

# Syosset Pride

*A Publication of the Syosset Central School District*

www.syossetschools.org

## What's in a Rank?

*Why excellence in education is so much more than a number*

Earlier in the year, Syosset High School found itself on the receiving end of some national praise for its academic rigor and college preparedness. In August, The Daily Beast ranked Syosset High 42nd out of its top 700 schools nationwide on its list of Best High Schools of 2014.

The news outlet based the scope of its data around the theme of college preparedness, essentially an answer to the question: How effective is a given high school at getting students not only prepared for the rigors of the college environment, but also at providing them with college-level opportunities?

Weeks later, Newsweek published its annual list of Top U.S. Schools. Syosset High School ranked 84th out of 500 schools included. Similar to The Daily Beast, Newsweek also focused on college preparedness as its criteria.

The methodology by which these outlets compile their data is surely nuanced enough to make those of us who are not statisticians go glassy-eyed and looking for a pillow. Suffice to say, they broke the data into categories that ask these basic questions:

- How many graduating students have been accepted or are enrolled in college?
- What was the school's graduation rate in percentages?
- How well is the school retaining students all the way through high school?
- How many guidance counselors are employed at the high school in comparison to student population?
- What was the average student score on SAT and ACT exams?

- How many Advanced Placement and other highly advanced courses are offered at the school?
- What percentage of students enrolls in those courses?

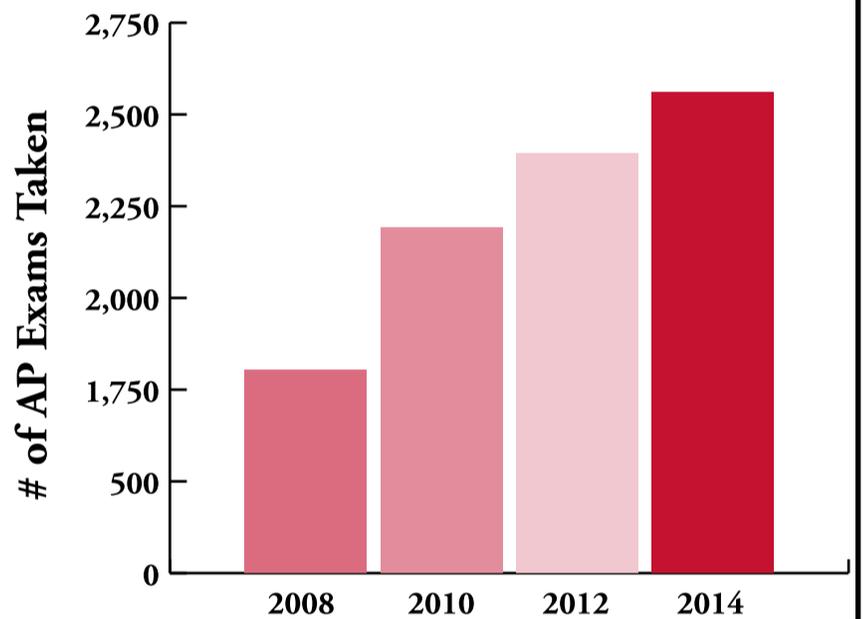
The spectrum of criteria is indeed broad, but does it tell the whole story?

Rankings are flattering to be sure, but the results thrown into the final tally of what makes a high school a "top" high school is merely a narrowed total of what our programs and instructors put in place well before Newsweek surveys begin hitting our inbox.

"While these rankings are one indication of the strength of how Syosset's academic program builds from elementary through high school," said Superintendent Dr. Tom Rogers, "What sets us truly apart is our equal success in developing a rich variety of opportunities at every grade for students to explore their interests and passions."

Take, for example, the four AP art courses at the high school, the maximum amount allowed by the College Board. At Syosset, students have their choice of AP Art History, Drawing Portfolio, 2-D Design and 3-D Design. These broad course offerings provide students with multiple means of expression while compiling an impressive portfolio for college recruits. (See a sample of student artwork in this article.)

