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# THE FOCUS

THE OFFICIAL BYRAM HILLS HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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## BYRAM HILLS HIGH SCHOOL VALEDICTORIAN IS SAMANTHA MILEWICZ, SALUTATORIAN IS CHLOE BERNSTEIN

Byram Hills High School proudly announced that the Class of 2023 valedictorian is Samantha Milewicz and the salutatorian is Chloe Bernstein.

“Samantha and Chloe have not only excelled academically but have also made significant contributions to their school community, setting an example for others,” said Principal Christopher Walsh, who announced the top-ranked students on June 14. “The Byram Hills community applauds their outstanding drive, work ethic, and academic excellence.”

The students, who have the highest weighted GPAs, will speak at graduation on June 20.

Samantha plans to attend Stanford University and major in symbolic systems, an interdisciplinary major about the intersection of cognitive science, computer science and linguistics. Being named valedictorian, she said, felt fulfilling.

“This honor is recognition of all the hard work, time, and dedication I have put into achieving academic success,” she said. “This achievement is the product of the continuous support and guidance from every teacher and administrator I have encountered. From my elementary school teachers who answered my endless questions to my current teachers who hold deep conversations with me, I am who I am today because of them.”

Chloe plans to attend Duke University and major in computational biology and bioinformatics. “I am incredibly grateful, honored, and fulfilled to have been named the salutatorian of my graduating class,” she said. “After many years of hard work, sacrifice, and commitment to my work, I am thrilled to be acknowledged, especially amongst such an impressive student body.”

To read more about these students and their accomplishments, [CLICK HERE](#).





## 2023 NYS SCHOLARSHIP FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE RECIPIENTS

The Scholarships for Academic Excellence (SAE) provide high school students that are the top students in their respective high school at the end of their junior year with a scholarship to attend an institution of higher education located in New York State.

Byram Hills High School is proud to announce the following students as NYS Academic Excellence Scholarship recipients:

**Gemma Dean**  
**Gavin Javorsky**  
**Danielle Molloy**  
**Cynthia Han**  
**Isabella Stillman**



## CLARA WEIL WINS COLLEGE-SPONSORED NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to **Clara Weil** for winning a National Merit Rochester Institute of Technology Scholarship. She was among the more than 3,000 students who won a National Merit Scholarship financed by colleges and universities throughout the United States. The universities throughout

the United States. The universities chose scholarship winners from the pool of National Merit Scholarship Program finalists who plan to attend their institution. Clara intends to major in human-centered computing and hopes to work in web design.



## STARTUP WINNERS PITCH AT REGIONAL EVENT

Congratulations to our Byram Hills StartUp event-winning team Footfit, comprised of Dario Amicucci, Cian Byrd, Josh Brickel, and Erik Cipriano, who pitched their product at the PNW Boces Regional Pitch Night last night! The team has also entered to participate in the national competition, which will occur at Convene in Chicago, Illinois, during the 2023 Uncharted Learning National Summit on Tuesday, July 11, 2023.



## GLOBAL SCHOLARS NEWS

The Global Scholars Program held its first annual Showcase Event last week! The event began with the Year 1 students pitching the sustainability initiatives they created using the design thinking process to attendees in the library. These students will revise the ideas based on feedback and present a grant proposal to the BHEF for funding. The attendees then chose one of four breakout rooms to engage with keynote addresses by Year 3 students **Cynthia Han, Isabelle Sampere, Allie Cooper, and Sydney Black**. This was followed by Year 2 Changemaker Project presentations and a Q&A session. The night was a huge success!



## GLOBAL SCHOLARS NEWS CONT

Year 2 students had a successful showing at [The Changemaker Project Showcase Impact Event](#). The students developed action plans utilizing the design thinking process to address a global problem.

**Allie Waxman, Sophie Dockswell,** and **Ana Byrnes** of The Pleasant Politics Party were chosen as the overall winners for their work to lessen the political divide.

**Jessie Freiberg**, for her work to address poverty in Costa Rica, and **Rielle Blasi**, for her work to end teen dating violence, were selected for the top 10 in the overall category. **Alex Woodworth** was selected as the winner in the Poverty Alleviation category for his documentary on income inequality entitled, "The Westchester Divide." **Allegra Jooss-Mangerini** was selected as the winner in the Educational Advocacy category for her advocacy campaign to save carriage horses in NYC.

