



# **CITIZENSHIP/SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS**

MAY 2022

Dear Student Honoree,

On behalf of the Yonkers Council of PTA/PTSAs (YCPTA) board, I am honored to congratulate you on receiving your 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. These past two years have been a challenge, both academically and mentally. Despite these challenges, you continued to shine, grow, and make a positive impact. We cannot be more proud of you. Continue to respond to those challenges in a positive way. Life is not always easy, but the challenges you face make the rewards that much more fulfilling.

As Josiah Gilbert Holland once said - *There is no royal road to anything. One thing at a time, all things in succession. That which grows fast, withers as rapidly. That which grows slowly, endures.*

Continue to be courageous, work hard, and set a good example. More importantly, always be kind as you never know who needs your kindness at that moment.

Have a successful future!

Best regards,

Carmen A. Goodstein, YCPTA President

YCPTA Board with the Citizenship and Scholarship Awards Committee

### **YCPTA Scholarship made possible by generous donations from the following**

#### **\$20 Annual Contributions from (in alphabetical order):**

Cesar E. Chavez School PTSA, Cross Hill Academy PTSA, de Hostos PTA, Family School 32 PTA, Fermi PTA, Gibran PTA, Gorton PTSA, MLKA PTA, Montesorri 27 PTA, Montesorri 31 PTA, Paideia 15 PTA, PEARLS PTA, Pulaski PTA, Siragusa PTA, Roosevelt PTSA, School 5 PTA, School 16 PTA, School 17 PTA, School 21 PTA, School 22 PTA, School 30 PTA, YMA PTSA, YMHS PTSA, YSEPTA

#### **Donations totaling \$5,625 from (as of May 3, 2022):**

Westchester Kitchen & Bath, Inc. - Anthony Merante and Chris DiMirco, Casimir Pulaski School PTA, School 17 PTA, School 30 PTA, PEARLS PTA, Yonkers Federation of Teachers (YFT), Cesar E. Chavez PTA, Cross Hill Academy PTA, Family School 32 PTA, Yonkers Middle High School PTSA, Dr. Edwin M. Quezada, Jerilynne Fierstein, Patricia A. DiChiaro PTA, Roosevelt High School PTSA, Saunders Trades and Technical High School PTSA, School 16 PTA, School 22 PTA, Yonkers Montessori Academy PTSA, Mrs. Gretchen Mullins Kim, de Hostos PTA, Kahlil Gibran PTA, School 5 PTA, Ms. Sheila Greenwald, Gorton High School PTSA, Museum School 25 PTA, Mrs. Janet Cabassa

## **PROGRAM**

### **Welcome**

Sophia Wu

YCPTA Citizenship and Scholarship Awards Committee Chairperson

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

High School Awards Winners

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

Carmen Goodstein

President, YCPTA

### **Nominating Committee Chair**

Brenda Cardoza

### **Greetings**

Mayor Mike Spano, City of Yonkers

Rev. Steve Lopez, President, Yonkers Board of Education Trustee

Dr. Edwin M. Quezada, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Paul Siragusa, son of Rosemarie 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, who value attendance and punctuality, who demonstrate care of school property, and have made outstanding contributions to the school and the community.

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys and Girls**

**SCHOOL 5**

**Girl: *Khloe M. Valentin***

Khloe is an outstanding student. She is always prepared, helpful, and well mannered. She is soft-spoken and a wonderful classroom helper. Khloe is very motivated and has a strong work ethic. She has a gentle confidence which is admired by all.

**Boy: *Charlie J. Quito***

Charlie is a highly motivated and dedicated student. He performs well in all subject areas. Charlie is always willing to help others. He demonstrates many of the qualities that make him a good role model for other students; he is kind and hardworking. Charlie completes all his schoolwork and homework on time and with great effort.

**PATRICIA A. DICHIARO SCHOOL**

**Girl: *Delilah McKenna***

Delilah is a dedicated, enthusiastic, and helpful student. She follows rules diligently and makes use of all the school's resources. Delilah takes every opportunity to improve herself or make a new friend. Her bright smile and sunny disposition light up any room. Delilah balances her hard work in academics with an equally competitive sports drive. Delilah is a caring friend and a loyal sibling. We are so proud of Delilah. It is amazing to watch her grow and evolve.

**Boy: *Jayden Rodriguez***

Jayden shows compassion and kindness every day. He is a leader who takes initiative in class projects. He is an avid reader and always shares his knowledge with the class. He is quick to assist others and lend a helping hand to help his peers succeed. Jayden takes pride in his work and always strives to complete every assignment to the best of his ability. He is hard-working and enthusiastic about learning and has the qualities of a good role model. Jayden is kind, trustworthy, and a motivated problem solver.

**SCHOOL 9**

**Girl: *Jazlin Rivera***

Jazlin is a student who always strives for excellence. She is an excellent role model, an exemplary student and a valuable member of the School 9 community. Jazlin's academic achievement reflects her commitment to her schoolwork and her eagerness to learn. She is very deserving of this award.

**Boy: *Travis Carney***

Travis has such a bright future ahead of him. He excels in all academic areas and takes genuine pride in his work. He is a kind soul who faces adversity with courage and a smile. He is the perfect candidate for this award, and it is an honor to have him as my student.

## THOMAS CORNELL ACADEMY

### **Girl: *Destiny Schelmetty***

Destiny is an excellent student who takes ownership of her learning on a daily basis. She is always willing to lend a helping hand in her classroom and throughout the school. Destiny's behavior has been exemplary since she enrolled in our school as a pre-k scholar. She exhibits respectful behavior toward all she encounters. Her attendance and punctuality have been outstanding. Destiny exemplifies a Cornell Academy Scholar who perseveres at home and in school!

### **Boy: *Kevyn Martinez***

Kevyn is an outstanding scholar who takes ownership of his learning. He is a cherished member of our 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Dual Language program. When asked what he would like for Christmas, Kevyn's response was "world peace." Besides being an exemplary scholar and an outstanding citizen, Kevyn has been an integral member of our track program since kindergarten. He has earned many medals and trophies in the last six years and always puts forth great effort with sports and his academics. Kevyn exemplifies a Cornell Scholar who perseveres at home and in school!

## SCHOOL 13

### **Girl: *Janellie Bautista***

Janellie is a dependable, responsible, and intelligent young lady. She loves to read and learn new things. She is a model student who always shows a positive attitude. She is kind to her peers and always willing to help students and teachers alike. She is extremely conscientious, always making sure her work is completed with her best effort. Janellie is most deserving of this award.

### **Boy: *Kobe Barksdale***

Kobe is a responsible, intelligent and inquisitive young man. He is a wonderful assistant in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade as well as in our school community where he distributes breakfast to his classmates daily. He is extremely reliable and is often called upon by others to assist. He is constantly cheerful and always uplifting his classmates. He loves a challenge and strives to achieve academic excellence. He is kind, compassionate and considerate to his peers, making him very popular in the school community. He is most deserving of this award.

