



JACQUELINE  
KENNEDY ONASSIS  
High School of International Careers

120 West 46<sup>th</sup> Street New York, NY 10036

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## 2021-22 Parent Newsletter #9

Graduation will take place on Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup> in our auditorium at 4pm. Have you ever wondered about the traditions sometimes followed? If so, below you will find a fascinating synopsis of a few.

### The Fascinating Origins of 7 Graduation Traditions

*Most of our modern graduation traditions come from customs established in the European universities of the Middle Ages. If you've ever wondered why we roll diplomas, wear graduation gowns, don (and toss) mortarboard caps, and play Pomp and Circumstance, this article will satisfy your curiosity.*

Since the start of the Western university system in the 1200s, many different graduation traditions have taken hold in our American culture. Here are a few fascinating facts about the traditions surrounding a graduation ceremony, most of which we carry even into [modern-day homeschool graduations](#).

#### 1. The Graduation Cap

The cap, often called a mortarboard, is believed to have developed from the biretta. You've seen the biretta. It's the square, upright cap with three or four peaks worn by the Roman Catholic clergy and academics, typically in red or black. Caps were popular for students and artists to wear in the fourteenth and fifteenth century to show their superiority and intelligence. Originally the mortarboard, called that because of its similarity to the



mortar board used by bricklayers, was only allowed to be worn by those who had achieved their master or doctorate degrees. Today all graduates, not just those with masters or doctorate degrees wear the [mortarboard](#).

## 2. The Graduation Gown

The graduation, or scholar's, gown began to be worn in the twelfth century with the rise of universities. Since the original universities of the Middle Ages had poor heating, scholars wore long gowns with hoods to keep warm. Since most of the scholars were also clerics, they tended to wear their clerical robes. After all, clothing in the twelfth century was rather expensive.

The dress of scholars became highly uniform at Cambridge and Oxford by the time of Henry VIII. The schools dictated how their scholars would appear. Up until the 1800s the color for these robes was black. In the 1800s a system of colors designating what students had studied was developed. In higher education ceremonies today, these colors usually show up in the velvet edge on the robe. For instance, a graduate with a medical degree will have a *green* velvet edge while a graduate with a law degree will have a *purple* velvet edge.

## 3. The Class Ring

The first class ring appeared in 1835 when the U.S. academy West Point had them made. The first rings were designed to represent the school. All graduates of a particular school wore the same style ring. Eventually, rings began to be personalized. Now class rings are designed to represent the interests and style of the individual graduate. They come with a variety of options from the decorations on the side of the ring, the choice of metals, and the stone. Homeschool students are able to [purchase a class ring](#) which reflects their studies and interests during school.

## 4. Pomp and Circumstance

*Pomp and Circumstance*, written by Sir Edward Elgar in 1901, is also known as *Land of Hope and Glory*. The tune was modified and lyrics were added to celebrate the crowning of King Edward the VII. When Sir Edgar received an honorary doctorate from Yale University in 1905, *Pomp and Circumstance* was played in honor of his accomplishments. The piece quickly became fashionable to play at other commencements and has continued to be the traditional musical selection for any graduation processional or recessional.

## 5. The Diploma

Over the years you may have heard the diploma being called a *sheepskin*. Originally diplomas were hand-written on paper-thin sheepskin before being rolled and tied with a ribbon. This practice ended about 100 years ago when diplomas began to be printed on parchment paper instead, and the sizes were standardized. Diploma covers were developed to protect, store and display the diploma. But the idea of rolling a [diploma](#) persists because of this old tradition. Often when a ceremony is held before grades are finalized, a rolled, ribbon-tied paper is handed to the graduate to *represent* the diploma that will be mailed to them after the ceremony.

## 6. The Tassel

The [tassel](#) has been worn on the cap for centuries, but it's only in the last 40 or 50 years that it has been moved from the right side of the cap before receipt of the diploma to the left side of the cap after receipt of the diploma. Moving the tassel from the right side to the left symbolizes the movement from being a candidate of a degree to a recipient of the degree.

## 7. Throwing the Cap

Tossing the cap in the air after graduation was started by the U.S. Naval Academy in 1912. Prior to 1912, graduates of the naval academy spent two years as midshipmen and needed to keep their midshipman's hats to wear. However in 1912 the decision was made to immediately commission the graduates as officers. The graduates no longer needed their old hats because they would now wear new officer hats. So the old midshipman hats were thrown into the air after the commencement ceremony. Throwing caps in the air quickly became popular, resulting in the tradition of graduates of all kinds tossing their caps into the air after commencement.



