



## HAPPY 2022 EVERYONE!

What a fantastic way to kick off the new year by exceeding our goal of raising \$21,000 for our 2021 Challenge! From December 23, 2021 to January 1, 2022, only one week, we successfully raised \$56,685 for Horizons programming. This wouldn't have been possible without the support and generosity of our community along with The Roche Family and The Rutledge Family Foundation.

As we look ahead, I eagerly anticipate this Spring and Summer, where there will be many opportunities to engage students and families both virtually and in person. We have expanded our partnership circle by adding new partners like University of Hartford's Women's Advancement Initiative's LEAD program as well as The Village, MakerGirl, and Hartford's MakerSpace CT, all of whom will be supporting our high school aged scholars through our new Radiant Leaders Program!

This is all very exciting as the program takes a new stage of growth and transformation! A HUGE Thanks to our partners who continue to make all of this possible for each of our students!

More to come,  
*Princess Hyatt*  
Executive Director



## MISSION MOMENT

Our mission has always been focused on centering and supporting girls from Greater Hartford schools. Upon launching the program in 2015, we made a long-term, ten year commitment to our incoming class of Kindergarten students. Through this commitment we aim to prepare each girl to enter high school with the skills, knowledge and determination she will need to graduate. On a national level, 94% of Horizons students attend college or other post-secondary training.

This year we celebrate our eighth graders, who will be our first "Radiant Leaders" cohort as new high school students in September 2022! We look forward to seeing the places they go and supporting them in their transition into young adulthood.

**Together**, as a community of dedicated professionals and volunteers work to provide year-round academic and extracurricular opportunities to our students. Using a holistic approach, we encourage not only educational success, but social and emotional wellbeing! As a team, we discuss our approach to building a nurturing and accepting environment where our students can feel comfortable and confident. In doing so, we hope to promote their success and resilience on multiple levels. If you are receiving this newsletter, you are surely an integral part of the community that makes Horizons programming possible, for that we thank you!

## CONTENTS:

- Field Hockey Clinics
- Holidays with Horizons
- Horizons Student Club
- Homework Helpline
- Rooted in Community
- Current Programming
- 7th Annual Comedy Night on May 14th
- Team Transitions
- Thank You!



## GROWING THE GREATEST GAME: FIELD HOCKEY CLINICS



Into the 2021 school year, Horizons continued its partnership with Growing the Greatest Game and expanded our field hockey programming into the Hartford and EWS community. In addition to a clinic held at The Ethel Walker School, The University of Saint Joseph hosted a clinic for our scholars, teaching them how to sharpen their team building skills. Horizons students are learning to love field hockey and we love the teamwork and collaboration the sport calls for.

After missing an in-person Halloween last year due to COVID-19, Horizons made it a priority to show up and show out in the local Hartford community for a number of family and holiday events. This included Halloween, when Horizons staff and volunteers filled their trunks with goodies and parked their cars in Unity Plaza to pass out treats to Hartford Youth. In working to expand our network and community engagement, Horizons EWS partnered with The Auger Family, Calling all Brothers, Howard K Hill, COMPASS Youth Collaborative, GHNPHC, Urban Hope Refuge Church, and many more Community partners to make this event possible. In addition, members of the Horizons Student Club (EWS) coordinated holiday gift packages for students and families. Thank you to The Auger Family and HSBC for providing each girl with a game or gift card during their Holiday Cheer gift drive.

## HOLIDAYS WITH HORIZONS



## HORIZONS STUDENT CLUB



Horizons at The Ethel Walker School held its first Horizons Student Club Meeting in November of 2021! Co-led by Quinn Auger '25 and Lexi Donshik '24, more than twenty Ethel Walker student members have committed their time to support and empower our students through community outreach, mentoring, and enrichment. We continue to seek out volunteer Horizons ambassadors, who might be interested in supporting Horizons students and its mission by helping us with events and engagement. With this request, we are reminded of the generous contributions that are made by The Ethel Walker School Community and extend our gratitude. We are currently accepting volunteers for Summer 2022! To apply and learn more visit our website and visit the "Working at Horizons" section!

