

A Newsletter for Catholic High Schools in the Archdiocese of New York



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS *in the*
ARCHDIOCESE of NEW YORK

Faith-Based. Future-Focused.

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THE SCOOP

A Newsletter for Catholic High Schools
in the Archdiocese of New York

The Office of Secondary Schools serves forty-one high schools with over 21,000 students within the Archdiocese of New York including The Bronx, Manhattan, Staten Island, Westchester, and Upper Counties.

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high schools in the Archdiocese of
New York, visit:

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All-Girls Maria Regina High School Hosts Its First-Ever Lower Hudson Valley South Division C Science Olympiad

While athletes from around the world competed in the 2026 Winter Olympics, Maria Regina-- the renowned all-girls Catholic high school-- hosted its first-ever Lower Hudson Valley South Division SCIENCE OLYMPIAD. Notably, it marks the first time in more than 30 years that a high school within the Archdiocese of New York has served as host for this prestigious regional competition. The Science Olympiad is the preeminent STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) competition in the U.S., known for its highly rigorous academic challenges.

Maria Regina was among 13 high schools in the region located south of I-287 in Westchester that vied for top honors in the 2026 tournament, recognizing the students' outstanding performance in STEM events.

A total of 23 teams, including 2 from Maria Regina, competed in collaborative events that highlighted students' critical thinking and creativity across a wide range of real-world applications in biology, chemistry, physics, earth science, and mechanical engineering, among other disciplines.

Cover Photo:

Maria Regina High School celebrates the winning members of its Science Olympiad team after hosting the first-ever Lower Hudson Valley South Division C Science Olympiad on February 7, 2026.



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Notre Dame School Community Gathers to Affirm Shared Humanity Beyond Differences



Notre Dame School of Manhattan held a performance prior to CSW, Commission of the Status of Women, called "What Is Black?"

"What Is Black?" is more than an arts showcase—it is a space for community, growth, and love within the Black community and across Notre Dame. It celebrates the beauty and complexity of Blackness, centers Black student experiences, and highlights the importance of anti-racism through storytelling in our own voices.

This year's showcase honored Black cities—Houston, Atlanta, Los Angeles, and New York City—each representing a powerful legacy of Black excellence, creativity, resilience, and influence. Together, these cities reflect a shared history of struggle and brilliance that continues to shape America.

Ultimately, What Is Black brings the Notre Dame community together by recognizing their differences and affirming their shared humanity, offering a deeper understanding of Black identity beyond skin color.

Sacred Heart Student Honored as Yonkers Youth Poet

Erich Mital '27 was selected as a Youth Poet for the Youth Meet & Poetry Showcase by honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy through creative writing expression.

In recognition of this achievement, Erich received a congratulatory email and a certificate personally presented to her by Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano.

Erich's poem, *The Shade We Share*, was inspired by the Christian parable, *The Legend of the Three Trees*. It reflects dreams, obstacles, and the unexpected ways in which fulfillment can be found.



Excellence in Academics: Archdiocese Schools Shine on AP Honor Roll

We are thrilled to celebrate the outstanding academic achievements of our high schools in the Archdiocese of New York!

These honors reflect the dedication of our educators and the hard work of the Class of 2026 and beyond.



Spotlight on Success: 2025–26 Honorees

Platinum Distinction (Highest Level):

- Maria Regina High School: Achieving the highest possible honor, Maria Regina is the only Catholic high school in the Westchester/Bronx region at present to reach this level in the current cycle.
- Fordham Preparatory School: Recognized for its long-standing tradition of academic excellence and AP participation.
- Dominican Academy: Continuing to set a high bar for student achievement in Manhattan.

Gold Distinction:

- Archbishop Stepinac High School and the Academy of Mount Saint Ursula for their exceptional AP results and expanding student access.