## Announcements

- Regents exams commence on June 15<sup>th</sup> and end on June 24<sup>th</sup>. Students have no classes during that time period. However, teachers will be available for tutoring sessions with students. We encourage all students to take advantage of this opportunity, especially those at risk of failing the class or those in need of handing in assignments.
- There will be no school for students on Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, which is a Chancellor Conference day.
- There will also be no school on Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup> in observance of Juneteenth which takes place on June 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Students should commence returning school textbooks and computers/tablets. Those who are scheduled to take a Regents exam can hand the text on the last day of school so that they can be an additional resource for studying.
- The last day of school for students is June 27<sup>th</sup>. That day students will receive their report cards and transcripts.
- Student lockers must be emptied out by June 14<sup>th</sup>. Any items left in lockers beyond that date will be discarded.
- PA elections will take place within the next two weeks. We need President, Treasurer and Recording Secretary as well as SLT members. A Zoom link and email will follow.
- Reach out to Ms. Bernabel if you have not registered for your NYC Myschools account. This is very important for parents to receive information regularly from the DOE and to be able to access certain services available online.
- **Reminder:** The Student Handbook delineates the school's dress code:
  - a. Students are not permitted to wear their pants below their waist.
  - b. Students are not permitted to wear short-shorts, mini-skirts, see through apparel or low cut tops. All tops must cover the midriff. Parents will be called to bring up appropriate clothing if student is not dressed appropriately.



# JRO SCHOOL COUNSELOR CONNECT



From the counseling department:



- ❖ **If your child is or will be absent**, please contact Ms. Garcia (9<sup>th</sup> Grade Students) at ext. 5092 or email at [NGarcia33@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:NGarcia33@schools.nyc.gov) ; Mrs. Vega-Beltran (10-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Students) at ext. 5091 or via email at [NVega11@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:NVega11@schools.nyc.gov) . You may also contact Ms. Bernabel, Parent Coordinator, at ext. 1012 or email at [ABernabel@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:ABernabel@schools.nyc.gov) .
- Please be sure to send a doctor's note if your child has a medical appointment.**
- ❖ **School begins at 8:20 am.** Please ensure that your child arrives to school on time regularly so that they are able to effectively engage in their first period lesson. Lateness adversely impacts a child's academic performance.
- ❖ **Please keep track of your child's academic progress, grades, and attendance in their classes by logging on to <https://pupilpath.skedula.com/>** . If you do not have an account you may contact the School Counselors or Ms. Bernabel, the Parent Coordinator, to receive your registration code.
- ❖ **Please have your child meet for one on one academic/personal progress meetings with their counselor immediately: Ms. Garcia (9<sup>th</sup> Graders) and Mrs. Vega-Beltran (10-12<sup>th</sup> Graders).** This meeting is important to ensure they are on track academically with their progress towards graduation and to check on their personal well-being.
- ❖ **As the warm weather approaches, please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the school environment.**
- ❖ **Please have your child attend tutoring for academic support and regents tutoring.**



SUBJECT	TEACHER	DAY	TIME	ROOM
ENGLISH 9 AND 12 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE	MS. NICOLETTA	WEDNESDAY	2:45 – 4:00 PM	301
LIVING ENVIRONMENT	MS. TULI	THURSDAY	3:45 – 4:45 PM	307
AP SCIENCE	MS. TULI	THURSDAY	3:45 – 4:45 PM	307
GEOMETRY	MS. TULI	THURSDAY	3:45 – 4:45 PM	307
SPANISH	MRS. ALCORN	WED & THURS	2:45 – 3:45 PM	302
SPECIAL EDUCATION (VARIOUS SUBJECTS)	MS. KADISON	MONDAY	4:15 – 5:15 PM	303
		WEDNESDAY	2:50 – 4:50 PM	
		THURSDAY	2:50 – 4:50 PM	

- ❖ **JUNE 8<sup>th</sup>: SENIOR PROM**
- ❖ **JUNE 9<sup>th</sup>: ANNIVERSARY DAY- NO CLASSES**

- ❖ JUNE 14<sup>th</sup>: LAST DAY OF CLASSES
- ❖ JUNE 20<sup>th</sup>: JUNETEENTH- NO SCHOOL
- ❖ REGENTS EXAMS COMMENCE JUNE 15<sup>TH</sup> AND END JUNE 22<sup>ND</sup>. ALL STUDENTS that have a class that coincides with a NYS Regents exam will be scheduled to take the exam in June to work towards progress towards graduation. This is a New York Stated Mandate. There are no longer waivers for the exams. Please see the schedule below:

## EXAMINATION SCHEDULE: JUNE 2022

*Students must verify with their schools the exact times that they are to report for their State examinations.*