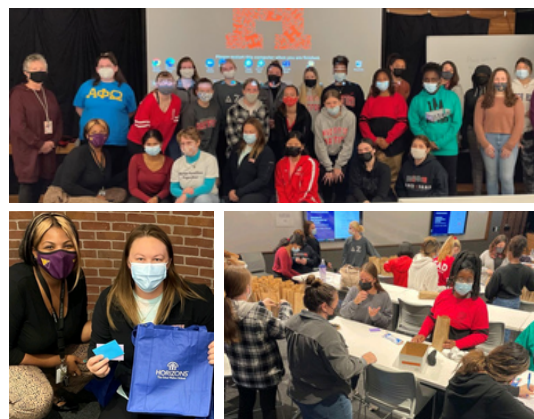
## HOMESCHOOL ASSISTANCE HELPLINE

Aiming to provide consistent support to our students throughout the school year, Horizons has facilitated a virtual homework helpline. Every Saturday, students have the opportunity to receive individualized one on one tutoring and instruction. With these efforts we hope to support our students and their families as they navigate the "new normal" and its implications on learning.



## ROOTED IN COMMUNITY

This December, Horizons partnered with The Women's Advancement Initiative (WAI), a program at the University of Hartford. This program aims to position young women for success through education and leadership programs, research and scholarship opportunities, and career connections and experiences. WAI's LEAD Program (Leadership, Education, and Development) came together with Horizons to help assemble bags filled with books, masks, supplies and handwritten notes for each Horizons student. Horizons at The Ethel Walker School is currently working with The LEAD Program to coordinate a mentorship program with our high school-age students and the successful young women involved in the Hartford community through the Women's Advancement Initiative.



## CURRENT PROGRAMMING

### SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL LEARNING WORKSHOPS

Further prioritizing our students well-being throughout the school year, Horizons EWS has partnered with Horizons Jersey Shore, Savannah, and Atlanta to provide virtual webinars related to mental health and wellness from December- March. The aim of this programming is to build a safe space for Horizons students to collectively discuss and practice ways to achieve a healthier lifestyle, which has been increasingly important and increasingly difficult for our students during the pandemic. We appreciate the comradely and participation of other Horizons affiliates and the courage of our students, who came ready to tackle what can sometimes be difficult topics to discuss!



### SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ARTS & MATH WORKSHOPS

Continually working to expand on opportunities for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM) learning for our students, Horizons has partnered with MakerGirl and MakersSpace CT. This February through April MakerGirl will be hosting virtual programming for our students. MakerGirl seeks to expose young girls to the fields of STEAM, aiming to educate 10,000 girls by 2023! During each session, students will learn about 3D design, 3D printing and its applications, women in STEAM, and careers in STEAM. Each participant will design and print their very own object. We look forward to increasing STEAM opportunities such as these and the innovation that it will inspire in our girls as STEAM leaders!





*You're Invited!*

HORIZONS AT THE ETHEL WALKER SCHOOL'S

7TH ANNUAL NIGHT OF  
COMEDY & COMMUNITY



*Glitz & Glam*  
*We are Together Again!*



MAY

14

6 - 9 PM

Cocktail Hour & Hors d'oeuvres  
Comedians Becky Veducchio & Ethan Herschenfeld  
Auctions & Raffles  
Coffee & Dessert

Ferguson Theatre at The Ethel Walker School  
230 Bushy Hill Road  
Simsbury, CT 06070



Thank You to Our Current Sponsors!



