

An Environment for Effective Teaching & Learning Volume 4, Issue 6 - 10/16/20

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE SELECTED FOR HONORS IN MUSIC

Congratulations to the following high school students who have received honors in music. They are:

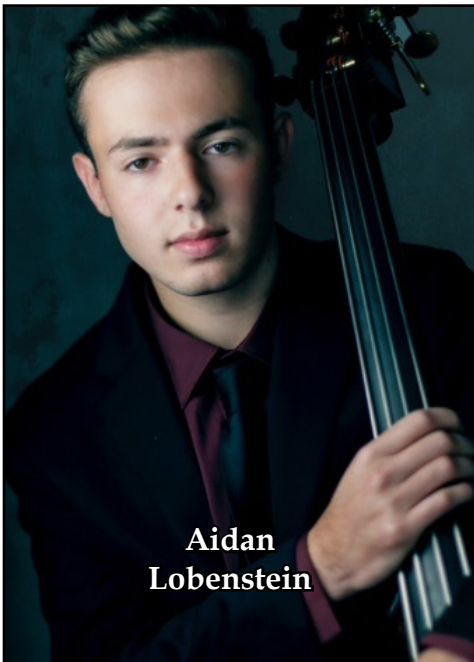
Aidan Lobenstein

Luca Iallonardi

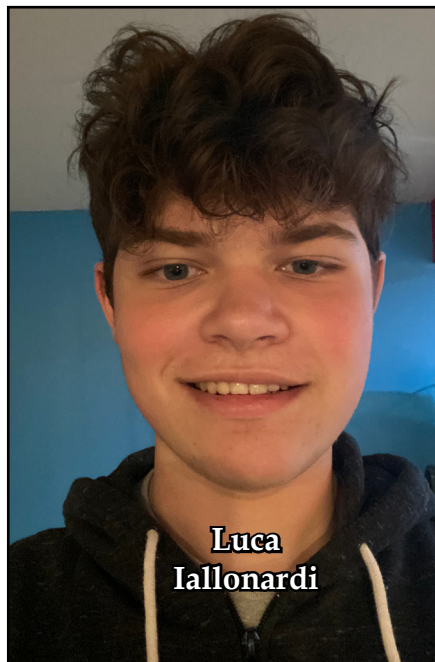
NAFME All-National Music Ensembles

Marco Ingrassia

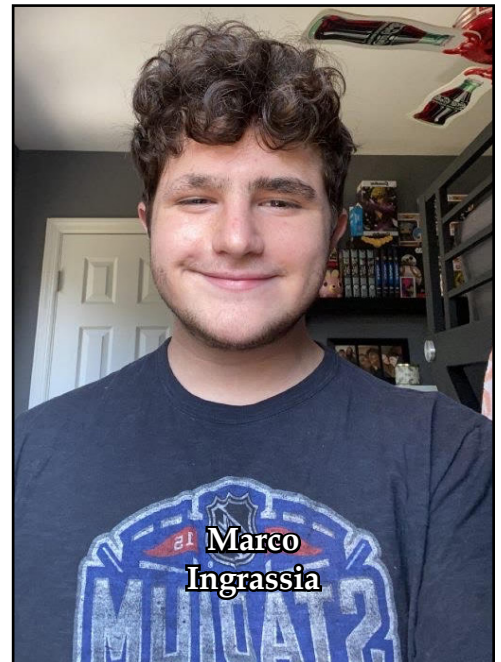
All-State Mixed Choir



**Aidan
Lobenstein**



**Luca
Iallonardi**



**Marco
Ingrassia**

Dr. Laura Landor, Director of Fine and Performing Arts is very proud of these students and their accomplishments. She said, "We are extremely proud of these three musicians. Their recognition throughout both New York State and the Nation is a testament to their hard work, outstanding character, and strong music education. We are honored to have them represent the Hauppauge community."

Leah Pease is a high school orchestra teacher. With regard to her student, Aidan Lobenstein, Leah said, "Aidan Lobenstein has always been an outstanding bassist in our Hauppauge orchestra program. Throughout the challenging times of quarantine Aidan continued to work on his skills as a bass player and deepen his passion for music. I am so proud of the thoughtful work Aidan has put into developing his instrumental and musical skills. Over these past few months he truly has matured as both a young man and talented bassist. We are all so proud of him!"

