

**BHS CLUB DESCRIPTION BOOKLET
(Official Clubs)
2023 – 2024**



DIANA BLANK
Principal

DANIEL GOLDBERG
Assistant Principal

ACADEMIC CHALLENGE

Advisor:	Ms. Rutledge and Ms. Reiss
Co- Presidents:	Gordon Beckler, JP Kuhn, & Nate Tanen
Secretary:	Maryum Faisal
Treasurer:	Julia Baker
Meeting Day:	Tuesday (Saturday competitions once a month)
Location:	H206

Academic Challenge competes in quiz-bowl competitions against other high schools from Westchester County. The competitions are typically played with a buzzer system between two teams consisting of four players each. A moderator reads questions to the players, who try to score points for their team by buzzing first and responding with the correct answer. Each competition consists of five games. Travel is involved with the Saturday competitions to Horace Greeley HS. On average, there are six to eight competitions a year.

Competition Dates: October 14, November 18, December 16, January 20, February 3, & March 2

AMERICAN RED CROSS

Advisor:	Ms. McCarthy
Presidents:	Adrianna Scanga
Vice President:	Charlotte Mingoia
Secretary:	Drew Packer
Treasurer:	Abby Healy
Meeting Day:	Tuesday (as needed)
Location:	H217

The American Red Cross Club, led by youth volunteers, will support the American Red Cross mission to prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies, by being an advocate and resource for disaster preparedness education, information, and training for the BHS campus.

ASIAN CLUB

Co-Advisors:	Ms. Lee and Dr. Shen
President:	Leahna Rodriguez
Treasurer:	Sebastian Lai
Meeting Day:	1 st and 3 rd Monday*
Location:	H104 (Dr. Shen's room)

The Asian Club welcomes anyone who is interested in learning about Asian American & Pacific Islander (AAPI) culture. We celebrate and foster an appreciation for the diverse heritage and traditions of the AAPI community. The umbrella term AAPI includes the diverse cultures from the entire Asian continent - including East, Southeast and South Asia - and the Pacific Islands of Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia.

*Subject to change, depending on the calendar

BEAR BONES THEATRE

Advisor:	Ms. Mandel
President:	Gordon Beckler and Scarlett Young
Vice President:	Conor Duperrouzel
Secretary:	Noah Rinke
Treasurer:	Dov Kurtis
Meeting Day:	Monday
Location:	Auditorium

Bear Bones Theatre is for beginner actors as well as advanced actors, people interested in tech crew, and script writers. The troupe works on improvisation, acting technique, and playwriting. Club members present an evening of original Staged Readings in the spring. All members attend a Broadway play, and we host a variety of speakers. All are welcome!

BOOK CLUB

Advisor:	Ms. Fernandez
Co-Presidents:	Diana Jones and Maya Siegel
Vice President:	Michael Orlin
Meeting Day:	Thursday (as needed)
Location:	Writing Lab

The BHS book club, Books Are Great (BAG), welcomes any students who have an interest in reading and discussing a variety of types of books. The club members have input into which books we choose and how long we will have to complete the book. We have also attended author readings, which we hope to continue doing. Meet us in the Writing Lab for some great conversations and yummy snacks!

BRIARCLIFF SINGERS

Advisor:	Dr. Banks
President:	TBD
Secretary:	TBD
Treasurer:	TBD
Meeting Day:	Fridays
Location:	Troy

The Briarcliff Singers is a vocal ensemble that primarily performs a cappella music. The repertoire ranges from 16th/17th century madrigals to contemporary and jazz arrangements. The Briarcliff Singers perform for local civic events, school concerts and adjudicated music festivals. Students wishing to participate in the ensemble must audition for the ensemble.

BRIARS & IVY

Advisor:	Ms. McCarthy
Editor in Chief:	Angelina Meng
Assistant Editors:	Allison Chu
Secretary:	Madelyn Mahoney
Treasurer:	Abigail Chung
Meeting Day:	Thursday
Location:	H217

Briars & Ivy is an award-winning, student-run literary-arts magazine that curates original art mediums and writing from BHS students. The club works on editing, formatting, and publication skills while discussing student submissions in a non-threatening environment.

CHAMBER MUSIC GROUP

Advisor:	Mr. Fraioli
President:	Markus Bures
Vice President:	Jonathan Iwai
Secretary:	Ava Wu
Treasurer:	Noah Rinke
Meeting Day:	Friday
Location:	H130 – Orchestra Room

This is an opportunity for students to study the Chamber Music repertoire and play unusual arrangements for duos, trios, quartets, quintets, chamber orchestra, etc. Students of all instruments, including voice, are encouraged to participate. Students will have opportunities to perform as soloists within the group. Students are expected to perform at NYSSMA Level 4 and above. In addition to performances at BHS, the group performs at other venues. Each year we take a field trip into New York City.

