



# HALDANE HORIZONS

*A newsletter of the Haldane Central School District*



## *Message from Dr. Benante*

Dear Haldane Community,

What a year! Thank you for your continued support as we brought the school year to a successful close, a year that we will never forget.

The past month has given us many moments to celebrate the work of both our students and staff. Please enjoy these images and stories included within.

I wish you a safe and restful summer and look forward to seeing you in September.

Sincerely,  
Phil Benante, Ed. D.  
Superintendent of Schools

## **JUNE 2021**

**Music, Nature, and the Arts**

**Sun & Smiles at Sharpe**

**Big Debates Under the Big Tops**

**Cold Spring Firehouse Facelift**

**This I Believe Anthologies**

**High School Senior Internships**

**Digital Art Show**

**Insight Literary Magazine**

**Spring Athletics**

**Up & Away! Celebrating Our Grads**

**Honoring Our Retirees**

**Haldane Welcomes New AD**

## Music, Nature, and the Arts

*Haldane Elementary students displayed their many talents during a Glockestra performance and an outdoor art show.*



## Sun and Smiles at Sharpe Reservation

*Haldane 5th graders bonded over team challenges during an outing to Sharpe Reservation.*



## Big Debates Under the Big Tops

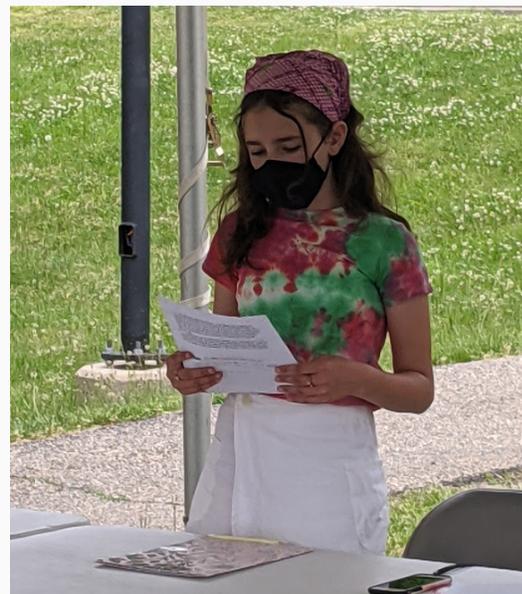
***Haldane Middle School hosted a debate competition celebrating their intelligence, reason, and voices.***

We knew the 2020-2021 school year would be unique and present unforeseen challenges. One such challenge was the cancellation of the annual trip to the Bard College Middle School Debate Competition. In its place, Haldane decided to host its own middle school competition on Saturday, May 22nd.

Following a similar format as Bard, students from Manitou, Union Vale, and Haldane debated three different topics: the removal of controversial monuments, a civics test to determine voter eligibility, and banning private cars in big cities. The debates took place under the tents around campus during a hot day, and it was the first time the students debated in front of an audience. All students did a tremendous job handling the preparation, performance, and environment.

Overall, Haldane's teams were very successful, ranking among the top 3 teams of the competition. The 6th grade team of Tess Hereford, Talia Hird, and Una Lentz finished in third place. The 8th grade team of Robert Freimark, Violeta Edwards, and Amelia Alayon finished in second place and the two-person team of Keira Shanahan and Josie Foley-Hedlund claimed the top team award. The top individual awards also went to Haldane students. Amelia Alayon was named the third best debater in the competition. Keira Shanahan was named the second best debater, and Josie Foley-Hedlund claimed the Best Debater award.

Mr. Sniffen was very excited to host this event and provide a competition where intelligence, reason, and voice were celebrated. He is very proud of the efforts all 14 Haldane students put forth in order to perform at such a high level.



