

# Yonkers PROGRESS



The Voice of Business For The Yonkers Chamber of Commerce

August 30, 2019

## A Message from our YPS Superintendent

MESSAGE FROM THE  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS  
DR. EDWIN M. QUEZADA

Equity and access for all children requires the best possible education to afford young people the opportunity to achieve their highest potential today and in the future. To succeed the community and educational system must believe in the uniqueness of every child and ensure each has a strong foundation. This commitment exists in the City of Yonkers. Four years ago the Yonkers Board of Education adopted a mission, Sustainable Solutions for Students Success. Today, through the meaningfully advocacy campaigns by all stakeholders we are well underway to achieving this undertaking.

Take pride in the school district's accomplishments. Below are some of our incredible efforts:

- Increased graduation rate by more than 10 percentage points, achieving four years of over 80% graduation rate, higher than all New York State Big 5 cities. This required steadfast, consistent focus on clear expectations for students, parents/guardians and educators, as well as monitoring and follow up.
- Reduced the dropout rate by 6 percentage points from 2014 at 9% to 2018 at 3%.
- Removed seven of eight schools from State Education Department Receivership status.
- Reinstated intermural sports for grades seven and eight.
- Reinstated the All-City Concerts and Art Presentations.

- Diversified the Central Office Administrative team.
- Increased the in-district educational programs for autistic students.
- Implemented a Yonkers History curriculum that culminates with a districtwide Yonkers History Program open to the community.
- Implemented successfully Computer Based Testing (CBT) districtwide for State assessment in grades three through eight for English language arts and mathematics, the only large city in the state to undertake the challenge.
- Received national and state recognition for our model Yonkers My Brother's Keeper movement to improve the life outcomes for young men of color.

Maintaining a strong foundation requires consistent sustainable resources. Considerable progress has been realized. The Intermunicipal Agreement (IMA) between the City of Yonkers and Board of Education is a true collaboration of shared services that provides efficacies and cost savings. This year Mayor Mike Spano and the City Council members increased the Board of Education Maintenance of Effort by an unprecedented \$12 million in recurring revenue.

Yonkers' State delegation of Senate Majority Leaders Andrea Stewart-Cousins and Shelley Mayer and Assembly Members Gary Pretlow and Dr. Nader Sayegh were able to increase recurring and bullet aid to education by \$27 million this year. Advocacy goes beyond additional

revenue for operating expenses; it is also funding resources for safe efficient school facilities to support today's educational needs. Over the summer \$28 million in major capital construction projects were undertaken, addressing health and safety repairs districtwide: security upgrades at 5 schools; refurbished the gym at Saunders Trades and Technical High School; extensive rehabilitation and additional parking at School 30; heat plant replacement and gas conversion at School 9; heat plant and window replacement as well as security at DiChiaro School; window replacement and security at School 5; additional classrooms and instructional space at the Eugenio Maria de Hostos MicroSociety School; and through the Community Schools Grant health clinics and interior improvements were constructed at Martin Luther King, Jr. Academy, Museum School 25 and Cross Hill Academy.

Working collaboratively with Mayor Spano, the Rebuild Yonkers Schools campaign may soon be a reality. The Board of Education Trustees and the City of Yonkers Joint School Construction Board are working feverishly to put shovels in the ground for two new schools within the next five years. Even though the Yonkers State reimbursable building aid of 75% is significantly below the other large city school districts in the State, Yonkers continues to invest in its school infrastructure. Yonkers elected officials are committed to revitalizing our schools.

On a final note, your children, our students are this community's most



DR. EDWIN M. QUEZADA

precious human capital. Across the school district, educators and staff respect and value their diversity and are committed to high levels of achievement for every child. This is achievable when community members join educators. Do you believe that each of us has a responsibility to leave our community, our children's future, better than when we joined it? If your answer is yes, this opportunity is within your reach. Please contact me via email or phone, we welcome your support – [equzada@yonkerspublicschools.org](mailto:equzada@yonkerspublicschools.org) or 914-376-8100.

The mission remains steadfast for Board of Education President Rev. Steve Lopez, Vice President Judith Ramos Meier, the Trustees and Superintendent of Schools. The entire learning community looks forward to a successful and productive 2019-2020 school year with many student and staff achievements and successes to celebrate.