CHEMISTRY CLUB

Advisor:	Ms. Mosley
Co-Presidents:	Joey Berger and Mirabel Solomon
Secretary:	Rhea Karnani
Treasurer:	Haley Berger
Meeting Day:	1st and 3 rd Tuesday
Location:	H229

Chemistry Club (ChemClub) is for any student who has an interest in chemistry. Through participation in chemistry club, students will be encouraged to explore the many ways that chemistry connects to their world. In chemistry club students plan and enjoy a variety of chemistry-focused activities, including: performing demonstrations, helping clean the environment through community projects, and inviting speakers!

CODING CAFÉ CLUB

Advisor:	Mr. Lo
Co-President:	Hudson Ludwig and Daisy Star
Vice President:	Noah O’Neill
Secretary:	Teddy Schwartz
Treasurer:	Abigail Bell
Meeting Day:	Tuesday
Location:	H117

Student run discussions and activities on current topics, new innovations, and any other area of interest in computer science.

DEBATE TEAM

Advisor:	Ms. Alayo and Ms. Alfonso
President:	Gautam Gupta
Treasurer:	TBD
Meeting Day:	Every other Wednesday
Location:	H117

Members of the Debate Club will participate in an oral interpretation contest in the fall semester. Students can choose to participate by reading a poem, a monologue, an original piece about an assigned topic, an excerpt from a long prose or can select an impromptu topic on the day of the event. During the spring semester, students will conduct research and formulate positions on an assigned topic. The research and positions will prepare students for a formal debate competition to be held in March.

ENVIRONMENTAL (TREEHUGGERS) CLUB

Advisor:	Ms. Constantinou
President:	TBD
Secretary:	TBD
Treasurer:	TBD
Meeting Day:	1 st and 3 rd Friday
Location:	H231

The Environmental/Treehugger Club’s goal is to implement programs and activities that benefit the environment and that raise awareness about protecting our environment. We are involved in activities throughout the year that encourage everyone to live sustainably. In addition, the Treehuggers participate in environmental activities in the community that encourage an environmentally friendly lifestyle.

FINANCE CLUB

Advisor:	Ms. Murphy
Co-Presidents:	Theo Molinoff, Toby Young, Sebastian Lai, and Jonathan Iwai
Meeting Day:	2 nd and 4 th Thursday
Location:	H203

The Finance Club presents an exceptional platform for students to delve into finance. The club's members will gain valuable insight and enjoy immersive experiences through financial games, stock market simulations, open discussions on the world's most relevant financial news, and active contributions to student-led campus initiatives.

FRENCH CLUB

Advisor:	Ms. Boyer
Co-Presidents:	Nico Vargish and Brooke Isola
Meeting Day:	Thursday (once a month)
Location:	H233

The French Club is open to any student who wishes to explore aspects of French culture and language beyond the classroom. During our meetings, we focus on preparing and celebrating holidays *à la française*, preparing and eating various kinds of French food, discussing current events taking place in the Francophone world, as well as planning club outings to restaurants, plays, museum exhibits, etc. Other activities include playing games, listening to French music and preparing for Foreign Language Week as well as National French Week.

FUTURE FILM MAKERS

Advisor:	Ms. Mandel
President:	Conor Duperrouzel
Vice President:	Dov Kurtis
Meeting Day:	Tuesday
Location:	H133

Future Filmmakers is designed for beginning and advanced film students. Members learn the basics of pre-production, production, and post-production. Students use school video and audio equipment and Adobe Premier Pro, digital editing software, to create short spots to be aired. Members take field trips to the Jacob Burns Film Center and/or the NBC Studios to learn how to "read" movies and how to understand the techniques used. We present our films at an art show and enter many film contests. All are welcome!

GAY STRAIGHT ALLIANCE

Advisor:	Ms. Alfonso
President:	Van Prigozen and Drew Galeno
Secretary:	Elise Nakahara
Treasurer:	Sabrina Venezia
Meeting Day:	2nd and 4th Tuesday at 8:00am
Location:	H210

The Briarcliff GSA seeks to cultivate equality and awareness of the LGBTQ+ community within the school. During meetings, we discuss how to make BHS a safe environment for all. We stand for the acceptance and tolerance of all people at BHS and participate in many activities throughout the year, such as Ally Week, Prideworks, and National Day of Silence, to encourage support for the LGBTQ+ community.

