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## Student and Staff Achievements

### January 2020

#### El Quijote Award

The Hispanic Parade Organization recently recognized **Westhill High School Paraeducator Lucas Romero** with the El Quijote award for his commitment and dedication to the Hispanic community. Each year, in conjunction with Hispanic Heritage Month, the organization recognizes outstanding community leaders in the New York Metropolitan area. Lucas was one of only three honored from Connecticut and among only 21 leaders in all to receive the 2019 El Quijote award.

#### Altice USA 2019 Hispanic Heritage Month Essay Contest

**Academy of Information Technology & Engineering (AITE) Junior Carlee Reid** took first place and a \$1,500 scholarship in the Altice USA Hispanic Heritage Month Essay Contest. In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, Altice USA invited middle and high school students to submit essays that responded to the prompt: "Name a Latino, past or present, who has inspired you to dream big." Reid's winning essay "The Music of Manzanero," described how the music of the Mexican musician, singer and composer, Armando Manzanero, inspired her. Carlee is the only high school student from Connecticut to be recognized this year.

#### SERC 2019 Parental Involvement Recognition Award

The State Education Resource Center (SERC), in collaboration with the Commission on Women, Children, and Seniors, awarded two Stamford Public Schools parents, **Regan Allan** and **Yadira Esquivel**, with the 2019 Parental Involvement Recognition Award. Regan and Yadira were among only 11 Connecticut residents to be honored recently at a ceremony at the State Capitol. The award recognizes parent contributions to schools and communities across the state, specifically for support of, ability to make a difference in, and dedication and advocacy to ensure equity for all in their local schools. The Stamford Public Education Foundation (SPEF) nominated Regan, whose children currently attend **Dolan Middle School** and the **Academy of Information Technology & Engineering**. The Exchange Club Parenting Skills Center nominated Yadira, who has a child attending **Toquam Elementary School**.

#### Student Thanksgiving Food Drive

**Roxbury Fifth Grader Brandyn Boone** and **K.T. Murphy Fifth Grader Kingston Hurse** helped to organize a successful Thanksgiving food drive that provided complete Thanksgiving meals to 30 Stamford Public Schools' families. The students collected food donations from family and friends, sorted and packed the donations. The students worked closely with School Social Workers Sarah Arnold at Roxbury and Mariana Houser at K.T. Murphy to distribute the food to families in need at their schools. Any additional food was donated to Domus.

## **Athletic Achievements**

Stamford Public Schools has many high-performing individual athletes, teams and coaches. In the fall of 2019, the following coach and student athletes were honored at the regional level for both academics and sports or at the state level for exceptional sports achievements.

### **Girls Cross Country**

- **Sydney Eben (WHS):** FCIAC Scholar-Athlete
- **Carlee Reid (SHS):** FCIAC Scholar-Athlete

### **Boys Cross Country**

- **James DeBeradinis (SHS):** FCIAC Scholar-Athlete
- **Andrew Fang (WHS):** FCIAC Scholar-Athlete
- **Colin McLaughlin (WHS):** All-FCIAC, All-State

### **Field Hockey**

- **Abby Wexler (SHS):** FCIAC Exemplary Scholar-Athlete
- **Keely Fay (SHS):** FCIAC Scholar-Athlete
- **Anna Martelli (WHS):** FCIAC Scholar-Athlete

### **Football**

- **Tyriq DeVeaux (SHS):** All-FCIAC 1st team
- **Jack Engel (WHS):** All-FCIAC 1st team
- **John Liberatore (WHS):** FCIAC Scholar-Athlete
- **Aidan Nestor (SHS):** FCIAC Scholar-Athlete
- **Danny Simms (SHS):** All-FCIAC 1st team

### **Girls Soccer**

- **Lia Chichester (SHS):** FCIAC Scholar-Athlete
- **Niamh Keogh (WHS):** FCIAC Scholar-Athlete

### **Boys Soccer**

- **Gabriel Henry (WHS):** FCIAC Scholar-Athlete
- **Kenly Lalanne (SHS):** All-FCIAC 1st team, All-State
- **Zach Tusa (SHS):** FCIAC Scholar-Athlete

### **Swimming and Diving**

- **Abigail Desyr (WHS):** FCIAC Exemplary Scholar-Athlete, All-FCIAC, All-State.
- **Divya Gada (WHS):** FCIAC Scholar-Athlete
- **Maya Watson (SHS):** FCIAC Scholar-Athlete

### **Girls Volleyball**

- **Coach Marianna Linnehan (WHS):** FCIAC Coach of the Year
- **Liani Mercado (SHS):** FCIAC Exemplary Scholar-Athlete
- **Betsy Sachs (WHS):** FCIAC Exemplary Scholar-Athlete, All-FCIAC, All-State
- **Tamar Belle (WHS):** FCIAC Scholar-Athlete
- **Jenna Migliaccio (SHS):** FCIAC Scholar-Athlete
- **Sophia Thagouras (WHS):** All-FCIAC, All-State

## **Teen Visions Art Awards**

Jerry's Artarama hosted the Teen Visions Student Art Exhibit at Silvermine Art Center in early November. Students from all three high schools had an opportunity to display their work. The following students earned prizes for their works of art:

### **Stamford High School**

- **Leah Swan:** Best in Show, Graphite Pencil
- **Ivana Nique:** 2nd place, Pottery
- **Richard Verbanic:** 1st place, Digital Photography
- **Diana Warzononkiewicz:** 2nd place, Colored Pencil

### **Academy of Information Technology & Engineering**

- **Nataliia Shcherbakova:** 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Digital Black and White Photography
- **Nathan Yao:** 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Illustration

### **Westhill High School**

- **Anissa Askew:** 1<sup>st</sup> place, Charcoal
- **Faith Decamillo:** 1<sup>st</sup> place, Photography
- **Ashley Echegaray:** 1<sup>st</sup> place, Charcoal
- **Jacqueline Garcia and Yeison Vasquez:** 1<sup>st</sup> place, Sculpture
- **Kary-Ann McDowell:** 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Pen and Ink
- **Angela Ramirez:** 1<sup>st</sup> place, Charcoal
- **Sophie Wint:** 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Photography