



CITIZENSHIP/SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

JUNE, 2021

Dear Student Honoree,

On behalf of the Yonkers Council of PTA/PTSAs (YCPTA) board, we are honored to congratulate you on receiving the enclosed award.

Your actions, hard work, and good deeds were noticed by your administrators, teachers, peers, and this committee. We are proud that our district has student representatives like yourself, making an impact in our schools and in our community.

This year was particularly challenging. You survived a school year of mask wearing, remote and hybrid instruction, and many COVID restrictions. You showed, that despite the restrictions and challenges, you can still be a role model and make a positive impact. For this, we cannot be more proud of you.

As Maya Angelou once said - *"It is always about the work. In the latter years of your life, your happiness and your self-esteem will be determined by the mountains you surmounted, the valleys you climbed out of, and the life and/or career that you forged for yourself."*

When you are older, we know you will look back on this school year as a challenging year, but we hope you will also see that, despite those challenges, you climbed a mountain and came out on top! Continue to be courageous, work hard, and set a good example!

Have a successful future!

Best regards,

YCPTA Board with the Citizenship and Scholarship Awards Committee

Awards Presentation

Rosemarie Ann Siragusa Citizenship Award
5th and 8th Graders

Patricia A. DiChiaro Memorial Award
8th Grade

Mabel Bell Humanitarian Award
High School

Dr. 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 5th Grade and the 8th 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.

5th Grade Boys and Girls

SCHOOL 5

Girl: *Adan Ali*

Adan is a 5th grade remote student in Ms. Costello's class. She is always present and on-time for class. She completes all schoolwork carefully and on time. She is helpful to other students in the virtual classroom and often serves as an online assistant during school. Adan is a kind and conscientious student.

Boy: *Ayden Balroop*

Ayden is a model student that is working remotely. He is always one of the first students to sign into a Teams meeting. He completes all assignments and participates in our class discussions daily. Ayden made the School Five Honor Roll. Ayden sets a fantastic example for his peers to follow and consistently earns good grades. He is able to nicely balance his classwork with his other interests, such as video games.

PATRICIA A. DICHIARO SCHOOL

Girl: *Vida Magalhaes*

Vida is a kind and conscientious child. When the pandemic came last year, Vida and her siblings moved in with her grandparents. Through no fault of her own, she suddenly had to help her three younger siblings get through the school day. She is patient, generous and always giving. Vida worries about the well-being of those around her. During the pandemic, she sent her mother (a nurse) and her team pictures and cards to cheer up their spirits. Those were the darkest days for all of them and they looked forward to her drawings to help elevate the mood and give them hope. Vida cares about her classmates. If someone has a question or needs help, she is always willing to offer. Vida wants to be a teacher when she grows up. She believes this is the best way she can continue to help others.

Boy: *James Hart*

James is a well-rounded young man. He works really hard in the classroom and just as hard in the sports that he plays. James plays CYO basketball, flag football, Gaelic football and soccer. He is very competitive but his desire to win comes second to his sportsmanship. He cheers on his teammates, treats everyone with respect and is always encouraging others. James always looks out for others, whether at home, in the classroom, or on the field or court. He shows compassion and concern for others. James is the oldest of two children. He loves to play and teach his little brother Ryan "the ropes". He is a role model to his brother, younger cousins, classmates and teammates.

SCHOOL 9

Girl: *Brianna Soriano*

Brianna is an excellent role model, an exemplary student, and a valuable member of the School 9 community. Brianna's academic achievement reflects her commitment to her schoolwork and eagerness to learn. She is a hard worker and a student who always strives for excellence. She is dependable and is well respected by the entire School 9 community. She is very deserving of the Rosemarie Siragusa Memorial Award.

Boy: *Kyle Taylor*

Kyle is a dedicated student who tries his best at all he does. Despite the new challenges we are facing during this time, Kyle continues to rise to the occasion and demonstrates resilience. He is very deserving of this reward.

THOMAS CORNELL ACADEMY

Girl: *Jaleesa Vazquez*

Jaleesa is a confident, happy girl with a bubbly personality. She is well liked by her peers and is a good role model to her classmates. She perseveres and takes ownership of her classwork and homework. When completing a task, she goes beyond what is expected of her and strives for excellence.

Boy: *Julian Smith*

Julian is a very respectful and pleasant boy. He is well liked by his peers. Julian puts forth outstanding effort and takes ownership of his work. He arrives to class on time and ready to learn. He sets an example for his classmates with a smile and a positive attitude.

SCHOOL 13

Girl: *Taylor A. Barksdale*

Taylor is a mature, self-motivated, and an intelligent young lady. She exhibits all of the qualities of a Siragusa Award winner. She is conscientious about her academic work, helpful to her peers and teachers alike, and is committed to her school community. Taylor has a friendly personality, is always punctual and prepared. Taylor is more than deserving of this award.

Boy: *Welintong D. Gomez*

Welintong is a witty, amazingly brilliant, and responsible young man. He exhibits all the qualities of a Siragusa Award winner. He is dedicated to helping his peers and teachers alike and is a leader in any group he is in. Welintong seeks innovative ways to solve a problem or understand a concept and always analyzes everything he reads to further his understanding. He is inquisitive and enjoys technology. He is proficient in all academic areas. Welintong is truly deserving of this award.

ROSEMARIE ANN SIRAGUSA SCHOOL

Girl: *Lesley Rodriguez*

Lesley was chosen for the Citizenship Award at the Rosemarie Ann Siragusa School because she displays the attributes of an internationally minded student which are promoted within the Siragusa Global Academy. Lesley is a knowledgeable, hard-working student who eagerly tries new things and confidently shares her beliefs and experiences. She is a principled young lady who displays honesty and fairness among her peers. Lesley is an enthusiastic learner who exhibits an unquenchable thirst for knowledge and always strives to do her best.

Boy: *Raul Payero*

Raul has shown an amazing commitment to his learning and his role as a Siragusa Scholar! He enjoys the journey of learning and takes thinking to a whole new level. Raul also has excellent grades and is respected in our class community. He has shown tremendous leadership skills during my class, which only adds to a positive academic environment. I have witnessed him taking initiative with new tasks and advocating for his fellow students when needed. I am excited to have Raul as a part of our community and I am excited for his future. Raul exemplifies what it means to be a lifelong learner.

PAIDEIA SCHOOL 15

Girl: *Kaitlyn Said*

Kaitlyn has a real intrinsic motivation that makes her an exciting learner. Kaitlyn is a confident and passionate participant in class discussions, where she shares her own ideas as much as she listens to the ideas of her peers. Kaitlyn loves working in study groups with her classmates, which they have created on their own outside of the school day. She thrives in a community learning environment where she can engage with students and adults alike. The hurdles of hybrid learning during a pandemic have not impeded her focus or determination. In short, Kaitlyn is a prepared, outgoing, bubbly young lady who has found the balance between having fun and being serious, responsible, and a compassionate part of our learning community.

Boy: *Jayden Bailey*

Jayden is a diligent student who is a responsible member of our school community. He has overcome many hardships, while remaining humble and kind. Jayden can be seen helping his fellow classmates with difficult math problems, taking a moment to assist younger students, and spending time with new students to help them become acclimated to our class. His leadership qualities show when he formulates games that bring the children “together” (socially distanced), which is much needed, especially during these challenging times. Jayden’s kindness and service are apparent outside the school, as well. He is an intelligent, capable, reliable, honest, and personable young man who is always smiling.

