Two at the Top: Hen Hud’s 2021
Valedictorian Madison Kivel and
Salutatorian Indrani Malhotra

During the commencement ceremony for the Class of 2021, both Valedictorian Madison Kivel and Salutatorian Indrani Malhotra reflected on the challenges of the past year in their addresses. However, they placed a much greater emphasis on all of the positive experiences they’ve enjoyed as they both progressed through the Hendrick Hudson School District since entering as kindergarteners.

Madison spoke about being very shy when she first stepped into a classroom at Furnace Woods, but that with the encouragement of her teachers, she began to grow out of her shell. Moving on to middle and high school, her friends, teachers, family members and experiences “morphed me into who I am today. I am no longer the quiet little girl in the corner of the show and tell group, but I am now the proud young woman standing before all of you today, as we celebrate the growth and change of this group as a whole.”

A lifelong animal lover, Madison will head to Cornell this fall, where she will study animal science, on the pre-veterinary track. She hopes to ultimately attend veterinary school at Cornell as well.

During her years at Hendrick Hudson High School, Madison was a member of the National Honor Society, Math Honor Society and Hispanic Honor Society and was involved in numerous clubs and school organizations, including the SEED Fundraising Club, Green Team Conservation Club, The Anchor (school newspaper) and HOSA (Health Occupation Students of America). She was also a member of the school’s varsity ski team.

Indrani will attend Boston University in September, where she hopes to double major in International Relations and Environmental Analysis and Policy. She is considering a future career in an environmental advocacy or diplomacy-related field.

She, too, described being a shy student upon entering kindergarten and said that Hen Hud’s nurturing, supportive atmosphere was something that enabled her to make friends, thrive academically and ultimately discover her passions, such as theater and the environment.

“The network of encouragement I have found with friends, teachers and the entirety of Hendrick Hudson has allowed me to learn and grow each and every day, and I feel has truly prepared me for the future,” she said.

Indrani was involved in many extracurricular clubs and activities during her time at Hendrick Hudson High School,
Hendrick Hudson’s 2021 Retirees

At the June 16 Board of Education meeting, the annual retiree celebration took place virtually. As always, it was bittersweet, as administrators shared insights about the retirees and the retirees themselves shared what they will miss the most about Hen Hud in a slideshow. We wish all of them the very best as they embark on this new phase of their lives!

THE 2021 RETIREES ARE:

- **Zainab Akbar**  
  Teacher Aide, FWS
- **Mark Bjornson**  
  Mathematics Teacher, BMMS
- **Sandra Cotic**  
  Chauffeur
- **Heather Gillis**  
  Elementary Teacher, FWS
- **Thomas Keesler**  
  Chauffeur
- **Donna Miller**  
  Elementary Teacher, BMMS
- **Denise Rose**  
  Teaching Assistant, FWS
- **William Small**  
  Chauffeur
- **Brian Sullivan**  
  Custodian/Bus Driver
- **Allen Templeton**  
  Head Custodian, FWS
- **Jill Wheeler**  
  Administrative Assistant, HHHS

Two at the Top: Hen Hud’s 2021 Valedictorian Madison Kivel and Salutatorian Indrani Malhotra

Continued from page 1

including the Drama Club, The Anchor, Class of 2021 Club and Destination Imagination. She was also a member of the school’s ski team.

In addition to excelling in the classroom, both Madison and Indrani have continually been active in the community, giving their time to a variety of organizations and causes. Madison has spent time volunteering with Guiding Eyes for the Blind and Recycled Paws, tutored students in mathematics and participated in Midnight Run. Indrani was a member of the Hendrick Hudson Leos (the junior chapter of the Cortlandt Lions Club) and served as a volunteer at Sky Blue Stables, working with special needs teenagers in the organization’s therapeutic riding program.

As they look ahead to life after Hen Hud, the reality of what they experienced during this unprecedented, final year in the district is something both say they will take with them.

