



## **POINTS OF PRIDE**

*The Pillars of Success*

**December 2013**

### **Achievements**

- Kennedy seniors Ben November, Rebecca Jellinek and Rachel Abramowitz have been named semifinalists in the 2014 Intel Science Talent Search. This prestigious honor was awarded to 300 high school seniors across the nation.
- Chan Lian, a senior at Calhoun, has been selected as a Nassau BOCES Education Partner 2014 Honoree. This initiative at BOCES, which was started in 2007, is one of the most prestigious honors anyone involved in Nassau County education can receive.
- Kennedy senior Rachel Abramowitz will be presenting her project, titled, "Why Innocent People Comply with Police Requests: The Role of Just World Beliefs and Public Self Consciousness," at the American Psychology Law Society Conference in New Orleans in March. She will be the youngest presenter ever and will be speaking in front of doctors, graduate students, professors and researchers. She will also present her work at the Long Island Psychology Fair in January.
- Poetry was brought to life at Mepham on Dec. 17 when 19 students took part in the seventh annual Poetry Out Loud National Recitation Contest. Senior Arianna Miller earned first-place honors, with junior Alyssa Rabinowitz ranking second and sophomore Miranda Sass taking third.

### **Fundraising**

- Mepham, Calhoun and Merrick Avenue collected toys as part of Sen. Charles Fuschillo's Extend the Holidays Toy Drive in December, and as part of a districtwide effort among all schools to help those in need during the holiday season. The annual event, which has been taking place since 1998, brings toys to children at Winthrop-University Hospital in Mineola after the holidays and throughout the year to help them through difficult times.
- The Yorker Club at Grand Avenue sponsored its annual canned food drive during the month of November. During a three-week span, more than 500 cans of food – about 13 boxes – and \$700 dollars was raised by the school's generous students to help needy families in the Bellmore community. Each family received a box of canned food as well as a \$50 gift certificate for holiday groceries at Stop & Shop.
- Students and teachers at John F. Kennedy High School in the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District came together on Dec. 12 for the third annual Trivia Challenge to benefit the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, raising a total of about \$1,300.
- Grand Avenue physical education students took part in Jump Rope for Heart and raised \$7,495.72 for the American Heart Association.

### **Athletics**

- Calhoun senior varsity soccer player Kayla Cappuzzo has been named the Class AA State Player of the Year and Nassau County Conference IAA Player of the Year. She was also named All-Long Island Player of the Year and All-County, and received the Mike Clarke Award and Sue Link Memorial Scholarship. Additionally, senior varsity soccer player Harry Davis was named Conference Player of the Year and honored with All-County recognitions.
- All 28 fall sports teams from the district have received the New York State Scholar-Athlete Team Award. In order to achieve this honor, all members of a team must have an unweighted average of 90 or higher.