

# Value Education

Graduation 2011

## Congratulations Class of 2011

This issue of *Value Education* celebrates the accomplishments of 17 members of Rye Neck's Class of 2011. These students illustrate the range of talent and the commitment to success possessed by Rye Neck's entire student body.

These graduates balance their enthusiasm for learning with a broad sampling of extracurricular interests. Rye Neck successfully harnesses its energy through challenging academic programs and rich extra and co-curricular activities. These opportunities help develop leadership and production skills, hone special talents, and ultimately result in a strong work ethic, a sense of personal empowerment and a value of teamwork.

**Jeff Kastenbaum**  
**Stanford University**  
**Valedictorian**

- **AP Scholar with Distinction**
- National Merit Commended Scholar
- National Honor Society
- Blue Ribbon Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence
- Department Awards: English, Math, Science, Social Studies and Theatre
- Vassar Book Award
- 4-year RNHS Theatre Productions: Lighting Design/Crew
- Community Service Award for 100 or more hours
- Senior Internship with Sound Associates



**Kenneth Militana**  
**Cornell University**  
**Salutatorian**

- **AP Scholar with Honor**
- National Honor Society
- Blue Ribbon Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence
- Department Awards: Science and Social Studies
- Harvard Book Award
- International Thespian Society with Honors
- Student Senate Class Representative
- 4-year member Academic Challenge Team and Strategy Club, 3-year member Strategy Club
- 4-year Varsity Tennis, captain (11,12)
- 3-year RNHS Theatre Productions: Lead/supporting roles
- Community Service Award for 100 or more hours
- Senior Internship with the City of Rye



### About the Class of 2011:

- 98% will go on to further education
- 2% will go to work and the military
- 97% will graduate with a Regents or Regents with Distinction Diploma

## **A Message from the HS Principal** **By Barbara Ferraro, Ed. D.**



It is a pleasure to share with you the college acceptances for the Rye Neck High School Class of 2011. The Class of 2011 will be attending some of the finest schools and universities in

the nation – 98% of the class will go on to further education; 2% to work or the military.

These outstanding college acceptances are a direct result of the rigorous academic course of study offered to the students at Rye Neck High School. Our program includes 20 Advanced Placement (AP) classes, and college credited courses in world languages.

In addition, we offer an extensive athletic program, the Senior Intern Program, a community service program and a comprehensive arts education sequence.

These opportunities are unique to the quality educational program at Rye Neck and enhance college applications, making our students preferred candidates at our nation's most competitive schools.

In an effort to further assist students in making informed choices regarding higher education, college representatives visit Rye Neck on a regular basis.

Our collaborative approach to the application process yields outstanding results for our students, as demonstrated by the Class of 2011.

## **Superintendent's Notebook** **By Peter J. Mustich, Ed. D.**

Please note that we have highlighted 17 of our graduates in the Class of 2011 – but know that each member of the class is special and is celebrated.



I can tell you that all these students make us very proud, not only for what they have been able to accomplish, but also for who they are as individuals.

They are scholars, athletes and artists; they are anxious to move forward and use what they have learned from our schools and our community. They are poised to make their mark on the world. I know that you join me in wishing them the best of luck as they move on to new opportunities.

Our high school graduation is a community celebration; it represents our district's long standing commitment to excellence in education, a tradition dating back over 150 years. Tradition is important as it roots our students in the past and gives them a firm foundation on which to build.

Our students have benefitted from one of the most challenging and resource rich programs in the state and they are well prepared for the future.

On behalf of our graduates, I thank you for your continued support; you are making a difference for each and every one of our students.

Please enjoy our graduation issue and the summer season.

