

SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE

ESTABLISHED 1994



24TH ANNUAL SCHOLAR LEADER BANQUET

MARCH 26, 2018

ANTHONY OCEAN'S VIEW – NEW HAVEN

MEMBER SCHOOLS: Amity Regional, Branford, Hill Regional Career Magnet, Cheshire, Daniel Hand, East Haven, Fairfield Prep, Foran, Guilford, Hamden, Hillhouse, Jonathan Law, Luralton Hall, Lyman Hall, Mercy, North Haven, Notre Dame, Sacred Heart Academy, Sheehan, Shelton, West Haven, Wilbur Cross, Xavier

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WELCOME

Welcome to the 2018 Southern Connecticut Conference Scholar Leader recognition banquet – the 24th hosted by the league.

This evening, we will recognize forty-six impressive young people who have demonstrated outstanding scholarship and leadership in their respective school and external communities.

On behalf of the SCC, congratulations to the recipients and their families and best of luck in their future endeavors.

2017-18 SCC SCHOLAR LEADERS

AMITY REGIONAL – Samantha Fleischman, Colin Roy
BRANFORD – Liam Deane, Caroline Erickson
HILL REGIONAL CAREER – Te’a Gray, Charles Sakouvogui
CHESHIRE – Elizabeth Lurz, Isaac Moskowitz
DANIEL HAND – Maxwell Liu, Josephine Anderson
EAST HAVEN – Kylie Schlottman, Joseph Castellano
FAIRFIELD PREP – Alexander McMullen, Sean Lynch
JOSEPH A. FORAN – Julia Kopstein, Ethan Skuches
GUILFORD – Shayla Goldberg, Brendan O’Callahan
HAMDEN – Lily Sendroff, Christopher Mills
HILLHOUSE – Manasseh Bekele, Kayla Beamon
JONATHAN LAW – Ore Opayemi, Carl Maxwell
LURALTON HALL – Caroline Favano, Sabrina Yeung
LYMAN HALL – Brian Oliveira, Katelyn Miller
MERCY – Lila Fraser, Grace O’Brien
NORTH HAVEN – Mehak Sharma, Francesco Spirli
NOTRE DAME – Eric Harkins, Frank Paine
SACRED HEART ACADEMY – Claire Donelan, Avishan Montazer
MARK T. SHEEHAN – Nora Akila, Hannah Whitney
SHELTON – Jack Marciano, Saumya Shah
WEST HAVEN – Megan Patterson, Jeremy Tammaro
WILBUR CROSS – Maya Geradi, Sara Thakur
XAVIER – Benjamin Clemmey, Matthew Lyons

*** RECIPIENT BIO INFORMATION WAS COMPILED BY EACH SCHOOL’S PRINCIPAL.**

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AMITY REGIONAL

Anna Mahon, Principal

SAMANTHA FLEISCHMAN

Sam is an active leader of our Amity community. She is enrolled in some of the most challenging courses offered at Amity and maintains a spot at the top of her very competitive class. A two-year member of Link Crew, Samantha facilitates small group activities with her freshman and serves as a mentor and positive role model. She is a four-year member of our tennis team and has been named captain this year. She is involved in many clubs, such as Academic Decathlon and Marine Biology, as well as several Honor Societies and is chairperson of the Principal's Committee. Outside of school she participates in the Jewish Teen Education (JTE) program.

COLIN ROY

Colin is in the top 5% of his class. He is naturally inquisitive and can be counted on to be a leader in the classroom. Colin's academic record earned him the Fairfield Book Award last year. Colin is a four-year member of the Boy's Swim Team. As a top swimmer in the State he has earned numerous awards including: All-State (3 years), All-SCC Swimmer (3 years), All New Haven Register (2 years), and Connecticut Swimming Scholar Athlete. Colin is also a part of the Woodbridge Aquatic Club. As a volunteer for Reading together he reads with children from Kindergarten to Grade Three.

