

VOLUME II  
SPRING 2021

**RESPECT**

**THE WEST HOLLOW**

**ROAR**



**OPPORTUNITY**

**RESILIENCE**

**ACCOUNTABILITY**

**ADVISORS:**

**MRS. ELISA BROSNAN**  
**MRS. DAWN GIAMALVO**

**2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR**

**PRESENTED BY:  
CREATIVE ARTS AND WRITING CLUB**

# THE THEATER EXPERIENCE THAT CHANGED MY LIFE

By: Chloe Leshnow (Grade 7)

I have always been a fan of musical theater, but I never considered a career on Broadway. All that suddenly changed thanks to my eye-opening experience singing, acting, and dancing with fifth graders throughout the entire district in the Hills on Stage musical two years ago. The intense rehearsals and the bonding that developed from working hard to achieve a common goal with great kids surprised me. Little did I realize that working on this musical would not only turn me into a theater kid, but bring a new continued source of happiness in my life.

It all started when my mom and dad said to me one day, "Chloe, would you like to participate in Hills on Stage? The production that they are doing is *Annie*! You love *Annie*!" It is true that I was excited because I had watched the movie *Annie* a couple of years before and loved all the songs. However, I was scared to get involved as an actress in the production of *Annie*, and I wasn't sure I was good enough for the part. My parents, who believed in me and my abilities, kept encouraging me to sign up for an audition. For example, my mom once found me in the kitchen and said, "Chloe, you should participate in Hills on Stage! It is a very good thing to do because you will make new friends and it will have you set for middle school."

"Do I have to?" I asked, a bit annoyed. I kept thinking that it is so easy for a parent to suggest something, but quite another thing for a kid to actually have to take part in it. Unfortunately, I didn't have that much time to argue back and forth. The deadline for signing up to audition was approaching soon, and I knew I had to make a decision. Finally, thinking about how much I might regret it if I let this opportunity pass, I muttered, "Fine! I will do it."

# THE THEATER EXPERIENCE THAT CHANGED MY LIFE

By: Chloe Leshnowe (Grade 7)

...CONTINUED

Although I committed to an audition and was excited at the thought of possibly being a part of a show I loved, I was still extremely nervous. I decided to sing, "It's the Hard Knock Life" for my audition as well as read dialogue from the script. I chose to read the character Grace Farrell's lines, rather than Miss Hannigan's, because I felt a connection to her character. I arrived at the audition very prepared and sat down in the sixth seat on line. "Break a leg!" my mother whispered in my ear after the directors split us into groups of four. I was in the second group, which meant I would soon be going in.

At that moment, I began trembling like a volcano that was about to erupt. "Alright, group two come in please!" a woman yelled. As I entered the room, my heart was beating so fast. It was as if my heart were a ticking time bomb that was about to explode. Before I knew it, I started singing and then reading Grace Farrell's lines. I was done after what seemed like two seconds. I was very pleased with my audition and the fact that my hard work paid off. The directors had smiles on their faces as I left. Even though I didn't know for sure how I did, I walked out confident that I would make it to callbacks.

# THE THEATER EXPERIENCE THAT CHANGED MY LIFE

By: Chloe Leshnower (Grade 7)

...CONTINUED

Later that night, I received the news. “Chloe, you got a callback!” my parents yelled, ecstatically. I was jumping for joy alongside my parents and older brother. We were all so happy and proud. Callbacks, however, were the next day, leaving little time to prepare. This made me excited but, once again, very nervous. After elementary school ended the next day, I went straight to the high school for callbacks, wondering what the directors would have me sing. When I walked in, I immediately saw that some of my friends who auditioned also made the callbacks, which made me so happy both for them and for the thought that we might all get to work together on this wonderful show.

The directors first had us sing “I Don't Need Anything But You,” then “Tomorrow.” They then gave us a dialogue to read that involved several characters, including Grace Farrell, Miss Hannigan, Lily St. Regis, and Rooster. Both times I went up to read, I was hoping they would ask me to say Grace Farrell's lines. Thankfully, they did. I left the callbacks feeling confident, but worried. I knew I would get a part in the show, but would it be a lead? If so, would it be the part of Grace Farrell that I really wanted?

