

The STANDARD

ISSUE 4

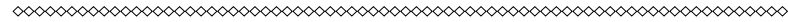
SPRING 2016

A PUBLICATION OF THE DEER PARK UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Society's 73 Students Inducted

AT ROBERT FROST

The National Junior Honor Society at Robert Frost inducted 18 new eighth-grade students and 55 new seventh-grade students on March 21. The annual ceremony also honored the organization's current members for their work this year, and each eighth-grade member received the medals that they will wear at their moving up ceremony in June.



DECA Duos Earn State Trophies

Thirty-six high school students in the DECA club competed in the State Career Conference in Rochester from March 8-11, the highest number of participants in this event in the school's history.

Battling against 2,000 of the state's best business students, four Deer Park representatives – Peter Demopoulos, Nick DiModica, Joe Sanchez and John Santare – earned trophies and a chance to compete at the International Career Development Conference in Nashville. The team of Demopoulos and Sanchez won a first-place trophy in the marketing communications category, while DECA co-captains DiModica and Santare came in fifth in financial services.

Also finishing in the top 10 at the conference were Ashley Ahmad, Jack Borah, Ryan Byrne, Kevin Chang, Nick Gallo, Kayla Griffin, Tajriana Haque, Glenn Hope, Joewin James, Kristina Kozakevitch, Lauren Lazarte, Stephen Lew, Michael Mises, Malique Papailler, Sarah Qasir, Martin Salgado, Dan Sebok, Andrew Siford, Bianca Taipe, Joe Thomas and Vincent Verdile.



Senior Artists Chosen for Inspirational Exhibition

The exceptional art skills of seniors Regina Ambrosio and Alex Troisi were recognized with their selection for the LIU Post "Advanced Visions 12: High School Artists of Excellence" exhibit. Ambrosio's "Endless" and Troisi's "Cog-nition" pieces were displayed at Post's Student Art League gallery in the B. Davis Schwartz Memorial Library, where the two AP Art Studio students, accompanied by teacher Derek Mainhart, were honored at a reception.

Theater Talent Displayed with

Wonderful **WIZ**

After arduous rehearsals stretching back to January, high school student-actors and director James Henry brought the musical “The Wiz” to life in three vibrant March performances.

The beloved Tony Award-winning Broadway gem tells the timeless tale of Dorothy’s adventures through the Land of Oz, infusing L. Frank Baum’s “The Wonderful Wizard of Oz” with a dazzling mix of rock, gospel and soul music.

Starring in Deer Park’s powerful production were Alec Winters as the Wiz, Destiny Parsons as Dorothy, Allie Costanza as Glinda, Averi Lacroff as Scarecrow, Joseph DeNoyior as Tinman, Kenneth Del Cid as Lion, Alexandra Lane as Aunt Em, Samantha Colon as Addaperle and Olivia Grizzle as Evilene.



Dedicated Student-Actors Shine in

‘Plaza Suite’

For this year’s diverting winter play, the dedicated thespians at the high school presented Neil Simon’s “Plaza Suite” in two January performances directed by James Henry. As in the original Broadway production of the Tony-winning 1968 comedy, “Plaza Suite” was presented in three acts – “Visitor from Mamaroneck,” “Visitor from Hollywood” and “Visitor from Forest Hills” – all taking place at different times in Room 719 at New York City’s Plaza Hotel. The lead actors in each scene had more than 35 pages of lines to memorize.



Amazed by *Aladdin* at Robert Frost

More than 600 members of Deer Park’s school community attended the Robert Frost musical production of “Aladdin,” directed by Michael Moriarty. The colorful, romantic tale, written in 1993 by playwright Craig Sodaro, hews closer to the folk tale from “The Arabian Nights” than the Disney animated film, providing a fabulous setting for the young actors to shine, including Ray Ugalde in the title role.