BRANFORD

Lee Panagoulis, Principal

LIAM DEANE

Liam is a well-rounded student, embracing his personal and academic potential throughout his four years at Branford High School. He has excelled in a variety of courses, achieved High Honors, and is a member of the National Honor Society. Liam's strong leadership is evident through his captainship of the hockey and golf teams, and he has received the honor of being named an All State/All Area player in golf. Liam is committed to volunteerism at hockey and golf tournaments, and continuously demonstrates his abilities to be an engaged learner and contributing member of the school community.

CAROLINE ERICKSON

Caroline excels in academics and co-curricular endeavors at Branford High School. She has achieved High Honors, serves on the National and World Language Honor Societies, and is the Secretary of NHS. Caroline is President of Model Congress, plays the viola in orchestra, serves on Student Council, and was class Secretary in 2015. Caroline plays Varsity Lacrosse, has played Junior Varsity and Varsity Hockey and Soccer, and participates on the Cross Country team. Caroline demonstrates a strong commitment to civic and social responsibility by volunteering at Yale New Haven Hospital, the Branford Festival and Road Race, and the local library.

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HILL REGIONAL CAREER

Dr. Zakia Parrish , Principal

TE'A GRAY

Te'a has been a remarkable student athlete at Career over the last 4 years. She has competed at the Varsity level in indoor and outdoor track since she was a freshman. Te'a has a 3.9 grade point average while juggling academics, athletics and a job. Te'a is also involved in Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) as the secretary for the last 2 years. She is the President of the National Business Honors Society for Career and completed over 60 hours of volunteer work through multiple organizations. Te'a is also a Peer Leader that helps underclassman plan their remaining years at Career as well as assist in planning their futures.

CHARLES SAKOUVOGUI

Charlie has had an outstanding high school career both on the soccer field and in the classroom. He has a 3.86 GPA and is a member of the Business National Honor Society and French National Honor Society. Charlie was selected to the All-State Team his sophomore and senior year as well as All-New England Team his senior year. He was also selected for All-Area and Connecticut High School Senior bowl game. In addition to these awards Charlie was selected the SCC player of the year for soccer.

CHESHIRE

Mary Gadd, Principal

ELIZABETH LURZ

Elizabeth is a mature, intelligent, highly-motivated and ambitious student. She is in the top 3% of her graduating class. Her academic strengths are balanced by her outstanding character. Elizabeth is polite and caring, and her kindness endears her to both staff and peers. Academically, Elizabeth has consistently challenged herself and has excelled in a rigorous college preparatory program. An active learner in every sense of the word, Elizabeth developed a club through which students in need were provided with school supplies. Her deep sense of community and compassion make her a true community contributor. She is not afraid of a challenge, or the hard work it takes to reach a goal; she will always go the extra mile. Throughout high school, Elizabeth has been involved with a multitude of school clubs, athletics, volunteer work and employment.

ISAAC MOSKOWITZ

Isaac Moskowitz is an extremely caring, motivated and intelligent young man. Not only is he class president, but he is also captain of his cross country team and an elite musician. In addition to earning exceptional grades in challenging AP and honors courses, Isaac is also involved in the Boy Scouts. He is a Senior Patrol Leader, and this fall he earned his Eagle Scout Award, the highest award granted by the Boy Scouts of America for which he was recognized by the Cheshire Board of Education. He has a deep sense of responsibility to his school, his community and his family. His commitment to action and engagement is matched by his enthusiasm and boundless energy. As busy as he is, Isaac manages all of his commitments with a genuine smile and an infectious attitude of optimism.

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DANIEL HAND

Anthony Salutari, Principal

MAXWELL LIU

Maxwell is resilient and approaches all challenges with fierce determination. He has utilized and created opportunities to enhance his commitment to academics and awareness of social diversity. His impressive performance in very competitive college preparatory curriculum has him at the top of his class. Maxwell is logical and analytical and has a passion for math and science. He is a strong critical thinker and has the ability to understand concepts and relate concepts across various disciplines. A leader in every sense of the word, he is a squad leader for the DHHS band, a member of our wrestling team, and a tutor for our “A Better Chance” program. Maxwell should be commended for restarting the Diversity Club at our school.

