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2020-21 Parent Newsletter #5

Happy New Year!!!

Have you ever wondered about the New Year's Eve ball drop that happens every year in our very own backyard in Times Square??? If so, see below...

HISTORY OF THE NEW YEAR'S EVE BALL

Revelers began celebrating New Year's Eve in Times Square as early as 1904, but it was in 1907 that the New Year's Eve Ball made its maiden descent from the flagpole atop One Times Square. Seven versions of the Ball have been designed to signal the New Year.

The first New Year's Eve Ball, made of iron and wood and adorned with one hundred 25-watt light bulbs, was 5 feet in diameter and weighed 700 pounds. It was built by a young immigrant metalworker named Jacob Starr, and for most of the twentieth century the company he founded, sign maker Artkraft Strauss, was responsible for lowering the Ball.



As part of the 1907-1908 festivities, waiters in the fabled "lobster palaces" and other deluxe eateries in hotels surrounding Times Square were supplied with battery-powered top hats emblazoned with the numbers "1908" fashioned of tiny light bulbs. At the stroke of midnight, they all "flipped their lids" and the year on their foreheads lit up in conjunction with the numbers "1908" on the parapet of the Times Tower lighting up to signal the arrival of the new year. The Ball has been lowered every year since 1907, with the exceptions of 1942 and 1943, when the ceremony was suspended due to the wartime "dimout" of lights in New York City. Nevertheless, the crowds still gathered in Times Square in those years and greeted the New Year with a minute of silence followed by the ringing of chimes from sound trucks parked at the base of the tower—a harkening-back to the earlier celebrations at Trinity Church, where crowds would gather to "ring out the old, ring in the new."

In 1920, a 400 pound Ball made entirely of wrought iron replaced the original. In 1955, the iron Ball was replaced with an aluminum Ball weighing a mere 150 pounds. This aluminum Ball remained unchanged until the 1980s, when red light bulbs and the addition of a green stem converted the Ball into an apple for the "I Love New York" marketing campaign from 1981 until 1988. After seven years, the traditional glowing white Ball with white light bulbs and without the green stem returned to brightly light the sky above Times Square. In 1995, the Ball was upgraded with aluminum skin, rhinestones, strobes, and computer controls, but the aluminum Ball was lowered for the last time in 1998.

For Times Square 2000, the millennium celebration at the Crossroads of the World, the New Year's Eve Ball was completely redesigned by Waterford Crystal and Philips Lighting. The crystal Ball combined the latest in lighting technology with the most traditional of materials, reminding us of our past as we gazed into the future and the beginning of a new millennium.

In 2007, for the 100th anniversary of the Times Square Ball Drop tradition, Waterford Crystal and Philips Lighting crafted a spectacular new LED crystal Ball. The incandescent and halogen bulbs of the past century were replaced by stateof-the-art Philips Luxeon LED lighting technology that dramatically increased the brightness and color capabilities of the Ball.

The beauty and energy efficiency of the Centennial Ball inspired the building owners of One Times Square to build the permanent Big Ball weighing nearly six tons and twelve feet in diameter. The 2,688 Waterford Crystal triangles are illuminated by 32,256 Philips Luxeon LEDs. This Big Times Square New Year's Eve Ball is now a year-round attraction sparkling above Times Square in full public view January through December.





PARENT COORDINATOR CONNECTIONS

From the Desk of the Parent Coordinator Ms. Bernabel ABernabel@schools.nyc.gov Tel #646-265-5169

