

Senior Awards Ceremony



Drawing by Jane Bryce from the PMHS Studio in Drawing and Painting Class.

PELHAM MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL
JUNE 15, 2020

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

The Arnold M. Albero Memorial Patriotism Award

This award is given to seniors who demonstrate an appreciation for the freedoms we share as Americans, as well as an understanding of the historic price individuals have paid for these freedoms. This award is presented in memory of Arnold M. Albero, a graduate of Pelham Memorial High School. Mr. Albero was a decorated WWII veteran who wanted young people to understand that the ethics of hard work, love of family and love of country are what makes the United States of America a great nation.

The Pelham Children's Theater Vange Gorsline Scholarship

Pelham Children's Theater is a community theater group for 5th and 6th graders who attend Pelham schools. We consider ourselves to be the stepping stone in theater for children. Hopefully, they will fall in love with theater and pursue their acting in the Middle School Drama Club, Sock 'n Buskin and beyond. Several years ago we voted to award scholarships to PCT alumni who have continued in theater, whether it is acting, stage crew, lighting or sound. It has been a pleasure to watch our alumni grow, and see the talent they share with all of us.

The Mimi Buckley Pelham Preservation & Garden Society Scholarship

The Pelham Preservation Society is a not-for-profit organization incorporated in 1999 for the purpose of fostering community understanding and appreciation of the architecture, historic structures, natural beauty and aesthetic character of the Town of Pelham and surrounding areas. This scholarship is named in honor of Mimi Buckley, a valued member of the Pelham community whose life long pursuit of Pelham's history began with co-authoring An Historical Perspective of the Town of Pelham, a well-known map which dates every building in the town, created to celebrate our nation's Bicentennial in 1976. Her roles included deputy Pelham Town Historian, then Pelham Town Historian and co-founder of the Pelham Historical Society. It was her wish that every Pelhamite know and value our town's important place in history. We will award this scholarship to the Pelham High School student who best demonstrates an understanding and appreciation for historic preservation and promoting Pelham's local history and cultural significance during the past four years.

The Lt. Joseph G. Leavey Foundation Scholarship

The Lt. Joseph G. Leavey Foundation Scholarship was established in memory of Lt. Joseph G. Leavey of Ladder Company 15 FDNY, who gave his life on September 11th 2001. Joe served as treasurer of the Hutchinson School PTA and was very active in the community of Pelham. His foundation celebrates his memory by supporting education through hands on experience and leadership.

Along with helping to fund community projects, the foundation awards two \$2,000 scholarships to PMHS graduating seniors who demonstrate leadership, a spirit for learning and a commitment to giving back to their community.

The Houlihan Lawrence Theatre Arts Award

The Houlihan Lawrence Theatre Arts Award is given in recognition of the importance of Theatre Arts to the enrichment of the student experience and contribution

to the Pelham Community. The recipient is honored for teamwork, accomplishment and responsibility to self and others.

The Pelham Girl Scouts Award

The recipients of this award must be a senior in high school, have been a member of Girl Scouts for three (3) years including Junior and Senior years of High School, and active in Pelham Girl Scouts.

The Manor Club Scholarship

The present Manor Club was founded in 1914 with the objective to encourage the cultural and philanthropic activities of its members. Since 2014, The Manor Club is a registered 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. This year the committee is awarding scholarships to students who were chosen for academic achievements, community involvement, a desire to further academic studies, and as examples of young people who embody the very spirit of The Manor Club. This yearly scholarship has been awarded uninterrupted since 1944. We extend a very special thank you to the students who applied for our scholarship and to their families and teachers.

The Village of Pelham PBA Award

The Village of Pelham PBA would like to honor a graduating senior with a \$500 scholarship who has taken criminal justice classes and is interested in a law enforcement career.

The SOOP Theatre Company Inez L. Romanello Memorial Scholarship

The SOOP Theatre Company "Inez L. Romanello Memorial Scholarship" will be awarded annually to PMHS graduates who have been active participants in both school and SOOP theatre projects, with an interest in further pursuing theatre studies or theatre participation during their college experience.

The Ernest H. Wood Memorial Scholarship

Ernest Wood was a devoted and learned member of the Community Church of the Pelhams. Mr. Wood believed in the importance of education, and asked that part of the proceeds from his estate be used for a scholarship program for Pelham students pursuing further education. Since 1988, we have had the privilege of distributing over \$170,000 to deserving Pelham students who have demonstrated a combination of volunteerism, community service and academic achievement.