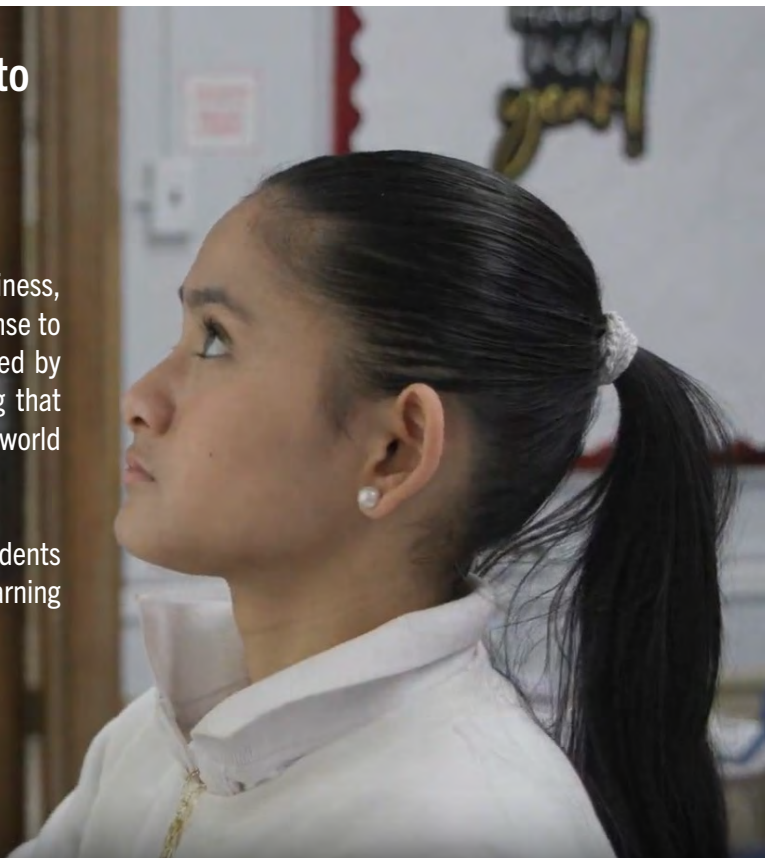
Silver & Bronze Distinction:

- Recognized for significant growth and commitment: Cardinal Spellman High School, and Kennedy Catholic Preparatory School.

The Ursuline School Expands Business Program to Connect Classroom Learning to Real-World Experiences

The Ursuline School is leading the charge in preparing young women for business, finance, and entrepreneurship, continuing to expand its offerings in response to growing student interest. By keeping a close eye on opportunities afforded by modern technologies and adapting its curriculum, the school is ensuring that business-minded girls will graduate with the skills, confidence, and real-world experience needed to succeed in college programs and future careers.

As its business and finance programs continue to grow, Ursuline offers students expanded opportunities to build real-world skills and connect classroom learning to hands-on experiences through clubs, competitions, and guest speakers.





Stepinac High School Named a Winning Team in 2025–2026 NASA TechRise Future Engineer Challenge

Archbishop Stepinac High School has been selected as one of just 60 winning teams nationwide in the prestigious 2025 – 2026 NASA TechRise Future Engineer Challenge, earning national recognition for student innovation in science and technology.

The NASA TechRise Future Engineer Challenge is a highly competitive program designed to give students hands-on experience in engineering, computing, electronics, and related STEM fields—skills critical to building America’s future technical workforce. The challenge tasks student teams with developing an original science or technology experiment to be launched aboard one of NASA TechRise’s flight vehicles: a suborbital spaceship offering approximately three minutes of microgravity or a high-altitude balloon reaching between 70,000 and 95,000 feet.

Stepinac students elected to design an experiment for a high-altitude balloon flight, titled Comparing the Ozone and Nitrogen Dioxides in the Stratosphere and Troposphere Over Time (CONOSTOT). The project focused on analyzing atmospheric data at varying altitudes to better understand changes in key gases over time, offering valuable insight into Earth’s atmospheric conditions.