## ROSEMARIE ANN SIRAGUSA SCHOOL

### **Girl: *Abeer Alshomali***

Abeer works extremely hard each day to make it her new personal best! She is always well prepared for class, does an excellent job of paying attention to learn new concepts, and follows up by completing assignments with an abundance of pride. She is not afraid to ask for help when she needs it and doesn't stop until she fully understands. She loves to read and has a strong ability to recall detail. She loves to learn and enjoys challenging herself in math. She has a strong work ethic and will work without complaint. Her quiet disposition makes her a friend to all in the classroom. She always comes to class prepared and with a smile on her face.

**Boy: *Robert Duval Munoz***

Robert was chosen for the Citizenship Award at the Rosemarie Ann Siragusa School because he is an outstanding young man who demonstrates respect for himself and consideration to those around him. Robert strives to do his best in all academic areas and often extends himself to extra credit and additional responsibilities. Robert embodies attributes such as gratitude, sportsmanship, and cooperation. He is a kind-hearted young man, has an unquenchable thirst for knowledge, and demonstrates empathy towards others. Robert works well independently and with his peers, and he often offers to assist others. He is an exemplary student and a good role model for the student body!

**PAIDEIA SCHOOL 15**

**Girl: *Madison Mareello***

Academically, Madison has the grit to persevere through whatever tasks she faces. She is sure to ask for help when she needs it, refusing to quit until she has grasped skills and concepts. She demonstrates integrity and sincerity through her responsible decision making, and is always prepared, organized, and eager to succeed. She is a curious thinker and a dynamic participant in class discussions. She demonstrates positive relationships with peers and adults. Madison is a very impressive young lady who is destined to leave a positive mark on the world.

**Boy: *Adrian Medina***

Adrian is a diligent, responsible, and caring student. Adrian has proven himself to be reliable, honest, and empathic. He has overcome many hardships, while remaining humble and kind. Adrian can be seen helping his fellow classmates with a variety of topics and making sure everyone feels included in any group activities. His leadership qualities, as well as his compassionate nature, make him an excellent candidate for this award. Adrian is an intelligent, capable, and personable young man who is always smiling.

**SCHOOL 16**

**Girl: *Khloe B. Rapay***

Khloe is a terrific student and a kind girl. She works very hard in the classroom and studies at home. Her work is consistently neat and complete, and she earns top grades in the class. Khloe's character is just as wonderful as her grades. She volunteers to help whenever she can. Khloe works well with her classmates and is well liked by her peers. Khloe is a model 5th grade student.

**Boy: *Alexander B. Simons***

Alexander is a hard-working student who completes tasks on time. He is a great help to his peers academically. He is also kind to his classmates, always including others in games and activities. Alex attends school regularly, and when he was quarantined, he signed on and worked independently every day on the computer. Alex is respectful to all adults in the school and follows school-wide and classroom rules. Alex works hard and is showing improvement in all subject areas this year.

**SCHOOL 17**

**Girl: *Ariella Dzaferovic***

Ariella is respectful towards her teachers and peers. Compassion and concerns for her friends are a couple of her positive attributes. Her peers look to her as a leader, not only to lead in discussions, but to assist them with their goals in life. She is an active learner and excels in all content areas. Ariella goes above and beyond, engaging herself with those in need without being asked. She is a pleasure to have in class.

**Boy: *Kenzil A. Williams***

Kenzil has been outstanding in his work and dedication to the School 17 community. Kenzil demonstrates respect and care for his peers. His work surpasses expectations, and he is very humble when it comes to his achievements. Kenzil has a bright future ahead of him and is well deserving of the Siragusa Memorial Award.

**SCHOLASTIC ACADEMY FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

**Girl: *Britany Malla***

Britany 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. Her academic achievements in all subject areas reflect her commitment to being a lifelong learner and emphasize the value she places on education. Britany'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: *George Barrera***

A person of excellent character, morals, and values, George exemplifies compassion and kindness throughout the school and neighborhood community and is loved by all of his teachers and peers. George'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: *Karla Tapia***

Karla is a hard-working young lady. She respects adults and students alike. She does her best at all times and is always willing to lend a hand to those who need assistance. Karla loves math class because it comes so naturally to her. In addition to being a great student, Karla has many extracurricular interests. Karla is an avid reader and enjoys a good works of fiction. In her spare time, she loves to play basketball and soccer. She also enjoys playing guitar and baking with her mother.

**Boy: *Jeremy Garate***

Jeremy is a respectful and hard-working young man. He is helpful, kind, and is a popular member of the class. Jeremy works well with other students. He also consistently puts forth his best effort in schoolwork, which is wonderful to see. Jeremy's favorite subject is math, and he particularly enjoys problem solving. He takes initiative and demonstrates grit and perseverance in solving complex word problems. It is a pleasure to have Jeremy in my class this year!

**SCHOOL 21**

**Girl: *Shaniya Thompson***

As Shaniya's 5th grade teacher, I have observed her amicable mannerism towards her fellow classmates and her willingness as a team leader to demonstrate her support to others. Shaniya grasps concepts and ideas quickly and is unafraid to make mistakes and ask questions. She has a humble demeanor and loves to assist as the classroom secretary. She is an exceptional writer and takes pride in always making sure that her assignments, as well as her classmates' work, are well vetted. She strives for excellence in all her academic work.

**Boy: *Jacob Figueroa***

As Jacob's teacher, I have seen him show constant respect for authority in all that he undertakes. He treats everyone the way they would like to be treated. He is always available and willing to assist another student. For our class he leads by example. Jacob takes school seriously and his attendance and punctuality are top notch. Jacob has shown the ability to work without direct supervision and is a true leader in our class. He comes to our class each day prepared to do his best and seems to grow academically each day.

**SCHOOL 22**

**Girl: *Mikayla Daley***

Mikayla is an exemplary student who treats everyone she meets with respect. She is a role model for the students at School 22 and a conscientious, helpful, involved member of our school community. After school, Mikayla participates in our Art/Music program. Additionally, she plays on a basketball team and is an avid ice skater. Mikayla successfully balances all activities and does so with a positive and cheerful disposition. She is well poised for continued academic and social success in the Yonkers Public Schools.

**Boy: *Kalvin Bijo***

Kalvin is a bright, focused, and hardworking student in 5th grade. He excels academically in all areas and is not afraid to challenge himself with new concepts. He is polite and always willing to help out in the classroom with students or adults. Calvin is an excellent example to everyone and has grown a great deal this year. Well done, Calvin!

**SCHOOL 23**

**Girl: *Rahmah Thabet***

Rahmah is a dedicated student who demonstrates effort and interest in the entire school program at School 23. Frequently, she volunteers to assist and support other students. She exemplifies a value system that prepares her and the students she collaborates with to succeed on a daily basis. She is respectful and kind, making a positive impact on those around her.

**Boy: *Adrian Bent***

Adrian is a well-rounded student who contributes to all aspects of the program at School 23. He serves the school community in many ways. He is a positive role model among his peers. He demonstrates respect and caring for everyone, making a positive impact in the learning environment.

**PAIDEIA SCHOOL 24**

**Girl: *Bella Marte-Dougall***

Bella is an absolute pleasure to have in class. She treats all her classmates, teachers, and staff with respect by valuing each as an individual. Bella embraces the responsibility required to maintain progress in her schoolwork and other personal goals. She is honest and promotes positivity at school through her words and actions. Bella strives for success in all that she does and works to the best of her ability.

