



LONG ISLAND
HIGH SCHOOL
FOR THE **ARTS**

Perform. Create. Achieve.

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

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

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From the Principal's Desk for our LIHSA Families

September 10, 2021

**September 12 - 18 is
National Arts in Education Week!**

**September 15 - October 15 is
Hispanic Heritage Month!**

We're Back!





We are thrilled - beyond thrilled - to be back at school with our incredibly talented and passionate students filling the hallways. Knowing that these students will become bonded through collaborations and shared learning just fills all of our hearts with great joy.

While we're entering the third academic year impacted by the pandemic, it's with great pride that we note that this is the second year in a row LIHSA opened up to in-person learning at the top of the school year. We applaud each student, faculty and staff member for doing their part to ensure we are safe and healthy so we can continue to operate in person. Please continue to make every effort, every day to [adhere to our safety protocols](#).

One of LIHSA's great strengths is noting that we draw from many school districts, all across both Nassau and Suffolk Counties. Students come from very distinct backgrounds, with different access to resources and perspectives. It's our job to ensure that each student finds their place at LIHSA, and we hope that our school-family connection is strong. We strive to ensure that every student feels safe and supported. Please communicate with your teachers and our staff regularly so that you get what you need from your LIHSA experience and find your place to belong here.

Wishing you a wonderful new year. [Please check out our first day of school blog](#) for more photos!

Congratulations Erica Giglio Pac!

We are thrilled to announce Erica Giglio Pac was promoted this year to the role of Assistant Principal.

Erica's arts background is in Musical Theatre

Performance, holding a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre from the University at Buffalo. She has performed in musicals and plays throughout the region, in such places as Art Park, the Player's Theatre, the Triad Theatre, John Engeman Theater, Westbury Music Fair, and at Citi Field where she has sung the national anthem at Mets games. Erica holds a Masters Degree in Educational Theatre from New York University, and has over a decade of experience in the classroom as a theatre educator in the New York City Department of Education, having built two musical theatre programs from the ground up at schools in Brooklyn and Queens. She has spent her summers as a drama instructor at various arts academies, including USDAN Summer Camp for the Arts, and now serves as the coordinator of LIHSA's Summer Arts Academy. Erica has also coordinated and directed youth performances for Teens on Broadway at Circle in the Square Theatre, the MCC Youth Ensemble, and the Student Theatre Arts Festival at Roundabout Theatre Company's American Airlines Theatre. Within the NYCDOE, she served as a Facilitator of Arts Professional Development for arts teachers across the five boroughs, working in all aspects of the arts from content-specific courses to curriculum and instruction development. Through this fulfilling work, her passion for educational leadership developed. Erica holds a degree in Educational Leadership & Administration from the College of Saint Rose, along with her New York State School Building and District Leader Licenses. She joined the administrative team at LIHSA in 2019.



Artistic Residencies Begin!

LIHSA's Artistic Residencies program enhances all we do in the classroom. In next week's newsletter, we'll share a comprehensive look at this fall's residencies.

This week, we were thrilled to welcome our first artist-in-residence for the year: James Beneduce who is working with our Stage Combat class.



School Photos

School photos were taken today. They will be used throughout the year for school ID's, on School Tool, to accompany news articles, and ultimately for our end-of-year yearbook.



School Transportation Issues

Many students have experienced challenges with school bus transportation this week. It's been very frustrating for families and we wanted to outline what you need to know:



1. Some districts have contracted with Nassau BOCES' transportation department to bring your student to school. This is a centralized service through Nassau BOCES, not directly through LIHSA, and their information can be found www.nassauboces.org/transportation
2. If your student doesn't arrive to school on time due to transportation issues, please contact Valerie Petrocelli as soon as possible. Students are never academically penalized due to transportation issues but we need to hear from you directly to appropriately note the absence or delay. Please email her at Vpetrocelli@nasboces.org or call her at the school: 516-622-5678.
3. All concerns about school bussing should be directed to your home district's transportation office. You can find that phone number on your school district's webpage.
4. Unfortunately, we are all feeling the affects from the national shortage of bus drivers. It is a very big challenge this fall and we hope are hopeful all issues get resolved soon.

Medical Forms

Health Forms were due 9/9/21. Please bring a hard copy of completed forms to school and submit to Valerie Petrocelli at check in or email directly to: vpetrocelli@nasboces.org

- Parent Medical Information Form (must be completed by all student's parents/guardians)
- Self Medication Release Form (if applicable)
- Emergency Care Plan Form (if applicable)
- Authorization to Administer Medication (if applicable)

Our Next Open House

Our first Open House for the school year will be in person on October 14. [Registration is required on our website](#). Please share with families who may be interested in learning more about LIHSA for their talented art students.

Scholarship Opportunity for Seniors: Deadline Oct 15!

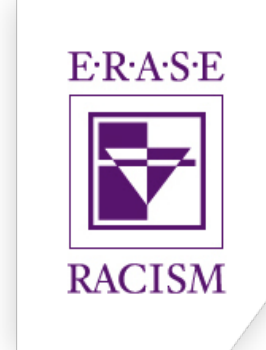
ERASE Racism is excited to announce their annual Raise Your Voice Essay Contest! Four winners will be

invited to and acknowledged at their Annual Benefit on November 17, 2021.

This contest is open to all Long Island high school seniors attending public schools, and four winners will receive a grand prize of a \$500 college scholarship!

[Please click here to see their flyer for more details, including the essay question and eligibility and submission requirements.](#)

For any questions regarding the scholarship please contact scholarships@eraseracismny.org or call (516) 921-4863 ext. 017.



Out and About: African Film Festival Family Day

African Film Festival's annual Family Day Celebration is back for its 14th edition! Join the Trust for Governors Island and AFF for this highly anticipated day of enjoyment! Fun-seeking individuals of all ages are invited to join us for an enchanting day of free activities including storytelling, double-dutch, dance and drum workshops led by world-renowned instructors, arts and crafts and a selection of short films (to be enjoyed virtually), all celebrating Africa and the diaspora.



More information: <https://africanfilmny.org/event/14th-annual-family-day-celebration/>

Out and About: Fall Arts Week on Governor's Island

A diverse collaborative of arts and cultural organizations that call Governors Island home present this joint roster of exhibitions, open studios, events and activities spanning several days in September as a part of the inaugural Fall Arts Week on Governors Island. [Click for more information.](#)



Out and About: Last Call to See Estamos Bien - La Trienal 20/21

El Museo del Barrio presents ESTAMOS BIEN – LA TRIENAL 20/21, the museum's

first national large-scale survey of Latinx contemporary art featuring more than 40 artists from across the United States and Puerto Rico. Originally planned for Fall 2020, the show was reconceived and expanded as a yearlong initiative, the exhibition debuted summer 2020 with online projects followed by an onsite exhibition in Las Galerías (Galleries) which opened Spring 2021.

ESTAMOS BIEN
LA TRIENAL 20/21

This exhibit closes September 26th, [so check out more information by clicking here.](#)

No School Thursday, September 16

A reminder: there is no school Thursday, September 16 in observance of Yom Kippur.

To all who are observing the holiday, we wish you an easy and meaningful fast.



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