“The pandemic truly has shaped each and every one of us in a unique way,” said Madison. “As we are finally nearing the end, I am relieved, but thankful that I was given this time, for it gave me the opportunity to experience things I never thought I would in my life, and to see how incredibly well the community was able to come together to support each other as we faced this major obstacle.”

“If the past year has taught us anything, it’s that life can change in an instant,” said Indrani. “To both my fellow graduates and underclassmen, I would say to make the best of every moment, take advantage of every opportunity, and do the things that make you happy, in high school, college and beyond, because you never know what life might throw at you next.”

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How to Find Us

**On the Web:**  
[www.henhudschools.org](http://www.henhudschools.org)

**On Twitter:**  
@HenHudSupt

**On Facebook:**  
Hendrick Hudson School District

**In the News:**  
*Daily Voice, LoHud, The Examiner, The Gazette, Patch*
Hendrick Hudson HS Graduates: Where Are They Heading?

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2021 Commencement Photo Gallery
2020-21 Hen Hud Athletic Highlights

- 101 Student-athletes achieved All-League status
- 32 Student-athletes achieved All-Section status
- 11 Track and Field athletes were Class B Section One Champions
- Girls Lacrosse was the Section One Class C Champion
- Girls Cross Country was the Putnam Northern Westchester Section One Champion
- Cheerleading was the Putnam Northern Westchester Section One Champion
- 27 varsity teams were recognized by New York State as Scholar-Athlete teams
- Two Con Edison Award winners in the Class of 2021 (Isolde McManus and Zoe Rose)
- 19 members of the Class of 2021 will be playing a college sport
- 7 teams won League Championships:
  - Girls Cross Country
  - Boys Basketball
  - Girls Indoor Track
  - Boys Indoor Track
  - Girls Outdoor Track
  - Boys Tennis
  - Girls Lacrosse
Hendrick Hudson High School Senior Awards 2021

Megan Abatemarco
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence
High Honor Roll 13 Times
Scholar Athlete Award

Adam Acevedo
High Honor Roll 13 Times

Diana Alvarez
Honor Roll 13 Times
Irwin J. Mayer Memorial Award

Robert Arellano
Sailor Pride Award
Stockton University, Tuition Scholarship, Stockton Scholarship

Chanse Artope
Clara Montague Memorial Football Scholarship
Parent Teacher Student Association Academic Excellence in Business/Computer Award
Student Advocacy-Overcoming the Odds Award
Tom Bertoline Memorial Award

Nataly Aucapina
ELL Outstanding Tutor Award

Surya Baskaran
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence
Athletic Department Leadership Award
High Honor Roll 13 Times
Scholar Athlete Award

Kerann Belvu
Athletic Department Award
Varsity Club Award

Jeffrey Bernstein
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence
Buchanan-Verplanck Elementary School PTA Alumni Scholarship
Hendrick Hudson High School English Award
Hendrick Hudson Lions Club Sarah F. Donovan Scholarship
High Honor Roll 13 Times
Irwin J. Mayer Memorial Award
New York State Comptroller Achievement Award
Parent Teacher Student Association Dedication to French Award
Syracuse University, Dean's Scholarship

Jessica Bleakley
Hendrick Hudson Athletic Department Dedication Award

Nicholas Bleakley
Hendrick Hudson SEPTA Scholarship
New York State Attorney General Barbara Underwood Triple “C” Award

Betsabe Bonilla Farfan
CSEA Unit 9162 Scholarship Award
Honor Roll 13 Times
Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce Vocational Scholarship

Taylor Breeding
Hendrick Hudson Athletic Department Dedication Award
Honor Roll 13 Times
University of Rhode Island, Presidential Scholarship

Peter Burke
Siena College, Siena Presidential Scholarship, St. Francis Scholarship

Shannon Burke
Honor Roll 13 Times
Sailor Pride Award
University of Massachusetts Amherst, Chancellor's Award

Donovan Burns
Honor Roll 13 Times
Sailor Pride Award

Eoin Clarke
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence

Rowan Conners
Arizona State University, Dean's Scholarship
Hendrick Hudson French Honor Society Award

