



Stuyvesant High School Alumni Association proudly presents

# The 2023 Benefit for Stuyvesant

Tuesday, May 23, 2023  
Tribeca Rooftop

**#CelebrateStuy**





May 23, 2023

Welcome! Thank you so much for joining us at the 2023 Benefit for Stuyvesant. The Alumni Association is proud to honor the careers and contributions of three remarkable members of the Stuyvesant community: Henk Rogers '72; Nina Uzoigwe '17; and Mr. James "Jim" Lonardo – each of whom has been dedicated to supporting New York City's public school students.

We are delighted to be here with you once again in Tribeca and grateful for your generous commitment to Stuyvesant High School. Thanks to your support, we awarded about \$150,000 in scholarships to deserving students this past year and underwrote many of their extra-curricular activities, such as Speech & Debate, Football, Fencing, Chess, SING!, and more. In addition, with your participation we helped around 200 Stuyvesant students develop important social and professional skills through the Alumni Mentoring Program, as well as 100 middle school students through StuyPrep.

Tonight's event is especially meaningful as we reflect on the many accomplishments of Stuyvesant students, faculty, and alumni after a first full year of in-person learning and gatherings. Stuyvesant is back! The resilience and determination of our school community is unparalleled. And, with additions such as the new Lin Brothers Robotics Lab and the Irwin Zahn Innovation Lab (where tonight's awards were designed and printed) and new projects on the horizon such as an Environmental Science Lab and Media Lab, the Alumni Association ensures that Stuy remains a beacon of hope for so many bright young New Yorkers.

We could not support thousands of students and connect tens of thousands of alumni without your support and the support of our Board of Directors and Board of Trustees, and in particular, Soo Kim '93. Tonight's successes are due to the work of our incredible Benefit Committee and Staff who work so hard all year long. Thank you all, again, for being here to celebrate Henk, Nina, and Jim, and to support the Stuyvesant High School Alumni Association. Enjoy!

Sincerely,

David Gelobter '84, Benefit Committee Chair  
Elina Tetelbaum '03, SHSAA Board President



## **Stuyvesant High School Alumni Association**

# **Benefit for Stuyvesant**

May 23, 2023

### **Opening Remarks**

Elina Tetelbaum '03  
*President, SHSAA Board of Directors*

Diego S. Segalini '98  
*Executive Director, SHSAA*

### **Principal's Welcome**

Dr. Seung Yu  
*Principal, Stuyvesant High School*

### **The Golden Pegleg Award**

Henk Rogers '72  
"Mr. Tetris"  
*Founder, Blue Planet Foundation*

### **The Young Pegleg Award**

Nina Uzoigwe '17  
*Harvard '21 (S.B. Bioengineering)*  
*NYU Grossman School of Medicine '29 (MD, PhD)*

### **The Outstanding Teacher Award**

James "Jim" Lonardo  
*Indicator Faculty Advisor, Robotics Coach, and Tech Teacher*

### **Silent Auction**

Coordinated by Triple Crown

# **The Alumni Association is proud to sponsor**

## **The Alumni Mentoring Program**



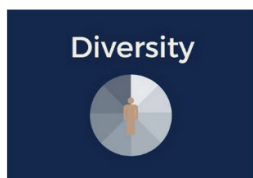
### **SUPPORTING STUYVESANT'S LIVING LEGACY AND DYNAMIC STUDENT BODY**

Founded by Stuy alum YanJie Hou '06 in 2014 and powered by hundreds of alumni volunteers, the initiative helps nearly 200 students each year to:

- Explore different professions and industries for their paths after college
- Broaden their focus and interest outside of academics
- Develop important social and professional skills for long-term success

Ask a member of the SHSAA Staff or Board about how to get involved today!  
To learn more, visit: [www.stuyalumni.org/mentoring/](http://www.stuyalumni.org/mentoring/)

## **StuyPrep**



### **EMPOWERMENT FOR UNDERSERVED MIDDLE SCHOOLERS**

Founded by Stuy alums Kent Kim '05 and Christina Alfonso '01 in 2014 to empower historically underprivileged middle school students with increased access to educational opportunities, tutoring, and awareness of the specialized high school network. The program, which is entirely free to participating students has supported over 500 students since inception, and aims to widen the funnel of bright, diverse students to the City's specialized high schools.