SCHOOL 16

Girl: *Hagar Shahin*

Hagar is a very responsible fifth grader who leads by example. She has a strong work ethic and makes good decisions both academically and socially. She is always willing to help anyone who may need it. She is a positive influence to everyone around her.

Boy: *Antonio Negrette*

Antonio is a valued classmate. He is always willing to share his talents; specifically, he has helped his classmates navigate the class notebook component of our digital platform. Antonio is cooperative and respectful; a role model for other boys in the class. Antonio is a bright, responsible student. He puts great effort into his work and his attendance is excellent.

SCHOOL 17

Girl: *Tahlia L. Gretczko*

Tahlia is an outstanding student. She has perfect attendance and comes to class on time. Tahlia always adheres to the school rules and she demonstrates good character, patience, and understanding. She has many academic achievements and always goes above and beyond when completing her assignments. Tahlia is well deserving of the Rosemarie Siragusa Memorial Award.

Boy: *Anthony Quintana*

Anthony is a remote student this year at School 17. He punctually signs on daily and is well prepared for every class. Anthony is well mannered and greets the class every day with, “Good morning!” He raises his hand using the proper key functions and waits for his turn to speak, or to ask questions. Anthony submits all assignments on time and accurately and as a result, he excels in all subjects. Anthony truly deserves the Rosemarie Ann Siragusa Memorial Award.

SCHOLASTIC ACADEMY FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Girl: *Xochil Chavez Linares*

Xochil 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 person of resilient perseverance and superiority, Xochil takes pride in working hard for the greater good of all those in the school community. Her academic achievements in all subject areas reflect her commitment to being a lifelong learner, and emphasize the value she places on education. Xochil's strong work ethics, curiosity, and diligence toward all of her studies have enabled her to achieve above grade level performance in all subject areas.

Boy: *Ebher Timothy Alves*

Ebher is a model citizen consisting of excellent character. He demonstrates kindness and great care for his peers and shows empathy and compassion when he learns of times when there was none. Ebher exhibits respect in all he does, and he takes ownership over his learning. His academic achievements reflect in his commitment to his schoolwork and eagerness to learn. Ebher's integrity and diligence to his studies make him a natural-born leader.

EUGENIO MARIA DE HOSTOS MICRO SOCIETY SCHOOL

Girl: *Sofia Vazquez*

Sofia is a wonderful young lady. She is an amazing student as well as a leader in the classroom. She takes her work seriously and has worked so hard during this difficult year. Whether she is in school or at home, you can always count on her to do her best. In her spare time, she enjoys coloring, playing board games, and attending martial art classes. She has a large family and loves to spend time with them in her free time. Keep up the great work, Sofia!

Boy: *Luis Mejia*

Luis is an excellent student who excels in and out of the classroom. He is an avid reader and his favorite subject is Math. Luis is a respectful and hard-working boy. In his free time, he enjoys playing soccer and spending time with his family. It is a pleasure to teach such a well-rounded student!

SCHOOL 21

Girl: *Mariacarla Gil Almonte*

Mariacarla's amicable mannerism towards her fellow classmates and her dedication as a team leader, demonstrate her support for others. Mariacarla has the adaptability to grasp concepts and ideas quickly and is unafraid to make mistakes or ask questions. She is confident in her skills and seeks clarity to enhance her work. She is always making sure that there is no one on her team that is lacking in skill set and is willing to assist in creating background images that align with their PowerPoint slides. She loves to assist in editing, providing links for different research topics, and trouble-shooting any technology needs with her peers. She is an exceptional writer, and takes pride in always making sure that her assignments as well as her classmates are well vetted.

Boy: *Kayden Marin*

Kayden shows a constant respect for authority in all that he undertakes. He 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. For our class he leads by example. He is also very well rounded as he creates videos in his free time for his YouTube channel. Kayden takes school seriously and attendance and punctuality is top notch. He is responsible for another sibling and he takes that very seriously. Kayden has also shown the ability to work without direct supervision and is a true leader in our class. He comes to our meetings each day prepared to do his best and seems to grow academically each day.

SCHOOL 22

Girl: **Ivie Imafidon**

Ivie is a bright, curious, and hard-working student. She has embraced the hybrid learning model and does an equally good job in class as well as online. She is an active participant in all class discussions and is looked up to as a positive role model in my class. Ivie has a wide range of knowledge and is not afraid to say when she needs help or guidance. In my opinion, Ivie has all of the qualities of a successful student and a productive adult. She stands out in my class and embodies what I feel a Siragusa Award recipient should be.

Boy: **Muhammad-Ibrahim Kalair**

Muhammad is a strong student who takes pride in his work. He strives to do his best and sets a positive example for his peers. He is engaged in the learning process and has embraced remote learning. Muhammad respectfully participates in class discussions, always asks questions, and completes assignments on time. Muhammad is respectful of his peers and teachers. He epitomizes what it means to be a successful student in the 2020-2021 school year.

SCHOOL 23

Girl: **Carla Medina Ibanez**

Carla strives every day to complete all assignments and be present online. Carla has worked diligently to improve her Math and ELA scores and is helpful to other students. Carla is always willing to participate during class instruction. She is courteous to all students and adults and is extremely helpful. Carla is a joy in all ways in our classroom.

Boy: **Lenny Ariza**

Lenny is a very respectful and honest student. He is an active learner throughout the school day and always tries his best. Even under challenging circumstances, he takes responsibility for his learning during hybrid instruction. He has never missed an assignment and is always working efficiently. Lenny 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. Lenny is a leader who has a good grasp of how important education is for his future. Overall, Lenny is a model student.

PAIDEIA SCHOOL 24

Girl: **Yariah McCall**

Yariah comes to school every day with a smile on her face. She wants to learn and she wants to help. When she is finished with her work, she often helps other students who may experience difficulty with their work. She often initiates groups to work together remotely or assist with homework and study groups.

Boy: **Fadi Alkam**

Fadi is very deserving of the Rosemarie Ann Siragusa Memorial Award. He takes school very seriously and is always looking to learn more. He is not shy to ask questions or to volunteer. But what makes him truly deserving of this award is his character. The way he respects everyone in the school is amazing. We are honored to have Fadi at Paideia 24.

MUSEUM SCHOOL 25

Girl: **Mrithila Banik**

Mrithila is a hard-working student. During this time of the pandemic, she has been willing to help other students navigate through online learning. She is a caring, model student to the Museum School 25 family. Her selflessness and dedication to her classmates shows how deserving she is of this award.

Boy: *Matthew Vargas*

Matthew is a very responsible and caring student. He is always willing to help his peers with their work. He goes above and beyond to make sure everyone is ok. He is a hard worker and a great discussion leader. Matthew is a positive influence on his peers and is a pleasure to work with in class.

CASIMIR PULASKI SCHOOL

Girl: *Johanna Pradeep*

Johanna is an outstanding student. She is respectful and cooperative. As the situation demands, Johanna works with a group and is an active participant. Johanna is caring and shows sensitivity towards the needs and feelings of her peers. She exhibits a sense of personal commitment to helping her classmates. Johanna is a dependable communicator who respects the values of her peers and is open to their points of view. She is an observer and connects with her peer's reasoning and emotions. Johanna is responsive to the diversity of the students and accepts each and every student's individuality. She is brave and articulate in defending her beliefs.

