



LONG ISLAND
HIGH SCHOOL
FOR THE **ARTS**

Perform. Create. Achieve.

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

From the Principal's Desk for our LIHSA Families

October 8, 2021

This Week's Special Feature National Coming Out Day: Speak Out



Monday is National Coming Out Day. This day is meant to celebrate the act of "coming out" -- when an LGBTQ+ person decides to share their gender identity or sexual orientation. On this day - and every day - LIHSA celebrates all who have come out as LGBTQ+ – that takes bravery, and we commend you. Every person who speaks up changes more hearts and minds, and creates new advocates for equality.

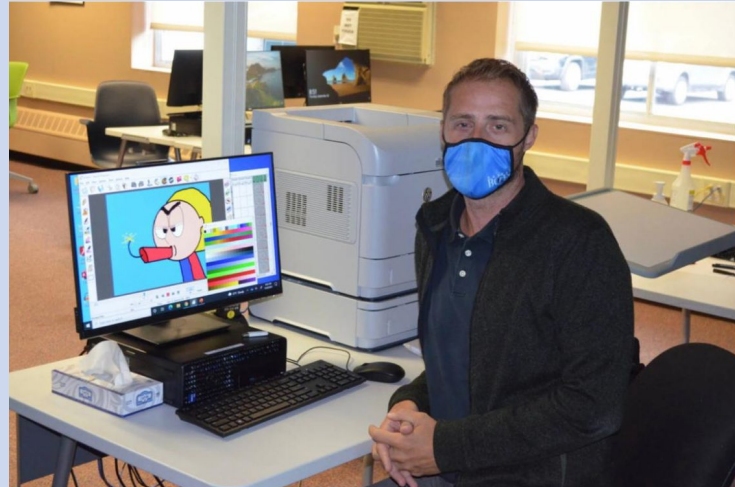
In recognition of National Coming Out Day, we are take a look back. At last year's Spring Festival, performing arts student Amani Rodriguez created a powerful dance piece called "Speak Out." [Please click here to read more and to watch his moving performance.](#)

LIHSA's new GSA meets each month. Please join our next meeting on November 1 from 4 - 5 pm and reach out to advisor Chris Brick with any questions.

Our goal is to ensure every student feels safe and supported. We encourage you to talk to our social worker, Nancy Tuck, if you have any questions or concerns.

Introducing....Christopher Fedorczak

In the spotlight this week is Christopher Fedorczak, LIHSA's new Computer Animation and Game Design teacher. Though new to LIHSA, Christopher is no stranger to Nassau BOCES; he's previously taught at GC Tech. Born in Poland and raised in Queens, he's been a professional animator and long time educator, and has even run marathons. [Read more about Chris by reading our latest "Getting to Know You" blog.](#)



In the Classroom: Our Songwriting Class



This week our students in Songwriting began creating some musical magic by starting their original compositions. [Click here to read our blog about their week at work.](#)

Announcements

New Monthly Parent Education Workshops

LIHSA will offer Zoom bi-monthly Parent Education Workshops to LIHSA parents. They will be led by Dr. Nancy Tuck, School Social Worker, and Melissa Stencel, School Guidance Counselor. Each of the following discussion topics will be offered twice (one morning time and one afternoon time). October kicks off with **Helping Students to Prepare for College Admission**. Wednesday, October 13 at 8:30 am or Wednesday, October 20 at 12:30 pm. You can review our other topics [by clicking here.](#)

Parent Teacher Conferences and College Fair:

Parent Teacher Conferences and the College Fair will be held on Tuesday, October 26, 2021 from 3 - 7 pm. [Please use this link to sign-up and schedule your conferences.](#)

Please note: masks must be worn at all times at all events held on campus.

A Word About Wellness: Mental Health

The first week of October is Mental Illness Awareness Week—a week of

education and advocacy.

Administrators, teachers, and support staff at LIHSA are all committed to promoting and maintaining the social-emotional well-being of all of our students. LIHSA students and parents can call on our full-time Guidance Counselor, Social Worker, and Nurse for support at any time.

[Please click here to read our blog about mental health and additional resources you can utilize when you need them.](#)

Our students have often used their art as a vehicle to express issues that matter to them. [Please click here to view a powerful dance piece - "Beyond the Surface" - on mental health from last year's Spring Festival.](#)

Opportunities for Students

Hispanic Heritage Essay Contest

In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, Optimum is offering an essay contest for middle and high school students. The deadline is October 31st. [Click here for details.](#)

Portfolio Review Night

Heckscher Museum is offering a Portfolio Review night on Thursday, October 14 6 - 9 pm. [Click for information.](#)

Emerging Artists: Apply Now

Heckscher Museum invites Emerging Artists for Instagram Take Over. [Click for information](#) and apply by November 15.

Art in the Community

In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, [click here to watch Ballet](#)

Hispánico in excerpts from Gustavo Ramírez

Sansano's *18+1* featuring Shelby Colona, Dandara Veiga, and Lenai Wilkerson from the 2020 Fall for

Dance Festival—on demand through October 15.



Chelsea Film Festival - October 14 - 17. [Click here for info.](#)

Holidays and Other Recognition Days to Note

October is [Breast Cancer Awareness Month.](#)

October 10 - [World Mental Health Day](#)

October 11 - National Coming Out Day (Recognized at LIHSA on October 8)



Upcoming Events

October 11 - No School
October 12 - [National Art Honor Society Meeting](#)
October 13 - [Parent Education Meeting \(8:30 am\)](#)
October 13 - [National Technical Honor Society Meeting \(4 pm\)](#)
October 13 - [National Tri-M Music Honor Society Meeting \(5 pm\)](#)
October 14 - [Open House and 1+1 Day](#) (for 9th and 10th graders)
October 14 - [National Honor Society for Dance Arts Meeting](#)
October 20 - [Parent Education Meeting \(12:30 pm\)](#)
October 25 - [Student Council Meeting](#)
October 26 - College Fair and Parent Teacher Conferences
November 1 - [GSA Gay Straight Alliance Meeting](#)
November 2 - No School (Superintendent Conference Day)
November 13 - [Open House](#)

Catching up on your reading

Want to read an earlier edition of our newsletter. [Check out our newsletter archives.](#) Or [click here to see our blogs](#)

The LIHSA Newsletter is curated by Dr. Chris Rogutsky, Sharon Maier-Kennelly and Jason Steinberg.

Long Island High School for the Arts | 239 Cold Spring Road, Syosset, NY 11791
| 516-622-5678 | www.longislandhighschoolforthearts.org

Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Nassau County

Susan Bertraum, *President*
Deborah Coates, *Vice President*
Ronald Ellerbe
Lawrence Greenstein
Martin R. Kaye
Fran N. Langsner
Robert "B.A." Schoen
Eric B. Schultz
Michael Weinick
Dr. Robert R. Dillon, *District Superintendent*
James R. Widmer, *Associate Superintendent for Business Services*
Dr. RG France, *Associate Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Educational Services*
www.nassauboces.org

Regional Schools and Instructional Programs

Dr. Carla Theodorou, Executive Director
Judith A. Hynes, Assistant Director
Jyoti Sood, Supervisor of Data and Technology

Long Island High School for the Arts

Dr. Christine Rogutsky, Principal
Erica Giglio Pac, Assistant Principal

www.longislandhighschoolforthearts.org

[Nassau BOCES does not discriminate](#)

STAY CONNECTED

