



A Very Special Senior Edition For The Class Of 2020



College and Beyond: Looking Forward and Remaining Optimistic

By: Kyra McCreery

As the Class of 2020 navigates an unexpected and turbulent final chapter of the high school journey, the excitement, anticipation, and inevitable nerves surrounding the transition to college loom just around the corner. Although some uncertainty concerning the feasibility of an on-campus Fall semester exists amid the coronavirus pandemic, most institutions remain optimistic that classes and campus activities will safely resume by the Fall.

However, even if COVID-19 thwarts the possibility of an on-campus Fall semester, North Shore seniors have already proven themselves to be a talented, ambitious group of students capable of adapting to challenging situations and rising to the occasion when the unexpected strikes. Whether classes are conducted virtually or in-person, this year's graduating class is looking forward to the pivotal next chapter, eager to encounter new ideas and environments, tackle unforeseen obstacles, and seize all of the opportunities and experiences the college setting offers.

This year, North Shore seniors are heading to all corners of the country, intending to pursue a diverse array of paths, professional careers, and college programs. From California to Florida to Illinois to right here on Long Island, the Class of 2020 plans to study everything from biomedical engineering to music education to linguistics over the next four years. Sierra Hiner, a senior considering a double major in music and environmental studies at the University of Vermont, states, "UVM is a really good place to explore a bunch of different areas and do things that interest you. I love nature and the outdoors, and learning about how our world is affected by the environment and vice versa... As for a minor, I'm thinking about dance, philosophy, or political science."

Clearly, seniors are passionate about their disparate interests and are excited to explore the confluence of various disciplines and subjects in more depth. Reflecting on the insight and perspective gained by her involvement in a variety of different organizations and activities in high school, Hiner continues, "I'm really looking forward to being able to participate in all the extracurriculars I was so involved in throughout high school now at a college level—dance, chamber orchestra, private music lessons, etc.... I'm really happy I decided to intern for Mr. Domingo (Orchestra) this year. I learned everything in that room—it's honestly a second home to me."

The intent to remain involved with high school activities at a college level is a common theme amongst members of the Class of 2020, with many hoping that the transition to college will enable them to elevate their commitment and skills while forging a connection to a community of students with similar interests. Danielle Ligure, a possible psychology major planning to attend the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, states, "I had a great experience in the music and theater program in high school! I'd love to continue playing the saxophone in a non-major band, as well as participate in the UMass theater productions... I'm very excited to meet new people after being in school with the same people for over a decade." Seniors are grateful to have discovered their passions and cultivated skills through their high school activities, but most are zealous about the opportunity to enrich and improve these talents at the college level.

Madeleine DePietro, a senior interested in pursuing film at Vanderbilt University, remarks, "This year I produced the play and musical, and production is something I am really interested in pursuing." The college environment offers students the opportunity to engage with a myriad of extracurricular activities and student communities, and it seems that this year's seniors will definitely be taking full advantage of life outside the classroom.

For other members of the senior class, the transition to college represents the opportunity to embark on an entirely new path and chase childhood dreams. Such is the case for Sophia Fleming, a prospective electrical engineering major at Georgia Tech excited to participate in the school's ROTC program. Fleming's interest in military service and college ROTC opportunities was piqued from an early age, and she is now thrilled to be able to pursue her lifelong ambition at a dream college.

A group of driven, passionate individuals with a wide range of interests and prospective careers, the Class of 2020 will undoubtedly go on to achieve immense success as the graduates progress to the next stage in their educational journeys. Despite the unforeseen and tumultuous circumstances that disrupted the culminating moments of senior spring, this year's senior class will persevere through the disappointment and enter college prepared, energized, and inspired to make a difference.

You Know You Are A Member Of The Class of 2020 At North Shore High School If:

1. You have been told by Dr. Kurrus while walking in the hallway to take your headphones out or to put your phone away
2. You have ever been told "Happy Friday!" by Debbie, the hall monitor.
3. You have looked forward to the Burrito Bar in the Cafeteria.
4. You have successfully completed "The Todd Drive" walk.
5. You know what a "Superstar Ticket" is.
6. You have only wanted a sandwich from Anna Doherty.
7. You have walked into school with 80s music blasting @Mr. Bloom.
8. You have had Ms. Tara yell at you to push in your chair in the Cafeteria.
9. You have ordered Promise/Sam's Deli to be delivered to the High School.
10. You have been told to "take a fruit".

By: Juliette Alfarone, Sarah Moran and Julie Vineis

Dear Class of 2020,

Compiled By: Kerin Krasnoff

Looking back over the last four years at North Shore, teachers reflected on their time spent with the Class of 2020 whether it involved a class, a club, a trip, or an event. From their responses, it is quite evident that the Class of 2020 will forever have a special place at North Shore.

Ms. Acosta: “Witty, big personalities, and fun!”

Mr. Abrams: “Having only been a part of the North Shore family for a short time, the Class of 2020 was instrumental in me feeling at home. Thank you so much for helping me feel welcome when I would sub for your classes; I can’t wait to hear about all of your accomplishments in the future!”

Ms. Bacchioni: “To my sensational seniors- Without a doubt, you have made my first year teaching here at NS amazing. Seeing your warm smiles each day, hearing your inquisitive questions, and watching you grow over these past few months has been an absolute joy.”

Mr. Berglin: “The rebellion on the last day of 8th grade recess.”

Mr. Bianco: “I have countless memories with the Class of 2020, my very first Physics class. Memories include a surprise birthday party, stage crew, the 1st *Smash Bros* tournament, Feel Good Fridays, breaking the record for highest Physics Regents scores at North Shore, and so much more. However, one memory that will always stand out the most is when Travis Goss dressed up as me for Halloween. When I found out that he was dressing up as me, it was only fair that I return the favor and dress up as him as well. I have never felt so honored. Thank you Class of 2020 for giving me the best teaching years of my life; I only wish the best for all of you!”

Mr. Bloom: “I was flattered when the senior class created and performed the traffic skit and imitated me controlling the buses and cars. You guys hit it spot on. Thank you!!” In addition, what can I say about your final year in high school? You started your senior year like any other. You got your driver’s license, parking on campus, shorter schedules, and progressed to put together a hilarious Senior Play and earn the winning title at Sports Night. You got to visit colleges and make a decision. You got to choose your next step in life after high school. Except this year, eventually ended up a little different. Nothing prepared you for what was to happen during the second half of the year. An unknown enemy by the name of COVID-19 changed everyone’s life forever. Suddenly, school and work stopped; going out with friends and family ceased and your life became a virtual one. Plans were changed and everyone’s life was put on hold. Life is strange. The best plans can be changed in an instant. So what do you do? You’ve worked hard to get to this point, so you must push forward. Of course, you’ll have to change the way you do things, but don’t stop. I say this because throughout your life, you’ll encounter obstacles that are beyond your control, no matter how much you plan. Overcoming them will only make

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you stronger and wiser, so keep moving forward. I want to wish the North Shore Seniors congratulations on your graduation and the best of luck in the future. Best wishes to you all!

Ms. Cano: “IPA Class of 2020... you are an incredible bunch of young people! Each one of you is so strong and capable of achieving greatness!! I loved getting to end my day with you each day! I miss you and wish you all the happiness this world has to offer!! When times get tough-remember what Daniel Tiger said lol!! With Love, Mrs. Cano”

Mr. Cassino: “Dropping blood (synthetic) from various heights or smashing it with a hammer or flinging it on the wall. Making ice cream or synthesizing silly putty or sacrificing a gummy bear. Playing *Smash Brothers* or *Mario Kart*. These tasks were always enjoyable; they were a learned experience that were cleaned up without a trace. Thank you for the smiles.”

Mr. Cousins: “I enjoyed their competitive spirit at Sports Night - I have never seen so much motivation as when it looked like the Juniors were getting close this year. We came to North Shore together, 13 years ago - and I will always remember this class as being a bright, kind, and hopeful group of really unique and special people.”

Ms. DeLima: “To my amazing 2020 Seniors, thank you all for a great first year of teaching at North Shore High School! You have all taught me more than you will ever know. You tested my patience, made me laugh, challenged me, and inspired me. I treasure each interaction with you whether we were discussing art, politics, pop culture, music, high school gossip, family, or just life in general. For those of you who visited me in Art Room A to get to work early, to escape for some studio time, or to just chit chat with me, you need to know that you were always making my day brighter. Stay curious and keep looking for that one good thing a day! With much love and admiration, Ms. DeLima.”

Ms. Fawcett: “When I think of the Class of 2020, it’s not one memory, but an overall feeling, that comes to mind. These students have brought smiles, grace and maturity to every corner of their communities, and I know the world is in good hands as they all head off to their futures!”

Ms. Francis: “To my Environmental students - did you know Will sails?!? To the Class of 2020 - Best of luck in all your future endeavors!”

Mr. Gonzalez: “The 2019 Football team was a special group of boys, especially the seniors. From their incredible run on the field, to their cheer/dancing talents off the field, I will miss each one of them. Good luck boys and to all of our graduating student athletes!”

Ms. Hahn: “Their incredible talent and dedication to the music program. They possess leadership and passion and I know they will make great citizens in the future.”