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Announcements

- Our next PTA meeting will take place at 5 pm on Monday, January 4th. We will email a Zoom invite to parents.
- The 3rd marking period ends on Monday, January 25th. Report cards will be available via Pupilpath and will via parent/student Myschools DOE accounts. Please have your child check their progress on Pupilpath and check in with their teachers regarding any concerns about grades prior to the end of the marking period.
- Honor Society Induction Ceremony will take place on January 22nd (Friday) after school. Zoom invitation will be emailed to the school community as we get closer to that date.
- There is no school on Monday, January 18th, in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.
- If your child received an NX as a grade during the spring or summer semesters she/he has until January 31st to make up the work in order to receive the credit. It is imperative that all students with a previous NX grade make up the work as soon as possible. The opportunity to make up the work will not exist after January and the class may be required for any waived state exams the state may offer in the future.
- As you all may have heard by now, the Mayor and Chancellor have announced that all learning will be done remotely until further notice. All students must log onto classes synchronously during the period the lesson takes place.
- While we are currently on remote learning, we must still prepare for when we open up our building to 5 day in-person learning. The following is a mandate from the Chancellor regarding covid 19 testing in preparation for students to return to school:

Weekly Testing: All schools will have 20% of students and staff randomly tested on a weekly basis.

Student Consent: All students in grades 1 and higher are required to provide consent for testing by their first scheduled in-person learning day. Families can submit consent using NYCSA or the updated <u>paper form</u> found at the end of this section. Students who do not submit consent will be transitioned to remote only learning.



NYC DOE CONSENT FORM FOR COVID-19 TESTING

What is this form?

We are seeking your consent to test you for COVID-19 infection. The New York City Department of Education (NYC DOE), working with NYC Health + Hospitals and the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, has partnered with laboratories and other providers to test NYC DOE students, teachers, and other staff members for COVID-19 infection.

How often would you test me?

We are arranging for our laboratory and provider testing partners to come to every school at least once a month to test some of the students and staff. If you consent, you may be selected for testing on one or more of these occasions. In addition, you may also be tested throughout the school year (1) in accordance with state and city mandates, such as weekly testing in schools in Yellow Zones, or (2) if you exhibit one or more symptoms of COVID-19, or (3) if you are a close contact of a student, teacher, or staff person with COVID-19 infection.

What is the test?

If you consent, you will receive a free diagnostic test for the COVID-19 virus. The attached letter provides more information about the types of tests that may be used. Collecting a specimen for testing involves inserting a small swab, similar to a Q-Tip, into the front of the nose and/or collecting saliva (spit).

How will I know if I test positive?

COVID-19 test results will generally be provided to you within 48-72 hours.

What should I do when I receive my test results?

If your test results are positive, please contact your doctor immediately to review the test results and discuss what you should do next. You should stay home and inform your school. If your test results are negative, this means that the virus was not detected in your specimen. Tests sometimes produce incorrect negative results (called "false negatives") in people who have COVID-19. If you test negative but have symptoms of COVID-19, or if you have concerns about your exposure to COVID-19, you should call your doctor. If you need help finding a doctor, call (844) NYC-4NYC.

	TO BE COMPLETED BY YOU		
Print Name:			
Address:			
School/Program			
Name:			
Tel./Mobile #:			
Email address:			
Best way to			
contact you:			

PLEASE GO TO PAGE 2 TO COMPLETE THIS FORM

NOTIFICATION OF INFORMATION SHARING

The law allows some information about you to be shared with and among certain New York City and New York State agencies and their contracted service providers, including those listed below. This information will be shared only for public health purposes, which include notifying your close contacts if they have been exposed to COVID-19, and taking other steps to prevent the further spread of COVID-19 in schools and communities. Information about you that may be shared with these agencies and service providers conducting COVID-19 Testing includes your name and COVID-19 test results, date of birth/age, gender, race/ethnicity, school name(s), address, telephone, mobile number, and email address. Information will only be shared in accordance with the laws and City policies protecting privacy and the security of your data.

NYC Department of Education

NYS Department of Health

- NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
- NYC Department of Youth and Community Development
- Contracted Service Providers for COVID-19 Testing

NYC Health and Hospitals Corporation

CONSENT

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By signing below, I attest that:

- I have signed this form freely and voluntarily.
- I consent to be tested for COVID-19 infection.
- I understand that I may be tested at multiple times through September 30, 2021, and that testing may occur (1) on days • scheduled by the NYC DOE in accordance with state and city mandates, such as weekly testing in schools in Yellow Zones, or (2) if I exhibit one or more symptoms of COVID-19, or (3) if I am a close contact of a student, teacher, or staff person with COVID-19 infection.
- I understand that this consent form will be valid through September 30, 2021, unless I notify my school's principal or other • designated official in writing that I revoke my consent.
- I understand that my test results and other information may be disclosed as permitted by law.

