

## **Lee-Career High Schools Hall of Fame Class of 2022 Announced**

September 22, 2021, New Haven, CT

An NFL Coach of the Year, a legendary biology teacher, and a senior Army nurse are among an impressive list of inductees for the Lee-Career High Schools Hall of Fame for 2022. The Hall of Fame Committee, consisting of alumni across a wide range of years, incorporated on-line public voting for the first time this year as part of the selection process, with nearly 500 votes submitted. The Lee-Career Hall of Fame Dinner will be held on Saturday, September 17, 2022 in New Haven.

The inductees are listed below for each category. All nominees must have been either a student, faculty member, or staff member at New Haven's Richard C. Lee High School or Hill Regional Career High School to be eligible.

### **Athletic Achievement: For superior accomplishments in sports either while enrolled at Lee/Career HS, or after graduation in college and/or professional sports as an athlete, coach, or sports administrator such as an Athletics Director.**

Michael Lamberti, Lee 1978 - Record-setting baseball player at Lee, long-time area baseball coach, umpire, and baseball league administrator

Edwina Qualls - Trailblazing basketball coach who won Lee's first Girls Basketball title in 1976, went on to become the first Black coach of a women's basketball team in the Big Ten at Wisconsin

Anthony Sparano, Lee 1979 (posthumously) - Football Captain at Lee, played and coached at University of New Haven, NFL Coach of the Year with the Miami Dolphins in 2008.

Sylvester "Sly" Williams, Lee 1976 - Led Lee to its first state basketball title, went on to play at URI and in the NBA

### **Humanitarian Achievement: For those who have made a significant contribution to the nation or the world that has helped make it a better place to live and making a positive change to the human condition.**

John Courtmanche - Teacher and administrator for 34 years in the New Haven Public Schools, significant service accomplishments for the New Haven Road Race, Special Olympics, and many other non-profit organizations

Dorothy Fay (Galberth) Williams, Lee 1977 - US Army Nurse for 28 years, served in Iraq and Afghanistan, retired as a Lt. Colonel; extensive local volunteering including Toys for Tots

### **Lifetime Achievement: For those who have completed at least 40 years of their career or retired from their lifelong profession. They have achieved exceptional success in their professions and have contributed to the advancement of civic or service organizations.**

Shirley Neighbors - 45 years of teaching science to countless students in the New Haven Public Schools, developed a nationally recognized anatomy education partnership with the Yale School of Medicine

Andrew Wolf, Lee 1969 (posthumously) - Energetic Director of Arts, Culture, and Tourism for the City of New Haven, recipient of numerous community service awards

### **Professional Achievement: For those who have achieved local, regional, or national distinction in their professions, who acknowledge the importance of their time at Lee/Career in reaching their goals and demonstrated loyalty to their school.**

Vanessa Roberts Avery, Career 1992 - Highly accomplished attorney with experience at the US Dept. of Justice, the US Attorney for the CT District, and currently serving as Associate Attorney General for the State of CT for Enforcement, Litigation & Investigations

Rick Colón, Lee 1979 - Globally recognized leader in the quick-service restaurant industry, current Chief Operating Officer of Dunkin' with responsibility for over 9,000 locations in the US

Heidi Gold Dworkin, Lee 1977 - PhD Molecular Biologist who is now a leading science educator, STEM advocate, and author of a series of children's science books

Bill Jacobs, Lee 1979 - Chicago-based restaurant entrepreneur who channeled his passion for New Haven-style pizza and great beer into his pizzeria/brewery Piece, and developed innovative chef collaborations to raise funds for non-profit organizations

**Volunteer Service:** For those who have contributed significantly in a volunteer capacity to their school in any manner, such as organizing reunions, alumni engagement, and related activities and events.

Ciro "Sonny" Martone, Lee 1973 - Lee High School's digital historian and social media director keeps the Lee High flame alive daily to over 2000 members of the largest Lee High Facebook group

Billy Scott, Lee 1982 - A tireless promoter and planner for Lee High alumni events, recruiting attendees and securing sponsorships for a wide range of gatherings over the past decade

Full biographies of each inductee are available at the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2022Inductees>

**About Richard C. Lee High School:** From 1968 to 1986, Richard C. Lee High School welcomed students from the widest range of geography in the city, creating a unique and vibrant educational experience in Downtown New Haven. A diverse student body, top performing sports teams, and committed teachers made Lee High School a special place to learn during its brief existence. When the City of New Haven determined that a new high school in the Hill neighborhood would better serve the needs of students, Hill Regional Career High School became the successor school to Lee, with most of the students and teachers at Lee moving to Career when the new facility was completed. The primary Lee High School color of purple remains at Career High as a permanent symbol of the historic connection between the schools.

**About Hill Regional Career High School:** Hill Regional Career High School prepares students to become productive members of their own community and a global society by providing an educational environment that establishes rigorous standards of academic performance with a focus on health and business. We encourage students to maximize their potential by promoting critical and creative thinking, developing technological competence and fostering respect for a diverse and changing world. These goals are the shared responsibility and commitment of the staff, faculty, students, parents and community.

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