### An Upward Trend



*As seen above, the number of AP exams taken by Syosset students has increased almost 44% since 2008.*

Damon Tommolino, an art teacher at the high school who teaches AP Art History and AP Drawing, said the quality and depth of work that goes on inside the classroom directly impacts students' college readiness.

"The students are as ready as ready gets," he said. "We even spend a lot of time on critique, which is common in a college environment, but high school students can sometimes have a hard time getting acclimated to it."

Art teacher Chrysoula Highland echoed those sentiments. She had just received a visit from a former student earlier in the week.

"She said she's so far above the other kids in the class with what she's doing in Photoshop, that the other kids are saying, 'stop, you're making us look bad,'" Highland said. "And the teacher was asking her different techniques to determine how it was she was doing it. So, yes, the students are above and beyond prepared."

Michael Salzman, the coordinator of fine and performing arts for all grade levels, said AP

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# A Message from Your *Board of Education*

Dear Syosset Community,

Another year is upon us, and we are very excited to have gotten the 2014-15 school year underway! Already the board has been involved with an array of initiatives and improvements that we feel will enhance the educational and community experience at large.

As you may have already discovered, in addition to the radio broadcast of our monthly meetings, we now have included a written summary called “Board Meeting Notes,” which is currently available in the Board of Education tab of the Syosset Schools website. These Board Meeting Notes are intended to help members of the community who couldn’t physically attend the meeting keep up with our progress.

In addition to publishing our email addresses in the district calendar, the board has made itself accessible for questions via an online form for community members who may have missed a board meeting. On our website, [SyossetSchools.org](http://SyossetSchools.org), click on Board of Education > Audience to the Public.

Over the summer, we made a number of improvements to our facilities, upgraded our

wireless Internet infrastructure, and began the process of evaluating our school security – all to continue ensuring the best possible learning environment for all of our students.

As is the case every year, we have a lot to be proud of as our students continue the level of excellence we’ve grown accustomed to at Syosset School District. From the 18 National Merit Scholarship semifinalists to the 33 Commended Scholars, Siemens Competition semifinalists, NAFME All-National music selections and NYSSMA All-State music selections, our students continue to shine both in and outside of the classroom.

Our homecoming game was a resounding success, as hundreds of community members filled the stands to cheer on our Braves. The halftime performances were exceptional and it was thrilling to see so many of the Syosset faithful in attendance for both the football game and our annual carnival. The weather for both was outstanding! (Be sure to take a look at page 8 for photographs from homecoming.)

The start of a school year is always rewarding and exciting. We’re looking forward to seeing you at our meetings, recognizing our



wonderful students for their many well-deserved achievements, and sharing all the latest news and information that affects our district. As always, we will be hard at work as stewards of Syosset’s financial and educational well-being, and we’re poised for another fantastic school year at Syosset!

Warm Regards,  
The Syosset School District Board of Education

Michael Cohen  
April Neuendorf  
Chris DiFilippo  
Tracy Frankel  
Rob Gershon

Josh Lafazan  
Susan Parker  
Alan Resnick  
Laura Schlesinger

# A Message from Your *Superintendent*

To the Syosset Community,

It’s hard to believe that it’s only been a couple of months since the start of school. Some of that is undoubtedly the pace of back-to-school and early fall events, but it’s more likely a function of how welcoming everyone has been— employees of the district and members of the community alike, which makes it easy to feel like I’ve been here a lot longer. After just a little more than a third of the year, I already feel like part of the Syosset family.

The district recently won some wonderful accolades: The state named four of our schools Reward Schools, Syosset High School was named among the top high schools in the country by both Newsweek and The Daily Beast; 18 National Merit semifinalists were named; two of our students made it to the semifinals in the prestigious Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology; 26 students were named All-State musicians; and four student-musicians were selected for national recognition in Nashville. Way to go, everybody!