**Boy: *Nicholas Granda***

Nicholas is a mild-mannered and studious young man. He is well liked and gets along well with his peers. Reading novels is one of his favorite things to do when he is not studying. Unfortunately, the pandemic put the brakes on his most recent hobby, playing piano. He was thrilled to get back to his lessons in November of 2021. He loves his younger brother and willingly takes on the responsibility of looking out for him.



## MUSEUM SCHOOL 25

### **Girl: *Kiera Henderson***

Kiera is hardworking and well-mannered. She is always on time ready to learn and her attendance is exemplary. She is considerate of others. She has a tenacious approach when taking on new learning tasks. She is creative and artistic. She is a role model for her peers.

### **Boy: *Hendrick Rojas***

Hendrick is a great asset to our classroom. He is hardworking and always willing to help his peers. He attends school every day on time eager and ready to learn. He is a role model in our classroom. He has a great deal of respect for everyone in our community at Museum School 25.

## CASIMIR PULASKI SCHOOL

### **Girl: *Jillian Pellegrino***

Jillian is a dedicated, outstanding student. She is respectful and cooperative. Jillian is always the first to offer support, even selflessly dedicating a portion of her personal time lending support remotely on TEAMS after school hours. Jillian is a natural communicator and appreciates the opinions of others.

Jillian exhibits confidence and creativity in all she sets out to accomplish. Jillian has a strong sense of her own ability to assess and understand any situation. Jillian approaches unfamiliar situations with confidence and determination and happily accepts challenges.

### **Boy: *Aiden M. Edwards***

Aiden is an outstanding student. He is caring, respectful and cooperative, works well with a group and exhibits a commitment to helping his classmates. Aiden is a dependable communicator. Aiden respects the values of his peers and is open to their points of view. Aiden is responsive to the diversity of other students and accepts each and every student's individuality. Aiden gives thoughtful consideration to his own learning. He is able to assess and understand his strengths and limitations. Aiden approaches unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought and has the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas, and strategies.

## MONTESSORI SCHOOL 27

### **Girl: *Jennifer Leobardo Merino***

Jennifer is a well-rounded student who is always prepared and organized. She is a polite young lady and treats everyone with kindness and respect. Jennifer works hard and always gives her best each and every day. Jennifer is a great role model to her peers and a wonderful asset to our classroom.

### **Boy: *Jayden Jones***

Jayden is a well-rounded young man who is a great asset to our classroom. He is a very respectful young man who leads by example. This is my second year having Jayden as a student, and his work ethic has blossomed. He is an eager learner and is always engaged in the lessons. One of Jayden's greatest assets is his honesty. Jayden embodies morality. Jayden has a very promising future ahead.

## KAHLIL GIBRAN SCHOOL

### **Girl: *Zain Al-hnaity***

Zain has been part of the Kahlil Gibran family since Pre-K. Her smile and laughter are contagious. She is always happy to help out in the classroom. This year, Zain gave up her own time to mentor a student from another country who did not completely understand English. She showed her patience and compassion. She is inclusive on the playground, as well as in the classroom. Zain enjoys playing basketball, going to the city and the movies with her family.

**Boy: *Jayden Bijnath***

Jayden has attended Kahlil Gibran since Pre-K. He likes basketball, cars, and drawing. He enjoys drawing both characters and cars. He is outgoing with his classmates and readily includes them in activities both outside and inside the classroom. He possesses good leadership qualities. He enjoys spending time with his family, especially family Saturdays when they go out to dinner or play board games.

**WESTCHESTER HILLS SCHOOL 29**

**Girl: *Stephie Elysee***

Stephie is a distinguished role model and sets a positive example for students in our school community. She is a responsible student who completes all classwork and homework assignments. She is eager to offer a helping hand to other students when needed. She is kind, patient and respectful towards others. Stephie has excellent attendance. She enters the classroom with a great smile and a positive attitude. Stephie is ready and eager to face all academic challenges.

**Boy: *Momen Abdelmageed***

Momen is a wonderful young boy. He is kind, considerate, thoughtful, and eager to learn. He is a terrific friend and is always willing to lend a helping hand. He takes the initiative to support and assist his peers and teachers in the class. He is motivated and works diligently on all his assignments. He takes pride in his schoolwork and enjoys participating during class lessons. He is a happy and supportive fifth grade student. He is an absolute delight and a pleasure to teach.

**SCHOOL 30**

**Girl: *Aliya Mathura***

Aliya is a delightful girl. She is a hard worker academically and is well liked by her peers. She goes above and beyond to ensure that she is on task and that she understands information being taught. She always has a positive attitude. Aliya also goes out of her way to help her peers in class.

**Boy: *Nasser Adili***

Nasser is an absolute pleasure to have in class. He has a positive attitude towards school and with his peers. He is very eager to learn and share his ideas with his classmates. He has a great work ethic. He completes all assignments neatly and with quality in mind. He is a very dedicated and respectful student and is making wonderful progress in all areas of academics.

**MONTESSORI SCHOOL 31**

**Girl: *Maria Martinez Davila***

Maria is a true leader who displays good citizenship by assisting other students, as well as her teacher. She is well liked by her classmates and the school community. Maria works well independently and thrives in collaborative groups. She is exceptionally organized and has a positive attitude towards school. Maria shows great initiative in looking for new ways to get involved in the classroom and at Montessori School 31. She is a role model for others and truly a valued member of the class.

**Boy: *Ryan Aurelio Facundo***

Ryan is a conscientious and extremely dedicated student. He is self-motivated and always strives to do his very best. Ryan sets an excellent example for his peers. He loves being a peacemaker and is often sought after to resolve conflicts in the classroom. He has a strong moral compass and is incredibly compassionate. Ryan is a worthy candidate for this prestigious award.

## **FAMILY SCHOOL 32**

### **Girl: *Natalie Guerrero***

Natalie is a bright student who always supports other classmates both academically and emotionally. Natalie is our class representative and always participates in school events, including our musical theatre program. Outside of school, Natalie takes piano lessons and participates in theater class and chess class. Natalie is a very well-rounded young lady and a pleasure to have in class.

### **Boy: *Jaleel Disla***

Jaleel exhibits all the qualities of a Rosemarie Ann Siragusa Award recipient. Jaleel moved from Las Vegas, Nevada to Yonkers in February 2020. The school year ended abruptly after his arrival, leaving Jaleel to not only adjust to a new school, but a whole new way of learning. Since then, Jaleel has shown respect for authority and fellow students. He is eager to help and assist those in need. His attendance and punctuality are nearly perfect. Jaleel demonstrates care of school property.

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

### **Girl: *Eleangy Estrella Mercado***

Eleangy is a well rounded, enthusiastic, and attentive learner who demonstrates great commitment and desire to excel in school. She puts great effort into all of her assignments and is an active participant in her learning. Eleangy shows respect for her teachers and classmates alike. She is often willing to lend a helping hand to classmates in need of support. I highly recommend Eleangy as she has worked extremely hard this year and continues to show her love for learning every day.