Catherine Goldenbaum is a high school choir teacher. With regard to her student, Luca Iallonardi, Catherine said, "Luca is an exceptional, well-rounded musician whose contributions have enriched the entire Music Department. Whether it be as a singer, a pianist, or a theory enthusiast, Luca is always ready to participate and collaborate with both students and faculty. He is an outstanding representa-

tive of the Hauppauge community and we are so proud to know that he is being recognized at the National level!"

Leanne Contino is a high school choir teacher. With regard to her student, Marco Ingrassia, Leanne said, "I do not find it surprising that Marco received a nomination for a 2020 All-State Ensemble! Having the All-State experience will add fuel to the passion he has for choral music and singing. Marco's voice has been an integral part of the Chamber Choir for the last two years, providing a clear and bright sound to the Tenor section. He exemplifies a student who brings 100% effort and collaboration to every rehearsal. He intends to major in Music Education in college, and I could not think of a better fit for a young professional!"

We wish these fine students and musicians the best as they continue on their journeys!

HIGH SCHOOL SOPHOMORE IS NAMED "PEOPLE'S CHOICE" WINNER AT LONG ISLAND PAGEANT

High School sophomore, Aaliyah Flores, competed this past weekend in the Miss Long Island Teen Pageant. Although she was not crowned Miss Long Island Teen, Aaliyah did receive a special honor at the pageant. She was named the "People's Choice" winner.

Aaliyah is 15 years old. She has been involved in Drama Club and DECA and she hopes to continue in these activities this year. She is very much interested in both the legal and investigative aspects of the criminal justice system and wants to study forensic science at John Jay College of Criminal Justice when she graduates. She then would like to apply that knowledge of forensics and the justice system to pursue a law degree and earn a Juris Doctorate Degree from Cornell University and become a practicing lawyer.

With regard to receiving this award, Aaliyah said, "A person's victory is not always about the crown, but rather the experience in getting there. Although I was not crowned Miss Teen Long Island, I'm extremely honored and grateful for winning the "Peoples Choice" award. Winning this allowed my charity of choice "The American Alliance for Disabled Children" to receive proceeds on my behalf. I very much appreciate everyone who helped me along the way, and the fun I had doing this pageant was unforgettable. My message to my peers is winning is the journey and growth, not always the title."

Congratulations, Aaliyah, on this wonderful honor! We wish you the best of luck in your future plans!