JOSEPHINE ANDERSON

Josephine is an incredibly motivated scholar with a work ethic that has propelled her to the top of her class. Her ability to balance an exceptionally rigorous course load while participating in athletics, community service, and extracurricular activities is commendable. She is a multi-talented, particularly focused, ambitious, and goal-oriented young adult. Needless to say, Josephine has earned the highest respect of students and staff. She is valued for her enthusiasm, her ability to work remarkably well with others, her willingness to follow through with responsibilities, and her ability to routinely go above and beyond expectations. Josephine’s charismatic personality makes her a natural leader. It is not surprising she thrives in leadership positions in virtually every activity in which she is involved.

EAST HAVEN

Vincent DeNuzzo, Principal

KYLIE SCHLOTTMAN

Kylie is an outstanding scholar and also an exceptional student-athlete. Kylie has been a Class Officer of her class each of her four years as a student. Furthermore, Kylie is a captain of both the girls volleyball and basketball teams. Kylie is a leader at EHHS. She serves as the Vice President of the Senior class, the President of the National Honor Society, and she is the President of our school’s Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) chapter. She is a two-time SCC Girls Basketball Player of the Year, two-time First Team All-State Girls Basketball, two-time First Team All-State Volleyball, and a two-time member of the New Haven Tap-Off Club All-County team.

JOSEPH CASTELLANO

Joe is natural leader and role model, a highly ranked student and a committed three-season athlete. He has been recognized for his academic success by earning the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education Student Leadership Award, the Rensselaer Medal, and the Princeton Book Award. His deep involvement in his academics, extracurricular activities, and athletics are the obvious markers of his accomplishments, but the characteristics that really set him apart are his kindness, caring, the respect he affords others, the importance he attributes to balance, and his desire to always strive to become a better person. It is for all of these reasons that he has been chosen as captain to lead his Cross Country and Indoor Track teams, that he was the Editor-in-Chief of our school newspaper, Treasurer of the Library Student Advisory Board, and an active member of our National Honor Society chapter.

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FAIRFIELD PREP

Dr. Robert Perrotta, Principal

ALEXANDER McMULLEN

Alex is a summa cum laude student ranked first in his class. He is president of the Student Government and President of the Hispanic Culture Club. Alex is the senior leader of Encords, an A Capella group that has performed at the NYC Jazz Festival. He was selected to perform in the CT Western Regional Choral Festival and is actively involved in our music program. Alex is also involved in our drama program, performing in several school productions. In addition, this well-rounded student is a member of the varsity tennis team. Into this busy schedule, Alex has performed over 100 hours of community service at Keys-teaching piano to Bridgeport middle-schoolers and at Giant Steps-working with students with Autism and Downs Syndrome.

SEAN LYNCH

Sean is a summa cum laude student ranked at the very top of his class. He is a member of the National Honor Society and the French Honor Society. He is on the Varsity Tennis team, a staff writer for the Political Awareness Society, a member of the Trigstar Club, a Peer Tutor, a key leader in our Retreat Program, and a member of the Cardinal Key Society-a school service organization. Sean received the President's Volunteer Service Award for performing over 100 hours of community service in one year. Some of the events in which he provided leadership include: fund raising for the Norma Pfriem Breast Care Center, the White Ribbon Campaign to end violence against women, and service work at Operation Hope and the Bridgeport Rescue Mission

JOSEPH A. FORAN

Max Berkowitz, Principal

JULIA KOPSTEIN

– Julia possesses outstanding scholarship, character and service. She has taken Advanced Placement and honors courses in all academic disciplines and earned the distinction of AP Scholar. She was the recipient of Excellence Awards in AP Language & Composition, AP European History and United States History. Julia has been a leader in the Youth & Government Club during all four years of high school. At the annual conference, Julia was selected to be the Minority Leader in the Senate and chosen as the Best Debater in the Connecticut State Senate. She recently partnered with a classmate to win the Youth and Law competition at the state capitol. Julia is currently the President of DECA, Vice President of National Honor society and is a member of the Model United Nations and Drama Club. As a member of the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization and Key Club, Julia has volunteered at many community events. She is a member of our Lacrosse team and is the recipient of the All Academic Varsity Lacrosse Award for her stellar performance in the classroom and on the field.