Boy: *Denon Edwards*

Denon is a dedicated, outstanding student. He is always respectful and cooperative. Denon works well with his classmates both remotely and in person. He is always the first to step up and offer support to all when needed with grace and encouragement. Denon is also a natural communicator who not only adds substance to a discussion but listens with the intention of learning. He always respects and appreciates the opinions of others as he carefully weighs and accepts different points of view. He is truly an ideal candidate for the Rosemarie Ann Siragusa Memorial Award!

MONTESORI SCHOOL 27

Girl: *Julia Diaz*

Julia is a well-rounded, articulate and dedicated student. She is a self-motivated learner who sets the bar high for herself. Julia always offers to help her classmates and goes out of her way to make everyone feel included. She is the epitome of kindness and determination. She is a well-known and respected student in her school community. Julia is an exemplary role model for her peers and has a very bright and promising future ahead of her.

Boy: *Luis Santos Capllonch*

Luis is a great asset to our classroom. He is a respectful young man and a role model in our school community. Luis is a hard worker and a conscientious student. He is an eager learner and team player. He is always looking to improve himself and is always prepared for class. Luis participates and contributes to conversations in class. He is a wonderful young man.

KAHLIL GIBRAN SCHOOL

Girl: *Ava Yacavone-Neves*

Ava has been in my class since September. She is a hard-working and dedicated young girl. She excels in class and is outgoing and friendly to all her classmates. She really is a pleasure to have in class. What I think makes her even more amazing is the obstacles she overcomes. Her sister has been hospitalized for months at a time. Often times her mom is with her little sister in the hospital. Ava has been forced to grow up fast with these challenges and she has met them with a smile. She continues to stay focused on school even with all the distractions of life. When she is not in school Ava takes dance classes as well as acting classes. She also loves to sing. She was able to sing at Madison Square Garden for the Garden of Dreams event. Overall, Ava is well-deserving of this honor. We can all learn a lot from her determination and drive to be successful.

Boy: *Brandon Rivera*

Brandon is a kind, considerate young man who is always available to assist anyone in school or online. He is an avid basketball player who participates in both an AAU team, Westchester Athletics, and a CYO team, St. Barnabas. While in school, Brandon enjoys math and social studies. He especially enjoys social studies because he finds it interesting to learn about what happened in our history. Brandon likes the challenges of figuring out math problems. When not in school, Brandon can be found outside playing basketball. Playing video games on the weekend is also a favorite pastime. If he is not enjoying these favorite activities, he is at home with his family playing board games, watching movies. Prior to COVID-19, he also enjoyed going to basketball games with his family.

WESTCHESTER HILLS SCHOOL 29**Girl: *Caitlyn Pisano***

Caitlyn is a wonderful young lady. She is kind, caring, polite, and eager to learn. She is social, loves to laugh, and has a great sense of humor. She is always willing to help others with a smile on her face. She is motivated and works diligently on all her assignments. She never gives up and puts her full effort into all her work. Caitlyn takes pride in her schoolwork and loves to share her writing with the class. She is a great friend to her classmates. She shows leadership skills and takes the initiative to support and assist her peers and teachers in the class. She continues to be a positive ray of sunshine to all those who know her every day.

Boy: *Jayner Roman Matos*

Jayner is a great role model and sets a positive example for students in our school community. He is responsible with his classwork and homework assignments. He is eager to offer a helping hand to others when needed. If any student needs help in our cooperative online group, Jayner does not hesitate to provide assistance. He is kind, respectful, and patient towards others. Jayner has excellent attendance. He begins our class sessions with a great smile and a positive attitude. Jayner is ready and eager to face all academic challenges. Jayner leads many of our daily sharing circle discussions.

SCHOOL 30**Girl: *Layla Rabadi***

Layla shows great enthusiasm to learn new skills. She is an extremely hard-working student that consistently produces quality work. Layla sets high standards for herself and is eager to reach them. She should be proud of all of her accomplishments this year!

Boy: *Vincenzo Vigliotti*

Vincenzo is a respectful young man who strives to do his best in all academic areas. He is a delight to have in class and has a positive attitude toward his schoolwork. He exhibits strong leadership skills and is an excellent role model for his classmates.

MONTESORI SCHOOL 31**Girl: *Merola Sedek***

Merola is a responsible, trustworthy, and hardworking student who has a meticulous approach to her work. She is always kind and respectful when interacting with her peers and displays good citizenship by assisting other students. Merola works well independently and thrives in collaborative groups constantly encouraging other students to participate. Overall, Merola has a positive attitude towards school and shows great initiative in looking for new ways to get involved in the classroom and in our school community. She is a role model to others and truly a valued member of her class.

Boy: *Noah Sermeno*

Noah is a self-motivated student with a genuine love for learning. He takes pride in his schoolwork and is an active participant in class. He cooperates well with others and is well respected by his peers. His positive attitude and great work ethic make him a star student.

FAMILY SCHOOL 32

Girl: *Joy Bella DiPaolo*

Joy Bella is a motivated, hard-working student. Despite having been working remotely all year, she completes all tasks and maintains excellent grades. Joy Bella participates in all subjects and is always willing to help her classmates with technical difficulties or classwork. Joy Bella is a kind student who is never absent and takes her academics very seriously.

Boy: *Lathan Feldman*

Lathan has demonstrated a dedication to the school and his peers that is positive and upbeat. He maintains great attendance and has an eagerness to learn that surpasses our expectations. He is kind, sweet, and helpful. Lathan takes school and learning seriously. He is an absolute pleasure to have in class.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ACADEMY

Girl: *Raylor Louissant*

Raylor is a hardworking and respectful student. During a time when students are faced with new challenges - remote learning and understanding a new platform for engagement with peers and teachers, she has taken on these obstacles honorably. Each day she logs on to join our digital school community, eager to learn and provide feedback. Her positive attitude and leadership skills make her well-liked by her peers, as well as the building staff. As an intuitive and creative learner, Raylor continues to be a role model for all 5th graders!

Boy: *Randell Luna*

Randell is a responsible and hardworking fifth-grade student. Randell is always willing to try new things. He helps other students when we are in breakout rooms. Randell logs on to all our meetings, often being the first one there. He engages in our meetings and volunteers answers. Randell is always ready when called on and will ask for help if confused. He is respectful and a great addition to our classroom community.

CROSS HILL ACADEMY

Girl: *Chahat Malik*

Chahat is an excellent candidate for the Siragusa Memorial Award for many reasons. She is a respectful and cooperative student. Chahat has excellent attendance and is punctual with submitting her classwork and homework assignments. She strives to do her best, exhibits perseverance, and takes her own learning goals seriously. Chahat has shown fantastic leadership qualities in the hybrid model by sharing her screen and assisting to present daily activity lists. Chahat also encourages other students in cooperative groups and often assumes a leadership role. She is an inspiration and an excellent role model for her classmates.