## Cold Spring Firehouse Facelift

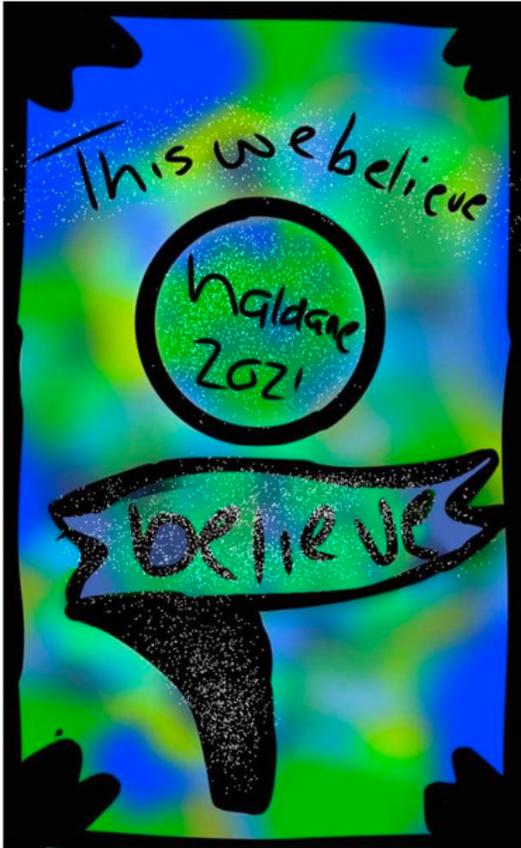
*Check out the new face of the Cold Spring Firehouse, thanks to DCI 6th graders.*



Mrs. Gesson's 6th grade DCI students spent the last two afternoons of school bringing a year-long project to fruition. In September, students met with Cold Spring Fire Chief Matt Steltz to propose painting the side of the firehouse. Students submitted many drawings and worked with the fire department board to narrow their selection to four. The students were then responsible for ordering the paint and planning the layouts. It was a great experience from start to finish!

## This I Believe Personal Anthologies

*The annual This I Believe project offers 7th graders a chance to revisit and reaffirm their experiences, values, and identity through the art of narrative essay writing.*



Kathryn Curto, published author and professor at Montclair University and Sarah Lawrence College, spearheads the annual This I Believe project, inspiring students to find the extraordinary in their lives and to infuse their memories with meaning. Once the 7th graders let their ideas “stew” (as Mrs. Curto says), they are ready to draft their This I Believe Statements in which they declare their beliefs and fortify them with personal memories.

The project culminates with a celebration during which each student receives a published anthology of the This I Believe statements. During the celebration, students are given an opportunity to share their writing aloud and discuss their pieces. In the wake of such a challenging year, wherein social distancing and half-hidden faces were the norms, it was so rewarding to see students connect over the things in life that really ground them, shape them, and challenge them. Danielle Pece, 7th grade English teacher, thanks Mrs. Curto for another great year, and thanks her students for their willingness to share pieces of their lives on the page.

[\*\*Enjoy the publication here.\*\*](#)

### Middle Schoolers Igniting Excellence



Amelia Nova Martinez (6th), Daniel Campanile (7th), and Robert Freimark (8th) received special recognition from their teachers for acts of excellence.

### Jumbo Check for Leukemia



Sixth grade DCI students helped raise \$2,493 for children battling Leukemia and Lymphoma. Fundraising incentives included the chance to pie your teacher in the face. Well done HMS!

## High School Senior Internship

*As the world opened up, so did the experiences for Haldane Seniors who took to the working world to try their hands at career paths of their choosing.*

