Greenwich Public Schools



March 22, 2016 5:00-6:30pm Greenwich High School

IT IS THE MISSION OF THE GREENWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

- to educate all students to the highest levels of academic achievement;
- to enable them to reach and expand their potential; and
- to prepare them to become productive, responsible, ethical, creative and compassionate members of society.

Greenwich Public School students are presented with Community Service Awards for participation in service activities that help to improve both their school and community. Superintendent of Schools William S. McKersie, Ph.D. and Board of Education Chair Laura Erickson present awards to the elementary, middle and high school student recipients. State Citations are also presented to each award recipient. Former Superintendent of Schools, Ernest Fleishman, Ph.D. presents the Fleishman Award for Community Service to a high school student that has made outstanding contributions to the community and to the high school.

Students are nominated and/or selected by their principals, house administrators, guidance counselors, grade level teachers, and/or fellow students. Each school has their own selection process. The criteria used to determine the award recipient varies, but generally includes the following considerations:

- * evidence of participation in and a commitment to school/community service,
- * demonstration of good citizenship both in and outside of school,
- * the leadership ability to motivate others to action to benefit the community,
- * a good scholastic record, and/or
- * participation in student government

30TH ANNIVERSARY COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS CEREMONY PROGRAM

WELCOME

Christopher Winters, Headmaster, Greenwich High School

Music

Musical Selections by Greenwich Public Schools Honor Choir: Prima Voce Erin Schilling and Rebecca Lipschutz, Directors

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

William S. McKersie, Superintendent of Schools

COMMENTS

Peter Tesei, First Selectman State Representative Jenny Cespedes, 2013 Fleishman Award Recipient

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Presented by Patricia Raneri, Principal, Old Greenwich School Elementary School students represent their schools

STUDENT

<u>Representative</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>Principal</u>
Grace Nash	Cos Cob School	Gene Schmidt
Audrey Hall	Glenville School	Marc D'Amico
Jaya Maduro	Hamilton Avenue School	Cindy Rigling
Angelina Ponce	Hamilton Avenue School	Cindy Rigling
Piper Loveless	International School at Dundee	Teresa Ricci
Chihiro Nishihara	Julian Curtiss School	Patricia McGuire
Rubi Garcia	New Lebanon School	Barbara Riccio
James Chang	North Mianus School	Angela Schmidt
Carolyn Mullins	North Mianus School	Angela Schmidt
Maggie Saleeby	North Street School	Jill Flood
Sarah DesChamps	Old Greenwich School	Patricia Raneri
Lindsay Geary	Parkway School	Patricia Allen
Lacey Hartley	Riverside School	Christopher Weiss

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

		Principal/
STUDENT RECIPIENT	<u>School</u>	PRESENTER
Antea Pasa	Central Middle School	Shelly Somers
Emma Burstiner	Eastern Middle School	Ralph Mayo
Sadie Kriegler	Western Middle School	Gordon Beinstein

HIGH SCHOOL

House

		TIOUSE
		ADMINISTRATOR/
STUDENT RECIPIENT	<u>House</u>	Presenter
Mary Byrne	Bella House	Michael Batcheller
Diana Jaramillo	Cantor House	Jason Goldstein
Caitlyn Lovely	Clark House	David Walko
Emma Jinno	Folsom House	Dana Tulotta
Alexis Tatore	Sheldon House	Brigid Barry

THE FLEISHMAN SERVICE AWARD

Presented by Ernest Fleishman Recipient: Rebecca Powell Greenwich High School

CEREMONY CLOSING

Laura Erickson, Board of Education Chair

RECEPTION

Immediately following the ceremony in the Galleria

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SERVICE PROJECTS

The Greenwich Public Schools (GPS) elementary students consistently demonstrate a commitment to serving others through building awareness, raising funds, volunteering their time, and caring for those in need. GPS Elementary Schools support local organizations such as Neighbor to Neighbor, Meals on Wheels, and Kids in Crisis, as well as local seniors, veterans, hospitals, and more. On a national and global scale, students support UNICEF, the American Heart Association, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, CHAMPS, the Red Cross, and numerous others. Each of our schools is committed to service learning and provide multiple opportunities for involvement.

Elementary students receive awards on behalf of their schools' service activities as well as their own contributions to the community.

Cos Cob School

Cos Cob School students raised \$1,500 for Alex's Lemonade Stand, over \$1,000 for UNICEF, and \$1,500 to fight pediatric cancer during Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in September. They put together Thanksgiving food baskets, held a winter coat and clothing drive for Neighbor to Neighbor, and are part of the global effort to rid the world of land mines by supporting mine detecting CHAMPS dogs. Cos Cob School student representative Grace Nash is an active participant in the Cos Cob Cares Club and has raised and donated \$1,000 in her own tag sale to donate to DOMUS.