June 15 WEDNESDAY	June 16 THURSDAY	June 17 FRIDAY	June 20 MONDAY	June 21 TUESDAY	June 22 WEDNESDAY	June 23 THURSDAY	June 24 FRIDAY
9:15 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	Juneteenth Holiday Observed	9:15 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	RATING DAY
English Language Arts	Algebra I	Global History & Geography II		Geometry	Algebra II	Physical Setting/ Physics	
				<small>World Language Assessment suggested date/time: Locally developed Checkpoint A Exam</small>			
1:15 p.m.	1:15 p.m.	1:15 p.m.		<small>World Language Assessment suggested date/time: Locally developed Checkpoint B Exam</small>	<b>Uniform Admission Deadlines</b> Morning Examinations: 10:00 a.m. Afternoon Examinations: 2:00 p.m.		
Living Environment	Physical Setting/ Chemistry	Physical Setting/ Earth Science					

- ❖ The Marking Period and Semester ends TUESDAY, June 21<sup>st</sup>. Please make sure your child is current on their assignments and are studying for quizzes/tests.
- ❖ GRADUATION WILL BE HELD JUNE 24<sup>TH</sup> AT 4:00 PM AT JACQUELINE KENNEDY ONASSIS HIGH SCHOOL.
- ❖ JUNE 27<sup>th</sup>: LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
- ❖ Please reach out to Ms. Garcia (9<sup>th</sup> Grade) or Mrs. Vega-Beltran (10-12<sup>th</sup> Grade) if you feel that your child needs social/emotional support. We have an abundance of services for students at the school and can refer your family to outside resources/assistance.

**Please feel free to contact your child's School Counselor directly with any questions, concerns, or if you need assistance:**

**Ms. Niurkary Garcia, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor** (212)391-0041 Ext. 5092

Email: [NGarcia33@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:NGarcia33@schools.nyc.gov)

**Mrs. Nicole Vega-Beltran, 10-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor** 212-391-0041 Ext. 5091

Email: [NVega11@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:NVega11@schools.nyc.gov)





Parents Association



Election Notice...

SLT Election (Parents: please reach out to Mr. Lawrence, SLT Chairperson, @ [citycouncild75@gmail.com](mailto:citycouncild75@gmail.com) if interested)

We need 3 people for 2022- 2024

Seat 1 -

Seat 2-

Seat 3-

PA elections will take place within the next two weeks. We need President, Treasurer and Recording Secretary as well as SLT members. A Zoom link and email will follow.

PA Election (Parents: Please reach out to our PTA president, Ms. Conte if interested @ [maryconte1@gmail.com](mailto:maryconte1@gmail.com))

President- 1 year 2022- 2023

Secretary- 1 year 2020- 2023

Treasure - 1 year 2020-2023

Please feel free to attend our Last SLT meeting as an observer, which will take place on Monday, June 6, 2022 at 4:30PM. Please see the agenda and Zoom link below.  
Please reach out to me if you have any questions.

#### SLT Meeting Agenda:

- Call to Order / Welcome / Attendance (3 mins)
- Review Minutes from May meeting (6 minutes)
- Attendance/Covid Safety Report(10 minutes)
- Unfinished business (10 minutes)
- New Business (10 minutes)
- Principal report and (15 mins)
- Parent association (5 minutes)
- Title 1 Committee (5 minutes)
- UFT Report (5 mins)
- Comments SLT members(2 minutes per person)
- 3 vacant seats in SLT for 2022 - 2023 (5 minutes)
- Adjournment

D02 02M529PA is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: SLT JKO High School

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://nycdoe.zoom.us/j/87556503165?pwd=Ty9BVEt6S0ZRv2RfWkZIN25RS29hZz09>

Meeting ID: 875 5650 3165

Passcode: 355272

One tap mobile

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# The Senior Corner

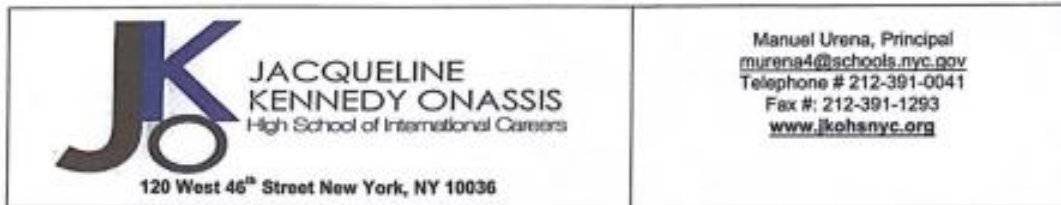
- Graduation will take place on Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, at 4 pm at our school building. The theme of the prom is “Enchanted Forest.”
- Graduation will take place on Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, at 4 pm at our school building; auditorium. Students will be given 3 tickets each. Requests for additional tickets can be submitted to Ms. Okwabi via PupilPath. Graduation rehearsal will take place on June 17<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm.
- Seniors can pick up their cap, gown, yearbook, and CTE cords on June 21<sup>st</sup>. They must hand in all school texts and electronics (Laptops/tablets) prior to receiving the aforementioned items.
- Senior Brunch will take place on June 23<sup>rd</sup> soon after graduation rehearsal.