Ms. Halloran: “I’m sad to be missing this time with the senior class, but also so proud of what they have accomplished, even during this closure. My seniors have remained in contact, attended online sessions, submitted excellent work, and most of all, kept a positive attitude. They have also used this opportunity to serve others and help those in need, from elderly neighbors to health care workers and beyond. Kudos to the Class of 2020!”

Ms. Iacovelli: “As a class, I feel that this was a very caring and giving one. To our NS Volleyball Seniors, you are a gift not only to our school and our program, but also now to the world. Your time spent with the volleyball program was essential and filled with leadership, humor and dedication even in hard times. Congratulations and ‘may the world be your oyster’! Shore on 3... 1, 2, 3 Shore!”

Ms. Johnson: “I have so many favorite memories when thinking about my Photo Family in AP 2D Design! Our ‘candle-lit final critiques’, our Photo Field Trips, the U-Haul pinhole camera (Oh wait! That never happened). As I said all year, you are a special group and I will sincerely miss you all!”

Mrs. Keohan: “I love your witty sense of humor and how you always went out of your way to say hello to your teachers and peers, hold a door open, and make us all laugh! I will miss you all terribly. Best of luck to the Class of 2020 and stay Viking Strong! Love, Keo!”

Mr. Klein: “Our two trips to Belize were so special to me. I will never forget all of the adventures we had! I am so lucky to have chaperoned such an amazing group of students. Snorkeling, cave tubing, seeing the Mayan Ruins, going to the Belize Zoo, encountering luminescent bacteria, zip lining, and eating termites!!! It really was quite the Paraguan!”

Mr. Knight: “Nothing beats having some Seltzer with the APLit crowd. Zazz it up!”

Dr. Kurrus: “My favorite memory of our Senior class - the Class of 2020 - is how amazingly strong, considerate, intelligent, and caring every single member of it is. North Shore High School is an amazing building and that is due to our Seniors, as they set the model of hard work, integrity, generosity and compassion for all of our Juniors, Sophomores, and Freshmen to follow. You are all proof that the world is a good place; we know that you are going to go and do great things after high school. Best of luck to the strongest Senior class I have ever had the pleasure of working with!!!”

Mr. LaBlanc: “There is not A MEMORY I have of your class that will suffice, but my memory of you overall. You are a group I know I will remember as standing out in a special way in my career. I have had so so so many of you - as sophomores in 10H, as juniors in AP Psych and as seniors in 21st-Century Lit - and many of you more than once. It is a testament to your character as a group that I know many more of you that I’ve never had as students. One of the things I like about being a teacher is that I have the chance to learn from my students - and you have taught

me so much. You are a great group and I am grateful for the chance to have gotten to know you. I know I have at times accused you of ‘riding the doofus train;’ however, I am sure that the future will rather show you conducting us admirably forth.”

Ms. LeMar: “To the Class of 2020, our world will always change (remember final minus initial). Stay positive (unless you are moving leftward, downward or south; then you’re negative). And continue to Force times displacement like I know you can!”

Ms. Mabrouk: “The Class of 2020 will, for me, always be remembered for its wit, humor, and kindness to one another. Stay strong!”

Ms. Margiore: “My favorite memory about the Class of 2020 is how much fun and life they bring to any class, presentation, and discussion that they have. I will forever remember el caballo desnudo, recreating family recipes, playing Hispanic music, losing a coin in a cake, and many more fun times. You all bring so much positivity and life to our school. You will be greatly missed.”

Mr. Meenan: “Working with Cristina Castro, George Amigdalos, and Sarina Koli on the cheerleading competition team! Going to miss them so so dearly :)”

Mr. Millard: “On average, their ability to balance serious discussions with good-natured humor”

Ms. Miller: “My favorite memory with the Class of 2020 happened in February this year! When we finally won FIRST PLACE at SPORTS NIGHT!!! The excitement from the Seniors was electric and I was so proud of how hard they had worked all week. When they won, the room went wild!!!!”

Ms. Millman: “There are so many positive things to say about the Class of 2020 and even though I am so excited for the adventures its members are about to have, my heart hurts knowing they are leaving these halls and classrooms. Throughout the four years that I have had the opportunity to teach and work with many of its students (in 9R, 9H, 10H, Journalism and Literature And Social Action), this grade has proven itself to be outgoing, involved, friendly, curious, united, empathetic, inclusive, hardworking, focused, motivated and inspiring. In addition to having great class lessons with them, the number of laughs I have had with the Class of 2020 are immeasurable. Only this grade would have asked me to compile a list of ‘Must See Movies’ and actually attempt to tackle it. I could go on and on about this group, but let’s just leave it at: The Class of 2020 is quite special and its members have and will continue to have a strong place in my heart. I wish this group all the best in the future.”

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A Few Words To The Class Of 2020

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Ms. Nersesian: “Four years ago when the Class of 2020 started high school is the same time I began teaching at North Shore. I taught Geometry Honors where I was welcomed by the students who truly made me feel like I belong here. I had the pleasure of teaching many of the students in this class over the past four years. I was even so lucky to have had some of them for multiple years. These students have brought much joy and laughter to each class they were a part of, and to the school as a whole. It is bittersweet to see them leave North Shore, but I am excited to see where the next steps in their lives take them. To the Class of 2020, I wish you nothing but the best as you move into the next chapter of your lives. Keep smiling and remember: you can do ANYTHING you set your mind to. Aim high.”

Ms. Paollilo-Schiano: “My favorite memory of the Class of 2020 is its enthusiasm to participate in FACS classes as well as fashion and cooking club activities. Such activities included the production of the December Fashion Show and the sales of hair scrunchies and lip balm. Cooking club activities included bake sales and preparation for the competition of Jr. Iron Chef. I will miss their enthusiasm and hard work!”

Mr. Perles: “My favorite memory is all the time spent this year talking about the most important civic lesson you can take out of high school: there is no such thing as not voting. It is possible to not cast a ballot. It is not possible to not vote. Your actions on any and every election day are a vote, actively or passively, to either maintain or disrupt the status quo. Choose wisely. And don’t imagine that by staying home you can stay out of it. You’ll always be the “Class of COVID-19”. And I will always remember your poise, integrity and good humor under the strangest public health circumstances to confront a generation of students in more than a century.”

Ms. Rizza: “The Class of 2020 was the first class I had the privilege to teach at North Shore High School. To be honest, I really can’t picture the school without you all there. You made me feel welcome and appreciated as a teacher in my first year and continued to make

me feel that way in the years since. You’ll forever be the first group to sign my copy of *Oh, the Places You’ll Go!* and will always have a special place in my heart. Love you all. I’m here if you ever need me. See you at the wedding.”

Ms. Sandback: “Their optimism.”

Ms. Schaeffer: “I had a great time last year teaching this group in both Algebra 2A and Conceptual Physics. There are so many great memories that come up when I think about this experience...Mentos Experiment “explosions,” shenanigans in Physics labs, and the connections we made. My daughter, Iliana, still speaks so highly of those of you who met her. Thank you for such great memories. I wish you all the best of luck in your years to come.”

Ms. Soriano: “Spain Exchange Trip 2020! I am glad our seniors experienced Spain with the exchange program. Alicante, Murcia, Altea, Madrid, Toledo, Barcelona...We will always have Spain! Karaoke on the coach bus, traveling on the high speed train at night, SAGRADA FAMILIA, Montserrat, Las Meninas de Velázquez, La Maja de Goya... Antonio, and tío Josh ...We will always have Spain!”

Dr. Titone: “For the IB Diploma Class of 2020, I am so impressed by all of you—especially including the Extended Essay & Viva Voces. You were also our first class to put on TOKtober. You have much to be proud of; congratulations on your accomplishments!”

Ms. Turk: “The countless laughs and fun we had together in AP World History 9. The world is a beautiful place. When the time is right—go explore it!”

Mrs. Ward: “You have made my years at North Shore High School unforgettable! We have shared our love for our pets, personal experiences, favorite music, corny jokes, and lots of laughs. I will cherish those moments forever. Keep smiling and enjoy what life has to offer!”

Ms. Whelan: “Since I met the Class of 2020 as freshmen in Global History, they always found a way to make me laugh and make any day or any topic more fun.”

And

Mr. Blanchard: “I really don’t know what to say. But nothing about this year has been “normal”. But then again, history tries to teach us over and over again that normal is never static. Expect change. Even with a global pandemic, each moment we live is really a waltz where we both change the world and are changed by the world. To navigate this reality, we all need inner strength. So I wish you all incredible strength - the kind that breeds strong character. Don’t fear any change because with strong character, you can always honor the past. And you can live in the moment. But you can also actively shape a better tomorrow. So here’s to you creating a new normal.

Congratulations Class of 2020.”

Oh, If Only I Had Known...

By: Kristen Roth

Upon entering freshman year, I felt a mix of emotions ranging from excited to nervous. I am not one to be shy or timid, but the lack of E3 posters and slight change in scenery felt a bit strange at first.

Sitting here now, I can honestly say that my time at North Shore would have been nothing without confidence. The one thing that I have taken away from high school is that attitude is everything. The happiness, or lack of it, that you put out into this world always has a way of coming back.