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**Yonkers Chamber of Commerce**

**Upcoming Events**



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

**August-November**

**Pajama Program**  
**Accepting Donations**  
 Yonkers Chamber Office  
 9:00am-5:00pm

**August 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Best of Yonkers**  
 Edition of  
**Yonkers Progress**  
 distributed

**October 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Breakfast**  
 Held @ St. John's  
 Riverside Hospital  
 Sponsored by: SJRH  
 7:30am - 9:00am

**November 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Annual Dinner**  
 Held @  
**Westchester Manor**  
 6:00pm - 9:00pm

**November 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Breakfast**  
 Sponsored by: Costco  
 7:30am - 9:00am

**December 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Breakfast**  
 Sponsored by: PS&S  
 7:30am - 9:00am



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**Saturday September 22**  
 1:00pm - 7:00pm  
 9th Annual  
**McLEAN AVENUE**  
**FALL FESTIVAL**

# ...From the Desk of Jeanne Martinelli

Welcome to our “Back-to-School/Yonkers Best” edition of our newspaper, The Progress, the voice of business for our City. We are so proud to highlight news from our Chamber of Commerce, and to present you with all the outstanding winners from this year’s reader’s poll. It’s hard to believe that we are celebrating our 14th year for our “Yonkers Best” and I want to thank all those that participated and took the time to send in their votes. The voting this year was better than ever! Our Chamber is thrilled to showcase the outstanding businesses and wonderful restaurants we are lucky to have in Yonkers. We urge you all to experience first hand the best that Yonkers has to offer!

Membership in our Chamber continues to grow and we welcome our newest members featured throughout this paper. For more than one

hundred years, the Yonkers Chamber of Commerce has been committed to advancing the interests and needs of business and industry in our City. We invite you to join our Chamber and become one of the hundreds of active members who enjoy and benefit from the networking opportunities we provide at our monthly meetings and annual events. Did you know that membership in the Yonkers Chamber of Commerce entitles you to a listing in our interactive web site ([www.yonkerschamber.com](http://www.yonkerschamber.com)) with links to your business, eligibility for email blasts and access to our mailing lists.

The Women in Business Committee will once again reconvene in September and is always looking for new members. The Committee meets once a month on the first Wednesday of each month. All

female Chamber members in good standing are welcomed to join to be a part of this dynamic and diverse group. The Committee does charitable work throughout the year including the Pajama Program and High School Scholarships. Our year culminates at the Women of Excellence Luncheon in March. Please contact the Chamber Office to sign up.

The Networking Breakfasts for the Fall Season are confirmed, beginning with our September 24th Breakfast sponsored by the Yonkers IDA at Zuppa Restaurant, featuring Mayor Mike Spano as our keynote speaker. Our October breakfast is scheduled for October 22nd at St. John’s Riverside Hospital, and will feature a local political debate. Our November Networking Breakfast will be at Costco on November 19th where all attendees receive a



Jeanne Martinelli, Director of Marketing, Yonkers Chamber of Commerce

pie, just in time for the holidays! Remember early bird networking begins at 7:30AM, and the formal program begins promptly at 8. Please call our Chamber offices to make your reservations for these exciting events.

Our Annual Business Hall of Fame Dinner is Thursday, November 7th at the Westchester Manor. Stay tuned for all the details including this year’s Hall of Fame inductees.



We are proud to be the

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Thank you to the Yonkers Chamber of Commerce and to our friends & shoppers!

# Chamber of Commerce welcomes our newest members

## Sacred Seeds \* Enterprises, LLC

90 Ravine Avenue  
Yonkers, NY 10701  
Phone: (914) 831-8052  
E-mail:  
jp@sacredseeds4u.com  
Jennifer Perry,  
CEO and Founder  
RETAIL

## Luis Fonseca

2530 Independence Avenue  
Apt 2-B  
Bronx, NY 10463  
Phone: (646) 715-6145  
E-mail:  
lfonseca34@gmail.com  
Luis Fonseca,  
Photographer  
PHOTOGRAPHY, TROPHIES

## New Logical, LLC \*

170 Glover Avenue  
Yonkers, NY 10704  
Phone: (914) 281-1248  
E-mail: info@newlogical.com  
Patrick Murphy,  
President, Tech Consultant  
COMPUTER SERVICES

