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Roslyn High School



Senior Community Awards

June 3, 2019

- **HARRIET FELDMAN** was a remarkable woman who felt that there was nothing more important than her family and her involvement in the education of ALL the children of Roslyn. Harriet's focus went far beyond our honor students who generally garner many awards. She had been an early childhood educator and her philosophy was to reach out to all students and make every effort to meet their varying needs. Mrs. Feldman demonstrated a commitment to the achievement of all of Roslyn's students by serving as President of the PTA's in the schools that her four children attended, and as a member and Co-President of CCPA, our Coordinating Council of Parent Associations. She cherished the accomplishments of every Roslyn youngster and devoted herself to helping all children reach their fullest potential. Mrs. Feldman was elected to the Roslyn Board of Education in 1985, and served a total of six and one-half years; two as Vice-President and the last two as President, despite a serious illness. A scholarship fund was established in her loving memory. In the spirit of her tireless devotion to the success of every student, the Harriet Feldman Achievement Award is given each year to a high school graduate who has shown dedicated and continuous advancement.

- **GEORGE E. BRYANT** was the superintendent of schools in Roslyn from 1943 to 1963. He began his career in Roslyn in 1929 as a mathematics teacher at the high school and junior high school levels. As superintendent, during the years following World War II, George Bryant guided the school district through the time of its greatest expansion. The East Hills School, Harbor Hill School and Roslyn Junior High School (now the Middle School) were built during his administration. Most important, he led our schools through a dramatic transition from a small school district to a much larger one in which higher education became a goal for the vast majority of youngsters. Mr. Bryant is remembered for his love of children and the great respect and sympathy he showed towards everyone in the community. Not only did he himself display creative leadership in overseeing the school district during a complex period, he also nurtured the creativity of the teaching staff. He was a firm believer in the concept that there is no single, correct approach to learning, and encouraged teachers to be open to new ideas and apply them creatively in the classroom. The George E. Bryant Creativity Award is presented to a student who has demonstrated an outstanding creative spirit during his or her high school career.

- **NANCY GOLDMAN** dedicated herself to improving the lives and well-being of people in our community for over twenty years. Even while facing her own health battles for the last thirteen years, Nancy found the time to volunteer for multiple positions within the Roslyn School District, and be an uplifting spirit to all those with whom she interacted. Nancy served as a PTA President & Treasurer, as well as President of the Roslyn High School Marching Band Fans. She served on multiple School Board and Senior Party Art committees, and organized and actively participated in fund raising events. She was well known by teachers, administrators, parents, and students as someone who deeply cared about their wellbeing; someone who consistently went out of her way to try and help others. She refused to let illness define her. Until the very end, she somehow managed to greet everyone with a big friendly smile. Nancy had the ability to see and bring out the best in people.

- **MARVIN ERGER** was known as a man who confronted adversity and not only survived, but went beyond it to prosper. Mr. Erger came to this country after he was liberated from a concentration camp with no possessions, no friends, no family in America and no fluency in English. He overcame all obstacles to become a respected businessman and beloved friend of the Roslyn community. His delicatessen, Andel's, is still frequented by Roslyn students with whom he had a close relationship. For this reason, with fondness for Roslyn schoolchildren, the Marvin Erger Memorial Scholarship has been established.

- **STEWART HECHT KINDMAN** is honored by the Roslyn community as an outstanding student who persevered with a healthy spirit after developing osteogenic sarcoma while in the Roslyn Junior High. Although Stewart missed many weeks of school while undergoing cancer treatments, he remained an excellent student, a member of the Roslyn Chapter of the National Honor Society, a National Merit semi-finalist. He was co-recipient of the first William Alexander Memorial Award, received the Bruce Cutler Memorial award in 1987 and was flag bearer that year. Stewart learned to understand quality of life. In his college essay, he wrote: "While in the hospital, changes began to take place in me. I met incredible people who were much sicker than I was and still had a positive outlook... I was shocked into a realization of what is really important in life... I found an inner strength that I had never before needed." Those who knew Stewart said "His warmth and humor in the face of his illness were a true measure of his courage and dignity" and "Stewart found happiness in every single day and took advantage of it;" "His illness was not the focus of his life." In this spirit the honor of a memorial award in his name is bestowed.



