She has been an active member of Student Government, organizing various fundraising

events and social activities. Anaya has volunteered many hour in a pre-kindergarten class, assisting students and the teacher with various tasks. In addition, she was a member of the Boyce Thompson's Falcon basketball team. Anaya is a diligent student who is excelling academically across all content areas.

**Boy: *Farid Ibrahim***

Farid is a respectful young man who has set short and long-term goals for himself. His kind demeanor has enabled him to develop positive relationships with both his peers and staff at the school. Farid has been an active member of the tutoring club, volunteering several hours to support his peers across all academic content areas. He has an outstanding academic and attendance record. Farid's volunteer work also includes supporting literacy in grades K-2 during lunch/recess. He is truly an inspirational young man who has a bright future ahead of him.

**YONKERS MONTESSORI ACADEMY**

**Girl: *Emma Gleeson***

Emma is an exemplary student who excels in all her classes. Emma is a top math student in the Algebra 1 class and will be taking the Algebra 1, Living Environment and Language Regents as an eighth-grade student. Perseverance, dedication, creativity and the ability to think outside of the box are just a few characteristics that come to mind when people think of Emma. She is a quiet leader who is well respected by all of her peers and teachers. Emma is always willing to take a risk and learn something new which is evident by the many activities she takes part in including her acceptance into a summer program at Rye Country Day, playing the fiddle, her love for sports including soccer, softball, basketball, Gaelic, and camogie as well as her extensive community service. Whether Emma is giving up her lunch to peer tutor, volunteer to help a teacher, or getting extra help, she is being a productive member of our school community.

**Boy: *Cathal Egan***

Cathal is a well-rounded young man who is involved in many activities in and out of school including soccer, Gaelic, golf, hurling and basketball. His community service is evident in the work he does with the Aisling Center, and always helping at the many benefits in the area including a recent one for a young boy with cancer. Cathal has also shown the ability to establish himself as a leader with his peers. His peers often come to him with questions.

**PALISADE PREPARATORY SCHOOL**

**Girl: *Brianne Barredo***

Brianne is a responsible, dedicated and hard-working student. She has excellent attendance and can always be counted on to be on time and ready for whatever task is at hand. She goes above and beyond all things that are asked of her. She is always ready and willing to help anyone who is in need. She is also currently on the High Honor Roll.

**Boy: *Jacob Caceres***

Jacob is a diligent student who works hard to achieve success. He is always willing to help out another student. He arrives to class on time and ready to work. He has made High Honor Roll. He enjoys coding and building his own computer. He also plays basketball and soccer.

**YONKERS MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL**

**Girl: *Keya Patel***

Keya Patel is a phenomenal young woman. She makes remarkably positive contributions to the Yonkers Middle High School family. She is the first to offer an encouraging word or smile to those in need. She consistently helps other students with academic and organizational issues. Furthermore, she offers her time

and energy to help administration, teaching and other staff make our school an efficient and positive environment for all.

**Boy: *Michael Kopcha***

Michael is respectful and kind to teachers. He helps out friends whether they are struggling with homework or with school in general, bringing a positive attitude to school every day. He has participated in the Martin Luther King, Jr. poem contest. He enjoys soccer and track and field.

**Patricia A. DiChiaro Memorial Award**

(Sponsored by YCPTSA)

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.

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boy or Girl**

**\*\*District Wide winners**

**SCHOOL 5**

***Adalisa Avdic***

Adalisa is always willing to step up and help. She has a true concern about her classmates and stands up when things aren't fair, especially to help the victim. She is also extremely forgiving and always willing to give someone another chance.

**PATRICIA A. DICHIARO SCHOOL**

***Romaissae El-Gamani***

Romaissae is a hard-working, serious, kind, respectful and caring student. She is active in the community as a Girl Scout and also volunteers at the Greenburg Nature Center. Romaissae is an outstanding citizen with exceptional character who is organized and insightful. She is currently the secretary of the student government and plays basketball and swims for the Condors Swim Team.

**COMMUNITY SCHOOL 13**

***Brenda Jiminez***

Brenda's involvement in multiple school initiatives and endless dedication to support the school community through either sports or fundraisers revealed how each challenge presented to her was met. Brenda is someone who is always willing to help and works hard to achieve her goals, both academically and socially. She isn't afraid of challenges and is always trusted by faculty and staff to complete a task with responsibility and honesty. Her awards include being Student of the Month, achieving High Honor Roll consecutively in 7th grade and High Honor Roll and Principal's List in 8th grade.