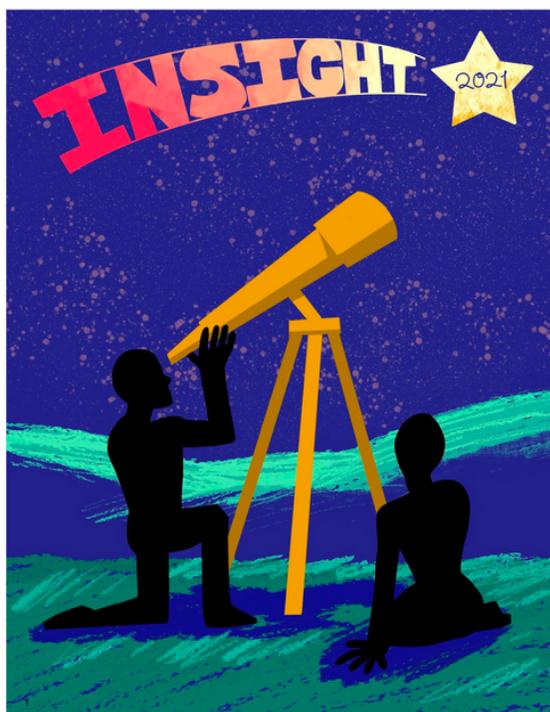
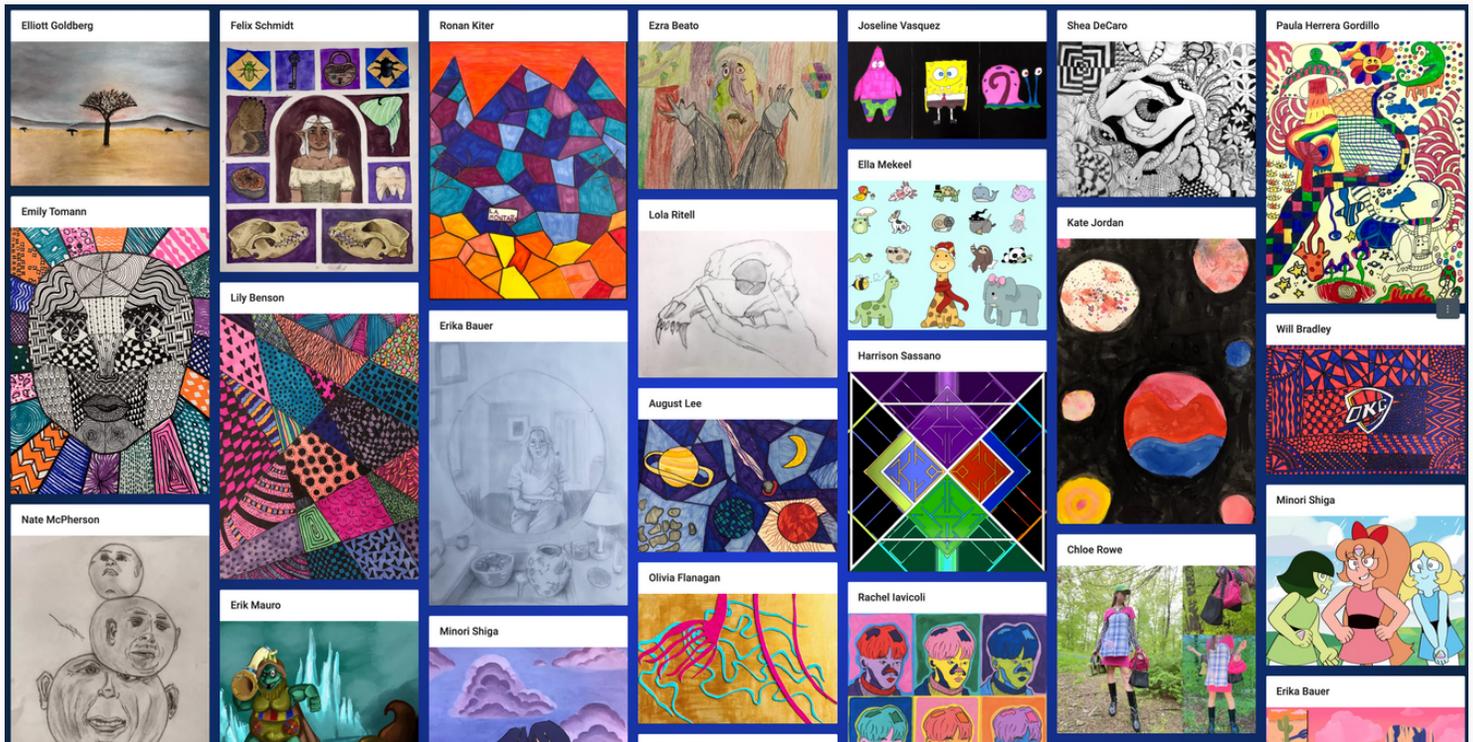