GLENVILLE SCHOOL

Glenville School students have been participating in Ben's Bells Kind Campus Program, serving to educate and inspire people to recognize the importance of intentional kindness. Glenville students have spread kindness this year by donating clothing and food to Neighbor to Neighbor, raising over \$1,200 to support CHAMPS dogs, and collecting and donating toiletry items to Kids in Crisis. Glenville School student representative Audrey Hall is an active member of Glenville School's Community Service Counsel and has collaborated with the Glenville Town Meeting Committee to encourage kindness throughout our community.

Hamilton Avenue School

Hamilton Avenue School students participated in the Great Kindness Challenge this year, recognizing that simple acts of kindness can change the world. They supported Kind Coins for Kenya, raising funds to build a school. For the sixth year, students participated in a math-a-thon to support St. Jude's Research Hospital, raising over \$6,000. Hamilton Avenue School student representatives Jaya Maduro and Angelina Ponce are role models for their classmates participating in numerous service activities in school and throughout the community.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AT DUNDEE

As part of the International Baccalaureate program at the International School at Dundee, students participate in numerous service activities supporting the concepts of "taking action" and "giving back." Students have held food drives for Neighbor to Neighbor, donated Halloween candy to Inspirica homeless shelter in Stamford, and held a Veterans Day ceremony, honoring local veterans. Looking out for our environment, students collected old batteries to dispose of them properly and collected and recycled dried out markers and crayons. International School at Dundee student representative Piper Loveless is an active participant in school service activities.

JULIAN CURTISS SCHOOL

Julian Curtiss School students held a winter clothing and food drive for Neighbor to Neighbor, participated in Trick or Treat for UNICEF, held a Jump Rope for Heart event to benefit the American Heart Association and supported the Help Our Military Heroes organization to buy vans for wounded veterans. The Ambassadors Club welcomed new students, the Art Club created holiday cards for veterans, and the Service Club raised funds for an orphanage in Bogota, Colombia. Julian Curtiss School student representative Chihiro Nishihara is a compassionate and considerate volunteer, leading peers by example through her work on Student Council.

NEW LEBANON SCHOOL

New Lebanon School is a CHAMPS Connecticut Founding School, pioneering efforts in Connecticut to support training for land mine detecting dogs in worntorn countries. Students participated in Trick or Treat for UNICEF, honored local veterans, raised over \$4,000 in the Jump Rope for Heart event for the American Heart Association, and held a fundraiser for Pencils of Promise. The New Lebanon Student Council opened a school store to raise funds for Kids in Crisis. As a Student Council leader, New Lebanon School student representative Rubi Garcia spearheaded and/or participated in the school's service activities.

NORTH MIANUS SCHOOL

North Mianus School students participated in the school's annual Turkey Shoot Basketball Tournament, collecting food for Neighbor to Neighbor. They collected almost 700 pairs of gently worn shoes to donate to Soles for Souls, held a Veterans Day assembly and breakfast for local veterans, and continue to support CHAMPS land mine detecting dogs through walk-a-thons and other awareness and fundraising activities. North Mianus School student representatives James Chang and Carolyn Mullins are Student Council Co-Presidents and help to organize and participate in the school's community service activities.

NORTH STREET SCHOOL

North Street School students are currently planning their spring event — "Choose Love" — which encourages students to go above and beyond to commit acts of kindness. This year, students have collected pajamas for children in need, created holiday cards for the homeless, sang for veterans in the Veterans Day ceremony, and held a "Room to Read" fundraiser to support building schools and libraries. North Street School student representative Maggie Saleeby is passionate about helping those in need and is an active participant in "Mothers for Others," collecting clothes and baby equipment, and then distributing the donations to those in need.

OLD GREENWICH SCHOOL

Old Greenwich School students conduct three major food drives each year benefitting Neighbor to Neighbor. They have annually participated in Jump Rope for Heart events for twenty-two years, provided holiday cards for Meals on Wheels recipients, and honored veterans with an all school assembly. Students participate in School Spirit Days raising funds for the ASPCA, the Wolf Conservation Society and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Ambassador Program leaders host school tours for new families and greet students before and after school. Old Greenwich School student representative Sarah DesChamps is an active participant in school service activities.

