



THE SCHOLARLY NEWS

TALENTED AND GIFTED SCHOOL FOR YOUNG SCHOLARS PTA NEWSLETTER : : NOVEMBER 2017

PRESIDENTS' STATEMENT

Happy Fall! The TAG PTA has had a busy start to the year, launching several after-school enrichment programs including mandarin, piano, debate and basketball! In October, we focused on iPledge, our direct appeal, for which our goal this year was \$170,000. The funds raised this school year will be used in a budget designed by and voted on by the TAG parents for the 2018-19 school year. Look for PTA Budget Committee meetings where you can be an active part of the process!

If you are not sure what the PTA funds, we invite you to visit our web-page at <http://www.tagscholarspta.org/>, where you will find a link to the [budget for the current school year](#). Your generous donations last year have allowed us to add two new teaching assistants this year for 2nd and 3rd grades, in addition to the K and 1st grade TA's from previous years. In addition, we have been able to add funding for music, for after-school enrichments and 5th and 8th grade graduation activities. We have also continued our support of Singapore Math curriculum (also called Math in Focus), Poets in the Classroom and classroom magazine subscriptions. Without parents' donations, our children wouldn't have all these wonderful extra programs.

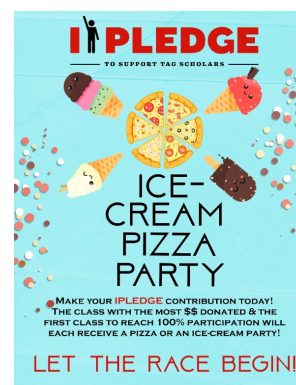
Come participate in upcoming community building events and fundraisers!

To be able to reach you with information, we need parents to sign up on the PTA database on the PTA website. This is crucial to connect you with your class parent and get information to you, as our options to reach you other ways is very limited. Get informed, volunteer, and be an active part of the TAG community! Thank you!

FUNDRAISING

THANK YOU to all the parents who participated in IPLEDGE. With their help, we have raised over \$116,000!

Want to see how much your class participated? Click [HERE](#). And don't forget the class with the most money donated and the class with 100% participation gets an ice cream pizza party.



IMPORTANT PTA MEETING

The next TAG PTA General Meeting will be on **Tuesday Nov 14, 2017 at 6pm in the TAG cafeteria. At this meeting, elections will be held for 7 newly created officer roles** (Vice President of Audit, Vice President of Budget, Vice President of Communications, Vice President of Enrichment, Vice President of Family Engagement, Vice President of Fundraising, & Vice President of Grants). These positions have previously been called committee chairs but per our bylaws change on 10/03, we will be creating officer positions for each. This election will be to fill these positions for the rest of the 2017-18 school year and any current committee chairs interested in continuing will be nominated for their respective positions; this election is open to any interested TAG parents. Each of these positions can be held by co-officers and any co-officers running for these offices must run together as a slate. Because this is an expedited election, a nominating committee will not be formed and all nominations will be taken from the floor. We need quorum in order to have elections so please make every effort to attend. Read more [HERE](#). Questions? Email president@tagscholarspta.org.



FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Greetings from the Family Engagement Committee (Formerly Membership)! It feels so good to use that name for our committee as it truly represents what we do! Each month we will have family outings; community give-back initiatives; and/or wellness workshops. We look forward to seeing you soon! Come share your ideas of how we can keep TAG families engaged; our next meeting is **November 10th at 8:30am**. This month's Family Engagement activities:

Family Outing: We're going to Brooklyn so the kids can cook with their TAG friends! More details will be sent home closer to date.

Wellness Workshop: We're collaborating with the school's health team, "Stress Manifestation Management and Reduction" to learn to deal with Stress in a positive manner.

Cooking With TAG!

The Family Engagement Committee invites TAG families to spend an afternoon cooking with us!

Sunday, December 3

Session 1:
12-1:30pm (Grades 1-2)

Session 2:
2-3:30pm (Grades 3-6)

Session will be added for
Grades 7-8 if there are
enough students interested

Green Apron Kitchen
7122 Bay Parkway
Brooklyn, NY 11204

\$25 per Student
(Cooking Class: Making Pizza,
Cesar Salad, and Dressing
from Scratch)
\$5 per Adult
(Parents Lounge with refreshments)



THE TAG PTA INVITES ALL TAG PARENTS TO

STRESS MGMT

STRATEGIES FOR YOU & YOUR CHILD

COME TO THE WELLNESS 101: STRESS MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP TO LEARN STRATEGIES TO SPOT UNHEALTHY STRESS IN YOU AND YOUR CHILD AND TO DEVELOP COPING PLANS. THE WORKSHOP WILL BE LED BY ANISAH MILEY, LICENSED CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER FROM THE MT. SINAI SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CLINIC.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH
8:15AM - 9:15AM • TAG LIBRARY

QUESTIONS? EMAIL MEMBERSHIP@TAGSCHOLARSPTA.ORG

Community Give-Back: We're joining Ms. Erica in collecting food to donate to a local pantry.
Details with dates and times will be distributed to parents.



