

Student and Staff Achievements January 2021

The Blues and Beyond

Stamford Public Schools (SPS) recently piloted “The Blues and Beyond,” a 12-part educational program that tells the story of African Americans from slavery to present day, through music, narration, video and still images. The program was delivered live using a videoconferencing webinar platform that allows students to interact with program performers and narrators. The Blues and Beyond culminates with each student writing their own Blues songs. One student creation from each school was selected to be set to music and professionally recorded. Each creation will be debuted at the January 26 Regular Board meeting.

- “The World Blues,” by **Cloonan Middle School** Sixth Grader **Grace Noguera (Mr. Metke)**
- “Lockdown Blues,” by **Dolan Middle School** Seventh Grader **Kathryn Diem (Mr. Kruk)**
- “Always Taking My Things,” by **Northeast Elementary School** Fourth Grader **Aden Ulaj (Mr. Stec)**
- “Internet Blues,” by **Stillmeadow Elementary School** Fourth Grader **Veronika Pertsel (Mr. Stec)**
- “That Little Crazy Dog of Mine,” by **Stark Elementary School** Fifth Grader **Emily Franco (Mr. Leftwich)**

Annual Seasonal Greeting Card Art Contest

In years past, the superintendent and mayor selected artwork submitted by elementary or secondary school students to feature on their holiday greeting cards. However, due to challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, this year the contest was open to all SPS staff members. Superintendent Lucero selected artwork created by **Stamford High School Art Teacher Timothy E. Eaton-Koch (Teek)** to use on her holiday greeting card. Mayor Martin chose artwork submitted by **Cloonan Middle School Special Education Teacher Melissa Giandurco**.

2020 Women of Innovation® Award

The Connecticut Technology Council and Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology named **Stamford High School Teacher Susan Dougherty** one of the 2020 Women of Innovation®, in the category of Secondary Academic Innovation and Leadership. She is one of only 12 Connecticut women recognized for their accomplishments in the field of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) by the organizations in a virtual celebration late last year.

Athletic Achievements

Stamford Public Schools has many high-performing individual athletes, teams and coaches. In the fall of 2020, the following student athletes were honored at the regional level for both academics and sports or at the state level for exceptional sports achievements.

Boys Cross Country

- **Tucker Healy (WHS):** All-FCIAC
- **Andrew Hicks (WHS):** All-FCIAC
- **Erik Lopez (WHS):** All-FCIAC
- **Colin McLaughlin (WHS):** All-FCIAC, All-State

Girls Soccer

- **Ashley Arrubla (SHS):** All-FCIAC, All-State
- **Samantha Fischer (WHS):** FCIAC Exemplary Scholar-Athlete

Boys Soccer

- **Lyon Atiencia (SHS):** All-FCIAC, All-State
- **Cesar Caballero (WHS):** All-FCIAC
- **Christian Carmona (SHS):** All-FCIAC, All-State
- **Fernando Moran (WHS):** All-FCIAC
- **Andre Quijada (SHS):** All-FCIAC, All-State
- **Peter Sawch (WHS):** All-FCIAC
- **Tim Silkowitz (WHS):** FCIAC Exemplary Scholar-Athlete

Swimming and Diving

- **Hannah Chuckas (WHS):** All-FCIAC, All-State
- **Annie Edwards (WHS):** All-FCIAC, All-State
- **Julia Stefanowicz (WHS):** All State

Girls Volleyball

- **Maddy Bautista (WHS):** All-FCIAC, All-State
- **Kady Green (SHS):** All-FCIAC, All-State
- **Vana Servos (WHS):** All-FCIAC, All-State