Christopher Connolly
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence
Frank G. Lindsey PTA Alumni Scholarship
Honor Roll 13 Times
Irwin J. Mayer Memorial Award
Parent Teacher Student Association Community Spirit Award
Union College, Presidential Scholarship

Jessie Corbett
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence
Honor Roll 13 Times

Continued on page 8
Ryan Coulson  
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence  
Honor Roll 13 Times  

Alexis Crawford  
Parent Teacher Student Association Graduation Award  

Cameron Curley  
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence  
Honor Roll 13 Times  

James DeFilippis  
Honor Roll 13 Times  
Irwin J. Mayer Participation Award  

Amanda Desharnais  
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence  
Hendrick Hudson Educational Secretaries Association Scholarship  
Hendrick Hudson Hispanic Honor Society Award  
High Honor Roll 13 Times  
Seal of Biliteracy, Spanish  
Woman's Club of Peekskill-Cortlandt Award  

Madeline Donnelly  
Frank G. Lindsey PTA Alumni Scholarship  
High Honor Roll 13 Times  
Richard Albert Family Foundation Scholarship  

Alexander Dyer  
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence  
Hendrick Hudson French Honor Society Award  
Honor Roll 13 Times  

Eliza Falk  
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence  
Ema S. K. Price Music Award  
HHCEF Scholarship Award  
High Honor Roll 13 Times  
Parent Teacher Student Association Choral Award  
Performing Arts Award  

Molly Gibson  
American Association of University Women Outstanding Student Award  
Athletic Department Award  
Hendrick Hudson Education Association Scholarship  
Honor Roll 13 Times  
Parent Teacher Student Association Dedication to English Award  
Parents Committee on Music and Arts Scholarship - Music  
Seal of Biliteracy, Spanish  

Joshua Gillison  
Hendrick Hudson Athletic Department Dedication Award  
Manhattanville College, Provost's Scholarship  

Frank Godino  
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence  
Hendrick Hudson Hall of Fame Scholarship  
HHCEF Scholarship Award  
Physical Education Award  
Principal's Award  
Vincent Verdeschi Memorial Award  

Eitan Goldman  
High Honor Roll 13 Times  
Parent Teacher Student Association Academic Excellence in the Study of French Award  

Nancy Gough  
Honor Roll 13 Times  

Thomas Hamm  
Honor Roll 13 Times  
Rochester Institute of Technology, RIT Presidential Scholarship  

Katelyn Hartigan  
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence  
High Honor Roll 13 Times  
New York State Comptroller Achievement Award  

Nicholas Hiltsley  
Frank G. Lindsey PTA Alumni Scholarship  
Honor Roll 13 Times  
Parent Teacher Student Association Dedication to Business Award  
Rotary Athlete of the Year  

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Hendrick Hudson High School Senior Awards 2021

Continued from page 8

Ryan Hunt
Lasell University, Lasell University Award
Parent Teacher Student Association Graduation Award

Maxim Iodice
The Christine “Chris” Guadagno Scholarship

Kami Johannsen
Honor Roll 13 Times
Parent Teacher Student Association Academic Excellence in Social Studies Award

Avery Johnsen
Parent Teacher Student Association Dedication to Art Award

Sophia Justo
Honor Roll 13 Times

Jack Kapfer
Hendrick Hudson Athletic Department Dedication Award

Madison Kivel
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence
Cortlandt Community Volunteer Ambulance Corps Kathy Stewart Scholarship
High Honor Roll 13 Times
HOSA Healthcare-related Award
Parent Teacher Student Association Academic Excellence in Math Award
Parent Teacher Student Association Award to the Valedictorian
Peekskill Rotary Club Outstanding Student

Kamryn LaRocque
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence
Cortlandt Engine Company #1 Ladies Auxiliary Award
High Honor Roll 13 Times
This Is Me Scholarship

Daniela Lastras-Castrejon
Hendrick Hudson French Honor Society Award
High Honor Roll 13 Times
Parent Teacher Student Association Academic Excellence in Science Award
Scholar Athlete Award
SUNY Albany Science Research Certificate of Recognition