The Pelham Democratic Committee Michael Schwerner Social Action Award

The Pelham Democratic Committee Michael Schwerner Social Action Award is given to a student who has made important contributions in the area of social action. This includes activities aimed at making the world a better place, effecting social change or supporting civil liberties.

Michael was a popular PMHS graduate of the Class of 1957, and one of three civil rights workers murdered near Meridian, Mississippi in the summer of 1964 while working to register poor black voters who had been deprived of their rights as citizens in the segregated south. Michael had hoped to spend the rest of his life working towards the integration of American society.

The award is sponsored by the Pelham Democratic Club, whose members hope that this award, as well as the memory and legacy of Michael Schwerner, will remain an enduring part of the Pelham community.

The Danny Fund – Julianne Borsella Scholarship

The Danny Fund – Julianne Borsella Scholarship is presented to a young man or woman who embodies the attributes of spirit and courage in overcoming what appears to be an insurmountable obstacle, a continuing sense of humor in the face of hardship, a willingness to assist fellow students to the greatest extent possible during this period of adversity, and a determination to never give up.

The New York State Assembly Award

New York State Assemblywoman Amy Paulin awards this certificate to a PMHS graduating senior who has shown leadership in the fields of journalism, student government, and/or speech and debate.

Special Congressional Recognition

These awards are given by United States Congressman Eliot L. Engel to students who have demonstrated outstanding and invaluable service to the community as well as a trophy to the student who has displayed exceptional leadership.

New York State Office of the Attorney General Triple “C” Award

This award is presented to two students in recognition of his/her **Commitment** to bettering themselves and their community, their strength of **Character** and **Courage**, which will aid in meeting all of the challenges ahead.

The Pelham Memorial High School PTA Scholarships

It is with great pleasure that the Parent-Teacher Association of PMHS awards three scholarships this year. The criteria the PTA has established for selecting the recipients are: School Citizenship; Commitment to School and Community; Character and Academic Achievement. The winners of the 2020 PTA Scholarships have been recognized and respected by their peers, at all times maintaining the highest standards of behavior and concern for others. They have made PMHS a better place for us all.

The Rotary Club of the Pelhams Scholarship

The Rotary Club of the Pelhams brings together business persons and civically engaged residents to promote fellowship, integrity, international goodwill and local community service. Prominent among its service activities is its support of local youth. The Club recognizes two outstanding high school students as “Rotary Scholars” each month during the academic year and grants a Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) to provide one Pelham Memorial High School student with transformative leadership training at a weekend retreat for youth from the tri-state area.

The Rotary Club of the Pelhams Scholarship is the among the community’s largest. It is a \$12,000 scholarship awarded to a single Pelham Memorial High School senior. Funds for this scholarship are raised from Club members and the generous donations of the greater Pelham community, which has supported this program since 1992. Including this 2020 award, \$228,000 in scholarships have been awarded to PMHS seniors over the past 25 years. Awardees are determined on the basis of academic excellence as well as on whether they conduct themselves in a fashion consistent with

Rotary's aim of encouraging understanding, respect and cooperation among all people, and a willingness to become constructively and generously involved.

The Siwanoy School PTA Scholarship

The Siwanoy School PTA Scholarship is presented by the Siwanoy PTA to a Siwanoy alumnus who is a PMHS graduating senior. The student selected is one who embodies those attributes instilled during their years at Siwanoy: friendship, leadership, citizenship and commitment to educational excellence.

The Marian St. Clair Award - Prospect Hill School

The Marian St. Clair Award is presented by the Prospect Hill School PTA as a tribute to Marian St. Clair, a primary teacher whose love of the arts was an important part of her classroom teaching. This award is presented to a Prospect Hill graduate who shares Ms. St. Clair's commitment to and love of the Arts through education.

The Deborah Karson Award

The Deborah Karson Award is presented by the Prospect Hill School PTA as a living tribute to Deborah Karson, a former Prospect Hill mom and current mentor. Mrs. Karson selflessly continues to give back to the school community through her photographic talents and personal connection with the children she photographs. This award is presented to a Prospect Hill graduate who shares Mrs. Karson's commitment to public good works and volunteerism through various mediums.

