

## END OF YEAR

We have come to the end of another school year and look at all we have been through in the last 15 months.

Many of our students are attending the ESY program in-person, which starts Wednesday, June 30 and ends Friday, July 30 (9am-12:30pm).

If you have not received ESY information, reach out to your child's case manager for additional information.

WOSEPAC will resume contact at the end of summer regarding the 2021-2022 school year. Enjoy your SUMMER!

## WE NEED YOU!

### JOIN OUR TEAM

We are looking for additional members to join our WOSEPAC Team.

If you have a child in or out of district with an IEP or 504, or if you are a professional in the field,

**WE NEED YOU!**

Fundraisers, Resource Expo, Disabilities Assembly, Safety Policy, Newsletter and Website

is what we will need help with starting this fall.

Please contact us at [wosepacchair@gmail.com](mailto:wosepacchair@gmail.com) if you are interested.

# WOSE PAC TEAM 2020-2021



CHAIR-Gina Velazquez

CO CHAIR-Christina DeMarco

TREASURER-Amber Newsome

DIVERSITY CHAIR-Ysaura Fernandez

EDUCATION CHAIR-Nicole Ruffo

EVENTS CHAIR-D'Laisa Francis Abdullah

WEB CHAIR-Deb Milstein

SECRETARY-Lisa Renwick

## NOMINATIONS

We know that all of our teachers and support staff are amazing and doing all that they can for us. If there is one teacher or staff member that has gone above and beyond this year for your child and has made a difference, please let us know who that is. We want to acknowledge their excellence and celebrate them here!

## LUNCH IS SERVED

Our district in partnership with Maschio Food Services continues to provide a generous bagged breakfast and lunch complimentary for all WO students (no matter of income). Beginning July 5th, lunch will be available for all students throughout the summer

at Washington, Hazel and West Orange High School

11-2pm

Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Maschio is open to hear from those families with allergies to discuss alternative food products and accommodations.

# SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

## ZOOM PAINT PARTY

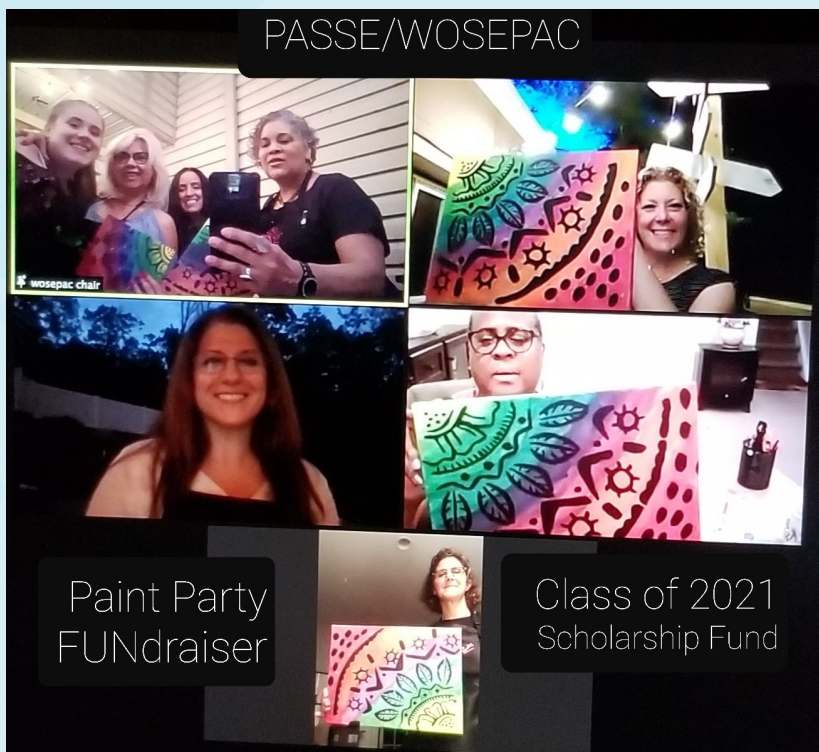
On behalf of PASSE and WOSEPAC we would like to give a big THANK YOU! The Paint Party was so much fun. We followed along on Zoom while artist Gina provided step by step instructions.

