

JANUARY 2023

HAPPY NEW YEAR

FIRST NIGHTERS NEWS

WELCOME TO THE FIRST NIGHTERS OF YORKTOWN SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER



The First Nighters is a group of parent and patron volunteers that supports the Performing Arts in the Yorktown Central School district. We are a 501(c)(3) charitable organization with a mission to assist the Choir, Orchestra, Dance Company, Band, Tech Crew, and other Performing Arts programs grow and thrive in our schools.

We would like to thank our past and present contributors and members and particularly our volunteers who make fundraising and funding the organization possible. A list of our supporters is at the end of this newsletter, and we encourage you to join us and become a part of this phenomenal organization.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tri-M Talent Show
1/24 @ 6pm

Dance Company
2/3 @ 7pm
2/4 @ 2pm & 7pm

Our Next Meeting
2/7 @ 7pm

14th Annual Swing Dance
2/11 @ 7pm

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Happy new year to you and your families. We hope your year has been off to an incredible start. We could not wait to share all our news with you from the Fall 2022 months.

We would like to thank Ximena Barbuscia, Antonia Falcone, Joel & Debbie Forbes, and Steve Mahanna who joined us for our first meeting of 2023! Our wheels were turning, and we are on a roll to keep bringing more ideas and fundraising to the table including planning our banquet.

MEETINGS WILL BE HELD THE FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH



**CONNECT.
FOLLOW.
VOLUNTEER.**



[@firstnighters](https://twitter.com/firstnighters)



[@thefirstnighters](https://www.facebook.com/thefirstnighters)

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2022

In the month of December, the First Nighters coordinated “Dinner and a Concert” with a few of the local restaurants including Oscar’s Pizza and Restaurant, Pappous Greek Kitchen and Yorktown Pizza and Pasta. For each performance night, the restaurant donated 10% of each order when Choir, Band or Orchestra were mentioned. The donations will be used towards the Spring trips in April. We cannot thank our community enough for supporting the Performing Arts in our school district!

We have also created a fundraiser graphic for our Drama students and will do the same for YHS Dance Company performers. The graphics became a beautiful invitation for students and their families to share with their friends and families. It was a hit!

If you would like to participate in this fundraiser, send 3 photos and your child’s name to firstnightersyorktown@gmail.com. The last day to submit will be January 29. Zelle your \$10 payment to our email. Please indicate “Dco graphic” in the notes.



CONTACT US

FIRSTNIGHTERSYORKTOWN@GMAIL.COM



IN THE NEWS!

The First Nighters were in the Yorktown News! Shelbey and Craig made the page while volunteering at the Suite Surrender Drama Performance in November. If you missed the article, here is a link to our feature in the Yorktown News.



[Click here for article.](#)

Wait! We have more BIG news!! Yorktown News will be doing a Performing Arts Spotlight series highlighting a Senior student from the Performing Arts. How cool is that?

Stay tuned for our first Student Spotlight Article coming soon!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Thank you to our amazing teachers for all that you do to support our group.

Dr. David Bhasin, Emily Kluga, Dan Moore, Ms. Christine Orlando, Andrea Stock, Ms. Nicole Tolli,, Justin Wingenroth



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

MEETINGS

First Tuesday of each month @ 7pm
Starbucks Rt. 202 (Lowe's)

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook for rescheduling or weather cancellations.

Our organization attends each production put on by our remarkable students and faculty as part of our fundraising efforts. We run concessions, 50-50 raffles and other fundraisers before events and during intermissions and can always use help. You will not miss the show! We send out email reminders - please lend a hand if you can!

A HUGE thank you to all our families who volunteered their time with the First Nighters including Antonia Falcone, Kathy Law-Imperato, Marni & Tom Marron and Ximena Barbuscia for volunteering at the Choir, Band, and Orchestra performances.

Click on the links below to volunteer with us for the **Tri-M Talent show** on 1/24

and

Dance Company Performances on 2/3 and 2/4.



BECOME A BOARD MEMBER

We are looking for board members to help plan events, volunteer, join our monthly meetings, and run our organization. You can help by just being present. The commitment is low, and the company is fantastic! Please let us know if you can help – no experience required!

Our meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7pm. Be sure to check our Facebook and Twitter for location details and any cancellations due to weather.

2022–2023 Board Members

Shelbey Graf, President*

Craig Armstrong, Treasurer and VP*

Rossana LoBrutto Federico, VP and Creative

*Board member last year.



SCHOLARSHIPS

Through fundraising and support, the First Nighters granted 14 scholarships to the Class of 2022 graduating Performing Arts Seniors.

FIRST NIGHTERS SPONSOR FAMILIES

Thank you to all the current Sponsor Families who have donated to the First Nighters this school year. Your contributions make it possible for the Performing Arts to grow and thrive and also give scholarships to our graduating Seniors.

Thanks to our current and amazing 2022-23 Sponsor Families for such incredible support. We cannot do this without you. If you have not become a Sponsor Family yet, feel free to Zelle us (to our email) or mail your form to our PO Box 431, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598. Checks payable to: The First Nighters. All donations are tax deductible and gratefully recognized.



THANK YOU!

Thank you again to all of you! We look forward to seeing you at the next meeting and our events.

PLATINUM STAR CONTRIBUTOR

Aoukor Family, Armstrong Family, Biggs Family, Bose Family, Carrig Family, Falcone Family, Forbes Family, Grabowski Family, Gridley Family, Griffiths Family, Guarini Family, Imperato Family, Kidwai Family, Michl Kunz M.D., Lasko Family, Marron Family, Molloy Family, Smith Family, Stewart Family, Green Banner Manor Family

GOLD STAR CONTRIBUTOR

Campanaro Family, Federico/Baker Family, O'Connell Family, Renken Family

SILVER STAR CONTRIBUTOR

Baker Family, Barbuscia Family, Cancro Family, Cichetti Family, DiSanzo Family, Graf Family, Horlacher Family, Jacobs Family, Grossman/Kindler Family, Kluga Family, McCann Family, McIntyre Family, Meola Family, Toumanios Family, Vogel Family, Whalen Family, Whalen Family

Sincerely, *Shelbey, Craig & Rossana*