Opal Sponsor - *The Aurora Foundation for Women and Girls*

Ruby Sponsor - *The Paul Family*

Pearl Sponsor - *The Roche Family*

Buy tickets or find sponsorship & donation forms at:  
[www.horizonsethelwalker.org/comedy-night/](http://www.horizonsethelwalker.org/comedy-night/)

# 7TH ANNUAL NIGHT OF COMEDY & COMMUNITY

**A BENEFIT TO SUPPORT HORIZONS SCHOLARS & SUMMER 2022**  
**SATURDAY MAY 14, 2022 FROM 6PM – 9PM**

We are pleased to invite our Horizons family to join us for our 7th Annual Night of Comedy and Community Fundraiser! We are so grateful to be able to see each other in person again! We are going to celebrate with a theme of Glitz and Glam! General Admission tickets will include cocktail hour with hors d'oeuvres which will be followed by comedy acts, live auction and more! Don't miss our tiered tickets, essential staff promotion, and early bird special (through April 15th). If you can't make the event but would still like to support us, you can find sponsorship & donation forms at the following link as well! Thank you!

**For more info & to buy tickets please visit: [www.horizonsethelwalker.org/comedy-night/](http://www.horizonsethelwalker.org/comedy-night/)**

## TEAM TRANSITIONS

### WELCOMING OUR NEWEST BOARD MEMBERS

**Dr. Rachel Myers** is the Dean of Equity and Inclusion at Choate Rosemary Hall in Wallingford, Connecticut and is also an English teacher. Not only is Doctor Myers academically spectacular, earning her PhD in African American and African Studies with a concentration in English from Michigan State University, but she is also a lifelong athlete who has worked to promote Black female athletes her entire career. During her undergraduate career at Binghamton University, where Doctor Myers earned her BA in Africana Studies with a minor in sociology, she played four years of NCAA Division I Basketball. Her first book, *Race and Sports: A Reference Handbook*, was published in 2021. We know she will be an incredible addition to our team and are so lucky to have her join us.



**Chelsea Strong** was born and raised in New Rochelle, New York. After graduating from The Ethel Walker School in 2015, she pursued her degree from Harpur College of Arts and Science at Binghamton University and majored in Economics. Her diverse experiences at BU, studying abroad in The Netherlands, and in her career in financial services have allowed her to develop skills in a multitude of environments and industries. She is currently an analyst at Goldman Sachs. We are so honored to have such an impressive young woman on our team, who believes in the mission of Horizons and is rooted in the Walker Community!



### WISHING GRACE LUCK ON HER NEW VENTURES

**Grace Kraus** began with Horizons EWS in 2020 as an Americorps VISTA Associate. The following year, she earned her role as the Development Manager. While navigating the challenges COVID-19 presented, Grace was fully motivated to help build a robust and engaging virtual Summer program. Grace assisted in facilitating virtual learning for our students, built the program's capacity, coordinated fundraising events, and pursued many grants opportunities that led to actual funding support. We are so lucky and thankful to have had her on our team and are so proud of her as she transitions to her new role as a Development Associate for The Museum of Fine Art in Boston. We know she will continue on to do great things and will be thinking of her as she continues her professional journey.



## THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

Rebecca Ainley  
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State of CT ARPA Grant  
Coca Cola Refreshment Program  
MirrorMe Diversity Project  
BDPA of Hartford /Cigna  
The Krupnikoff Family  
The Auger Family  
The Children's Museum  
LEGO Community Fund  
The Cool Kids Club  
HSBC

### Horizons EWS Board Members

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Alex Lunding, Treasurer  
Meera Viswanathan, Head of School  
The Ethel Walker School  
Kit O'Brien Rohn,  
Chair of Ethel Walker School board  
Chris Bringham  
Isabel Ceballos  
Maribel Corbett  
Elisa Del Valle  
Mario Florez  
Jesse Imse  
Daniel Meyers  
Rachel Myers  
Roger Roche  
Beth Strapp  
Chelsea Strong  
Samantha Taylor

**Save The Date:**  
***Horizons Giving Day***  
May 18th, 2022  
Midnight to 11:59 PM!