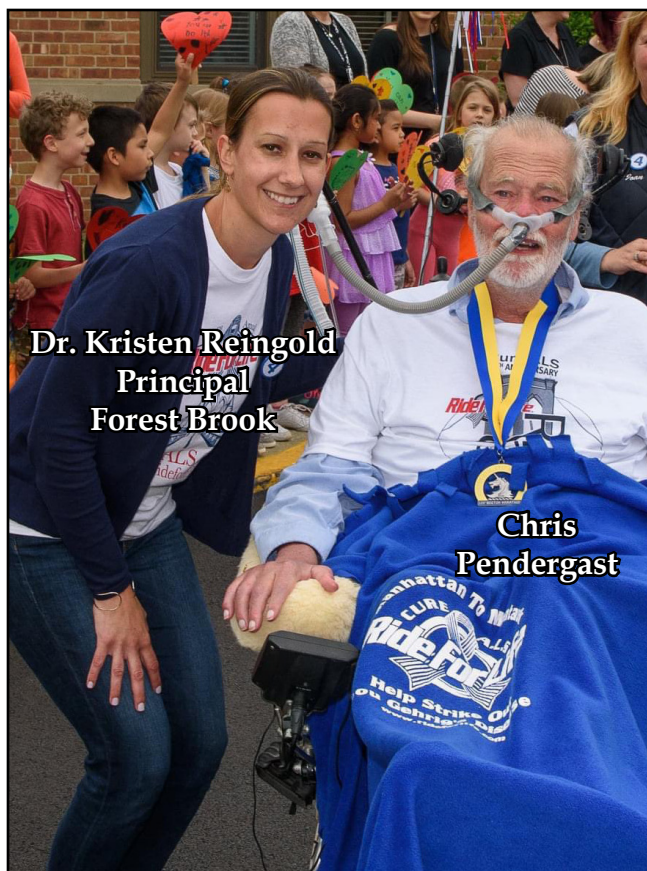
Congratulations

WE REMEMBER ALS CHAMPION AND SCHOOL VISITOR, CHRIS PENDERGAST

Forest Brook Elementary School has treasured being a stop on the ALS “Ride for Life” for the past six years. The “Ride for Life” was founded by Chris Pendergast, a former Northport teacher who lived in Miller Place. Mr. Pendergast was diagnosed with ALS in 1993 and although he was given three years to live, he survived living with the disease for 28 years. He defied the odds and helped to raise awareness and money for those with the disease. Forest Brook became a designated stop for Mr. Pendergast and other ALS patients as they rode their electric wheelchairs down the highways and local streets from Greenport to Washington Square Park in New York City each year.

Forest Brook Principal, Kristen Reingold, shared the following regarding their yearly visits from Mr. Pendergast, “Forest Brook was blessed to welcome Chris Pendergast and the “Ride for Life” crew to our school for the past six years. Mr. P. is the true definition of a hero. He lived his life to encourage others to always have hope and to persevere in the face of any obstacle. His courage was inspiring and his impact on our world is immeasurable. It is a privilege and honor to have known Mr. P. The staff and students at Forest Brook Elementary School extend our deepest sympathies to his family and friends.”

Mr. Pendergast has raised over \$10 million dollars for ALS research and patient services making a difference for those with the disease and their families. We are grateful that our students and staff have been able to assist him on his past journeys.



Dr. Kristen Reingold
Principal
Forest Brook

Chris
Pendergast

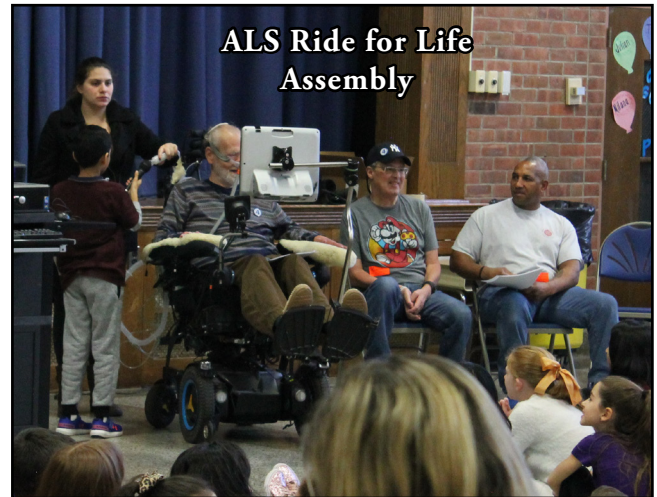


Chris
Pendergast
at Forest Brook Elementary

STUDENTS ATTEND "ALS RIDE FOR LIFE ASSEMBLY" AND LEARN "GEHRIG GRIT"

Bretton Woods Elementary School held a very important and moving assembly for their students in grades 3-5 on Monday. It was the "ALS Ride for Life Assembly." The assembly was about teaching students about ALS, but more importantly teaching students how to overcome adversity in their own lives and never give up.

Chris Pendergast visited the students. He has been living with ALS which stands for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, for many years. ALS is a neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord that control voluntary movement. Mr. Pendergast was an elementary school teacher who now is unable to move his limbs and speaks with an eye-gaze computer called a Dynavox. The Dynavox works by track-



ing eye movements on to a keyboard and generating speech. Former educator, Mr. Dick Iannuzzi, helped co-present along with another ALS patient, Mr. Nelson Colon.

During the assembly, Mr. Pendergast showed the students how his computer and chair works. He even had students manipulate his chair to move him across the room! Chris's message of hope and overcoming adversity has made an impact on many people. He encourages everyone to have "Gehrig Grit" which he says is, "Never give up, always have hope, and remain optimistic no matter what the odds are."

"ALS Ride For Life" has raised over 8 million dollars! The money goes towards research, grants for those who have a confirmed medical diagnosis of ALS, legal services related to ALS, loaner power wheelchairs, scholarships for New York state high school seniors who have had a family member with ALS, and more.