# THE THEATER EXPERIENCE THAT CHANGED MY LIFE

By: Chloe Leshnower (Grade 7)

...CONTINUED

Late the next night, I got my answer as the website finally updated with the final cast list. I was shocked to see that the directors chose me to play Grace Farrell in the Hills on Stage production of *Annie*! I was so happy, I cried as I called to share the good news with my friends. I knew at that moment not only did I make the right choice in auditioning, but I would have been so foolish if I had let fear hold me back. My experience with this show has made me grow, and taught me a few valuable lessons. In the months that followed, I had fun learning lines and dance moves, putting on costumes and makeup, and then performing for friends and family. In that short time, however, I also learned to never give up, always believe in myself, and be sure to take amazing opportunities when they present themselves.

# TOP 20 SONGS OF 2020

TOP 20

By: Maya Schiffman (Grade 6)

TOP 20

**1. Memories - Maroon 5**

**2. Someone You Loved - Lewis Capaldi**

**3. Senorita - Justin Timberlake**

**4. Dance Monkey - Tones and I**

**5. I Don't Care - Justin Bieber and Ed Sheeran**

**6. Lose You To Love Me - Selena Gomez, Julia Michaels, and Justin Tranter**

**7. 10,000 Hours - Dan Shay and Justin Bieber**

**8. Speechless - Lady Gaga**

**9. Girls Like You - Maroon 5**

**10. Work From Home - Ty Dolla Sign and Fifth Harmony**

**11. If I Can't Have You - Shawn Mendes**

**12. Shallow - Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper**

**13. Dusk Till Dawn - Sia and Zayn Malik**

**14. Bad Guy - Billie Eilish**

**15. You Are The Reason - Calum Scott**

**16. Seven Rings - Ariana Grande**

**17. Perfect - Ed Sheeran**

**18. Havana - Camila Cabello**

**19. Me! - Taylor Swift**

**20. Seven Rings - Ariana Grande**

**Resource: Lisandru Medianav DDT4ALL**



# A YEAR OF...



By: Blake Rabinowitz (Grade 7)

As you already know, 2020 was an unexpected and unpredicted year. On March 11, WHO (World Health Organization) declared a worldwide pandemic because of the Coronavirus outbreak. There are scientists that believe the Coronavirus came from bats. In addition, private investigators in China found human cases with symptoms as early as December 2019. Wherever the Coronavirus came from and whenever it truly started, 2020 wasn't the best year for anyone.

Some people say that 2020 was the year of missed opportunities. Everyone, no matter who they are, had to cope with the horrible news that life was about to look very different. Most children thought the quarantine would last one to two months at most. They did not realize their whole summer and the rest of the year would be controlled by this virus. It wasn't just children that had to adapt. Weddings were canceled, the 2020 Olympics were postponed, high school and college graduations that so many kids had worked hard for were considered unsafe and did not occur, and prom dresses were shared on social media, instead of at high school gym, or venue.

As we bring in the new year, we should look at all of the captured opportunities for success. Never did any scientist imagine that it would take less than a year to develop the vaccine! Basketball fans were overjoyed to hear that the NBA was able to successfully build a bubble and find a safe way to play their season. Online, apps like Zoom, Skype, and Google Meet have helped schools teach students remotely. The amazing and inspiring first responders who have spent many sleepless nights working tirelessly to help people in need have helped and continue to help thousands. Last but certainly not least, a spotlight should be placed on the kindness of people like you, who wore masks to protect others and took the time to stay away from family and friends to protect your loved ones.

# A YEAR OF...

By: Blake Rabinowitz (Grade 7)

...CONTINUED

For a year of looking at the glass half empty, try to look back on how the glass could be half full. This year people have persevered and found ways to make their situations better. As we are celebrating 2021, don't forget to be grateful for everything you have and everyone you love. This article proves that people, no matter how difficult their situations may be, can and will rise above them.



By: Blake Rabinowitz (Grade 7)

“My artistic vision of what it might look like crossing over into a new year”

# WHAT EXACTLY IS A BLOOD MOON AND A BLUE MOON?

By: Alicia Madjido (Grade 8)

## What is a Blood Moon?

A blood moon is when the moon has a red glow. A blood moon occurs only during a total lunar eclipse. A total lunar eclipse is when the Earth lines up between the Moon and the Sun. This causes the moon to be fully in the Earth's shadow. Some of the light from Earth's sunrises and sunsets falls on the surface of the moon at this time. The light waves are stretched out causing them to look red. When this red light reaches the moon's surface, it makes it appear red.