I wish I would have told myself to not be so timid at first. Now, me, timid? It shocked me too. However, rest assured that when the first month of freshman year was over, my teachers were reminiscing about the times when I sat quietly in the back of the class. So, to all current and future high school students: be outgoing. I know it is easier said than done and for some, it can seem extremely intimidating to say hi. But, one hello can change the course of your whole experience and it will teach you the importance of confidence.

Also, focus on being involved because it offers you a chance to meet more people that have similar interests. High school is as good or as bad as you make it. If you want to get more out of your experience, be involved! By joining clubs, participating in sports, and taking classes that you like, you will find your people. That being said, take the classes that you want. It sounds obvious, but don’t take boring classes. Take Anatomy because you want to be a doctor or Fashion because your grandmother taught you how to sew; whatever you choose, learn how to be authentically you.

Thirdly, do not stress so much. Everything has a funny way of working out if you put effort into school. It might sound silly or stupid, but make friends with your teachers. The teachers are seriously interesting and passionate about what they do; creating relationships will only help better your experience.

Next, don’t underestimate school lunches. The chicken caesar salad pizza and plantains are so underrated; pay attention to them. Be kind to the lunch ladies. I spent ten minutes daily while on line talking to them and they are some of the nicest people ever. Also, don’t be afraid to go over to the ‘sandwich line’ just because it’s seen as the ‘junior and senior side’.

The thought of entering a new environment next year has me remembering all of the ways I felt like a ‘little fish in a big pond’ when I started high school. Looking back right now, I’d tell my freshman self to make the best out of each day; my high school experience is fully mine. With a change in mindset and a lot more gratitude, it gets easier to understand how in control you are of your own experience. The more you look for the good in each day, the more the days will slowly turn into moments; please savor every moment. High school goes by so fast and as a freshman, it’s hard to believe it, but it’s so true. Whether it means talking to your Biology teacher about the fruit flies or eating lunch with your friends, be in the moment and never stop appreciating all of it. I think I speak for every senior when I say that I wish I would have appreciated it more, every little moment. So do it for us, future seniors; make high school the best years of your teenage life. You got this.

Closing Time

By: Noah Peretz

I, like the rest of the Class of 2020, did not anticipate that I’d be holed up in my house for the last few months of the school year. When the State ruled to close schools for two weeks, there was some concern that they would not re-open, but most thought that we’d finish the year in person. Now the realization has set in that March 13th was to be the last time we would ever see some people that we had spent the last seven to twelve years of school with. That is not an easy thing to internalize, but it’s a result of the reality that we now live in because of this pandemic.

As disappointing as it is to have most of the second half of the school year ruined by Coronavirus, it does not help to wallow in misery and boredom. This year was supposed to be the best year of high school for the senior class, but there’s no use in pondering “what if” scenarios. It’s obviously very disheartening that the Class of 2020 will not have an overnight trip, prom, or a ‘traditional’ graduation ceremony (when it was supposed to), but focusing on what’s not going to happen is much sadder than remembering the important experiences that actually happened. I’m grateful for the time I spent at North Shore, but with the school year not returning in the way we had hoped, I want to focus on the future.

It’s definitely sad that my last year of high school is ending this way, but I can only look forward to what is in store. Despite Coronavirus, this is an exciting time because of college commitments. Choosing the school that I will attend for the next four years is one of the most important and impactful decisions I will ever make, and it will be very meaningful whether I’m homebound or not. Even though I am missing out on a memorable few months, I know I will have plenty of opportunities to have even better experiences in college.

I look forward to building on the person I have become during my four years at North Shore High School and continuing to work towards creating the best version of myself. I am grateful for the time I spent here in high school, but I am just as eager to move on and start the next phase of my life.

**The Staff Of
The Viking View
Wishes The Class Of
2020
All The Best In The
Future.**

Senior Masquers Take Their Final Bow

By: Nora Lewis

Zoe Siegel:

Q: What was your favorite production to be a part of?

A: *Gyps and Dolls* was my favorite production with the Masquers. I feel like it truly captured a classic musical and gave everyone an opportunity to experience all aspects of theatre well.

Q: What will you miss most about theatre?

A: Late night rehearsals when everyone is slightly losing it, but at the same time we are all connected and in the same mindset. It really shows how theatre can bring people together.

Q: How did the theatre experience at NS help you through high school, and what tools do you think it has given you for the future?

A: It has helped me cope through tough and stressful times in high school, create new friends, and even influenced my plans in the future!

Irene Zachariadis:

Q: What was your favorite production to be a part of?

A: My favorite production to be a part of was *Legally Blonde*. It was very high energy and overall just a really exciting experience!

Q: How did the theatre experience at NS help you through high school, and what tools do you think it has given you for the future?

A: The theatre department at North Shore gave me a community to feel safe in and helped me grow into a better person and performer.

Max Gross:

Q: What was your favorite production to be a part of?

A: *Pippin* by a landslide. I was surrounded by the right people and felt supported by the cast and directors throughout. I also re-learned how to sing, pushing me to levels I never thought I'd reach. Ben (the pianist), got me to belt a high note four steps higher than my previous record. It was really just a time when I felt I personally improved the most while also experiencing it with my good friends and my sister by my side.

Q: What will you miss most about theatre?

A: The minutes following opening night. Just the feeling that you were able to show people what you invested all of your energy into for months. Also just the smiles, and seeing the kids at the shows who really look up to us. Those are just the minuscule moments that really can't be taken away from me.

Sierra Hiner:

Q: What was your favorite production to be a part of?

A: *Pippin*- I grew super close with a bunch of different people in different crews and casts. However, this show will always be close to my heart as it was my first time playing in the pit and it was such an incredible experience. I'll

truly never forget the energy during Hell Week and opening night- all of us were so excited and eager to experience everything.

Q: How did the theater experience at NS help you through high school, and what tools do you think it has given you for the future?

A: Honestly, I really believe that the amount of things I've learned being a part of our theatre productions is equal to the amount of things I've learned in my core academic classes. Physically seeing something you've been working on for months from the very beginning turn into an incredible masterpiece is just awesome. Most things I have learned about myself, our community and how art shapes who we are- I discovered through the North Shore Masquers. Gaining these experiences over these few years led me to further understand my role as a performing artist and how I will always be an artist in some capacity for the rest of my life.

Nicole Smith:

Q: What will you miss most about theatre?

A: The community and all the traditions of this department that make it so much fun.

Q: How did the theater experience at NS help you through high school, and what tools do you think it has given you for the future?

A: My theatre experience at North Shore has taught me to work with others in a large group and combine the visions of so many people to make an amazing show.

Emma Sorenson:

Q: What was your favorite production to be a part of?

A: *Legally Blonde* was my favorite production with the Masquers. I met so many great people, and became really close with the previous upperclassmen who I'm still friends with now.

Q: How did the theatre experience at NS help you through high school, and what tools do you think it has given you for the future?

A: Being a part of theatre has brought me into a new family. Looking forward to each production and each and every rehearsal gave me something to look forward to during the school day. It also gave me the opportunity to make many new friends who I can now call my best friends.

Maddy DePietro:

Q: What was your favorite production to be a part of?

A: *Gyps and Dolls* was my favorite production to be a part of because I had so much fun working with my fellow production crew members.

Q: How did the theater experience at NS help you through high school, and what tools do you think it has given you for the future?

A: Theatre has always given me

something to look forward to after school. I'm so glad I got to be a part of production crew, because it's something I may want to continue in the future.

Will Ciniski:

Q: What was your favorite production to be a part of?

A: *Pippin*. For me it was a totally new experience. Previously, I was always a member of the crew, working behind the scenes. However in *Pippin*, I was an actor, which allowed me to expand my knowledge of theatre, and experience it in a whole new light.

Q: What will you miss most about theatre?

A: I'm going to miss getting to spend everyday with my second family in the theatre.

Nicole Palmetto:

Q: What was your favorite production to be a part of?

A: My favorite production was *Legally Blonde*. Although the most difficult for the costume crew, *Legally Blonde* is a production about a girl with resilience and passion. Costume crew learned techniques such as quick changes, wiggling with professional wigs, and quick hand sewing by a talented mentor. *Legally Blonde* was by far the most difficult, but the message it sent inspired the Masquers to work harder.

Q: What will you miss most about theatre?

A: I will miss the community that NSHS Masquers created. As an active member in NSHS extracurriculars, I have never been a part of such a dedicated group of students. Preparing tirelessly for months for our work to be on stage for around six hours takes a hard working, caring, and talented community unlike any other.

Avery Goodman:

Q: What was your favorite production to be a part of?

A: *12 Angry Men* was my favorite production to be a part of because it was my first real show and I loved the people that I met through it.

Q: How did the theatre experience at NS help you through high school, and what tools do you think it has given you for the future?

A: My theatre experience with the North Shore Masquers helped me make new friends, and feel extremely welcome.

Alex Bayon:

Q: What will you miss most about theatre?

A: I will miss the sense of community you get after working so many hours over a pretty long period of time.

Q: How did the theater experience at NS help you through high school, and what tools do you think it has given you for the future?

A: It helped me through high school in the same way it has given me a tool that I can use in the future. Doing theatre at NS has given me an outlet where I can be creative and push myself to improve and practice skills like dancing and acting.