**SENIOR** CLASS OF   
**2022**





A big THANK YOU to Ms. DeGregorio and the NHS for spearheading the holiday fundraiser which led to the donation to Covenant House...see below.



Covenant House  
460 West 41 Street  
New York, NY 10036

May 18, 2022

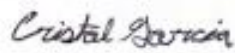
To Whom it May Concern:


As members of The National Honor Society of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis High School, we would like to donate \$400. This money is given to lend a hand to those who need help, those who can have better opportunities, and have a little bit of hope within humanity. We raised this money in our high school through our holiday fundraiser so that we could help homeless youth. Our school wanted to strive for a goal, which is aiding those in need. A lot of students within the community could resonate with not having a permanent home or a safe place in which they can safely rest their heads. This is one of the reasons why we chose to donate our profits to your organization. We believe that the services that the Covenant House is providing for youths is extremely important and necessary to many people inside and outside of the community.

We hope that this gift expresses our immense gratitude that we hold for your institution and the hard work that you have put into establishing a loving and caring environment for youths in need of a sense of community and kindness. We are hoping that this donation would be able to provide those in need with the necessities that may be hard to obtain in life in this current time.

Sincerely,

The National Honor Society of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis High School

  
Cristal Garcia, NHS Secretary, Cathleen Conte-Marrero, NHS Treasurer

  
Elisa De Gregorio, NHS Faculty Advisor



JKO's annual College Fair was a smashing success!!! A BIG thank you to Ms. Vega-Beltran for spearheading this well attended event. See pics below...

U.S. Marine Corps  
U.S. Army  
U.S. National Guard  
New York City Police Department  
New York City Fire Department  
SUNY Oswego  
SUNY Canton  
SUNY Environmental State  
SUNY Potsdam  
SUNY Herkimer  
SUNY Plattsburgh  
SUNY Old Westbury  
SUNY Buffalo State  
SUNY New Paltz  
SUNY Fashion Institute of  
Technology  
SUNY University at Buffalo  
SUNY Oneonta  
SUNY Alfred State  
SUNY Cortland  
Berkeley College  
St. John's University  
Manhattan College  
Manhattanville College  
Pace University  
Seton Hall University  
Marist College  
PENN State  
CUNY Baruch  
CUNY College of Staten Island  
CUNY Hunter College  
CUNY John Jay College  
CUNY Kingsborough CC  
CUNY LaGuardia CC  
CUNY Queensborough CC  
CUNY City College

