

# The Women's College Club of Princeton Newsletter

## JULY 2022

### Dues Notice

By now everyone should have received their annual dues notice. Please return it as soon as possible to Marlene Gordon, 39 Slayback Drive, Princeton Jct. 08550.

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### NO GENERAL MEETINGS in JULY AND AUGUST

There will be no general meetings during the summer, but **our interest groups will still be active**. Come out during the summer and enjoy getting together with other club members.

Our annual luncheon at Windrows in June was a wonderful event and the food was delicious. A good time was had by all.

At the meeting, we had the annual report by Connie Loukatos, President, the election of new officers to the executive board and a presentation by one of our past scholarship recipients. (See below)



### MEMBERSHIP

If you know of women who would like to join our club, please contact Membership Chair, Alyce Conlon, [alymar@comcast.net](mailto:alymar@comcast.net) or 609-448-7064.

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### WALKING GROUP

*What:* July walk

*When:* **Friday July 8, 8:30 AM**

*Where:* Pole Farm / Mercer Meadows starting from the parking lot /red barn at the intersection of Keefe Rd. and Cold Soil Rd,

Please let Jan Stout (609-475-5649) know if you can join us. We'll walk about 2.5 miles.

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### LUNCHING OUT GROUP/TRIP GROUP

This month we are combining our trip and lunching out groups.

On **Friday, July 22nd**, we will visit the 2022 Mercer County Senior Art Show at the Conference Center at Mercer, Mercer County Community College, 1200 Old Trenton Road, West Windsor, to see the Mercer County Senior Art Show.

As many of you know our own Nora Ananos, Photographer Extraordinaire, will be exhibiting. Hopefully some of you will remember our last visit to see Nora's art at the exhibit at Meadow Lakes.

Lunch will follow at Villa Maria, 3800 Quakerbridge Road, Hamilton.

You are welcome to just go to the exhibit or just go to lunch or both. We will get the exhibit at **10:30 AM** and lunch at Villa Maria at **noon**.

Members may carpool from Kathy's house at 33 Duffield Place, Princeton. Please let her know if you plan to attend. 609 5777-6033, 609 430 1565 and [widowh@hotmail.com](mailto:widowh@hotmail.com) .

## AUGUST TRIP

Planning ahead, the August trip will be to the State Museum in Trenton with lunch to follow. More information will be forthcoming in the August newsletter.

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## BOOK DISCUSSION

The book group is meeting on Friday, **July 29 at 11 AM**. The book we are reading is *The Goddess of Small Victories* by Yannick Granec.

The group will be meeting at **Windrows**, in the Barnhart room on the lower level, next to the bank. Bring your drink with you. All members are welcome to join this group.

If you would like to join the group, please contact Bonnie Larson, [bonniejlarson63@comcast.net](mailto:bonniejlarson63@comcast.net) or 609-655-2663.

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## MOVIE GROUP

The movie group plans to go to see a movie each month. Right now, we are reserving the second Monday of each month to see a movie and discuss it afterwards.

Once we see if there are any good movies playing, we will send you more information.

If you would like to join this group, or have suggestions, contact Kathy Hutchins ([widowh@hotmail.com](mailto:widowh@hotmail.com)) or Helen Ju ([juhelen@hotmail.com](mailto:juhelen@hotmail.com)) for more information.

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## 2022 WCCP SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

This year we awarded scholarships to 17 very deserving winners. In June we published some of the winners' biographies. Below are the biographies of the rest of the winners.

**Lydia Garcia**, a recipient of a Women's College Club of Princeton Scholarship, is a student at Princeton High School.

Lydia's passion is acting and she plans to major in Theater. Her drama teacher has "consistently witnessed her extraordinary talent, work ethic passion, leadership, dedication, growth and commitment to the arts. She has outstanding focus, thoughtful actor questioning and feedback, deep reflection, and exemplar collaboration skills." "She is a gifted and versatile actor who strives to challenge herself with every new role and assignment." She takes direction well, ...and likes the analysis work needed to build strong, three-dimensional characters." Her English teacher describes her as mature, highly talented, hardworking and creative. In her English III class, her teacher wrote "she produced creative pieces that attempted to address her inquiry 'How does a beginner's mindset affect relationships?' Though all her pieces were worthy of publishing, her dramatic piece was her best of the year. She filmed and submitted material to STANJ, a speech and theater competition held in New Jersey and won the governor's award for "Best Actress".

She was a Co-President of Spectacle Theatre and a volunteer with the Princeton Arts Council. At Princeton High School, she was a Peer Group Leader, a JV lacrosse defender and goalie. In the community, she volunteered as a stable helper at the Mercer County Equestrian Center, and was a participant in a Summer Youth Employment Program that taught them how to start a business. She and her company started a sticker company that sold their art.

She will be attending The New School in New York City in the fall, majoring in theater.

**Isabella Gomez**, a student at The Hun School of Princeton is a recipient of a Women's College Club of Princeton Scholarship.

Bella says that for as long as she can remember she has wanted to pursue a career in humanitarian aid and disaster relief. As a professional, she would like to invest her time solving global issues using her love for technology and desire to make the world a better place.

She is a student/athlete at Hun where she has participated in girls' soccer, and lacrosse, the Student Government Association, Girls Who Code, Model Congress, Model UN and Young Women's Leadership Cohort.

In 2021, Bella was the leader in establishing the Green Committee, engaging Hun's entire community and outside experts in projects and programs addressing climate change. The Hun Climate Summit in 2021 which partnered with non-profits across the nation, provided students with volunteer and internship opportunities. The program was repeated this year.

Bella wrote: "I will always remain grateful for every opportunity this life has afforded me. .... This scholarship will allow me to pursue the educational dreams I have had my whole life, and if nothing else I can say with utmost certainty that I plan to use any and every opportunity I am afforded to spend the rest of my life uplifting others."

Her advisor says: "She will set the world on fire with her passion for righting wrong. She is the constellation of grit, vulnerability, stubbornness and charm who is much adored."

Bella will attend Washington University with a double major in computer science and international studies.

**Idaliza Perez Jimenez**, a student at Princeton Day School is the recipient of the Kathleen Hutchins Scholarship Award. This new scholarship approved by the Board is in recognition of Kathy's tireless contributions through the years in many roles but in particular her extraordinary leadership as President of the Club.

Ida's activities encompass her wide range of interests which includes the environment, theater, student life, community service, athletics, and social justice.

She is a poet. Writing poetry for her is a way of learning about herself. She says she writes in the moment and hardly ever over-edits so her poetry is raw and true. She says the poems that speak the loudest are the ones that put into words what we're too scared to say aloud.

From Middle School Ida has had a passion for learning how historical events have long-lasting impacts so she has taken classes such as Facing Modern Africa, AP US Government, Class Race & Poverty and Psychology. These classes have led her to become an activist and a coordinator of the "Anti-Hate Squad". She sees her own future in Public Policy and already has a vision for creating community centers where citizens can find a range of public support.

Supporting her ideals Ida is not afraid to be herself. One teacher describes her as "cool, and different and funny and creative and tough".

Ida will attend Hamilton College in the fall.

**Lily L'Oiseau**, a student at The Hun School of Princeton is a recipient of a Women's College Club of Princeton Scholarship Award.

Lily is a photographer. Her bold images, exhibited on Hun walls, reflect her wonder of nature. At Hun she has taken courses in biology, human anatomy, physiology and psychology. Lily's current goal is to work in some way with National Geographic Magazine. She says she has already started prepping for this career. In college she'd like to continue to take courses that will help her to understand the world around her and her place in it. She believes she is building a foundation in which she can learn anything.

Lily is dedicated to being a good friend and at Hun has been elected by her peers to represent them in student government and on the Dorm Council. She is a member of Art in Action which mixes art and activism. Her teacher said that she is a "skilled collaborative problem solver, that she encourages a setting in which any idea can lead to a solution, that she is compassionate, complex, and will warm your hearts."

Lily will attend Goucher College in the fall and will major in environmental science and studio art with a major in photography.

**Ayaka Numata**, a student at Princeton High School is the recipient of the Molly Updike Scholarship Award.

Ayaka is multi-faceted, a scientist and a humanist. During Covid, while other students often were

lackadaisical, her English teacher commented that Ayaka was always prepared and said of her: "She wrote stories and essays and poetry with so much joy."

As a junior year biology student, she was part of the Odyssey of Mind in the Competitive Science Problem Solving & Performance section; her teacher says that her creativity, and leadership were strong assets in making her stand out in the group.

Examples of her joy in helping others go beyond the boundaries of school. Since 2019 she has volunteered in a Special Education program to help middle school and high school students through music therapy.

Ayaka and a friend taught crafts and Disney songs to 20 ten-year-old Egyptian students in a different time zone on ZOOM during the quarantine.

She is quiet and humble, supported by the attitudes and skills of being a Junior Black Belt in the traditional martial art of Aikido.

Ayaka was invited to join a National Society of High School Scholars. Of her virtual year she wrote, "I upheld integrity and honesty in all my work. I still had a lot of fun in this virtual year." A teacher said "she is both a bright mind and a caring human who will always make time to help a person who needs it."

Ayaka will attend The College of New Jersey to study bio-engineering.

**Jadyn Cruz Piotrowski**, a student at Stuart Country Day School of the Sacred Heart is the recipient of the Florence Bell Hillier Memorial Scholarship.

Jadyn already sees a business future in marketing and graphic design, having had three years of internship experience in Stuart's Communications Department as it was redesigning the school's brand. In addition, she was given the task of designing the 2021 Christmas card and has essentially become the 3<sup>rd</sup> member of Stuart's Communications team. She enjoyed that project immensely and realized that her entrepreneurial side hopes to pursue a freelance graphic career in addition to her business and marketing endeavors. About her future she says

she is convinced that in combining marketing and graphic design she will find a career path that is flexible, relevant and fulfilling.

Jadyn has been a Stuart student since 4<sup>th</sup> grade. In the 10<sup>th</sup> grade she received the Barat Award which recognizes one student in each grade who demonstrates self-sacrifice, compassion, respect for self and others, courtesy, a sense of balance and good judgment, and overall citizenship. She has been deeply involved in the life of Stuart including student government where this year she is the executive president and has focused on diversity initiatives within the framework of Sacred Heart values. This year she was editor-in-chief of the yearbook' having worked on it for three previous years.

One teacher said: "To know Jadyn is to be dazzled by her intellect, her grit, her humility, her integrity and her heart-forward approach to living."

Jadyn will attend Villanova University in the fall.

**Saylah Parrish Toussaint**, a student at The Hun School of Princeton is a recipient of a Women's College Club of Princeton Scholarship.

Saylah says she sees that since she was young, people have followed her and she embraces her skills and responsibility as a leader. She says: "I have learned through my journey in becoming a leader that no matter how big the leadership position is, the leader herself has to be of good quality to ensure that every decision is made."

Last year she planned and participated in a ground breaking MLK Summit in a way that a teacher described as "esteemed passion". Her African American history teacher says that her curiosity and passion for the subject helped him to create a richer experience for all by integrating new content from Saylah's curiosity. In turn, Saylah would create programming for the Black Student Alliance that would mirror those class discussions.

She is a dancer and has been very active in The Hun Dance Company. During the school lockdown, her dance teacher taught her dance parts for Pippin on Zoom and Saylah then practiced them on her own. Her dance teacher says that Saylah accepts corrections willingly and graciously and always puts

the work first. She says that it is clear that during the most stressful moments of rehearsal, she will always manage to say the right thing to lighten the tensions; that she is a born leader.

Saylah thinks that in a lot of ways society encourages women to be small and invisible. She is learning that it is more than okay to take up space with your authentic self.

Saylah will attend Pace University in the fall. Her ultimate goal is to become a creative director within the music industry.

**Marina Curchitser**, the recipient of the Carol Stawski Memorial Scholarship is a student at Princeton High School. This is a new scholarship approved by the Board in memory Club member Carol Stawski an individual who many say was “the heart of the Women’s College Club of Princeton and kept it alive” while serving in many roles over the years.

According to her social studies teacher, Marina is an insightful, compassionate student, whose natural curiosity and deep engagement with the content makes it clear she is more interested in her intellectual growth than her report card. Her science teacher agrees and adds Marina is capable of competing with the very best students. Well, no wonder, she has straight A’s throughout 4 years of high school.

Marina is a competitive mountain biker and team captain for the Princeton Progressions team of the New Jersey Interscholastic Cycling League finishing in the top three clubs in New Jersey for five seasons, 12th place in the USA Cycling Nationals in 2019. She was the founder of the New Jersey Interscholastic Cycling League’s environmental committee, helping the league’s events have a positive environmental impact.

Continuing her concern for the environment, she has volunteered for the Ridgeview Conservancy in collecting and analyzing forest data, and community education advocating for preservation and accessibility of local forest. She completed independent research at Rutgers University studying the impact of temperature on the metabolism of marine diatoms.

Another major interest of Marina is music, spending 6 years studying cello. She is Co-Founder of the

Princeton High School Chamber Music Club, a participant in the honors music program of Westminster Conservatory of Rider University, a participant in the Philadelphia International Music Festival in 2020 & 2021 requiring 6+ hours of music study per day, taught by members of the Philadelphia Orchestra.

She exhibited her leadership as an executive board member of the Princeton High School Ideas Center, where she organized student support programs providing free tutoring, orientations for transfer students, and international interscholastic partnerships. She volunteered to tutor students at Princeton High School in 5 different subjects. Finally, she volunteered as a summer camp counselor and mentor for 8-12-year-old girls. She wants to explore the world through multiple perspectives that can potentially intersect.

She plans to study biology at Johns Hopkins and cello at the Peabody Conservatory. Yes, both at the same time! She may become a college teacher.

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### **IS THE WOMEN'S COLLEGE CLUB OF PRINCETON in YOUR ESTATE PLAN?**

**Please consider leaving a legacy for future generations by including The Women's College Club of Princeton in your estate planning gift.**

#### **Sample Language for Your Will:**

**"I give and bequeath the sum of \$——(or ——% of my residuary estate) to the Women's College Club of Princeton, to be used in support of its scholarships.**

### **WEBSITE**

***For more information about our club and its activities, please visit our website:***

**[www.wccpnj.org](http://www.wccpnj.org)**

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## Dates to Remember

Walking Group                      Friday, July 8, 8:30 AM  
Luncheon Group/Trips           Friday, July 22, 10:30 AM  
Book Discussion                   Friday, July 29, 11 AM

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## FACEBOOK

The Women's College Club of Princeton has a Facebook page. Check it out:

[www.facebook.com/Womens-College-Club-of-Princeton-111458471467151](http://www.facebook.com/Womens-College-Club-of-Princeton-111458471467151)

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Club Email: [wccpnj@gmail.com](mailto:wccpnj@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.wccpnj.org](http://www.wccpnj.org)

The Women's College Club of Princeton  
**2022**  
Scholarship Winners

Angela Cicili Stuart Country Day School	Kylie Cooke Princeton High School	Isabella Gomez The Hot School	Julia Tolmacevski Princeton High School	Anyika Nwankwo Princeton High School
Tyler Robinson Princeton Day School	Sayah Farrah Fouzaini The Hot School	Juliyn Polcowski Stuart Country Day School	Malissa Prince Jimenez Princeton City School	Malika Ouedjati Princeton High School
Lydia Garcia Princeton High School	Veronica Vegetarian Princeton Day School	Geneva Rivers Princeton Day School	Stephanie Diakovitz The Hot School	Hollie Fragel The Hot School
Gabriella Thomas Princeton Day School	Lily O'Connell The Hot School			

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