

D15 Awards and Accolades

Let's Celebrate our D15 Schools!

2019 Congressional Art Contest - Winner

Students in 7-12 grades participated in Congresswoman Nydia Velázquez's Congressional Art Competition.

We are proud to recognize **8th Grader Stefani Ortiz of Charles O. Dewey MS 136** in Sunset Park Brooklyn, as the **Grand Prize winner** for Congresswoman Nydia Velázquez's New York 7th District in the 2019 Congressional Art Contest. Her photograph was entered by Gordon Baldwin, Fine Arts and Digital Photography Teacher at MS 136. Her photograph titled "Tanzania 2019" is of two young Tanzanian boys guarding entry to a primary source of the family income, the chicken coop! Stefani was one of a few students who took part in the annual school trip Stefani's photo will be displayed in the U.S. Capitol and she will attend a national winners luncheon and ceremony with the Congresswoman in June.



2019 Congressional Art Contest - Runner Ups

All of the winners will receive a set of 4 guest passes to visit the Brooklyn Museum. Runner ups will also have their art displayed at one of four offices in D.C., Sunset Park, Brooklyn, Queens and the Lower East Side.

Runner ups:

- Aaliya Parris and of Brooklyn School for Collaborative Studies (BCS 448)
- Maria Belen Flores of Brooklyn School for Collaborative Studies (BCS 448)

Photos from the 2019 Congressional Art Contest Celebration



Photos from the 2019 Congressional Art Contest Celebration - Cont.



Photos from the 2019 Congressional Art Contest Celebration - Cont.



Life Lines Community Arts Project

Students from MS 821, Sunset Park Prep, and MS 136, Charles Dewey participated in Life Lines Community Arts Project which is a free, nationally-recognized arts and leadership program in Sunset Park, Brooklyn serving 700 youth, ages 10-21. Life Lines includes an afterschool arts program and summer camp, traveling theatre/dance troupes, high school internships, original productions, and an in-school interdisciplinary partnership designed to promote student achievement. Based at M.S. 136/821 and Sunset Park H.S., Life Lines is a component of the Center for Family Life, a neighborhood-based social service program.

Each spring, “Life Lines” participants and staff aim to create a production that brings to life the challenges and resilience of young people and families in their neighborhood. Through character development, creative writing, community research, dance, music, and visual art, members share with staff their ideas, feelings, and experiences -- these are integrated into original pieces for the production.

During the rehearsal process, members are encouraged to explore a range of issues / dilemmas / interests but are not permitted to act out their own personal life situations. As the characters evolve, they are linked together in scenes and ensembles. There is no written script for the actors, only a skeletal outline of scenes. The characters play out their situations in improvised dialogue that changes from performance to performance.

Life Lines Community Arts Project - Cont.

“TAKE CARE” presents a glimpse into the lives of 20 teenagers and adults trying to manage the stresses and strains of life in these tumultuous times. Throughout the show we meet a family in conflict due to financial instability and immigration status, a 12th grade student preparing to be the first in her family to attend college, a student with her mother and teacher trying to address her learning challenges, and groups of teens finding relief through humor, creativity, and peer support. This year’s production also highlighted youth activism to protest intolerance, discriminatory policies, and systemic oppression. The songs, dances, scenery, and ensemble acting pieces illustrate the ways in which we care for ourselves and our community, while trying to promote a more just and inclusive world.

This year's original production, “TAKE CARE” which ran in early May offered opportunities for special matinee performances for school audiences as well as evening performances for the Community. The cast of 80+ participants included students from all over Sunset Park, as well as from other Brooklyn middle and high schools.

Congratulations to all of the participants and many thanks to Sunset Park Prep Principal Jennifer Spalding and Charles Dewey Principal Eric Sackler.

PS 58 has been granted \$500K for its Play Yard redesign

We are thrilled to announce that **PS 58** in Carroll Gardens has been granted \$500,000 from City Council for its Play Yard redesign.

The purpose of this project would be to provide more seating, more shade and more natural/green elements to the existing space while preserving plenty of open play space.

Specific features:

- Addition of between 6 to 12 tree plantings
- Addition of between 2 to 6 benches for seating under and/or near the trees
- Upgraded fencing to provide more privacy
- A barrier of plantings between the fencing and the play area to provide an additional buffer from the sidewalk

This is good news for the entire neighborhood. Congratulations to PS 58 Principal Katie Dello Stritto and all the parents, teachers and staff who worked so diligently to advocate for their school.