## Archdiocese of NY Central Westchester Schools

86 Mayflower Avenue  
New Rochelle, NY 10801  
Phone: (212) 602-1758  
Fax: (888) 211-8604  
E-mail:  
kgarchny.org@gmail.com  
Kathleen Gallagher,  
Director of Enrollment  
NON-PROFIT EDUCATION

## Hudson Barter Exchange \*

75 N. Central Avenue  
Elmsford, NY 10591  
Phone: (914) 372-7155  
E-mail: Kar)en@  
hudsonbarterexchange.com  
www.HBXInc.com  
Karen Brown, President  
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## Nelson Service Systems

199 Nepperhan Avenue  
Yonkers, NY 10701  
Phone: (914) 720-8181  
E-mail:  
usenelson@aol.com  
Nelson Gisbert, President  
ACCOUNTANTS/  
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## Tel-Management, Inc.

909 Midland Avenue, 2nd Floor  
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Fax: (914) 457-8294  
E-mail:fred.disalvatore@  
tel-management.net  
Fred Di Salvatore, President  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS,  
BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

## Northwestern Mutual

127 Morsemere Avenue  
Yonkers, NY 10703  
Phone: (917) 522-6440  
E-mail:  
Nicholas.kiriakos@nm.com  
Nicholas Kiriakos,  
Financial Representative  
FINANCIAL SERVICES

\*All new members with an asterisk submitted a profile and are found throughout this publication.

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# Eileen's & The Heritage Bar and Restaurant

## WINNERS OF BEST NEIGHBORHOOD RESTAURANT 2019!



Eileen's, formally known as Eileens Country Kitchen, and The Heritage Bar and Restaurant has just been awarded best neighborhood restaurant in Yonkers. Restaurateur Eileen Mannion and her husband, Eugene, are no strangers to the community, each receiving numerous awards through their 22 years in business on McLean Avenue and partners for 23 years. "This award is particularly special because it's the first one we have won together." Only recently, their two restaurants Eileen's Country Kitchen and The Heritage Bar and Restaurant have been brought together under the one roof. The new Eileen's, true to form, has remained a local favorite for everything Irish including the warm welcome and farm fresh to table for all our hearty fare. Eileen tributes her

success to the traditional values imparted from her parents and growing up on a farm in Co. Galway. Strong family values, faith and a solid work ethic are what my parents gave me and those same values I hope to impart to my children. Being able to work alongside my children as they grow has been a blessing. And without the love and support from the people of this neighborhood whom I consider extended family this award would not be coming our way. So thank you to our beautiful family, our awesome neighborhood, St. Barnabas parish and to the Yonkers Chamber of Commerce for this award.

*As we continue to do our best,  
"Here's to the future. Family strong and Yonkers strong!!"*

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# Member Profile: Empire Strategic Planning



## ONE OF NEW YORK STATE'S TOP LOBBYING FIRMS

No matter the industry or business you're in – everyone could use a little lobbying to get them over the top. It's right for major executives of top companies, and it may be right for you too.

Under the leadership of Senator Nick Spano, founder and CEO of Empire Strategic Planning (ESP) since 2007, this lobbying firm is one of New York's best and brightest. ESP's centralized focused is providing full service, bi-partisan government affairs consulting, specializing in government/legislative advocacy, public relations, and business development.

"The firm's mission is simple, we pride ourselves on delivering measurable results in a cost-efficient and

timely fashion, highlighted by our reputation for individual attention," said Senator Nick Spano, founder/CEO of Empire Strategic Planning. "Taking it a step further, having a team whose sole concern is the client and making them the top priority is always a recipe for success."

Other members of ESP's executive team include John Spano and Maureen Kronau. John Spano has more than 30 years of legislative affairs experience working for Westchester County and New York State – operating one of the largest departments of State Government, the Department of General Services. John worked closely with the Legislative Branch, his fellow Executive Branch department heads, as well as many county and municipal governments throughout New York.

Maureen Kronau is an accomplished government relations professional with significant



SENATOR NICK SPANO



MAUREEN KRONA



JOHN SPANO

experience in the State Legislature. With more than 20 years at the senior staff level in the State Senate, she developed deep and extensive working relationships in the Legislature, local governments, and regulatory agencies. Based in ESP's Albany office, Maureen prides herself on timely communications, keeping ESP's clients aware of the status of their issues and projects, as well as any other information that could advance their business or policy goals.