Teacher/Staff Appreciation: As we prepare to celebrate the season of being thankful we will show our Teachers and TAG staff that we are thankful for them with an appreciation breakfast.
November 21st at 7:30am.



Last month our Fall festivities were kicked off with back-to-back TAG family outings...Scavenger Hunt at the NY Botanical Garden and a day at Demarest Farm pumpkin picking!





CLASS PARENTS

The class parent list for the 2017-2018 school year has been finalized. You should have started receiving emails from your class parent the first week of October, providing you've registered for the PTA database AND have entered your child's graduation year (**you can do both** [HERE](#)). The list of class parents is [HERE](#). If you have any issues, please contact the Family Engagement Chair, Johnae Ferguson, any time at membership@tagscholarspta.org.

COMMUNICATIONS

PTA MEETING MINUTES

Our October meeting took place on October 3rd. There were changes to the PTA budget, bylaws proposals passed, and more. Here are some highlights:

- The proposed bylaws changes that were presented during September's PTA meeting (including changing the name of the Membership Committee to the Family Engagement Committee, changing the date of PTA meetings, adding additional Vice Presidents, etc) were discussed and voted on. [Read the approved Bylaws on the PTA website.](#)
- Parents were again encouraged to sign up to the PTA database so that class parents and the PTA can email about important updates. This is especially important since Ms. Bruno would be leaving TAG.
- There was lots of discussion about a proposed budget change that would allow for TAG elementary students to have hands-on science. [Review the approved revised budget on the PTA website.](#)

Want to read more or missed the last PTA meeting but still want to know what was discussed? All PTA meeting minutes are posted on the PTA website at <http://www.tagscholarspta.org/pta-meeting-minutes.html>

PTA LOGO DESIGN CONTEST



LOGO DESIGN COMPETITION

We're looking for an emblem or logo to represent the PTA beginning in the spring of 2019. The Communications Committee is now seeking logo/ emblem submissions for consideration in the 2017-18 Logo Design Competition.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

- EPS or AI format
- 4 colors maximum: black, white, and shades/tints of red and/or yellow
- Must incorporate a representation of an eagle
- Must be sufficiently flexible to be usable in many contexts (letterhead, website, clothing, signage, etc.). Two related design variations maximum
- Must incorporate the text "TAG Young Scholars" in at least one variation
- Must convey TAG's diversity, communal spirit, and rigorous commitment to academic achievement
- Must be original artwork; all rights in winning design to be transferred to TAG

SUBMISSION EVALUATION:

The Committee will select the 3 designs that best meet the requirements, which will be presented to the PTA Executive Board for approval. The TAG community will then be asked to select their favorite of 3 chosen designs using a TAG PTA website survey. In the survey, parents will be asked to submit one vote with their e-mail address (parents will be encouraged to let the children in their household determine the vote). The winning design will be presented to the TAG Principal.

DEADLINE Email your design to: communications@tagscholarspta.org by 12/08/17

Questions? Email communications@tagscholarspta.org

NOMINATE A TEACHER FOR BIG APPLE AWARDS

Say "thank you" to an outstanding TAG teacher by nominating them for the **Big Apple Awards** which celebrates NYC teachers who inspire students, give great instruction, and enrich schools. **Nominations are due by November 27th** [HERE](#).



ENRICHMENT

NO DEBATE ABOUT IT! OUR DEBATE TEAM IS AWESOME!

Four teams went to TAG's first debate for the year on October 11th. Two of the students debated by themselves (Maverick). Rocia Prass (Maverick) received a top team award. She came in 6th place. Khandker Habib and Raymond Allie won a top team award coming in 7th place. These students competed in the advanced division. In the novice division Juan-Diego Castro (maverick) came in 7th place as a top team. They also won top speaker awards. For this tournament TAG was ranked #5 for Top Schools.