Boy: *Abdulrahman Sadiq-Onilenla*

Abdulrahman is a conscientious, respectful student who consistently puts forth his best effort in classwork and homework assignments. He always arrives on-time and eager to learn and as a result, his attendance record is exemplary. Abdulrahman shows initiative and demonstrates leadership abilities in cooperative group assignments and projects. He is both admired and respected by his classmates and is a fantastic role model. He encourages and motivates students throughout the school day including computers, art and physical education classes. All of Abdulrahman's prior teachers were impressed by his diligence and work ethic.

CÉSAR E. CHÁVEZ SCHOOL

Girl: ***Stephanie Gonzalez Flores***

During this pandemic Stephanie has gone above and beyond in her schoolwork. She is polite, friendly, and helpful. Each week Stephanie submits chapters of a story she is writing and shares with the class. We so look forward to her amazing stories. Stephanie helps her classmates and teachers online, and is a true leader. I am so proud of her and César Chávez is lucky to have Stephanie!

Boy: ***Ryan Rabadi***

Ryan is polite, hard-working and respectful. He completes all assignments, and helps his classmates (and his teacher) with technology. Ryan excels at math, and assists students who may have difficulty. Ryan has gone above and beyond during this school year. He enters the class with a smile and a “good morning”, and is a pleasure to teach. César Chávez is lucky to have Ryan as a student.

ENRICO FERMI SCHOOL

Girl: ***Emily Sanchez Ramirez***

Emily is a very personable and intelligent young lady who goes above and beyond to accomplish her tasks. Emily has proven to be a great student. She can engage in conversation about many topics, providing insight and humor to my class. As the school year progresses, Emily continues to mature and raise great points in class and produce very informative discussions. She is very reliable, dependable, and always willing to help and work as a team player.

Boy: ***Marcos Vivar***

Marcos embodies every quality that you are looking for in an individual. Marcos has the utmost respect for all authority and puts forth great empathy and sincerity for all of his peers. Even with his own academic challenges, Marcos always perseveres. Even working hybrid through a pandemic, his punctuality and attendance demonstrate his unwavering work ethic. Marcos continues to show gratitude while being a part of our Fermi family, and teaches us some of his own creative hobbies like his love for Origami Art. This award would make his entire year worthwhile.

PEARLS HAWTHORNE SCHOOL

Girl: ***Hannah McKenna***

Hannah is a wonderful example of an exemplary student and she is an awesome role model to her peers. She puts a great amount of effort into all she does whether it be her core subjects or art and gym. Hannah loves to learn and is always excited to start the day at school. She is also helpful and kind to her peers who look up to her.

Boy: ***Joseph Uthuppan***

Joseph is a model student who is very serious about his studies. He has excellent leadership qualities, as he often leads small groups in the classroom. Joseph's classwork reflects hard work and dedication. He is very focused. Joseph is very passionate about participation in class discussions; his hand is always the first to rise.

ROBERT C. DODSON SCHOOL

Girl: ***Joanna Hansen***

Joanna is a highly intelligent, respectful, diligent, hardworking, and responsible young lady. She is a conscientious student who aspires to be the best that she can be. She is always willing to go above and beyond. Joanna's positive attitude shines through in all that she does. Although she is shy, she exhibits leadership qualities that her classmates look up to. She is a wonderful and caring young lady. Even though the pandemic has challenged everyone, her responses to this challenge demonstrate her dedication to her education.

Boy: *Ronaldho Hurtado De Leon*

Ronaldho has consistently exhibited the best qualities we look for in a student. Without exception, Ronaldho approaches each task with diligence and responsibility. He takes his role as a student, as well as the responsibility of furthering his own learning, to a level of maturity we don't usually see in a student his age. Ronaldho's efforts have translated into high achievement, despite the constraints of the pandemic. He is respected by his peers for his consistent effort and gracious nature.

WILLIAM BOYCE THOMPSON SCHOOL

Girl: *Isabella Robb*

Isabella is a dedicated student who focuses on doing her best in class. She enjoys learning new and interesting things as well as constantly searching for different ways to improve her overall academic performance. Helping others is part of Isabella's nature. She is always volunteering her time. She tutors her fellow classmates and is highly active within The William Boyce Thompson community. Isabella embodies the true essence of a model student.

Boy: *Paulo Saavedra*

I have had the pleasure of teaching Paulo this school year. From the first day of class, Paulo impressed me with his ability to show compassion towards others both in and out of the classroom. Paulo's personal strengths are as impressive as his academic accomplishments. He's an active presence in class with a kind and gentle heart. Paulo always has an insightful thought or idea to add to class/group discussions. His cheerful nature and openness make Paulo popular among his peers. Paulo is the perfect type of engaging, kind, and curious student that helps make our classroom a lively environment and safe place to take intellectual risks.

YONKERS MONTESSORI ACADEMY

Girl: *Alyssa Calvello*

Alyssa is a kind, respectful student who comes to school each day prepared and ready to learn. She is always willing to lend a helping hand when anyone is in need. Alyssa is an asset to our school community and embodies the 5 pillars that make up our Montessori learning environment – Respect, Peace, Learning, Community and Hard work.

Boy: *Liam McNally*

Liam is an inquisitive and responsible young man. He loves to work and assist his peers in school and outside of school. Liam strives to be the best student and person he can be. He loves to do things for his community and is an avid athlete as well. Liam is an excellent candidate for the Rosemarie Ann Siragusa Memorial Award.

8th Grade Boys and Girls

****District Wide winners**

SCHOOL 5

Girl: *Alexandra Daley*

Alexandra has been very active in the School 5 community since 7th grade. She is a member of the student council who had visited nursing homes, sent cards to encourage children who were sick in hospitals, and other activities in the community. Alexandra participated in the school's beautification program by planting trees in our new Apple Orchard and has been an active member of the PTA helping to coordinate activities for the school.

Boy: *Prince Gregory Masigla Cabie*

Prince Gregory is diligent, consistent, patient, flexible, proactive, and hard-working. Prince Gregory is an accomplished piano competition winner who received a perfect score. He has contributed to his school community by tutoring students, planting trees in our new Apple Orchard for the school beautification project and by spreading awareness to help support cancer charities.

PATRICIA A. DICHIARO SCHOOL

Girl: *Jillian Maher*

Jillian is a student of outstanding character. She is respectful of staff and fellow students. She is a committed member of Student Government who helped organize our Feeding Westchester Food Drive. Academically, Jillian is on the Principal's List. She always comes to school prepared and eager to participate in each class. She mentors/tutors kindergarten and fourth grade students. Jillian is an asset to the DiChiaro and the Yonkers community.

Boy: *Matthew Valdez*

Matthew has organized the school Feeding Westchester Food Drive. He is a High Honor Award recipient who participates on the school's basketball team, Student Government and helps at home by babysitting his younger sister. He prefers to lead by example and believes in humbly and respectfully taking on challenges to accomplish positive outcomes. His academic strength is in mathematics and he hopes to have a future as a financial analyst.

SCHOOL 13

Girl: *Jimena Hernandez*

Jimena is a valued member of the School 13 student body. She exemplifies the ideal student, friend, and peer through the help and guidance she gives to her fellow students. She has helped with the younger students and is always the first one to volunteer her time with fundraisers and any other school community initiatives. Jimena has a quiet strength that students and staff admire and we all know that she will do whatever she can to help anyone in need.

Boy: *Andres Mendoza*

Andres is a hard-working and respectful person who strives to do his best. He exemplifies the ideal student and inspires people to be happy and have a positive attitude toward life. He tutors his classmates, helps with the younger students and is always the first one to volunteer in the school community. The help and guidance he gave to the students will be missed.