PARKWAY SCHOOL

Parkway School is a U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School recognized for promising practices in environmental education. Parkway students participated in Operation Gratitude – writing letters to military personnel, conducted a fundraiser to support the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society that raised \$1,200, and read to Greenwich Head Start preschoolers as members of the Readers on the Road Book Club. A member of the Fifth Grade Leadership Team, Parkway School student representative Lindsay Geary embodies the giving spirit of her Parkway peers.

RIVERSIDE SCHOOL

Riverside School students conducted a stuffed animal/toy collection for the Smilow Cancer Center at Yale-New Haven Hospital, organized Valentines for Veterans, participated in a Pennies for Patients fundraiser, and held a food drive for Neighbor to Neighbor. Fifth grade students volunteer to help with lessons for children learning English at the Neighbors Link Community Center in Stamford and participate in the Riverside Rangers program, helping younger students in the school. Riverside School student representative Lacey Hartley is an active participant in school service projects and helps her family's organization – Harts4Jack – to support those in need.

MIDDLE SCHOOL AWARD RECIPIENTS

CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL: ANTEA PASA

Antea Pasa's teachers agree, "Antea's day to day outgoing attitude and her ongoing desire to help others make her more than deserving of this Community Service Award." As a member of Central Middle School's Student Council, Antea has been an active participant in school service projects. Earlier this year, Antea supported student council efforts in raising nearly \$2,000 in the fight against pediatric cancer. In preparation for Thanksgiving, Antea worked with her peers to organize a canned food drive to benefit our local food pantry, collecting over 3,000 non-perishable items for those in need. This winter, she worked collaboratively with other students to educate the school community about the need for warm clothing in the homeless shelters in Connecticut. Antea created advertisements and announcements to promote a coat and winter apparel drive, resulting in several large boxes of clothes to deliver to the Bridgeport Rescue Mission. Outside of school, Antea has volunteered with the Women's Rosary Society fundraisers and participated in walkathon fundraisers for Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA). In January, she attended a Leadership Conference in Hartford to learn techniques for becoming a stronger leader in her community. Antea stresses the importance of community service, "it's really important to care for others and not just yourself, because someone out there needs your help."

EASTERN MIDDLE SCHOOL: EMMA BURSTINER

"When I think of a student that exemplifies service for others, I immediately think of Emma Burstiner," said her Guidance Counselor, Emma has been involved in various community service projects at Eastern Middle School through her role on student council and through her Temple. She was treasurer of Eastern's Student Council, instrumental in planning school fundraisers to benefit Special Olympics, Neighbor to Neighbor, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, and Kids in Crisis. In addition to student council projects, Emma proposed and coordinated two service projects for the school. In seventh grade, Emma led a book drive resulting in a donation of over 1,000 books to benefit Light One Little Candle – a foundation "designed to encourage cancer patients to continue to bond with their children throughout their illness by reading books together that have nothing to do with cancer." As an eighth grader, Emma initiated a coat drive at Eastern for the Greenwich Housing Authority, collecting over 900 coats and winter apparel. Since she was seven years old, Emma has participated in Project Ezra at her Temple, serving meals to and socializing with the elderly. Emma shares that "it is important to participate in community service and volunteer because...it helps you learn a lot about yourself, while helping others."

WESTERN MIDDLE SCHOOL: SADIE KRIEGLER

Sadie Kriegler selflessly offers her extracurricular time to a number of charitable organizations with the aim of providing food and comfort to others. Twice weekly, the Western Middle School student volunteers for Neighbor to Neighbor, performing a number of tasks, including sorting through and shelving clothes, stocking the food pantry and preparing food bags for distribution for those in need. Sadie is an active volunteer at her Temple, participating at events such as Bingo Night, cooking and serving Thanksgiving meals, and one of her favorite service activities - Project Ezra. A regular event at her Temple, Project Ezra provides opportunities for congregants to serve food to and interact with the elderly on a personal level, bridging the generation gap. Sadie shares her enjoyment of service work, "it brings a smile to my face, just to see them smiling." The Western eighth-grader is involved in another local organization, preparing food for Kids in Crisis through her Temple, and is involved in the international B'nai B'rith Youth Organization (BBYO), where she hones her leadership skills. Sadie encourages everyone to volunteer, even in a small way, stating, "...take action and step up and say 'I'll do it!""