**Eugenia Claire Behar**  
**Cornell University**



- AP Scholar with Honor
- National Honor Society
- Class Officer (President 9, Vice-President 11, 12)
- Blue Ribbon Award for Character, Service & Leadership
- Brandeis Book Award
- St. John's Women in Science Award for AP Calculus and Physics
- Community Service Award for 100 or more hours
- 4-year Band Member – Clarinet
- International Thespian Society (11, 12) RNHS Theatre Productions (10,11,12)
- 4-year Varsity Track, 3-year Varsity Field Hockey (Captain, All-Elite Honorable Mention, All-League 12, All-League 11)
- 4-year Member SADD, 3-year Member Math Club
- Senior Internship with The Edelman Group

**Christine Cook**  
**University of Maryland,**  
**Honors College**



- AP Scholar
- National Honor Society
- Blue Ribbon Award for Character, Service and Leadership
- Westchester County Youth Board's Milly Kibrick Award for Community Service
- Wendy's Heisman National Nominee for Outstanding Achievement Scholarship for Athletics and Citizenship
- 4-year Track, 3-year Varsity Cross Country
- 4-year member of Midnight Run, Students Against Destructive Decisions, 3-year member of Key Club (Treasurer 11, President 12)
- Community Service Award for 100 or more hours
- Senior Internship with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society

**Hayley Biegel**  
**New York University**  
**Steinhardt School of Music**



- Helen Hayes Award Winner for Outstanding Acting Performance in *Footloose*
- Thespian Honor Award for Extraordinary Dedication and Exemplary Work in the Rye Neck Theatre Program
- NYSSMA Conference and Area All-State Chorus
- Outstanding Contribution to High School Chorus
- Westchester County Area All-State Chorus
- International Thespian Society (National Honors 12)
- President of Tri-M Music Honor Society
- Senior Internship with Bellows Elementary School Music Department

**Andres Garcia**  
**Alfred University**  
**Inamori School of Engineering**



- Blue Ribbon Award for Motivation, Effort, Growth and Improvement
- Boy Scouts of America (Eagle Scout)
- Certificate of Merit by Suzi Oppenheimer for Distinguished Service to Community
- Astronomy Club
- Community Service Award for 100 or more hours
- Senior Internship with EduTek Ltd



**Marie Hasse**  
**Duke University**

- **AP Scholar with Honor**
- National Honor Society
- Departmental Award for Exceptional Achievement in Spanish Language & Literature
- LOTE National Honor Society: French & Spanish
- Mount Holyoke Book Award
- Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Award
- Outstanding Contribution to the High School Theatre Program
- 2-year Varsity Soccer
- Community Service Award for 100 or more hours
- Senior Internship with the Major League Baseball Network



- 4-year Member of the Student Awareness Coalition (10, President, 11 & 12)
- Lurie Human Rights Essay Award
- Community Service Award for 100 hours or more
- Senior Internship with Project Rebirth

**Caitlin Morelli**  
**Northeastern University**

- **AP Scholar with Honor**
- National Honor Society
- Blue Ribbon Award for Character, Service and Leadership
- Department Awards: English, Math, LOTE, Humanities and Theatre
- Outstanding Contribution to High School Chorus, Music and Theater; Outstanding Musician
- Yale Book Award
- LOTE National Honor Society: Spanish
- 3-year member International Thespian Society: President, International Honors (12)
- 4-year RNHS Theatre Productions: Lead/supporting roles
- Member Jazz Club (12) and NYC Club (11, Officer - 12)
- Varsity Soccer (11), Varsity Bowling (11) and Varsity Track (10)
- NYSSMA – Piano Level 6, Saxophone level 3
- Senior Internship with The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society



**Alexandre LaFond**  
**McGill University**

- National Honor Society
- Departmental Award for Exceptional Achievement in French
- LOTE National Honor Society
- Leonhard Euler Award for Mathematics
- 2-year member Academic Challenge Team
- Community Service Award for 100 or more hours
- Senior Internship with the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor



**Gerard O'Donnell**  
**Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science & Art**

- National Honor Society
- Department Awards: Math and Technology
- Columbia University Book Award
- JFK Physical Fitness Award
- 2-year member Academic Challenge Team, captain(12), 4- year member high school band and French club
- 3-year Varsity Bowling, captain (12)
- Senior Internship with Liberty Mechanical Contractors, LLC



**Sylvie Luzio**  
**Villanova University**

- **AP Scholar**
- National Honor Society
- Department Award: English
- Wellesley College Book Award
- International Honor Thespian Award for Extraordinary Dedication and Exemplary Work
- 4-year RNHS Theatre Department: costume/makeup/hair crew
- Editor for RNHS's Literary Magazine (9-12)