**JKO H.S.  
COLLEGE  
FAIR**

**COME, SEE & GET  
INFORMATION  
FOR YOUR DESIRED COLLEGE!**

**COLLEGE  
FAIR 2022**

**PARTICIPATING COLLEGES**  
**\*CUNY COLLEGES**  
**\*SUNY COLLEGES**  
**\*PRIVATE COLLEGES**  
**\*AND MANY MORE...**

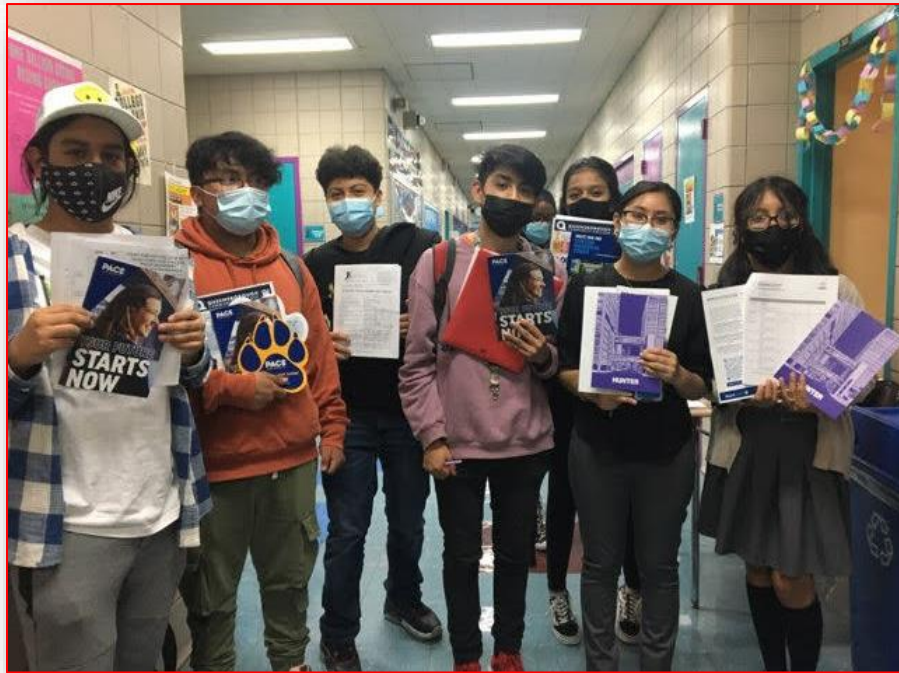
**MAY  
18TH  
4-6PM**

**MORE INFO**  
**SEE MRS. VEGA-BELTRAN**  
**ROOM B9**

**SUPPORTED BY**  
**JKO H.S.**

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ENTERPRISES  
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*Every Journey Needs a Guardian.*

# GUARDIAN INSURANCE TRADE SHOW

APRIL 6, 2022

The 2022 Youth Business Summit was held in at Long Island University in Brooklyn, NY . VEI firms (including representative and guests from JK) from across the country participated in hybrid international business Trade Shows to compete for revenue dollars both in-person and online.

## Key YBS #2022 Stats

- Approximately 1,000 total participants
- Approximately 900 student participants
- Over \$7 million transacted
- 100 VE companies represented
- 14 states represented
- 7 countries represented (Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Indonesia, Canada, Romania, and the United States)



## *Guardian Insurance Trade Show Representatives*

*Rebeca Tellez*

*Adam Rashad - Ramirez*

*Nikolas Nowiczenko*











On Wednesday, May 25th, Ms. Tuli took her AP Environmental Science class to tour the Newtown Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant located in Greenpoint, Brooklyn. This is the largest sewage facility operated by the Department of Environmental Protection. Through a guided education program, the students learned about the journey our drinking water takes to get to our taps and the process of cleaning our wastewater before it is released into surrounding waterways. The students were then able to tour the facilities.