What To Do With A Time Machine

By: Julia Vineis

Through this time of quarantine, I've been able to go back and reflect on my high school experience. Overall, I have genuinely loved high school and all of the curveballs it has thrown at me. I feel that as a person I have grown a lot, matured and been shaped into someone I am truly proud of. While reflecting on my experience though, I also realized that these years went by way too fast. As my friends and I speak of so many memories that 'seem as if they happened only yesterday', we soon realize that they were actually created four years ago during our freshman year. Everyone says that these years will go by fast and to cherish them, but you won't realize that until you have come to the end. Take it from someone who has just lost the second half of her senior year. Now that I have lost precious time that I should have been using to spend with my friends and make final my memories of high school, I know what I would have done differently.

If I could use a time machine and change one thing about my time in high school, it would be to 'live each day as if it were my last'. I would've spent more time making good memories rather than bad ones. I wish that I had been less sensitive and used less of my time worrying about problems that seemed huge at the time, but in reality, were not. I also would have taken more time to remember the small moments. It is these that I find myself reflecting on and missing the most. Yes, most will indeed remember winning Homecoming or putting together our Senior Play, but it's during small moments that I find myself laughing the most, such as during a random Commons spent in the Cafeteria, or simply when just seeing my friends in the halls. It is these things that I will miss the most and have taken for granted. We do everything so quickly and we are always seeking out what the next big thing to do is. And although this might sound like somewhat of a cliché: stop for a moment and take in everything around you because within moments, everything can be completely different.

Thank you to all of the Seniors who contributed to this edition in order to create a wonderful keepsake for the Class Of 2020:

**Juliette Alfarone
Sierra Hiner
Kerin Krasnoff
Nora Lewis
Kyra McCreery
Sarah Moran
Trevor Kunkel
Noah Peretz
Kristen Roth
Mary Sotiryadis
Julia Vineis**

**Sincerely,
Ms. Millman
The Viking View Advisor**

A Farewell To Our Abridged Senior Year

By: Nora Lewis

Maybe it's the reality of college setting in, or the cancellation of classes and time-honored traditions, but high school seniors have without a doubt had lots to reflect on lately. When second semester rolled around in late January, most twelfth grade students took a collective sigh of relief, with the nail-biting college application process a thing of the past and the prospect of special senior events on the horizon. Yet, as we all know, the famed second semester of senior year has not exactly turned out as planned.

People around the globe, especially in our home state of New York, have been thrown into an unexpected crisis. Healthcare workers, grocery store employees, and countless patients continue to feel the full effect of this emergency each day. As news headlines so frequently remind us, there have been a slew of negative implications resulting from the virus, with the jobs of many in jeopardy and the stock market plummeting. Within all this chaos, losing our "senior experience" seems to be the least of the country's problems at the moment. Yet there is something to be said for mourning this disruption to our lives as soon-to-be graduates.

This point of the year can be emotional for many, or a point of excitement for others. Personally, I've felt a mix of the two, with a bittersweet appreciation for my experiences over the past four years, and an eagerness to delve into a new chapter of my life. But under the current circumstances, a page has been removed from this chapter, or at the very least our story has been abridged. It may sound overly sentimental, but high school is a

formative point in our lives. We meet friends, teachers, mentors, and learn countless lessons (in terms of life and Calculus). After years of hard work and dedication, it seems only fair that in our final year of high school we can enjoy the fruits of our labor. To 2020's graduating class, these rites of passage, whether they be the Senior Fashion Show or College Commitment Day, have vanished. It's understandably a hard pill to swallow.

But in times so bogged down by bad news and turmoil, the only thing we can do as seniors is have hope. Hope for the future, and faith in ourselves as individuals. High school has given us the means to go out into the real world and create change, discover our passions, and question the unknown. None of us have control over these disheartening difficulties, but we can control the way we deal with them. So send an email to a favorite teacher, or shoot a text to a friend and check in. They're small acts that won't transport us back to a normal senior year, but in my eyes, they're an example of making the best of the situation. I have strong faith in our class and our community to search for bright spots in these dark times.

Before I head off to college this Fall, I find myself reflecting on the incredible experiences I've had thus far in high school. There are Sports Night victories, theater performances, Homecoming games, and many more fond memories to look back on. Senior year may be filled with uncertainty, but I'm confident that the last four years have given me the tools to approach this uncertainty with unwavering hope.

Senior Scaries

By: Sarah Moran

The first thing every former high school senior told us was that it goes by so fast. Of course, as freshmen, we didn't understand how true this statement was until now.

For many of us, we are feeling nostalgic about missing our final year in high school. At first, most students and faculty were wishing for school to be cancelled. Then, when we were granted that break, everyone was so excited. However, as the "break" was extended over and over again, the realization that we would be away from school started to sink in. Suddenly, the boredom we ignored was even more apparent and we all found ourselves wishing to be back in school and for the quarantine to be over. I never thought I would long for the 7 am wakeup or the six hours in school, five days a week. Now, my days are filled with thinking of all the things I could be doing in school and all that I would be missing in my senior year. "Everyone always said senior year will be the best year yet. It'll be the highlight of your life where you make memories with the people you have grown up with over the last 12+ years," said senior, Jennifer Walton. We're missing out on the sports games, Senior Fashion Show, prom and other memorable senior events.

As the rumors continued to swirl with how long the school closure would last, I surveyed several North Shore High School seniors and asked them which senior year event was their favorite and/or which event they were looking forward to the most?

One highly ranked and favorite event was Sports Night, which occurred at the end of February. Senior James Kahn shared how "Sports Night was fun because we get to come together as a grade and work together towards a common goal. Also, all the time spent together practicing was when we continued to make memories." Along with Sports Night, our Senior Play, *21 Ways to Get Detention*, was a favorite amongst several students as they were able to participate in something that was directed by

their fellow classmates. It was also an opportunity to go outside of our comfort zone by getting up on stage and performing in front of the entire community. "I got to act goofy and have fun with it," said Juliana DiFeo and "the actual performance was awesome to be a part of," stated classmate, Max Marra.

An overwhelming number of students though shared that a traditional prom and graduation were events they would miss most. As both of these were scheduled to occur at the end of June during the last few days of senior year, many seniors consider them as almost a rite of passage. Prom is a time when "you get to see most people in the grade get together and celebrate," said Gillian Neos and Katherine Rogers. Many students are still clinging to the hope of a prom as it hasn't been cancelled yet. The worst part is that we don't really know everything about the rest of our year because our school and the rest of the country has no idea where this pandemic is going. Ultimately, graduation, which we now fortunately know about, is the culmination of your school years and one every senior looks forward to. "I know it's just one day, but it's one day that symbolizes everything we, as seniors, have worked for these past four years. Every struggle and obstacle we've gone through has led us to this day and it's all finally paying off," shared Juliette Alfarone. It's almost as if throughout our middle and high school careers, we have been working towards this moment to receive this signature piece of paper and flip our tassel on our cap to the other side.

Events like these embody our final years at a place we have called our second home for four years. They give us a chance to make our final memories together, to say goodbye, and to prepare for our next adventure. We do know though that our parents, administrators and class advisor, Mrs. Miller, are fighting to give us the best end of Senior Year they can and we thank them all for their efforts.



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Some Of Our Best High School Moments

By: Sierra Hiner

It is needless to say that these past few months have shifted our day to day lives, whether we expected it or not. Like most high schools in the country, spring time, or the second semester, is known to be a time for celebration- especially for seniors. Now, unfortunately, with our current circumstances, graduation, spring concerts, and proms are up in the air- events that students look forward to throughout their high school career.

On a lighter note, all of this downtime has given us seniors time to reflect on our favorite high school memories. Personally, being a part of the music department has been the epitome of my experience here at North Shore. I have grown incredibly not only as a musician, but as a person, with the guidance of my music teachers- especially during my internship opportunity with Mr. Domingo. The ensembles and musical crews I was able to participate in were my favorite activities in high school, as I made some of my closest friends through being a part of them. Having the opportunity to travel to both Portugal and Greece while connecting with foreigners through music along with this talented, close-knit department, opened up my mind to how fortunate I am to have had this type of music education. Let's see what some others in the senior class have to say about their best moments!

Nora Lewis: One of my favorite memories from high school was the Senior Play. Our whole grade came together to produce something, and I had a lot of fun bonding with everyone!

Alex Bayon: As part of IB Diploma, I had to take TOK (Theory of Knowledge), and this year we got to take a trip to the Brooklyn Museum. For our grade especially, the group of IB Diploma students is really small, so we grew close and it was a lot of fun going to Brooklyn with an unlikely group of people and looking at this art about female empowerment while having thought provoking discussions with Ms. Mabrouk.

Katherine Hunt: My favorite memory was all of the theater productions I was able to be a part of.

Stanley Chan: My favorite memory would have to be the very beginning of senior year when we had the chance to make new memories with old friends. We reminisced on old memories and were excited to make new ones.