PAIDEIA SCHOOL 15

Girl: ***Victoria Fernandez***

Victoria is a mature, compassionate, and diligent student who is determined to excel. She is an enthusiastic learner and is enrolled in the Regents program. Victoria is a vital member of the school community and the community at large. Victoria has volunteered with her mom at the Health Fair and has volunteered her time with the younger population. Victoria takes on leadership roles in diverse situations. Her positive attitude is contagious and makes for an enjoyable working environment.

Boy: ***Logan Roman***

Logan is a High Honor Roll student and Principal's List recipient who is very interested in the sciences including zoology and biology and academically strong in math. He likes helping his classmates and volunteers in his uncle's church. He participates with his family in the Westchester Parks clean up. He has contributed to his school community as a Safety Patrol Volunteer. Logan considers himself a kind, persistent and respectful student and hopes to get a degree in Zoology or attend Veterinary School.

SCHOOL 16

Girl: ***ShyAnn Wright***

ShyAnn has been one of my top ELA students for the last two years. ShyAnn has a calm, easygoing demeanor and a passion for learning. ShyAnn has the mind and maturity of a much older student. She is dedicated to her work and feels strongly about doing her best. She is passionate about equality and loves talking openly and respectfully about global issues that are important in today's society. ShyAnn has been a Yonkers Public Schools student for three years and has made a big impact on the school community.

Boy: ***Diego Klinger***

Diego is a stellar student and has a quiet maturity about him. Diego is a hard worker; his work is consistently at the top of his class and it is evident the amount of time and effort he puts into it. School 16 is incredibly proud to have Diego in our graduating class. In his years here, he has taken part in many opportunities such as Boy Scouts, the school newspaper, and the multicultural performance. Diego's well-roundedness and passion for learning will cause him to do great things in high school and beyond.

SCHOLASTIC ACADEMY FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Girl: ***Julia Silva Recendiz***

Julia's diligence is only matched by her humbleness. She is a natural leader who encourages those around her to live up to their responsibilities and maximize their potential. She works hard to ensure all voices are heard in collaborative settings. She always takes pride in everything she does. She will always seek out ways to improve herself even after earning elite evaluations. She hopes to study medicine and one day become a doctor. Her quiet but effective leadership will be missed.

Boy: ***Kenny Aguilar***

Kenny is a hard-working and considerate student. He always takes pride in his work, often treating learning tasks like a craft he is attempting to master. He asks questions during projects to ensure he understands the topic and goal completely. He also prioritizes collaboration with peers, seeking genuine input from all members, and helping others reach their potential however he can. Kenny has also demonstrated an ability to grow. Kenny's impact on Scholastic Academy has been a positive force.

EUGENIO MARIA DE HOSTOS MICRO SOCIETY SCHOOL

Girl: **Balery Jimenez**

Balery has been an exceptional student who has been selected as student of the month several times, has achieved Honor Roll, High Honor Roll and Principal's List. She has participated in many of our school's programs, like YASA, the Engineering Academy, and has served as De Hostos MicroSociety School legislator. She has volunteered her time at the school choice fair, winter carnival, yearbook club, food drives and the Dominic Independence Ceremony. She has always gone above and beyond for her school.

Boy: **Anthony Egiziaco**

Anthony has been an excellent student here at De Hostos MicroSociety School and has always contributed much to classroom discussions as well as the school climate as a whole. He has an underlying leadership quality about him that needs to be cultivated, and he is certainly working on that. He has made Principal's List, Honor and High Honor Roll awards, and was a finalist in the Veteran's Essay project.

SCHOOL 23

Girl: **Ana Mary Martinez**

Ana is a bright and articulate young lady who brings a level of excellence to School 23. She demonstrates a maturity that is rare in students her age. She takes her studies seriously and dedicates herself to persevering and excelling in her academics. Ana is always willing to help her peers as well as help around school. She is currently part of the Sarah Lawrence College Writing Program. I have no doubt that Ana will continue to excel in all of academic endeavors and will make our school family very proud.

Boy: **Jeremy Martinez**

Jeremy is a mature and respectful young man that excels in his academic classes. Jeremy can also be counted on to give a smile or a helping hand to his peers. He translates for fellow students and tutors little kids. Jeremy has always been dedicated to his academic responsibilities and has continued to be one of those students that can be counted on for whatever task needs to be accomplished. He is a wonderful example of how hard work and perseverance can pay off.

CASIMIR PULASKI SCHOOL

Girl: **Victoria Pinto**

Victoria is the epitome of a dedicated, life-long learner. She not only works hard to help others, but to also advocate for herself. She is known to be kind, sincere and honest amongst her peers and teachers. Victoria played an integral part of our school's music team during our annual middle school musical production. Her academics are a top priority, and she makes sure that she is in constant contact with her teachers about how she can continue to always do her best. Victoria has grown and gained confidence as a mature, assertive young woman.

Boy: **Jean Carlo Urbina****

Jean overcame hardships in his life and became an organized, responsible, caring and empathetic young man. Jean is a student who strives for academic excellence while maintaining characteristics of a role model student who stands up for what is right. He is a natural leader that helps in his family's business, with his church and as class president. He has starred in school plays and is on the soccer and baseball teams. He reflects a positive outlook on life with an impeccable sense of empathy when interacting with his peers.

KAHLIL GIBRAN SCHOOL

Girl: *Zoe Brandt*

Zoe is an outstanding student who leads by example through her hard work and focused approach to learning. Zoe is our Student Government President demonstrating how well-respected she is among her fellow students. She routinely assists in programs within the school community. Zoe consistently impresses with her strength of character. She is a stalwart advocate for what is right and just. Zoe deserves this prestigious recognition.

Boy: *Pierce Coffey*

Pierce is a polite, respectful and diligent 8th grade student. Pierce's kind, gentle demeanor is both welcoming and soothing and his contributions to class discussions and building-level initiatives are appreciated. He is respected by the staff, as well as his peers. Pierce is quick to lend support to his classmates struggling to understand a challenging concept or just having a bad day. He is among the first volunteers to help around the school building.

WESTCHESTER HILLS SCHOOL 29

Girl: *Deborah Quansah*

Deborah portrays all of the qualities of this award based on her actions, hard work, good efforts, and determination to succeed. Deborah begins and completes every assignment with independence and responsibility, is eager to learn, participates in discussions, and works well with her peers. She has a strong attendance record and has continuously worked hard to accomplish the tasks given to her. She respects each individual student in her class and respects authority figures in her school community.

Boy: *Marcus Henry*

Marcus is kind, generous, and full of energy. Marcus shows care, pride, respect and commitment for his peers and himself. Marcus uses polite manners towards the staff in our school, seeks guidance and help when needed and uses that to build upon his knowledge and skills. He continuously works hard to accomplish the tasks assigned to him and has a good attendance record showing his focus towards academic success. Marcus is the captain of the basketball team.

SCHOOL 30

Girl: *Brisea Dida*

Brisea's first year of school in the United States was in 7th grade and she spoke little English when she started. Brisea's English skills improved and a person with great intellect, curiosity, love of learning, and a poet's heart was revealed. Brisea is wholly good and her pleasant demeanor is fortified by a deeply-insightful and hilarious sense of humor. She is greatly admired and is a true role model for students as well as an inspiration to her teachers and one can think of no greater compliment that can be paid to a student than that.