ESP is more than just a lobbying company they're here to ensure your needs are met and concerns are heard. Certainly, government relations are ESP's focus, but they can develop public relations strategies to complement your company or aid in your business's development; ESP has a strategic plan for you. To inquire about their services, contact (518) 694-8216 or [info@empirestrategicplanning.com](mailto:info@empirestrategicplanning.com).



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## New Member Profile: Sacred Seeds Enterprises

Sacred Seeds Enterprises, LLC manufactures and produces an award-winning, natural, and holistic line of skincare products. We create products that feed your body and nourish your soul, utilizing natural ingredients sourced both locally and globally. A Yonkers, NY based entrepreneur, during Jennifer's international travels, she acquires the finest raw goods, and transforms them into premium products; nature's blessings at its finest. What began as a hobby 20 years ago, transformed into a full-time business.

Sacred Seeds' mission is to create high quality, artisanal products that are beneficial for you and good for the earth. We have a luxurious line of spa-quality Whipped Body &

Hair Butters, Exfoliating and Detoxifying Body Polishes & Salt Scrubs, Coffee Scrubs, Artisan Soaps, and Aromatic Spa Bath Teas & Salts. Lemongrass, Lavender, Cherry Almond, and Peppermint are top-selling scents.

Sacred Seeds' unique products are handmade. We are committed to offering our customers sublime experiences for all their senses, utilizing therapeutic grade and pure essential oils, organic items, aromatic dried herbs, nourishing carrier oils, moisturizing butters, scrumptious sugars, and soothing sea salts, in unique, creative, and eco-friendly packaging. Our formulas are designed to extract the most out of the special ingredients.

Sacred Seeds does not use parabens, phosphates, phthalates, artificial preservatives, petroleum derived ingredients, synthetic fragrances or colorants, dyes, aluminum, formaldehyde, sulfates, or harsh chemicals. We do not conduct animal testing. The majority of our products are vegan, however we use honey in a couple of products, due to its moisturizing and soothing benefits.

Grounded in social entrepreneurship, philanthropy is central to Sacred Seeds; we collaborate and partner with nonprofit and community based organizations locally and globally.

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# New Member Profile: Hudson Barter Exchange

KAREN G. BROWN  
PRESIDENT, HBX EXCHANGE

Since 2008 Hudson Barter Exchange has been connecting business owners to new customers through organized trade. HBX is unique among business networking organizations because HBX's staff of Certified Trade Brokers actively make sales for members, introducing them to customers who are ready to buy, then connecting them to other members who sell the goods and services they need. Members do not trade directly with one another: sell to one member, use your barter credits to pay anyone else in the barter system.

"Members are transacting millions of dollars in services and products.

each year. We are thrilled to represent professionals in every imaginable business segment, including some of the biggest companies in the area," says Karen Brown Co-Founder of the company.

Businesses large and small use trade to optimize their bottom line and cash flow. Any firm not working at 100% of capacity can leverage their open appointment slots, employee down-time, unsold inventory and even vacation homes, time shares and tickets they can't use for products and services they need. HBX Co-Founder and CEO Kevin Brown likes to say "Business owners work tirelessly so they can get what money can buy, but sometimes, you don't need money ...you



buy with your product, expertise and talent. "

There are over 500 independent trade exchanges across the country and around the world many of whom work together through Universal Currency. HBX consistently ranks in the Top 10 Traders in the UC system. HBX is a member of International Reciprocal

Trade Association (IRTA) and has an A rating with the Better Business Bureau. To find out more about barter and HBX go to [www.hudsonbarterexchange.com](http://www.hudsonbarterexchange.com) or call 914-372-7155.

**GROW BIGGER. LIVE BETTER THROUGH BARTER.** Call HBX before spending cash!



## THE MUNICIPAL HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY OF YONKERS

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

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Tel: (914) 793-8400 Fax: (914) 793-6916 [www.mhacy.org](http://www.mhacy.org)

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# Member Profile: High Impact Communications

For the past 17 years, Lew Koflowitz, principal of Yonkers-based High Impact Marketing Communications, has been helping small and mid-sized businesses deliver their message into the marketplace. His niche market is the financial sector – with clients including banks, brokers, financial research firms, investment banks, accounting firms, private equity, and insurance firms. Secondary markets have included the B2B industrial sector and technology start-ups.