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ETHAN SKUCHES

Ethan is an outstanding student and accomplished athlete. He has taken an extremely rigorous course load, both at Foran and as a student at the Bridgeport Regional Aquaculture Science and Technology Education Center, where he spends a large portion of his school day. Ethan participated in the prestigious Natural Resources Conservation Academy at UCONN where he developed a conservation research project which spanned over seven months and presented his findings at a conference last March. Recently, he was named a CT Science Fair finalist for his project on a Biochar Containment Boom as a mitigation technique for relic pollutants after marine dredging. Ethan is an extremely active member of the school community. He is an exceptional swimmer and two year captain of the Foran Boys' Swim Team. He was selected as the SCC Division II Swimmer of the Year the past two years. Additionally, he is an officer for the Foran Natural Helpers club, a member of the Foran Innovative Thinkers leadership club, National Honor Society, the Sci-Lions Science Olympiad Team, and a leader within the Future Farmers of America.

GUILFORD

Rick Misenti, Principal

SHAYLA GOLDBERG

Shayla is an outstanding young lady. Shayla is a member of the National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society and the International Thespian Society. She has received numerous Academic Excellence Awards and she has received high honors throughout each of her four years in high school. Her talents and accomplishments reach far beyond the classroom. Shayla has recorded hundreds of volunteer hours in our community, sharing her time and talents with younger children, her peers, and the elderly. Shayla is President and District Area Representative for Guilford High School's Interact Club and Secretary for Guilford Foundation's Youth Advisory Group. Her selection to leadership positions in these organizations validates this young lady's resolve to lead and excel in all that she does and most importantly demonstrates her belief in service above self.

BRENDAN O'CALLAHAN

Brendan O'Callahan is an outstanding young man. Brendan's contributions to Guilford High School's National Honor Society and Spanish National Honor Society are admirable. His successful completion of nine advanced placement classes over the past 2 ½ years speaks volumes about his academic strength. He also serves as co-president of the senior class, co-president of Action Against Hunger and senior co-chair of the Guilford Foundation Youth Advisory. Brendan participates in three sports, cross country, winter and spring track and he has been honored multiple times as a scholar athlete. In our community, Brendan is a powerful advocate for those most in need. His involvement at the Columbus House cooking for and serving the homeless and his mission trip to Appalachia, where he teamed with others to upgrade living the conditions of many families, is beyond admirable.

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HAMDEN

Nadine Gannon, Principal

LILY SENDROFF

Lily is a natural leader who possesses all the outstanding traits required to be highly successful in life. Lily is an active student in DECA and serves as the Vice President of Member Relations. She is an exceptional student who has challenged herself by taking multiple AP classes throughout her high school career and has achieved high honors throughout the past four years. She is one of two students who led the "Fresh Water Focus", a service project partnered with the South Asia Pure Water Initiative, a non-profit organization that installs the BioSand filters in India. This project was able to supply enough water filters for an entire village called Udbur Hadi in 2016. Lily is a member of the National Honor Society, and the Italian National Honor Society. She was chosen to serve on the Reimagined Project in March of 2016. The purpose of this project was to engage 25 school districts in developing a transformation framework of Connecticut High Schools. Lily is the President of Interact Club, a recipient of the Rotary Youth Leadership Award, Brandeis Book Award for Social Action and 2017 Business Student of the Year.

CHRISTOPHER MILLS

Chris is an exceptional student who has achieved high honors throughout his four years at Hamden High School and has earned a spot in the top 10% of his graduating class. A member of the National Honor Society, National Italian Honor Society, and an integral member of the Hamden High School Varsity Football and Lacrosse teams, Chris has proven his commitment to both his education and his athletics. He has received numerous accolades that include, The Society of Women Engineers Certificate, Excellence in Foreign Language, as well as the Scholar Athlete Award from the National Football Foundation. In addition, Chris has participated in over 100 hours of volunteer service, demonstrating his ability to serve both his school and his community.