Michael Lee
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence
Athletic Department Service Award
Hendrick Hudson French Honor Society Award
Honor Roll 13 Times
Patriotic Service Community Award

Jakob Lentino
Douglas Mowbray Art Award
Honor Roll 13 Times
Vincent Verdeschi Memorial Award

Noah Lipton
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence
Honor Roll 13 Times

Michael Mahoney
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence
Honor Roll 13 Times

Victoria Malaspina
Frank G. Lindsey PTA Alumni Scholarship
Parent Teacher Student Association Dedication to Italian Award
Seal of Biliteracy, Italian
Sunshine Faculty Award

Indrani Malhotra
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence
High Honor Roll 13 Times
Parent Teacher Student Association Award to the Salutatorian
Peekskill Rotary Club Outstanding Student

Sarah Mandelkow
Athletic Department Award
High Honor Roll 13 Times
Parent Teacher Student Association Tech Center Award
Scholar Athlete Award

Alyssa Margiotta
Let It Shine Scholarship
Parent Teacher Student Association Dedication to Social Studies Award
This Is Me Scholarship

Continued on page 10
Matthew Mason
Buchanan Senior Citizens Scholarship Award
Culinary Institute of America, CIA Excellence Award, CIA
Recognition Award, CIA Early Application Award
Honor Roll 13 Times
Parent Teacher Student Association Orchestra Award

Margaret McCluskey
Buchanan Engine Company Annual Scholarship
Honor Roll 13 Times

Joshua McCord
Parent Teacher Student Association ESL Award

Elizabeth McDowell
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence
C.V. Starr Scholarship
Furnace Woods Elementary School PTA Alumni Scholarship
Hendrick Hudson SEPTA Scholarship #2
High Honor Roll 13 Times
Northeastern University, Dean's Scholarship
Physical Education Award
Principal's Award
Robert J. Hill Memorial Scholarship Award
Sailor Pride Award
Scholar Athlete Award
This Is Me Scholarship

Fiona McGovern
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence
Buchanan-Verplanck Elementary School PTA Alumni Scholarship
Hendrick Hudson Hispanic Honor Society Award
Hendrick Hudson Lions Club Sarah F. Donovan Scholarship
High Honor Roll 13 Times
Margaret McCorry Memorial Scholarship
Scholar Athlete Award
Seal of Biliteracy, Spanish
Thomas L. Fedele Dedication to Success Award
Tom Bertoline Memorial Award

Isolde McManus
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence
Athletic Department Leadership Award
Brown University, NROTC Scholarship
Con Edison Scholar Athlete
High Honor Roll 13 Times
Parent Teacher Student Association Academic Excellence in English Award
Scholar Athlete Award
William Stern Post #70 Jewish War Veterans of U.S.

Ayslynn Merando
Student Advocacy - Overcoming the Odds Award
This Is Me Scholarship

Kaitlin Merna
Judith C. Armisto Scholarship

Katherine Mora
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence
Math Honor Society Senior Award
Parent Teacher Student Association Band Award

Grace Moretti
Ed Carter Memorial Award
Hendrick Hudson Hall of Fame Scholarship
Henry Bethea Perseverance Award
Honor Roll 13 Times

Shayne Naley
Honor Roll 13 Times

Nhat-Dinh Nguyen
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence
Hendrick Hudson Hispanic Honor Society Award
Vincent Verdeschi Memorial Award

Stephanie Nogueira
Parent Teacher Student Association Art Academic Excellence Award

Vincent O'Connor
CSEA Unit 9162 Scholarship Award

Madison O'Hara
High Honor Roll 13 Times
Irwin J. Mayer Memorial Award
The University of Tampa, UT Merit Scholarship

Continued on page 11
Luke O’Neill
2021 President’s Award for Educational Excellence

Aidan O’Sullivan
Henry Bethea Perseverance Award

Olivia Pace
2021 President’s Award for Educational Excellence
Honor Roll 13 Times
Patriotic Service Community Award