Teacher, Tara Dungate said, "I have been in contact with the organization and they are going to try their best to have Bretton Woods be one of their stops along their ride in May!" Forest Brook has participated for the past five years and is a stop on the "ALS Ride for Life." They held an assembly as well last week.

Bretton Woods held a "Jeans Day" fundraiser on Friday. They are grateful for everyone's support of this worthwhile cause.



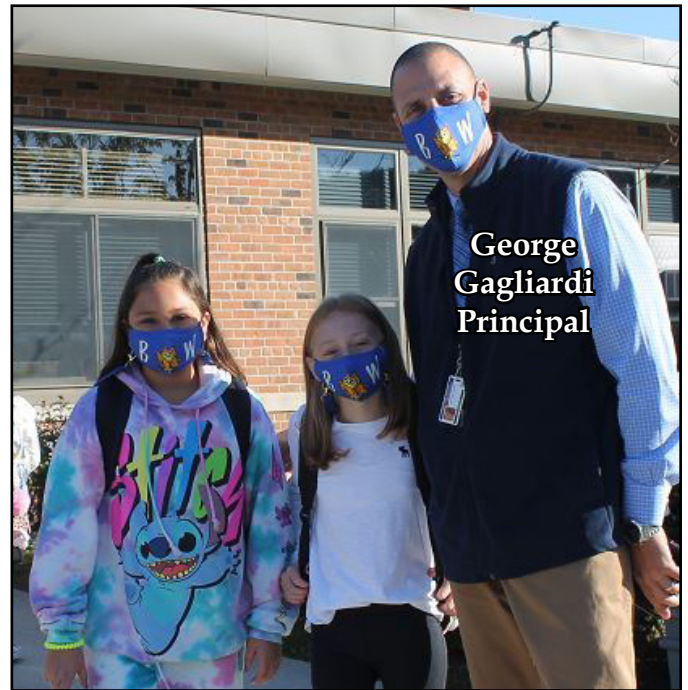
Teacher, Tara Dungate commented today, 10/16/20, that in speaking to her students in class about Mr. Pendergast, they remembered his visit and his message, "Never lose hope." "Stay positive." "Help others." She said he was an inspiration to the staff and students at Bretton Woods and he truly lived his life by the message that he used in his program.

Bretton Woods participated in the 2020 "Ride for Life" by making posters for the ride.

BRETTON WOODS P.T.A. MAKES A SPECIAL DONATION

Bretton Woods Elementary School received a special donation from their P.T.A. this week. Students and staff were gifted with masks decorated with the school's initials and Owl Mascot!

Here are some photos of smiling faces hidden under their new masks!



George
Gagliardi
Principal



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Bretton Woods "New Masks"



Thank you, Denise Murphy, for the great photos!

FOREST BROOK ANNOUNCES THEIR WINNERS OF THE “STOP THE SUMMER SLIDE CHALLENGE”

This past June students were invited to participate in the fourth annual “Stop the Summer Slide Challenge.” The challenge ran for nine weeks from July 1st through August 31st. Students had the opportunity to read various books, practice their math skills and engage in programming and coding games and challenges.

The following students were named winners for Forest Brook Elementary School. They are:

*Zachary Veritzan
Mackenzie Clarke
Abigail Krisman
Jacob Krisman*

Congratulations to these students on their efforts to “stop the summer slide.”



PINES STUDENTS ENJOY SOME BEAUTIFUL WEATHER AT A SAFE AND SOCIAL DISTANCE

Some Pines fifth-grade students spent some quality time outside this week enjoying the beautiful weather while still being safe and socially distanced. Kerri Dorman and Tracy Zamek teach class 5-1. They know the importance of creating a safe and healthy classroom environment that nurtures physical and emotional needs just as much as academics.

Ms. Dorman and Ms. Zamek believe that academics and social, emotional health are of utmost importance. After an afternoon of hard work, their students stepped outside in the sunshine to not only stretch and take a breath, but they exercised, showed off some dance moves and laughed together. Ms. Dorman said, "It's important to keep a good healthy balance in this challenging classroom environment."

Ms. Zamek added, "Our focus is to first make sure the children are o.k. Once we have that, everything else falls right into place."

Here are some photos of their time outdoors!



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