PS 32 has been selected as a recipient of the NYC Excellence in School Wellness Award

For the 6th year in a row **PS 32**, in Carroll Gardens, has been selected as a recipient of the **NYC Excellence in School Wellness Award** presented by the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. This Citywide Award recognizes elementary schools that are making an effort to create healthy school environments and a culture of wellness. The award highlights school practices and policies that promote children's health and wellness. **Congratulations to PS 32 Principal Denise Watson-Adin and Wellness Chair Camille Casaretti.**



PS 32 Students Advocate for the Gowanus Houses Community Center

Thanks to the leadership and ongoing efforts of **PS 32 Librarian Adam Marcus**, the City budget has over \$3 million set aside to repair and renovate the Gowanus Houses Community Center. This is in addition to the \$475K that Council Member Steve Levin set aside. They are projecting three more years for completion and through the petitioning of PS 32 students they hope to get this done sooner. PS 32 student advocates are creating needed improvements to our community, made the new and had an impact on their community. They will continue to work together to get this done and to hopefully set up a library as part of the center once it's reopened.

Congratulations to PS 32 Principal Denise Watson-Adin and Librarian Adam Marcus.

Thanks to the members of the Gowanus Houses community, the 5th Avenue Development Corp., and Families United for Racial and Economic Equality (FUREE).

PS 32 will continue to work with the residents of Gowanus Houses to help them develop the center in a way that best supports them.

PS 130 has a champion chess team



PS 130, located in Windsor Terrace, recently racked up the wins! At a recent Chess in the Schools Competition, PS 130's Chess team won two team trophies, two individual trophies and five medals.

PS130 student, Owen, led the U600 team with a perfect score for first place individually. Usman also had a perfect score in the unrated section and led his section to a 2nd place trophy as well as a 3rd place individually on tie-breaks.

Norodom, Lia, Jacob, Theo and Charlie all received medals for their performances. Shujah and Mason (not pictured) also helped the team score with 2 points each. And every player won at least 1/2 of their games!

Congratulations to Chess instructor Tom Moran!

PS 130 Team wins first place in the Math League Division 5 State Championship for NYS

PS130 students also participated in the **NYS Math League Championship**. They were the First Place Team in the Math League Division 5 State Championship for New York State. This competition was an invitation only event that PS 130 qualified for in competitions held in December. From that event, they also have students who now qualify to go onto the Nationals at Texas A&M University, held in June.

Congratulations to 4th graders, Eliot Paster, who took 3rd Place and Anya Heller in 2nd Place. 5th grade winners included Ronan Coffey in 3rd Place and Oscar Milledge in 2nd Place. 5th Graders Theo Farrowhurst, Ronan Coffey, and Oscar Milledge qualified for Nationals and 4th Graders Anya Heller and Eliot Paster qualified for Nationals. Sal Wight and Jackson Sobel also participated.

PS 130 student's artwork selected to be displayed at the Brooklyn Arts Festival



PS 130 also has one student whose artwork was selected to be displayed at the Brooklyn Arts Festival. She is 2nd grader **Stephanie Mondesir**.

Congratulations to all the students and teachers of PS 130!

BHSIS student won the Ezra Jack Keats bookmaking competition

6th student Laetitia Mombelli at **BHSIS K497: The Boerum Hill School for International Studies** won the **Borough-wide Ezra Jack Keats bookmaking competition**. Her book, entitled [In a Heart Beat](#), was on display at the Grand Lobby and the Youth Wing on the first floor of the Central Brooklyn Public Library.



BHSIS 9th graders won the citywide Stock Market Game Competition

A group of **BHSIS 9th graders** won the citywide Stock Market Game Competition!

This is an online simulation of the global capital markets that engages students grades 4-12 in the world of economics, investing and personal finance and that has prepared 17 million students for financially independent futures. They scored #1 out of 1101 teams! They were recently on Wall Street for the ceremony.

Congratulations to the students of BHSIS as well as the Visual Art & Design Teacher: Louise Butler, Librarian: Vincent Hyland, and Principal: Nicole Lanzillotto



PS 676 3rd and 5th graders performed songs from the Greatest Showman



It was a moving sight as the **PS 676-Red Hook Neighborhood School's 3rd and 5th graders** belted out the amazing songs of *The Greatest Showman* at their May 20th performance. The lyrics to "This is Me" in particular seemed to capture each student's limitless potential, and they could feel it as they sang:

*Look out 'cause here I come
And I'm marching on the beat I drum
I'm not scared to be seen
I make no apologies, this is me*

Congratulations to PS 676 student and Principal Priscilla Figueroa.

More pictures from the PS 676 Student Performance



More pictures from the PS 676 Student Performance

A trip through time at their YMCA after school students brought the sounds of different musical eras to life, and a special performance of African drumming and dance led by the school partner ACAMP.

Congratulations to PS 676 student and Principal Priscilla Figueroa.