### **Boy: *Jendrick Gonzalez***

Jendrick is a bright and inquisitive member of the classroom community. He is an eager and engaged learner who participates in all aspects of his school day. Jendrick independently seeks out peers to talk to about classwork/assignments, lending a gentle helping hand when needed. Jendrick attends school daily with practically perfect attendance. He respects all who he encounters, adults and peers alike. Jendrick is a positive role model within our 5<sup>th</sup> grade family.

## **CROSS HILL ACADEMY**

### **Girl: *Isabella San Diego***

Isabella is a respectful and cooperative student. Isabella is always prompt, has remarkable attendance, and is enthusiastic about learning. Isabella consistently strives to achieve her best, exhibits perseverance, and takes ownership of her learning goals. Isabella is an inspiration and an outstanding role model in all her classes. She supports fellow students and demonstrates leadership and responsibility skills in group work. Isabella also shows a positive attitude towards classmates, teachers, and school staff.

### **Boy: *Devadutt Sanal***

Devadutt is a conscientious, respectful student. Devadutt consistently puts forth his best effort in classwork, projects, and homework assignments. He is always punctual, eager to learn and his attendance record is exemplary. Devadutt exhibits initiative and demonstrates leadership abilities in cooperative groups. He is a fantastic role model in all aspects of the school day including library, computers, music, art, and physical education classes.

### CESAR E. CHÁVEZ SCHOOL

#### **Girl: *Connie Matias***

Connie is an outstanding student who is always willing to help out her school family. She enters the school building with a bright smile every day. Connie completes all her schoolwork impeccably and with pride. She is kind, caring, compassionate, and intelligent. Connie is a member of our school safety patrol and takes her job seriously. She is always on time and ready to assist in any way.

#### **Boy: *Akele Gallimore***

Akele is a wonderful citizen. Akele comes to school every day and prepared to help our school community. Akele is on our safety patrol. He is in charge of helping our students navigate the school and creating a safer school by enforcing our hallway rules. Akele is a great role model, too. Akele has not missed one day of school and wears his school uniform daily. In addition, all of Akele's classwork and homework is completed daily. I am proud of Akele for being a kind, thoughtful, helpful, studious student.

### ENRICO FERMI SCHOOL

#### **Girl: *Lluvia Cruz Vazquez***

Lluvia is an active member of her church community and is a responsible student who puts much effort into her academics. Lluvia sings in her church choir and helps at various events. She takes immense pride in her work and strives to always do her best. Luvia is a leader in our classroom, and students look up to her. Luvia makes sure she follows all directions, follows the school's code of conduct, and often helps her peers. She is to be commended for all her good work.

#### **Boy: *Angel Gonzalez Laureano***

Angel is a very personable and intelligent young man who goes above and beyond to accomplish his tasks. He has made wonderful improvements in all areas. He can engage in conversation about many topics, providing insight to my class. As the school year progresses, Angel is maturing and raises excellent points in class that produce very informative discussions. He is dependable and always willing to help others with any classwork.

### PEARLS HAWTHORNE SCHOOL

#### **Girl: *Kendall Rice***

Kendall is a caring and considerate classmate and student. She is a conscientious student who shows initiative and completes all tasks. She is always willing to lend a helping hand to classmates or adults. She is punctual and in attendance each day. Kendall is polite and respectful to all, a wonderful young lady.

#### **Boy: *Xavi Gonzalez***

Xavi is an excellent student who completes all tasks with ease. He is kind and respectful to both students and adults. He is always willing to help anyone in need. He is punctual and present every day. Xavi is a pleasure to know and teach.

### ROBERT C. DODSON SCHOOL

#### **Girl: *Nicole Torres Rosas***

Nicole is a highly intelligent, respectful, diligent, hardworking and responsible young lady. She is a conscientious student who is self-motivated. She is always willing to go above and beyond. Her positive attitude shines through in all that she does. Although she is shy, she exhibits leadership qualities, and her classmates look up to her. She is a wonderful and caring young lady. Nicole demonstrates dedication to her education and aspires to be the best she can be in all she does.

**Boy: *Daniel Zheng***

Daniel has consistently exhibited the best qualities we look for in a student. Without exception, Daniel approaches each task with diligence and responsibility. Daniel takes his role as a student and the responsibility of furthering his own learning to a level of maturity we do not usually see in a student his age. Daniel's efforts have translated into high achievement. He is an avid reader and an overall conscientious young man. Daniel is respected by his peers for his consistent effort and gracious nature.

**WILLIAM BOYCE THOMPSON SCHOOL**

**Girl: *Kacey Emmanuel***

Kacey shows compassion towards others both in and out of the classroom. Kacey's personal strengths are as impressive as her academic accomplishments. She's an active presence in class with a kind and gentle heart. Kacey always has an insightful thought or idea to add to class/group discussions. Her cheerful nature and openness to help makes her popular among her peers. Kacey is the perfect type of engaging, kind, and curious student that helps make our classroom a lively environment and safe place to take intellectual risk.

**Boy: *Alonso Flores***

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

**YONKERS MONTESSORI ACADEMY**

**Girl: *Zara Cusack***

Zara is a very dedicated student who comes to school every day prepared and ready to learn. She demonstrates self-motivation and has high expectations to try her best and achieve success across all subjects. Zara is eager to learn new things and especially enjoys learning about Social Studies topics. Furthermore, Zara is compassionate towards her peers and helps them accordingly.

**Boy: *Angel Lulaj***

Angel is a very respectful and hardworking student. He has a strong work ethic and takes pride in all that he does. Angel helps his peers in class and always goes above and beyond with his assignments. He is also a talented artist and likes to create fun animations and videos in his spare time. Angel is highly recommended for this award.



## **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, who value attendance and punctuality, who demonstrate care of school property, and have made outstanding contributions to the school and the community.

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

**\*\*District Wide winners**

#### **SCHOOL 5**

**Girl: *Juliana Gentile***

Juliana is a hardworking, responsible, respectful young lady. She is helpful to her teachers and classmates. Juliana has a good sense of humor. She adds joy and spunk to the school environment. She demonstrates interests in basketball and acting, and finds biochemistry especially intriguing.

**Boy: *Dion Parra***

Dion is a hard-working, good natured student and friend. He volunteers to assist in the class to distribute computers, books, and help classmates with work. Dion is a mature, reliable young man who brings a sense of peace and calmness with him. He is part of the My Brother's Keeper program and likes to help in his school and community.

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

**Girl: *Gianna Petrella***

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

**Boy: *Christopher Fuller***

Christopher is a kind, creative and inquisitive young man. He is a lifetime learner who loves to explore new topics. His enthusiasm for learning is outstanding and he puts great effort into everything he does. Christopher is socially, emotionally and academically well rounded. He is part of the book buddy program and is an asset to our community.

#### **SCHOOL 13**

**Girl: *Cindy Y. Tlatenco***

Cindy is selfless, outgoing, friendly, and a true joy to be around. She brings sunshine to every room she walks into. She is a valued member of her school's student body and volunteers to assist in classroom activities, as well as school-wide activities. As a student with high academic standards and achievements, Cindy helps peers and younger students whenever she is asked.