As impressed as I’ve been with these outstanding academic and artistic accomplishments, I’ve been equally impressed by the character of our students. What starts as cheerfulness in the elementary schools matures into the passion our high schoolers have for helping others. The high school’s Peers as Leaders (PAL) and student government warm the school’s culture by serving as mentors to incoming students during the orientation process, then inviting them to become active through our annual walk-a-thon, food drives and other humanitarian efforts. I’ve lost track of the number of diseases our high school is supporting research for, and our Interact Club has set its most ambitious goal yet: raising funds for seven life-saving heart surgeries for children from all seven continents.

Peers Reaching Out (PRO), which is a student mentorship program, promotes social engagement through monthly breakfasts, outdoor trips and even sporting events. There is truly something for everyone.

That character extends to athletics as well. I received notes of appreciation from coaches in two different school districts. One praised our students (and families!) for their support for an injured opponent; the other was for our gracious sportsmanship after suffering a tough loss.

These efforts are actually led by the students themselves. Through student government, they make decisions about priorities, set rules to ensure fairness and intervene when those rules are breached. Students captain their teams and approach their leadership roles with a great deal of dedication.

At the elementary and middle school levels, I’ve been visiting classrooms to do two things: watch how the foundation is laid for the academic and artistic excellence that culminates in those high school recognitions, and see how the expectations of the Common Core Learning Standards (CCLS) are influencing our teaching. To that end, I visited every building to see lessons in math and English language arts at nearly every grade level.

What I saw was a diversity of instructional strategies, from small groups to games to “carousel stations,” that kept student engagement high. I saw teachers in roles ranging from lecturers to facilitators, depending on the activity and students’ level of independence. When possible, I spoke with the teachers and appreciated their candor in discussing what was working well, but also where there were opportunities to make thoughtful adjustments.

These observations proved invaluable as we

engaged parents, from every building in the district through the PTA and SEPTA, in a discussion of the CCLS after the October Board meeting. An initiative the Board started last spring, this first in a series of discussions focused not only on changes in the classroom, but also on how to help parents support their child’s learning. I took away pages of comments and suggestions for topics that we should explore more deeply, and efforts that the district could begin to make almost immediately. Parents have a right to make sure that learning is both challenging and fun while at the same time maintaining the school’s level of excellence.

Over these past couple months, I’ve seen award-winning education with a wonderfully diverse student body and an incredible breadth of courses, clubs, athletics, arts and extracurriculars. Yet despite this scope, breadth and achievement, everyone is made to feel just as welcome as I’ve been, and events like homecoming and the carnival were a welcome reminder of simpler times. So my best summary is this: I’ve discovered in Syosset a delightful study in contrasts – a world-class education with a charming small-town feel.

Regards,  
Dr. Tom Rogers  
Superintendent of Schools



# What's in a *Rank*?

coursework in the arts does not only benefit the next aspiring Claude Monet. Students with varying skills and interests have used what's learned in an art class to succeed in other fields.

"We're teaching them to think creatively," Salzman said. "We're teaching them problem-solving skills. And we're forcing upon them higher-level thinking skills to work their way through. Those are all foot patterns and knowledge and skills that they need in order to succeed in every single subject."

One of those subjects is social studies, which offers a freshman AP World History course as well as AP Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, U.S. History and a host of other humanities-related courses.

Using a college-level textbook and expecting college-level work from freshmen seems like a tall order. But according to AP World History and Macroeconomics teacher Marcy Eager, they have had a good deal of success with passing rates, not to mention the camaraderie fostered among the ninth-graders.

"It takes really committed students," Eager said. "When those students are working so hard in that World History class, it really makes them stay together. I see that when they get to their senior year and they're still in the halls together. Those friendships remained."

Starting students on the path to academic success as early as ninth grade has helped foster an environment within the school community that increases expectations across the board. A rising tide lifts all boats, as they say. Michael Salzman said even without AP-level courses, art appreciation and history are being instilled long before high school.

"We start introducing elements of art in kindergarten right through elementary school and middle school," he said. "And they do a great job in the elementary schools of tying every element of art to important historical artists."