## What is a Blue Moon?

A blue moon is when the moon has a blue tint. The blue tint is caused by smoke and dust particles in the atmosphere. The particles are wider than 900 nanometers, which scatter the red light effectively. It can only happen during a full moon and at night. Monthly Blue Moons are the second full moon in a calendar month. Seasonal Blue Moons are when there is a third full moon in an astronomical season. An astronomical season is the time between an equinox and solstice. The last one took place on October 31st, Halloween.

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<https://earthsky.org/astronomy-essentials/when-is-the-next-blue-moon>

## **The Next Blood and Blue Moons**

Seasonal Blue Moon- August 22, 2021

Calendar Blue Moon- August 30, 2023

Blood Moon- May 26, 2021



# SKI AND SNOWBOARDING CHANGES DURING COVID

By: Lila Sanfilippo (Grade 7)

## WE ARE A COMMUNITY

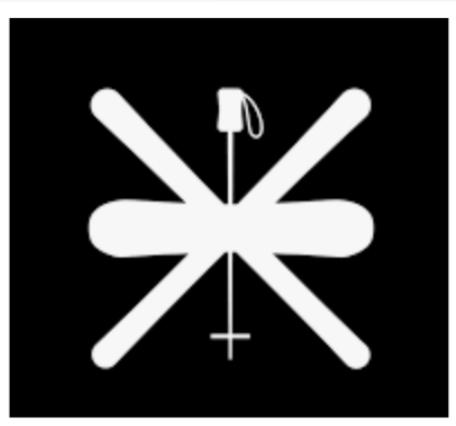
Skiers and riders share many things: a love of the mountains, the feeling of freedom when cruising down runs, and making memories with family and friends. We are explorers. We are test-timers. We are powder chasers. We are first chair riders at our local hill. No matter who you are, we are all part of the outdoor community. So let's be kind to one another. Respect yourself and others. Know that the actions we all take can affect our community. This is the contract of skiers and riders: take care of the environment, take care of yourself, take care of each other.

## SKIING AND SNOWBOARDING: Recreation with a low risk of transmission

-  Ski areas have hundreds of acres of wide open spaces
-  Ski lifts allow for constant airflow as they travel, with rides lasting an average of 7 minutes
-  Skiing and snowboarding gear keeps faces and hands covered
-  Skiers and riders show respect by leaving space between each other on the slopes.
-  Recreation is proven to improve mental health and physical wellness

**SKI WELL, BE WELL**

LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO BE THE REASON WE HAVE A SEASON.



**SKI WELL, BE WELL**  
Let's work together to ski and ride safely



"When I am on the mountain this winter, I will be wearing a face covering and I'll be practicing social distancing – it's the least I can do to keep our ski areas open and my community safe."

Mikaela Shiffrin, U.S. Ski Team, 2x Olympic gold medalist, 5x World Champion, passionate skier

We all want to ski and ride. And we all need to follow guidelines to maintain the health and safety of you, our guests, our staff and our communities.

### We're doing our part:

- Face coverings are required
- Physical distancing will be in effect
- Daily employee wellness checks
- Increased cleaning and disinfection
- Following state and local regulations

### Here's how you can help us:

- Plan ahead so you know what to expect
- Wear your face covering
- Follow distancing protocols
- Arrive together, ride together
- Stay home if you feel sick

**NSAA** NATIONAL SKI AREAS ASSOCIATION

Skiing and Snowboarding are outdoor sports that many people enjoy participating in during the winter season. In order for people to continue to take part in these sports during a pandemic, the way a ski mountain is run had to be modified. Skiing and snowboarding rules and regulations had to change to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

When skiing, the first thing you get into are chair lifts located on the mountain. Ski passes (lift tickets) are needed to ride the lifts. Normally, to get these passes you would be able to purchase them the same morning you are planning to go down the mountain. If you did that, it wouldn't matter what time you skied because everyone could get a pass and ski without restrictions. In the past, you could also have purchased a season pass. This is great if you go skiing on the mountain often. Many skiers have a house, or condo near the mountain and purchase season passes. However, due to new Covid-19 rules and regulations a skier has to purchase lift tickets very far in advance. This could be done online, or over the phone. This is being done because there is currently a limit on the amount of people permitted on the mountain at the same time.