**Boy: *Jose M. Lorenzo***

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

## PAIDEIA SCHOOL 15

### **Girl: *Guiliana Salciccia***

Guiliana is a lovely young woman with strong community values. She aides as a PTA member who sets up for all the PTA's fundraising functions. Guiliana contributes her talents to Paideia School 15's stage performances, including Hamlet and Black History Month performances. When Guiliana is not consumed positively with her studies, she enjoys playing video games, listening to music, and studying art.

### **Boy: *Michael Linares***

Michael is one of the most honorable students I have in my current 8<sup>th</sup> grade class. He contributes to the school's program by playing basketball. Michael also performed in the school's production of Macbeth as Malcolm. Outside of school, Michael plays baseball for the North Riverdale Team. When Michael is not studying or playing sports, he enjoys watching movies, listening to music, and is a technology lover.

## SCHOOL 16

### **Girl: *Melanie Castro***

Melanie is a dedicated and conscientious student. She has a bubbly and outgoing personality and is a member of the National Junior Honor Society. She is also running for Student Government. Melanie is passionate about community service inside and outside of school.

### **Boy: *Jacob Blake***

Something that Jacob has always shown is consistency. Even when he was fully remote he was an incredibly consistent student. He always showed up, he always did his work, and he always made his presence known. His calm, rational demeanor is a welcome presence in every classroom. Jacob is always thought of as a reliable helper, and he will be a great addition to whatever high school he attends next year.

## SCHOLASTIC ACADEMY FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

### **Girl: *Mikaela Cranston***

Mikaela exemplifies the ideal student with punctuality, detail to attention, and a capacity for empathy and taking action. Mikaela comforts other students, which is indicative of her character and her deep-seated compassion for others. She also never fails to lend a helping hand to any and all who need assistance with academically related endeavors.

### **Boy: *Abelardo Cruz***

Abelardo is the epitome of humbleness, respect, and care for others. Abelardo has been an active member of Student Council, a willing and eager participant of the MBK program, and an individual who often finds ways to lend a helping hand to other classmates in need. His engagement in our programs is only trumped by his ceaseless efforts made in aiding his fellow classmates and striving to obtain knowledge.

## EUGENIO MARIA DE HOSTOS MICRO SOCIETY SCHOOL

### **Girl: *Amerli Ventura***

Amerli is a star student who excels in all academic subjects, as well as being a friendly and reliable student. She is always eager to assist her fellow classmates and teachers and is an integral part of her school program by assisting with the lower elementary students during her free time.

### **Boy: *Wilfredo Galdamez***

Wilfredo has been a star student at de Hostos. He excels in all academic subjects, as well as socially. He is focused on his future by working hard but also enjoys playing football, basketball, soccer and volleyball. He helps his school community whenever he is needed. He is a friendly and reliable student who is always eager to assist his fellow classmates and teachers.

### SCHOOL 23

#### **Girl: *Julia Murawski***

Julia is described as “the bright star of her class”. She is smart, articulate, respectful, and a wonderful peer to her classmates. She is the epitome of responsibility and grace while participating in Church events and extracurricular activities including gymnastics, taekwondo, volunteering to help teachers, and developing friendships in social groups. She enjoys learning new languages and reading mysteries.

#### **Boy: *Ahmad Abu-Mallouh***

Ahmad is an exemplary student who personifies the characteristics of an ideal pupil. He is responsible, respectful, and genuinely kind to adults and peers. He is focused on academics but also helps in his school community. He attended a program at Mercy College for Robotics and Tech. He is also athletic playing on soccer and football teams.

### CASIMIR PULASKI SCHOOL

#### **Girl: *Isabella Seery***

Isabella has always been a diligent, motivated, and organized student. Classmates have always turned to her for help and guidance, both in and out of class. She is calm, self-assured, and level-headed in any situation. She is involved in activities both in and out of school, including the Volunteer Committee as a tutor to our younger children. Isabella is an excellent student and a wonderful young woman who is an asset to our school community.

#### **\*\*Boy: *Jacob Fanek***

Jacob has shown great maturity, focus and diligence during his time here. He is a student who is always respectful of his classmates and teachers. He is part of the school’s musicals and has also participated in our Holiday Reader's program where he has read books to younger students and guided them through a learning activity. He has always been a student our faculty and staff can look to as a role model for others.

### KAHLIL GIBRAN SCHOOL

#### **Girl: *Chassity Rodriguez***

Chassity was elected President of her school’s student government by her peers demonstrating how well-respected she is among her fellow students. Chassity is an outstanding student who leads by example through her hard work and focused approach to learning. She routinely assists in programs like the school’s book fair, bake sales, and peer tutoring. Chassity is an outstanding candidate for the Siragusa Award.

#### **Boy: *Tyler Colon***

Tyler is a polite, respectful, and diligent student. He is respected by the staff, as well as his peers. Tyler 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 assist the custodians in setting up the gym for an assembly or a teacher in the younger grades requiring help moving things around the classroom. Tyler is well-deserving of the Siragusa Award.

### WESTCHESTER HILLS SCHOOL 29

#### **Girl: *Gianna Valdez***

Gianna portrays qualities of hard work, good efforts, and determination to succeed. Gianna is independent, respectful, and responsible. With a strong attendance record, she shows determination to succeed and works hard to accomplish the tasks assigned to her. Gianna is eager to learn new topics, and continuously participates in classroom discussions. She also asks for help and clarification when needed, and takes corrections constructively, building upon any comments made to her.

**Boy: *Aiden O'Malley***

Aiden has shown true growth and commitment this year. He helps classmates who struggle with certain academic concepts. Aiden has always worked great independently but is beginning to work well with other students also. Aiden respects each individual student in his class. He also respects authority figures in his school community. Aiden has a good attendance record showing his focus towards academic success.

**SCHOOL 30****Girl: *Ariana Henry***

Ariana is a true exemplar of a young lady who is always kind and courteous to her peers and teachers alike. She is generous and always willing to lend ideas or help to fellow students. She is also a superb student. Ariana is hard working, intelligent, and always on task while facing adversity, making her a beacon for her peers and laudable on every level from her teachers.

**Boy: *Xavien Marsham***

Xavien is a wonderful asset to our school community. Xavien is very bright and is on High-Honor Roll or Principal's list and excels at most things. Xavien is also a great person. It is Xavien's moral sense, demeanor, and polite empathy that makes him the young gentleman that everyone respects and admires. Xavien's combination of brains, work ethic, gentlemanly nature, and humor will make him a future success in whatever he chooses.

**FAMILY SCHOOL 32****Girl: *Marina Friscia***

Marina is a student government Vice President. She communicates respectfully and effectively and is a wonderful liaison between her peers and the adults in the building. Her interests include drama, having performed in "Aladdin", art, and knitting. She designed and sewed her outfit for the school's spirit day. Her peers look up to her for her leadership and originality.

**Boy: *Matthew Beltran***

Matthew is excelling academically this year and really stands out as a young man with extraordinary character during these unusual times. We selected him as our New York Jets Upstander of the Week for befriending those who need it the most, holding the door for peers and teachers and standing up to bullying and inappropriate behavior.

**MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ACADEMY****Girl: *Janelly Campana***

Janelly has been a model student, demonstrating diligence in her studies and willingness to assist others. She volunteers to assist teachers and students during recess time and has encouraged her peers to join her endeavors. As the vice president of the student government, she meets with the principal before school and implements various projects after hearing the needs and concerns of the student body. Janelly's respect for administration and faculty is evident, as is her care for the community.

**Boy: *Tyrone D. Woodson, Jr.***

Tyrone is an extremely bright young man who not only actively participates in his classes but also helps his classmates academically. His genuine respect for his family and the MLKA family is noticeable and he encourages his classmates to do the same. He has infectiously shared his love for the MLKA community. Tyrone has been and continues to be a model student at MLKA.

### CROSS HILL ACADEMY

**Girl: *Sara Abraham***

Sara is a conscientious student who consistently strives to do her best. Sara has exemplary attendance and is a respectful and a cooperative student. She supports fellow students and demonstrates leadership and responsibility skills. Sara also shows a positive attitude towards classmates, school staff, academics, and the entire school community.

**Boy: *Raad Albrashi***

Raad is a respectful and cooperative student. Raad is always prompt, has remarkable attendance, and is enthusiastic about learning. Raad is an outstanding role model in his classes. He supports fellow students and demonstrates leadership and responsibility skills in group work. Raad also shows a positive attitude towards classmates, school staff, academics, and the entire school community.

### CESAR E. CHÁVEZ SCHOOL

**Girl: *Justina Tuffour***

Justina makes my task easy and enjoyable on a daily basis. She epitomizes the American Dream through her work ethic, her humility, and her quiet confidence in her ability. She welcomes opportunity, and her potential is unlimited. She has been described as “the NICEST young lady you’ll ever meet.”

**Boy: *Askari Little***

Askari is no stranger to the Rosemarie Ann Siragusa Award having been selected for the same award in 5<sup>th</sup> grade. His continued excellence both in and out of the classroom merits recognition year after year. He participated in and received a certificate of completion for the YCAP Summer Leadership Program. Askari has intangible traits such as dedication and self-confidence that are sadly in short supply these days.

### ENRICO FERMI SCHOOL

**\*\*Girl: *Kelsey Gregorio***

Kelsey is a well-rounded student with a plethora of abilities that contribute to the school’s culture and richness. She is a dedicated, precocious young woman who is driven academically, socially, and within the community. Kelsey is currently the student government co-president, involved in community building by tutoring English language learners, and planning events that support the needs of her peers while fostering essential relationships.

**Boy: *Jeffrey Molina Romero***

Jeffrey shows his respect for his peers and adults around him consistently. He is the co-president of Enrico Fermi’s student government and engages with his peers in coordinating fundraising activities. Jeffrey also has an aptitude for public speaking. Jeffrey is a role model for many of his male peers. In addition, Jeffrey arrives at school every day and is punctual. Jeffrey contributes to the school environment by providing his peers with a model of an attitude of optimism and determination.

### PEARLS HAWTHORNE SCHOOL

**Girl: *Eabha Peel***

Eabha is a wonderful young lady who is a consistent Honor Roll Student, a member of the band, and a musician and dancer for the school’s America’s Got Talent show. She serves as a role model to all students as a basketball player in Sports Club, assists teachers with classroom set-up and reading circles, and is an active member of the school community.



**Boy: *Julian Toro***

Julian is a bright, kind, and respectful young man who is a true leader in the school community and on the basketball court. Julian is a High Honor Roll student, a member of the basketball team, belongs to the chess club and assisted with the school's community garden. He is a personable and caring young man who assists peers with academics or a boost of confidence. It is evident that he cares for all aspects of his school community.

**ROBERT C. DODSON SCHOOL****Girl: *Nohara Urena Pena***

Nohara has blossomed into an ambitious, helpful, and happy young lady. She is a great asset to the class. She is a respectful young lady and is a pleasure to have in class. She performs well in all classes and takes her education very seriously. It is admirable that she has made so many accomplishments including Principal's List, Math Student of the Month, and High Honor Roll in a short time in a new country.

**Boy: *Zadan Thomas***

Zadan is an exceptional young man and a pleasure to have in class. He is an excellent student with a strong work ethic and a great personality. He exhibits the 4 principles of MBK in his daily actions: royalty, respect, responsibility, and relationships. Zadan has helped organize food drives and volunteers to read to and mentor one of our third-grade students. He is a great role model for our younger students.

**WILLIAM BOYCE THOMPSON SCHOOL****Girl: *Ariannah Oviedo***

Ariannah is an extraordinary student. She works diligently in school and out of school caring for younger siblings. Ariannah's grades and overall dedication to her schoolwork and school community have never wavered, despite any obstacles she faces. As our class president, Ariannah sets a great example for the rest of the school community and showers our community in positivity and light. Leading by example, Ariannah joined the basketball team, and she possesses a larger-than-life personality.

**Boy: *Alan Rodriguez***

Alan is an exceptional student and person; he goes above and beyond with every task. Alan has achieved High Honor Roll while also being a student athlete. He is determined to commit fully to each and every opportunity that comes his way. Alan possesses strong leadership skills and leads by example. His peers and teachers alike respect him and admire his maturity and ability to critically think about the world around him. Alan also helps entertain and manage the younger students after school. Alan is the epitome of an ideal student.

**YONKERS MONTESSORI ACADEMY****Girl: *Margaret Ennin***

Margaret is an excellent role model and leader in the school community who consistently demonstrates Montessori's 5 pillars of Peace, Respect, Hard Work, Community, and Learning. She supports her classmates in her Regents Math and Science courses and always provides an engaging and different perspective in English. Active in church events while enjoying swimming, basketball, reading books, composing short stories, poems, and music, she maintains Honor Roll status as a bilingual student.

**Boy: *Alexander Vasquez***

Alexander is a bright young man with a passion for learning and commitment to school. Alexander goes above and beyond to be prepared and is unafraid to be a leader in school assignments. He communicates well and leads with equity, making sure all voices are heard. Alexander is currently proposing for middle school students to be able to participate in student council.

## PALISADES PREPARATORY SCHOOL

### **Girl: *Cherish Wamack***

Cherish is an outstanding student who has demonstrated excellent achievement by maintaining academic excellence and leadership at Palisade Prep. She sets personal goals of high academic achievement and has an outstanding work ethic and inquisitive nature. She maintains a positive attitude towards learning and willingly takes on feedback to improve her learning. Cherish has participated with enthusiasm in all aspects of school life including athletics, service projects and food drives.

### **Boy: *Jordan Merrill***

Jordan is a talented and bright young man who is determined to succeed in life. He is not afraid of working hard in order to achieve his goals and he willingly goes beyond what is required of him as a basketball player in the school. He encapsulates all the qualities of an exemplary student who is recognized and held in high regard for his academic excellence and leadership prowess. Jordan is also an active member of our MBK program.