Stephanie Alvarez: My favorite memories at the high school involved going on the music trips to Portugal and Greece. Going to Greece as a senior was amazing and my favorite because I got to go with some of the most important people in my life. I got to create new friendships and also rekindle some friendships from my past. Traveling around and exploring with my friends was truly amazing. It will be a memory I will hold onto forever. I made so many forever friends on this trip. The long rides with all the girls on the bus were so much fun. We had so many laughs and karaoke sessions. There was never a dull moment on that trip. Rooming with my best friend was so much fun and it just really brought us so much closer. Also having my boyfriend with me by my side was so amazing. Overall, this

June 2020

trip was a once in a lifetime experience with the people I felt the closest to. Traveling with the music and theater community made everyday a new crazy adventure. Even though I was so far away from my family and my home, I felt so comfortable with the people on this trip and they truly became my second family.

Kiki Kontorouhas: I would have to say that my favorite memory of high school is all of my photography trips because they opened my eyes to more experiences.

Alessandra Sicuranza: My favorite experience was performing with the Chorus one last time in another country.

Christina Wile: In our sophomore year, I had Mrs. Etter for AP World Year 2. Towards the end of the year we had this one really really perfect day weather-wise, and we were all dying to go outside. So without a second thought, she gathered up our class materials and marched us out to the courtyard by the schoolhouse, plopped us all down on the lawn, and we had our double period outside. Our whole class was super close and we (including Mrs. Etter) honestly all just ended up laying in the grass and sharing funny stories and laughing in the sunshine for 80 mins, and it was perfect.

Paul Schmalzried: Some of the greatest memories I've made during high school were on the Greece and Portugal trips we took with the music department. They were some of the most amazing and unique experiences I've ever had. I've never travelled to Europe besides for these trips and I'm happy I was able to experience it for the first time with some of my closest friends. Being able to travel the world and experience different cultures and see the fascinating history of these places was something I had no idea I'd have coming into high school. I feel so fortunate to have gone to a school that offers such amazing opportunities. These are memories I will definitely keep forever.

Kyra McCreery: As I reflect on my high school experience, the unforgettable two weeks I spent in Spain as an exchange student stand out as one of the defining moments of the last four years. I'll forever cherish the life-long bond I forged with my Spanish exchange student, the spectacular sights and cities I had the opportunity to explore, and the small moments spent hiking mountains in the Spanish countryside, kayaking in the Mediterranean, and sampling new cuisine with my host family. The exchange trip challenged me to adjust to a new cultural outlook, live spontaneously, and interact with strangers in a foreign language, but the two week journey was a transformative experience that truly forced me outside my comfort zone and into the realm of the unknown. I'll remember the trip forever, and I'll always treasure the memories I made with the Spanish students, American group, and incredible teachers and staff!

Julia Carroll: I thought about my favorite memory of high school, and there are so many of them. If I had to choose one, it would be the time when we won the girls' winter track championship.

Olivia Nester: Mine is when I was able to go to Belize with our Bio class and learn about different cultures and types of Biology with some of my best friends.

Sophia Kraupner: My favorite memory at North Shore High School was participating in the Spanish exchange program in my senior year. I had the opportunity to travel to Spain with my friends and experience the Spanish culture. It was my first time traveling to Europe, and I got to see the world from a different perspective. The endless memories created on this trip will always remind me of this fond time. The beautiful architecture, the culture, and music were some of my favorite parts of the trip. Coming from a family that speaks Spanish, I feel that this trip allowed me to better understand the language and communicate with my family when I returned home. I am so grateful that I had the opportunity to travel, and I cannot wait to go back to Spain in the future!

Max Bross: My favorite memory has to be coming off the stage after the first act of night one of *Pippin*. I was greeted by Berry and Willgoos and the whole cast. They all looked shocked, so I was caught off guard (thinking I missed a whole scene or something). I then proceeded to get yelled at because I did so much better that night than in the rehearsals the week prior. It felt like I was getting hyped up by a coach in a football or basketball huddle like when I was younger. It was just the feeling of all of the work and hours being worth it. I got a little teary eyed - there was an absolute full house with some people standing in the back. It was also my last show with my sister and it couldn't have gone better.

Danielle Ligure: My favorite high school memory was my involvement in the plays and musicals. Throughout the course of high school, I was able to participate in stage crew, sound crew, and pit orchestra. Each production allowed me to make amazing and unforgettable memories with my friends.

Noelle Hatalovsky: My favorite high school memory would be getting to be Ms. Johnson's intern and helping her with her second period class everyday!

Mireya Martin: In my four years of high school, I think going on the Spanish exchange trip was the most amazing trip I've been on. Coming from a Hispanic background, it really let me immerse myself in the culture... Not only that, but I traveled with a lot of great friends and created unforgettable memories with them.

Anthony Katok: My favorite memory would have to be Belize- it was probably one of the best weeks of my life. Seeing everyone from school and the teachers in a relaxed state was a fun and unique environment. We had so many days jammed packed with adventures- I look back on pictures and I really miss it.

Though none of us expected high school to end this way, many of us really made the most of the time we had at North Shore! From foreign countries, to theatre, to sports teams, our seniors truly had an unforgettable four years.

More Than An Assignment

By: Juliette Alfarone

As a senior and a student in general, multiple times throughout my high school career I have thought to myself, "Why do I need to know this?" I also know that I am definitely not the only student who has had these moments. However, even though there are many things that we learn in school that sometimes don't apply to our real lives very much, there are also countless lessons that are extremely meaningful. I decided to survey a group of seniors using the question, "What was the most meaningful assignment a teacher ever gave you and why?" As we embark on different journeys, one thing we as seniors will always share is what North Shore has taught us.

First up, was **Michael Russo**. Russo is an athlete who plans to major in Exercise Science so it made sense to me why his most meaningful assignment was from his Sports Medicine class that he took with Ms. Keohan during his junior year. "I'd say the most meaningful assignment given to me was having to construct an athletic facility," he stated. "It's one thing to learn and take notes on all of the topics that fall into sports medicine, but to actually build and create your own athletic facility put into perspective for me an example of what a future in this field can actually look like. It showed me how much work needs to be put in before the physical construction, and how precise and careful the whole process has to be." For Russo, it was important to be given work that can really help him see what a future in this field may consist of, and his assignments from Sports Medicine did that for him.

When I next asked **Julia Vineis** this question, the answer came to her so fast that it was clear to me how much this assignment truly did mean to her; Ms. Millman's "Space Around Me" project meant a lot to me because it was one of the first times I was able to write creatively and complete an assignment that was sentimental to me. Throughout this assignment, you were able to create pieces that truly shaped who you were at that time and put them into an end-of-the-year scrapbook, with pictures of your friends and other things that meant a lot to me. Not only am I able to look back at this scrapbook and see how much I've grown as a writer, but it's also a sentimental piece that reminds me of all the fun I had throughout my freshman year in Ms. Millman's 9th grade English class, and see what meant a lot to me then."

Next up, I spoke to **Jennifer Walton** who found meaning in an assignment given to her by Mr. La Blanc during her senior year. "The assignment that had the most meaning to me would probably be the family history assignment in my English class. We got to hear so many unique stories from different people's families. It was really cool to see what everyone's family went through and where everyone is from. It was also super interesting to learn more about my own family history and different memories of specific time periods." Walton defines a meaningful assignment as one that allows her to understand more about the world and the people around her, as this family history project did.

Kristen Roth is another senior that I decided to survey. She is an aspiring Physician's Assistant, so science classes have always been her favorite. "The most meaningful assignment I ever completed would have to be my 12 page, Fruit Fly Lab exploration in IB Biology year 1 during my junior year with Mrs. Cunningham. I always loved the area of biology and this was my first chance

(Continued On Page 8)

Three Questions And A Bunch Of Seniors

By: Trevor Kunkel

Question 1: What are your feelings as your high school career comes to a close?

Chris Damphouse: “Coming into high school as a freshman, all I thought about was how I had four long years to spend in high school before I graduated and enrolled in a college. I thought that four years would be a really long time, but the last four years of my life have felt like a total of two months. It’s really crazy that all the people I have spent my whole educational career with are now going their own separate ways to places close and really far from where it started in Glen Head. As the year closes, I want to spend as much time as I possibly can with all my friends, even though the recent pandemic has made it very difficult.”

Juliana DiFeo: “As high school is coming to a close, it is very sad. All these expectations I had for my senior year starting from freshman year, have changed due to the Coronavirus. We now aren’t going to have a Senior Fashion Show and are missing a large amount of school that is supposed to be when all of the senior activities take place. I hope to make the most of what time we have left.”

Harrison Gillman: “There is a bittersweet feeling as my high school career comes to a close. Without the ability to finish out my senior year, I feel like there is more desired. With prom being postponed and graduation being quite different, it is very saddening to know that the funnest part of our year will not occur. I am excited for a fresh start in college, but knowing that I did not get to enjoy the end of senior year with my friends is upsetting.”

James Kahn: “My feelings as my high school career comes to a close involves many mixed emotions. It obviously means a lot as an individual to know that I was able to come this far and be able to say that I made the most of all four years. There are also sad emotions since I won’t be able to make more memories with the people who have had such an impact on my life. It is a bittersweet ending which is the best way to look back at high school.”

Maximo Marra: “It’s obviously very sad for it to come to a close, which I would say is a good thing, or dare I say, is bittersweet because me being upset about it means that I had all of these memories that were fun which makes me sad that it is going to end. At least I have those memories to take with me in my future endeavors. In terms of this pandemic, we hope we will have some more time at the end with each other. I am sure a lot of faculty and staff would agree that the Class of 2020 was one of the most tight-knit, school-spirited groups in North Shore history.”