# SKI AND SNOWBOARDING CHANGES DURING COVID

By: Lila Sanfilippo (Grade 7)

## ...CONTINUED

As mentioned, to get to the top of the mountain you have to ride on lifts, this is what the passes are needed for. Before Covid, ski patrol would place the maximum number of people onto lifts and gondolas. On the lifts the ski resort would seat strangers together in close proximity to one another. Now however, the lifts hold half the amount of people and are spaced out. Only people from the same family, or party are allowed to ride on the same lift, or gondola. During normal times, strangers would be jammed together.

Additionally, places like the ski lounge, lines to get onto the lifts, restaurants on the mountain, along with the top of the mountain where people get off the lift to secure their ski gear, and take pictures would all be overcrowded. Under current circumstances since overcrowding like this will occur and social distancing is hard to perform, masks are required to be worn. However, masks are not required to be worn while skiing down the mountain. The guidelines could vary depending on the state, or county you are skiing and/or snowboarding in. As you can see, there are currently many differences in the way one can enjoy activities like these due to Covid-19 rules and restrictions.





# SOCIAL MEDIA SURVEY



By: Sophia Gommerman (Grade 8)

Social media can be very addicting. For a lot of people, especially teenagers, social media affects their everyday life. It can often be toxic as a result of unrealistic comparisons. As a young teen, social media is a big part of my life. Many of my peers are greatly affected by the negative outcomes of social media. To find out more about this topic, I interviewed six candidates. All of the candidates interviewed were of the same age, gender, and live in a relatively close vicinity.

**Question #1:** On average how many hours a day do you spend on the app *Tik Tok*?

Candidate 1: 21 minutes

Candidate 2: 3 hours

Candidate 3: 2 hours and 45 minutes

Candidate 4: 2 hours

Candidate 5: 3 hours

Candidate 6: 20 minutes

**Question #2:** After using the app *Tik Tok*, how energetic do you feel on a scale from 1-10, 1 being the lowest?

Candidate 1: 3-4

Candidate 2: 7

Candidate 3: 4

Candidate 4: 7

Candidate 5: 4

Candidate 6: 8.5

# SOCIAL MEDIA SURVEY

By: Sophia Gommerman (Grade 8)