Boy: *James Lyons*

James is a wonderful asset to our school community. James is very bright, excels in academics as well as at most things he chooses to involve himself with. James' most remarkable traits are his moral sense, demeanor, and polite empathy. He delivered food to the homeless, front line workers, and the elderly during the pandemic. He is a young gentleman that everyone respects and admires. James' combination of brains, work-ethic, and gentlemanly nature will make him a future success.

FAMILY SCHOOL 32

Girl: *Samantha Calcagni*

Samantha is an asset to Family School 32. She has played an integral role in student government, drama club, peer tutoring, gardening, and the science fair. She is a model student and has an excellent rapport with students and staff. She is a responsible, curious, ambitious, cooperative, student who loves to learn. Outside of school she likes to spend time with her family, pets and close friends. She has volunteered her time at the Beczak Center, has attended Stem-a-thon, coding day and a theater group at Purchase College.

Boy: *Christian Paska*

Christian is very inquisitive and observant of the environment. He likes to research to satisfy his curiosity. Christian was a leader on our basketball team, won 3 MVP awards, and excels academically. His peers often look to him for support and advice. He was selected in 6th grade to attend a Brooklyn Nets game with the school, the qualifications include academics, citizenship and leadership. He was also voted class representative for 7-2 by his peers and relayed concerns to administration.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ACADEMY

Girl: *Seleiny Novas*

Seleiny is one of the kindest, community-oriented students that I have been honored to teach. Her maturity would lead one to assume she is in her latter years of high school, if not her early years of college. Her leadership amongst her classmates is commendable. Recently, Seleiny volunteered her time to assist students with ideas for a writing project and created a friendly student group that helped those students produce some of their best work.

Boy: *Alex Campaña*

Alex is a courageous, honest, and confident person. He has been an absolute gem in the classroom. His dedication to learning and assisting teachers and classmates is refreshing. He is hard-working, disciplined, and self-resilient. Alex finds very unique ways to contribute to the school community. He has posted relevant videos that he found helpful to the class. Alex's kindness and his ability to help all students feel included helps to establish an environment of rich learning in a community setting regardless of various academic abilities.

CROSS HILL ACADEMY

Girl: *Daywania Rodriguez*

According to the whole 8th-grade community, Daywania is a joy to be around and teach. Daywania excelled in distant learning and excelled in everything she did. Daywania supported her peers through small group collaboration during various lessons. She is very dependable and receptive to constructive criticism and positive feedback. Daywania sees herself as hard worker and is eager to overcome any obstacle.

Boy: *Ken's-Hendell Vernelus*

Ken's-Hendell is a determined student who demonstrates a unique focus and drive. He has been described as a highly capable young man. He has been a member of My Brother's Keeper and utilizes the skills he has learned to assist his peers and remain positive. Ken's-Hendell challenges himself by taking extra classes and was proud to be an Honor Roll recipient. He demonstrates a strength in developing software and planned to utilize his abilities with a future in software engineering.

CÉSAR E. CHÁVEZ SCHOOL

Girl: *Kimberly Bernal*

Kimberly is a serious and outstanding student. She is always engaged in her work and is dedicated to produce excellent results in whatever she is working on. All assignments are completed with care and in a timely manner. She is active in class, always ready to answer any question and loves to learn anything new. She is motivated and talented in math. In addition to math, she is excellent in all other content areas. She works hard in school and her grades show it. She also likes to be creative and draw.

Boy: *Alan Djatschenko*

Alan actively participates in class on a regular basis. Whenever math questions are up on the screen he responds without hesitation. He would raise his hand and give a step by step explanation how he solved the problem using excellent math vocabulary that would enhance his explanation. He is polite and maintains a perfect attendance. He is a dedicated and motivated student who completes all assignments daily.

ENRICO FERMI SCHOOL

Girl: *Umaina Iqbal*

Umaina is a highly motivated and outstanding High Honor Roll student leader who contributes greatly to our school and throughout the community. While maintaining 100% attendance Umaina exhibits respect for authority and participates in safety patrol. Umaina tutors her peers and is engaged in the discussions and tasks. Umaina's contributions to the school community includes her collaboration with her peers, adult supervisors, and leading student government events and fundraisers.

Boy: *Luis Martinez Caballero*

Luis is a polite, punctual, highly motivated, Principal's List Student with a certificate of achievement in the STEAM Academy. He is a student government role model who has participated in fundraising, events and voluntarily became involved in My Brother's Keeper, tutoring and mentoring peers. He has participated in the yearbook club, soccer team, and makes deliveries for a neighborhood store. Luis has a love for nature, space and technology and sees himself in the finance world as a businessman.

PEARLS HAWTHORNE SCHOOL

Girl: *Julia Wojcik*

Julia is a remarkable young lady with a bright spirit. Her work ethic and respect for her school and community have demonstrated that she is the ideal candidate for this award. Julia is on time, ready to learn and challenges herself daily. Julia is a kind-hearted person who demonstrates respect for her teachers, peers and school property. Julia volunteers to help with fundraisers like Pennies for Patients and the Read-a-thon. Julia is also an active member in her religious community at St. Casimir's Church in Yonkers.

Boy: *Uzair Bashar*

Uzair is a dedicated, kind and caring young man. Uzair is a true role model for his peers and the younger students of our school community. He sets goals for himself and works diligently to achieve those goals. Uzair leads many projects in different school competitions and maintains excellence grades. He is a good citizen and volunteers his time both inside and outside of school. Uzair takes pride in assisting students at the Andalusia Islamic School in Yonkers. He volunteers at Kraftfood, helping with technology tasks as well as photographing products. Uzair is responsible, hardworking, disciplined and stands up for what's right.

ROBERT C. DODSON SCHOOL

Girl: *Jasmin Garcia Ramirez*

Jasmin is an excellent student with a strong work ethic and 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 established a great rapport with administrators, teachers and fellow students. Several members of her family had COVID-19, she was determined to complete all assignments while helping her entire family. Her strong commitment to our school and her responsibility as a student and family member makes her a true representative of our school.

Boy: *Benjamin Flores Rivera*

Benjamin helped his community in El Salvador, he wanted to help the future children that lived there. Benjamin wanted to make sure that the children were able to see how beautiful his community was, so he joined a group to pick up all of the garbage and the recyclables in the streets to make sure his community was the best that it could be.

WILLIAM BOYCE THOMPSON SCHOOL

Girl: *Nastassja Afram*

Nastassja is an extraordinary student who is dedicated to her studies; her determination and self-motivation is reflected in the great amount of effort and detail she puts into her assignments. Nastassja works extremely well with others and is often appointed leadership roles. She participates in school safety activities. Nastassja is a well-rounded student who balances academics, sports, extracurricular activities, and home life effortlessly. Nastassja encompasses all the great qualities and abilities we hope to instill in our students.

Boy: *Neil Siebel*

Neil is extremely studious and cares very deeply about his schoolwork. Neil has a strong ability to think deeply and profoundly about topics covered in different subject areas and making real world connections comes naturally to him. Neil showcases his strong communication and organizational skills while making sure that everyone in the group is being heard and their ideas appreciated. Although Neil participates in a variety of different extracurricular activities, he balances his different responsibilities with ease. Neil is humble and positive, the prime example of someone who works for what he wants and pushes himself to be the best version of himself.