Chuck Merlis: “While the end to our high school experience has been a bit anti-climatic, I will graduate from high school with very fond memories. It feels like just yesterday we entered high school as freshmen. The last four years have flown by. #NSForever”

Sarah Moran: “I’m really looking forward to my future college experience, but I wish I got to first finish high school. I’m really sad that we are all missing the traditional senior activities and making our last memories together.”

Daniela Portela: “As high school comes to an end, I think it’s very sad that we will not ever be together again in the high school. Our senior year was cut short and it affected many people, not just us students. High school was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. I do hope we are able to have our prom.”

Michael Russo: “I really loved high school and

it’s definitely going to be tough leaving, but that’s just the way life is. High school prepared me for the future pretty well. In high school I had tons of fun with my friends and sports; overall, I had such a great time and made many memories that won’t be forgotten. No matter how you feel in high school right now, in the future you will definitely look back on it and miss it at least a little bit.”

Question 2: What is your fondest memory of high school and why?

Dom Calderoni: “My fondest memory of high school was when the 2019 lacrosse team that I was on played Cold Spring Harbor at Hofstra in the Nassau Semifinals. It was a feeling of brotherhood and we went to war against the best team in our conference and although we lost, it taught me to never take anything for granted because I never played with some of those teammates ever again. It is my fondest memory because it was an amazing experience and it taught me that when you play sports, it really is more than just a game.”

Matt Falcone: “My fondest memory about high school is all the friends I made and how close I got with all of those friends. Everyone in school was super friendly and nice and I never had a dull moment with my friends. The memories I made with them throughout school were unforgettable and amazing. I loved them all.”

Micaela Fitzpatrick: “My fondest memory of high school was senior year Sports Night. It was so fun to do the dance one last time and everyone went all out because we knew it would be our last one together. Looking back, this will probably be the last memory we have together as a senior class and it’s sad that we probably won’t have all of our other senior activities, but I’m thankful for the time we had.”

Jacob Gatcke: “My favorite memory throughout my four amazing years at North Shore would be winning Homecoming this previous November. It was an unforgettable day that I will forever cherish.”

Robert Kahn: “My fondest memory of high school is during soccer season my senior year. My team was in the first round of playoffs against Bellmore Kennedy. My teammates got into a fight with the other team and we lost two of our best players for the rest of the game as they were ejected. It was up to nine of our North Shore Men’s Soccer team players to win the game in overtime. The score was tied 1-1 and we moved down the field; Chris Rasizzi scored the game-winning goal off of an insane assist. We all rushed towards the middle of the field as we won in overtime. The entire stands were rumbling as we took the win in an unforgettable soccer season and game. After not playing soccer for a year and half because of my back injury, this unforgettable win will never leave my memory.”

Maya Maholtra: “My fondest memory is signing the cars at Tappen.”

Gabby Salvatori: “First off, I have a lot of great amazing memories of high school so it was hard to choose just one. But the first memory that came to mind was Homecoming of my senior year. Homecoming for me isn’t just the football game; it is the memories surrounding it. Like making the posters for the boys, the cheers and chants we would make in the crowd and even the drama about who is going to get whose jersey. These may sound silly to some people, but this is what made my high school experience great. And on top of that, we won our last

Homecoming game, which was amazing; after losing the past year it was a great feeling for everyone, the football guys, the moms and even us girls in the stands (who don’t even know what football is)..But the best part of that day was celebrating after with all of my friends, our last Homecoming victory.. Those are the memories I’ll never forget.”

Lenny Scarola: “The best memory of high school was spending every weekend with the boys. Every weekend we went to Gianni’s house and never got bored. My friends always joke about how Gianni’s house is iconic because we’ve been going there almost every weekend for three years. We either had pizza night or steak night there. This is my favorite memory because these weekends are a big reason why my friends and I are so close.”

Will Scarola: “My fondest moment of high school was definitely winning a playoff football game to advance to Hofstra with a team that worked so hard. No one thought we would make it and it was one of the best moments of my life watching everyone storm the field. The best part about it was that I got the chance to do it with the friends I grew up with.”

Question 3: Is there a teacher who has inspired you on a level beyond education?

Mia Daley: “If I had to thank a teacher that has inspired me further than education it would have to be Mr. Rodahan; he has taught me that it is okay to have others help you through certain situations that you could not possibly get through on your own. He has made a huge impact, not just on my life in school, but outside as well. He is someone I will remember for the rest of my life.”

Luke Kenny: “At North Shore we are blessed with the best teachers in the world. I know it sounds corny, but I mean it. I can’t tell you how much the teachers at this school mean to me. All the teachers at North Shore look for you to be able to express yourself in a genuine way and for that I am grateful. I think the teacher that has influenced me the most is Mr. Rodahan; Mr. Rodahan truly embraces each student as if they were his best friend. He is always looking to make a new friend and he always has your back. Most importantly, Mr. Rodahan wants you to do what makes you happy. Mr. Rodahan has always emphasized that in order to have a good life, you must do what brings joy to your heart. I don’t think anyone has ever taught me such an important lesson. I am forever grateful for the compassion Mr. Rodahan and the rest of the teachers and staff at North Shore High School showed me throughout my years at the school.”

Luke Martin: “Mr. Millard because not only was he a great coach, but he was also such a good friend and somebody who I could always depend on. Teachers like him who go the extra mile to teach and care for their students are such good role models; he is someone I hope to be like when I grow up.”

Juliette Alfarone: “Throughout my years at NS, I’ve had many teachers who’ve inspired me on a greater level than education, and Ms. Millman was one of them. Going into high school, I knew from my brother who Ms. Millman was, but I didn’t get the pleasure of having her until my junior year. From the very start, I was able to tell she was a strong and compassionate woman. Despite the day Ms. Millman was having, she would always go out of her way to make me feel welcome. Not only is Ms. Millman

one of the greatest teachers I’ve ever had, but she also has become one of the greatest people in my life. She continues to inspire me even without being my teacher anymore.”

Gillian Neos: “My photography teacher, Ms. J., has inspired me on a greater level than education. She has taught me the importance of chance-taking and risk in regards to art, but also on a greater scale. If you remain in a space that is already familiar/comfortable, you limit your potential for growth. Without experimentation, development is impossible.”

Georgia Ritter: Mrs. Cunningham showed me how interesting Bio was and helped me realize what I want to study in college and what possible professions I would enjoy.

Julia Vineis: “Through my high school years there have been two teachers that have inspired me further than education. These two teachers are Mr. Blanchard and Ms. Millman, but for different reasons. Mr. Blanchard has inspired me to make decisions based on my heart. During my college application process, he told me, “it’s not about where you go, it’s about what you make of it.” I’ve used his words not only during the college application process, but also throughout my life; I constantly look back at them. He’s inspired me to make the best of tough situations and realize that I’m a stronger person than what I once believed. Now, Ms. Millman has taught me to unapologetically be myself. It’s through her that I’ve discovered who I truly am, and I have used my personality to the best of my ability. She has not only encouraged me to fight for what I want, but also to never doubt that what I’m fighting for is right. Through her own personality and passion for her students, I have been able to truly shine in areas that I never would’ve been able to without her help. I cannot thank these two teachers enough for the help, guidance and love they have provided me with throughout high school.”

Jenny Walton: “Mr. Bianco is a teacher who inspired me on another level outside of education. Regardless of how badly a day would be going for him, he always walked into the room with a giant smile on his face while asking how WE were doing. I never really had a teacher that was able to relate to students as much as he could. Yes, he was a great Physics teacher, but it was more than that. He had a goal of making sure everyone was ok and focusing not only on a student’s mental health, but also on our outside lives. He always told us about his college experience and gave us ways to be successful. He basically just taught me to work really hard for what I want, and to also check in on myself and others. To be able to walk into class with a smile on his face everyday and make sure we were doing all right when his day was bad is important. Not many people can do that. He makes the whole class laugh and he is a very good Physics teacher. He makes it simple and easy to learn. Mr. Bianco made me realize that you really aren’t defined by a number or a grade, but more on your hard work. And he also inspired me to be the type of person he is; regardless of how I’m feeling, I should always check up on others.”

When Work Is So Much More Than That

(Continued From Page 6)

to show how much I loved it.” Being a student who was also in IB Biology last year, I know how difficult those labs could be. It’s evident how important this class was to Roth, considering she chose what many people would say to be an extremely difficult task as her most meaningful assignment. “I stayed up until 2 AM perfecting it the day before it was due and handed it in with tired, baggy eyes. I felt so happy with what it came out to be and when I received it, Ms. Cunningham, who I looked up to most, handed it back with the comment of “one of the best papers I have ever read”. On the verge of tears, Ms. Cunningham called me up at the end of class to talk about how wonderfully she thought I did. It helped show me that with love for biology and a little bit of sleep deprivation, I can accomplish any science task; this further showed me my love for the subject and ultimately, my future career path.” Despite the difficulty of this task, Roth discovered that a meaningful assignment is one that takes a lot of persistence and effort, because in the end it leaves you feeling so accomplished in the work that you put in.