For Tom Fusco, administrative assistant and supervisor to the social studies department, success seems to lie within the department's open enrollment status for AP courses. Open enrollment essentially says to students: "If you think you can do it, give it a try."

"It gives everyone the opportunity to try it and see if it fits them," Fusco said. "It raises the bar throughout the whole district. Our goal here in Syosset is to try to have every student have the experience of a college-

level course before they graduate."

Does open enrollment seem to be working? According to the 2013-14 statistics, 1,139 students sat for at least one AP examination. That's more than 52 percent of the Syosset High School student body! A total of 2,528 AP exams were administered last school year. How did the students fare? A whopping 72 percent of students received a grade of 3 or higher.

"I really believe in open enrollment," said Eager. "I believe if the child thinks they can do it, they should have the opportunity. Very often the child develops over the summer or his interest level increases, or his association with other kids becomes contagious."

That academic contagion might be traced back again to elementary school, where, for example, Village Elementary students recently worked with an artist in residence on painting large-scale installations influenced by the works of Vincent Van Gogh, Piet Mondrian and Wassily Kandinsky. With early introductions to such complex ideas, teachers and administrators at Syosset can actually watch the progressive journey from inquisitive *tabula rasa* to analytical, college-ready young adult. In effect, the rankings are a wonderful honor. But it's the journey that is really special.

"When [art students] work on their concentration, for example, it's an in-depth exploration, and they have to learn to look at what they're creating and make choices," said Highland. "When they start, they don't know where it's going to end. That's a nice part of it."

And when they get there, they often remember how well Syosset prepared them.

"I had a young lady taking the World History class," remembered Eager. "She advanced in school and did her own thing. She went to a very fine college. Two years ago I get an email from her. It's a thank-you letter saying 'I didn't realize how valuable you were to me. I'm in my junior year of college, and I realized everything I know about writing I learned from Syosset.' I don't think there's anything more fulfilling to hear than something like that."



Shaina Tabak, a Class of 2014 graduate from Syosset High School, created this piece titled "Freedom" as her concentration assignment for AP Drawing.

## AP Courses Offered at Syosset High School

- Art History
- Biology
- Calculus AB
- Calculus BC
- Chemistry
- Comparative Government and Politics
- Computer Science
- English Literature
- English Language
- Environmental Science
- European History
- French Language
- Human Geography
- Macroeconomics
- Microeconomics
- Music Theory
- Physics B
- Physics C
- Psychology
- Spanish Language
- Statistics
- 2-D Design Portfolio
- 3-D Design Portfolio
- Drawing Portfolio
- U.S. Government and Politics
- U.S. History
- World History

## Indicators of *Success*:

- Two selected as Siemens Science Competition Semifinalists
- 18 selected as National Merit Scholarship Program Semifinalists
- 38 added to the National Merit Scholarship Program Commended Student list
- Ranked 42nd in the U.S. in The Daily Beast's Best High Schools list
- Ranked 84th in the U.S. in Newsweek's Top High Schools list
- 7th-grade student-pianist at H.B. Thompson selected to perform at NYSSMA Winter Conference
- 10 Syosset student-pianists selected to participate in Lang Lang 101 Pianists Program at the Tilles Center.
- 2014 Long Island Girls Golf Championship
- Reigning County Champion Boys Golf Team
- Reigning County Champion Boys Track Team
- Reigning Conference Champion Swim Team
- Reigning Conference Champion Softball Team
- Reigning Conference Champion Girls Lacrosse Team

# AROUND THE SCHOOLS

## Moving to the Music with 'Rhythm and Movement'

Students in Ann Marie Hennessey's music class and Larry Wilkinson's physical education class at A.P. Willits Elementary School teamed up in a cross-disciplinary activity during a "Rhythm and Movement" class this fall. The second-graders learned the American folk dance known as Alabama Gal, which is a choreographed dance number. They learned and performed the dance steps — sashay, right and left turn, and arch — as well as their favorite dance move, "peel the banana." This move takes place when each line of dancers follows their line leader.

