



NEWSLETTER

Dear Friend,

As we enter the holiday season, we hope this newsletter finds you in good spirits. We are almost halfway through the school year and we hope you are excited about building upon the immense progress New York City's public high schools have enjoyed in recent years. Nothing better embodies the tremendous work that you do than the fact that last year marked both the highest graduation rate and highest college readiness rates this city has seen in recent memory. This simply would not be possible without the Herculean efforts of the thousands of high school educators throughout this city.



We all know that there's still work to be done, but it is also important to celebrate success. When you have a chance, take a moment to reflect upon both the importance and the joy of this profession. We at Team High School cannot thank you enough.

In solidarity,

Janella Hinds, Vice President for Academic High Schools
Sterling Roberson, Vice President for Career and Technical Education

[Nominate a Colleague for a Team High School Award](#)



Last year's award winners with UFT President Michael Mulgrew (back row, far left) and Vice President Janella Hinds (fourth from left, back row).

Our fifth annual Team High School Awards Ceremony is Friday, April 12, 2019. This event allows us to honor those who go above and beyond in serving students, schools, communities and the union. Please take a few minutes to [nominate a colleague or your school's chapter](#) for a High School Award. The deadline

is Friday, Dec. 14. For information regarding the awards, please contact [Angel Valentin](#).

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer



The guidance department at Francis Lewis High School, Queens, wore pink in solidarity with the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk.

High School members, students and parents from all five boroughs came out on Oct. 14 and 21 to raise money in support of breast cancer awareness, prevention and treatment. It was two days of community building, remembrance and resiliency as all walked for this great cause. If you have pictures or stories from the event that you would like to share, please email them to Team High School at teamhighschool@uft.org or share them on Twitter at [@UFTTeamHS](https://twitter.com/UFTTeamHS).

Coming home to teach



Makida Superville, a special education teacher and 2012 graduate of the High School for Public Service: Heroes of Tomorrow in Brooklyn.

It is always exciting to welcome those new to the profession to our schools. It is a particularly noteworthy when those new educators are also alumni of the school. Team High School wants to shine a light on those new educators who decide to return to their alma mater to teach. Our first alumni spotlight focuses on Makida Superville, a special education teacher and 2012 graduate of the High School for Public Service: Heroes of Tomorrow in Brooklyn. After pursuing a bachelor's degree in law and society at John Jay University, Makida decided to work toward another interest — public education.

“This school was great to me. It was always a safe haven ... and I really wasn't an easy student,” Makida said with a laugh. She said all of her colleagues who taught her over the years were wonderful, but she identified school social worker Rachel Mickenberg and Jason Zanitsch, an ELA teacher and chapter leader of the 100 percent union school, as special guiding lights during her time at HSPS.

In her second year of teaching, Makida shares these words of encouragement to fellow probationary educators: “Be confident in your craft. You have been hired, so you have already won. And don't be afraid to mess up.”

Many thanks to Makida for serving as our first alum in the spotlight!

Are you currently working at your alma mater? We would love to share your story in an upcoming newsletter. Please contact us at teamhighschool@uft.org!

2nd annual World AIDS day poster contest winner

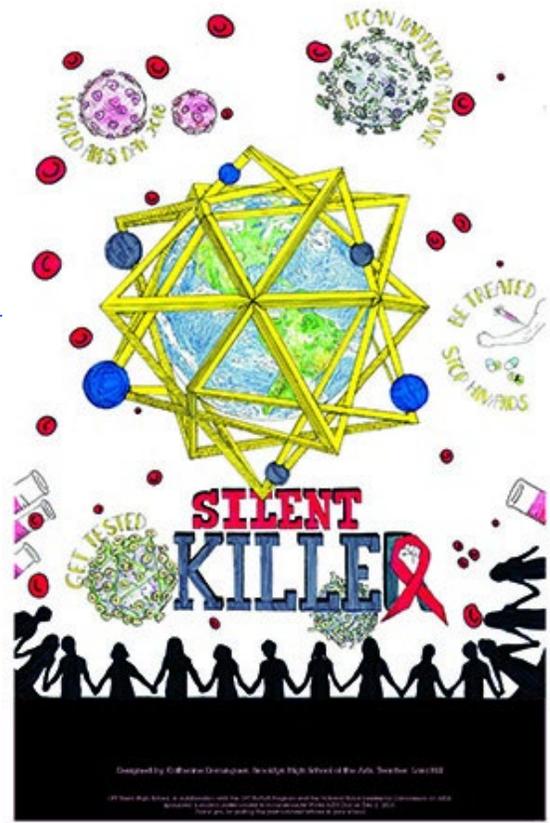
Team High School, in collaboration with the [UFT's BRAVE](#)

[campaign](#) and the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS, sponsored a student poster contest to commemorate World AIDS Day and increase awareness of HIV/AIDS on Dec. 1.