The Pelham Civic Association Scholarships

The Pelham Civic Association is Westchester County's most active volunteer, charitable organization. Founded in 1939, PCA is run by local residents who volunteer their time to serve the community in many ways, concentrating on four main objectives: the financially needy, the physically and mentally challenged, the youth and the elderly.

As part of our Youth Program, a Pelham Civic Community Awards Program was established. Each of the awards is named in honor of a member and the special contributions he has made to the organization and the community.

Hon. Richard J. Daronco Civic Leadership Award (\$1,500) is an expense paid trip to serve as the Pelham representative to the Model Congress or Model United Nations Program, or similar program with expenses paid up to \$1,500.

Anthony Senerchia Memorial Services Award (\$2,000) is presented to a graduating high school senior residing in Pelham, NY who demonstrates strong community service by giving back to the community. Such actions would be best represented by helping the next generation of students reach their full potential whether through teaching/assisting younger students with after school programs, activities, studies or equivalent.

Camillo D'Urso Charitable Support Award (\$8,000) is presented to either a high school, college or graduate student who resides in Pelham, and who best exemplifies leadership and support in charitable work. The recipient demonstrates generous actions, donation of time, money, service or help to persons less fortunate or organizations that provide for those in need.

Vincent Lopardi Community Service Award (\$10,000) is presented to a graduating high school senior residing in Pelham, NY and who best exemplifies outstanding civic pride and community spirit. The recipient demonstrates active

participation in facing community real life problems and issues by offering his or her skills to the needs of the community.

The Hutchinson Elementary PTA Scholarship is given each year by the members of the PTA to graduating PMHS seniors who attended Hutchinson School and who have shown qualities of integrity, loyalty and scholarship.

The McClellan Sotheby's International Realty Scholarship

McClellan Sotheby's International Realty was the first real estate company in Pelham to establish an annual award to a graduating senior at Pelham Memorial High School. Established in 1995, this award is given for general excellence in scholarship, community service and participation in school activities.

The Junior League of Pelham Scholarship

This \$2,000 scholarship was established in 1987 and is given annually to a Pelham Memorial High School senior girl who has demonstrated outstanding community service during her high school years. While neither financial need nor academic standing is a determining factor in selecting the recipient, candidates must include written verification of their plan for continuing their education.

The Marjorie Linn Strong P.E.O. Scholarship

This scholarship, inaugurated in 2015, is given in memory of Marjorie Linn Strong, an active member of P.E.O. for 57 years and a three-time president of local Chapter P. She was a passionate supporter of P.E.O.'s mission to promote higher education for women. Our local Chapter P has been awarding an annual scholarship for 25 years.

Through local chapters, P.E.O. offers loans and scholarships to women pursuing degrees that range from the undergraduate level to PhD programs. P.E.O. sponsors awards for women of many backgrounds, including foreign students from over 85 countries and women whose college education has been interrupted. 102,000 women have benefited from P.E.O.'s educational opportunities. To date, over \$304 million in scholarships, grants and loans have been awarded.

The Project Community, Inc. Charles Fazzino Award of the Heart

The Charles Fazzino Award of the Heart was named in honor of the international pop artist whose sensitivity to community needs has made him a valued friend of Project Community, Inc. for over 30 years. The award recognizes generosity of spirit, creativity and resources that support innovative programs that inform and offer practical choices to prevent illness for children, teens and adults.

The Pelham Citizenship Award

This award is presented to one graduating male and female student from PMHS. The students are recognized for distinguished achievement during their high school careers. It recognizes the possession of those high qualities of Courage, Honor, Leadership, Patriotism, Scholarship and Service which are necessary to the preservation and protection of the fundamental institutions of our great Nation.

The Colonial School PTA is pleased to award a scholarship to a graduating PMHS senior who is an alumnus of Colonial School and who has shown significant achievements and contributions to the Pelham school district and community.

The Mary Deck Award was established in 1975 in honor of Mary Deck, a Hutchinson School kindergarten teacher for 40 years. This scholarship is given to a PMHS senior each year. The criteria for the award are: the student must be a graduating senior who attended Hutchinson School, has a solid academic and extracurricular record, and plans to attend college.