Signature	
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Date

Below please find the fall semester tutoring schedule. We encourage all students to take advantage of all tutoring being offered.

TEACHER	DAY	TIME	LINK	
Alcorn	Thursdays	7-8pm	https://meet.google.com/wrp-vvrk-myd	
Colon	Tuedays	6-7pm	Zoom: Meeting ID: 890 6233 1654 Passcode: 658207	
Cumberbatch	Tuesdays	7-8pm	Zoom: Meeting ID: 755 9553 1291 Passcode: 6y6p03	
Denisi	Thursdays	5-6pm	meet.google.com/muu-kpac-fyj	
Kadison	Wednesdays	6-7pm	Meeting ID: 211 909 0819. Passcode: 5PaVkq	
McMahon	Wedsnesdays	6:15- 7:15pm	https://meet.google.com/cfg-fyym-nnt?authuser=0	
Nicoletta	Thursday	6-7pm	Zoom ID: 576 018 3154	
Okwabi	Wednesdays	5:30-6:30	Zoom: Meeting ID: 872 6965 4292. Passcode: 605890	
Rafaniello	Mondays	6-7pm	meet.google.com/wgh-krop-aib	
Schwarz	Tuesdays	6-7pm	Zoom: Meeting ID: 845 9590 6068. Passcode: 950314	

Vincent	Tuesdays	7:30- 8:30pm	Zoom Meeting ID: 869 0119 6147. Passcode: 204780
Wicks	Thursdays	6-7pm	ID: 876 7148 2589 PW: 064452
Williams	Wednesdays	7-8pm	http://meet.google/ysm-zdzn-xzi





ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Please have your child schedule a one on one academic meeting with me. This meeting is important to ensure they are on track academically with their progress towards graduation. The meeting may take place over the phone or via zoom.
- Make sure to keep track of your child's progress in their classes by logging on to <u>https://pupilpath.skedula.com/</u>. If you do not have an account you may contact me or Ms. Bernabel, the Parent Coordinator, to receive your registration code.
- Students who received an NX code in any course during the Spring or Summer 2020 semesters, should be completing their course requirements in order to receive a passing grade on their transcript. Students have until January 2021 to complete the course for credit. Failure to complete the course will result in a failing grade. Please contact me for more information.
- *<u>Freshman and Sophomores</u> should begin to scout and research colleges/universities they would like to attend after high school.

*Juniors should continue their college search and create their lists for next school year to apply.

*Seniors should be beginning/finishing their FAFSA, NYS TAP, and College applications.

Please check PupilPath daily for important announcements and emails pertaining to your child!

Please feel free to contact me directly with any questions, concerns, or if you need assistance: <u>NVega11@schools.nyc.gov</u>





On December 9th, JKO participated in a virtual District 4 high school fair. The event was attended by a few hundred people. Many schools in our district participated (See below). A big thank you to the staff who were part of the JKO family who were present: Mr. Vincent, Mr. Williams, Ms. Beltran, Ms. Bernabel, Ms. Milan, Ms. DeGregorio, Jeremey Djangmah, and Phillip Austen. The even



gave JKO exposure to a plethora of D4 students and parents. A big thank you to Superintendent Orlen and Superintendent DeLacruz for inviting JKO to participate in this event!!!