YONKERS MONTESSORI ACADEMY

Girl: *Sivani Kailas*

Sivani is a respectful, courteous young lady who believes in the value of community service. She wants to have a medical career helping others in the community. Sivani finds ways to make contributions to our school community even during this pandemic. She is a humble, kind, soft spoken young lady who is articulate, capable of deep critical thinking and analysis and a role model for her peers. She works diligently to do her best and shares her thoughts and knowledge with others. She is a leader that others can look up to.

Boy: *Jack Gleeson*

Jack is a respectful, humble, articulate young man who is highly motivated and gracious with others. Jack likes to help others in the classroom and shows respect to his teachers and fellow students. Jack is an introspective young man who gives thoughtful responses to class discussions and helps many of his peers with understanding ideas presented in class. He is humble, patient, and generous in giving his time, energy and sharing his ideas with others. Jack is captain of various sports team, won several MVP awards, and coaches the youth. He is an exemplary member of our school community.

PALISADES PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Girl: *Olivia Rose Proenca*

Olivia is intelligent, polite, and willing to help everyone. She is highly motivated and is an extremely positive person. Olivia is a leader and team player. She adjusts to change and is very confident when helping others. Olivia enjoys learning and tends to handle stress quite well. She has a sense of humor but understands the importance of when to take things seriously. Olivia is family oriented and they give her the power to be successful in life. I cannot think of a more deserving student for this award.

Boy: *Seediya Jabbi*

Seediya made every effort to do well in school every day, participated in classroom discussions and did his work. He works hard every day to achieve goals he has set for himself. His favorite subject is mathematics and he likes learning new things in the subject. His favorite sport is basketball. He is inspired by Michael Jordan and hopes he can be an NBA basketball player one day.

YONKERS MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

Girl: *Natalia Azevedo* **

Natalia was chosen by her teachers and administrator because of her unwavering dedication to her own success and, more importantly, the success of our school community. She demonstrates a true sense of empathy for struggling students by tending to not only their academic but social and emotional needs. In addition to consistently adding positivity to the online sessions for her classmates, she offers her teachers much-needed encouragement and applause for their efforts during these difficult times.

Boy: *Jonathan Tapia Velasco*

Jonathan is described as an optimistic student who has gifted his teachers, peers, and family with hope. While overcoming the challenges related to losing his home and possessions in a tragic fire, Jonathan persevered while caring for his siblings, aiding his peers and meeting high academic performance standards that have earned him Certificates of Achievement and Recognition. Jonathan provides Bible Studies to children in a community church and assists students with homework. He takes piano lessons and is on a soccer team.

Patricia A. DiChiaro Memorial Award

(Sponsored by YCPTSA)

Awarded to an outstanding 8th 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

Andres Arroyave

Andres has contributed to his school community by tutoring younger students, managing snack sales and managing fundraisers. Andres is an ambitious, goal-oriented person. He thrives for greatness and wants to help others going down the same road. Everything Andres does is to make something of himself because he wants to be able to take care of his family, take off their burdens and leave them with no worries. It takes a person to give good to the world to be able to receive it.

PATRICIA A. DICHIARO SCHOOL

Kate Mulcahy

Kate is intelligent, inquisitive and dedicated to her studies. She always comes to school prepared and eager to participate in each class. Kate is an extraordinary classroom citizen, always volunteering to assist with whatever is needed. Kate is kind and well-liked by all. She is an asset to the DiChiaro and the Yonkers community. She contributes to the school's program by always being available for tutoring classmates. "Mistakes are how you learn," is one of her favorite quotes and she lives by that every day.

SCHOOL 13

Sayuri Selimaj Meza

Sayuri 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 School 13 student body and can be counted on to volunteer to assist in activities. As a student with high academic standards and achievement, Sayuri is willing to help peers and younger students. She helps her friends and siblings with homework, advice and support. Sayuri actively helps out at her church with their community activities.

PAIDEIA SCHOOL 15

Thomas Politopoulos

Thomas has made contributions to his community. He has been involved with the Boy Scouts of America since he was young. He visited the local nursing homes and helped to provide those in need with adequate water and supplies. After the Boy Scouts of America, he joined the Civil Air Patrol, the auxiliary program for the United States Air Force and he volunteered his time with this organization, performing ceremonies for veterans and cleaning up the local parks.

SCHOOL 16

Shaila Wright

Shaila has impressed me over and over again with her intelligent mind and kind spirit. She is absolutely a student who cares about her fellow peers and her community. She feels strongly about equality and making a better mark on the world by being in it. I am proud of her leadership skills in the classroom and on the basketball court, and I am pleased to know how she supports her community by participating in food drives and reading programs.

SCHOLASTIC ACADEMY FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Zully Paredes Garcia

Zully has always been a helpful force to all members of the community. She is kind and patient and always approaches her tasks with optimism and focus. She is a skilled collaborator who always seeks to bring the best out of her peers. She has also served as an ambassador to students who are new to class, especially those who lack proficiency in the English language. Simply put, Zully likes to make people happy, and she's been doing a great job for years here at Scholastic Academy.

EUGENIO MARIA DE HOSTOS MICRO SOCIETY SCHOOL

Gabriela Marrero

Gabriela has donated to the community. She has also helped to create gardens and is wholly involved in recycling. She has also helped tutor children. Gabriela has served as a CEO and Judge during her de Hostos experience. Gabriela attended YASA, an after school studying program. She enjoyed expanding her education with others, having classes, (culinary, cooking, and dance) and being in a competition. She studied for tests in the after school program which exposed her to others who have different ideas and thoughts. Gabriela also donated her hair to an organization.

SCHOOL 23

Daniel Bravo

Daniel is a wonderful young man who is focused and driven. Daniel has a personality that makes it easy to like him and work with him. He knows what he wants to do and is determined to achieve his goal. If any of his classmates need help he is happy to aid them. He is always helping his fellow classmates. As Daniel simply puts it, "Whenever a student is placed next to me, I would try my best to get them to work hard and to be better in the work that they have trouble with".

CASIMIR PULASKI SCHOOL

Anthony Nukho

Anthony is an exemplary student who works hard and has grown and matured, despite these recent unprecedented circumstances. He is organized, focused and diligent, and helps his peers in regards to academics or any other areas. Anthony was an important part of our art crew for our most recent musical production. He always volunteers to help at any school event or activity, and he does it with a smile and a positive attitude. He is truly an asset to our community.

KAHLIL GIBRAN SCHOOL

Christina Hernandez

Christina is an impressive young woman! In addition to being a member of Student Government and an outstanding student, she gives of her time selflessly to the school community, as well as the community-at-large. In school she participates in all Student Government service initiatives. In the community she participates in service functions at her church, as well as Toys for Tots. What makes Christina special, in my opinion, is the humility and selfless demeanor with which she carries herself, which belies her immense gifts.

WESTCHESTER HILLS SCHOOL 29

Leila Campbell

Leila 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 and supports students who struggle with a lesson or assignment. Leila 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. Leila's actions and vision have made a positive impact on our school community and we have no doubt that this will continue in the future.