JAMES A. HILLHOUSE

Glen Worthy, Principal

MANASSEH BEKELE

Manasseh is ranked in the top 10 of his senior class, with a 4.1 GPA. He is a member of the National Honors Society. Manasseh speaks three languages. He is also a cadet in the JROTC program and United States Army. In addition, Manasseh is a four-year member and four-time state champion with the of the Indoor and Outdoor Track Team. He is our male captain for the Cross-Country, Indoor and Outdoor Track teams and recently earned SCC Scholar Athlete recognition in the fall season. Manasseh has over a hundred hours of community service working with elementary and middle school students throughout the year.

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KAYLA BEAMON

Kayla currently holds a 3.8 GPA. She has been selected for the honor roll every marking period during her high school tenure. Kayla has led school clubs, sports teams and class projects. Kayla volunteers her time at several elementary schools and nursing homes. In addition to handing out water each year for the New Haven Road Race. She has served as captain of the volleyball team and softball team. Kayla is also co-president of the Hillhouse Student-Athlete Leadership Council.

JONATHAN LAW

Fran Thompson, Principal

ORE OPAYEMI

Ore is ranked number one in her impressive graduating class. She is the treasurer of the Jonathan Law chapter of Model UN, where last spring she spoke on the floor of the General Assembly. Her leadership roles are many- she is the treasurer for the Interact club, the President of the Bible Club and a teacher leader at her church's vacation bible school. Ore has earned the distinction of AP scholar. She is the school representative for the Milford Education Foundation and a member of the National Honor Society. She the recipient of the Yale Book Award, the Society of Women Engineering Award, and many Jonathan Law All School awards including the Latin, AP Human Geography, and Child Development awards.

CARL MAXWELL

Carl is a leader in the classroom, on the court and on the field. He is ranked in the top tier of a talented class. An AP Scholar, Carl's transcript denotes a variety of honors and AP classes. Carl is an avid writer. He continues to challenge himself with his academic schedule this year; he carefully planned each year to make sure he would have the correct pre requisites to assist him on his journey to college. This year Carl has been enrolled in Jonathan Law's Advanced Creative Writing course. Carl also loves to debate; he is a two year member of Model UN. Over the past few years, he interned with the city attorney of Milford, this is where he developed his love for law.

LAURALTON HALL

Cynthia Gallant, Principal

CAROLINE FAVANO

Caroline Favano is a dedicated student, leader, and volunteer at Lauralton Hall. In addition to being on the High Honor roll every quarter thus far, she also had certificates of excellence in Mathematics, Science, Spanish, and History. She is also the recipient of the Bausch + Lomb Honorary Science Award and the Harvard Book Award, and she is a Governor's Scholar Semi-Finalist. She is dedicated to leadership and community service as the National Honor Society president and the Deputy Secretary of State in Connecticut's Youth and Government Program. She focuses heavily on service, having participated in the Daisy Run for Breast Cancer, the BOLD food drive, and numerous trips to visit the homeless in New York City.

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SABRINA YEUNG

As a sophomore, Sabrina was elected Student Council Treasurer; as a junior, she was Vice President. As President, this year, she organizes various school events, like dances, spirit week, and pep rallies, and arrange charity activities. Last year, Sabrina received The National Association of Secondary School Principals' Citizenship Award. Additionally, she is a part of the National Honor Society and the Spanish National Honor Society. Outside of school, she is constantly at the ice rink. Her synchronized skating team, Team Image, placed 2nd on the East Coast, qualifying for Nationals in Oregon. At Nationals, they placed 6th! Sabrina has also received the U.S. Figure Skating (USFSA) Silver Level Award, based on the levels of USFSA tests she has passed.

LYMAN HALL

Joseph Corso, Principal

BRIAN OLIVEIRA

Brian is a bright and creative leader who is considerate and respectful of others. He has a diverse base of interests and talents in the classroom and beyond. He has made countless positive contributions to our school from academics, to sports participation, and Band leadership. Throughout his time at Lyman Hall Brian has taken the most rigorous courses available at the highest levels. In his senior year Brian is Drum major for the Marching Band and the Captain of Cross Country, Indoor and Outdoor Track. This is an amazing feat and speaks to his great ability to balance his time while being a great leader, student, and example for his peers. Brian has an amazing future ahead as a music teacher.