To help his clients reach out into the marketplace, Lew has conducted traditional public relations campaigns through print and broadcast media, as well as developing web content, brochures, and social media marketing programs.

In recent years, while maintaining a smaller marketing communications

practice, Lew has become a volunteer for several Westchester non-profit organizations and programs. He finds that volunteering provides him with the satisfaction of giving back to those in a variety of needs. He has just been appointed the chairman of the Advisory Committee for RSVP of Westchester, under the auspices of Volunteer New York! RSVP of Westchester is a volunteer organization made up of individuals aged 55 and over, who provide a wide range of services to both seniors and younger people.

Lew is also mentoring a college-bound high school student in Mt. Vernon under the Mt. Vernon Star Scholars program. This program seeks out high-performing students in their freshman and sophomore years and provides them – in their

junior and senior years - with guidance and SAT tutoring toward the goal of being admitted to strong academic colleges. The program works in conjunction with Mt. Vernon high school guidance counselors.

This fall, Lew is starting a new volunteer assignment – tutoring students in writing at Westchester Community College. He is eagerly looking forward to starting this assignment.

The combination of a continuing marketing communications practice, and his more recent volunteer activities, provides Lew with a substantial degree of career satisfaction, and a sense of “paying it forward.” At the same time, he looks forward to using his ongoing volunteer experience to provide non-profit organizations with his communications expertise.



LEW KOFLOWITZ

To contact Lew at High Impact Marketing Communications, please send an email to [lewkof@hotmail.com](mailto:lewkof@hotmail.com).



## Pajama Program

Good Nights Are Good Days

The Yonkers Chamber of Commerce is once again participating in the 2019

## Pajama & Book Drive!

Please bring in a pair of **NEW** Pajamas and/or **NEW** Book(s) to help children in need!

A Special Pajama Program Vehicle will be coming to our organization the first week of November to pick up the pajamas and books.

### Good Night Bill of Rights

1. Every child has the right to a sense of stability and security.
2. Every child has the right to feel loved and cared for at bedtime.
3. Every child has the right to wear fresh, clean pajamas to bed and to enjoy a bedtime story that fires their imagination.
4. Every child has the right to feel valued and validated as a human being.
5. Every child has the right to a good night and a good day.

If your organization is interested in conducting a drive along with the Chamber, please contact **Jeanne Martinelli** at (914) 963-0332 or [jmartinelli@yonkerschamber.com](mailto:jmartinelli@yonkerschamber.com) for more information.



## The Yonkers Chamber of Commerce Networking Breakfast

Early Bird Coffee & Networking 7:30am Breakfast 7:45am

# Tuesday September 24, 2019

Sponsored by



Held at

## Zuppa Restaurant & Lounge

59 Main Street, Yonkers, NY 10701  
(914) 376-6500



Keynote Speaker

## Hon. Mike Spano

Mayor, City of Yonkers

Topic:

“Economic Development and the Current State of Our City”

Member: \$15.00 – Guest of Member: \$20.00 – Non-Member: \$25.00

Call for reservations: [914] 963-0332



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\*Source: Based on WOC follow-up survey



David Lent, MD  
Orthopedic Surgeon  
Tri-State Leader in MAKOplasty  
Robotic-Assisted Surgeries

NOT SHOWN: Eric Spencer, MD; Daniel Shein, MD  
James Joseph, MD; Jason Hochfelder, MD



David Shein, MD  
Spine, Hip & Knee Surgeon  
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**COMMUNITY  
STRONG**

# Chamber of Commerce Networking Events



Chamber Pres. Kevin Cacace presents the Knife and Fork Award to Michael Spicer, CEO of St. Joseph's Med Center, sponsor of the March Networking Breakfast; pictured with (L-R) Howard Berman, Keynote Speaker H. Guy Leibler and James Landy.



Enjoying the March Breakfast (L-R) are Maria Lolita Brown, CEO of Universal Taxes, and Mary Hoar, President of Untermeyer Performing Arts Council.



All smiles at the April Breakfast at the Fairways Dunwoodie are George Nukho of Gem Management (R) and Richard Presedo of Sherwin Williams Paint.