We also raffled off some fun prizes to some of our sponsors during the event.

Our students work very hard and deserve recognition for their efforts and dedication and this was only possible by the continued support and generosity from all of those who contributed to our fundraiser! Each of our students will receive an award of recognition, and a scholarship

A big shout out to Class of 2021 sponsors:

**Mayor Rob Parisi, Councilwoman President Cindy Matute Brown, Alex Mizrahi, Sue Cynthia Bailey Frievald, Jennie Bada, Martha Singer, Beth Grossfeld, Stephanie Brown, Councilwoman Michelle Casalino, Ysaura Fernandez, Dr. Scott Cascone, Christina DeMarco, BOE President Terry Triggs-Scales, Nadia Kanwal, Sandra Mordecai, Lisa Renwick, Special Education Director Kristin Gogerty-Fitzgerald, Kimberly Brown, Lois Rosado, Patricia Baily, Larry Reyna, Denise Guanlao, Ayesha Qayyum**



# SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

## **CONGRATULATIONS** **PASSE/WOSEPAC** **SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS** **CLASS OF 2021**

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**CORY LILLIS**

**ANGELA MARIA PINEDA**

**MEKHI B. BRANCH**

**BRYCE HANNAH**

**ASHLEY TEJADA HERNANDEZ**

**VIJAYA COATS**

**ROSE MURPHY-BRAUNSTEIN**

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**WE ARE PROUD OF YOU ALL**

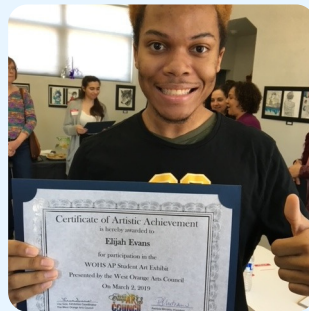
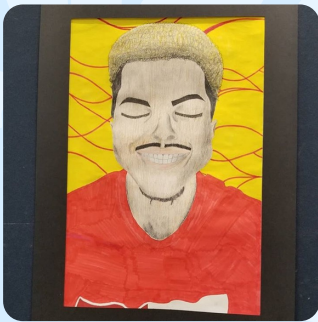
We wish you much success in your  
life's journey!

# CLASS OF 2021

## PROUD GRADUATES FROM 18-21 PROGRAM

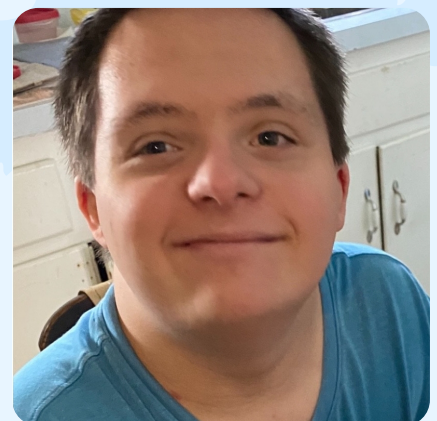
**We are proud to highlight these amazing and hard working graduates.  
We want to wish them much success.**

Elijah Evans came to WOHS as a gifted artist, with a natural talent. He began his creative journey taking various art classes and quickly accomplished and evolved into an incredible artist! Through his illustrative, analytical and precise style, Elijah left his teachers speechless with his art work. He produced work that was exemplary and ultimately featured in the West Orange Arts Council Gallery Show. Elijah participated in advanced group projects around WOHS, including his design for the Autism Awareness t-shirt. Elijah took AP art, participated in art club and was an integral part of an outreach program at Keller, doing Installations. He spent his lunch hour and free time at home working on commission pieces from community members. Elijah is a hardworking and conscientious student and employee. He always does his best! He received excellent grades and developed a social circle of peers for after school activities. He interned at Washington School and Edison Middle School for Maschio food services and is solid employee. Elijah worked at CNP Treasures as an apprentice gaining the skills of a furniture refinisher.