KATELYN MILLER

Katelyn is a genuinely kind and thoughtful individual who cannot help but brightens the room with her considerate presence. She is an outstanding student taking the highest levels offered in every core course. She has put a strong emphasis on the sciences taking AP Biology and Anatomy and Physiology. Katelyn has been able to balance her academics well with an active extracurricular schedule. She is a three season athlete and Captain of the Boys swimming and Field Hockey teams. Katelyn is an asset to Lyman Hall athletics and is a great example for younger athletes. In the future, she plans to follow her passion to make a difference as a doctor. She has an altruistic heart and a focused purpose.

MERCY

Sister Mary A. McCarthy, RSM, President

LILA FRASER

A member of the National Honor Society, Latin National Honor Society - Vice President, Captain of the Mock Trial team, Peer Minister, Model UN delegate, Mercy Ambassador Officer, more than 250 hours of volunteer service, ECE program at UCONN, student representative to the Mercy Strategic Planning committee, volunteer St. John's Church and School –Old Saybrook.

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GRACE O'BRIEN

Mercy Track team, Mercy/Xavier Drama club 2014- present, Mercy/Xavier Musical productions including the lead this year in 'The Addams Family'; volunteer work at St Patrick's Church- East Hampton and St. Andrew's Church- Colchester, National Honor Society, Chamber Choir, Mercy Show Choir, Vice president of Mercy's chapter of the International Thespian Society, member of Senior Executive Board, delegate to the Hugh O'Brien Youth leadership conference (HOBY). A double winner of the Knights of Columbus essay contest, MYARC (Middletown Youth ARC), Mercy Volleyball- grades 9-12.

NORTH HAVEN

Dr. Russell Dallai, Principal

MEHAK SHARMA

NHHS 2018 Salutatorian, Mehak, is a Yale Book Award recipient. She has served as a student council officer, and participated in the school newspaper all four years. Mehak co-founded the NHHS science peer-tutoring program. She has volunteered her time with the North Haven library, Fire Department, and summer school; Yale-New Haven Hospital; and the Red Cross. She has earned recognition as a Rotary Student of the Month. She has captained the field hockey team, run track, played rugby, and been named The North Haven Courier's sports person of the week. Mehak is a musician and AP scholar as well as member of multiple honor societies: NHS, Science, Spanish, Mu Alpha Theta, and Tri-M.

FRANCESCO SPIRLI

NHHS 2018 Valedictorian, Francesco Spirli, is a recipient of the Harvard and Gettysburg Book Awards and has been honored as an AP Scholar with Distinction. He has served as the class Vice-President throughout high school as well as the Science Honor Society President, the Italian Club President, and the Math Honor Society Vice-President. As a member of Future Problem Solving, Francesco and a group of students from the U.S. earned 1st place at the FPS International Scenario Writing Competition. Over the past two summers Francesco has volunteered over 130 hours at the Yale-New Haven Hospital and was a research intern at the Yale Medical School. Outside of school, Francesco is two-time USA Fencing High School All-American and a three-time All-State recipient.

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NOTRE DAME

Robert Curis, Principal

ERIC HARKINS

Eric has been an exemplary leader and scholar at Notre Dame. Student Council President; Team ND (Ambassador) - Grades 10, 11 & 12; Webcast Reporter - Grades 9, 10, 11 & 12; Alumni Knights (Development) - Grades 10, 11 & 12; Varsity Tennis, Captain 11 & 12; Hamden Hall Summer Camp Counselor - Grades 11 & 12; St. Rita's Vacation Bible School Counselor - Grades 10 & 11; National, Spanish and Math Honor Societies

FRANK PAINE

Frank has been an outstanding leader and scholar at Notre Dame. Member of the National, Latin and Math Honor Societies; Varsity Football, Captain. All-SCC and All-State honoree; Peer Counselor; First Congregational Church of Branford Mission Trip - Grades 10 & 11; Caroline House, Bridgeport Volunteer - Grades 9, 10, 11 & 12; Senior Class President; Junior Class Officer; National Honor Society Secretary/Treasurer; Outdoor Track - Grade 11; Employment - Stonebridge, part time, Grade 12

SACRED HEART ACADEMY

Sr. Kathleen Mary Coonan, Principal

CLAIRE DONELAN

Claire has been an outstanding scholar and leader at Sacred Heart Academy. Some of her accomplishments: Class President (10, 11, 12), Class Secretary (9), Varsity Field Hockey Captain (12) Varsity Lacrosse Captain (11, 12), member of Varsity Field Hockey and Varsity Lacrosse all four years, Key Club/French Club/Pro-Life Club/SHAdes of SHA Club/Randow Acts of Kindness member, Board Member of the National Charity League, participating in Operation Hope and volunteering at the Connecticut Food Bank.