## *The Class of 2011*

Katie Acompora  
 Morgan Anderson  
 Joseph Patrick Aquino  
 Michelle Christine Arena  
 Emily Marie Ayala  
 Renee A. Bascoe  
 Yennifer Bayarre  
 Jessica Rae Beebe  
 Eugenia Claire Behar  
 Rachel Q. Berger-Hart  
 Hayley Biegel  
 Taylor Grace Biegel  
 Nicole Lee Bruenn  
 Sophie Byland  
 Ashley Kerin Cables  
 Amanda Campone  
 Kellie Marie Catullo  
 Shatise Chappel GED  
 Jenna Cohen  
 Christine Elizabeth Cook  
 Guillermo Cortes  
 Megan Daugherty  
 Beatrice Dean  
 Santiago DeLucca  
 Alexandra Noelle DeRose  
 Connor Dooley  
 Katie S. Doong  
 Andres Garcia  
 Micheal Garcia  
 Wilson F. Gelhard  
 Thomas I. Gisin  
 Erica Vanesa Gramajo  
 Rosemary K. Green

Christina Ivelise Hadley  
 Prince Han  
 Marie Emily Clarisse Hasse  
 Casey Haviland  
 Damir Hodzic  
 Sean Holloway  
 Felicia Kasdan  
 Jeffrey Henry Kastenbaum  
 Mariko Kitamura  
 Alexandre Lafond  
 Vanessa Laise  
 Angelo LaVigna  
 Courtney Lemon  
 Letizia Lisella  
 Alyson Eileen Luiso  
 Sylvie Luzio  
 Nicole Marie Maggio  
 Jeremy Marley  
 James Francis Mastoloni  
 David Julian Mendoza-Conner  
 Olivia Meyers  
 Daniel Michaelson  
 Kenneth J. Militana  
 Sarah A. Militana  
 Nehemias Miranda  
 Caitlin Morelli  
 Emily Morningstar  
 David Michael Morrissey  
 Kaitlyn S. Murphy  
 Gerard O'Donnell  
 Kiran Pande  
 Nicole K. Pennucci  
 Leah T. Pisaniello

Theodore Politis  
 Jonathan E. Recchia  
 Andrew Rubinstein  
 Jonathan Sanchez  
 Stephanie Sergel Scialo  
 Eloise Sherrid  
 Michael Daniel Sickles  
 Jenny Francesca Sipiora  
 Anna L. Solomon  
 Russell C. Sonenclar  
 Rodrigo A. Soto Vega  
 Jacob Amos Stone  
 Kristin Strazza  
 Damon Sugrue  
 Cassandra Swinghamer  
 Sayaka Takahashi  
 Masatoshi Takara  
 Lori Tamosaitis  
 Shotaro Tamura  
 Sebastian Alexander Nikolaus  
 Tanner  
 Peter A. Tucci  
 Christopher J. Tucciarone  
 Justin Vallarelli  
 Kylie McCabe VanBuren  
 Allison Walther  
 Chelsea Wauchope  
 Andrea Jeanine Wurzbarger  
 Christopher Yang  
 Kelly G. Yang  
 Patricia Ybarra  
 Lilli G. Zinaman