***Clockwise from top: Daniel Santos at Signs Ink, Rachel Iavicoli at Philipstown Rec, Jack Jordan at Haldane Elementary, Ziaire Mickell-Foggie-Smith at Stonecrop Gardens, Vincenzo Scanga at Scanga Woodworking, Sasha Levy at Cold Spring Coffee House, and Essie Florke at The Parcel Flower Co.***

## Digital Art Show Features High School Talents

Art teacher, Katie Boonshoft, displayed the works of high school students in Studio Art, Drawing and Painting, Advanced Art, and Independent Study in Art in online art show.

[Enjoy their collective works here.](#)



## Insight Literary Magazine

*The 2021 issue of Insight, Haldane High School's literary magazine, features the writings and artwork of more than 25 Haldane students.*

[Read their work here.](#)

# Spring Athletics

## SCHOLAR ATHLETE TEAMS

*Varsity Baseball*  
*Varsity Boys Lacrosse*  
*Varsity Boys & Girls Track*

## ALL LEAGUE

*Evan Giachinta, Boys Lacrosse*  
*Peter Ruggiero, Boys Lacrosse*  
*Daniel Santos, Boys Lacrosse*  
*Darrin Santos, Boys Lacrosse*  
*John Dwyer, Baseball*  
*Jack Jordan, Baseball*  
*Tim Ben Adi, Golf*  
*Ryan Irwin, Golf*  
*Ella Ashburn, Track*  
*Everett Campanile, Track*  
*Caroline Cates, Track*  
*Walter Hoess, Track*  
*Eloise Pearsall, Track*  
*Chloe Rowe, Track*

## ALL SECTION

*Darrin Santos, Boys Lacrosse*  
*Jack Jordan, Baseball*  
*Tim Ben Adi, Golf*



## Athletic Awards Celebration

*Haldane athletes ended the year with an Athletic Awards Celebration hosted by the Blue Devil Booster Club.*

## Up & Away!

*Celebrating our graduating Seniors, and 5th and 8th graders moving up to "new" schools!*



*Haldane was pleased to welcome graduates from the Classes of 1970 and 1971 to celebrate their 50 year reunions during the high school graduation ceremony.*

## Honoring our 2020 and 2021 Retirees



*Carol Hopper, Diana Geller, Eric Richter, and Lisa Pray bid farewell to Haldane with a ringing of the bell.*

## Haldane Welcomes New Athletic Director



*Dan Cowan joins the Haldane Blue Devils as Athletic Director and Dean of Students*

Haldane wishes happiness, health, and relaxation to our retirees. Thank you for your many years of service to the district.

### 2020 Retirees

*Linda Dearborn,  
Secretary to the Superintendent  
Doreen Ferris, Teacher Aide  
Elizabeth Gorecki, Cafeteria  
Tom Locascio, MS/HS Art Teacher  
Carolyn McLaughlin,  
HS Special Education Teacher  
Eric Richter, HS English Teacher  
Pete Schultz, Maintenance & Operations*

### 2021 Retirees

*Diana Geller, ES Special Education Teacher  
Carol Hopper, HS Guidance Office Assistant  
Doris Horgan, MS Office Aide  
Sia Oepen, Payroll  
Lisa Pray, Fourth Grade Teacher  
Johanna Rupp, ES Teaching Assistant  
Elisa Travis, Transportation  
Cheryl Wondsel, Maintenance & Operations*

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

*Jen Daly, President  
Sean McNall, Vice President  
Dr. Peggy Clements, Trustee  
John Hedlund, Trustee  
Maggie Valentine, Trustee*

## ADMINISTRATION

*Philip Benante, Ed. D., Superintendent of Schools  
Christine Jamin, Elementary School Principal  
MaryAnn Seelke, Ed. D., Middle School Principal  
Julia Sniffen, High School Principal  
Tara Rounds, Director of Pupil Personnel Services  
Anne Dinio, Business Manager  
Tim Walsh, Director of Facilities  
Dan Cowan, Athletic Director and Dean of Students*