Rhythm and Movement not only gets the circulation going for students, it teaches them history, culture, coordination and teamwork.

## Teachers Carve Out Math, Science Lesson

Fourth-graders at J. Irving

A.P. Willits Elementary



Baylis Elementary School got a hands-on (and hands-in) lesson in math and science when they carved pumpkins to take home for this Halloween season. The students in Josephine Amodeo's, Helen Digenakis's and Sonja Kuhl's classes spent the week weighing, measuring, counting and carving their pumpkins in a lesson that combined life

science, mathematics and art, as students encountered an authentic experiment with practical uses. The lesson was first introduced to Baylis Elementary School by Kuhl, who trained her colleagues to carry out the plan ever since.

## Putting a Point on Punctuation

Students at Berry Hill Elementary School did their part in observing National Punctuation Day on Sept. 24 with a special presentation delivered over the loudspeakers. The school decked out the hallways with punctuation-related messaging so that every student could keep proper use of punctuation top of mind. Then, carrying a large banner announcing the special occasion, the students in Melody Hall's music class performed the "Punctuation Rap." Throughout the day, teachers also reinforced the

proper use of punctuation in their classrooms.

## A Visit from an Artist in Residence

The artist-in-residence program was in full swing at Village Elementary this fall with the return of mural artist John DiNaro, who worked with the students for his seventh consecutive year. Made possible by the Arts Education Committee of the PTA and Principal Jeffery Kasper, DiNaro worked with each student on a permanent installation during their art periods with teacher Courtney Kane.

The theme of this year's artwork is "Trees in the Style of Three Master Artists." For the mural, children utilized the same painting techniques as Wassily Kandinsky, Piet Mondrian and Vincent Van Gogh.

J. Irving Baylis Elementary





### Outdoor Adventure Builds Teamwork

Every September, the three seventh-grade teams at H.B. Thompson Middle School take a trip to Nassau BOCES Brookville Outdoor and Environmental Education Center to take part in team-building activities and adventure education programs. This fall, the students enjoyed a field trip where they learned the basic elements of “Project Adventure,” which focused on trust, cooperation and problem-solving activities to complete tasks on the low challenge course.

### ‘Sticks and Stones’ Assembly Teaches Friendship, Kindness

Robbins Lane Elementary School observed National Bullying Prevention Month with a special assembly on Oct. 9 that centered on how to be both friendly and a friend. Students gathered in the gymnasium for “Sticks and Stones,” a musical play written, produced and presented by performing artist Lyle Cogen.

Cogen uses the play to teach students about the many ways name-calling can hurt and ostracize others. She also sings songs that encourage friendship and embracing each other’s differences. The event was made possible by the Robbins Lane PTA in recognition of Bullying Prevention Month, which is held every October.

### Constitution Day Comes with Special Guest

The entire South Grove Elementary School student body held its student officer swearing-in ceremony while learning about America’s system of government on Constitution Day, which was held in September. The students were treated to a special visit from a New York State judge. Principal Theresa Scrocco emceed the event, introducing the packed audience of students, teachers and parents to the Hon. Judge Gina Lopez-Summa, who swore the class leaders into office. Judge Summa described how the three branches of government function and

urged the students to take their leadership roles seriously.

### The INN Steps Out for Middle Schoolers

The sixth-grade class at South Woods Middle School assembled in the school library for a special presentation about a unique organization that helps combat homelessness and hunger on Long Island. Dana Lopez, communications director at the INN (Interfaith Nutrition Network) in Hempstead, visited the students to speak with them about the hidden problem of homelessness on Long Island. The sixth-graders were asked to

imagine not having any food in the refrigerator or having to put everything they own into a shopping cart. A brief Q&A session followed the presentation, and students got the opportunity to gather more information about how they can volunteer to help at the INN.