## YONKERS MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

### **Girl: *Andrea Melchor***

Andrea is a most positive individual who shows great discipline in taking care of her academic responsibilities. She encourages others to tap into her love of learning and self-actualization. She always offers to help struggling students, as well as helping teachers with maintaining technology. Andrea enhances our school environment and is a great representation of our school's values.

### **Boy: *Yaw Akwaa***

Yaw is a phenomenal student with an impressive work ethic and personality. He is a stellar citizen of our school community. He is the first to volunteer his services for our school. He aids both students and teachers alike for whatever needs to get done. He is also a junior leader at his church and helps the community. He is a true asset to us all.

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

(Sponsored by YCPTA)

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

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

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

#### **SCHOOL 5**

##### ***Alanis Abreu***

Alanis is a kind and lovely young lady. She carries a sense of "home; we are a family" with her. She is hardworking and intrinsically motivated. She likes participating in sports with her family, such as volleyball and soccer. In June, Alanis will be honored as the Salutatorian of School 5.

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

##### ***Kai Prophete***

Kai is an inquisitive, brilliant, and creative young guy. He is a bright, inquisitive student who is committed to his academics. Kai was aspired to become an architect. He took classes at the Center for Architecture in 2021. He always arrives at school ready to learn and eager to participate in every lesson. He started his own comic book club in which students created and edited one another's work. Kai is on the Principal's List academically.

#### **SCHOOL 13**

##### ***Daira C. Aguilar***

Daira is the current president of the student government and exemplifies the ideal student, friend, and peer through the help and guidance she gives to her fellow students. Daira enjoys helping her neighbors with errands, groceries, and any other chores they may need. Daira is determined, hard-working, and very committed to her community and school. She is active in her church community and is a member of the church choir. Daira 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.

#### **PAIDEIA SCHOOL 15**

##### ***Demos Politopoulus***

Demos is a joy to have in class and puts a smile on everyone's faces. He actively engages in class and likes learning. Demos has a strong desire to help others in need. Demos is always willing to assist his instructors and classmates. Demos has made several contributions to the school community, and participates in the school's theatrical productions. Demos manages a full academic load, including two Regents subjects, while also participating in after-school activities. He recognizes the advantages of collaboration and community building.

#### **SCHOOL 16**

##### ***Alexis A. Nyemcheck***

Alexis has always been on Honor Roll, High Honor Roll, or Principal's List. Alexis also became part of the National Junior Honor Society. She has organized a children's book collection to donate books to the Yonkers Police Department's Need to Read program. She created a Blind Book Exchange Box, where you can take or leave a book that is wrapped covering the cover so you can't judge the book by its cover and earned the Girl Scout Bronze Award for collecting eyeglasses for New Eyes for the Needy.

## SCHOLASTIC ACADEMY FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

### ***Randy Mendoza***

Randy's contributions to the community are manifested via his demeanor and attitude toward his fellow students and teachers. For example, he works well as a part of a team. He exemplifies the tenets taught within the framework of our school community's Bulldog Pride – particularly cooperation and respect. Whenever one of the teachers on our team asks him to assist in any manner, he is always up to the task.

## EUGENIO MARIA DE HOSTOS MICRO SOCIETY SCHOOL

### ***Zahir Rosado***

Zahir is an outstanding member of the school and works diligently with his classmates to achieve academic success. He's willing to be a tutor and teacher to his peers. A High Honor Roll and Principal's list recipient, he states he is focused, outgoing, trustworthy and hardworking. Zahir likes to have fun, but when he has to work, he is very focused. Zahir volunteers and has many extracurricular and academic activities.

## SCHOOL 23

### ***Noely Mendez***

Noely is a wonderful addition to her school community. Noely academically excels in her abilities and is able to aim for reasonable goals and take pride in her work. She has taken part in cleaning up classrooms, helping the younger students at her school, and has contributed to boards in halls to motivate students to work hard. Noely looks up to her mother quite a lot because she had gotten herself a scholarship to an expensive college. She plans to become a radiologist to study treatments and diseases.

## CASIMIR PULASKI SCHOOL

### ***Finnian Evans***

At a Brooklyn Cyclones Minor League baseball game, Finnian sang the national anthem. Finnian is a respectful, intelligent, and industrious student who helps out in the community and sets a positive example for younger children. She got the Best Actor award for her performance in Beauty and the Beast in this after-school program and sang at Senakwami Studios. Finnian is enrolled in Fordham Prep's Higher Achievement Program, a summer program that prepares eighth graders for high school.

## KAHLIL GIBRAN SCHOOL

### ***Elysia Real***

Elysia embodies all of the virtues that this award seeks to celebrate in our students. Elysia's selflessness is exemplified every day by the way she cares for her classmates. Elysia was named to the Principal's List and was awarded a certificate from the National Elementary Honor Society. Elysia helped communities with food drives, books, and clothes for several organizations. Elysia is currently enrolled in early Regents' science and algebra courses, Spanish twice a week, and learning technology with ID Tech. Elysia developed a passion for tennis and volleyball.

## WESTCHESTER HILLS SCHOOL 29

### ***Amit Singh***

Amit is a brilliant, kind, and dedicated student who is dedicated to his own academic achievement as well as the academic success of his peers. He excels in academic criteria and is a recipient of Principal's List, High Honor Roll, Citizenship, and Perfect Attendance. Without asking anything in return, Amit puts his expertise and generous heart to good use. Amit has volunteered to help his school community throughout the year. He also assists Samaritans with their needs in the neighborhood.

### SCHOOL 30

#### ***Alice Clery***

Alice impresses her school community. She is always positive and helps her fellow students and staff. Most impressive is her ability to remain focused academically and continuously succeed while being in an environment that continuously attempts to stymie that success. We will forever be impressed by Alice's work-ethic, kindness, sense of justice, intellect, and all-around impressiveness. Alice was quite fittingly voted school president and has been extremely active in fundraising.

### FAMILY SCHOOL 32

#### ***\*\*Hannah Silva***

Hannah is a Principal's List recipient and a role model when she is tutoring her peers. She serves as the school's safety patrol. Hannah engages in various academic activities and excels in class. With her cheerful nature, she relieves the stress of friends, family, teachers, and her peers in any way possible. Hannah also volunteers for Master Kim Scarsdale Taekwondo as an instructor. Being a recipient of various awards such as The President's Gold Volunteer Service Award and The Rosemarie Ann Siragusa Citizenship Award, and extracurricular and volunteering activities are just some of Hannah's accomplishments.

### MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ACADEMY

#### ***Adriana Camacho***

Adriana is the president of her school's student government, and she works tirelessly with her team to enhance the school. She is the most advanced student in middle school, with high school-level reading, writing, and arithmetic skills. Adriana is a great student at MLKA, balancing her classwork and social life well. She lives with her caring parents and a high school-aged sister. She is most proud of the intellectual side of her life, where it's her first and foremost focus to maintain everything in order for her college goals.

### CROSS HILL ACADEMY

#### ***Ibrahim B. Kamara***

Ibrahim is a valuable asset not just to the school but also to the community. He is on the Honor Roll, an excellent leader, and a project leader. Ibrahim believes that a strong education leads to good grades, credit, high school success, and successful life. He is part of the My Brother's Keeper (MBK) where he learns how to inform others about real-world matters, such as bullying, racism, COVID-19, and more.