SCHOOL 30

Jenna Santiago

Jenna is a true exemplar of a young lady. She is always kind and courteous to her peers and teachers alike. She is generous, always willing to lend ideas or school supplies to her peers and often puts others' needs before her own. While this is certainly enough for the makings of a great young woman, Jenna is also a superb student. Jenna is hard working, intelligent, and always on task which, in combination with her gentle-womanly deportment, makes her a beacon for her peers and laudable on every level from her teachers.

FAMILY SCHOOL 32

Xavier Sanchez

Xavier is a part of the YPS chapter of My Brother's Keeper Movement which led to him volunteering in a soup kitchen, organizing a virtual sneaker drive, and creating care packages for the homeless. He plays recreational basketball in Yonkers and has become an avid golfer. He volunteers his time teaching younger students how to play. Xavier was involved in enrichment activities at school and is active in several extracurricular activities Basketball, golf, Art and community service (Pamela's Big Heart Foundation).

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ACADEMY

Edwin Escamilla

Edwin is an asset to the MLK, Jr. community. His consistent dedication to assist teachers, classmates is commendable, and his work ethic exemplary. While the current education situation does not permit Edwin to continue physically assisting others as he has in the past, his participation and assistance as a hybrid/remote student is illustrative of his time and help he voluntarily gives to others. He demonstrates excellent strong commitment, helpful to others, and care for others.

CROSS HILL ACADEMY

Raheem Azeez

Raheem is a member of Yonkers My Brother's Keeper Movement and a strong advocate for social justice. Raheem addresses real world issues such as Black Lives Matter in many of the projects he has completed for history and ELA. Raheem supports his MBK members in class by constantly helping others with their assignments. He is nurturing, patient and kind. Raheem exudes optimism each and every moment he is in class and will one day make a huge difference in the community. We will be reading about this young man one day.

CÉSAR E. CHÁVEZ SCHOOL

Jonathan Senior

Jonathan has been my student for the past 15 months and his growth and maturity and commitment to his fellow students and staff over that time is the reason for his selection. Jonathan is quick with a smile and is always there to assist his history teacher Mr. O with any technical problems that occur both pre and soon to be post COVID-19 world. Jonathan is a young man dealing with his IEP on top of this strange new world of COVID-19 Hybrid Learning and is not missing a beat.

ENRICO FERMI SCHOOL

Emerson De Paz Vanegas

Emerson has outstanding contribution to the community as he volunteers most of his time in after school meetings and student government events, helping to plan events and brainstorm fund raisers. Emerson has expressed great interest in finance and the stock market. He volunteers in creating events for Fermi that will raise more money for the school. He is also a part of the Yonkers My Brother's Keeper Movement (MBK), which has contributed to the community through food drives and jacket donations.

PEARLS HAWTHORNE SCHOOL

Shadi Nohemi Garcia

Shadi is an exceptional young lady, committed to her studies, which is showcased through her Principal's List status. Shadi's dedication to her school and religious community are apparent by volunteering at many PTA sponsored events as well as assisting teachers as a classroom helper. Shadi also, donates her time at her parish by teaching second graders in the religious education program. Shadi's active involvement in both her school and church communities reflect her passion for service and volunteerism.

ROBERT C. DODSON SCHOOL

Kristopher Guiracocha

Kristopher is outstanding student who has emerged as a leader among his peers. He has established an excellent rapport with staff and students. In addition to his academic success, he is very actively involved in our school community. As a class representative, he helped organize our "We Walk to Water" campaign. Last year, he helped coordinate "Valentines for Veterans" campaign in which students made cards for the patients at the James J. Peters Veterans Hospital in the Bronx. Kristopher is always willing to help a classmate in need. He has a very bright future ahead of him.

WILLIAM BOYCE THOMPSON SCHOOL

Arriana Howell**

Arriana is a hard-working and dedicated student who strives to supersede all expectations. Her strong passion to help others is reflected when helping her class with schoolwork. Arriana is highly motivated in supporting her school community and possesses strong leadership skills. She displays acts of kindness and compassion towards others in need by being a confidant, gathering donations for families in need, and sending encouraging words of love and healing to the ill. Arriana embodies the idea of a compassionate giver to her community.

YONKERS MONTESSORI ACADEMY

Gianna Barone

Gianna is a kind, and compassionate member of the school community who treats others with dignity, respect, and is happy to help others in need. Whether it be to help a teacher in the classroom, or to help a student, Gianna is always quick to step in and offer a friendly hand. Gianna finds ways to be helpful and to be a role model for her peers.

PALISADES PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Collins Akeremale

Collins always helps and supports others whenever they are in need. Collins maintains a positive outlook and encourages all friends “to never give up, even when times are hard”. He is an active team leader in school project-based tasks and in church as dance group choreographer. He attends an after school program working student led drama/performing arts club. Collins’ role models are his parents. They motivate him to never give up and speak for what is right and not to be shy. We are extremely elated to the all the endless possibilities that he can offer.

YONKERS MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

Syed Ali

Syed demonstrates positive leadership in making our hybrid learning community a success. He fostered a wonderful sense of community and led students to a more successful academic and social/emotional experience. In addition, Syed takes great pride in helping people in need by giving them food and clothes. He also, participated in the JP Morgan Corporate Challenge as well as volunteer at his local Masjid, and to the Yonkers community with assisting neighbors and friends to help keep the parks clean. His positive outlook is contagious. We look forward to witnessing his future contributions to the community.

Mabel Bell Scholarship 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: ***Ramez Dababneh***

[YONKERS MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL](#)

Ramez Dababneh is a student at Yonkers High School and is taking International Baccalaureate courses as well as Advanced Placement classes. Ramez came to the United States in 2016 knowing little English. Ramez has a passion for mathematics and is President of the Coding Club. He volunteers at his church and spearheaded the Good Shepherd Scout program where they gather and do activities. Ramez would like to study Engineering in college. He hopes to work for NASA or the government in the future.

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: ***Alphons Sony***

[CHARLES E. GORTON HIGH SCHOOL](#)

Alphons Sony is a student at Gorton High School and is in the Century Honors Program as well as Advanced Placement classes. She speaks four languages and is an extremely driven, compassionate individual who is an outstanding leader and has a wonderful spirit. She volunteered at an orphanage in India before arriving in the United States prior to beginning high school. She would like to become a neurologist and work with children that have speech impediments.

Millie Yochman Special Recognition Award

(Sponsored by YCPTA)

Awarded to a High School Graduating Senior officially designated as an exceptional student by the Committee on Special Education. 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 the scope of a total academic program.

WINNER: ***Traore Fletcher***

SAUNDERS TRADES AND TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

Traore Fletcher is a student in the Graphic Design Magnet at Saunders Trades and Technical High School. He is a disciplined, respectful, and creative young man who has developed his skills in the program each year. He is considerate of others feelings and is always willing to lend a hand. Over the years he has developed into a fine young man that embodies what a true student should be. Following high school Traore would like to focus on creating animations or comic designs.

Rosemarie Ann Siragusa Citizenship Award made possible by

Mr. Frank Siragusa and Mr. Paul Siragusa along with the entire Siragusa Family

YCPTA Scholarship made possible by generous donations from the following

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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.

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Booklet Edited and Proofread by the Citizenship and Scholarship Awards Committee Members

Booklet Front Cover: Ann Marie Papanagnostou

Layout Design: Sophia Wu

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