The student team included Joseph Alex '29 of Yonkers, Xavi Gonzalez '29 of Yonkers, Matthew Kulapurathazhe '29 of Yonkers, Anthony MacDonald '29 of Yonkers, and Julian Reiff '29 of Stamford.



St. Jean Baptiste & Lenox Hill Nurse Youth Program

This past fall, five SJB seniors spent eleven weeks volunteering and shadowing medical professionals across various departments in a highly selective medical immersion volunteer program at Lenox Hill Hospital.

Through this immersive program, students gained firsthand exposure to the medical field, and their passion for healthcare was further solidified.

St. Jean Baptiste is incredibly grateful for the partnership with Lenox Hill Hospital and for the Auxiliary group whose support makes these programs possible.

Academy of Mount St. Ursula Senior Named QuestBridge National College Match Finalist

The Academy of Mount St. Ursula is thrilled to announce that Muna Jack, Class of 2026, has been officially matched to Vassar College through the prestigious QuestBridge National College Match program. The QuestBridge program seeks students who demonstrate exceptional promise and purpose, qualities Muna has embodied throughout her years at AMSU.

This incredibly competitive scholarship connects high-achieving high school seniors with full four-year scholarships to some of the nation's elite colleges and universities. Selected from a nationwide pool of thousands of applicants, Muna represents the absolute best of the Academy of Mount St. Ursula's tradition of scholarship and service.



The Association of Legal Administrators New York City Chapter (ALANYC) Annual Legal Career Day Winners

John Connolly, Major Accounts Manager at LDI, has organized our ALANYC Legal Career Day each Fall for the past 5 years.

The goal of the program is to introduce NYC high school students (grades 10th – 12th) to career opportunities in the legal industry and/or to enhance their current knowledge of the legal field. It is also an introduction between the association and these students, in hopes of maintaining a long-standing relationship that would continue after their successful completion of high school, college, and entry into the legal field as their chosen career.

Pictured (top) Maria Regina High School; (bottom) Sacred Heart High School: This year's winners are Madison Witttock and Madison Rocco, juniors at Maria Regina High School (Hartsdale), and Erich Mital, a junior at Sacred Heart High School (Yonkers).

The Department of Education of the Archdiocese of New York would like to send a resounding congratulations to this year's winners with thanks to John Connolly and the Members of ALANYC for their continued support to Catholic education.



Criminal Justice Community at St. Raymond Academy

Mrs. Sullivan's Criminal Justice Class was honored to welcome Diandra Garcia, Advocacy and Program coordinator for the Sisters of Charity PJIC as a guest speaker to discuss criminal justice reforms.

Four selected students from Mrs. Sullivan's Criminal Justice class traveled to The University of Mount Saint Vincent for an immersive learning experience.



Msgr. Scanlan Crowned JV Boys & Girls Basketball Champs

The Boys JV Basketball team at Monsignor Scanlan High School are the 2025-2026 CHSAA "AA" City Champions. They defeated Iona Prep 59-56 in a tremendous game. Scanlan held a 19-3 overall record playing against some of the top JV talent in NYC. Head Coach Chris Florentino and assistants, Daman Brown and Alfredo Figueroa, lead the Crusaders. This is the second JV City Championship in the "AA" in Scanlan history. Coach Florentino and his staff won the school's first ever championship in 2018-2019.

Monsignor Scanlan High School Girls Basketball cemented its legacy as the UNDISPUTED New York City Champions with a commanding 69-45 victory over South Shore High School at LIU Brooklyn on Saturday, March 21st at 7 PM. In a matchup that crowned the best team in the city, Scanlan delivered a dominant performance from start to finish, leaving no doubt about who runs New York basketball.





La Salle Academy Students Put Theory to the Test

AP Environmental Seniors at La Salle Academy put theory into action on a field trip to Peekskill, NY to learn about waste management.