### ‘It’s Alive’ Teaches Lesson on Human Organs

This autumn, students at Walt Whitman Elementary School gathered in the gymnasium for a puppet show that took them on a tour of human organs in a fun and entertaining way. The show, titled “It’s Alive: How Organs Work,” was sponsored by the Walt Whitman PTA and featured ventriloquist Steve Petra, whose sidekick “The Brain” guided students on a tour through the nervous system, the digestive system, the respiratory system and the heart. Using puppets and an interactive set design, Petra entertained the children with jokes and songs. He also invited student volunteers to come up and role-play as parts of the human body, including the nose, hand and foot.



# STUDENTS IN THE *Syosset Boasts Two Siemens*



Elaine He



Jiwei Zhong

Two Syosset High School students were named semifinalists in the extremely prestigious 2014 Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology.

Elaine He and Jiwei (Vivian) Zhong, both seniors, were named to the list just days before the finals were announced on Oct. 20, with both receiving special recognition on the Siemens Competition website.

Elaine's research project title was "Identification of the target site of ADS-J1, the first small molecule HIV fusion inhibitor, using mutagenesis strategy." She researched the potential to inhibit HIV from entering new host cells at the Lindsley F. Kimball Research Institute at the New York Blood Center. She also co-authored a publication of similar research titled "ADS-J1 inhibits HIV-1 infection and membrane fusion by targeting the highly conserved pocket in the gp41 NHR-trimer."

Jiwei's research project title was "Regulating the

Catalytic Kinetics of Thiol-stabilized Gold Nanoparticle Polymer Composites." Her work to compose a model for using gold nanoparticle catalysts on a wide-scale basis to promote greater efficiency in waste-free energy production for fuel cells was conducted at St. John's University.

"I'm extremely proud of both of these accomplished students," said Dr. Giovanni Durante, principal of Syosset High School. "Their hard work has paid off, their futures are extraordinarily bright, and they are wonderful ambassadors of Syosset High School."

The Siemens Competition is a highly competitive national contest that recognizes remarkable talent early on in students' scientific careers, fostering individual growth for high school students who are willing to challenge themselves through science research. The competition is administered by Discovery Education and is funded by the Siemens Foundation, a nonprofit arm

*Continued on next page*

## *18 Named National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists*

Eighteen Syosset students were designated as semifinalists in the 2015 National Merit Scholarship Competition, an honor that now allows them to be considered as finalists for the prestigious academic award.

The students joined a list of only 16,000 others in the nation who have shown similar academic talent and rigor. They will be in the running to collect some 7,600 National Merit scholarships worth approximately \$33 million to be handed out this coming spring.

The 18 students are:

Alexander Blumenstock  
Max Carol  
Ritayan Chakraborty  
Tim Cheung  
Emily Gruber  
Elaine He  
Mary Kim  
Samantha Li  
Abrar Nadroo

Adam Obedian  
Richard Prestegaard  
Rohith Rokkam  
Divij Sharma  
Rebecca Sobel  
Fei Wan  
Charles K. Wang  
Jiwei Zhong  
Shijun Zhu

Superintendent Dr. Thomas Rogers greeted the news with enthusiasm and congratulated the students personally at the Sept. 15 Board of Education meeting.

"I wish them the best of luck as they move into the next phase of this competition," he said. "No matter what happens next, their ambition and academic success has already made them winners in my eyes."

Syosset High School Principal Dr. Giovanni Durante had the honor of presenting the students at the board meeting. Each student received a certificate of recognition and congratulations from the board members as they moved along the dais.

"I am very proud of our students," said Dr. Durante. "Their hard work and dedication truly earned this recognition."

The National Merit Scholarship Program is managed by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to encouraging the pursuit of academic excellence.



Continued from page 6

# SPOTLIGHT

## *Semifinalists*

of Siemens AG. The contest is judged by a panel of research scientists who come from both academic and laboratory backgrounds. Out of approximately 1,500 projects submitted each year, the panel narrows the pool down to 300 semifinalists.