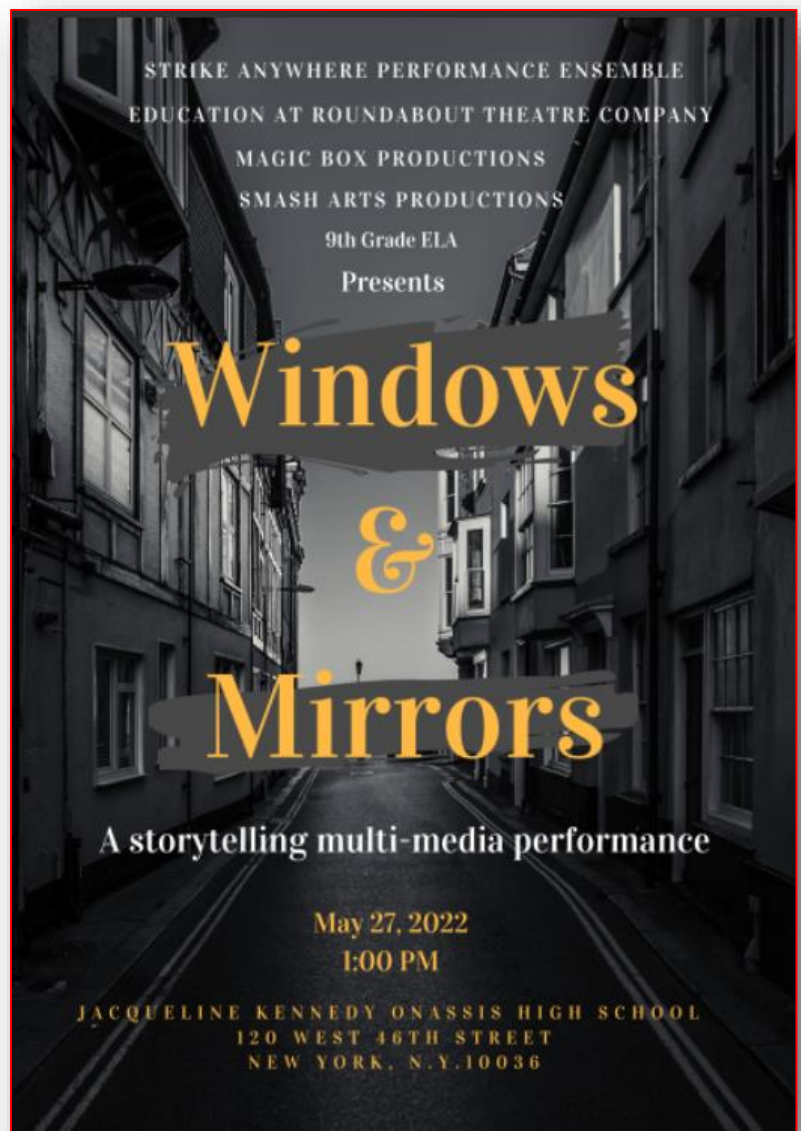


**A message from Ms. DeGregorio:**

**Friday May 27th** *Smash Arts Productions*, Ms. Nicoletta's 9th grade ELA classes and Studio Art students presented **"Windows & Mirrors"** a storytelling multi-media performance/gallery event. The production and films were all based on true stories that our students shared through a series of prompts we created. We learned a lot about one another and realized that we all possess multitudes within us. At times we saw each other in our stories and at times the stories gave us a glimpse, a new perspective on what it means to walk in someone else's shoes. Empathy. Understanding. Community. Our objectives in creating the project.

The project is a culmination of multiple residencies:

- Strike Anywhere Performance Ensemble. We were fortunate to receive the Arts for ELL's and SWD Grant from the Office of Arts and Special Projects to partner with Strike Anywhere and bring this program here to JKO.
- Education at Roundabout Theatre with Smash Arts Productions
- Magic Box Productions for film via a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts















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*Every Journey Needs a Guardian.*



# GUARDIAN INSURANCE EXECUTIVE CONFERENCE

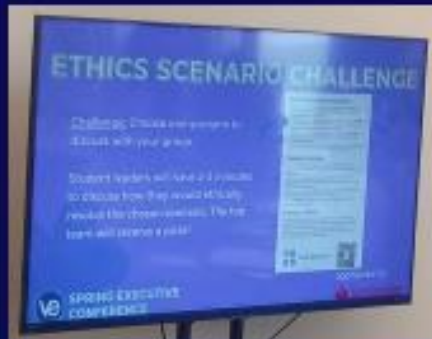
May 24, 2022

On Tuesday, May 24th seniors Rebeca Tellez (Chief Financial Officer) and Adam Rashad-Ramirez (Chief Operating Officer) represented JKO's Guardian Insurance at the Virtual Enterprise International Executive Conference at Long Island University - Brooklyn Campus.

The Spring Executive Conference is an event in which VE student leaders join together to discuss their firm's successes & challenges throughout the year and what they learned about themselves personally and professionally. Students participated in panel discussions with industry executives, themed group activities, and networking opportunities for students to build on their leadership and communication skills as they prepare for college and more!

## EVENT AGENDA

10:00 AM - 10:45 AM	Arrival & Registration / Breakfast / Networking
10:45 AM - 11:00 AM	Welcome & Opening Remarks
11:00 AM - 11:45 AM	Panel Discussion
11:45 AM - 12:00 PM	Q & A
12:00 PM - 12:45 PM	Lunch / Networking
12:45 PM - 1:45 PM	Group Activities
1:45 PM - 2:00 PM	Closing Remarks



*Rebeca Tellez's Team  
won the VEI  
Ethics Scenario Challenge!  
Each Member Received a  
SMART Rocketbook  
Notebook  
as a prize.*









# AMC

Schwarzman  
Animal Medical Center  
SINCE 1910

Recently, Ms. Garcia took some of our students to the Schwarzman Animal Medical Center. See pictures below...