School Name Principal Name Gramercy Arts HS Pamela Mudzingwa-Makina







Union Square Academy for Health Sciences Bernardo Ascona

The HS for Fashion Industries Daryl Blank

Language & Diplomacy HS Sarah Hernandez

Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis HS Manuel Ureña

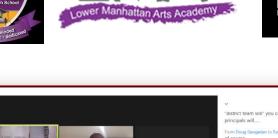
Hudson HS for Learning Technologies Michael Wilson

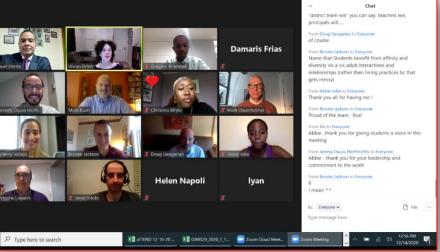
Lower Manhattan Arts Academy Derek Premo

Life Sciences Secondary School Kimberly Swanson

Manhattan Village Academy Christina White















Manhattan Village Academy

Christina White, Principal





On Thursday, December 17th, and Friday, December 18th, JKO held grade level assemblies/awards ceremony. The events were very well attended and successful. A big thank you to all who contributed: **Mr. Vincent**, **Mr. Williams**, **Ms. Vega**, **Ms. DeGregorio**, **Ms. Bernabel**, **the dynamic duo of Ms. Kadison and Ms. Okwabi**, and **various students who contributed videos (Joseph Vanacore**, **Phillip Austen**, **Marycarmen Herrera**, **Janisia Hachiche**, **Sakena Kearse**, **Samantha Gomez**) and **Pilar Canilizo who presented live to sophomores**.

Hannah Faruolo

Dana Faruolo from Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis High School for International Business Careers has sent you a message:

Hello,

I wanted to reach out with a quick thank you! The awards ceremony was wonderful. Our family appreciates everything the JKO staff members are doing for their students. Now is a very difficult time to be an educated, and we are grateful for each and every one of you!

Happy Holidays,

Dana Faruolo







Congratulations to all students who received an award during the ceremony. Below are the awardees.

9 th Grade Principal Honor Roll	10 th Grade Principal Honor Roll
ESSERGHINI, AYA GUTIERREZ, SYLVIA ORTIZ-CARPIO, EVELYN ROMERO, MELANY RUIZ, ANISSA SUKHOO, ASHLEY	CRUZ, ARIANNA FARUOLO, HANNAH GARCIA, CRISTAL HERNANDEZ, CYRUS
10 th Grade AP Honor Roll	11 th Grade Principal Honor Roll
BREVARD, ISAIAH CLOUGH, MARLON REDDICK, KEIARA CONTE-MARRERO, CATHLEEN	CESAR, SAMANTHA GOODSON, ELYSSA HUNTER, TAJ JESUS, CATHERINE MCKINNON, JORDAN PABON, EMILY PABON, EMILY PABON, EMILY
12 Grade AP Honor Roll	12 Grade Principal Honor Roll
CARREON, ALEXANDRO	AGUILAR, JENNIFER MAGARIBI, RICHIE GOMEZ, SAMANTHA MENDOZA, KEVIN HERRERA, LAUREN NGUYEN, BRANDON HERRERA, MARYCARMEN ROSENDO, ASHLEY HERRERA, MARYCARMEN THEN, JADELYZ LOYOLA VASQUEZ, JASON TRAN, MARIA MADERA, DALMA VARGAS, MAGALY
NUNEZ, KAITLYN	
	12 th Grade Teacher Awards: Honorable Mentions
11 th Grade Teacher Awards: Honorable Mention	nonorable mencions

		Grade Teacher Aw tstanding & Most		
TEACHER(S)	<u>CLASS</u>	MOST OUTSTANDING	MOST IMPROVED	HONORABLE MENTION
Cumberbatch	Business Statistics	Samantha Calderon		
DeGregorio	Studio Art	Melany Romero	Kennedy Gomez	
DeGregorio	Advanced Art	Ashley Sukhoo		
Hector & Nieves	US History	Ashley Sukhoo	Carolina Vile	
Newell	Computer Applications	Melany Romero, Aya Esserghini, Sylvia Gutierrez		
Nicoletta	English 9	Ashley Sukhoo	Anthony Amaya	Anissa Ruiz
Okwabi & Schwarz	Environmental Science	Ashley Sukhoo		
Rafaniello	Algebra 1	Evelyn Ortiz-Carpio	Juancarlos Juarez	
Rushforth	Phys. Ed	Rahimatou Sore		
Vincent & Maldonado	Living Environment	Evelyn Ortiz	Graciela Flores	