...CONTINUED

**Question #3:** After using the app *Tik Tok*, how happy do you feel on a scale from 1-10, 1 being the lowest?

Candidate 1: 7-9

Candidate 2: 6

Candidate 3: 5

Candidate 4: 8

Candidate 5: 7

Candidate 6: 5

**Question #4:** After using the app *Tik Tok*, how confident do you feel on a scale from 1-10, 1 being the lowest?

Candidate 1: 6

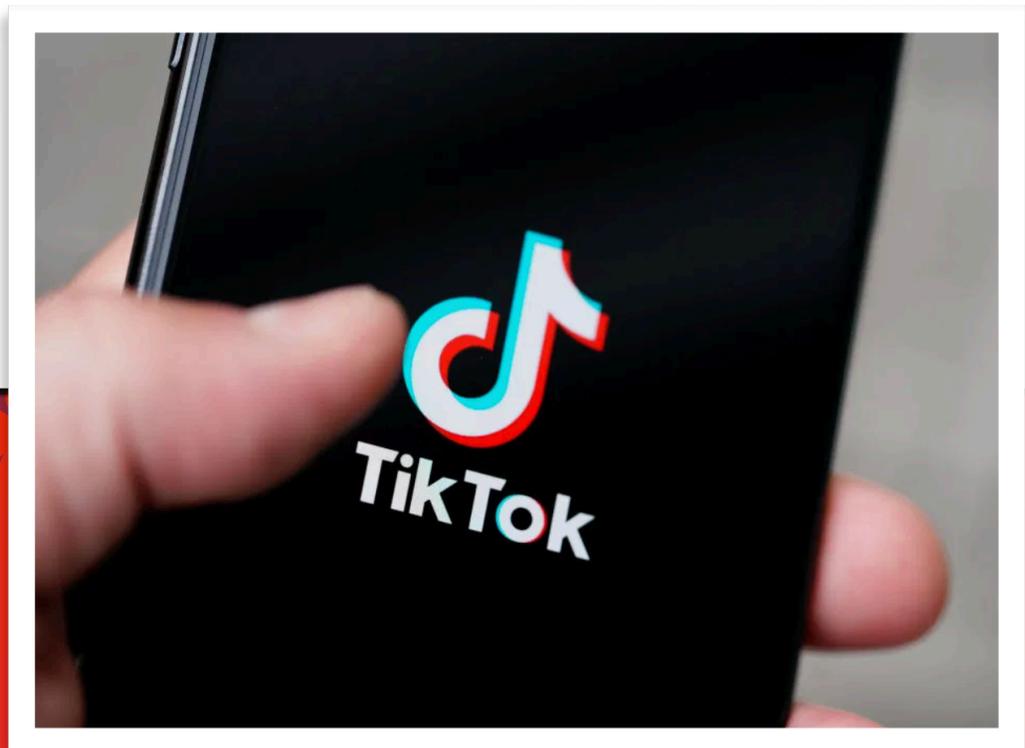
Candidate 2: 5

Candidate 3: 6

Candidate 4: 6

Candidate 5: 5

Candidate 6: 9



# SOCIAL MEDIA SURVEY

By: Sophia Gommerman (Grade 8)

...CONTINUED

Through the collection of this data, it can be concluded that the app Tik Tok is not as damaging to a person's mental health as many may believe. Based on the data recorded on average, people spend about two hours a day engaging with the app Tik Tok. Although this time span may seem quite lengthy, there are extenuating circumstances occurring that are impacting usage. In general, more time is being spent on social media than ever before as a result of the global pandemic. It seems that some people feel energetic after using the app Tik Tok. While interviewing candidates, many stated that their energy level depends on the type of content they view on the app. Candidates report, the content is what makes them feel differently. It is evident that most people felt happy after using Tik Tok, scoring an average of 7 out of 10. In addition, it seems that people are somewhat confident exiting the app, only having an average of about 6 out of 10.



# POETRY

By: Maya Schiffman (Grade 6)

## Biopoem

Maya

Who is fearless, creative, and inspiring.

A relative of Bailey Johnson Jr.

Who loves to write, dance, and act.

Who feels silenced, determined, and courageous.

Who needs support, affection, and her books.

Who fears physical abuse, discrimination, and  
disappointment.

Who gives advice, hope, and activism.

Who wants the world to be better, without segregation,  
and equality for all.

Who hopes for equal rights for women and African  
Americans.

Who has lived in many places around the world.

Angelou

# POETRY

By: Blake Rabinowitz (Grade 7)

## HERstory

Blake Rabinowitz

It's women's history month and you should celebrate,  
But as I was writing this poem, I started to hesitate.

I started to ask questions,  
And ignore certain suggestions.

As I came to the conclusion,  
Even though there might be some confusion.

In school, we learn about HIStory,  
But something about this bewilders me.

Why are women more likely to quit their job?  
While men sit down watching television and are eating corn on the cob.

It's not your fault most of us think this way,  
It's just how people are raised, to this very day.

Speaking of luck, most women blame others,  
Your success is your own, your life is yours to discover.



# POETRY

By: Chloe Leshnowe (Grade 7)

"Broadway"  
By Chloe Leshnowe

## BROADWAY



**B**elting and performing helps me smile wide with glee,  
**R**eading lines and blocking makes me happy as can be.  
**O**utstanding music seems to make each day more full of fun,  
**A**cting, singing, dancing... they bring joy to everyone.  
**D**ress rehearsals get us all prepared to shine on stage,  
**W**orking on performing songs without seeing the page.  
**A**mazed are all the people who come watch me in a show,  
**Y**elling shouts of, "Bravo" tells me all I need to know.



# POETRY

By: Chloe Leshnower (Grade 7)

## “Orchestra” By Chloe Leshnower



**O** rchestra, one of the largest ensembles of them all,  
**R** eading over the notes, while waiting for the conductor's baton to fall.  
**C** ellos, basses, violas, and violins making fine tunes,  
**H** aving to practice both mornings and afternoons,  
**E** ager to play music so captivating.  
**S** itting and waiting,  
**T** uning then playing,  
**R** egistering what the conductor is saying—  
**A** mazed at the sound of the audience hooraying!

# POETRY

Alicia Madjido Grade 8

## Summer



Summer is all about sunny days and Sundays.



No school and homework, just swimming in a cool

Spending time with friends and family for the entire day.



I have no work and feel like I am in



Going on vacation around the



Re-emerged

come from their rooms.

# POETRY

# ...CONTINUED

Alicia Madjido Grade 8



Everyone is

and we have bright afternoons.



flowing through the air and there's a warm breeze blowing through my hair.