GREENWICH HIGH SCHOOL AWARD RECIPIENTS

BELLA HOUSE: MARY BYRNE

"Mary Byrne is an intelligent, dedicated, hard-working student and compassionate friend and mentor," said her guidance counselor. Mary is the Student Representative to the Education Committee of the Greenwich Historical Society. She was selected for this position based on her dedicated and long-standing service to the Bush Holley House and French Farm, including over 200 volunteer hours. The Curator of Education for the Historical Society said, "Mary was chosen (as student representative) because of her consistent high standards of service....her contributions (suggested youth engagement strategies) were well presented and will be included in our five year priority programming." Mary is a founding member of the Greenwich High School (GHS) Animation Studio exploring all aspects of the process from conceptual storyboarding to digital animation. She is a member of the teen youth group at her church and volunteers for numerous community service projects. Mary is a member of the National Honor Society, an AP Scholar with Distinction and a flutist with the GHS Concert and Marching Bands. On community service, Mary notes, "Just do one small thing for someone else... start by thinking about someone else. And then that thought becomes a word and that word becomes an action and that action becomes the community."

CANTOR HOUSE: DIANA JARAMILLO

"For Diana Jaramillo, community service is not just about filling the lines of a resume. She is one of the most compassionate and caring students I know and goes out of her way to help others," said her guidance counselor. Diana has spent countless hours volunteering for her church. She teaches religious education to first graders every week and is a member of the church youth group participating in myriad activities helping others. She has also been very active with the Greenwich Boys and Girls Club, volunteering weekly over two years as a "Greenwich Big" to mentor an elementary student on study skills. Since the start of her senior year, Diana has been tutoring and mentoring two Greenwich High School students. Her guidance counselor notes, "Diana's work with the girls has made a huge difference in the school experience for each student. She not only helped improve their grades, but also helped them adjust to and acclimate to the high school." Diana is also a member of the National and Spanish Honor Societies, an AVID student and Tutorial Tutor and a Peer Mediator. Diana suggests, "it's really important for young people especially to give back ... and try to make, it may sound corny, but try to make [the world] a better place."

CLARK HOUSE: CAITLYN LOVELY

"Caitlyn Lovely has always been a student with the utmost level of integrity, honesty, and diligence," said her guidance counselor. Caitlyn has been a member of the Girl Scouts of America for nine years, currently holding the highest rank of Ambassador. She assists younger scouts in earning their badges through service to the community and organizes scouting events and activities. According to her troop leader, Caitlyn goes "above and beyond her Girl Scout level, taking on other roles within the troop...she performs each task beautifully, and takes the initiative to get things done before I can even ask her." Caitlyn has volunteered with the Banksville Community House for the last four years, helping to organize and run Neighbor to Neighbor coat drives, turkey jamborees, egg hunts, and harvest fests. She is the Yearbook Editor, Co-President of the American Sign Language Club, and a member of the Greenwich High School Environmental Action Club and the National Honor Society. Caitlyn encourages acts of kindness, commenting that "community service is going out of your way and doing something that will help benefit others...it can be really fun. You are helping those around you that need it most, and it makes you happy knowing you helped."

FOLSOM HOUSE: EMMA JINNO

Emma Jinno's guidance counselor said, "A caring, dedicated and responsible young woman, Emma has demonstrated a year-round commitment to community service." Emma has been actively involved in community service since she was six years old, devoting time to beach cleanups at Tod's Point with the Greenwich Green & Clean organization. She has volunteered for this organization ever since that time and now serves as the Youth Representative on the Board. Emma provides community outreach for the beach cleanups and organizes major fund raising events to support efforts to maintain and beautify the public areas of Greenwich. She volunteers as an after school counselor at Glenville Child Care during the school year. Over the summer, she volunteers with the GPS Summer School program tutoring math students, and with the Town's Summer Music Camp assisting young musicians. Emma is an AP Scholar, a member of the National and Tri-M Honor Societies, a flutist in the GHS Wind Ensemble, and a member of the GHS Varsity Golf Team. On community service, Emma notes, "time is actually the most generous gift you can give, whether it's planting trees or being with students just to teach them math or whatever your community service commitments are. Just giving back actually means a lot to the students, to the parents, to the community as a whole."

SHELDON HOUSE: ALEXIS TATORE

"Alexis Tatore is going to be a world-changer and I doubt she will wait long to make that happen," said her guidance counselor. Alexis is engaged in the world around her on an exceptional level for her age. Locally, she has served her community as a tutor in the Hamilton Avenue School After School Homework Club for the last three years. She is a member of the GHS Student Government as Vice President for Special Events. Alexis serves the Town as a member of the First Selectman's Youth Council with responsibilities as Coordinator of Communications. During Congressman Jim Himes' 2014 campaign, Alexis volunteered with his campaign offices in Bridgeport. Last summer, she was an intern for the World Bank Group's Trade and Competitiveness global practice. For her work in local and state politics, Alexis was named the 2015 Youth of the Year by the Greenwich American Legion. Alexis is also President of the GHS Debate Team, President of Model U.N., Yearbook Editor-in-Chief, and an AP Scholar with Distinction. Alexis comments on community service, "what I care a lot about is development economics, lifting people out of poverty, giving people opportunities,... so, whether you're doing that on a local level, on a state level, even on an international level, I think once your heart is in it and you're very passionate about it, that's what community service is all about."

