

Councilwomen Kepert, Bonner and Town Board Honor Longwood School District Students

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Farmingville, NY - On December 16, Councilwomen Connie Kepert and Jane Bonner, and the Brookhaven Town Board presented certificates of congratulations to six students from Coram Elementary School and four students from West Middle Island Elementary School who were nominated to participate at the Sixth Annual Suffolk County Music Educators' Association (SCMEA) Parent Educators and Kids (PEAK) Music Festival at Northport High School held on November 15. PEAK is a full-day workshop where young musicians are provided the opportunity to perform with other Suffolk students. The six students honored from Coram Elementary were Matthew Greco, Gabriel Hanan, Cole Elliot, Isabella Cannone, Rosalina Battgliola, and William Francois. The four students from Coram Elementary were Michael Gallagher, Rebecca Reinhardt, Kaylee Tennaro, and Iris Mulvey.

"I commend the students of West Middle Island and Coram Elementary schools for their dedication and commitment to learning how to play a musical instrument," said Councilwoman Connie Kepert. "Music programs in our schools are so important, as studies have shown that children's participation in music can boost their academic performance and cognitive skills. Thank you to all of the administrators, teachers, and parents who work so hard to keep music alive in our schools."

"It takes a great deal of dedication and hard work to master a musical instrument," said Councilwoman Jane Bonner. "Even at such a young age, these children are being recognized for their talents."



Pictured left to right are Councilman Kevin LaValle, Councilwoman Valerie M. Cartright, Longwood High School business teacher Gina Bolen, Supervisor Ed Romaine, William Hanley Councilwoman Jane Bonner, Councilwoman Connie Kepert Councilman Dan Panico and Councilman Neil Foley

The Town Board also presented a certificate of congratulations to Longwood High School Junior William Hanley, who placed third at the Speed Networking Portion of Virtual Enterprises International (VEI) Business and

Entrepreneurship Leadership Conference at Long Island University Post in Brookville. William pitched his newly-created virtual business, V Motive, to more than 600 peers and a panel of high-impact business leaders in only 30 seconds. As part of the Business Class curriculum, students must launch their own virtual business replicating all of the functions and demands of a real business.

Councilwoman Jane Bonner said, "William's achievement is extraordinary when you consider what he had to accomplish in only 30 seconds. He obviously has a bright future and I expect he will one day make his mark in the business world."

"Congratulations to William for achieving this exceptional accomplishment," stated Councilwoman Connie Keper. "William has demonstrated a clear understanding of the business world and has mastered the rapid-fire pitch at a young age. I look forward to watching him learn and grow into the exceptional businessman he is sure to become."

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