## **PAIDEIA SCHOOL 15**

### ***Brittney Tetteh***

Brittney is a delight to have in class and always brings in a smile. She participates during class and enjoys learning. Brittney is always lending a hand to the teachers and her fellow classmates. She often brings relevant and worldly information into the classroom allowing room for discussion with the teacher and her classmates. Brittney asks for help when necessary and knows her role as a student. There has never been a behavioral concern with Brittney as she is always respectful whether to another student or with an authority figure.

## **SCHOOL 16**

### ***Meagan Canosa***

Meagan has been a wonderful addition to our school in the two years she has been here. She is helpful, caring, and has a sweet delightful personality. Her dedication to helping others, both in the Philippines and the United States is beyond many students' her age. She is a kind person that helps others when they are in need by donating food and clothes to people who have none.

## **SCHOLASTIC ACADEMY FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

### ***Nylah Fields***

Nylah provides a selflessness and optimism that helps any community thrive. She continually goes out of her way to help new classmates get acclimated to the school's culture, and never fails to lend a helping hand to peers in need of assistance. Whether someone needed help finding their next class or didn't speak a word of English, Nylah was there to lend a helping hand. Through it all, she does it with an infectious enthusiasm that lifts the entire community. She is mature beyond her years and thrives when interacting with peers on a collaborative endeavor. Her impact on the Scholastic Community will not soon be forgotten.

## **EUGENIO MARIA DE HOSTOS MICRO SOCIETY SCHOOL**

### ***Jair Tola***

Jair is recognized for his outstanding leadership and determined contributions to our school's program and in the Yonkers community. Since 2014, Jair has been an active member of our school's Micro Society Program as Vice President and President of the Student Government. This year he has taken a different role in the Micro Society Program as a Pre-K Student Mentor. As a mentor, Jair dedicates his recess time working with Pre-K students with their academics at least four times a week. This past summer in 2017, he volunteered at the Yonkers Summer Reading Buddies Program helping younger students read books. Jair's caring attitude and work with younger students is admirable. It is rare to meet a middle school student who has a combination of academic achievement, who is diligent, and thoughtful towards their school and community.

## **SCHOOL 23**

### ***Brianna Rodriguez***

Brianna Rodriguez is a wonderful young lady who puts others before herself. As a member of School 23's community, she takes time to help others do their best. Brianna also lends a helping hand to the younger students by participating in special activities here at School 23. Most students help at their school, but what makes Brianna special is she helps outside of school as well. She volunteers her time a lot and one that stood out to me was her volunteering for "Voices for the Voiceless".

## **CASIMIR PULASKI SCHOOL**

### ***Zane Alden Schoenberg***

Zane is a wonderful candidate for this award. If anything is needed Zane is the person to find to help get the task completed. His dedication to helping others especially his teachers is so apparent that even his classmates have recognized his supportive nature. He is positive and always willing to give up even his lunch time to assist with a project or help make our school community a better place to attend.

## **KAHLIL GIBRAN SCHOOL**

### ***Gabriel Haynes***

Gabriel is a tremendous asset to our school community. Whether it is assisting younger students in the cafeteria or hallway, offering to help a former teacher move things around in her classroom, or watching younger students at night time PTA meetings, he is always an eager volunteer. Gabe is especially passionate about speaking out about Type 1 diabetes and supporting others who have the same condition as him.

## **WESTCHESTER HILLS SCHOOL 29**

### ***Sydney O'Malley***

Sydney is President of the Student Council, she has devoted much of her free time to serving the needs of her fellow classmates. Sydney is caring and committed to serving her community and has done so for many years. She has often volunteered to help students in other grades, in aiding them to complete projects, artistic activities and even assisted them in preparing for school wide events. Sydney is kind and caring and is always aware of the needs of others and willing to help students, teachers and staff. Her greatest contribution is her natural ability of being an inspiring leader, she is eloquent and truly magnificent in how she speaks for her classmates and advocates for their needs and vision for our school. Sydney is a confident and strong leader who makes any endeavor seem easy to accomplish.

## **SCHOOL 30**

### ***Sabrina Iacovetta***

As a student, Sabrina is able to grasp information quickly and accurately, even the most complex of concepts taught in class and takes her academic success very seriously. She is always ready to participate, help out in any way, and complete any task at hand to her best ability. Sabrina always surprises her teacher with her intellect. She is extremely unique and will excel in any future program that she undertakes.