## *College Acceptances - Class of 2011*

Adelphi University	Hostos Community College of the CUNY	University of Richmond
Alfred University	Hunter College of the CUNY	Rider University
American University	University of Illinois at Urbana- Champaign	Roanoke College
University of Arizona	Indiana University at Bloomington	University of Rochester
Barnard College	Iona College	Roger Williams University
Bethune-Cookman University	Ithaca College	Sacred Heart University
Binghamton University	James Madison University	Saint Michael's College
Bishop's University	Kapiolani Community College	Salem State University
Borough of Manhattan Community College of the CUNY	Keene State College	Salt Lake Community College
Boston College	University of Kentucky	Sarah Lawrence College
Boston University	La Salle University	School of Visual Arts
Bowdoin College	Lafayette College	Siena College
Bucknell University	Lasell College	Skidmore College
University at Buffalo, The State University of New York	Lehigh University	Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education of the CUNY
Buffalo State College of SUNY	Lehman College of the CUNY	University of South Carolina
University of California at Berkeley	Lewis & Clark College	University of Southern California
University of California at Los Angeles	LIU, Brooklyn Campus	Southern Connecticut State University
University of California at San Diego	LIU, C.W. Post Campus	Springfield College
Carnegie Mellon University	Loyola University, Maryland	St. John's College
Cazenovia College	Macaulay Honors College at CUNY	St. John's University, Queens Campus
City College of New York	Manhattan College	St. Lawrence University
College of Charleston	Manhattanville College	Stanford University
Clark University	Marist College	College of Staten Island
Coastal Carolina University	Maryland Institute College of Art	Stony Brook University
Colby College	University of Maryland, College Park	Sullivan County Community College
University of Colorado at Boulder	Marymount Manhattan College	SUNY Alfred State College
Concordia College	University of Massachusetts, Amherst	SUNY Albany
Concordia University	McGill University	SUNY College at Brockport
Connecticut College	Medgar Evers College of the CUNY	SUNY College at Cobleskill
University of Connecticut	Mercy College	SUNY College at Cortland
Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science & Art	Miami University Oxford	SUNY College at Fredonia
Cornell University	University of Miami	SUNY College at Geneseo
Dartmouth College	University of Michigan	SUNY College at Oneonta
Delaware State University	Mount Holyoke College	SUNY College at Potsdam
University of Delaware	Mount Ida College	SUNY Delhi
Dickinson College	Mount Saint Mary College	SUNY Maritime College
Drexel University	College of Mount Saint Vincent	SUNY Morrisville State College
Duke University	University of New Hampshire	SUNY New Paltz
Duquesne University	University of New Haven	SUNY Oswego
Elon University	College of New Rochelle	Swarthmore College
Endicott College	New York Institute of Technology Manhattan	Syracuse University
Fairfield University	New York Institute of Technology Old Westbury	University of Texas, Austin
Fiorello H. LaGuardia Community College of the CUNY	New York University	Towson University
Fordham College at Lincoln Center	University of North Carolina, Greensboro	Trinity College
Fordham University	Northeastern University	Tulane University
Framingham State University	Northwestern University	Ursinus College
Franklin Pierce University	The Ohio State University	Utah State University
Full Sail University	Ohio University	Utica College
George Mason University	University of Oregon	Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology
Georgetown University	Pace University, New York City	University of Vermont
Gettysburg College	Pace University, Pleasantville- Briarcliff	Villanova University
Goucher College	Pennsylvania State University	University of Virginia
Hamilton College	University of Pittsburgh at Bradford	Wake Forest University
University of Hartford	University of Pittsburgh	Waseda University
Hartwick College	Providence College	Washington University at St. Louis
Herkimer County Community College	Purchase College	Wesleyan University
High Point University	Queens College of the CUNY	Westchester Community College
Hofstra University	Quinnipiac University	Western Connecticut State University
College of the Holy Cross	Rhode Island School of Design	Western New England College
	University of Rhode Island	University of Wisconsin, Madison
	Rice University	Xavier University
		Yale University

**Kiran Pande**  
**Bowdoin College**

- **AP Scholar with Honor**
- National Honor Society
- Blue Ribbon Award for Character, Service and Leadership
- Volunteer at Sok Sabay Center for Mistreated Children, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- 4-year member Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) ( President 12, Treasurer 11)
- 3-year member of Key Club (Vice President 12, Secretary 11), 2-year member of REEF
- 2x League Champion (race walking) - Winter Track, 3-year Varsity Cross Country and Spring Track
- Community Service Award for 100 or more hours
- Senior Internship with Sound Shore Medical Center



**Russell Sonenclar**  
**University of Delaware**

- Senior Class President
- Created and Developed Connect RN (Student Run Rye Neck website)
- Member Nita Lowey's District Youth Council
- Community Service Award for 100 or more hours
- Varsity Baseball 11,12
- 3-year ILP (Independent Learners Program)
- 4-year Panther's Place
- Member of REEF Club (11, 12)
- Senior Internship with BlackRock