The Chamber thanks Tompkins Mahopac Bank, and Gerald Klein (C), President and CEO, for sponsoring the April Networking breakfast pictured with many staff members and Chamber President Kevin Cacace.



Westchester County Executive George Latimer (L) with Tompkins Mahopac President Gerald Klein, Chamber President Kevin Cacace and Lincoln HS Academy of Finance Coordinator, Joanne Martselos at the April Networking Breakfast.



Susan Thaler (L) Deputy Director of the Yonkers Public Library with good friend, Janice Lubin-Kirschner, Immediate Past Senior Director of JCY Westchester Community Partners.

# Chamber of Commerce Networking Events



Today Media is well represented at the Annual Chamber Golf Outing (L-R) Mike Martinelli, Richard Martinelli and Tim Horton, winner of this year's putting contest.



Ready to tee off are Yonkers PAL foursome Lou Delango, Daniel Smith, Sabby Delango and Lou Venturino.



(L-R) Senior Partner, James Veneruso, Esq. of Veneruso, Curto, Schwartz and Curto Law Firm, our May Breakfast Sponsors, with James Landy, Michael Spicer, and Empire City COO and Keynote Speaker Uri Clinton.



Enjoying Early-bird Networking are (L-R) Brian Harrington, Senior VP of Elizabeth Seton Pediatrics, and brothers Mike and Matt Minerva of Empress Ambulance.



Kevin Cacace presents the Knife and Fork Award to Arlette Loeser of Mount Sinai Selikoff Centers, our June sponsor and Keynote Speaker. Looking on are Mariana Pugliese and Thomas Lowe of the Selikoff Centers.



Enjoying her first Chamber networking breakfast is Olivia Vergari from Boca Raton, Florida.

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# Samuel Wallis Becomes New Executive Director of Yonkers Partners in Education (YPIE)

As of July 1st, Samuel Wallis became Executive Director of Yonkers Partners in Education (YPIE), a nonprofit organization that partners with students to ensure they are ready for, enroll in, and complete college.

YPIE works with more than 1,200 students from across Yonkers Public High Schools each year by providing comprehensive services focused on three areas: preparing students with academic and life skills, helping students navigate the college application and financial aid process, and coaching students through the transition to college. As part of its commitment to helping students have the skills for success, YPIE opened the YPIE College Zone in May, a state of the art learning center in downtown Yonkers where hundreds of students come each week after school to learn, be inspired, and be part of a community of students on the path to college.

Sam is the second YPIE Executive Director in its twelve-year history, succeeding Wendy Nadel, the founding

Executive Director who built YPIE into a successful and highly respected organization.

Since joining the YPIE team in 2015, Sam created one of the most comprehensive models for helping low-income, first-generation students be prepared for college and beyond. As Chief Program Officer, he led a team of educators, social workers, college advisors, and more than 250 volunteers to help thousands of students find and pursue their path to college success.

“I have seen how a college education changes lives, not just for the students, but also for their families and communities,” said Sam Wallis. “We all share the responsibility to ensure that every student has the ability to thrive. I am honored to lead an organization of committed staff and volunteers focused on helping young people unlock their full potential.”

After graduating from Tufts University, Sam joined Teach for America as a high school teacher in a struggling rural





Mississippi Delta high school. During his tenure, he led a team of teachers that quadrupled the percentage of students enrolling in college after high school graduation.

Born in Yonkers, Sam returned to the New York area to join the leadership team of a public charter high school in Harlem that is part of the Democracy Prep network. He earned his Master’s



Degree in Public School Building Leadership from Columbia University Teachers College.

YPIE has a large community of volunteers that mentor and support their YPIE students throughout high school. To learn more about how you or your family can be involved in YPIE, visit [ypie.org](http://ypie.org).

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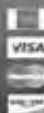


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ABDELNASSER NOFAL, PRINCIPAL

Andalusia School is a highly rated, private, religious school located in Yonkers, NY. This fully accredited school serves approximately 330 - 350 students in grades Prekindergarten to 12. The school continues to maintain its 100% graduation rate since its first graduating cohort in 2010. Andalusia high school students follow a rigorous curriculum built around a learning environment that promotes self-development, initiative, and leadership. Andalusia graduates are college-ready and get accepted to top 4-years colleges with merit scholarships. As part of the college readiness program, Andalusia High School offers the Dual Credit Program in partnership with Concordia College, which allows students to earn up to 18 college credits by the time they graduate.