The Nancy Thompson Service Award

The Nancy Thompson Service Award was inaugurated by the Hutchinson School community to acknowledge Coach Jim Thompson's wife, Nancy Thompson, who passed away in 2009. Mrs. Thompson was dedicated to her family and the nursing profession, and was also an active member of her community. The award will serve to remember Mrs. Thompson's dedication to and involvement in her community. This Nancy Thompson Service Award and \$100 contribution will be given to a Pelham Memorial High School senior and Hutchinson School alumnus who has generously given of his/her time and talents to the Pelham Community.

The Pelham Women's Club Award

The Pelham Women's Club was founded in 1968 to foster a spirit of cooperation and understanding among women through civic, cultural and philanthropic activities. This award will be given to a student who best represents the qualities of scholarship, and service to the community among others.

The Kerry Clare Kennett Scholarship

Kerry Clare Kennett was a 1970 graduate of Pelham Memorial High School. She attended the College of New Rochelle School of Nursing and the Mt. Vernon Hospital Hopfer School of Nursing where she successfully passed her nursing board to become an LPN. She was to begin working at Sound Shore Medical Center on February 10, 1987. Unfortunately, she was killed in an accident on Boston Post Road. Her family has asked that PMHS award a scholarship in her name to graduating seniors who will enter a degree program in nursing as Kerry had planned to continue to study for a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing.

The Dr. Lori A. McQueen, Ed.D. Memorial Award

The Dr. Lori A. McQueen, Ed.D. Memorial Award is bestowed annually to a graduating female student who best exemplifies dedication to scholarship, service to others and spirit of PMHS. The award is \$1,000 and honors the life of Dr. McQueen (1961-2015), Class of 1979, who excelled in academics and athletics at PMHS. Dr. McQueen was an accomplished college professor and administrator who also founded a national intercollegiate athletics consultancy.

The Joe Reda Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship will be awarded to two PMHS graduating scholar athletes (one male, one female) who demonstrate leadership qualities and perform at an elite level both on and off the field. This award is presented in memory of Joe "The Barber" Reda (April

9, 1937 – January 18, 2016), who through his own selfless actions, motivated and inspired people to help others.

World Language Department

The Northeast Conference Award for Excellence in Language Study: French, Spanish, Italian.

The Ruth Yergin Award for Excellence in Latin is given to the senior who has the highest average in the study of four or more years of Latin. Ms. Yergin taught Latin at Pelham Memorial High School for over 30 years.

The Lawrence C. Ryan Prize is awarded to a student in the senior class who most reflects the qualities Mr. Ryan exemplified in his 29 years at Pelham Memorial High School. These qualities include a dedication to and excellence in the study of Latin, a demonstrated interest in Roman culture, outstanding character, active participation in athletics or community service and an engaging sense of humor. Sponsored by former Latin students and their parents along with Mr. Ryan's family, friends and colleagues.

The SUPA (Syracuse University Project Advance) Award is given to students who have contributed great effort and demonstrate commitment to the study of (French, Italian, and Spanish) by successfully completing Syracuse University courses.

The FIERI Italian Language Achievement Award was established in 1985 to enable and encourage gifted students to pursue their educational goals. It is presented to a college-bound Italian American student who has excelled in the study of the Italian Language. It is awarded by the FIERI Bronx/Westchester Scholarship Fund.

World Language Dedication Award – This award recognizes a senior who has demonstrated a true commitment and passion to the study of world languages throughout his/her high school career.

The World Language Plaque Award is given annually to students who have successfully completed at least seven years of study in one or more world languages.

The Janet E. Keiser Memorial Scholarship

Janet E. Keiser, a Pelham resident for fifty-one years, worked at the high school as curator of the English-Social Studies Center from 1970- 1992. In managing the materials used by the English and Social Studies departments, Mrs. Keiser collaborated with the teachers to help students with projects and special assignments. Her passion for learning was reflected in her enthusiastic support for student and faculty endeavors alike. When she retired, the students honored her with the Spirit Award. After Mrs. Keiser's death in 2010, her family decided to establish a memorial scholarship in her honor. It will be awarded annually to a graduating senior who has excelled in English and Social Studies.

English Department

The English Department is pleased to present the following Book Award to a member of this year's junior class: Yale Westchester Alumni Association Book Award.

The following award is given to seniors who have demonstrated qualities of superior academic scholarship and motivation in English.

Excellence in English

The following award is given to seniors who have exemplified great commitment and achievement in English.