To learn more, visit: [www.stuyalumni.org/stuyprep/](http://www.stuyalumni.org/stuyprep/)



# **2023 Benefit for Stuyvesant Sponsors**

## **Diamond Supporters**

Soo Kim '93  
Edwin Lin '93  
Henk Rogers '72  
Tali and Boaz Weinstein Philanthropic Fund

## **Ruby Supporters**

Chris McGowan '88 and Sandy Wang '88  
Elina Tetelbaum '03 and Matt Anderson  
Teresa Uthurralt '85

## **Sapphire Supporters**

David Gelobter '84  
Anna Nikolayevsky '88  
Bart M. Schwartz '64  
Rahul Sevani '06 and Megha Chopra  
Greenberg Traurig, LLP

## **Mini-Reunion Supporters**

Class of 1972  
Class of 1991  
Class of 1998  
Speech & Debate Alums

# THE GOLDEN PEGLEG AWARD



**Henk Rogers '72** is an internationally-renowned entrepreneur and video game developer, widely recognized for his contributions to the gaming industry and his advocacy for sustainable energy solutions.

Henk's career in computer gaming began three decades ago when he revolutionized Japan's video game industry and created "The Black Onyx," Japan's first role-playing game. However, he is best known as the man who turned a little-known game called Tetris into an international phenomenon. The story of his high-stake negotiations with the Soviet Union and Nintendo is the subject of new Apple TV+ blockbuster, "Tetris."

A near-fatal heart attack in 2005 led Henk to discover his true missions in life and he has since dedicated his career to the research, development and implementation of renewable energy sources in his home state of Hawaii and around the world. Today, Henk is the founder of 10 companies and non-profit organizations focused on renewable energy, space exploration, and ending the use of fossil fuels on Earth.

His Blue Planet Foundation led efforts to pass the nation's first 100% renewable energy law, mandating that the State of Hawaii achieve 100% renewable energy for electricity by 2045. His newest initiative the Blue Planet Alliance is expanding his foundation's successful playbook around the world, helping island nations adapt to clean energy sources.

Rogers is also the founder of Blue Planet Energy, a global leader in renewable energy storage systems, and the International Moonbase Alliance, an organization with the goal to build sustainable settlements on the Moon and Mars.

# THE YOUNG PEGLEG AWARD

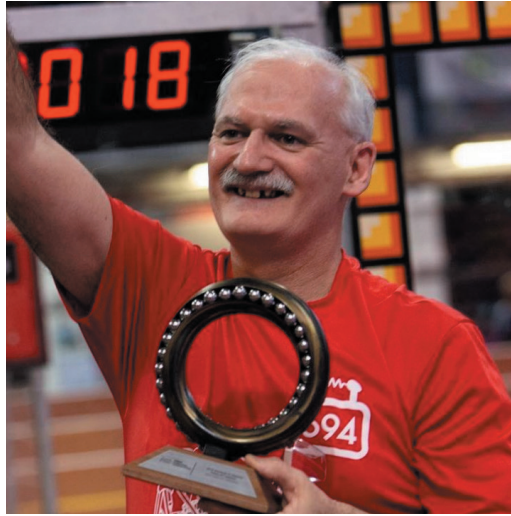


**Nina Uzoigwe '17** is an MD/PhD candidate within the NIH Medical Scientist Training Program at NYU Grossman School of Medicine. She was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY and went to Stuyvesant High School, where she was an active researcher in Stuy's Regeneron Program and served as the Black Student League's President as well as an Alto I Section Leader for Stuyvesant's Chorus.

After capturing national attention for being accepted to seven Ivy League schools, Nina Uzoigwe graduated from Harvard University '21 as a John Harvard Scholar (awarded to the top 5% of her class) and concentrated in Bioengineering with a Secondary in Global Health and Health Policy. Her senior thesis, which won the Thomas T. Hoopes Prize examined pulmonary valve replacement in neonates with congenital heart defects at Boston Children's Hospital. This work additionally received the Dean's Award in Bioengineering, which is the highest honor bestowed to students within the S.B. Engineering Program. While at Harvard, she also served as an EMT and a health peer advising liaison, aiding the student campus and Cambridge community at large, and she volunteered as a mentor at Science Club for Girls at a nearby elementary school.

Her love for cultivating genuine excitement, confidence, and literacy in STEM for young scholars within underrepresented communities did not stop there. She is a Co-Founder and Executive Director of RISE UP, a four week summer program funded by the Perlmutter Cancer Center at NYU Langone Health that is centered around lab research immersion and augmented by clinical experiences focused on building scientific skills and career development in young underrepresented minorities in medicine. Through her practice as a surgeon-scientist, she hopes to continue to spearhead efforts in bridging gaps in education so URMs are inspired to become powerful influencers of tomorrow in their respective fields.

# THE OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARD



**James “Jim” Lonardo** has taught at Stuyvesant since 1984. A well-loved Tech teacher, he has also served as Senior Coordinator, Coordinator of Technology, and faculty advisor for the yearbook, *The Indicator*.

In 2003, he became the coach of Stuyvesant’s award-winning FIRST Robotics Team. While he initially only wanted to facilitate logistics, he eventually brought his expertise in technical drawing and CAD to the students. Without his skills, the team’s robot would have never accomplished as much as it has today.

