



The Oldest Kiwanis Club in Queens

Kiwanis Club of Richmond Hill Woodhaven

We meet 2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at the Avenue Diner in Woodhaven

Richmond Hill Woodhaven Kiwanis Club Sets 36th Annual Scholarship Awards Presentation

For Immediate Release

July 13, 2019

RICHMOND HILL, New York — Two high school graduates will receive college scholarships from the Kiwanis Club of Richmond Hill Woodhaven at the 36th Annual Scholarship Awards Dinner to be held Thursday, August 22, 6:45 p.m., at the Avenue Diner, 91-06 Jamaica Avenue, Woodhaven. The Richmond Hill Woodhaven Club awards the Mary Quaid and Joseph V. Iaricci Memorial Kiwanis Scholarships annually based on both academic achievement and service to the school and community. The Club makes two awards, each for \$2,500, to residents of the Richmond Hill, Woodhaven, Kew Gardens, Forest Hills area served by the local Kiwanis Club. Additional awards, each for \$600, are awarded to qualified Kiwanis-related students – to a child or grandchild of a member of any other Kiwanis Club in the Queens West Division, and to a relative of a current or former member of the Richmond Hill Woodhaven Kiwanis Club. Since 1984, the Kiwanis Club has awarded \$219,975 in scholarships to assist 160 students with their college education.

The Mary Quaid Scholarships are awarded in the amount of \$2,500 each to two area students. The awards will be made this year to Nafisa Zaforullah, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sheikh Zaforullah of Richmond Hill; and to Radiah Mohamed, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Azzul Mohamed of South Richmond Hill. Ms. Zaforullah graduated from Francis Lewis High School. Ms. Mohamed graduated from Hillcrest High School.

Kiwanis International is a community service organization with clubs in more than 8,000 local communities around the world and in every area of the United States. It is the world's largest sponsor of youth organizations with high school Key Clubs, college Circle K Clubs, and Builders Clubs at the junior high school level. The Kiwanis Club of Richmond Hill Woodhaven has served its community since 1927 and is the oldest Kiwanis Club in Queens, continuing the work of its two predecessor Kiwanis Clubs of Richmond Hill-Kew-Forest and of Woodhaven. Its membership includes local business and professional leaders who meet bi-weekly at the Avenue Diner in Woodhaven.

The Club's community service outreach, in addition to the awarding of annual Scholarships, includes sponsorship of the Key Club at Richmond Hill High School. The Club has also supported many organizations serving the local community, including the Boys and Girls Club of South Queens, Disabled Boy Scouts, Emergency Food Service of the Queens Federation of Churches, Queens Kiwanis Sports Association, Kamp Kiwanis, Woodhaven-Richmond Hill Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Richmond Hill Senior Center, Special Education Programs at P.S. 90, among others.

Both scholarship winners distinguished themselves in service to their school and home communities and have received many honors, including membership in Arista, the National Honor Society, or other similar recognitions.

Nafisa Zaforullah graduated from Francis Lewis High School with a 97.88% average. She plans to attend City College to prepare for a career in international law. She has been Squad Leader of the Junior ROTC, Ambassador in Peer Mediation, and a member of the Key Club, the No Place for Hate Club, and Arista National Honor Society. She was recognized with the Presidential Award in 2015. She has volunteered summers at the Holy Apostles Soup Kitchen in Manhattan and the Big Apple Circus.

Radiah Mohamed graduated from Hillcrest High School with a 97% average. She will attend York College to prepare for a career as an occupational therapist. She has been a member of the NYU Mentorship Program, JV Volleyball Team, Varsity Hardball Team and the National Honor Society. She has worked at the Community Mediation Service in Jamaica, and the Masjid Al-Abidin in South Richmond Hill where she served food, collected donations and raised funds.

At the Awards dinner on August 22, Kimberly Collazo (2018), Benjamin Siciliano (2018), Annamaria Leal (2017), Fanny Fernandez (2017), Simran Bahl (2016), and Raveena Beharry (2016) will each receive the annual installment on the \$2,500 Kiwanis Scholarships which were first awarded in the years indicated.

Ms. Collazo graduated from the Francis Lewis High School and is continuing her education at LIM College.

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Mr. Siciliano is a graduate of Regis High School and is a student at Williams College. Ms. Leal graduated from St. Francis Preparatory High School and attends St. Francis College. Ms. Fernandez is a graduate of Monsignor McClancy Memorial High School and is a student at the College of Saint Rose. Ms. Bahl graduated from the St. Francis Preparatory High School and is enrolled in St. John's University. Raveena Beharry, a graduate of Christ the King High School also attends St. John's University.

Alessandro Drudi and Andrew Zink will each receive the second installment of the \$600 Kiwanis Scholarships which were awarded in 2018.

Mr. Drudi, graduated from New Hyde Park Memorial High School. Mr. Zink, a graduate of Mepham High School in North Bellmore. Both are students at SUNY, Stony Brook.

Joan C. DeCamp chairs the Kiwanis Club's Scholarship Committee. Other members of the Committee include officers of the Richmond Hill Woodhaven Kiwanis Club: President Paul Vasiliadis, Past President Antoine McCoy and Andrew Combs.

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For more information, call 518-522-8275