BASKETBALL SATURDAYS

Basketball Saturday's kicked off on October 21st and was a huge hit! Over 40 TAG families came out to engage in basketball drills and skill development. The program continues on Saturdays until November 18th.



CHESS TEAM SUCCESS

The TAG Chess team participated in the Columbus Day Chess in Schools event. Alexandra Phung (1st Grade) won three games, Peter Lin (3rd Grade) won 2.5, while Marlee Sidor (4th Grade) and Kaji Bajracharya (3rd Grade) both won games in their section. Kids interested in participating in chess events with the team (even if they are not enrolled in after-school chess) can [email enrichment directly](#) to get updates on event dates and locations. We generally can get discounts to events as a team. The TAG Chess team also participated in the Booster session of the PS 198 Chess Tournament where TAG brought home several trophies. TAG student Marlee Sidor also participated on October 15 at Q300 tournament in Astoria, winning 2.5 points for a 6th place in the booster category



PTA CALENDAR - NOVEMBER

(More info: <http://www.tagscholarspta.org/event-calendar.html>)

Subscribe	Past Issues		Translate ▼	RSS
Tue Nov 7, 2017	All day	📅 Schools Closed (Election Day)		
Wed Nov 8, 2017	8:15am – 9:15am 6:00pm – 7:00pm	📅 Communications Committee Meeting - TAG's Library 📅 📅 CEC D4 Meeting - TAG Auditorium		
Thu Nov 9, 2017	8:15am – 9:15am	📅 Fundraising Committee Meeting - TAG's Library 📅		
Fri Nov 10, 2017	8:30am – 9:30am	📅 Family Engagement Committee Mtg - TAG Library 📅		
Sat Nov 11, 2017	12:00pm – 3:00pm	📅 Basketball Saturdays (@ TAG) 📅		
Tue Nov 14, 2017	8:15am – 9:15am 6:00pm – 7:00pm	📅 Grants Committee Meeting - TAG's Library 📅 📅 General PTA Meeting - TAG Cafeteria 📅		
Thu Nov 16, 2017	All day 8:15am – 10:15am	📅 Parent/Teacher Conferences (½ day) 📅 Stress Management Wellness Workshop w/ Mt Sinai - TAG Library		
Fri Nov 17, 2017	8:15am – 9:15am	📅 Enrichment Committee Meeting - TAG's Library 📅		
Sat Nov 18, 2017	12:00pm – 3:00pm	📅 Basketball Saturdays (@ TAG) 📅		
Mon Nov 20, 2017	8:15am – 9:15am	📅 Fundraising Committee Meeting - TAG's Library 📅		
Tue Nov 21, 2017	7:15am – 9:00am	📅 Teachers' Appreciation Breakfast - TAG Library		
Thu Nov 23, 2017	All day	📅 Schools Closed (Thanksgiving Recess)		
Fri Nov 24, 2017	All day	📅 Schools Closed (Thanksgiving Recess)		
Mon Nov 27, 2017	All day	📅 Last day for Big Apple award nominations		
Tue Nov 28, 2017	5:45pm – 7:00pm	📅 SLT Meeting - TAG 📅		

CONTACT THE TAG PTA EXECUTIVE BOARD

Please don't hesitate to reach out to anyone on the board with your questions, ideas, and concerns.

Co-Presidents	Nina Reiniger Anand Raghunath	president@tagscholarspta.org
Co-Vice Presidents	Ilaria Mogno Jennifer Fiore	vicepresident@tagscholarspta.org
Co-Secretaries	Laura Lampert Rasheedah Harris	secretary@tagscholarspta.org
Co-Treasurers	Rebecca Yoftahie Trina Edmundson	treasurer@tagscholarspta.org
Audit Chair	Jenny Lam	audit@tagscholarspta.org
Budget Co-Chairs	Eric Crump Ananda Chaudhuri	budget@tagscholarspta.org

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	Communications Co-Chairs	Ming-Yi Smith Pamela Simon	communications@tagscholarspta.org	
	Enrichment Chair	Brandee Williams	enrichment@tagscholarspta.org	
	Fundraising Co-Chairs	Namita Bhatt Anna Pan	fundraising@tagscholarspta.org	
	Family Engagement Chair	Johnae Ferguson	membership@tagscholarspta.org	
	Grants Co-Chairs	Michelle Macaraig David Kwok	grants@tagscholarspta.org	

Have feedback or an event/ article you'd like included in the monthly newsletter? Email it to:
communications@tagscholarspta.org

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