Deondre Ward is a diligent, motivated young man with a great sense of humor. He participated in the WOHS 18-21 program and developed strong employment skills through his work experiences. Deondre worked at Daughters of Israel in food services and Petco as a stock clerk. He also worked for Sodexo (now Maschio's) as a server at Redwood School and as a paid employee at Kelly School as a lunch aide. He is currently employed at Turtle Back Zoo as a greeter in the reptile room. Deondre participated in multiple clubs at WOHS including the Screenwriters Society, Art Club and Social Skills through Expressive Art Program.

Robert D'Aries is a reliable, hard working young man with a silly sense of humor! He participated in the WOHS 18-21 program, where he developed work skills towards employment. Robert participated in community based instruction, life skills and job training. He worked at the Wilshire Grand Hotel, Courtyard by Marriot and the Manor doing setups, light maintenance and housekeeping. Robert never missed a day of work no matter what! Robert also participated in the Social Skills through Expressive Art program and enjoys spending time with family.



# IN THE SPOTLIGHT

## GREEN HOUSE PROGRAM

We want to recognize Alex Brasier, Gareth Seron, William Nachbar and Steven Rodriguez of Ms. Mallory and Ms. Domenica's self-contained classes at West Orange High School. These students are doing extraordinary work in the new GREEN HOUSE PROGRAM (GHP). The students gained gardening experience at the UNICO Nicholas Vecchio Garden at Degnan Park.

The students also have sales experience as part of the Coffee Cart Delivery Program. However, because of COVID-19 restrictions, the self-contained students were not able to take part in these programs. With the collaboration of Ms. Mallory, Ms. Domenica and case manager Mrs. Goldstein the GHP was initiated to help the students retain their sales and gardening skills. The GHP aims to provide students with hands-on skills as well as pre-vocational and transitional skills so that they can understand and adapt to the workforce.

The focus for this GHP is to develop work and life skills, in addition to providing mental, social and physical benefits.

Through the GHP, participants will improve their verbal and linguistic capabilities, as well as their ability to concentrate. It is proven that gardening strengthens coordination and fine motor skills, as well as coordination and fine motor skills.

In addition to improving communication, gardening teaches problem-solving skills. The activities of gardening have been shown to improve mood and relieve anxiety. It has also been shown to improve sensory reactions in children with Autism. Feeling the soil and smelling the plants gives the user the opportunity to explore their senses in a positive way.

The students have grown parsley, basil, cilantro, mint, potatoes, and sunflowers and they are selling them to WOHS staff.

Our best wishes go out to these students in this new program and we will continue to support and follow the results of their hard work!



# WOHS HIGHLIGHT

## 18-21 WOHS TRANSITION PROGRAM

The 18-21 Transition Program at West Orange High School provides students the opportunity to work with local businesses to gain job experience in preparation for the workforce. Our goal is to make the "right match" - to provide a qualified student with a work opportunity in his or her field of interest. Educators have recognized that local businesses can often provide experiences that cannot be duplicated in the classroom. Through a Structured Learning Experience (S.L.E.), students have the opportunity to learn the job skills, and an understanding of the demand and requirements of the workplace. Students may choose to continue working in the chosen field of interest while other transition to post secondary training and education.

### What You Can Do?

- Provide a work opportunity for a WOHS student interns, (paid or unpaid).
- Help ensure success in adequate job performance, by making reasonable accommodations for students when necessary.

We are seeking Community Employers that will accept the challenge, provide training and support so that West Orange students can experience the real world of work. Our current Community Business Partners that provide internships are:

CNP Treasures  
Daughters of Israel  
Courtyard By Marriott  
First Mountain Preschool  
Greenhill Nursing Home  
Marshalls  
Maschio's Food Services  
Petco  
TJMaxx  
The Manor  
West Orange Town Hall  
West Orange Public Library  
West Orange Public Schools  
Wilshire Grand Hotel

Please contact: Jodie Goldstein-Transition coordinator at [jgoldstein@westorangeschools.org](mailto:jgoldstein@westorangeschools.org)  
Anthony Perconti-Teacher of 18-21 program at [aperconti@westorangeschools.org](mailto:aperconti@westorangeschools.org)

## WOHS COMMUNITY BUSINESS PARTNERS



*The Wilshire Grand Hotel*



WEST ORANGE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
Where Bright Ideas Begin!



**Marshalls**

*The Manor*



**T.J. maxx**