

Please see a community flyer that might be of interest: [Cheerleading Program](#)



What's Right with Spackenkill!

March 10, 2017

*A tradition of
excellence with a
vision for tomorrow*

Dear Spackenkill Community,

You will notice that Mary Forsell has made a change to our weekly newsletter based on your feedback. You no longer have to download the newsletter. This makes it far easier if you are using a hand-held device. The newsletter opens automatically. There are certain articles that will require you to click on a link to benefit fully from the story, like *Students Garner Scholastic Art Awards*. In this article we encourage you to view the slideshow of student artworks.

This newsletter features student accomplishments in science, art, music, and athletics. We also salute our Todd Middle School teachers and students who raised money for the Sparrow's Nest through a volleyball competition and our staff and students who participated in the Polar Plunge to raise money for Special Olympics!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Mark Villanti'.

Mark Villanti, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Students Garner Scholastic Art Awards

Spackenkill students excelled at this year's Scholastic Art Awards. Nathan Liang earned special recognition for being an American Visions Nominee. Only five works are awarded out of thousands of

entries in our region. The art goes on to represent the Hudson Valley Region and will compete on a national level.

[View a slideshow of award winners.](#)

Learn more about the awards at <http://www.artandwriting.org>.

Math League Students in State Top 30

Congratulations to the Mathematics Team and Coach Eleanor Pupko for another Spackenkill first: A perfect team score of 30 on the February NYML contest! **Jeana Chun, Rachel Li, Vincent Li, Cynthia Ma, Robert Waxman** and **Andrew Wu** each scored a perfect 6 points. **Karthik Dusi, Zachary Johnson, Anshuman Swain,** and **Albert Yao** each scored 5. The team ranks in the top 30 schools statewide and Vincent is in a 14-way tie for fifth place in the state.

String Students Take Master Class

On February 24, the String Ensemble traveled to Lincoln Center to hear the New York Philharmonic play Beethoven Symphony 7 and Symphony 8. The students were very excited to hear a live orchestra perform with such exceptional ability. After a lunch in the park, students traveled to the DiMenna Center for the Arts for a workshop with Anna Rabinova, a clinician. Ms. Rabinova is a violinist with the New York Philharmonic. A workshop, or master class, means that the students perform their music while the clinician listens and demonstrates improvements that are needed. Ms. Rabinova was extremely impressed with Spackenkill's musicians and gave them excellent tips to improve their playing.



Above left: Seated left to right: Jacqueline Hannan, Annika Hill, Mariah Robishaw, Marie Schaefer, Rachel Li, Madeleine Thezan. Standing left to right: Mrs. Kaczynski, Isabel Hammond, Laura Patkus, Vincent Li, Peter Staten, Elizabeth Schwoerer, Zachary Johnson, Ms. Anna Rabinova, Christina Li, Brendon Colucci, Jessica Cohen, Manavi Jaluka, Sahshe Gerard. (not pictured: Eric Choi). Above right: The students outside of Lincoln Center.

Congratulations to our sports teams!

Basketball Update



The Boys Basketball Team defeated Pleasantville 69 - 50 to advance to the NYSPHSAA Class B Regional Final. They play Center Moriches on Saturday, March 11, at Suffolk CC in Selden, New York. Game time is 12 . Winner advances to the State Final Four in Binghamton on March 17.

New Indoor Track Record

Kabongo Barry set two new school records and qualified for the Indoor Track State Championship in Staten Island. He finished first in the 55m dash and 2nd in the 300m dash at the Section IX State Qualifier on February 24th. At the State Championship he finished ninth overall in the 55m dash and 15th overall in the 300m dash.

New York State Scholar Athlete Teams Winter 2016-17

Boys Basketball

Girls Basketball

Girls Indoor Track

Marching Band Featured in Dutchess County Parade



[CLICK HERE](#) to enjoy a video of the Spackenkill Marching Band entertaining thousands in the Dutchess County St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 4.

Fundraisers Bring Out the Community

Spackenkill teams participated in the 19th Annual Polar Plunge on Saturday, February 25 at Sharpe Reservation in Fishkill. The event, which involves "plungers" entering chilly waters, raises money for the athletes of Special Olympics New York. Some moments from the event are below:



On February 24, teams competed in the Spiking for Sparrows Volleyball Tournament, sponsored by Todd Student Government. Physical Education teacher Lisa Papo reports that the event raised \$2,400 for the Sparrow's Nest Charity, which provides meals to families of caregivers with cancer. Mrs. Papo as well as Karin McGuire and Kim Rogers organized the event. Norma Vazquez is the advisor for Student Government. Some photos are below:



The Poptropicans, shown above at bottom right, were winners of the Spiking for Sparrows Volleyball Tournament. The team defeated the teachers!

Congratulations to participants in the Dutchess County Music Educators Association's Elementary All-County Festival, which was held the last weekend in February.



Kudos to Hagan Science Fair Participants

The Hagan Science Fair was held last week, and there was an awards ceremony on Friday, March 3.

Congratulations to all participants on their achievements. The Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Mark Villanti, was one of the judges and had this message for the fifth grade teachers: "Your students exhibited excellent presentation skills; great eye contact; personality and courtesy. It was a great reflection on Hagan and your preparation! They chose topics related to their experience and demonstrated an inquisitive attitude that is so fundamental to science exploration."

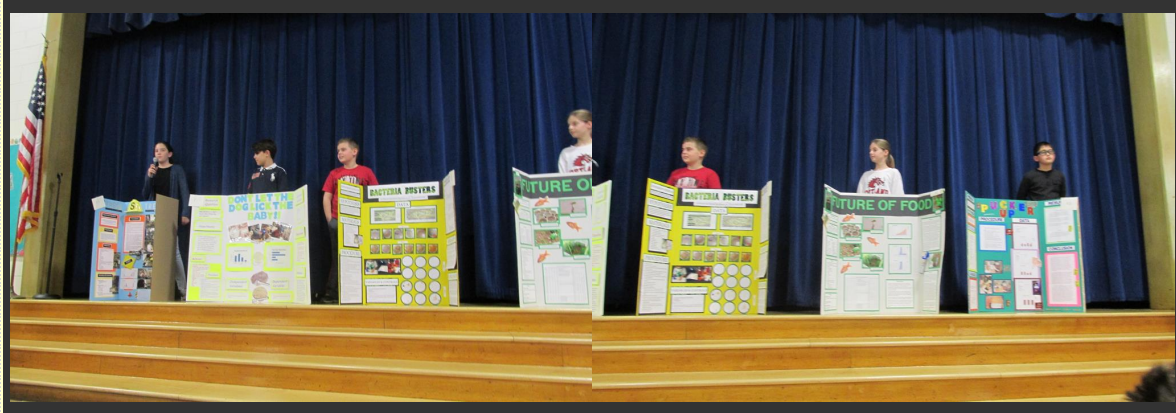
First place: Ella Hanaburgh, Stephen Mulcahy, Matthew Darcy, Nathaniel Johnson, Ava Krakower

Second place: Briana Trivigno, Marlena DeLaurentis, Joseph DeForno, Maya Duffy, Dylan Updike, Kaitlyn Kurdi

Third place: Rohan Burlingame, Tamar Hyman-Fessler, Maya Rawls, Omar Khurshid, Anna Chiarieri, Caelyn Daley, Brenna McMahon, Giancarlo Paonessa

STA Certificates: Julia DeLaurentis, Cameron Jolly, Ingrid Nohara, Alyssa DeLaurentis, Aidan Rogers

[CLICK HERE FOR THE FULL LIST OF WINNERS AND THEIR SCIENCE PROJECTS](#)





Hagan Art Club Visited by Local Paper

The Hagan Art Club, which meets weekly before school with elementary art teacher Sharon Ciccone, got a visit from the *Poughkeepsie Journal* to learn more about their latest projects. Board President Tom Keith, artist and former Nassau art teacher Karl Volk, who has established an art scholarship for high school students, and Gully Stanford, a retired volunteer in arts and education, also attended. [Please click here for a link to the article.](#)

Photos from the visit are below.



Clockwise from top left: Sharon Ciccone advises a student. Art Club members at work. A club meeting, with reporter and photographer observing. Karl Volk (far left) shakes hands with Superintendent Villanti, while Tom Keith (second from left) and Gully Stanford look on.

Nassau Presents First Grade Play

Nassau continued the tradition of its first grade President's Day play. The children sang a song that included the names of all the US presidents, as well as special songs about George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. Afterward, everyone enjoyed treats to celebrate a job well done!



(845) 463-7800
spackenkillschools.org

Mission: Inspired by a tradition of excellence and a spirit of continuous improvement, the Spackenkill School District will provide all of our students with the academic and social skills necessary to pursue their goals and become responsible citizens in an interdependent global community.

Vision: All Spackenkill graduates will be lifelong learners who are inspired to pursue their dreams and contribute to the global society.

Please submit story ideas to

mary.forsell@sufsdny.org

Issues of the newsletter are available on the [Spackenkill website:](http://www.spackenkillschools.org/district_newsletter_archive)
www.spackenkillschools.org/district_newsletter_archive