THE FLEISHMAN SERVICE AWARD

RECIPIENT: REBECCA POWELL

"Rebecca Powell demonstrates all of the qualities a leader in our global society needs: confidence, flexibility, creativity, and compassion," said the Greenwich High School (GHS) activities director. Her guidance counselor adds, "Becca eats, sleeps and breathes her desire for doing whatever she can to help others. She is the most caring person I know. She never questions a request for help, jumping to respond; there is no task too small or too trivial. She organizes events and activities, motivates others to participate, and helps to clean up after. She can just as adeptly lead an event or activity, as play a strong supporting role behind the scenes. Becca will be sorely missed at GHS next year!"

Rebecca has been recognized for her commitment to serving her community from a very young age, as evidenced by her receiving the GPS Community Service Award as a fifth grader at Old Greenwich School and as an eighth grader at Eastern Middle School. Rebecca currently serves as the Vice President of Community Service for Greenwich High School (GHS) Student Government. In this role, she organized and ran the GHS Blood Drive for two years among many other service projects in the school. Rebecca is the President of the GHS Cancer Awareness Club and is the Relay for Life Fundraiser Chair. She has also been a member of the Executive Board of the American Cancer Society as Entertainment Chair for the past three years. In these roles, she led the Relay for Life Team this year in raising \$155,000 to save lives from cancer.

Outside of school, Rebecca has made a long-standing commitment to serving others through her work at her temple. As part of the Hebrew Wizards program, she teaches Hebrew School classes to the youth at her temple. As part of a Hebrew Wizards Internship, Rebecca wrote curriculum for a portion of the program. In recognition of her teaching work, Rebecca received the Hebrew Wizards Dedication Award for her eleven-year commitment to the program, and the Hebrew Wizards Teen Teaching Award for excellence in teaching. According to her Rabbi, "Rebecca has the innate ability to attack even the hardest of tasks, from presenting at conferences to writing an entire curriculum. She is at the forefront of taking on adult responsibilities with ease. I have never met a more confident and proficient teen leader, role model or peer leader like Rebecca. She addresses our full congregation at High Holidays with such insightful words and poise that I struggle to remember that she is only seventeen years old."

Rebecca is also a member of the National and Tri-M Honor Societies, President of the Gender Equality Club, and a member of the JCC of Greenwich Teen Action Committee. Rebecca shares her thoughts on community service, "No matter how small or how big your idea, it's going to do something. You're going make an impact, even if you think...you're just one person who doesn't have a lot of power...every person, every single person, has a lot of power in making change in this world and it's that mentality that we need to make sure that we keep."

Greenwich Public Schools Safe School Climate District Norms



Be Here
Be Safe
Be Honest
Care for Self and Others
Let Go and Move On

The Greenwich Public Schools is committed to complying with federal, state and local equal opportunity and non-discrimination laws that prohibit that school district from making any employment decision, excluding any person from any of its educational programs or activities, or denying any person the benefits of any of its educational programs or activities, on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or genetic information, ancestry, age, religion, sexual orientation, marital status, economic status or any other basis prohibited by applicable law, except in the case of a bona fide occupational qualification and/or subject to conditions and limitations established by law. Inquiries regarding the Greenwich Public Schools' nondiscrimination policies should be directed to the Director of Human Resources, Greenwich Public Schools, 290 Greenwich Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830.

VISION OF THE GRADUATE

The Greenwich Public Schools are committed to preparing students to function effectively in an interdependent global community. Therefore, in addition to acquiring a core body of knowledge — which is established in local curricular documents reflecting national and state standards as well as workplace expectations — all students will develop their individual capacities to:

Academic Capacities

- Master a core body of knowledge
- Pose and pursue substantive questions
- Critically interpret, evaluate, and synthesize information
- Explore, define, and solve complex problems
- Generate innovative, creative ideas and products

Personal Capacities

- Be responsible for their own mental and physical health
- Conduct themselves in an ethical and responsible manner
- Recognize and respect other cultural contexts and points of view
- Pursue their unique interests, passions and curiosities
- Respond to failures and successes with reflection and resilience

Interpersonal Capacities

- Communicate effectively for a given purpose
- Advocate for ideas, causes, and actions
- Collaborate with others to produce a unified work and/or heightened understanding
- Contribute to community through dialogue, service, and/ or leadership