During the past two decades, Mr. Lonardo has been volunteering overtime so that the team’s engineering division can build the best robot. He literally goes the extra mile by driving the robot to and from the NYC Regional each year, alongside organizing all essential forms. Without Mr. Lonardo, the team wouldn’t even be able to compete!

According to Jim, his favorite part of being their coach is “giving [them] a hard time—I mean, working with [them].” The team members appreciate him as an older friend, who makes them laugh by claiming he forgot to register for a regional or that they got red-carded. His lightheartedness reinforces his belief that their ultimate goal lies not in winning, but to reap the benefits competitions bring them—teamwork and a positive learning experience.

To commemorate his almost 40 years of teaching at Stuyvesant and 20 years of mentoring the team, StuyPulse’s robot this year, “Jim”, is named after him!





**Champions!**  
2022 FIRST Robotics Long Island Regional  
2023 FIRST Robotics Long Island Regional

# Support Stuy Robotics



- Scan to Donate -



StuyPulse



# BLUE PLANET ALLIANCE

Blue Planet Alliance (BPA) aims to end the use of carbon-based fuels, the primary source of greenhouse gas emissions causing climate change. The organization promotes sustainable and renewable-energy solutions, encourages investment in clean-energy technologies, and advocates for policies that reduce carbon emissions.



Henk Rogers  
Founder & Chairman

By convening and working with key stakeholders across industries and sectors, BPA accelerates the transition to a low-carbon economy and mitigates the worst impacts of climate change. Through education, advocacy, and partnerships, BPA leads the way toward a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable future.



100+

Strategic MOU Partners



3

UN Member States, Territories  
That Have Signed  
Blue Planet Climate Agreements



22 + 3

U.S. States with 100% Clean  
Energy Goals since Hawaii  
(Plus D.C., Puerto Rico & Guam)





## GLOBAL AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

It is our future generations that will most suffer its effects. That's why the youth voice is crucial for achieving 100% renewable energy. These ambassadors help spread their mission and report back on their country. The program was launched in 2022, and we currently have ambassadors from Palau, New York City, North Carolina, Hawaii. Tonga, Tuvalu, Dominican Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, New Zealand, Puerto Rico, Seychelles, Panama, Barbados and Cook Islands. The program was created in partnership with Peace Boat US.



## Our Vision

Our vision is to create a world in which humanity and nature live in harmony.

## Our Mission

Our mission is to protect life on earth by empowering people, communities, islands, and nations to achieve 100% renewable energy by 2045.

Scan to learn more:



[blueplanetalliance.org](https://blueplanetalliance.org)



# **The Class of 1998**

**Edward Cotler '98**

**Lisa Friscia '98**

**Alice Kim '98**

**Johnny Lee '98**

**Marianna Moliver '98**

**Diego S. Segalini '98**

**Heather Shaffer '98**

would like to offer their congratulations and  
best wishes to all the honorees of the 2023  
Benefit for Stuyvesant!







GRACE MENG  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Washington, D.C. 20515

May 23, 2023

Stuyvesant High School Alumni Association  
345 Chambers Street, Room 101  
New York, New York 10282

Dear Stuyvesant High School Alumni Association:

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to all gathered at the Stuyvesant High School Alumni Association's Benefit event.

Since its founding in 1904, Stuyvesant High School has been well-regarded for its academic excellence and talented students. The Stuyvesant High School Alumni Association is a not-for-profit organization, that works tirelessly to maintain the relationships of alumni through an array of initiatives, such as: rendering aid and cooperation to facilitate academic and extracurricular programs; awarding scholarships and other grants to deserving students; and raising funds to support those activities and the growth of this wonderful community.

I am honored to join the Stuyvesant High School Alumni Association in recognizing the outstanding contributions of this year's special honorees: Henk Rogers '72, *Founder of Blue Planet Foundation*; Nina Uzoigwe '17, *Former President of the Stuyvesant's Black Students League*; and James Lonardo, *Outstanding Teacher*. These individuals represent great excellence and service in supporting the Stuyvesant High School Alumni Association's mission.

As a proud Stuyvesant alumna, I commend the Stuyvesant Alumni Association for its unwavering commitment to helping our students meet their academic goals.

Please accept my best wishes for a wonderful celebration and much continued success!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Grace Meng".

Grace Meng  
Member of Congress



# **The Class of 1991**

**Ravi Bhasin '91**

**Jenny Fung '91**

**Joanna Huszcza Hennessy '91**

**Ivona Huszcza '91**

**Pankaj Jain '91**

**Lili Monowitz Lampasona '91**

**Archie Lin '91**

**Chandra Reddy Metzler '91**

**Nell Maloney Patel '91**

**Lara Turcik '91**

would like to offer their congratulations and  
best wishes to all the honorees of the 2023  
Benefit for Stuyvesant!