The other students who presented at the event were:

**Samara Brown** - Queer Writers of America Writing Contest

**Michael Solow, Billy Gillespie,** and **Marco Scali** - The Hunger Guys

**Arianna Garcia** and **Jess Pedersen** - The Baby Mobile

**Zoe Marcus** and **Ashley Weissman** - Homelessness in NYC

**Samara Mahadeva** - Preventative Women's Health

**Charlotte Brodbeck** - Sex Trafficking Awareness

**Shruthi Franklin** - LGBTQIA Youth Education

**Sabrina Sawhny** - Save the Animals

Our students shared the impressive results of their action plans alongside students from Ghana, Norway, India, Tunisia, Eswatini, Alaska, and The Faroe Islands!

## YAC AND ONE WORLD CLUBS RAISE MONEY FOR WORTHY CAUSE

The Youth Against Cancer and One World clubs would like to thank the Byram Hills community for coming out in droves to support our car wash fundraiser on Saturday, 6/10. The event raised \$1000 for various cancer fighting organizations and to sponsor student education in Kenya. We appreciate your generosity!

## BYRAM HILLS SOPHOMORES HAVE A GREAT SHOWING AT SOMERS SCIENCE FAIR

Twenty-four students in the Byram Hills High School Authentic Science Research Program competed at the Somers Science Fair, the only competition open to students in their first year of science research study. Thirteen students won awards at the June 3 event, with more than 600 students participating.

Here are the results of the Byram Hills sophomores:

### FIRST PLACE

**Andrew Levy** - Medicine & Health

**Maya Molloy** and **Adrianna Zawojek** - Behavior



### SECOND PLACE

**Kayleigh McLaughlin** and **John Cavada** - Medicine & Health

**Aaron Stein** and **Keira Eckhardt** - Behavior

### THIRD PLACE

**Arielle Molina, Kiki Dyer, Charles Zimmerman, Amelia Deeks** - Behavior

**Sebastian Lashmet** - Computer Science

**Gabe Goldman** - Environmental Science

Congratulations to all of our students who participated!



## CONGRATULATIONS TO SCIENCE RESEARCH SENIORS

The 34th annual Science Research Symposium was held on June 7, celebrating academic excellence in the pursuit of scientific inquiry and an evening to honor the program's 23 seniors. The symposium featured special awards, a keynote address by 2011 Byram Hills graduate and science research student Dr. Allegra Nevins, and the presentation of science research diplomas to the seniors as their independent research was highlighted. To view the ceremony, [CLICK HERE](#).

Congratulations to the ASR seniors:

**Carolina Baquero**  
**Zachary Berkowitz**  
**Chloe Bernstein**  
**Ethan Cherry**  
**Max Colella**  
**Rohini Das**  
**Abby Eickelbeck**  
**Alaska Fairbanks**  
**Aliza Hammond**  
**Callie Higgins**  
**Ella Javorsky**  
**Ethan Kimmel**  
**Madison Lee**  
**Tyler Lynch**  
**Remi Matza**  
**Samantha Milewicz**  
**Lindsay Miller**  
**Peter Mon**  
**Kaela Newman**  
**Caleb Palappillil**  
**Samantha Schaevitz**  
**Emily Stangel**  
**Max Teitelbaum**

## SENIOR ATHLETIC RECOGNITION

Congratulations to all of our senior athletes recognized at the Senior Awards Ceremony held on June 2, 2022. The ceremony featured heartfelt addresses from Athletic Director Rob Castagna, BHHS Principal Chris Walsh, coaches, student award winners, and BHHS alumni Jack Beer - Class of 2017.

A big congratulations to our seniors who won special recognition awards:

**Arete Award of the Year:**  
**Lily Feldman, Christian Bellantoni, and Ben Chapman**

**Courage Award of the Year:**  
**Sydney Nichols and Jesse Goldstein**

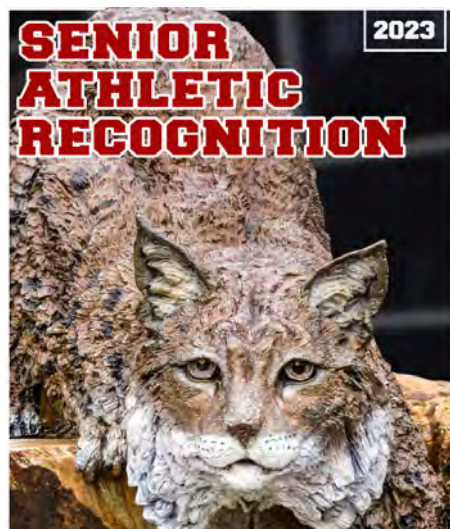
**Leadership Award of the Year:**  
**Emily Benz and Gavin Javorsky**

