

THE FOCUS

THE OFFICIAL BYRAM HILLS HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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SAMANTHA MILEWICZ NAMED REGENERON SCIENCE TALENT SEARCH FINALIST

Congratulations to Byram Hills High School senior **Samantha Milewicz** on being chosen as a finalist in the prestigious Regeneron Science Talent Search! Samantha is one of 40 finalists and will participate in a week-long event in March. These students will compete for more than \$1.8 million, with a top prize of \$250,000.

Samantha used a novel 3D model that mimics the brain's protective layer, the blood-brain barrier, to identify a protein involved in tissue damage from traumatic brain injuries. With a combination of several techniques, she demonstrated that inhibiting the production of the protein MMP-9 restores healthy barrier function post-injury, providing insight into this protein's potential for therapeutic innovation.

Congratulations, Samantha! We wish you continued success in March!



SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS

Since 1923 the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards have recognized some of America's most celebrated artists and writers when they were teenagers. We are proud to count our students in the esteemed group of Alumni, which includes Andy Warhol, Tschabalala Self, Stephen King, Charles White, Joyce Carol Oates, Kay Walkingstick, and more!

REGION-AT-LARGE EAST ART AWARDS

Alyssa Chen received a silver key for painting

Carissa Chung received an honorable mention for her painting

Nicolette DiSano received a silver key for her photography

Samantha Milewicz received three silver keys and two honorable mentions for her photography

Kate Ratzan received an honorable mention for her photography

Isabella Rivalsi received a silver key and an honorable mention for her photography

Ruby Smalheiser received two gold keys for her photography. Gold Key works have been automatically advanced to the national level of judging in New York City. National Medalists will be announced on Wednesday, March 22, 2023.

HUDSON-TO-HOUSATONIC REGION WRITING AWARDS

Samara Brown earned a Gold Key for "A Love Story for the Chronically Anxious."

Shruthi Franklin earned an honorable mention for "Widow."

Cynthia Han earned two honorable mentions for "Blood of the Sun" and "Below and Under."

Grace Lin earned an honorable mention for "Guide to a Positive Dance Competition Experience."

Abby Eickelbeck earned an honorable mention for "Inevitable Solitude."

SAMANTHA SCHAEVITZ RECEIVED THE NEUROSCIENCE RESEARCH PRIZE

Congratulations to BHHS senior **Samantha Schaevitz** on being selected to receive the Neuroscience Research Prize! This award is designed to encourage high school students to explore the world of the brain and nervous system through research and reward those whose scientific skill and talent indicate the potential for scientific contributions in neuroscience. Samantha investigated the use of focused ultrasound with microbubbles as a method to improve brain cancer treatment by allowing therapeutic drugs to more easily pass through the blood-brain barrier, a protective layer for the brain. She found that increasing ultrasonic pressure with microbubbles demonstrated a noticeable increase in drug penetration deep into the cancerous tumor. With further investigation, this method of drug delivery could hold promising potential as a more effective brain cancer treatment.

Samantha is invited to attend the American Academy of Neurology annual conference in Boston to present her work this spring.



22 SCIENCE RESEARCH SENIORS WIN AWARDS AT JSHS

22 Science Research seniors competed at the Westchester-Rockland Junior Science and Humanities Symposium (JSHS), and we are proud to announce that 12 students have won awards. Congratulations to the following:

REGIONAL PRESENTERS

1st place in Bioinformatics:

Caleb Palappillil

2nd place in Medicine & Health:

Alaska Fairbanks

2nd place in Cell Biology:

Chloe Bernstein

2nd place in Behavior:

Ethan Cherry

3rd place in Neurology:

Aliza Hammond

4th place in Medicine & Health:

Max Teitelbaum

5th place in Neurology:

Samantha Milewicz

5th place in Cell Biology:

Ella Javorsky



LOCAL PRESENTERS

1st place in Medicine and Health:

Samantha Schaevitz & Remi Matza

1st place in Behavior:

Lindsay Miller

2nd place in Math/Computer Science: **Peter Mon**



BYRAM HILLS HOCKEY NETS MORE THAN \$7,500 FOR BREAST CANCER RESEARCH

Decked out in pink, the Byram Hills Varsity Hockey Team raised more than \$7,500 for breast cancer research at its 11th annual Pink the Rink event. The team raised \$7,653 through efforts including the sale of baked goods and Pink the Rink merchandise and a chuck-a-puck contest at their game against Mahopac at the Brewster Ice Arena on Jan. 20. All proceeds were donated to the American Cancer Society.

Many players and fans dedicated the game to someone affected by breast cancer. With a large crowd and a fun and festive atmosphere, the Bobcats defeated Mahopac 13-6.



COVID GUIDELINES UPDATE

Please follow the CDC guidelines for Covid. The website can be found [here](#).

If your child tests positive for Covid:

- Your child must stay home for at least 5 days and isolate from others in your home.

(Note: If your child has no symptoms, Day 0 is the day that they test positive. If your child has symptoms, Day 0 is the day of their first symptoms).