Commitment and Achievement in English

The following award is given to seniors who have demonstrated commitment and achievement in Journalism.

Excellence in Journalism

The Jeanne Serocke and Joseph Stavola Scholarship

The Jeanne Serocke and Joseph Stavola Scholarship is awarded to a senior who has demonstrated a strong work ethic and is devoted to community service. Jeanne and Joseph were outstanding members of the Pelham community and their outstanding dedication and commitment are the traits we honor in this scholarship.

The Yvonne Bornholz Award

In loving memory of Yvonne Bornholz, the Yvonne Bornholz Scholarship is awarded to a graduating senior who is pursuing a college degree or vocational training. This student embodies the essence of the values Yvonne instilled in her students year after year, including perseverance, commitment and kindness. Yvonne was a beloved member of the Pelham School District who worked directly with and had a great impact on her students for three decades.

The John Graham Memorial Scholarship

The John Graham Memorial Scholarship is awarded to a senior who has shown hard work, dedication and commitment throughout his/her high school career overcoming any obstacles in his/her way. John had many wonderful personal attributes but, in his long career as a New York State Court Officer, his dedication, hard work and commitment in the face of adversity are the traits that we honor with this scholarship.

The Dr. Suzanne T. Megahan Scholarship

Dr. Suzanne Tellman Megahan was the school psychologist at PMHS in the early 1980s, who died tragically from cancer in the prime of her life. Her family has funded a scholarship in her name to keep her memory alive in the PMHS community. This award is presented to a graduating senior who is pursuing academic or vocational goals after high school. The recipient must exemplify those qualities most admired by Dr. Megahan: a sense of compassion and concern for others, and a capacity to persevere with dignity and integrity.

The Doris Carson Jackson Memorial Scholarship

The Doris Carson Jackson Memorial Scholarship was established in memory of Doris Carson Jackson by her family. Doris Carson Jackson attended Hutchinson Elementary School from 1946-1952 and graduated from Pelham Memorial High School in 1959. In 1970, she returned to teach at PMHS as the first African-American teacher in the English Department. Doris loved the written and spoken word and sought to ensure that students understood the elegance, beauty, and power of the English language to “shape their future and change the world.” Doris taught in Pelham for seven and a half years before transitioning to the corporate world. Her true calling, however, was as an educator of young people, and she returned to the classroom in 1992 for The Hackley

School, King's College, Concordia College, and Westchester Community College over the next 20+ years.

Doris believed strongly in the power of education and its ability to uplift future generations. Her family wishes to honor her commitment to young people of color by awarding this scholarship. It will be awarded annually to a deserving senior student of color with unmet financial need and who has demonstrated scholastic achievement.

National Merit Scholarship Program 2020

These awards are given to students who have demonstrated, through distinguished performance, a high potential for future academic accomplishment based on criteria from the National Merit Scholarship Program: **Finalist & Commended**

The Fitzgerald Brothers Scholarship

The Fitzgerald Brothers Foundation is a non-profit organization founded in memory of Police Officer Patrick Fitzgerald and his older brother Sergeant Walker Fitzgerald, both New York City Police Officers and PMHS graduates who tragically lost their lives in 1997 only two months apart. The Foundation helps to raise money "when the need arises" for all men and women in blue. They donate money to families of fallen police officers, to police precincts for better equipment and to many other charitable organizations, such as the Danny Fund, the Red Cross and Habitat for Humanity. The foundation was the idea of Mrs. Lona Fitzgerald, Patrick and Walker's mother. She felt that her sons' passion for criminal justice could in some way be passed on through PMHS's Criminal Justice curriculum.

Social Studies Department

The Social Studies Faculty is pleased to present the Princeton University Book Award- Model U.N. Club to a member of the junior class who is at the top of her/his class academically and has demonstrated both intellectual leadership and strong character. This student also best exemplifies the spirit behind Princeton's motto, "In the Nation's service, in the service of all nations."

The Social Studies Faculty is also pleased to present The Columbia University Book Award to a member of the junior class who displays a high degree of interest in Social Studies and demonstrates academic excellence.

The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Awards are presented to seniors who have demonstrated overall achievement and scholarship in United States History.

The following award is given to seniors who have demonstrated qualities of superior academic scholarship and motivation in Social Studies.

Excellence in Social Studies

The following awards are given to seniors who have exemplified great achievement or commitment to Social Studies.