WELCOME

*Ms. Carol Murphy &
Mr. Jay Pilnick
Assistant Principals*

GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

*Meryl Waxman Ben-Levy
President*

REMARKS

*Dr. Scott Andrews
Principal*

SENIOR AWARDS

Town of North Hempstead Civic Spirit Award.....Councilman Peter J. Zuckerman

Kelly Salpeter

Councilman Peter J. Zuckerman’s Citizenship Award

Councilman Peter J. Zuckerman

Justin Schiavo and Emily Mintz

Senator Anna M. Kaplan “Trailblazer” Award.....Ms. Betsy Golan

Gemma Schneider and Hanna Markowitz

North Hempstead Town Clerk’s Leadership Award.....Mr. Wayne H. Wink, Jr.

Alexa Irom

Roslyn Chamber of Commerce Scholarship Award.....Mr. Wayne H. Wink, Jr.

Adrian Ke

Roslyn Educational Secretaries Association Award.....Ms. Andrea Rubin

Ms. Melanie Cooper

Laura Cardillo

Beatrice Knapp Gebaide Denno Memorial Scholarship...Mr. Eric Friedfeld-Gebaide

Aaron Moses

Jodi Golden Community Service Award

Ms. Amy Greenberg, President, North Shore Autism Circle

Hanna Greenberg

Evan Golden

Julia Farinacci and Ross Rosenfeld

Laura Adler Scholarship.....The Adler Family

Kazuki Neo

- **SERGIO DIBENEDETTO** was a one of a kind educator who taught in the Roslyn School District for eight years. He served this educational community as a teacher, coach, and mentor/friend to his colleagues. Sergio tragically lost his life to cancer in 2017. His impact will be forever felt by the students he helped and the teachers with which he worked. Sergio was an inspiration to all who knew him and model of hard work and professionalism. Sergio made sure that each day he gave his students everything they needed to be successful both in and out of the classroom. For Sergio, teaching was a way to positively impact students’ lives and help achieve their goals. Mr. D. was highly regarded for being kind hearted, hard working and a truly special person. The Roslyn School community was fortunate to have him as a teacher, colleague and friend. There is no doubt that his impact will be felt for years to come.

- **VANESSA GRAY-WILLIAMS** affectionately known as Ms. Gray, was a dedicated School Counselor in the Roslyn school District for nearly 15 years. She was a fierce advocate for her students and families and an inspiration to many. She possessed a generous spirit, a keen sense of self and was quite comfortable in her own skin. Ms. Gray truly danced to the beat of her own drum and encouraged her students to do the same. She had a wonderful sense of humor and an infectious laugh that touched the hearts of those who knew her well. She valued family, friendship and community. Her passion was to help people, and she enjoyed being a positive influence in the lives of her students. She gave unselfishly of her time and her door was always open. She taught us all the importance of treating one another with kindness and acceptance. She truly led by example. Her spirit lives on in the many lives she has touched.

- **EMPRESS ALASIA PRESTON** was a beloved member of the Roslyn community and an active member of the student body. Her friends valued her radiant smile and generous heart. In addition to being an aspiring student, on campus Empress was a member of the school chorus, girls’ varsity track team and the bowling team. Like many teens her age, she loved hanging out with her friends, listening to music, taking pictures and snap chatting. According to many, she was fearless, would be there if you needed her to be, and always made people around her feel they mattered. Her untimely death at age 16 will forever leave a void in our hearts. Her spirit will remain in our hearts forever.

Memorial Award Biographies

- The **JODI GOLDEN** Community Service Awards were established in 2018 by the North Shore Autism Circle and members of the Roslyn community. Jodi served as Co- President of the Roslyn SEPTA and was instrumental in creating children's programs and other events at The Park at East Hills. Jodi was passionate about and devoted to community service. Jodi organized many Autism initiatives as well as fundraisers for Canine Companions, causes near and dear to her heart.