This is the first year that Discovery Education has administered the contest. Discovery Education, an arm of the

company that owns the Discovery Channel, is a digital media platform that works with schools across the country to help them bring the outside scientific world into the classroom through the use of new technology. Its mission is to provide students access to information they may not have otherwise had access to, while adhering to state standards and increasing student performance.

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## *Musicians Hit the Right Note*

Twenty-four of the high school's finest student-musicians were recognized by NYSSMA as All-State musicians, totaling 30 All-State spots, as several of them were named on multiple instruments.

"Our students did incredibly well in last year's All-State auditions and we knew the number would be high, but we never expected that it could be that high," said Michael Salzman, Coordinator of fine and performing arts. Thirteen of these students will rehearse with the All-State ensembles in Rochester, where they will also perform at the Eastman School of Music for the 2014 NYSSMA Winter Conference, Dec. 4-7. The remaining students have been selected as alternates.

Syosset's 2014 All-State musicians are: Rachel Baum, A.J. Bellocco, Tae Chung, Emily Cushing, Jake Finkelstein, Jordyn Goldstein, Elaine He, Hanna Hong, Lynn Hur, Ashley Kim, Mary Kim, Pearl Kim, Sungjae Kim, Ross Kliegman, Victoria Kong, Michelle Lee, Tyler Oringer, Michelle Ripka, Rohith Rokkam, Benjamin Senzer, Jacob Sugarman, Emma Sun, Amanda Yuen and Michael Zhu.

And the hits keep coming! Four high school student-musicians were named to the 2015 NAfME All-National Honor Ensembles. These students had the opportunity to travel to Nashville, Tenn., where they rehearsed with top music students from across the U.S. and performed at the Grand Ole Opry.

Congratulations to All-National Chorus members Brett Levine, Adam Obedian and Daphne Solomon, all members of the high school's choral program and students of Kristin Howell. Violinist Angela Wee was accepted to the All-National Honor Symphony Orchestra. Wee is a member of the high school chamber orchestra and is a student of Stephanie Merten.



## WKWZ SYOSSET RADIO: **Are You Tuned In?**

Beneath the ground floor at Syosset High School is an incredibly rich and bright program that combines course materials with real-world experience. The entrance to this program is marked with a colorful door in the hallway of the music wing just before the chorus and back stage rooms. Of course, we're talking about WKWZ-Syosset Radio.

Syosset Radio is a functioning, up-to-date live broadcast studio from which Syosset's future radio and TV personalities play music, offer opinions, discuss sports, broadcast sporting events and the monthly meetings of the Board of Education. The station has been running for the past 42 years on 88.5 FM. Participation in the program requires a fairly intense course of study and an FCC board test that's required of all students who wish to be heard on air.

The program is run by Syosset teacher David Favilla, an educator with years of private sector experience with radio stations such as WBAB and WLIR. His background provides students with a unique, real-world radio experience as they learn about all the intricacies of broadcasting: from FCC regulations to timed programming to format and broadcast fluency.

"The greatest thing about the class and the club is that it gives students real experience working at a real radio station," said Favilla. "And the student response to me is the best part of it."

"My experience here has been marvelous," said Syosset student Ian Capell. "When I was at HBT, I heard about radio club during orientation, and when I saw there was a radio club, I thought, 'I have to be in that club.' What better club is there, than one where I get to do what I love and talk about what I love?"

# SYOSSET CELEBRATES HOMECOMING WITH *Victory*



On a beautiful, almost balmy, October day, Syosset enjoyed both a successful homecoming game and a successful outcome. In addition to a well-attended carnival, the day was capped off with a victory over Valley Stream Central High School.

Hundreds turned out for the community-wide event, which featured halftime performances by the high school cheerleaders, kickline and marching band. "Brave Cat" also made an appearance to entertain the crowd and help the cheerleaders get the stands chanting.

The rides were in full swing at the carnival across the field both during and after the game, as community members hopped on the Ferris wheel, Gravitron and carousel. The carnival ran well into the evening and offered a variety of food for all tastes.

The Syosset Braves varsity football team won with a final score of 41-0.

FALL 2014

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