



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 33rd Annual Scholarship Awards Presentation June 29

For Immediate Release

May 16, 2016

RICHMOND HILL, New York — Five high school graduates will receive college scholarships from the Kiwanis Club of Richmond Hill Woodhaven at the 32rd Annual Scholarship Awards Dinner to be held Wednesday, June 29, 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 who are members of the Key Club at Richmond Hill High School, a Kiwanis youth organization sponsored by the Richmond Hill Woodhaven Club, 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 \$202,575 in scholarships to assist 150 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 Simran Bahl, daughter of Pankaj and Nisha Bahl of Richmond Hill, and to Raveena Beharry, daughter of Ravi and Deohottie Balkaran Beharry of Richmond Hill. Ms. Bahl will graduate from St. Francis Preparatory High School, and Ms. Beharry from Christ the King High School.

The \$600 Joseph V. Iaricci Kiwanis Awards will be presented to Maria Aliberti, daughter of Gerardo and Santa LoCascio Aliberti of Howard Beach; Shalini Doodnauth, daughter of Taramattie Doodnauth of Brooklyn; and Nicholas Wunsch, son of Ernest and Ania Wunssch of Rego Park. Ms. Aliberti will graduate from Archbishop Molloy High School and is the granddaughter of Club Member Beatrice LoCasio-Lucchesi. Ms. Doodnauth will graduate from Richmond Hill School where she served two years as Treasurer of the Richmond Hill Key Club. Mr. Wunsch graduates from Regis High School in Mnahattan and is the son of Anita Wunsch, a member of the Kiwanis Club of Glendale.

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.

All five 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.

Simran Bahl will graduate from the St. Francis Preparatory High School will a GPA of 94.61%. She plans to enroll in St. John's University to prepare for a career as a speech pathologist. In high school, she has been an active member of both the Indian and West Indian Clubs, a leaders in the Drug and Alcohol Prevention Club, and a contributing author to The Seraph, the school newspaper. She has service both as Vice President and as Presidnet of the South Ozone Park Leos Club International, sponsored by the Lions Club. Simran is a member of the choir

[more]

Richmond Hill Woodhaven Kiwanis Club To Award Scholarships, Page 2

and helped with food distribution at the Shaam Shaam Dhaam Mandir in South Ozone Park.

Raveena Beharry graduates from Christ the King High School with a GPA of 93%. She aspires to work in the marketing department of a television network and plans to attend St. John's University. In high school, she has been an active member of the Key Club, the Math, Book and Art Clubs, and the National Honor Society. She has served as an Adults Recreation Volunteer at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center for the past two summers and has worked as a Camp Counselor at the Boys and Girls Club of Metro Queens.

Maria Aliberti will graduate in the top 3% of her class at Archbishop Molloy High School with a GPA of 100.42%. She will enroll at Fordham University and looks forward to a career in medicine. At Molloy, she has been a member of the Campus Ministry, a Peer Group Leaders, Spirit Leader of the Student activities Committee, a reporter for the school newspaper and keynote speaker for the Junior Leadership Committee. She has two years volunteer experience in the Emergency Room of the New York Presbyterian of Queens Hospital and as a religious tutor for an autistic child at St. Helen's Church, Howard Beach. Maria has been employed as a summer day camp counselor at the Out Lade of Hope Church, Middle Village, and as a parttime dental assistant in Ridgewood.

Sialini Doodnauth will graduate with a GPA of 89% from the Richmond Hill High School and plans to enroll in Baruch College of the City University in preparation to going on to earn an MBA. She would like to own a bridal shop. In high school, she has been President of the Senior Class, Treasurer of the Key Club, founder of the Coding and Finance Club, and a member of the School Leadership Team. She has been an administrative intern at Project Find of the Hamilton Senior Home Center in Manhattan where she was also employed. She has worked in administration at the Cultural Collaborative Jamaica.

Nicholas Wunsch graduates with a 3.8 average (on a 4.0 scale) from the Regis High School in Manhattan. He will enroll at St. John's University and aspires to work in one of the Big Four accounting firms. He has served as chaplain of Catalyst, a Christian service club, office manager and archivist of the Owl (school newspaper) president of the German Club and commissioner of the Flag Football Club. He has been very active in the Boy Scouts of America and is an Eagle Scout. Nicholas has volunteered in all aspects of the Midnight Run at Regis. He has worked in reception for Century 21 Amiable II, Glendale, and on the front desk at St. Margaret's Parish Rectory, Middle Village.

At the Awards dinner on June 29, Kylie Chow (2015), Raveena Jain (2015), Madalena Grabos, (2014) Christine Singh (2014), Manpreet Sachdev (2013), Rominie Dyal (2013) will each receive the annual installment on the \$2,500 Kiwanis Scholarships which were first awarded in the years indicated. Ms. Chow graduated from The Mary Louis Academy and is a student at Villanova University. Ms. Grabos graduated from Townsend Harris High School and is a student at Binghamton University. Ms. Singh is a graduate of the Forest Hills High School and attends Rochester Institute of Technology. Ms. Sachdev graduated from Archbishop Molloy High School and is enrolled at the New York University. Ms. Dyal is a graduate of the Richmond Hill High School and a student at St. John's University.

Samantha Llanos and Bhupindra Singh will each receive the second installment of the \$600 Kiwanis Scholarships which were awarded in 2015. Ms. Llanos, a graduate of Franklin High School in Somerset, New Jersey, is enrolled at St. John's University. Mr. Singh graduated from the Richmond Hill High School and is a student at the University of Bridgeport.

The Rev. N. J. L'Heureux, Jr., Executive Director of the Queens Federation of Churches, chairs the Kiwanis Club's Scholarship Committee. Other members of the Committee include officers of the Richmond Hill Woodhaven Kiwanis Club: President Kate Ann Brennan, Secretary Joan DeCamp, and Past President Antoine McCoy.

#

For more information, call 718-847-6764x3