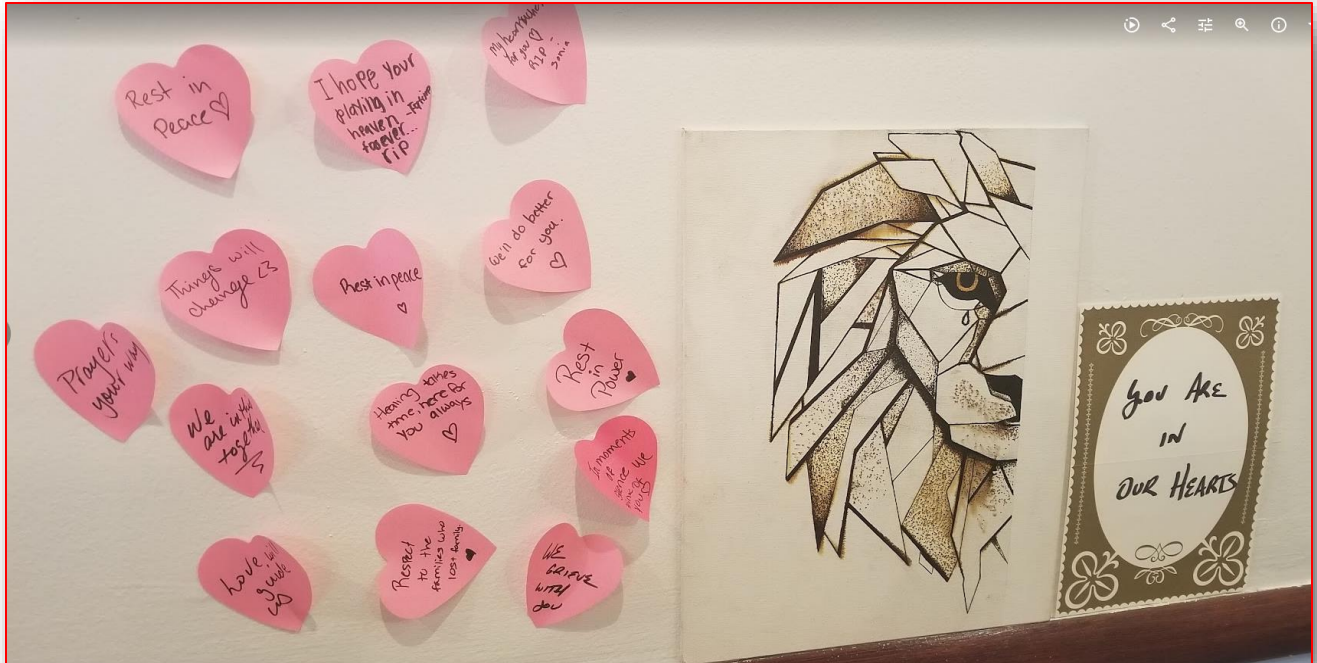




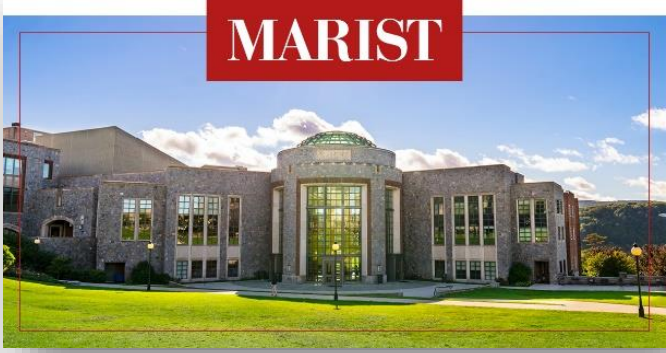


# Memorial

In response to the tragedy at the Uvalde Elementary School our students put together a small memorial in honor of the 19 children and 2 teachers who lost their lives. See below...







Recently our juniors attended a trip to Marist College. They explored career options and learned about college life there in order for them to narrow down their college choices. Thank you to Ms. Vega-Beltran for spearheading this trip.





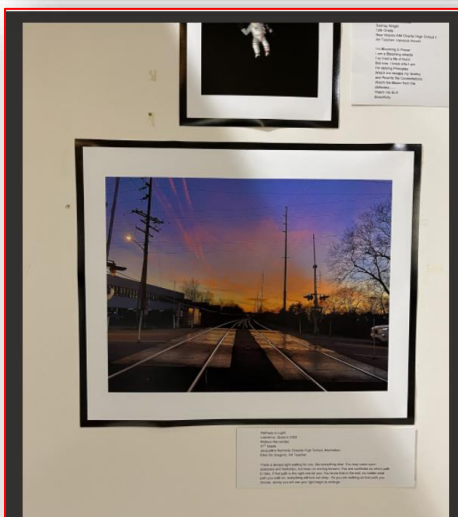


A message from Ms. DeGregorio:

JKO student photographs were featured at this year's DiverCity Lens Gallery Opening Reception at the Tweed Courthouse on May 31.

This year's theme was "Emergence" and features beautiful photographs created by Melissa Hernandez, Leighana Plourde, Darion Telp and Victoria Toovi.

The DiverCity Lens program is made up of a consortium of 15 schools across all 5 boroughs under the guidance of Zion Ozeri, professional photographer and founder of the program. Working as a jury of arts specialists, we select photographs to be a part of the gallery show and catalogue