Isabelle Paul
Hendrick Hudson High School 3D Art Award
Parent Teacher Student Association Band Award
Parents Committee on Music and Arts Scholarship - Art

Olivia Paul
Hendrick Hudson High School Digital Media Class Award

Nicole Pearson
High Honor Roll 13 Times

Parker Piccolo Hill
2021 President’s Award for Educational Excellence
Frank G. Lindsey PTA Alumni Scholarship
Hendrick Hudson Italian Honor Society Award
High Honor Roll 13 Times
Seal of Biliteracy, Italian

Claire Popolizio
Irwin J. Mayer Participation Award
University of Rhode Island, University Scholarship

Maria Porokhina
2021 President’s Award for Educational Excellence
Cheryl R. Lindenbaum Memorial Award
High Honor Roll 13 Times
Michael “Big Mike” Sellazzo Scholarship

Maya Ramirez
Marist College, Marist College Scholarship

Jeremy Rench
Athletic Department Award
Honor Roll 13 Times

Zoe Rose
2021 President’s Award for Educational Excellence
Con Edison Scholar Athlete
High Honor Roll 13 Times
Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce Academic Scholarship
Marcia Bailey Scholarship
Parent Teacher Student Association Award to the 3rd Ranking Senior
Scholar Athlete Award
Seal of Biliteracy, Spanish
Vincent Verdeschi Memorial Award

Vanessa Rossi
2021 President’s Award for Educational Excellence
Hendrick Hudson Italian Honor Society Award
High Honor Roll 13 Times
Parent Teacher Student Association Dedication to Math Award
Scholar Athlete Award
The Malcolm A. Bump Award for Excellence in Debate

Ava Ruggiero
Honor Roll 13 Times

Victoria Scruse
Cortlandt Engine Company #1 Ladies Auxiliary Award
High Honor Roll 13 Times
Seal of Biliteracy, French
The University of Scranton, Arrupe Scholarship

Alexandra Simonetti
2021 President’s Award for Educational Excellence
University of Delaware, UD Presidential Scholarship

Alessandra Smith
2021 President’s Award for Educational Excellence
American Association of University Women Excellence in Writing Award
Parent Teacher Student Association Orchestra Award

Sara Michelle Soto
Honor Roll 13 Times
Parent Teacher Student Association Dedication to Spanish Award

Olivia Spitz
High Honor Roll 13 Times

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Hendrick Hudson High School Senior Awards 2021

Continued from page 11

Hannah Stout
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence
Diane Tangen Scholarship Award
Parent Teacher Student Association Dedication to Science Award

Olivia Taylor
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence
Athletic Department Service Award
Hendrick Hudson High School Historical Award
Hendrick Hudson Italian Honor Society Award
High Honor Roll 13 Times
Parent Teacher Student Association Choral Award
Performing Arts Award
Scholar Athlete Award
Seal of Biliteracy, Italian

Ryan Travis
Richard DiTomasso Memorial Football Award
Wilkes University, Provost Scholarship, Out of State Award

Michael Vaccaro
Honor Roll 13 Times

Kira Varada
Rotary Athlete of the Year

Angie Vasquez
Parent Teacher Student Association Academic Excellence in the Study of Spanish Award
Seal of Biliteracy, Spanish

Rafe Wilkinson
2021 President's Award for Educational Excellence
High Honor Roll 13 Times

Evelyn Zhinin
Parent Teacher Student Association Graduation Award

Jessica Zhinin
ELL Outstanding Tutor Award
Furnace Woods Elementary School PTA Alumni Scholarship
Parent Teacher Student Association Academic Excellence in the Study of Italian Award
Seal of Biliteracy, Italian

Matthew Zoller
Alfred University, Jonathan Allen Scholarship
Parent Teacher Student Association Graduation Award
Blue Mountain Middle School Awards

- All Are for 8th Grade -

YEARBOOK COVER AWARD
Winner: Raine Parker
Runners Up: Kiely Morley, Magda Przybyłowska, Lux Pyzyna, Catherine Wright