The trip allowed students to see how garbage can be used as an alternative energy source to get electricity. The garbage to energy plant at Win Waste in Westchester County, reduces the need to landfill garbage which has major environmental impacts. The students also learned about co-generation since the excess steam produced is used by a nearby linen cleaning facility to clean NYC's restaurant's linens and chef wear.

Students will be assessed on this firsthand learning experience on the AP Environmental Science Exam in May.

Sacred Heart High School Initiates a Med Club

Sacred Heart High School's student-created and student-led Med Club held its first meeting, introducing students to the many possibilities within the medical and healthcare fields.

The Med Club provides students with hands-on learning experience and opportunities to gain experience on a wide range of professions in medicine and healthcare. Through interactive lessons, guest speakers, and engaging activities, members explore the many pathways available within the healthcare industry.

Valerie '27, the club's Founder and President, welcomed attendees and introduced the meeting's keynote speaker, Mr. Demetrius Harris. A New York native and Catholic high school graduate, Mr. Harris brings an impressive background in engineering, innovation, and healthcare. He currently serves as a Senior Project Engineer at Enovis in the orthopedic field, where he leads a robotics and computer-aided surgery project in one of the company's growing sectors.



St. Catharine Academy Takes Part in "Women in Law Day"

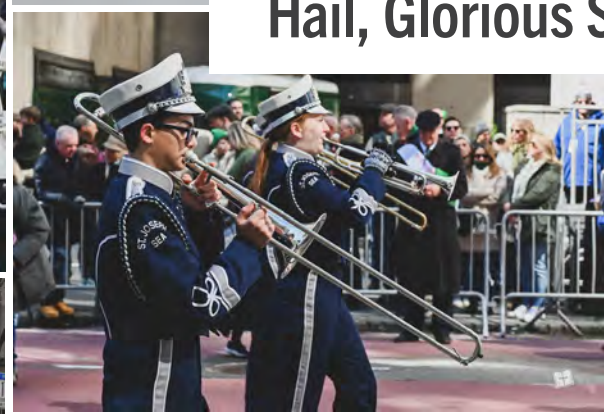
St. Catharine Academy students participated in the Women in Law Day hosted by the Bronx Women's Bar Association. During this visit, SCA students were able to engage with judges, attorneys, court reporters, and court officers, who gave them a full picture of the opportunities available in the field of law.

This experience allowed the students to get a behind-the-scenes glimpse on the way courts balance the scale of justice. Special thanks to Giamara Rosado, Esq. '02, for sharing this opportunity with her SCA sisters.





Hail, Glorious St. Patrick!



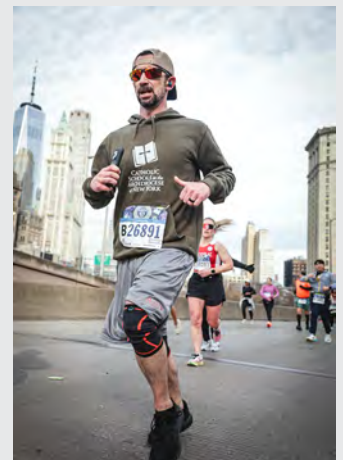
Photos from our schools proudly participating in the 265th New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade—captured from the steps of St. Patrick's Cathedral.



Sacred Heart Principal Runs NYC Half Marathon

After finishing the NYC Half Marathon in just over two hours, Kyle T. O'Donnell reflected with gratitude and pride on a race that became more than a personal milestone. Running in support of Catholic Schools of the Archdiocese of New York, he turned each mile into a moment of connection—sparked by a simple question on his hoodie that invited others to share their Catholic school roots.

Balancing leadership, family, and training, O'Donnell embraced the challenge as a witness to perseverance, faith, and purpose. Supported by the Sacred Heart High School Yonkers community, he now looks ahead to his next race promoting mental health awareness, continuing to show his students that meaningful goals can inspire both personal growth and the greater good.



*Our high schools focus on
ensuring the success of every student that
walks through its hallways.*

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