OFFICE OF THE

# MANHATTAN BOROUGH PRESIDENT

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431 West 125th Street, New York, NY 10027  
(212) 531-1609 p (212) 531-4615 f  
[www.manhattanbp.nyc.gov](http://www.manhattanbp.nyc.gov)  
**Mark Levine, Borough President**



May 23, 2023

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to join you in celebrating the third annual Benefit for Stuyvesant and the renowned Stuyvesant High School Alumni Association.

It is no surprise that Stuyvesant – which has one of the most active student and parent communities in the city – has such an engaged alumni association. The SHSAA is a testament to the outstanding education you received and Stuyvesant's culture of excellence. Whether you graduated 50 years ago or five years ago, your support for current Stuyvesant students is invaluable.

I would also like to congratulate tonight's honorees: Henk Rogers '72, Nina Uzoigwe '17, and James Lonardo. You represent the talent and tenacity that distinguish the Stuyvesant community.

On behalf of the Borough of Manhattan, I wish you another year of success!

Sincerely,

Mark Levine  
Manhattan Borough President



# **The Class of 1972**

**Paul Geoghan '72**  
**Michael A. Hartig '72**  
**Leonard J. Herczeg '72**  
**Evelyn Horn '72**  
**Judy Levy '72**  
**Eugene Peterson '72**

would like to offer their congratulations and  
best wishes to all the honorees of the 2023  
Benefit for Stuyvesant!








**Gold Medal Winner!**  
**2022 US Math Olympiad**  
**Five Stuy students take USAMO & USJAMO in 2023!**

# Support Stuy's Math Team ●



**- Scan to Donate -**





Cheryl M. and Bart M. Schwartz  
and the Guidepost Solutions team  
are proud to support the Stuyvesant  
Alumni Association and salute:

***The Golden Pegleg Award***  
**HENK ROGERS '72**

***The Young Pegleg Award***  
**NINA UZOIGWE '17**

***The Outstanding Teacher Award***  
**JAMES "JIM" LONARDO**



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Greenberg Traurig is proud to support  
Stuyvesant High School Alumni Association  
at its 2023 Benefit for Stuyvesant.

Congratulations to the 2023 honorees.

GREENBERG TRAURIG, LLP | ATTORNEYS AT LAW | 2650 ATTORNEYS | 45 LOCATIONS WORLDWIDE\*

**Daniel G. Eggers** | GT Shareholder; Board Member and Secretary,  
Stuyvesant High School Alumni Association  
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are subject to fluctuation. 36631

**WORLDWIDE LOCATIONS**

United States, Europe  
and the Middle East,  
Asia, Latin America

## Congratulations to Mr. Lonardo on receiving the Outstanding Teacher Award!

I was fortunate to have Mr. Lonardo as my photography teacher and yearbook advisor. He supported my photography interest and more importantly, he taught me how execution of vision was an important way to communicate. He also was the awesome Robotics Team advisor for my nephew, Jonathan Lu, Class of 2019.

I am so grateful for his support and encouragement.

**Lonnie Nam**  
**Class of 1987**

### Stuyvesant High School Alumni Association

#### 2022-2023 Board of Directors

Elina Tetelbaum, JD '03, *President*  
Alice Kim '98, *1st Vice President*  
David Gelobter '84, *2nd Vice President*  
Kent Kim '05, *Treasurer*  
Daniel Egers, JD '03, *Secretary*  
Edward Balaban '69  
Harold Diamond '78  
Jane Gelfand '02  
Michael Hartig '72  
Yi-Shan Huang '96 Soo Kim '93  
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Brett Lewis '02  
Frances Lopez '89  
Anna Nikolayevsky '88  
Bart Schwartz, JD '64  
Lillian Seu, PhD '01  
Ashley Stevens '93  
Renee Stevens '89  
Teresa Uthurralt '85

#### Trustees

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Joan Ai '94  
Tyrone Chang '92  
Raymond Fong, MD '73  
Josh Mohrer '00  
Paul Weichsel, PhD '49

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Diego S. Segalini '98, *Executive Director*  
Rachael Ann Biscocho '12  
Yanjie Hou '06  
Samantha Shalowitz

The Stuyvesant High School  
Alumni Association is a 501(c)(3)  
not-for-profit organization.



# **Thank you for Supporting Stuyvesant High School**



**- Scan to Donate -**

**Help us reach our goal of  
\$250,000**



**STUYVESANT  
EST. 1904**



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**2023 Stuy Reunions Weekend**  
**October 21-22, 2023**

**1953 \* 1958 \* 1961 \* 1963 \* 1968**  
**1973 \* 1983 \* 1988 \* 1993 \* 1996 \* 1998**  
**2003 \* 2013 \* 2016 \* 2017 \* 2018**