Summer brings fun I don't want it to

# SUMMER POEM

By: Lila Sanfilipo (Grade 7)

**DAYLIGHT**

**ADVENTURE**

**YARD GAMES**

**SWIMMING**

**SAND**

**UNFORGETTABLE**

**MEMORIES**

**MUSIC**

**ENDLESS**

**RELAXING**

# SUMMER POEM

By: Ella Linn (Grade 7)

## Summer Days Poem

BY Ella Linn

**Castles on the beach and swimming at the shore,  
can't wait for tomorrow's day and many, many, more.**

**The day is young and so are we, it's a happy feeling  
can't wait for day 3!**

# ROAR CONTRIBUTORS!



## Sophia Gommerman (Grade 8)

Sophia Rachel Gommerman is an eighth grader at West Hollow. She enjoys fencing and hanging out with her friends. In her freetime, Sophia likes to go outside for walks with her dog, Zoey. Sophia also enjoys spending time with her family. Her favorite place to be is at the beach. Sophia is happy, outgoing, and funny.



## Chloe Leshnowar (Grade 7)

Chloe Leshnowar is a seventh grader at West Hollow Middle School. In addition to creative writing, Chloe sings, acts, plays piano, and violin. She enjoys working with the cast in West Hollow Drama Club Productions and performing with the orchestra and chorus. Chloe lives with her family and a new cute dog named Ollie.

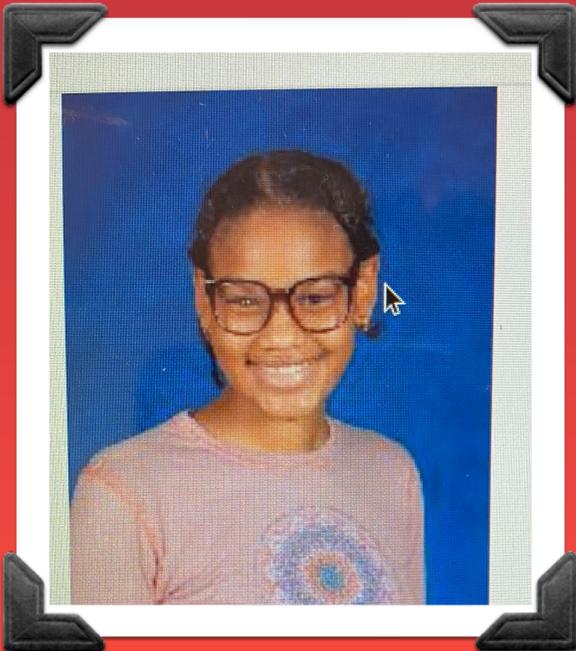


## Ella Linn (Grade 7)

Hi, my name is Ella Linn. I'm a 7th grade student at West Hollow Middle School. I'm 13 years old and my favorite subjects are Science and English. I'm a soccer player and play for Huntington Boys Club Power. In my free time, I love to bake, watch tv, and hang out with friends. I have a sister and a yorkie silkie mix that we rescued, named Teriyaki.



## Alicia Madjido (Grade 8)



My name is Alicia Madjido and I'm in 8th grade at West Hollow Middle School. I'm 13 years old and my favorite subjects are Science and Math. When I grow up, I want to have a job in the medical field. My favorite food is pizza and I have a dog named Riley. Riley is a Maltese Bichon. Summer is my favorite

## Lila Sanfilippo (Grade 7)



Hi, my name is Lila Sanfilippo and I am a 7th grader at West Hollow Middle School. I enjoy playing sports, such as dance, soccer, and other outdoor activities. My favorite subjects are Math and English. In my freetime, I enjoy hanging out with my friends and family. I have a 10 year old brother named Carlo and we enjoy going on bike rides together around our neighborhood.

## Blake Rabinowitz (Grade 7)

I'm a very hard working person. I will carry out something, even if it is not mandatory. I care a lot! Sometimes, maybe too much, and my writing reflects that. I love the feeling I get after a hard workout, when I feel like I have achieved my goal. Some of my friends can imagine me being a teacher when I'm older.



## Maya Schiffman (Grade 6)

Maya Schiffman is a sixth grader. After school, she dances on a competition team. In her free time, she enjoys painting, baking, and spending time with her friends. Maya's favorite foods are pasta and salad. She also loves her puppy Biscuit very much. Lastly, Maya wants to become an anesthesiologist when she's older.