Achievement in Social Studies

Commitment to Social Studies

Science Department

The Science Department is pleased to award the following prizes to members of the senior class:

The Science Teachers' Emeritus Award

This award is given annually in honor of all retired teachers of the science department. It recognizes students' sustained effort in science classes, optimistic attitude, striving to do the best in science and for the persistent determination in meeting the demanding challenges of science.

Achievement in Science Courses

The following individuals have earned the recognition of being exemplary students in the specific subject taken. This includes outstanding grades, ability to complete the rigorous coursework in a timely fashion, the capability to work collaboratively with classmates, and proficiency in contributing to class discussions in a scholarly manner.

Achievement in Advanced Placement Biology

Achievement in Advanced Placement Chemistry

Achievement in Advanced Placement Environmental Science

Achievement in Advanced Placement Physics

Achievement in Advanced Placement Computer Science

Achievement in SUNY Forensic Science

Excellence in Science

The excellence in Science Award is given annually to the student who has excelled in every science course taken at Pelham Memorial High School. It takes into account not only the scholastic record of the student, but also the number of courses taken by the student. The science department faculty then recognizes the individual merits of each nominated student with respect to motivation, participation in science activities and overall science aptitude.

The Harvard-Radcliffe Club of Westchester, along with the Harvard Alumnae Association, has for many years awarded the Harvard Book Prize to one outstanding student in the junior class in Westchester County High Schools. The outstanding junior is the person who "displays excellence in scholarship and high character, combined with achievement in other fields." Harvard Alumni originated the Harvard Prize Book Program in 1910 as part of an effort to attract the attention of talented young students to the opportunities available at Harvard.

The Science Department is also pleased to present the following Book Award to a member of this year's junior class: Wellesley College Book Award.

The President's Awards for Educational Excellence are presented to members of the senior class who have achieved an average of 90% or better.

The President's Awards for Educational Achievement are presented to members of the senior class who have shown outstanding educational growth, improvement, commitment or intellectual development in their academic subjects. It is meant to encourage and reward students who are persistent and committed to personal growth.

The Pelham Teachers' Association Scholarship

Each year the Pelham Teachers' Association requests donations from its members to award \$2,000 in scholarship money. Each scholarship of \$1,000 is awarded to a senior who displays a high level of academic achievement and a strong desire to continue their education studies.

Mathematics Department

The Excellence in Mathematics Award recognizes seniors for their outstanding achievements in math over four years, along with an exceptional insight and ongoing quest for deeper understanding of mathematics.

The Math Team Award is given to seniors who have been active participants on the PMHS Math Team.

The Ralph E. Roberts Mathematics Award is given annually to a senior in recognition of her/his dedication to the study of mathematics.

The Despina Patsoulakis Memorial Scholarship is in honor of Despina Patsoulakis who dedicated 40 years of service as a teacher at Hutchinson Elementary School. This scholarship will be awarded annually to a graduating high school student who attended Hutchinson.

The Math Department is also pleased to present the Smith College Book Award to a member of the junior class.

Music Department

Chorus Awards

The National School Choral Award This award recognizes distinguished singers who have shown outstanding dedication and musical achievement.

The Director's Award for Chorus This award recognizes the talent and enthusiasm of outstanding choral members.

Orchestra Awards

Orchestra Citizenship Award This award recognizes the dedicated Pelham Memorial High School Orchestra participant who has consistently been thoughtful and helpful to other orchestra members.

National School Orchestra Award This award sponsored by the National Association for Music Education (NAfME) recognizes musical leadership and contribution to the Pelham Memorial High School Orchestra. The recipient (one male; one female) is recognized for consistent exceptional performance in the Orchestra.

Band Awards

The Amy Geissinger Music Award is named for Amy Geissinger, a member of the PMHS Class of 1992. Amy was a member of the Marching Band, Concert Band, Flute Ensemble and Stage Band. The criteria for this award is as follows: (1) a band member from the senior class, (2) recipient must possess an innate sense of musicality, (3) even though not planning a professional career in music, music is a powerful force in his or her life, as it was in Amy's, (4) the student has pursued outside interests in music through private lessons, church activities, participation in bands or orchestras outside of school as well as active participation in school and (5) exhibits school spirit through active participation in varied school activities.