**Lynn Rosenthal Memorial Scholar-Athlete Award:**  
**Kelsey Vaquero**

**William A. McCoy Jr. Memorial Scholar-Athlete Award:**  
**Tyler Lynch**

**Sportsmanship Award of the Year:**  
**Carmen Parotta and Colin McManus**

**Athlete of the Year:**  
**Chloe Bernstein and Sean Siegel**



## UPCOMING SENIOR EVENTS

**Thursday, June 15th**

**Prom - 5:00 PM to 6:00**

**PM Community Reception**

**on BHHS campus. 7:00**

**PM to 11:00 PM at Glen**

**Island Harbour Club in New**

**Rochelle.**

**All students will return to the high school between 11:30 PM and midnight.**

**Parents are strongly encouraged to pick up their students and their guests upon their return to the high school. Outside transportation companies will not be permitted on campus to drop off or pick up students. This includes party vans and limousines.**

**Tuesday, June 20th**

**Graduation - 5 PM at BHHS**

**Rain Date - Wednesday, June 22nd at 5 PM**



## BYRAM HILLS STUDENT ARTISTS CREATE BOOKMARKS FOR COMAN HILL

Student artists at Byram Hills High School had a special delivery for second graders at Coman Hill Elementary School: Bookmarks they drew and painted based on their favorite children's books and others with fanciful imagery. Members of the National Art Honor Society created 45 bookmark designs and made one for each second grader to celebrate the end of their time at Coman Hill and to use with their summer reading books. Seniors Samantha Milewicz, president of the honor society, and Abby Eickelbeck, the vice president, brought the bookmarks to Coman Hill on June 8 and met with Lily Li's students in the library, where each second grader got to choose a bookmark.



## REGENTS EXAM SCHEDULE

The June Regents/Final Exam schedule can be seen by [CLICKING HERE](#).

## CHROMEBOOKS DUE BACK

Please return your Chromebook to THE HIGH SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY OFFICE between the dates of June 14th -June 21nd. The replacement value for your Chromebook is \$250. The replacement value of the charger is \$50. Checks for missing Chromebooks and chargers can be made out to Byram Hills High School.

## JUNE SOFT SKILL

**Flexibility/Adaptability** - The ability to shift focus and direction quickly and easily. Employers are increasingly seeking individuals who can naturally adapt to many situations. Managers have noted that their most valued employees are often the ones who can "think on their feet and wear many hats."

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Thursday, June 15

- Regents Exams
- Senior Prom Community Reception 5 pm

### Friday, June 16

- Regents Exams
- Registration Deadline for 7/15 ACT (Not Available in NYS)

### Monday, June 19

- Juneteenth
- Schools & Offices Closed

### Tuesday, June 20

- Regents Exams
- BHHS Graduation 5 pm

### Wednesday, June 21

- Gr. 8 Student Orientation @ BHHS 9:45 am
- Regents Exams
- Rain Date: BHHS Graduation 5 pm

### Thursday, June 22

- Gr. 8 Moving Up Ceremony 6 pm
- Regents Exams

### Friday, June 23

- Report Cards on Portal (CH-WA-HCC-BHHS)
- Last Day of School

### Thursday, June 29

- Eid al-Adha



# June 2023 - Focus

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1-5 Global Scholars Showcase 6:30 pm	2-6	3  SAT Test
4	5-7	6-8  PTSA Exec Mtg. @ DO 9:30 am PTSA Annual Luncheon 11:30 am Board of Ed. Mtg. 7:30 pm	7-1  Science Research Symposium 6:30 pm	8-2  BHEF Board of Directors Mtg. @ DO 7 pm	9-3	10  ACT Test
11	12-4  Senior Athletic Awards Night 7 pm	13-5  Senior Night & BHEF Movie Night 6:30 pm  Board of Ed. Mtg. 7:30 pm	14 Regents Exams Graduation Rehearsal 9:30 am Fall Sports Preseason Mtg. (Gr. 7-12) 7 pm	15 Regents Exams Senior Prom Community Reception 5 pm	16 Regents Exams Registration Deadline for 7/15 ACT (Not Available in NYS)	17
18	19  Juneteenth Schools & Offices Closed	20  Regents Exams  BHHS Graduation 5 pm	21 Gr. 8 Student Orientation @ BHHS 9:45 am 11:15 am Dismissal Regents Exams Rain Date: BHHS Graduation 5 pm	22  Gr. 8 Moving Up Ceremony 7 pm Regents Exams	23 Report Cards on Portal (CH-WA-HCC-BHHS) Last Day of School	24
25	26	27	28 Eid al-Adha	29	30	