Mary Sotiryadis did not have one specific meaningful assignment, but she had many that added up throughout her Science Research course. “Although my specific project wasn’t specifically assigned to me, the required research I did over the past two summers as a part of the Science Research program have had a really big impact on me.” Sotiryadis went above and beyond in her work, giving up her own summer time to continue her research. “By working independently in a lab, I learned how to charter my own experiments, manage my time, and be responsible.” This overall program has taught Sotiryadis many lessons that she will always carry with her into her future endeavours.

Max Marra’s answer to this question was his Honors Portfolio in Ms. Millman’s 9th grade English class. “Up to that point, I did not really like writing too much. But this project really brought some meaningful stuff out of me. It is a collection of things that are symbolic and important to me, and that was the moment I was able to write more personally.” This assignment made his work in this class not only just a grade, but something he was able to make meaning of in his everyday life.

Similarly to Jennifer Walton, **Gillian Neos’** most meaningful assignment that she was given was also the family history project from Mr. LaBlanc in 21st Century Literature during her senior year. “I enjoyed being able to take a step back from typical school work and have time to learn about my family history as well as other people’s families in my class,” Neos said. “LaBlanc was able to tie in themes of culture, identity and history into the lessons we learned but the fact that we were able to personalize the topic made

it more intriguing and interesting.” While some people may have just asked their family questions to get the assignment done, Neos took the time to appreciate her family history and its story. This assignment opened her up to many different cultures and time periods and the answers she received are ones that she will always remember.

Andrew Jarkow found meaning in an assignment given to him in Ms. Hogan’s science class, because it directly correlated to his daily life as an athlete. “My teacher assigned a project to my class about velocity. I had to use baseballs that were all different weights and see what the velocity was when I threw them.” As an athlete, this assignment didn’t feel like work for Jarkow. While still learning and experimenting, he got the chance to also have fun and gain more information about a sport that he loves.

“The assignment that was the most meaningful to me was the memoir assignment in Mr. Bishop’s IB English and Literature class during her senior year,” stated **Sarah Moran**. “It was meaningful to me because it helped me realize what I should write my college essay about. In the end, I was very proud of my college essay and thank this assignment and Mr. Bishop for taking away the pressure that exists when writing something that is deemed very important.” Being that college is the next step that many seniors take, the college essay is something that is taken very seriously. As a result of Mr. Bishop taking class time to focus on this essay, it relieved stress for many seniors, such as Moran.

For **Katie Rogers**, her most meaningful assignment was given to her by Mr. Rodahan during her junior year in her History of the Americas class. “It was the 9/11 assignment where Rodahan asked us to interview our parents about their experiences that day. This assignment was very meaningful to me because it allowed me to feel the impact that this event had on my family if I couldn’t remember it happening myself.” 9/11 is a day that will forever remain in the minds of those who experienced that day, and it is important that it is never forgotten. Assignments like this help that to happen.

Of the many lessons high school has taught me, the greatest one is to not take a single day for granted. I wish sometimes I could go back and enjoy what I had in the moment. As a senior, I know that labs, homework, tests, and all other assignments can be overwhelming at times, but looking back on them, I wish I had given myself the chance to have fun with them and take in all of the information they were giving me. I realize now that so many of my assignments mean so much more. The assignments given to us by so many of our amazing teachers at North Shore have helped us become better students and more well-rounded people, and I, as well as my fellow seniors, will always be thankful for that.

Senior Viking View Editors Say “Hasta La Vista, N.S.”

(Continued From The Back Page)

Kyra McCreery:

Q: Where are you going to college?

A: Yale University

Q: What do you want to major in and why?

A: I plan to major in Chemistry or Chemical Engineering, as I gravitate towards the physical sciences and research. After completing my undergraduate studies, I would like to pursue scientific law to combine my passion for science/technology and the humanities.

Q: What do you see yourself doing in ten years?

A: Ten years from now, I envision myself completing my graduate law studies and hopefully beginning my career. I would also like to remain involved with research as an undergraduate and graduate student, and I’m hoping to have some time to travel the world whenever possible.

Q: What will you miss the most about NSHS and why?

A: I will definitely miss the unparalleled educational experience and the unforgettable teachers and faculty that have guided and supported me continuously throughout my time as a high school student.

Q: What are you looking forward to the most in the future at this point and why?

A: I am looking forward to the opportunity to pursue an educational path that intrigues me and hopefully create positive change in the world. Although I will definitely miss the people I’ve met and the memories I’ve created in high school, I am excited to experience a new, enriching environment and connect with people from all over the world as I transition to college.

Q: Anything else you want to add?

A: I am so fortunate to have been involved with *The Viking View* for the past four years and an editor for the past two years. I will be forever grateful for this opportunity to explore my interest in journalism, strengthen my writing and reporting skills, and work as part of a team on each edition. Thank you to Ms. Millman and the entire staff for everything they do.

Nora Lewis:

Q: Where are you going to college?

A: The University of Michigan

Q: What do you want to major in and why?

A: Most likely Political Science or something humanities-related, because I’ve always enjoyed my social studies classes and I love learning about government.

Q: What do you see yourself doing in ten years?

A: In ten years, I would love to continue to pursue government or possibly law, but also maintain creative pursuits. I find art history fascinating and I paint a lot in my free time, so it would be great to maintain these interests too.

Q: What will you miss the most about NSHS and why?

A: I will miss the great teachers I’ve had throughout the years most. I can think of so many teachers who brightened my day when I saw them in the hallway, and it was amazing to have this kind of mentorship during my high school experience at North Shore.

Q: What are you looking forward to the most in the future at this point and why?

A: I’m looking forward to the independence of college, and the prospect of meeting a diverse group of new peers and friends in college and beyond.

Q: Anything else you want to add?

A: Join newspaper! It definitely helped me become a more informed student and a better writer.

Noah Peretz:

Q: Where are you going to college?

A: The University of Florida.

Q: What do you want to major in and why?

A: I want to major in Journalism. My experience with the school newspaper sparked my interest in writing and made me recognize my ability to write. Since I am also interested in sports and sportswriting, I may pursue sports journalism specifically.

Q: What do you see yourself doing in ten years?

A: In ten years, I hope that I am successful in the field of sports journalism. My strength is writing, but if an opportunity to work in broadcast journalism presents itself, I will have the experience to excel. I hope I am living a stable life with friends and connections in the business of sportswriting and a happy life outside of work.

Q: What will you miss the most about NSHS and why?

A: The aspect of NSHS that I will miss the most is the comfortable environment. I never felt like I was out of place or didn’t belong. Every teacher expressed that he or she was there to help if there was an issue. I was able to succeed and have a fulfilling high school experience at North Shore.

Q: What are you looking forward to the most in the future at this point and why?

A: I am looking forward to starting college and beginning the next phase of my life in a new setting. I’m excited to have new experiences and grow more as a person.

Trevor Kunkel:

Q: Where are you going to college?

A: I am going to SUNY Cortland.

Q: What do you want to major in and why?

A: I want to major in Communications because I love writing and learning about media.

Q: What do you see yourself doing in ten years?

A: I see myself going into sports media in some way. Whether it’s as a sports journalist or a sports analyst, I would love to work with athletes and write about games and rumors around the leagues.

Q: What are you looking forward to the most in the future at this point and why?

A: I am looking forward to seeing how my future career plays out because I have had a dream of going into sports media since I was a kid.

Q: Anything else you want to add?

A: I have loved writing for the newspaper and thank Ms. Millman for helping me realize my love for writing.

Kerin Krasnoff:

Q: Where are you going to college?

A: I will attend Connecticut College.

Q: What do you want to major in?

A: I want to major in Chemistry and Environmental Studies.

Q: What do you see yourself doing in ten years?

A: I see myself working to save the environment, finding new ways to learn, and traveling around the world.

Q: What will you miss most about NSHS?

A: I will miss the amazing people that I have met. I have made so many great connections with friends and teachers that I know will last a lifetime.

Q: What are you looking forward to most in the future at this point and why?

A: I am looking forward to going to college and meeting new people while learning new things. I want to seek new opportunities; ‘the world is my oyster’.

So Many Memories...



Photo Courtesy Of: Mary Sotiryadis



Photo Courtesy Of: Kristen Roth



Photo Courtesy Of: The Yearbook



Photo Courtesy Of: Eamon Esposito

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Class Of 2020



FRESHMAN YEAR



SOPHOMORE YEAR



JUNIOR YEAR



SENIOR YEAR

All Sports Night Photos Courtesy Of: Gabby Salvatori



Senior Play Time

Photo Courtesy Of: Adam Sotiryadis

Thank You Viking View Senior Editors

The following senior editors of *The Viking View* have really immersed themselves in the world of journalism over the past few years and every single contribution they have made to North Shore High School's newspaper is appreciated. We wish you the best of luck in all of your future endeavors.

Mary Sotiryadis

Q: Where are you going to college?

A: Boston College

Q: What do you want to major in and why?

A: I plan to enter college as an undecided on a pre-med track. I'm interested in medicine and healthcare, but I'm excited to be a part of a liberal-arts college with a strong core curriculum to broaden my intellectual horizons and potentially point me towards my best-fitting major.

Q: What do you see yourself doing in ten years?

A: In ten years, I hope to be practicing in the field of pediatrics. I see myself living near my parents and starting my own family. I hope that I'll have spent some time living in a city, either New York or Boston, before moving back to the North Shore community.