10th Grade Teacher Awards: Most Outstanding & Most Improved

<u>TEACHER(S)</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	MOST OUTSTANDING	MOST IMPROVED
Alcorn	Spanish 1	Cyrus Hernandez	Kayla Velez, Keiara Reddick, and Emely Sanchez, Gio Hincapie
Cumberbatch	Business Statistics		Gio Hincapie
DeGregorio	Studio Art	Hannah Faruolo	Alonna Brown
DeGregorio	Advanced Art	Cathleen Conte-Marrero	
Denisi	Business Statistics		Alonna Brown and Simone Camilus
Hammond	Participation in Government	Cyrus Hernandez	
Colon & Nieves	US History		Keavon James
1) 🕞 Milan 🔍 🤄	Principles of Hospitality&Tourism		Dioanny Sosa Rosario and Emely Sanchez

	10 th Grade Teacher Awards: Most Outstanding & Most Improved					
<u>TEACHER(S)</u>	CLASS	MOST OUTSTANDING	MOST IMPROVED			
Newell	Career and Financial Management	Arianna Cruz, Cristal Garcia, Cyrus Hernandez, Hannah Faruolo				
Okwabi	Chemistry	Keiara Reddick				
Okwabi & Schwarz	Chemistry	Arianna Cruz, Cryus Hernandez, Cristal Garcia	Alonna Brown and Cathleen Conte- Marrero			
Okwabi	Environmental Science		Justin Brantley and Thomas Robertson			
Okwabi & Cumberbatch	Environmental Science	Jadah Porter & Tymaria Charleston	Emely Sanchez and Simone Camilus			
Rafaniello	Geometry	Cyrus Hernandez	Andy Arevalo			
Rushforth	Phys. Ed	Cyrus Hernandez, Isaiah Brevard, Cristal Garcia, Marlon Clough				
Wicks	English 10	Arianna Cruz, Cristal Garcia, Cyrus Hernandez	Precious Pena and Juan Pacheco Romero			
Williams	Global	Angelina Sosa	Precious Pena			

CONGRATULATIONS

11th Grade Teacher Awards: Most Outstanding & Most Improved

TEACHER(S)	<u>CLASS</u>	MOST OUTSTANDING	MOST IMPROVED
Alcorn	Spanish 1	Yanin Thammarangsri, Elyssa Goodson, and Emily Pabon	Taj Hunter
Alcorn	Spanish 3	Rebecca Tellez	
Alcorn	AP Spanish	Adam Rashad-Ramirez	
DeGregorio	Studio Art	Catherine Jesus	
Denisi	Entrepreneurship	Adam Rashad Ramirez and Kamila Rodriguez	Neel Sewsankar
Denisi	Hospitality & Tourism	Elyssa Goodson	
Denisi	Business Statistics	Rebecca Tellez	Pilar Canalizo
Hector & Nieves	US History	Catherine Jesus	
McMahon	Business Statistics	Kamila Rodriguez	
Milan	Principles of Hospitality&Tourism	Yanin Thammarangsri	Milton Packer

11th Grade Teacher Awards: Most Outstanding & Most Improved

<u>TEACHER(S)</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	MOST OUTSTANDING	MOST IMPROVED	
Okwabi	Chemistry	Kamila Rodriguez, Samantha Cesar, and Adam Rashad Ramirez		
Okwabi & Schwarz	Chemistry	Elyssa Goodson, Taj Hunter, and Adam Ramirez Rashad	Yanin Thammarangsri	
Okwabi	Environmental Science	Jozaiah Rosado		
Okwabi & Schwarz	Environmental Science		Milton Packer	
Rafaniello	Algebra2/Trig	Adam Rashad Ramirez		
Rushforth	Phys. Ed	Rebecca Tellez, Yanin Thammarangsri, Catherine Jesus, Kamila Rodriguez, and Jordan McKinnon		
Wicks	AP English 11	Adam Rashad Ramirez, Catherine Jesus, Elyssa Goodson, and Donell Paige	Rebeca Tellez and Samantha Cesar	
Wicks & Schwarz	English 11	Emily Pabon	Taj Hunter	
Williams	Health		Milton Packer	