**Jenny Sipiora**  
**College of the Holy Cross**

- **AP Scholar**
- National Honor Society
- 4-year Student Senate (President 12, Secretary 11)
- Blue Ribbon Award for Character, Service and Leadership
- St. John's Women in Science Award
- Nita M. Lowey Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition Award
- 3- year high school band (flute), 2-year writer *The Panther's Tale*
- 2-year student St. Joseph's School for the Deaf ASL Program
- Community Service Award for 100 or more hours
- Senior Internship with the Mamaroneck Community Nursery School



**Sebastian Tanner**  
**Washington University in St. Louis**

- **AP Scholar**
- National Honor Society
- LOTE National Honor Society: Spanish
- National German Honor Society
- Recognition of High Achievement in a Math College Level Course
- Leonard Euler Award for achievements in Mathematics
- Mamaroneck EMS, Attendant
- 4-year member International Club (President 12, Treasurer 11), 2-year member Student Awareness Coalition
- 3-year student German Language School
- 4-year, 3-sport athlete – Cross Country (MVP), Swimming, Track & Field (captain 10, 11, 12)
- Senior Internship with Jefferies & Co, NYC



**Kylie VanBuren**  
**Colby College**

- **AP Scholar**
- National Honor Society
- Department Award in English for Excellence and Achievement in Journalism
- St. John's University's Women in Science and Math Award
- 2-year International Thespian Society, 3-year International Club (President 12)
- 2-year writer *The Panther's Tale* (Editor-in-Chief 12, Junior Editor 11)
- 4-year Varsity Cross Country (captain 10,11,12, State Meet Qualifier 12)
- 4-year Varsity Winter and Spring Track (captain 11,12)
- (ILP) Independent Learner Project, journalism study
- Senior Internship with the Pace Women's Justice Center



## Our Graduates — A Closer Look at the Class of 2011

By Patricia Rinello, Senior Class Advisor

At the end of every school year when I prepare to write this column I reflect back on Senior events and milestones. But this year is different because to characterize the Class of 2011 is to recognize that they provided an astounding amount of good will, a humane and respectful demeanor, a sense of humor, extraordinary scholarship, unique contributions to the school community and a sense of decency that influenced the tone for the entire school year, not just for themselves, but for everyone. So it wasn't singular events that stood out—it was the quality of the year that demonstrated the fabric of their character and the generosity of their spirit.

The Class of 2011 excelled as scholars, school government leaders, athletes and visual and performing artists. At the recent high school Awards Ceremony, numerous seniors received university and community scholarships. The class also boasts ten AP Scholars, one AP Scholar with Distinction, seven AP Scholars with honors, three commended students in the National Merit Scholarship Program and one National Merit Finalist. Thirty eight seniors are members of the National Honor Society and ninety eight percent of the graduating seniors will be going on to higher education.

*(Continued on next page)*

**Kelly Yang**  
**Cornell University**

- **AP Scholar**
- National Merit Scholarship **Finalist**
- National Honor Society, Vice President
- Blue Ribbon Award for Consistently Outstanding Academic Excellence
- Department Awards: English and Science
- Smith College Book Award
- International Thespian Society Certificate for Outstanding Contribution
- Bausch & Lomb Honorary Science Award
- 3-year Student Awareness Coalition (Co-President 11,12), Photography Club (President 11, Vice President 10) and *Muses* Literary Magazine (Editor-in-Chief 11), 2-year Academic Challenge
- 3-year Varsity Track, 2-year Ski Team (Outstanding Athlete Award 11)
- Mamaroneck EMS Junior Core Member
- NYS Science Congress Finalist for Independent Research
- Community Service Award for 100 or more hours
- Senior Internship with Sound Shore Medical Center ER



**Ready for the Prom!**

## Our Graduates (Continued from previous page)

As a result of their academic efforts and performance, seniors were accepted at fine institutions of higher learning. Dartmouth, Cornell, Binghamton, Georgetown, Boston College, University of Michigan, Boston University, and NYU. Students were also accepted at American University, Barnard College, Bowdoin, Carnegie Mellon, College of the Holy Cross, Cooper Union, Duke, Fordham, Lehigh, Maryland Institute College of Art, Marymount Manhattan, McGill, Northwestern, Rhode Island School of Design, Stanford University, Swarthmore College, Syracuse, University of Delaware, University of Maryland—College Park, University of Richmond, University of Rochester, University of Southern California, Skidmore, Villanova, Wesleyan and Yale.