Sabrina is an extremely compassionate and empathetic person. She is known for her ability to be conscious of how other's feel and help them out in any way possible. She has many friends and is loved by the staff. She walks into the classroom every morning with a smile on her face and positively greets the teachers. She gets along well with all of her teachers and has not been the subject of any complaint. She is an absolute pleasure to have in class.

## **FAMILY SCHOOL 32**

### ***Lalaine Castellon***

Lalaine is an exemplary student and young woman. She is the first one to volunteer to show a new student around, a member of the yearbook committee, a Girl Scout and a team captain for several sports (both in and out of school). Lalaine is on the Principal's List and was selected to attend Sarah Lawrence College's Creative Writing Workshop for middle school students. She puts others first and takes pride in her leadership abilities.

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

### ***Mariah Ramirez***

Mariah has worked beautifully with a new student from the Dominican Republic who speaks little English and struggled transitioning in class. Mariah volunteers to assist the student in and out of class, maintaining her grades as well. Mariah also worked, along with her family, to collect goods for people in Puerto Rico affected by the hurricanes. She worked to prepare boxes, separate goods and organize volunteers to assure they gave to the victims. Mariah is a true leader and giver.

## **CROSS HILL ACADEMY**

### ***Sarah Fermin***

Sarah 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, helped with organizing and advertising, and gave her time. Sarah helps with peers and younger students whenever she is asked.

## **CEDAR PLACE SCHOOL**

### ***Dennis Mejia***

Dennis Mejia has served both as a tutor and mentor to younger students during his time at Cedar Place. His willingness to serve on the Safety Patrol further illustrates his commitment to the community. His selection will be a source of pride not only for his family and school but to the City of Yonkers and finally to Pat DiChiaro herself. He prides himself by giving back to the community.

## **ENRICO FERMI SCHOOL**

### ***Dianna Villatoro***

Dianna is the epitome of a committed and exemplary student. She is dedicated to making her school and community better. She is currently the President of the school's Student Government. She has served as a cabinet member since 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Dianna participates in Safety Patrol at school and helps with the younger students. During her lunch, she works on editing the yearbook. She enjoys the photography club, taking pictures of school events and projects.

## **PEARLS HAWTHORNE SCHOOL**

### ***Felix Urena\*\****

Felix is a multitalented young man. He excels in academics, leadership tasks and volunteer work. Felix is an energetic, committed and passionate young man. As a consistent Principal's List student, he works hard to achieve in his academics and to be a true role model for his peers. Last year, he served as Student Government Vice President and worked closely with the student body to fundraise and promote enriching activities for our school. He is also selfless with his time as he tutors his peers in various subjects during his lunchtime. He has volunteered at numerous PEARLS PTA Events as well. As a PEARLS student, Felix serves on various clubs such as the PEARLS Yearbook, All City Band, Coding Club and Science Olympiad. During the summer, Felix volunteers at the Yonkers Riverfront Library for the JCY Reading Buddies Program. Since reading is such a vital part of learning, he feels it is important to enrich our city's youth as much as possible. Clearly, Felix is an asset to not only our school community but to the city of Yonkers.

## **ROBERT C. DODSON SCHOOL**

### ***Loralvy Rosario Cabrera***

Loralvy has been an active member of the Student Government, helped out with the Pajama Drive, and collections for the Veterans Hospital. She is the first to volunteer for activities related to our school. Her enthusiasm and work ethic are infectious.

## **WILLIAM BOYCE THOMPSON SCHOOL**

### ***Ardita Mekuli***

Ardita Mekuli is a bright, energetic, and responsible student at the William Boyce Thompson School. Ardita is an active member of the tutorial club and student government. Throughout the 2017-2018 school year, she has been instrumental in planning, organizing, and participating in various school-wide fundraising events, including the Pennies for Patients Campaign and American Heart Association- Jump Hoops for Life. Ardita is in the top ten percent of her class, achieving Principal's for the first and second marking period of the 2017-2018 academic year. Her contributions to the school community goes unrecognized. She works collaboratively with staff and students in the school improvement process in an effort to build a safe and stimulating learning environment.

## **YONKERS MONTESSORI ACADEMY**

### ***Nicole Calderon***

Nicole is an asset to the school, displays a level of creativity, wit, and demonstrates a care for others in class. Nicole is cheerful, dedicated, responsible, motivated and interested in learning. Nicole is always willing to assist with any task. She helps students with their work during her lunch period as well as volunteers in shelters.