12th Grade Teacher Awards: Most Outstanding & Most Improved

<u>TEACHER(S)</u>	CLASS	MOST OUTSTANDING	MOST IMPROVED
Alcorn	Spanish 3	Samantha Gomez, Magaly Vargas, Dalma Madera, and Jennifer Aguilar	
DeGregorio	Studio Art	Jennifer Aguilar	
DeGregorio	Advanced Art		Celeste Ocloo
Denisi	Hospitality & Tourism	Marycarmen Herrera	Yahir Ramirez
Denisi	Business Statistics	Magaly Vargas	Jonathan Balbuena
Hammond	Participation in Government		David Villa
Hector & Nieves	US History	Kayla Duran	Jason Loyola Vasquez
McMahon	Virtual Enterprise	Maria Tran, Kayla Duran, Michael Rocha, and Brandon Nguyen	Jason Loyola Vasquez
McMahon	Business Statistics	mana many nayta baran, menaet hoena, ana brandon ngayen	Shanigua Brown
Nicoletta	English 12	Magaly Vargas	Sebastien Bueno

12 th Grade Teacher Awards: Most Outstanding				
<u>TEACHER(S)</u>	CLASS	MOST OUTSTANDING	MOST IMPROVED	
Nicoletta	AP Literature	Samantha Gomez	Dalma Madera	
Okwabi	Chemistry	Richie Magaribi	Kayla Duran	
Okwabi & Schwarz	Chemistry		David Villa and Celeste Ocloo	
Okwabi	Environmental Science	Dalma Madera, Brandon Nguyen, and Boubacar Traore		
Okwabi & Cumberbatch	Environmental Science	Maria Tran		
Okwabi & Schwarz	Environmental Science	Ahava Fred	Dalilah Burgos	
Rafaniello	Algebra2/Trig		Ivette Pantaleon	
Rushforth	Phys. Ed	Jeremy Djangmah, Samantha Gomez, Dalma Madera, Richie Magaribi, Brandon Nguyen, and MagalyVargas		
Williams	Health	Richie Magaribi and Samantha Gomez		





Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Special thanks to Pilar Canalizo (11th Grade), who presented to sophomores regarding her experiences in Big Brothers/Big Sisters mentoring program. Pilar has been a part of the Big Brothers Big Sisters Workplace Mentoring Program with TD Bank since her sophomore year.

From Rebecca Baron, Program Manager Big Brothers Big Sisters of NYC:

Pilar is a one of the fantastic Littles from BBBS of NYC. I'm so proud of her for presenting in front of an assembly full of her peers on behalf of BBBS. We're lucky to have her.



Dear JKO,

Smash Arts Productions is inviting you to view our video, Nothing Will Be the Same, explaining our experiences from 2020. It conveys the struggles we've faced, and how we overcame them. We are not here for sympathy, but to show how these challenges have impacted us and how they've affected our lives. This pandemic has affected everyone, including you, the person watching. We know it's been hard, but we've found hope, and with this video you can find the same.

Please enjoy our stories.

Thank you,

Smash Arts Productions, Fall 2020 -Cathleen Conte-Marrero Celeste Ocloo Ashley Sukhoo

Click on the following link to view the video: <u>https://youtu.be/pyl7hCA7wWo</u>





On December 22nd, Ms. Nicoletta hosted a virtual Movie Night for students.

From Ms. Kadison: Ms. Nicoletta showed Home Alone to a great group of Freshman and Seniors who attended. Though most of them had their screens off, they were NIGHT NIGHT

very willing to chat with each other before and after the movie. Ms. Nicoletta even made them work for extra credit by asking them questions related to themes, symbolism, and metaphors evident throughout the movie.

It was a great event!

Thank you Ms. Nicoletta for hosting and Ms. Kadison for your support in this!!! It is important for our students to continue to engage in activities that make JKO their home.