The National Marching Band Award is presented to a senior in the Marching Band for four years of dedication and service to the PMHS Marching Band.

The John Philip Sousa Award is considered the pinnacle of achievement in high school band. It recognizes one student with superior musicianship, outstanding dedication, and tremendous loyalty to the PMHS band.

The Patrick Gilmore Band Award is presented to a senior in the Band for effort, improvement, and commitment over four years in the PMHS Band and Ensemble.

The Louis Armstrong Jazz Award is presented to a senior in the Stage Band for performance, dedication, and commitment to the Stage Band. This is the top national award for high school Jazz Ensembles.

The Campbell Whitford Scholarship – The Campbell Whitford Scholarship is presented to a senior who has demonstrated outstanding musical talent for the past four years in the PMHS Band. This student is an academically strong student with a love for music and who reflects the ideals of former Band Director, Campbell Whitford who served the students of Pelham for 40 years.

Fine Arts Department

Art

These senior art students are to be commended for their outstanding creative growth and dedication to the Fine Arts.

Excellence in Architectural Design

Excellence in Advanced Placement Studio Art

Excellence in Graphic Design

Excellence in Photography

Yearbook

The following seniors are to be recognized for their hard work and dedication in creating the 2020 Pelican yearbook.

Bridge Academy MARGARET Fund Scholarship

The Bridge Academy MARGARET Fund Scholarships are given to graduating seniors who have successfully demonstrated dedication to academics, social and emotional growth, along with citizenship within the school and the community. The scholarships are also given to students who have overcome extraordinary circumstances and/or obstacles to their education.

The John A. Orefice Jr. Scholarship

The John A. Orefice Jr. scholarship has been established by the Orefice family to honor his many years of service to PMHS and the Sock n' Buskin program. Each year an award is given to a student who has made a significant contribution to Sock n' Buskin in their 4 years and who has an expressed interest in continuing their devotion to theatre arts. This scholarship is awarded to a deserving senior who understands the value of the performing arts, exhibits passion, commitment, a sense of humor, humility, and, who, like Mr. Orefice, has the innate ability to dream.

The Dorina DiLullo Scholarship

The Dorina DiLullo Scholarship has been established to honor the memory of "Ms. Dorina" and her many contributions to the Sock n' Buskin program. A

choreographer for many years in both the middle and high school theatre programs, Ms. DiLullo passed away suddenly in March 2013 at the age of 44. Each year an award will be given to students who in their 4 years exemplify the qualities that Ms. Dorina taught: commitment, creativity, collaboration and kindness.

The David Pentz Scholarship

The David Pentz Scholarship has been established to honor David's memory and his years of service as lighting designer for Sock'n'Buskin. David passed away suddenly on Christmas Day 2018 after 15 years of service to the school district and the community. David's commitment to educational theatre was evident in his years of service to Pelham Children's Theatre, Pelham Middle School as well as Pelham Memorial High School. Each year this award will be given to a senior who understands the values of educational theatre, performing arts and creativity.

Excellence in Forensics Speech Team

The Forensic Speech Award recognizes excellence in public speaking. Members of the Forensic Speech Team master writing, research, and interpretive skills while facing an audience with poise, confidence and clarity. In their career, these seniors have qualified for New York State Championships and have been leaders and mentors to their teammates while proudly representing Pelham Memorial High School throughout the district, state and nation.

The Walter Alan Arrington Sr. Award

Walter Alan Arrington, Sr. was a charismatic leader, outstanding athlete, veteran of the United States Air Force and government official at the Government Services Administration (GSA), as well as a wonderful husband and father to four children.

His leadership skills became evident as a junior at Pelham High School, when he was elected as president of the General Organization. During the same year he qualified for the semi-finals of the Olympics in the hop, skip and jump. In his senior year he won the National Interscholastic high jump competition at Madison Square Garden in February, 1937. He was the star of Pelham High School's undefeated track team, and holder of three Westchester County high-school records, and was elected captain of his track team in his senior year. Based on his outstanding high-school career, Walter was given a scholarship in 1938 to attend Michigan State University.

In 1939, as a sophomore in his first year of varsity competition at Michigan State, he was selected to the All-American Track and Field Team and shined brightly as one of the true stars of that year's AAU competition. He was chosen to compete as a member of the 1940 Olympic Track and Field Team, which was cancelled due to World War II. He captained the Michigan State squad to victory in the Michigan Intercollegiate Meet. That same afternoon, he bid farewell to collegiate athletics by sweeping four first-place victories in the high jump, broad jump, discus and shot-put competitions.