Andalusia School is a:

- Member of SUNY
- Approved and Registered with NYS board of Regents

- Registered member of The College Board
- Accredited by NYSED

Established in 1996, Andalusia School's mission is to nurture confident and committed youth to achieve moral, spiritual, and material excellence in all fields of endeavor. Andalusia school has been in the business of molding the next generation of community builders, knowledgeable scholars and contributing citizens for almost a quarter century. Andalusia is committed to providing students with a solid, accredited educational foundation and promoting the intellectual, socio-emotional and spiritual development of each student. Andalusia strives for scholastic excellence blended with Islamic morals, helping children to achieve their highest potential.

Andalusia's highly qualified, dedicated and committed staff works with parents to create a high quality, stimulating learning environment that bol-



sters the foundation of children's development, growth, and overall success. Their NY State Exam Proficiency Rate in Math, Science and ELA are well above the NY State and Yonkers averages. Additionally, their regents proficiency rates are overall superior to top Yonkers Public Schools.

A rich variety of after-school programs are offered to students to further enhance their skills in sports, arts, technology and other areas. Classrooms are equipped with state-of-the-art technology to enhance students' learning experiences.

Andalusia School is a division of MAS-UNY a non-profit organization that is dedicated to serving the community in Yonkers and Westchester County. Their mission of "Keeping the message alive" is taught to students with hands on activities and projects for giving back to the community

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**The Census  
is Coming!...  
The Census  
is Coming!**

# YONKERS COUNTS CENSUS 2020

The 2020 U.S Census of Population officially starts counting people in January 2020 in remote Toksook Bay, Alaska!

However, here in Yonkers, we will start receiving invitations in the mail to respond to the short, 9-question census in March 2020. We can respond online, by mail or by phone. Only if a household has not responded by the end of April, will a census taker come to help complete the questionnaire. All responses are kept confidential.

Although the U.S. Census Bureau has been conducting the census of popu-


lation since 1790, this is the first time that we will be able to respond to census questions on-line. Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano convened the Yonkers 2020 Complete Count Committee (<https://www.yonkersny.gov/government/mayor-s-office/initiatives/yonkers-counts>). The Yonkers 2020 Complete Count Committee is comprised of a broad spectrum of government and community leaders from education, business, faith-based, and other community organizations. These individuals will develop and implement a 2020 Census awareness campaign based upon their knowledge of the local community to encourage a response.

The Committee will also help connect local residents with Census job opportunities currently available. The Census is important to the City of Yonkers. Census data is used to determine the number of representatives we will have in Congress and how much Yonkers will receive of the \$675 billion in federal funds that are distributed back to states and local communities every year for services and infrastructure, including health care, jobs, schools, roads and businesses.

Another important aspect of the Census is the jobs that it creates. To conduct the census, the U.S. Census

Bureau hires thousands of people across the country. To speak with the Census Bureau about a job call 718-841-2111. To apply for a job with the Census Bureau, go to <https://www.2020census.gov/en/jobs>. More information about Census 2020 is available at <https://2020census.gov/en> or by contacting the Community Planning Council of Yonkers at [cpcyonkers@yahoo.com](mailto:cpcyonkers@yahoo.com).

To learn more about Census 2020, visit <https://2020census.gov/en>



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## Calling All Lady Members of the Yonkers Chamber of Commerce...

The Yonkers Chamber of Commerce invites you to become a member of our very active **Women in Business Committee**.

The **“WIB”** Committee is strictly on a volunteer basis and is open to all women who are members in good standing of our Chamber.

The **“WIB”** Committee was created in 1991 and has become the leading agency promoting and spearheading many charitable programs within our City, including the *Virginia Eyler Scholarship Fund* for qualified female students from Yonkers High Schools, the *Pajama Program* for children in need and *Feeding Westchester* to name a few.

The major event of the **“WIB”** Committee is the Annual *“Women of Excellence Luncheon”* in March, which recognizes four outstanding heroines of our own community in addition to recognizing three exceptional female students from the Yonkers High Schools with a scholarship. Our committee is responsible for the success of this event.

Please contact the Chamber if you would like to join this highly energetic and diversified group of professional women.

We look forward to welcoming our new members to this extraordinary committee.

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