8TH GRADE NYSSMA PARTICIPANTS
Greta Arnold, piano
Ember Bates, flute
Simon Eichenholtz, bassoon
Alec Elkin, voice
Sophia Jimdar, violin
Kelly Krupa, viola
Paulina Lastras-Castrejon, clarinet and voice
Nava Minichino, voice
Raine Parker, piano, voice
Monica Rocha, flute
Gabriel Sotomayor, piano

HIGH HONOR ROLL - ALL THREE YEARS
Rhylee Adviento
Ashley Azzaro
Ember Bates
Angelina Conticello
Simon Eichenholtz
Alec Elkin
Nathan Freedman
Gianna Gagliardi
Gianni Gomez
Oakley Gougelmann
Cameron Haynes
Bryan Heindl
Michelle Holness
Jewel Jiang
Sophia Jimdar
Kelly Krupa
Paulina Lastras-Castrejon
Connor Leach
Catalina Litos
Lucy Mager
Carmen Marino
Zachary Massy
Aidan Mazzoni
Kiara Mendez
Paige Montgomery
Kiely Morley
Raine Parker
Dean Pastolove
Lena Pfeiffer
Magda Przybyłowska
Marin Quigley
Bryan Rafferty
Kaitlyn Raguso
Nicholas Rinaldi
Monica Rocha
Sean Ryan
Alexander Soltowski
Sebastian Sotom
Gabriel Sotomayor
Sydney Willkehr
Catherine Wright
It was a tumultuous year, but everything went like clockwork in the end. On a warm, sunny evening on June 24, to enthusiastic cheers and applause from family and friends, the 196 members of the Hendrick Hudson High School Class of 2021 crossed the stage on the new turf field to receive their diplomas, officially capping their high school careers.

Following the processional to “Pomp and Circumstance” and welcome remarks by Assistant Principal Anthony Giovinaazzi, senior members of the high school’s Treble Makers sang the national anthem. The graduating seniors took their seats in the bleachers, while family members looked on from socially distanced seating on the field.

“Although their years at Hendrick Hudson were interrupted by a global pandemic, all of our candidates for graduation have shown tremendous grit and have made it to this point despite the significant challenges they have faced,” said Principal James Mackin in his opening address. “I know I speak for your families and the entire staff when I say how very proud we are of each and every one of you.”

He stressed the importance of making the most of the time we are given, encouraging the students to “be positive, work hard and challenge yourself to achieve the greatness you are all capable of. Spend your time pursuing your dreams and enjoying your life, never settling for anything less.”

The class of 2021 is “full of drive, passion and spirit,” said Valedictorian Indrani Malhotra. “Our entire lives are ahead of us. And we’re ready for it.”

In her remarks, Valedictorian Madison Kivel encouraged her classmates to live in the present. “Don’t rush time. Don’t wish that a moment would speed up, or even waste time wishing it would slow down. Live in the moment. Take it all in, because for the past four years, we have all been waiting for this exact moment.”

Superintendent Joseph Hochreiter reflected on the past school year, both the challenges and the opportunities, and praised the students for their resilience. “You overcome social distancing and quarantines; navigated family matters and friendships remotely; and learned while you were alone and when you were together, even at six feet apart.”

Board of Education president Carol Abraham praised the students and reminded them of their own strength. “Congratulations on persevering through all of the obstacles placed in front of you, not just the past two years, but throughout your schooling. You are Sailors. We know you’ll do great things.”

**The 2021 graduates, in alphabetical order:**

The mission of the Hendrick Hudson School District, a dynamic, innovative, and supportive educational community, is to ensure each student is an engaged, passionate learner who achieves his or her maximum potential and contributes to society. This is accomplished in a system characterized by:

- A culture of the highest expectations for all;
- A rigorous, articulated curriculum;
- Diverse, effective instructional strategies and resources;
- An educational environment that is challenging, creative, exploratory, accessible, and nurturing; and
- A fully engaged, supportive community.