Q: What will you miss the most about NSHS and why?

A: I'll miss the daily interactions I'd have with my friends, my teachers, and other faculty and staff members. After spending nearly four years at this school, certain people and occurrences have resonated with me. Only a true North Shore student would understand these things, like having Dr. Kurrus sneak up behind me and tell me to put my phone away, enjoying my favorite wrap from the Deli line (made by the lovely Mrs. Doherty), hearing Debbie wish me a happy Friday, and playing in the annual Butt vs. Madigan kickball tournament. These are the small things that have always made me smile and realize how lucky I was to be a member of this high school community.

Q: What are you looking forward to the most in the future at this point and why?

A: I can't wait to explore a new city and to have a fresh start in college. I'm going to miss my family, my best friends, and my teachers tremendously, but the thought of coming home and showing them how much I've learned and grown as a college student will be so rewarding.

Q: Anything else you want to add?

A: When I was 10, I moved to Glen Head from Oradell, New Jersey. The thought of entering a new school, living in a new town, and starting from scratch made me sick. Eight years later, I can say without hesitation that moving here was the best thing that has ever happened to me. I feel incredibly blessed to have received such a stellar education, met such wonderful young minds, formed lifelong friendships and fruitful relationships, and to have been a proud North Shore Viking. Thank you to my parents, from the bottom of my heart, for giving me the best experience I could've ever imagined. Thank you to my amazing friends for always supporting me. Thank you to all of the wonderful teachers and administrators who have welcomed me with open arms and challenged me with their wisdom. Thank you to all of my coaches and teammates. Lastly, and most importantly, thank you to Ms. Millman, not only for championing me as a writer and student, but for always making me feel important, intelligent, and encouraged.

I love you, North Shore. Vikings forever.
(Continued On Page 8)

Iconic Moments Shared By North Shore's Graduating Class Of 2020

By: Mary Sotiryadis

I'll never forget the way I felt during the morning before my first day of ninth grade. My stomach was in knots, and I could barely eat my breakfast because of my nerves. As my brother and I posed in the driveway while our mom tried to get the perfect "First Day of School Photo," I forced a smile over my anxious affect. Looking back on that morning, though, I find comfort knowing that I was scared to start this new chapter in my life, because these past four years have been some of my favorite. As the senior class is now preparing to close out this chapter and begin another four-year long one, many of us are apprehensive to dive into the unknown. Although high school didn't turn out exactly the way my eighth-grade imagination expected it to, I couldn't be more grateful for the time I've had at North Shore.

In the uncertain times we're living in, it's important to find positivity wherever we can. While many of us are confused, anxious, and upset by our current situation, especially the cancellation of in-person school and the postponement of milestone events like prom, thinking of how much we've accomplished as a grade and the beautiful memories we've made together can bring us joy. Although the Class of 2020 is comprised of groups with vastly different interests, passions, and pursuits, we've been able to come together as one over the years and show how together, we make up one of the most driven, involved, and spirited classes that North Shore has ever seen. This is my final piece as the Editor-in-Chief of *The Viking View*, and it's only fitting that I use it to recount the top three times in which I was proudest to be a member of the Class of 2020. Despite the heartbreak we are all feeling with the loss of our senior year and the difficulty we are all experiencing as we grapple with a lack of closure, I hope that in fondly recalling my favorite North Shore experiences, I can bring solace to a classmate, a parent, or a friend. There are more sweet moments like these lying ahead, and the struggles we are facing now will only make the rewards we receive in the future more special.

Cheers to the Class of 2020.

3. Sophomore Year Sports Night

After accepting our rite-of-passage Sports Night loss in 2017 as freshmen, the Class of 2020 was determined to reinvent itself during sophomore year, emerging as the team to watch at the next Sports Night. In the weeks leading up to Sports Night 2018, banter between the Class of 2019 and the Class of 2020 created a motivating atmosphere of competition. Although we didn't realistically expect that we could surpass the Class of 2018, we were confident that with a flawless group dance performance, the skillful placement of students in events that suited them best, and a donation of cans for the Island Harvest Food Drive, we could come in second place and defeat the Juniors.

After an intense week of practicing our group exercise (which I still have memorized) for hours after school in the gym, asking our parents to bring us on multiple trips to Dollar Tree to buy non-perishables, and designing posters and paintings to hang up in our section of the gym, we were well-prepared for greatness. Throughout the night, the Class

of 2020 dazzled the crowd as it pulled ahead of the Class of 2019 in several critical events, including Cage Volleyball and what was the new-and-exciting Frog Relay. The Junior class was tasked with trying to beat the Seniors while also keeping the Sophomores at bay, ultimately leading to its defeat. When Mr. Cousins announced that, "by a single-digit amount of points," we had secured the second-place spot, we all rushed into the middle of the gym, jumping up and down and hugging one another. This was the first time I really saw my class come together as a unit, and I knew from that point on that we'd have a successful future ahead.

2. Senior Play

I can confidently speak on behalf of everyone involved in the Senior Play when I say that on our first day of rehearsals a week before opening night, no one had any idea of what he or she was doing. Barely any skits had been submitted, a small percentage of the cast had its lines memorized, and the true thespians of our grade were tasked with teaching everyone else how to act. As expected, the first run-throughs of each scene and skit were comprised of students squinting to monotonously read their lines off of their phones, missing any stage cues.

It definitely took some positive encouragement, confidence boosters, and advice from Mr. Wilgoos and the rest of the amazing Masquers, but in one short week, we were each able to harness the hidden actors, actresses, and playwrights within us to write and execute skits that were "funnier than last year's entire play," as per an anonymous teacher source. On opening night, the directors proudly watched their hard work pay off as everything suddenly fell into place. Seniors who had never acted before flawlessly recited their monologues, accurately imitated teachers and staff members who sat in the audience, and even improvised at times in front of a full house. Never in a million years did I think that I'd have the guts to parodically represent Howard Bloom in the traffic circle before school, or the class presidents during Sports Night practices, but in the true spirit of senior year, I, like many of my other classmates, decided to let loose and have fun with what I was doing. As a matter of fact, I had so much fun participating in the Senior Play that one of my biggest regrets from high school is not getting involved with the theater department. The response of the crowd, which rarely took a break from laughing, was incredible. Seeing the same parents and friends who attended Opening Night show up at Night Two, during the only snowstorm of the year, made us seniors realize how much the community cares about us and is eager to keep up with our hard work. Two lovely nights filled with laughter, applause, pride, and the occasional forgetfulness of some lines made for an organic, lighthearted theater experience that both athletes and Mathletes enjoyed.

1. Rushing the Field

During our freshman year, when the 2017 Varsity football team won its quarterfinal game at home to advance to the next round of the County playoffs, our young eyes watched in amazement as the upperclassmen charged the field after the final whistle, jumping up and down,

hugging, screaming, and cheering what would become an iconic North Shore phrase: "we're going to Hofstra!!!" From then on, as we supported our Vikings during each successive football season, we'd jokingly throw the phrase around, hoping for a winning season while fully understanding that the conference our team was playing in put the odds against us. The junior year season was a bit discouraging, after suffering a few tough losses, including our Homecoming game. As we prepared for senior year, the student section agreed that saying "the H word" and speculating that we'd make it that far into the post-season would jinx a winning schedule. Game after game, we supported the boys, cheering our hearts out for each completed pass, touchdown, and field goal as if we would never see one again. It wasn't until we defeated Bethpage at its Homecoming celebration, a team that we hadn't beaten in 61 years, that making it to "the H word" seemed like a real possibility.

After eight games, the regular season closed out, and we secured our first-round playoff game at our home field against Lynbrook. Spectators from not only North Shore and Lynbrook, but also Wantagh and Plainedge, the teams that the winner of the game would face next, were spilling out of the bleachers, eager to see who would really be going to Hofstra. Four tense quarters on the field allowed us Vikings to take an exciting lead, prompting the seniors in the student section to start planning a celebration identical to the one we'd been awestruck by three years prior. With five minutes left in the fourth quarter, the student section slipped out of the bleachers and began to creep down the hill toward the track. When the athletic supervisors approached us to say that we weren't allowed to rush the field, they were shut down by echoes of "BUT IT'S THEIR SENIOR YEAR" from proud Senior moms. With ten seconds left in the game, a countdown erupted from the crowd of students so large, it now covered the entire face of the hill. At the whistle, we exploded onto the field, cheering, screaming, and laughing in the same way the Class of 2017 had done years before us. A mosh pit of sweaty varsity athletes and excited fans clad in layers, warm hats and gloves formed at the 50 yard line. People who'd never spoken before turned to hug each other, celebrating the fact that we had finally made it to Hofstra. After years of a whole grade dreaming about getting this far in the playoffs again, we had finally done it. Bookended by two demonstrations of school spirit and community pride, our time as North Shore fans was like something out of a movie.

While reflecting on these highlights from our high school career, it has become clear to me that their memorability stems not from how much fun we have had together, but from how these moments really embody our class's sense of togetherness. Since freshman year, we have been working collaboratively and consistently encouraging our peers to achieve amazing things. I hope that each of us carries what we have learned about community and support as North Shore students into the next chapters of our lives and continue to be outstanding role models and friends.