## **PALISADE PREPARATORY SCHOOL**

### ***Janay Green***

Janay is a dedicated student who always volunteers to help her teachers and fellow students inside and outside the classroom. She is a member of the Dunwoodie softball team. She has also become part of the Sarah Lawrence creative writing program. She has maintained a high GPA placing her on High Honor Roll.

## **YONKERS MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL**

### ***Ali Syed***

Ali is a hearing-impaired student. Although communication is difficult he interacts very well with his peers, teachers, and staff. He is always friendly towards others. Ali volunteers in the cafeteria cleaning up. Ali has faced many challenges in his life yet still manages to overcome them.

## Mabel Bell Scholarship Award

(Sponsored by YCPTSA)

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: *Elijah Washington*

RIVERSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

Elijah is a wonderful, energetic and philanthropic young man. He has a passion to help others in his community. He is the Co-Chair of the Hudson River Museum Junior Docent Advisory Board. The Junior Docent program trains students throughout the year to become leaders and teachers that have an appreciation of art and culture. He was the chair and the youngest member of the Mayor's Youth Advisory Board (age 15). He created the Youth Giving Back Club at age 12, organized Yonkers Childhood Hunger Summit, and is a part of the Youth Philanthropy Leadership Team that works with the Frieda C. Fox Family Foundation as well as a speaker at their regional conferences. He has a bright future ahead of him.

## Paul M. Mitchell Humanitarian Award

(Sponsored by YCPTSA)

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: *Maxine Smith*

YONKERS MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

Maxine is intelligent, diligent, conscientious and enjoys learning. She volunteers her time at numerous organizations, such as the Bezack Center, the Science Barge and the Greenburgh Nature Center. She is involved in Community Corps which helps underprivileged children in the Bronxworks after school program. She plans on continuing to volunteer her time for different causes. She is truly deserving of this award.

## Millie Yochman Special Recognition Award

(Sponsored by YCPTSA)

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: *Samuel Figueroa*

CHARLES E. GORTON HIGH SCHOOL

Samuel Figueroa has overcome many obstacles in his life. He struggled academically but has developed strategies to succeed. He is well liked by administrators, teachers and his peers. He has worked hard to pass his Regents Exams and will receive a diploma in June. He was accepted to Lincoln Tech where he will be enrolled in their Automotive Program. He is an outstanding young man.

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 S. Coddett, Deputy Superintendent

Dr. Corey W. Reynolds, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Curriculum and Instruction

Mrs. RoseAnne Collins-Judon, Assistant Superintendent, Secondary 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**

Sophia Wu

Arlene Burlingham

Carma Cacace

Julia Diaz

Karen Doran

Anna Lisa Negro

Irma J. Pereira

Jennifer A. Rattendi

***Yonkers Council of PTA/PTSAs Executive Officers***

President – Sally Pinto

1st Vice President - Arlene Burlingham

2nd Vice President - Sophia Wu

3rd Vice President - Mercedes Rios

Corresponding Secretary - Ann Marie Papanagnostou

Recording Secretary - Irma J. Pereira

Treasurer - John Carlos Macias

Immediate Past President - Karen Beltran

**Scholarship Dinner Committee**

Co-Chairperson – Annmarie Smith and Irma J. Pereira

Monique Anderson

Irma Ashayagori

Jackie Cabrera

Erin Gorman

John Carlos Macias

Marlene McGovern

Ann Marie Papanagnostou

Irma J. Pereira

Annmarie Smith

Amy Vaccaro

Sophia Wu

Scholarship Application Packages proofread:

Dr. Corey W. Reynolds, Mrs. Joan A. DeLuca, and the Citizenship and Scholarship Awards Committee Members

Student Names Proofread by Johanna DePierro and Sophia Wu

Booklet Editor: Jennifer A. Rattendi, Arlene Burlingham, Karen Doran, and Sophia Wu

Booklet Proofread by the Citizenship and Scholarship Awards Committee Members

Booklet Layout Design: Sophia Wu

Booklet Front Cover Design: Ann Marie Papanagnostou

Special thank you to Mrs. Joan A. DeLuca, Division of Teaching and Learning, for her diligent coordination

Please contact or visit YCPTA at:

<http://www.yonkerspublicschools/ycpta>

Email: [ycpta@ycpta.org](mailto:ycpta@ycpta.org)