

Long Island High School for the Arts is a Nassau BOCES program

From the Principal's Desk for our LIHSA Families

November 19, 2020

Transgender Awareness Week: Nov 13 - 19

Transgender



WEEK

Transgender Awareness Week is nearing an end, but it serves as a good opportunity to remind our students of different LGBTQIA+ resources including <u>Ackerman Institute for the Family, LGBT Network</u> and <u>The Trevor Project</u>. You are supported at LIHSA.

A New Face: Welcome Peggy Mallon!

Peggy Mallon recently began her new role, replacing Jo-Ann DiCarlo as LIHSA's Main Office Administrative Support, just finishing her first week on the job.

Peggy has 30+ years of secretarial/administrative assistant

experience, her last 23 years have been spent with Nassau BOCES at the Joseph M. Barry Career and Technical Education Center. Fun fact about Peggy, she danced and acted in her small-town scholarship fundraiser with the Civic Association called the "Frog Hollow Frolics." Favorite song lyric, and one to live by is: "And in the end, the love you take is equal to the love you make" by Lennon/McCartney.

She can be reached via email at <u>PMallon@nasboces.org</u> and looks forward to meeting all of our LIHSA families!



A Virtual Open House: December 8

We are pleased to offer another Virtual Open House opportunity. This will be held Tuesday, December 8 from 8 am - 9:30 am.

Please share the following information with families in Nassau and Suffolk Counties who have a talented student who would like to pursue a career in the arts, <u>including this</u> <u>registration link</u>.

Please feel free to share the event and invite people you know on our <u>Facebook event</u>.



Our Live Open House

Last Saturday we successfully hosted our first LIVE Open House for prospective new families and thanks to the hard work of our teachers, administrators and students, it was a wonderful success. Our protective masks couldn't hide our enthusiasm for LIHSA and this made way for a day filled with excitement and creativity.

Attendees learned information about LIHSA, went on campus tours and culminated their visit with attending one twenty-minute workshop/technique class of their choice that included **Improv** with Ms. Stephanie Colsanti, **Figure Drawing** with Mr. Cuvelier, **Building Puppets for Avenue Q!** with Erik Chocianowski, and **Broadway Theatre Dance** with Mr. Brick.

Special thanks to our incredible student tour guides Giannina Maresca, Emma Fletcher, and Anays Sarauz as well as thanks to Mika Bergonzi who posed as

a student model in the art studio.

Our next Live Open House will have a similar format and is scheduled for January 30. Since space will continue to be limited, please encourage potential new LIHSA families to sign-up and reserve their spot early by clicking here.



Prospective Students created puppets to take home



Prospective Students created puppets to take home



Mika Bergonzi posed while students participated in a Figure Drawing workshop

In the Classroom: Activism & Performance

Last week our Activism and Performance students talked about the textbook chapter on Storytelling. Students shared personal stories and wrote phrases on post-it notes. These are some of the vision boards that were created from that exercise.





Cross Departmental Cooperation





When a.m. student film maker David McDonald needed help for his film, seasoned actor and LIHSA administrator Erica Giglio Pac stepped in to help. The film is a horror/thriller short, centering on a locked door and an unseen threat. We can't wait to see it!Erica's background is in Musical Theatre Performance. She has performed in musicals and plays throughout the region. To read more about Erica's bio, click here

LIHSA Student Success



Congratulations to Kyla Cusick on her upcoming (Monday, November 23) release of a new song that she co-wrote and sang titled "Fearless." It was signed by Bass Rebels Record Label.

Here's a link to pre-save the song

LIHSA Alums in the News

Currently a student at Temple University, Collin Haber (LIHSA Class of 2017) will compete Saturday night in American Pops Orchestra's Next Gen: Finding the Voices of Tomorrow Semi-Finals!

<u>Click here if you'd like to register to</u> join APO on November 21 at 8 PM as 30 semi-finalists from across the United States compete for their chance to advance to the final round and win a \$1,000 scholarship and paid performance opportunity with The American Pops Orchestra. A panel of esteemed judges and the audience vote will decide which 10 semi-finalists will be chosen to travel to Washington, DC to perform live with APO for the final round in 2021.



Break a leg, Collin!



Do you know you can take a dance class with the Rockettes for free every Wednesday? <u>Follow them on Instagram</u> and learn their classic Christmas Spectacular moves!

What's New For Next Year

Long Island High School for the Arts New Programs for September 2021

Creative Arts Therapy: Engagement with the creative arts can bring joy, restore self-confidence, improve mental and physical wellbeing and contribute to improving the quality of life for everyone. This program will emphasize developmental health across the lifespan and incorporate coursework to develop students' artistic skills. Each of the 8 required core classes addresses a different area of creative practice. Through additional genre specific artistic coursework credit students will build skill in technique classes in various artistic areas of interest making connections with different populations and building community.

Sonic Arts: This program will offer students' knowledge in the creation of artistic and commercial works of sound. The intended audience includes electroacoustic composers, other electronic music composers, sound artists, and sound designers. Sonic arts is an approach to composing music and sounds using new technologies. Electronic and software instruments open new possibilities for musical expression and sound design, which become two aspects of the same artistic practice. Sonic arts students will study studio techniques as methods to realize creative vision.

Game Design: In the Game Design program LIHSA students will prepare for careers in the rapidly developing gaming industry. They will explore current industry standard technologies, media and art applications, and emerging technological advances. Students will refine skills in drawing, narrative development, design, animation, graphic imaging, and multimedia production to prepare for employment, advanced training, or higher education in game design. Through hands-on experience, students will be introduced to critical aspects of the game industry. Roles and responsibilities within the game development team will be discussed and practiced through in-class exercises.

Sustainable Design: The demand for skilled sustainability practitioners has grown exponentially in the past three decades. As businesses, nonprofits, and governments worldwide have adopted sustainability-focused practices, the need for professionals with the expertise to guide them has never been greater. This program will prepare graduates to go on to postsecondary education and careers where they will implement their innovations at design firms, create zero-waste consumer goods and design energy-efficient workspaces, armed with strategies for success in the modern design world.

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LIHSA has applied to NYS to become CTE certified in new areas to continue to expand our program offerings.

Joe Naftal: Production Management Artist Residency



Our Lighting Design and Electrics class has been working with **Joe Naftal**. Joe Naftal is a New York City based freelance lighting designer and associate/assistant lighting designer. Holding a BFA in Lighting Design from UNC School of the Arts, his experience includes classical & contemporary plays, musicals, modern dance, ballet, and opera.

Alvin Alley's Virtual Dance Season



December 2 - 31, enjoy Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's first-ever online season.In the words of Artistic Director Robert Battle, "this season we look forward to joining with you on a journey of reinvention and reimagination that takes Ailey's artistry to new heights with excellence, beauty, strength, hope, and love." Celebrating six decades of Revelations, the season will elevate Ailey's legacy of innovation and excellence with premieres, reinvented classics, interactive workshops, and a series of artist conversations.

<u>All events will be free to enjoy on their website</u>or on YouTube and Facebook, with no registration required.

ABT Dance Residency Continues

We are so fortunate to have a continuing artistic residency with ABT.

Artistic Coordinator Educational Outreach, Richard Toda completed his work with our Ballet I class this week.



Our Ballet III students continue to work with Wendy Palmer-Clark, professional dancer and teaching artist throughout the year.

Thank you ABT!

Robert "B.A." Schoen



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