



# Perspectives

## The Principal's Newsletter

To the Half Hollow Hills High School East Community,

Welcome to *Perspectives*, the Principal's Newsletter. Since coming to High School East, I have been inspired with the tremendous level of spirit, accomplishment and achievement from all corners of our school community. As we turn the clocks back and prepare to close out the first marking period, it has also been a great time to reflect upon many of the highlights; we recently enjoyed a successful Safe Halloween event, celebrated Homecoming 2017 with a variety of festivities and watched our students be presented with a number of accolades and awards across academics, athletics and the arts!

I would also like to extend a warm welcome to our Freshman class of 2021! As our newest students to the building, they have adapted to life at High School East very well and have made a strong, positive impact on our school community. As we appreciate their interests and efforts, we look forward to their continued contributions for many years to come!

I hope you enjoy our first edition.

Dr. Milton K. Strong, Principal





## NHS Welcomes Back Students and Families



In September, the National Honor Society participated at Back to School Night, where parents were introduced to their child's teachers to understand the expectations, curriculum and goals of their child's classes. Members distributed school maps and helped navigate visiting parents throughout the evening. NHS informational fliers were also shared with fellow students, and NHS



Co-Presidents Joshua Ibrahim and Julia Raziel led an introductory meeting for current juniors interested in joining this organization next year, including NHS eligibility requirements.

-submitted by Ms. Nolan

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## East Artists on Display

Ms. Uttendorfer's AP 2-D Photography class installed a group show at the Tilles Center. Each year, schools are selected to showcase art in their Patron's Lounge and Gallery, where they host invited guests and members of the Tilles Center on a daily basis. Our students' work will hopefully be the backdrop to many exciting public events.

- submitted by Ms. Uttendorfer





# Spirit Week





# Homecoming Pep Rally





**HOMECOMING  
DAY**



## "This I Believe"

Over the summer, the Senior Experience was tasked with reading and reviewing "This I Believe" essays. The essays are meant to express a personal belief about the world, ourselves, or other people. It helped to show that people are truly unique. They could set the tone as funny, serious, happy, or heartwarming. After we completed the first part of this assignment, we were then asked to create our own. Although it seems easy, it is difficult to find something you truly believe in and for which you live every single day. However, the end result is something very personal and beautiful because it helps you to get a better understanding of others and you are able to view them in a different light. These "I Believe" essays not only helped us to connect with ourselves, but also helped us to connect with our classmates. Once we had shared our essays in groups, we were tasked with writing a "This We Believe" essay in which we combined our group's ideas into one idea that we all believed in. Although it was challenging, as we all had different beliefs and many of them clashed, we now feel as though we have a better understanding of our classmates and our own unique journeys.

- submitted by Emma Celt (12) and Samantha Hall (12)



## NAHS Steps Up to Face Crisis

In the wake of a devastating hurricane season, the National Art Honor Society held a drive to collect emergency goods to send to Florida and Texas. The students collected 3 cart loads of essentials! Island Harvest sponsored the shipping. It's remarkable what a great partnership between PTSA, HSE Clubs, teachers and community can accomplish!

- submitted by Ms. Uttendorfer



**SAFE HALLOWEEN 2017**



## Learning from the Masters



Ms. Uttendorfer's AP Art History and advanced photography students headed into New York City this October to visit the Museum of Modern Art. MOMA's art collection contains almost 200,000 works of modern and contemporary art, some of the most famous artworks in the world. Students had recently covered Modern Art in class and were eager to see the masterpieces in person. Artists such as Picasso and Van Gogh were discussed on a guided tour. The class was intrigued

by a hanging figurative sculpture by artist Louise Bourgeois; the cast sculpture seemed weightless as it is dangled from a single string in the center of one of the galleries. Students also participated in a scavenger hunt to search for interesting photographs and other works not covered during the tour. It was an experience that students will not forget. - submitted by Ms. Uttendorfer



## Math Stars Add On More Accolades

Congratulations to Rinni Bhansali who advanced to Round 2 of "Who Wants to be a Mathematician?" this year. Her score put her in excellent position to win a trip to San Diego for the next round of competition.

The Mandelbrot Competition, a math league that's been on hiatus for 3 years, returned this fall to challenge a new group of Mathletes members. Rather than go through an adjustment period, the club produced 6 nationally ranked individuals after just one round! Among these individuals is High School East's first ever perfect score, earned by Ryan Li.



Congratulations to Ryan and his fellow top scorers: Ray Chang and Rinni Bhansali (tied for 4th place), Matthew Park (6th place), and Sohan Shetty and Suraj Sharma (tied for 7th place). This group earned our school a 9th place team ranking nationally with results that already surpass any prior level of success our district has had in this league. If this is any indication of the kind of year the club is going to have, you may want to follow these 6 individuals and future top scorers at [www.mandelbrot.org](http://www.mandelbrot.org).

- submitted by Ms. Suarez

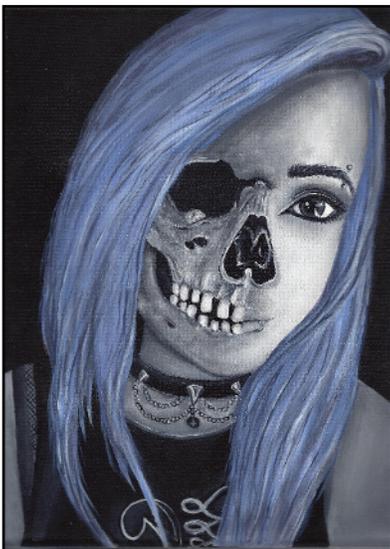


## Half Horror Hills

Three HSE Art Students will be featured as part of *The Nightmare on Main Street*, a student exhibition hosted by the Huntington Arts Council. The show ran through the month of October, with an artists reception and costume party held on October 27th.