Ending isolation:

- Your child **may not** end isolation if symptoms are not improving.
- Your child may end isolation after Day 5 if symptoms are improving and your child is fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.
- Your child must wear a mask through Day 10 at home and in public, including at school.

BYRAM'S GOT TALENT/ONE WORLD BENEFIT CONCERT

The Byram's Got Talent/One World Benefit, initially scheduled for December 13th, has been rescheduled to Wednesday, February 8th at 7 PM in the high school theater. Come see our talented students and faculty members show off their skills

PARENT & TEACHER TRAINING FOR THE BHCSO INTERVIEW COMMITTEE

Each year, the Byram Hills Central School District establishes interview teams for the hiring of teachers and administrators. The District has been very successful in hiring and retaining excellent teachers and administrators as a result of teacher and parent committee participation.

Gina Cunningham, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, will be offering two sessions for parents and teachers to attend a training session in order to be part of a hiring committee in the future.

If interested, please email Laura Coughlan at lcoughlan@byramhills.org with one of the following session dates:

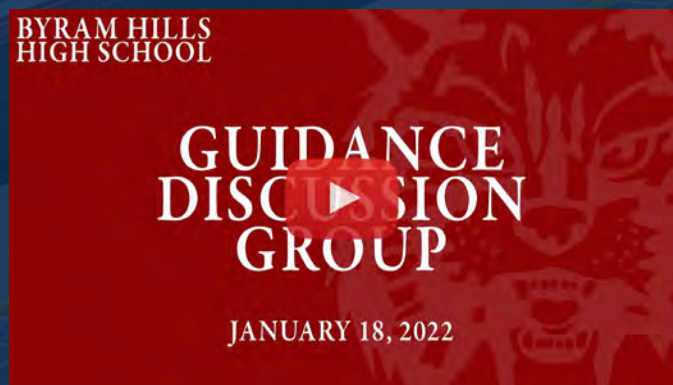
Session 1: Thursday, February 16th, 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM

Session 2: Tuesday, March 21st, 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM

FEBRUARY SOFT SKILL

Empathy - The action of understanding, being aware of, being sensitive to, and vicariously experiencing the feelings, thoughts, and experience of another of either the past or present without having the feelings, thoughts, and experience fully communicated in an objectively explicit manner. For an interesting perspective on empathy, please read [THIS ARTICLE](#).

QUALITY CONTENT



UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, February 3

Last Day for Schedule Changes

Saturday, February 4

Science Olympiad

Tuesday, February 7

Board of Education Meeting

Thursday, February 9

Site-Based Team Mtg. @ BHHS, 4-6 pm

Friday, February 10

Registration Deadline for 3/11 SAT

Saturday, February 11

ACT Test

Tuesday, February 14

PTSA Exec Mtg. @ DO 9:30 am

**CLICK HERE FOR
ATHLETICS
UPDATES**

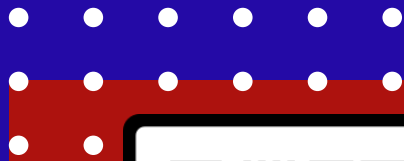
February 2023 - Focus

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1-5	2-6	3-7 Last Day for Schedule Changes	4 Science Olympiad
5	6-8	7-1 Board of Ed. Mtg. 7:30 pm	8-2 Gr. 3 Instrumental Assembly by BHHS @ WA 8:40 - 9:15 am Byram's Got Talent/One World Benefit 7 pm	9-3 Site-Based Team Mtg. @ BHHS 4-6pm	10-4	11 ACT Test Registration Deadline for 3/11 SAT
12	13-5	14-6 PTSA Exec Mtg. @ DO 9:30 am	15-7 BHEF Board of Directors Mtg. @ DO 7 pm	16-8 C.H.I.L.D. Evening Event 7 pm	17-1	18
19	20 Regular Athletic Schedule Presidents Day Winter Recess Schools & Offices Closed	21 Regular Athletic Schedule Winter Recess Schools Closed/Offices Open	22 Regular Athletic Schedule Winter Recess Schools Closed/Offices Open	23 Regular Athletic Schedule Winter Recess Schools Closed/Offices Open	24 Regular Athletic Schedule Registration Deadline for 4/1 ACT Winter Recess Schools Closed/Offices Open	25
26	27-2 Schools Reopen	28-3 Spring Sports Virtual Preseason Mtg. (Gr. 7-12) 7 pm				



Purchase Your BHHS yearbook

SPECIAL DISCOUNT ENDS 2/3/2023



**SPECIAL PRICE OF \$85
UNTIL FRIDAY, 2/03/23
PRICING AFTERWARDS
AT \$95**

QUESTIONS? CONTACT
BYRAMARCH23@BYRAMHILLS.NET
SVERNOLA@BYRAMHILLS.NET

Visit: <https://buytheyearbook.pictavo.com/>



WHEN: FEBRUARY 8TH, 7:00-8:30 PM

WHERE: BHHS THEATER

WHY: COME SEE YOUR FRIENDS PERFORM
& SUPPORT A GOOD CAUSE

HOW: TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR

