

FALL 2023

Memories are all we really own.
– Elias Lieberman, Class of 1900



GERARD PELISSON'S FINAL NEWSLETTER
POSTHUMOUSLY PUBLISHED IN SPRING 2024
DEWITT CLINTON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

www.dewittclintonalumni.com

DWCAumni@aol.com

DeWitt Clinton High School 127th Reception

Sponsored by the DeWitt Clinton Alumni Association

Celebrating the following anniversary classes:

60th - 1964 ♦ 50th - 1974 ♦ 40th - 1984 ♦ 30th - 1994 ♦ 25th - 1999 ♦ 20th - 2004 ♦ 10th - 2014

Thursday, 6:30-11:00 P.M.

May 16, 2024

Good Food and Cheer

Open Bar

Choice of Main Course

Villa Barone Manor
737 Throggs Neck Expressway
Bronx, NY 10465

Valet Parking

2024 Distinguished Alumni Honoree Tracy Morgan



**Running track
for Clinton**



**"Standing-up"
for Comedy**

Tracy Morgan '03 is a popular and successful stand-up comedian and actor. He was a cast member on the NBC sketch comedy television series *Saturday Night Live* from 1996 to 2003 and played Tracy Jordan in the NBC sitcom *30 Rock* from 2006 to 2013, each of which earned him a Primetime Emmy Award nomination. In 2012, he went from nominee to winner when he was named Outstanding Actor in a Comedy Series (*30 Rock*) at the 51st Monte Carlo Television Festival's Golden Nymph Awards.

Tracy has also known the glories of starring in motion films. They include: *30 Years to Life* (2001), *First Sunday* (2008), *Cop Out* (2010), *Why Stop Now?* (2012), *Accidental Love* (2015), *First Fight* (2015), *The Clapper* (2017), and *Coming 2 America* (2021).

As for his many stand-up performances, let's just mention his show at the Lehman Center for the Performing Arts in the Bronx on December 9, 2023.

Tracy's 2003 diploma deserves an explanation. He left DeWitt Clinton in 1987 without a diploma to take care of his ill father. In 2003, while he was appearing on a WNYC television program about DWC, Geraldine Ambrosio, the principal, walked on the set and presented him with an honorary diploma. His eyes swelled with tears. He had his diploma, and he was proud of it.

(For details on the 2024 Alumni Dinner, see pages 4-5)



dewittclintonalumni.com

- ◆ Stay current with the DeWitt Clinton Community.
- ◆ Download this *Newsletter* in color.
- ◆ Download the booklet *DWCHS Notable Alumni*, 2024 edition coming in January.



President's Letter

Dear Fellow Governors,

Our DWC alumni board and membership are still mourning the loss of this cherished newsletter's Editor-in-Chief, honorary board member and esteemed retired DWC faculty member: Mr. Gerard Pelisson.

Gerard was working on the final touches of this newsletter in his final moments of life. It has taken us time to retrieve the files and gather our thoughts to publish this newsletter. We decided to only update this President's letter and the scholarship awards listing. We have entitled this newsletter as Gerard Pelisson's final newsletter and plan to work as a collective team to create future ones. Thank you in advance for reaching out to us via email to express your thoughts about Gerard. We plan to print them in the dinner journal section that will be dedicated to him. There is no way he can be replaced and our efforts moving forward will center on honoring his legacy and continuing to support our alma mater.

Please take your time to read through this publication and honor it as the book end of an era it represents. Please read the principal's letter and learn about the wonderful updates the school has made in the past year. On behalf of the board, I invite you to join us in saving the date for the All-Classes annual alumni dinner which will take place on Thursday, May 16, 2024 at Villa Barone, Bronx, NY. Thank you again for paying your membership dues, sending donations, and continuing to support our alma mater.

With Love from the Bronx,
Sydney Valerio '99

PRESIDENT
Sydney Valerio '99

VICE PRESIDENTS
Cedric Fergus '78
Gilbert Walton '77

SECRETARY
Orlando Rao '73

TREASURER
Amy Melendez '90

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
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John Barbarette '64
Marc Siegel '64
Hon. Rolando T. Acosta '75
Jose Santos '81
Jannie Rosado '90
Natasha Van-Reil '92
Ivette Terry '95
KaDarra Lowe '02

PRINCIPAL
Pierre Orbe

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Gerard Pelisson HON '03



Gov. DeWitt Clinton

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Principal's Letter

November 2023



Dear DWC Alumni,

Well, we are in the third month of the school year, and I have a lot of exciting things to report to all of you. As mentioned in my September letter, students at DWC have individual attendance goals for each month. These are tied to apparel incentives that students receive if they meet their goals. I am happy to report that 777 students achieved their September goals and thus will be receiving a DWC Cross Body bag! Our students are collaborating with apparel brands to design new Clinton Gear that will include a version of the Nike Tech Suits, Essentials Hoodie/ Jogger, and a new Varsity Jacket. These will all be customized and given to students who earn them through their monthly attendance goals. I also want to share with you a small table that shows the average attendance by grade level for our school.



Pierre Orbe, Principal
DWC High School

9th	10th	11th	12th
90%	86%	88%	87%

We will continue to work with our guidance team, Good Shepherd Services, and with all the Clinton Community to increase our overall attendance at the school, which is currently 91%.

Speaking of good attendance, we have officially become one of the most popular school destinations for middle school students. We have over 35 middle school tours booked each Friday from now until the end of January 2024. These tours experience our beautiful hallways with digital boards and new door wraps, newly furnished classrooms, and spectacular facilities including our new fitness center and indoor batting cages.

In addition, our school pool is functioning once again. We are in the process of bringing back the swim teams and hosting an after-school swim club that will prepare all students for 1) the basics of swimming, 2) possible certification for lifeguarding or swim instructors. This will allow students to be, at minimum, able to be competent swimmers or gain a skill that will offer them job opportunities.

As we continue our push to be the best option for families in the Bronx, we will continue to try to renovate our facilities so that we can attract the greatest number of students. We are currently looking to provide air conditioning to large spaces that include the library, auditorium, cafeteria, and the gym building. These spaces are heavily used, requiring significant upgrades to make them usable during the warmer months. The tennis courts and outdoor fields require updates that we hope to gather funding from elected officials and private funding that we hope will include alumni.

We are able to do things very quickly and for reasonable prices if we utilize the Department of Education's 3rd party system, where the School Principal finds the contractors, negotiates the quotes, and manages the project. This is how we were able to complete a new fitness center and indoor batting cages in 1 month, where other School Construction Authority projects can take unpredictable time frames and cost enormous amounts of money.

As the School Principal, I currently have a quote for \$75,000 for a full duct system air conditioning for the auditorium, but I am only able to pay \$24,999 through the 3rd party system. This means the remaining \$50,001, would need to come from private funding to make the contractors whole. But this is a much better option than the School Construction Authority's managed prices of \$550,000 prior to the covid pandemic. I suspect this value has been impacted by inflation and their ac solution did not include ducts, but a split unit that would mainly make the space more tolerable.

I have quotes for all the needed renovations and am prepared to execute these through the 3rd party system. Any interested alumni may make donations through the DWC Alumni Association. All contributions will go directly to the improvement of facilities listed on page 16, where this letter continues.

(Continued on page 16)

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6:30-11:00 P.M., Thursday,
May 16, 2024

Good Food and Cheer
Choice of Main Course

Villa Barone Manor
737 Throggs Neck Expressway
Bronx, NY 10465

Open Bar
Valet Parking

Dinner Reservation

Name _____ Year _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Day Phone _____

E-Mail Address _____

Per Person \$175 Annual dues members
\$200 Non members
After May 1st \$200 Annual dues members
\$225 Non members

I would like to sponsor ___ Senior Student(s).

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ or charge my credit card.

Visa Master Card American Express Discover

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

I cannot attend but enclose a contribution for \$ _____
or charge my credit card to support the DeWitt Clinton Alumni Assn, Inc.

Make checks payable to DeWitt Clinton Alumni Assn, Inc.

Sit With OR Guests

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

Please return by April 21, 2024 to:
DeWitt Clinton Alumni Assn, Inc.,
P.O. Box 566, Elmsford, New York 10523-0566
Phone (914) 961-3003 Fax (914) 961-0291

Your Ad for the 127th Annual Dinner Journal

Please check one box:

Description	Ad price	Ad displayed on DWC Alumni website
<input type="checkbox"/> Red & Black Page (8"x 10.5" Vertical) Full page in color - Ad framed in Red & Black frame	\$1,000	Included
<input type="checkbox"/> Platinum Page (8"x 10.5" Vertical) Full page in color - Ad framed in platinum frame	\$750	Included
<input type="checkbox"/> Gold Page (8"x 10.5" Vertical) Full page in color	\$500	Included
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Page (8"x 10.5" Vertical) Black & White	\$200	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/> Half Page (4"x 5.25" Vertical) Black & White	\$125	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/> Quarter Page (4"x 5.25" Vertical) Black & White	\$75	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/> Business Card (3.5"x 2" Vertical) Black & White	\$50	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/> Booster (Name and graduation year only) Black & White	\$25	N/A

Write in your ad here
or attach copy



Name and year graduated (please print) _____

Company (if applicable) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Tel. No. _____ Work Tel. No. _____

E-Mail Address _____

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ or charge my credit card: \$ _____

Visa Master Card American Express Discover

Card No. _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Make checks payable to the "DeWitt Clinton Alumni Assn, Inc." Contributions are tax-deductible.

Please return by April 21, 2024 to: DWC Reunion Dinner- Journal Ads
PO Box 566, Elmsford, NY 10523-0566
Telephone (914) 961-3003 Fax (914) 961-0291

WINNING TEAMS

**The Boys' Varsity
Football Team.
John Applebee,
Head Coach.
Regular Season
7 wins -- 1 loss**



First Round of Playoffs, November 18, 2023, DWC field;
DeWitt Clinton 22 Harry S. Trunan 14

**The Boys' Junior
Varsity Football Team.
Michael Hamlett,
Head Coach.
4 Wins -- 2 Losses**



**The Girls' Varsity
Soccer Team.
Hector Cordones
Santana,
Head Coach.
6 Wins -- 4 Losses**



Coach Cornel Johnson '79 reports on the Track Team

We had a very good cross country season and took a big step forward from last year. We had some key injuries, but our toughness prevailed. Senior Kayla More led us throughout the season. Credit also goes to Tamera Rodrigues, Dayanara Valera, Rakae Thomas, Sania Grant, Syniah Nixon, and Shania Young. Raielle Ingram was off to a good start, but injury cut her season short. As we get ready for the indoor season, the hard work has begun. Our goal is to win the City Championship. We are counting on our seniors to lead us.



Art for the Sake of Art ...

Poster Art

"Art teacher Mr. Jose Polanco (right) is a great teacher. He has a heart that motivates his students to achieve success." Those are the words of Henry Ordosgoitia '77, who took all the photographs on these two pages.

Student Karina Duran was instrumental in designing a number of these 'Door Art' posters. Student David Zamora is an up and coming photographer.



Sculpture

Can you find art teacher Ms. Aileen Alvarado in the photograph to the left? She would love to inspire the next Michelangelo, Bernini, or Rodin.



... and the Students of DeWitt Clinton High School



Art

Ms. Patricia Reibesehl (above) can **do** what she **teaches**. Though art can refer to almost anything, in her classroom Ms. Reibesehl emphasizes the paint and brush, as shown on this page.

We should all appreciate the art teachers at DWC for encouraging their students to develop their artistic talents.

DWC's "artistic" alumni cover a wide range of interest and style, such as Frank H. Netter, MD, 1923, medicine's Michelangelo, and Sam Gross 1950, brilliant cartoonist.



Alumni News



George Gresham '73 first joined the 1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East union as a rank-and-file member in 1975, when he got a job as a housekeeper at Presbyterian Hospital. When his co-workers elected him as delegate, he excelled in his role, and over the course of four decades became the only 1199 member to hold every elected position in the union's constitution—delegate, organizer, vice president, executive vice president, secretary-treasurer, and president, a title which he has held since 2007. He is now in his sixth term as president. Under President Gresham's leadership, 1199SEIU has become the largest union of healthcare workers in the nation, growing to more than 450,000 members and securing for them the highest standards for healthcare workers in the nation.



Evans Amoah '07 sent us his biography. --After graduating from DWC as class valedictorian in 2007, I was awarded the New York Times College Scholarship and attended Dartmouth College where I double majored in Mathematics and Biology. After my undergraduate studies, I pursued a Master of Science in Biological Sciences at Drexel University. I then worked for a year as a medical scribe in the Emergency Department at Aria Health in Philadelphia. In 2019, I completed my medical education at Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth and, in 2021, I completed a Master of Public Health at the Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice. Currently, I am a resident physician in Radiation Oncology at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, KY.

Mark Morey, retired DWC faculty and coach, shared with us the wonderful news that three Clintonites have graduated from law school this past June.



Tanecia Vázquez, DWC '11, graduated from Fordham Law School, 2023.



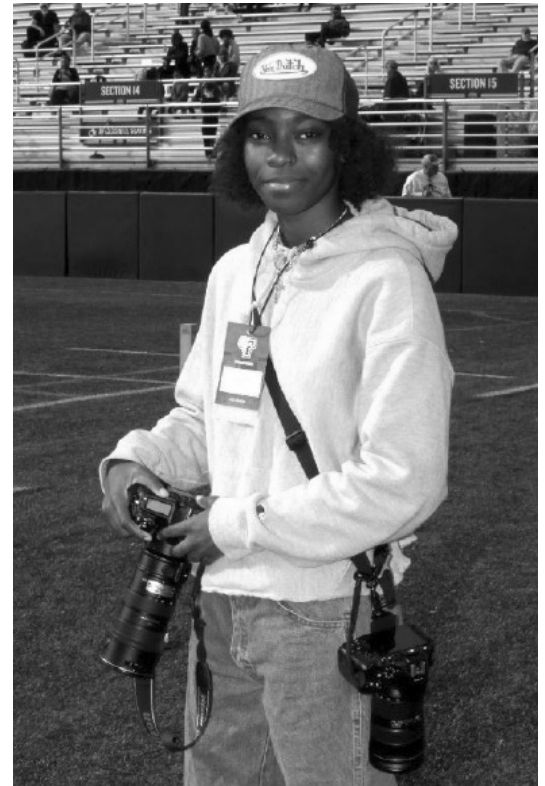
Olivia Taylor, DWC '12, graduated from Fordham Law School, 2023.



Jesús Díaz, DWC '13, graduated from DePaul Law School, 2023.



Ricardo Nazario-Colon '84 is the current Senior Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion/Chief Diversity Officer for the SUNY system. While his career began as an investment analyst with Deutsche Bank, he quickly moved into matters of diversity. He was Executive Director Multi-cultural Affairs at the University of Kentucky, Director of Diversity Programs at Western Kentucky University, Director of Student Activities, Leadership and Inclusion at Morehead State University, and Inaugural Chief Diversity Officer at Western Carolina University.



Nala Burton, DWC '15, is a photographer who focuses on sports and portraits. Her main work is to capture the action of the Connecticut Sun team of the WNBA.

Photo: Henry Ordosgoitia '77.

Honoring faculty members with twenty years or more of service to DeWitt Clinton High School, and thankful to every faculty member who created and advanced the Clinton spirit since 1897.

DEWITT CLINTON HIGH SCHOOL FACULTY HALL OF HONOR

The Faculty Hall of Honor was inaugurated on October 25, 2018.
Pierre Orbe, Principal, DeWitt Clinton High School; John Barbarette '64, President, DeWitt Clinton Alumni Association; Jose "Pepe" Figueroa '68, Major Contributor

With the establishment of the DWC Faculty Hall of Honor in 2018, the Alumni Association and Principal Pierre Orbe decided to honor the living first. As of October 26, 2022, seventy-four living retired faculty members have been inducted into the Hall of Honor. Several inductees have since died and their obituaries happily mentioned their induction into the Hall of Honor. The Covid Epidemic forced the cancellation of the 2020 induction and lowered the number of honorees in 2021 and 2022.

In October 2023, it was expected that deceased and living faculty members would be inducted into the Hall of Honors. BUT ON JUNE 19TH, THE HORROR HAPPENED. Gerard Pelisson, that's me the originator of the Hall of Honor, fell on my dining room floor and did significant damage to my left leg bone at the joint. I have been in a wheelchair ever since. The damage was so great that no surgeon was willing to operate. Fortunately, my bone began to heal the natural way and I expect to be operated on in January 2024.

WE CANNOT LET THE FACULTY HALL OF HONOR GO ABANDONED. The hardest part will be finding when the very early faculty began at DWC. Yearbooks can help, but the best source is the permanent records of the faculty, which seems to be hiding somewhere in the building. Let us plan for a 2024-2025 induction ceremony. We have plenty of empty plaques yearning to be filled.



2018 Honored Retired Faculty: (from left) Angelo Purciogliotti, Louis Weisberg, Ronald Bramesco, Virginia Sardi, Martin Wasserman, Mary Agnes Dress Coady, Edward Morisson '46, Barbara Chafetz, James Gilmore, Toby Cohen Stricks, David Fuchs, Thomas Donohoe, Anne Micera, Thomas Benevento, Bernard Roberts '48, Fredric Grand '51, Paul Pitluk '49, Herbert Schwartz, Anne Dworkis, Nessa Baum Kaplan. Marked Absent: Donald Brookman, Ada Chirles, Allan Curran, Brian Holihan, Gerard McLoughlin, Sandi Levin Skodnik, Elaine Steinfeld.



2019 Honored Retired Faculty: (from left) Robert Amlin '62, James A. Garvey III, Murray Hyman, George Kanganis '61, Charles Horowitz, Elizabeth Daly, Rose Kelly McTague, Eugene Weissman, Iris Levine, Ronald Mass, Stanley Sprung '65, John Bergmann, Dennis Brennan, Arthur Backman. Marked Absent: Noriberto Blanco, Robert DiLorenzo, Deborah Eiseman, David Feder, Audrey Greenblatt, Neil Harrow '55, Fred W. Kelly, Phyllis MCCabe, Noreen O'Rourke, William Palace, Tajdatt Ponnai, Harry Pottok.



2021-2022 Principal Pierre Orbe (far left), Gerard Pelisson (second from left, and Alumni Assn. Board Member Jannie Mays-Rosado (fourth from right) with honorees (from left) George Pereny, Margaret Cronin, Rita Sukenick, Paula Simon, Jose Sequra, Carlos Mota, Louis Morales. Marked Absent: 2021, Marsha Beck, Samuel Blank '65, Carolyn Echevarria, Terrence Geil, Maryanne Mola, Laura Pacher North, Merrily Rosner; 2022, Juan Contreras, Carlos Delgado, Frank Prisco, Andriana Rivera, Rafael Rivera.

IN MEMORIAM

Herbert Rosenbluth '42 (Oct. 2, 2023)

Carl Veasay Davis '54 (Sept, 15, 2021)

Ralph John Ricciardi, Sr., '58 (Oct. 11, 2023)



Lest We Forget Their Service to Country



Herbert Rosenbluth '42 enlisted in the U. S. Navy after DWC and completed training to become a Fire Control 3rd class, serving first on a destroyer and then the aircraft carrier USS Franklin D. Roosevelt. Returning to civilian life, he entered Pace College in New York City, graduating in 1949 with a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting. He soon joined the retail marketing company, Two Guys, moving to northern New Jersey. He rose to positions of higher responsibility with that company's successor, Vornado Realty Trust. He retired in 1988.

Herbert Rosenbluth passed away in New Jersey on October 2, 2023, after a life of 100 years.



Carl Veasay Davis '54 was a proud graduate of the New York City Public School System, graduating from DeWitt Clinton High in 1954. After graduation, Carl served for two years in the U. S. Army and was honorably discharged in September 1957 with the rank of corporal.

Carl had a long career with the New York State Department of Corrections. He served as a corrections officer at the Edgecombe Residential Treatment Facility and Sing Sing Correctional Facility, retiring in September of 1999.

Carl Davis passed away at Harlem Hospital on September 15, 2021.



Ralph John Ricciardi, Sr., '58 served honorably in the United States Army. He was a proud Italian American New Yorker who served his city by working for the NYC Department of Sanitation for 20 years.

Ralph John Ricciardi, Sr., passed away peacefully at his home in North Carolina on Wednesday, October 11, 2023.

Note: Several recent obituaries claimed that their deceased were DWC students, but there is no evidence to support the claims in any publications (yearbooks, graduation programs, etc.) in the Newsletter's collection. Let us know if you knew Derrick Anthony Brown, Melvin Koonce, or Norman Mitchell.

Alumni Notes

Robert Esnard '56—Architect/City Planner

Richard Pomboy '56—Investments

Philip H. Gottfried '57—Intellectual Property attorney

Ira Greenberg '57—Accountant

Norman Sider '58—For 13 years, worked for civil rights governmental agencies and one not-for profit organization and then 27 years as a financial advisor for a major brokerage firm.

David L. Weinberg '62—CPA at Deloitte & Touche, Chief Financial Officer at Key Pharmaceuticals, Columbia Laboratories and Rewards Network Inc. (all stock exchange companies). Past President of Twin Rivers Homeowners Assn. (9,000 people). Past council member of East Windsor, NJ, township council. Past president of Temple Beth Am in Margate, FL

Sanford Weintraub '63—CPA

David R. Gornstein '64—Auditor for FCC grant program. Retired and established consulting firm for FCC grant program benefiting schools and libraries. Director of Youth Services / Programs for Rotary International District 6510 in Southern Illinois.

David Refkin '75—Now living in Ridgewood, NJ. Chair of Green Ridgewood and member of Planning Board, working with Detroit to increase recycling, build a circular economy and address environmental justice issues. Greetings from Dad Martin Refkin class of 1943, Looking forward to the 50th anniversary in 2025.

Jose A. Santos '81—Teacher

KaDarra Lowe '02—Supplier Diversity and Procurement Consultant

Scholarship Awardees for 2023

Taida Barnett	Walter A. and Sonia I. Rifkin Memorial Scholarship	1,000
Marcus Minaya	Walter A. and Sonia I. Rifkin Memorial Scholarship	1,000
Ashile Abreu-Caraballo	DeWitt Clinton Alumni Assn.	2,500
Zaynab Kolya	Walter A. and Sonia I. Rifkin Memorial Scholarship	1,000
Zaynab Kolya	Arthur and Dale Crames Scholarship	1,000
Ebenezer Dansu	Monroe G. Milstein Scholarship	500
Zaynab Kolya	J. Ira Harris Scholarship	500
Fletjuna Sajous	DeWitt Clinton Alumni Assn, Inc.	750
Danneilla Wellington	Harry Wolfe Jupiter '49 Memorial Scholarship	1,000
Ebenezer Dansu	Ada Chirles/Simon Dack Scholarship	500
Akyeamaah Kwakye	J. Ira Harris Scholarship	500
Akyeamaah Kwakye	Charles M. Lee '32 Memorial Scholarship	1,000
Ebenezer Dansu	Pauline and William Garvey Foundation Scholarship	1,000
Heavenly Donkor	Eugenie J. & Harry Hevert Memorial Scholarship	500
Danneilla Wellington	J. Ira Harris Scholarship	500
Taida Barnett	Reginald Michael Lewis Memorial Scholarship	1,000
Taida Barnett	J. Ira Harris Scholarship	500
Cyril Kormey	J. Ira Harris Scholarship	500
Cyril Kormey	Michael Brier '55 Scholarship	500
Danneilla Wellington	Walter A. and Sonia I. Rifkin Memorial Scholarship	1,000
Dasani Grant	Walter A. and Sonia I. Rifkin Memorial Scholarship	1,000
Akyeamaah Kwakye	Walter A. and Sonia I. Rifkin Memorial Scholarship	1,500
Marcus Minaya	William Tennebruso Memorial Scholarship	1,000
Malaika Rashid	Arthur and Dale Crames Scholarship	1,000
Malaika Rashid	Harry Wolfe Jupiter '49 Memorial Scholarship	1,000
Heavenly Donkor	James Martin Sr Class of 1954 Memorial Scholarship	1,500
Cyril Kormey	DeWitt Clinton Alumni Assn, Inc.	500
Dasani Grant	Gregg S. Wolpert '73 Scholarship	1,000
Cyril Kormey	Gregg S. Wolpert '73 Scholarship	<u>500</u>
		25,750

Establish a Clinton Scholarship.

What is there to life but other people!

'nuff said!

How the Boys of Boys' High Became Clintonites

The 1897-1898 school year saw the New York City public school population reach half a million. Schools were so crowded that some of them held half-day sessions to accommodate twice as many students. On the high school level, a lack of facilities meant turning away hundreds of children.

In February 1898, frustrated at having to reject new students, Principal Buchanan sought permission from the Board of Education to open an annex for Boys' High School. But his request fell victim to inaction, as the Board had its own expansion problems. The January 1, 1898 merger of New York City (Manhattan and the Bronx) with the city of Brooklyn and various towns in Queens and Staten Island had left the "new" New York City without a central Board of Education to govern all public schools.

In late spring of 1898, the state legislature addressed the issue of multiple Boards of Education by creating a central Board with offices at Park Avenue and 59th Street. One of the first steps taken by the new Board was to give Boys' High permission to open an annex on 46th Street. On September 12, 1898, the annex opened with Dr. Charles Douglas as its head. With the additional space, the student body grew to two thousand by the start of the 1899 school year.

The new central Board of Education may have temporarily eased the overcrowding at Boys' High, but it also sent the school into a temporary spin by ordering it to change its name by 1900. An even older Boys' High School existed in Brooklyn, and the Board, understandably, saw problems with two schools having the same name. The Brooklyn school, being older, was permitted to keep its name.

Following months of vigorous debate and discussion on the part of the faculty and student body to choose a new name, a consensus was reached to name the school after the individual who had contributed the most to the establishment of the public school system in New York. In 1900, Boys' High School of Manhattan and the Bronx became The DeWitt Clinton High School, although the state legislature did not make the change official until January 1, 1901.

At the same time, to personalize the names of

schools, Girls' High School was renamed The Wadleigh High School and The Mixed High School was renamed The Peter Cooper High School, to be renamed The Morris High School in 1905.



The New York City Board of Education building when it was on 59th Street in Manhattan

The first Clinton graduation exercises were held in 1900 at the offices of the Board of Education on 59th Street. The graduates had to share the day and the place with the graduates of Wadleigh and Peter Cooper, as all three schools held a combined ceremony.

Diplomas were granted to students who had fulfilled a three-year or four-year course of study. The four-year graduates from Wadleigh and Peter Cooper had already completed a year's schooling before entering the New York City public school system. It would not be until 1901 that Clinton had its first four-year graduates.

Of the 28 Clinton graduates in 1900, five went on to New York University, two to Cornell Medical, four to Cornell College, four to Teachers Training School, eleven to the College of the City of New York, and two to business.

Membership Dues 2024



I would like to receive a paper edition of the Alumni Newsletter.

Please Print

NAME _____ YEAR GRADUATED _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

DWC SCHOOL AFFILIATIONS (CLUBS, SPORTS)

NOTES _____

Please use the above space to provide news about yourself for our publication.

Barrese Society: I have paid dues for ____ consecutive years. This year's donation includes ____ missed year(s).

Dues January 1, 2024	\$35.00
Voluntary Assessment (in support of student activities)	\$15.00
Total Sustaining Donation	\$50.00

The Alumni Association will shortly mail the Barrese Society pins to all those alumni who have contributed to the Association for at least ten years in a row. Thank you, loyal sons and daughters of DWC.



Actual size: 1" diameter

- Century Club \$100 (includes dues)
- Red and Black Club \$200 (includes dues)
- Governor's Club \$300 (includes dues)
- President's Club \$500 (includes dues)
- Guernsey Club \$1,000 (includes dues)
- Alumni Leadership Weekend Fund \$ _____

Dues can be paid securely on line at www.dewittclintonalumni.com



Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ or charge my credit card \$ _____.

- Visa
- Master Card
- American Express
- Discover

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

The DeWitt Clinton Alumni Association thanks you, our loyal supporters.

Make checks payable to DeWitt Clinton Alumni Assn., Inc. Mail to: P.O. Box 566, Elmsford, NY 10523-0566 (A donation for scholarships require a separate check made payable to the DeWitt Clinton Scholarship and Student Aid Fund, Inc., and mailed to P.O. Box 566, Elmsford, NY 10523-0566.)

DeWitt Clinton Alumni Assn, Inc.

P.O. Box 566
Elmsford, New York 10523-0566

**DeWitt Clinton Scholarship
and Student Aid Fund, Inc.**

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Principal Orbe's Letter to The Alumni

(Continued from page 3)

Top Projects:

1. A/C For Large Common Spaces: Cafeteria (\$50,000), Auditorium (\$75,000), Library (\$75,000)
2. A/C for Gym Building - \$75,000 + Market Maker for Electrical (Schools will pay for this)
3. Outdoor Tennis Courts & Basketball Courts - \$275,000
4. Cafeteria to Atrium Doorway Access - \$45,000
5. Auditorium Upgrades - New Seating, Lighting for Stage, Stage, Acoustics, Sound System - 1M
6. Outdoor Field Improvements - Outdoor Jumbotron Scoreboard (\$70,000 per Scoreboard x 3 for fields \$210,000 + Market Maker Electrical) & Turf Infield Baseball Field upgrade & Dugouts - TBD



Thank you for your support through some very challenging times. As we enter a new golden era at DeWitt Clinton High School, we need your help to solidify our position as the only choice for students in the Bronx.

Looking forward to reporting on our further successes this year with your help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pierre Orbe".

Pierre Orbe
Principal

Sine Labore Nihil — Nothing Is Achieved Without Hard Work