Congratulations to this year's World AIDS Day poster contest winner, Katherine Dominguez, a Brooklyn High School of the Arts student, whose winning poster is to the right.

Help is a Phone Call Away

The [UFT Health and Cancer HelpLine](#) provides union members with counseling and information services. This helpline provides counseling to those experiencing mental health issues as well as those dealing with a serious medical issue. Counselors also help members obtain a medical leave and navigate the insurance system. Referrals are also offered for care-giving services; individual, married-couple or group therapy; and substance-abuse treatment. Most counseling is provided in-person or by telephone during business hours. It's best to call ahead to ensure that time will be set aside for you. Call the UFT Welfare Fund's main number at 212-539-0500 and ask to speak with a Health and Cancer HelpLine counselor. All conversations are strictly confidential.



Student Opportunity: Brooklyn College

Brooklyn College/CUNY will offer tuition-free college credit courses in music technology for high school students during the spring semester (February through May 2019) through its College Now program. All are welcome; no prior knowledge or experience is needed.

Introduction to Music Technology will teach students to create music and sound for media, as well as produce, record and mix audio. This course is great for anyone who wants to learn more about the increasingly intertwined worlds of music and technology. Students will also be introduced to an array of software programs including Pro Tools, Reason and Ableton. Music lovers and aspiring musicians are encouraged to apply.

This new course is offered in partnership with Sound Thinking NYC (a program of the CUNY Creative Arts Team and the NYC Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment, with New York is Music), the College Now program at Brooklyn College, and Media Scoring at the Barry R. Feirstein Graduate School of Cinema.

[Download the application now »](#)

Students may mail application materials to the address listed in the instructions or may email them directly to the College Now program at JGluck@brooklyn.cuny.edu.

Please note: Applications are due by Friday, Dec. 14, for priority consideration. The final deadline is Jan. 17, 2019, after which late or incomplete applications may not be considered.

Student Opportunity: Kenyon College

The [Kenyon Educational Enrichment Program \(KEEP\)](#) is a selective [Kenyon College](#) program aimed at under-represented students of color and first-generation college students. KEEP introduces first-year students to Kenyon before orientation by offering them an intensive [academic experience](#) in the summer and connecting them with supportive peers and mentors. [Stipends](#) are provided.

If you need further information about this amazing opportunity, please reach out to Jacky Neri Arias, KEEP program director and assistant director of Kenyon's Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, at nerij@kenyon.edu or 740-427-5897.

Student Opportunity: See *Hamilton* on Broadway

The [Hamilton Education Project](#) was formed through a partnership between *Hamilton* producer Jeffrey Seller and *Hamilton* creator Lin-Manuel Miranda, the Rockefeller Foundation, the NYC DOE and the Gilder Lehrman Institute. This unique program provides students in Title I schools throughout NYC the opportunity to see *Hamilton* on Broadway. If your school qualifies and you are interested in taking your U.S. History course students to an amazing show, we encourage you to apply.

Citywide High School Meeting Dates

Every month, UFT members from academic and career and technical high schools convene to discuss issues of interest regarding our union, our profession, our schools and our students. Our conversations cover concerns of national, state and local importance. These meetings are open to all UFT members and we hope you will join us in the near future. Meetings take place in [UFT borough offices](#) throughout the city.

Please note: Our meetings take place on Wednesdays, except when noted below, and begin at 4 p.m.

Academic High School meetings

Thursday, Dec. 13, Brooklyn
Jan. 9, 2019, Queens
Feb. 27, 2019, the Bronx
March 13, 2019, Brooklyn
April 3, 2019, Queens
May 15, 2019, Manhattan
May 29, 2019, Staten Island

Career and Technical Education High Schools meetings

(All CTE meetings take place at UFT headquarters in Manhattan.)

Dec. 19, 2018
Jan. 9, 2019
Friday, Feb. 8, 2019 - CTE Awards
March 13, 2019
April 10, 2019
May 8, 2019