After graduating from Michigan State, Walter served in the United States Army Air Corps (which later became the U.S. Air Force) and attended the prestigious Tuskegee Institute for pilot training in 1942. He attended the Army Air Corps Navigation School at Hondo, Texas, where he graduated as the Air Corps' first black navigator. His service to our country was distinguished by 23 years in the Air Force, primarily with the Strategic Air Command.

Upon his retirement from the Air Force in 1964 as a Lt. Colonel, he continued to serve his country as Director of Property Division, Region 3 at GSA until his death in 1977.

The Sandy Stephens Award

This award is given in memory of Sandy Stephens, who died while a student at PMHS in the late 1970s. It is presented each year to the girl who has “contributed the most to women’s athletics and team spirit, friendship and dedication.”

The Joseph Longobardi Scholarship

These scholarship winners have exhibited a strong community involvement, as well as being leaders with great character. This scholarship began in 2012 with the retirement of Pelham Middle School Principal, Joseph Longobardi after serving as its Principal since 1992. He began his 30 year career in the Pelham School District as a teacher. This scholarship is funded by the Pelham Middle School PTA and is awarded to seniors who attended the Pelham Middle School for three years.

The "Big John" Von Barga Memorial Scholarship

Known affectionately as "Big John" for his 6' 11" height, John was a beloved safety monitor at the secondary campus of the Pelham schools from 2000-2019. John was the superintendent for the Town of Pelham Recreation Department for over thirty years. He officiated games around Westchester County and was a regular presence at Pelham games, dances, events, and especially in Cafeteria C and the fields outside. John was a true gentleman, known for his generous, warm, funny, and caring spirit, touching the lives of so many students over whom he watched and encouraged them to do their best.

The John Von Barga Memorial Scholarship was established in 2020 in his memory. This scholarship, funded by the Pelham Middle School PTA, is awarded to up to two graduating Pelham Memorial High School Seniors who attended Pelham Middle School for three consecutive years and who embody the same wonderful qualities of character as John.

The Rensselaer Award for Mathematics and Science

The Rensselaer Award for Mathematics and Science is awarded annually to a member of the junior class who has distinguished his/herself in the study of math and science. Upon enrolling at Rensselaer, the medalist is awarded a \$15,000 annual scholarship.

Kathleen McGrath STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) Award

This award is given to a member of the senior class who demonstrates academic excellence and a dedication to study in the areas of mathematics, science, engineering and technology. The student must display a passion for the subjects, as well as a strong sense of collegiality and teamwork. The recipient of this award is a leader who embodies generosity, passion and a genuine desire for the betterment of their school and community.

Physical Education Department

Excellence in Physical Education Award

These Physical Education awards are given to those students who exemplify excellence in physical fitness, skill, attitude and participation.

The Fairclough Prize

The Fairclough Prize was established in memory of W.W. Fairclough - Principal of Pelham Memorial High School from 1923 through 1945, and Superintendent of Schools from 1945 to 1955. Each year it is given by the Pelham Council of the PTAs to the top three academic achievers in the graduating class.

The John M. Conroy Scholarship

Dr. John Conroy was the principal of PMHS from 1977 through 1998. At the time of his retirement, a scholarship fund was established in his name to honor a PMHS graduating senior who, in addition to having a strong academic record, is generous in his/her commitment to others and makes a real effort to include everyone in the work that he/she does. The John M. Conroy scholarship is presented this year to a student whose involvement in the life of the school, generosity of spirit and concern for others fully reflects the ideals of the Pelham community.

Philip J. Colicchio Award

This award which is also given by the Pelham Civics Association for (\$1,000), is presented each year to the incoming Pelham Memorial High School President of the Student Association, allows for the recipient to attend a leadership conference of their choice.

The Faculty Service Awards

The Faculty Service Awards recognize students who demonstrated service and worked to improve the quality of life at PMHS.

The School Spirit Award

Each year, the members of the Student Association single out one member of the PMHS family for special recognition.

Descriptions of awards and scholarships are submitted by the patron or sponsor of the specific award.

The names of all senior award winners will be listed in the PMHS Graduation Program.