AVISHAN MONTAZER

Avishan has been an outstanding scholar and leader at Sacred Heart Academy. Some of her accomplishments: Student Council Member (9, 10, 11) Student Council President (12), member of Peer Connection, National Honor Society, Spanish, Math and Science National Honor Societies, Yearly Sacred Heart Academy Musical, Sacred Heart Academy Orchestra, Key Club (Co-President 12). Recipient of the Villanova Alumni Association Book Award and the Philip Paoella Jr. Scholarship Award for high moral character and service to the community.

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MARK T. SHEEHAN

Rosemary Duthie, Principal

NORA AKILA

With a current ranking of number one in her class, Nora is inquisitive and insightful, yet modest. She has utilized her education to expand globally across continents through the Junior Achievement Global Connections Program, which afforded her the opportunity to travel to China to collaborate with Chinese students to create a business together. Nora is National Honor Society President and Vice Chair of the Scholarship Committee. This committee created a very successful online tutoring program for our students. Nora's leadership shines not only from an academic purview, but also musically. She is the Concert Master of our orchestra and lead violinist. Nora is a natural leader with poise and commitment to her studies.

HANNAH WHITNEY

Hannah ranks second in her graduating class, excelling in a truly rigorous program of study. Her commitment to others can be observed in her caring and supportive relationships with her peers and her uncanny ability to intuitively understand her environment and those within it. She is an active member of the National Honor Society, Sikorsky STEM Challenge Team, and the Choose Kindness Initiative. She demonstrates her leadership with poise and confidence as President of the Positive Impact Club, Vice President of the Interact Club, and captain of her Relay for Life team. In addition, Hannah has volunteered to support the Wallingford Girls Softball League, the Yalesville United Methodist Church Soup Kitchen, and the Wallingford Public Library.

SHELTON

Dr. Beth Smith, Headmaster

JACK MARCIANO

Jack is an intelligent, sincere and dedicated student. Ranking in the top 5% of his class, Jack has challenged himself with the more rigorous college preparatory, honors and advanced placement courses Shelton High School has to offer and has excelled to the highest degree. Jack is extremely well rounded. He is the Captain of the swim team, an accomplished artist, National Honors Society member and a winner of many achievement awards. Jack not only gives back to his school, but his community as well. Throughout the year, he is a volunteer counselor at a local parish camp and bible school.

SAUMYA SHAH

Saumya is an outstanding young woman who has earned the academic accomplishment of ranked number 1 her class. Saumya has spent a great deal of time with DECA and National Honor Society activities and events. Some of her favorite highlights have been the annual Fashion Show, assisting as a peer tutor and assisting in the 2017 graduation ceremony. As a volunteer, since freshman year she has spent hours in various departments at Griffin Hospital. She was able to assist within the Medical Records, Sleep Wellness and Cardiology areas. She took the initiative to learn the operations of a local pharmacy as an intern through an experiential program. Saumya gained valuable hands on experience in how prescriptions are filled and interacting with customers and assisting in stretching exercises.

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WEST HAVEN

Dana Paredes, Interim Principal

MEGAN PATTERSON

A member of the National Honor Society, Megan served as captain of girls volleyball team, and is the President of the class of 2018. She was chosen to be a member of West Haven Peer Advocates. Megan received the Princeton University Book Award, along with the Fairfield University Book Award. Also, she earned the Rotary Scholar Athlete Award and the Rotary Student of the Month Award for December 2017. Megan was recognized by the SCC Fall Sports Scholar Athlete. The Daughters of the American Revolution recently recognized Megan for the Good Citizens Award.