May Moore Draws Big Crowds for

Amazing **Annie**



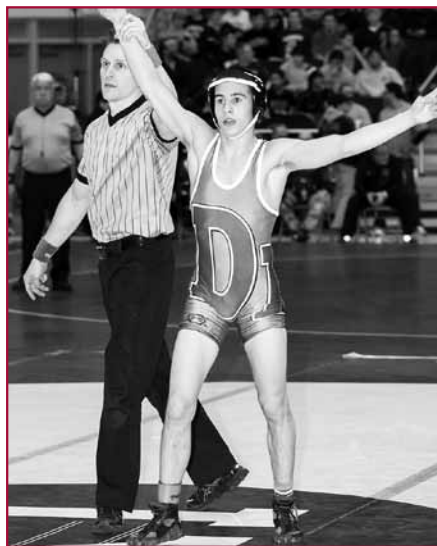
The district’s youngest student-actors spent six months rehearsing for the May Moore production of “Annie,” directed by Kristen Lombardo. The 44 second-graders involved in the musical, led by Kendall Lopez as Annie, presented two shows in the gymnasium for their schoolmates on April 7, then wowed enthusiastic audiences of close to 200 people for two April 8 evening performances.

HSAthletic Achievements

Cox Earns Wrestling State Championship

High school wrestling star Tommy Cox was named state champion on Feb. 27 after his stunning performance at the NYSPHSAA 2016 State Wrestling Championships in Albany. The win in the 113-pound weight class came on the heels of his earlier victory at the county championships at Hofstra University.

The senior, whose prior honors include three All-League designations and two league championships, finished the season with a 44-1 record and signed a National Letter of Intent to attend North Carolina State University.



Zimmerman Leads County All-Stars to State Bowling Title



High school athlete Adam Zimmerman helped lead the Suffolk County All-State boys bowling team to a state title for the fourth consecutive year. At the NYSPHSAA Bowling Championships in March at West Babylon, the team overcame a deficit of 390 pins after three games of play, coming back to win by 169, a 559-pin swing in the second half of the tournament.

A member of the varsity team since seventh grade, Zimmerman held the high average in Suffolk for the second year in a row with a 241.8 average. This year, he bowled 10 300 games and six 800 series, and was named the high school singles champion at the county's Singles Doubles Tournament.

A Major Champion FOR FALCONS TRACK

Senior Victoria Major won the Suffolk County Section XI championship for high jump on Feb. 10, and was honored as an All-League and All-County athlete. She also finished ninth in the county in the 300-meter dash and in the top 50 in the 55-meter dash.

Following the county tournament, Major advanced to the Long Island Elite Meet, where her season-best jump of 5 feet, 5 inches beat out the No. 1 seed and earned her the LI title. The track team captain then competed in the New York State Track and Field Championship Meet at Cornell University, where she finished in fourth place overall.



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May Moore Pole Serves *Peaceful Purpose*

ENL students at May Moore dedicated a “peace pole” to the school in a March ceremony, unveiling the large pole with the phrase “May Peace Prevail on Earth” written in all 11 languages spoken by the students – Bangla, Chinese, English, Gujarati, Haitian Creole, Persian, Spanish, Tagalog, Turkish, Urdu and Vietnamese.

As part of the international Peace Pole Project, the students sang and spoke in their native languages during the half-hour ceremony in the school gym, attended by classmates, teachers, central administration and parents. The children also placed flags on the stage representing 15 different world nations.



A Day (or Two) of Clay at JFK

Two visiting artists and instructors – Vincent Osmeris of LIU Post and Ricki Weisfelner of Farmingdale School District – visited JFK



for a double “Day of Clay” activity. The guest artists led the school’s entire fifth grade in an exciting clay lesson, starting with ceramics through an exercise in texture exploration, using the school’s own PTA-supplied kiln. The event was sponsored by the Deer Park Arts Council through the organization’s year of fundraising events.

Acrobatic Activities on Display at JQA Circus

JQA students were treated to fun under the big top at the school’s annual family circus. Coordinated by physical education teacher Caryn Kaplan, the event provided a wide selection of activities to challenge the bodies and minds of the students, who showed off their acrobatic skills to visiting parents.