In theatre, Seniors provided leadership onstage and behind the scenes. *Footloose* won six nominations for the Metropolitan High School Theatre Awards, one cast member winning “Most Outstanding Actress in a Musical”. Approximately forty five seniors participated, many of whom were first time performers and technicians. Thirty three seniors are members of the International Thespian Society and twenty four are Honor members.

In music, one senior was selected to the Conference All-State Women’s Chorus and the Area All-State Mixed Chorus.

On our athletic fields, Seniors led the Boys Cross Country and the Girls Tennis and Volleyball teams to League Championships and propelled Boys Soccer and the Softball team to their third consecutive Sectional Final appearances. Five senior athletes from our various teams earned All-Section Honors including athletes from Girls Soccer, Cross Country, Track, Field Hockey and Softball. And one senior placed 35<sup>th</sup> in the Girls Cross Country state championship race and earned All-State Honorable status.

Seniors took a very active role in Community Service contributing 11,712 hours of service at sites such as: Mamaroneck Nursery School, Wildlife Conservation Society, Rye YMCA, Daniel Warren Library Partners, Salvation Army, Mamaroneck Methodist Church in Nicaragua, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, PlayGroup Theatre, Barton Center for Diabetes,



A scene from *Footloose*, the 2011 HS musical

Mamaroneck Police Cadet Program, Emelin Theatre, New York Horse Rescue, Sok Sabay Association in Cambodia, Mamaroneck Library, City of Yonkers Animal Clinic, Eagle Scout Projects, Rye Neck Spring Fair, NYU-FACES Epilepsy Foundation, Westchester Shore Humane Society, Songcatchers Music Program, Mamaroneck EMS, and Kiwanis Key Club.

Their year culminated with seniors participating in internships at locations such as the Sound Shore Medical Center, The Osborne Home, Greenwich Hospital, LJ Photo Studios, Law Offices of Candi Fulop, Esq., Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, The Marine Corps Recruiting Office, Major League Baseball Network, Sound Associates, Project Rebirth, Zeta Interactive, Twin Lakes Farm, Pace Women’s Justice Center, Discovering Me Nursery School, Marshlands Conservancy, Miller and Clark Animal Hospital, WVOX Radio Station, and Daniel Warren and Bellows Elementary Schools.

The Class of 2011 enjoyed an outstanding Senior Week, serving as Big Brothers and Sisters to sixth grade students, working together to create a memorable senior year, leading athletic teams to victory, winning Junior-Senior Day and bringing energy, enthusiasm and school spirit to activities throughout the year.

We will miss them and we will remember them, particularly in the Senior Lounge where they gathered to share their defeats and victories. We congratulate the Class of 2011 and are certain of its future success.

Rye Neck Public Schools  
Administration Building  
310 Hornidge Road  
Mamaroneck, NY 10543

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### **Board of Education**

Heidi Sickles, President  
Cathy O'Keefe, Vice President  
Nancy Tucci, Trustee  
Guy Pipolo, Trustee  
Al Hodys, Trustee  
Bonni Gottlieb, Trustee

**Dear Rye Neck Resident**

### **Administration 777-5252**

Dr. Peter J. Mustich, Superintendent  
Dr. Kimberly Bucci, Assistant Superintendent for Business

## ***Rye Neck Roots Run Deep***

The following students from the class of 2011 are the fourth generation to graduate from Rye Neck High School!



**Jessica Beebe**



**Casey Haviland**



**Courtney Lemon**



**Justin Vallarelli**

***Congratulations Class of 2011!***