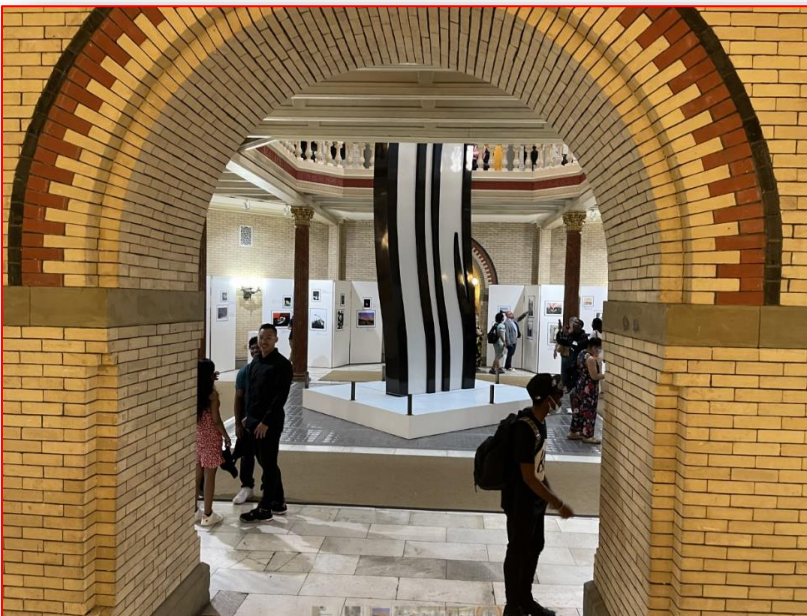
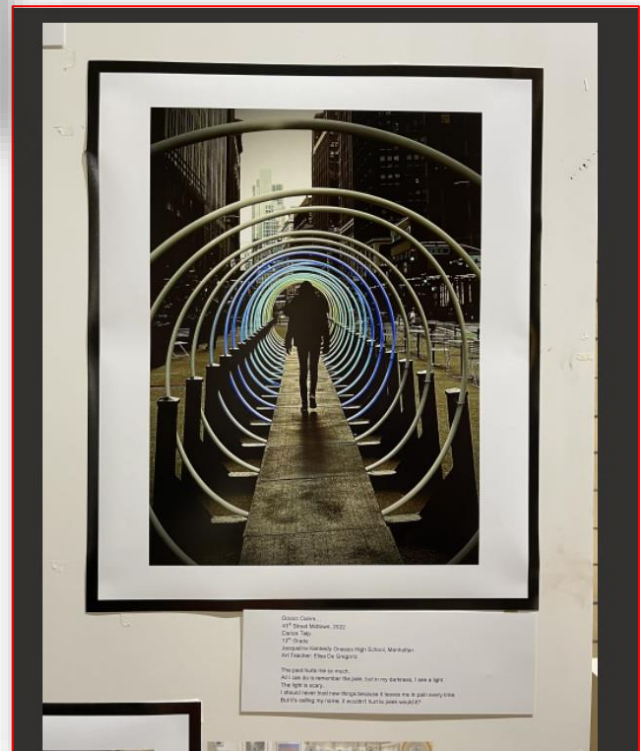
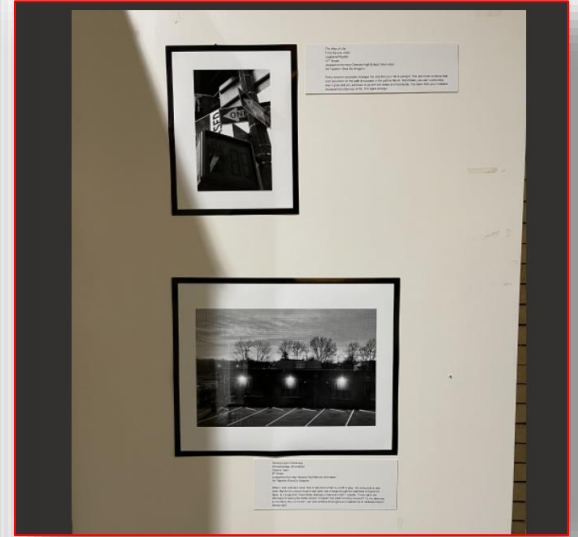


# DiverCity Lens 2022: Emergence

Opening Reception: Tuesday, May 31 • 5:30PM – 7:00PM  
Tweed Courthouse, 52 Chambers Street, Manhattan

## Featuring student photographers from:

AIM Charter School II, Bronx  
Alfred E. Smith Career and Technical Education High School, Bronx  
Charles O. Dewey Middle School 136, Brooklyn  
Community Health Academy of the Heights, Manhattan  
High School of Fashion Industries, Manhattan  
Hillside Arts and Letters Academy, Queens  
Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis High School, Manhattan  
James Madison High School, Brooklyn  
Lower Manhattan Community Middle School  
New Utrecht High School Queens  
Scholars' Academy, Queens  
Susan E. Wagner High School, Staten Island  
Thomas Edison Career and Technical Education High School, Queens  
Tottenville High School, Staten Island  
Townsend Harris High School, Queens







Recently many of our seniors attended a field trip to Citifield to see our Mets win!!! Thank you to Ms. Acosta and Ms. Veg-Beltran for spearheading this event.







# College Decision Day May 1

**May 1** was National College Decision Day, the deadline for seniors to pick their college. For many seniors, they are facing the single biggest decision of their lives. At JKO, Ms. Vega-Beltran, spearheaded College Decision Day activities with our seniors. The list of colleges and future plans was impressive and breathtaking. Thank you Ms. Bega-Beltran for leading our seniors towards the future!!!