JEREMY TAMMARO

Jeremy has been a leader at West Haven High School. He is a member of the National Honor Society, and will serve as captain of the Blue Devils' boys tennis team. He was recently awarded the Trinity College Book Award and the Rotary Scholar Athlete Award. Furthermore, he was recognized at his school's Advanced Placement and Honors Award Ceremony. He was elected as a member of the West Haven Peer Advocacy team.

WILBUR CROSS

Dr. Edith Johnson, Principal

MAYA GERADI

Maya is an exemplary student leader at Wilbur Cross. She was a 2-time finalist and 4th place grand award recipient at the Intel International Science & Engineering Fair, gold medalist at I-SWEEEP and 2-time recipient of the Gerber Medal of Excellence. She has been recognized by US representatives, Connecticut Academy of Science & Engineering and American Chemical Society. Maya has placed multiple times at History Day competitions and represented CT at nationals. On the leadership team, she plays flute for the WCHS Band. She is a member of 4 Honor Societies, one of which she initiated. Maya works at the Yale Peabody Museum, volunteers at science events and writes articles for the Hartford Courant to increase STEM interest in students.

SARA THAKUR

Sara Thakur is an exceptional student at Wilbur Cross. In addition to taking several AP classes, she is captain of the Varsity Tennis team and plays piccolo and flute in the Wilbur Cross Band. She has completed multiple Yale classes and is the chapter president of National Honor Society. Sara has interned in her hometown in India at SAMYAK, a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), where she led confidence and health workshops for young girls. In the evenings, Sara spends her time practicing Taekwondo. Sara has won the Harvard Book Award.

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XAVIER

David Eustis, Headmaster

BENJAMIN CLEMMY

With his positive, can-do attitude, Ben is a born leader. While Ben has excellent grades across the board, his greatest academic strength lies in language. Ben is fluent in English, German, and Spanish, and currently takes French. He is Vice-President of the Spanish Honor Society and has earned medals on both the National Spanish and French exams. A member of NHS, Peer Ministry, Ultimate Frisbee Team, and Italian Club, Ben is a leader of the Ambassadors Club, assisting with the implementation of numerous school events. Outside of Xavier, Ben is a Lieutenant in the Police Explorers program. Ben is always visible in the community, having logged more than 600 service hours!

MATTHEW LYONS

Matthew has taken a total of 8 AP courses at Xavier, maintaining a cumulative 3.90 GPA. President of the senior class and a member of the National, Spanish, Math, English, and Science Honor Societies, Matthew has been involved in numerous activities including Peer Ministry, Tennis, Robotics, Columbian Squires, Literary Magazine, and the Pro-Life Club. A talented amateur magician, he is a founding member of the Pure Magic Club at Xavier. Matthew possesses tremendous artistic ability and is in the second year of AP Studio Art. He entered samples of his artwork into the Regional Scholastic Art Competition, in which he earned Silver Key recognition on two pieces. Matthew is an excellent citizen who, despite his accomplishments, remains humble and conscientious.

BILL O'BRIEN COMMUNITY SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP

Bill O'Brien served as Commissioner of the SCC for 10 years (1994-2004) and remains active with the conference. A retired banking executive, Bill is well-known for his passionate and unselfish community service efforts throughout the greater New Haven area.

At the conclusion of tonight's awards banquet, two \$500 scholarships will be awarded in Bill's honor.

Worthy recipients have a healthy balance of school and community activities that are value-added and embody the "spirit and passion" of Bill O'Brien.

To "fairly" identify the recipients, the league requested for those interested scholar-leaders to contribute a writing piece in addition to their resume of activities/achievements.

This is the 10th year the SCC has presented this scholarship.

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WHAT IS THE SCC?

Founded in 1994, the Southern Connecticut Conference celebrates its 24th year in 2017–18 with 23 member schools and nearly 23,000 students.

Recognized as one of the premier athletic leagues in the state of Connecticut, SCC member schools have captured more than 440 state championships since the league's inception.

More importantly, the SCC is recognized for its outstanding non-athletic programs and events in student leadership and the arts, which attempt to breakdown barriers and build bridges of understanding to its students.

For more information, visit www.SouthernConnecticutConference.org