- **LAURA ADLER** spent her life as an advocate for her special education students, a mentor to her colleagues, an inspiration to her friends and loved ones and a loving guide to her husband and children. Over her more than 20 years at Roslyn, Laura approached challenges with unyielding passion and perfectionism, whether she was planning a class lesson, counseling a student, or developing an event for the Roslyn Teacher Center, which she co-directed. Laura's life was full and noble and blessed; she had the gift of helping countless Roslyn students realize their potential. Laura, a voracious reader and writer, believed that individuals have limitless options in life, and that education keeps those options open. The scholarship founded in her memory will be awarded annually to a student who has shown continued academic improvement and who exemplifies the credo that she articulated and lived by: "*Determination is key. Compassion is vital. A smile gets you through.*"

- **ERICKA BISHOP**, a 1993 graduate of Roslyn High School, was an outstanding student and an outstanding young woman. She stood in two very different worlds and gave us all great insights into those cultural and racial differences. After her two years at Yale University, she decided to become a teacher. The intensity of her breadth and scope of knowledge and how much more she wanted to learn left an indelible imprint on those who knew her. Her artistic talent and her incredible skill in writing were second to none. She had so much to give; she enriched all of us who knew her. Our world of academia, the family and friends who loved her, and the people she would have touched are the victims of her needlessly tragic death.

SENIOR AWARDS

Ericka Bishop Memorial Scholarship.....*Mr. Steven Berrent*
Natya Glasco

KAPS of Roslyn Scholarship..... *Mr. Eugene Lee*
Justin Om and Priscilla Lee

The Roslyn Class of 1960 Public Service Award.....*Ms. Freda Klopfer*
Rebecca Lubin

NYS Attorney General Triple "C" Award.....*Mr. Adam Levin*
Marisa Radulescu and Asher Bykov

2019 Nassau County Comptroller Jack Schnirman
High School Innovation Award.....*Comptroller Jack Schnirman*
Sarah Pethani

Legislator Joshua A. Lafazan's
Award for Civic Engagement.....*Legislator Joshua A. Lafazan*
Jeffrey Yu

Long Island Blood Services Scholarship.....*Ms. Michele McCaffrey*
Taylor Bracone, Emily Mintz and Marisa Radulescu

Nassau Police Running Club Memorial Scholarship.....
Deputy Inspector Alan Hirsch
President of the Nassau Police Running Club
John Barreto and Luis Cardoza

Sergio DiBenedetto Memorial Scholarship
Ms. Robin Schum and Ms. Jessica Valente
Jonathan Marroquin

SENIOR AWARDS

The Spirit of Martin Luther King Jr. Award.....Mr. Christopher Roth

Alex Liu and Jessica Yeroshalmi

Vanessa Gray-Williams Scholarship

Taylor Gardner

The Empress Alasia Preston Memorial Scholarship

Natalia Mahaffy

Nassau County Executive's Community Service &
Academic Excellence Award

Johanna Kann

Nassau County Legislator's Citizenship Award

Samantha Spector

Retired Educators Chapter of the Roslyn Teachers Association

Madison Kessler

Nancy Goldman Service to the Community Award

Stefani Ozer and Lauren Christenson

Stewart Baxt Memorial Scholarship

Arielle Fishler and Natya Glasco

Joshua Segal Humanities Award

Jayna Kurlender

Lila Abramson Scholarship

Anneliese Opran

SENIOR AWARDS

Americana at Manhasset Scholarship

Drew Korn

The Rescue Hook and Ladder Company #1 of Roslyn
Award for Community Service

Riddhi Mangal

R. H. S. Marvin Erger Scholarship

Karan Phokela

Congressional Certificate of Merit

Alison Rosenbaum and Estee Sharabani

NYS Office of the State Comptroller Achievement Award

Melanie Landesberg

Harriet Feldman Achievement Award

Jeremy Kaufman

Stewart Hecht Kindman Memorial Award

Emily Leventhal and Natalia Mahaffy

John H. Lewis School and Community Service Award

Brandon Lee

George E. Bryant Creativity Award

Mark Russ and Michaela Shuster

Alvin Silverman Student Leadership Award

Joshua Bloom