### CESAR E. CHÁVEZ SCHOOL

#### ***William Prado***

William's commitment to the church is impressive. He is a sponsor in his church to aid other members and disseminate the news to the public. William is an ambassador for the 8th-grade Kindness Initiative and serves as a role model. William's accolades during the school year were Honor Roll or Most Improved. He was allowed to sponsor his church. He participated in My Brother's Keeper (MBK) and "Science Barge" programs.

### ENRICO FERMI SCHOOL

#### ***Juan D. Landero Montiel***

Juan is a very well-rounded individual. He is an active member of the student government, My Brother's Keeper (MBK), safety patrol, and the growth of our sports program. Juan contributed to the Mount Carmel Church by donating the place money as a fellow believer of its Catholic religion and a student of their church school. He would like to study at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) majoring in restaurant/food service management in the future.



### PEARLS HAWTHORNE SCHOOL

#### ***Isabel Dourmashkin***

Isabel whose sister is her role model is an amazing student and ultimate role model at PEARLS. Always with a smile she has a stellar academic record and is consistently a Principal's List student and a candidate for the National Junior Honor Society. With a positive attitude, she volunteers in the PEARLS community as she assists with numerous PTA fundraising events and is an active member of the PEARLS Math Enrichment Club and participates in the Stock Market Game.

### ROBERT C. DODSON SCHOOL

#### ***Allyson Saca Montero***

Allyson is an excellent student with a strong work ethic. She is a peer mentor in which she helps the 7th graders who need Math help during lunch. She is also part of a reading program designed to help struggling 3rd graders. She puts forth significant effort into all her assignments and shows a strong commitment to our school. In addition to her strong academics, she has established a great rapport with administrators, teachers, and her fellow students. Her classmates cited her maturity, leadership qualities, and personality as to why they thought she would make a good school leader. She is a distinguished role model who has had a positive impact.

### WILLIAM BOYCE THOMPSON SCHOOL

#### ***Jevaughn Nosworthy***

Jevaughn exemplifies a well-rounded student who appreciates giving back to our school community. Jevaughn is not only a good student who gets good marks, but he also plays basketball for the school and helps out in the after-school program. Jevaughn was, and still is, the first to volunteer to help after school when he isn't practicing or playing a game. Within our school community, Jevaughn is an outstanding leader and role model. My Brother's Keeper (MBK) was a program in which he participated.

### YONKERS MONTESSORI ACADEMY

#### ***Monica George***

Monica is an exceptional student and a positive member of the YMA community. Monica is an 8th grader at YMA. She is an African American female who takes advanced classes in math and science. Monica believes that education is a key to success. Monica assists in peer mediation and social-emotional learning meeting to encourage students her age to be successful. Monica would like to further her studies in the medical field.

### PALISADES PREPARATORY SCHOOL

#### ***Fauziya Funa***

Fauziya is a well-rounded student who understands the importance of personal and academic development. She is a student who exemplifies honor, cooperation, honesty, and gratitude. This student treats classmates, teachers, and staff with respect by valuing each as an individual, respecting differences, and valuing the work that others do. Fauziya assisted the staff during our Thanksgiving turkey drive and holiday toy drive. She is also an important part of our "We Our ONE" event.

### YONKERS MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

#### ***Gloriana Montalvo Montes***

Gloriana is a student passionate about Performing Arts, Living Environment and music. Gloriana has received the triple C award, Principal's List and High Honor Roll. She was the recipient of the first young woman of distinction award, 2 proclamations, a certificate of merit, 2 certificates of recognition, and a Kiwanis Club Award. She believes education can lead her to having a successful career.

## **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: ***Tonaé Bannister***

**CHARLES E. GORTON HIGH SCHOOL**

Tonaé Bannister is a wonderful well-spoken young lady. She volunteers inside the school building as well as in the community. She has participated in haunted hallways, school safety patrol, thanksgiving drives and feeding the homeless at Nepperhan Community Center. She is part of the KCCC junior choir and Exquisite Force dance team. She has received numerous awards including honor roll, certificate of participation in summer smarts, and foundation of healthcare honorary student award from the Academy of Medical Professions. She is looking forward to achieving her goal of becoming a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner.

## **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: ***Jaden Halevi***

**SAUNDERS TRADES AND TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL**

Jaden has been challenged with rigorous coursework with a focus on math and science in our Century Honors program. Having earned a cumulative GPA of 94.29, Jaden currently finds himself in the top 5% of his graduating class. Jaden has achieved High Honor Roll and Principal's List throughout high school and is a member of our National Honor Society. He is constantly described by his peers as dedicated, conscientious, and a pleasure to have in class. He has gained confidence and has completely immersed himself in his love for computer science. In addition to his academic commitment and extracurricular endeavors, he continues to engage in community service by offering phone support to senior citizens who require assistance with their electronic devices or Zoom calls. Jaden is very proud of his work with "Inventure," a platform that he describes as "giving start-ups by people of color more recognition." He shared his technology skills through his volunteer work and his participation in Girls and Guys Who Code, Robotics Club, All Start Code, and Tech Squad. During his 2021 summer research project at the MIT "MITES" program, Jaden and his team from all over the United States developed a machine learning algorithm that can read, understand, and "translate" American Sign Language into conventional text.

## 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 show good citizenship by contributing to the welfare of the school. The student must show growth in achievement within the scope of a total academic program.

WINNER: ***Geovanny Delarosa***

### SAUNDERS TRADES AND TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

Geovanny is a kind respectful, and polite young man who is well liked by both his peers as well as adults. He brings great insight into class discussion and is able to connect current events to the topics he is learning in class. He is very active in his school community and participates in many different extracurricular activities. Geovanny has been part of the varsity baseball team for two years. He is able to balance the demands of a varsity sport with the rigor of his academic classes. He plays the guitar and is involved in the music programs that are performed by the students after school. Geovanny has created many different projects utilizing his carpentry magnet skills and has even sold some of his pieces for fundraising activities. He applied what he had learned in his carpentry magnet to gain him summer employment building decks with a licensed carpenter. He showed resilience last year when he was able to be successful in his academic classes, whether by remote instruction or in person. Geovanny was able to navigate new digital platforms such as Microsoft Teams and Nearpod with ease. He has been and continues to be an absolute pleasure to have in class.

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 of Schools  
Mrs. RoseAnne Collins-Judon, Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Administration  
Mrs. Maria-Angelica Meyer, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary PK-8 Schools Coordinated Supervision  
Mr. Erik Wright, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary PK-5/6 Schools Coordinated Supervision  
Dr. Luis Rodriguez, Assistant Superintendent, Special Education and Pupil Support Services  
Mrs. Lissette Colon-Collins, Assistant Superintendent, Language Acquisition, Funded Programs, School Counseling and The Arts  
Mr. Luis Duany-Blanco, Assistant Superintendent, Professional Development

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Scholarship recipient name confirmation: school administrators and teachers, Mrs. Joan A. DeLuca

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