Ms. Norris' AP Drawing student Rachel Goldsmith (11), and two of Ms. Uttendorfer's AP 2-D seniors, Yusef Rahimzada (12) and Julia Davi (12), have works in the show.

The show was juried by artist Jason Stuart, and the Huntington Arts Council invited students to submit work that was inspired by the story telling narrative of Halloween. Horror films, legends and comics surrounding Halloween allowed students to



embrace a side of themselves that is often considered dark and strange. These themes were explored by our students and the hundreds of students throughout Nassau and Suffolk county that entered this contest.

- submitted by Ms. Uttendorfer

## Weltmann Works on Behalf of Suffolk Student-Athletes

Annually, the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) selects members of the 2017-18 Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC). This year Matthew Weltmann has been selected to represent Section XI on the SAAC. Each of the eleven sections in NYS select one male and one female to represent their section, and Matthew was selected as the male rep for Suffolk County. Members were chosen based on an academic resume which included GPA, extracurricular activities, and participation in sports.

The SAAC was developed to give student-athletes a voice within the NYSPHSAA. Over the course of the school year, the committee will discuss topics relevant to high school student-athletes and develop ways to maintain a positive athletic experience. Each committee member is expected to exemplify leadership while providing feedback of NYSPHSAA special programs including, but not limited to, Scholar-Athlete, Sportsmanship, Life of an Athlete, Student Leadership, and Community Service. A total of 88 student-athletes applied to be members of this year's SAAC. - submitted by Ms. Ferry





## Fall Sports Report

The Thunderbirds ate up the competition this fall with some spectacular performances!

The football team finished the regular season at 7-1, and were able to show off their defensive skills by allowing fewer than 17 points per game. Boys soccer finished with a 9-5-1 overall record, displaying some of the best offensive plays in Suffolk County.

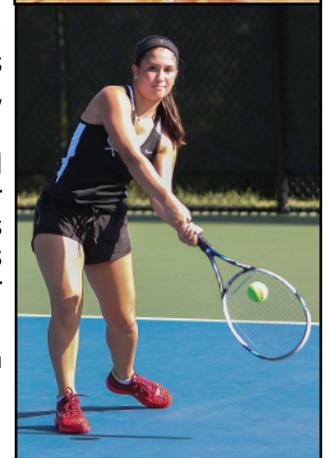
Girls Varsity Swim and Dive finished with a combined 6-2 overall record and finished in second place in the League Meet at Sachem North HS. We had a total of 9 athletes qualify for post-season competition. Four HSE athletes--Elizabeth Park, Mikaylie DePalma, Lexi Kaufman, and Maya Gerber--qualified for All-League Honors.

Girls Soccer had an amazing year as well! The team finished as League 3 champions, winning two playoff games, 3-1 against Sachem East and 1-0 against West Islip. In total, they had 7 League award recipients: Emma Schleimer, Bailey Schleimer, Jessica Garziano, Eleni Sofroniou, Megan Koenig, Avery Francis, and Elizabeth Gordin.

The Girls Tennis team finished as League 1 champions, and a finalist in the county championships. Additionally, the doubles team of Lauren Cherkin and Ariana Malik aced the Suffolk County championship. They represented Suffolk at the state tournament, advancing to the quarterfinals before losing to the #1 seeded team. East's top two singles players, Alexis Huber and Janelle Chen, achieved All-County recognition.

The Girls Volleyball team raised over \$500 to be donated to the Huntington Breast Cancer Association during their Dig Pink game. As a team they won more games this season than the past few years, earning compliments from coaches and officials. We are equally proud of our Boys Golf Team which finished with an 8-2 record.

- submitted by Mr. Perskin





**Awards & Honors**



Avi Anand, Stephanie Bigman, Ray Chang, Elizabeth Chen, Andrew Dircks, Joshua Feig, Mark Gandolfo, Marley Jacobson, Danielle Luntz, George Misthos, Alix Rosenberg, and Kasim Waqar were honored with the 2018 Series Scholarships for Academic Excellence



Talha Waseem was selected as a Long Island Young Scholar of Mathematics by the Institute of Creative Problem Solving for Gifted and Talented Students.

Elizabeth Chen, Aditi Patil, and Kasim Waqar were named 2017 National Merit Scholarship Program semifinalists.



George Misthos was selected to perform with the National Association for Music Education's 2017 All-National Honor Concert Band.



Casey Goldstein, Marley Jacobson, and Aidan Mallon were named 2017 Long Island Arts Alliance winners.

Certificates of Commendation from the 2018 National Merit Scholarship Program were awarded to Nicholas T. Banai, Ray Chang, Andrew Dircks, Joshua Feig, Joshua Ibrahim, Eric Lee, Ryan Li, Danielle A. Luntz, George Misthos, Sean P. Patten, Richard Rappaport, Alix T. Rosenberg, James Rouse, Logan Samuel, Julia Silverman, and Matheo Xenakis