GIRL UP

Advisor:	Ms. Constantinou
Co-Presidents:	TBD
Secretary:	TBD
Treasurer:	TBD
Meeting Day:	2 nd and 4 th Friday
Location:	H231

Girl Up is a club at BHS that is also found in other high schools throughout the United States. Girl Up is part of an initiative of the United Nations Foundation. The most important mission of Girl Up is to develop future global leaders who have an interest in raising awareness and support for UN programs that aid adolescent girls throughout the world. In our meetings, we discuss issues that affect girls and young women throughout the world and we participate in fundraisers and activities that raise awareness about issues such as lack of access to education for girls in some areas of the world. Boys and girls are always welcome at Girl Up meetings.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Co-Advisors:	Ms. Dilworth and Ms. Gavin
Co-Presidents:	Aoibh Murray and Rebecca Rogers
Vice President:	Harper McDermott
Treasurer:	Maya Siegel
Meeting Day:	2 nd and 4 th Thursday
Location:	H123

The purpose of this club is to help eliminate poverty housing in Westchester County and to make a decent shelter a matter of conscience and action. Fundraising efforts in support of the local Habitat chapter will be a primary focus. In addition, we will assist the local chapter with their current projects.

INTER-GENERATIONAL ALLIANCE CLUB

Advisors:	Ms. O'Brien
President:	JP Kuhn
Vice President:	Nate Tanen
Treasurer:	Zoe Franks
Secretary:	Diana Jones
Location:	H206
Meetings:	Fridays – Once a month

The Intergenerational Alliance believes there is much to be gained by fostering relationships between high school students and older adults in the community. Ideally this is achieved through in-person visits to local retirement homes when possible, but also includes card-making drives to send warm wishes throughout the year.

Meeting dates: September 22, October 20, November 17, December 15, January 5, February 9, March 15, April 19, May 31.

JAZZ BAND

Advisor:	Mr. Toland
Meeting Day:	Tuesday
Location:	Band Room

Come and learn how to swing and tap that foot to a variety of music from jazz, rock, to pop! The Jazz Band is a select group of musicians including guitarists, pianists and vocalists who audition in September. Performing for school and community functions, rehearsals generally take place after school on Tuesdays and on an as needed limited basis on Friday afternoons and before concerts on Wednesday evenings from 7:15 -9:00 pm. Enrollment in the High School Concert Band or Orchestra is a pre-requisite except for piano, bass and guitar players. Since all members are essential to the quality of the group, regular rehearsal attendance is expected.

MATHLETES

Advisor:	Ms. Rutledge
Co-Presidents:	Gautam Gupta & Gordon Beckler
Vice President:	Colin Zhao
Treasurer:	JP Kuhn
Secretary:	Maryum Faisal
Meeting Day:	Monday
Location:	H206

Students compete in the Westchester Invitational Math League as a team of five members and as individuals. Six competitions take place between October to March. Competitions are once a month and are usually on a Monday. Our league consists of Pleasantville HS, Westlake HS, & Briarcliff HS. Some travel is involved in the club to travel to Pleasantville & Westlake. Depending on individual results, students may advance to the State level competition in April. Depending on the location of the State competition, overnight travel may be involved.

Competition Dates for 2023-2024: October 16, November 13, December 4, January 8, February 5, & March 24

MOCK TRIAL

Advisor:	Mr. Muranelli
Co-Presidents:	Gautam Gupta
Treasurer:	Brady Lofaro
Secretary:	Meera Desawale
Meeting Day:	TBD (starting in November)
Location:	TBD

In this educational program, co-sponsored by The New York Bar Foundation, high school students have the opportunity to gain firsthand knowledge of civil/criminal law and courtroom procedures. Thousands of students participate each year. Objectives of the tournament are to: Teach students ethics, civility and professionalism; Further students' understanding of the law, court procedures and the legal system; Improve proficiency in basic life skills, such as listening, speaking, reading and reasoning; Promote better communication and cooperation among the school community, teachers and students and members of the legal profession; and Heighten appreciation for academic studies and stimulate interest in law-related careers.

MUSIC MAKERS

Advisor:	Dr. Banks
Meeting Day:	Tuesday
Location:	Troy

The BHS/BMS Choral Music Makers sessions usually occur on Tuesday's afterschool. During the busy spring season, prior to NYSSMA Solo Festival, rehearsals may occur on each day of the week, weekends, and holidays, per student availability. These BHS and BMS Choral students rehearse, record, audition, and prepare choral music during these Music Makers sessions.

BHS and BMS Music Makers participate in, and prepare for some or all events, including:

- WCSMA Area All-State Honors Chorus
- ACDA Eastern Region or National Honor Choirs
- NYSSMA Solo Festival (spring)
- NYSSMA All-State/All-Eastern/All-National

NATIONAL ART HONOR SOCIETY

Advisor:	Ms. Ritacco
Co-Presidents:	TBD
Secretary:	TBD
Treasurer:	TBD
Meeting Day:	2 nd and 4 th Tuesday
Location:	H135 – Art Studio

The BHS Chapter 885 of The National Art Honor Society offers membership to students with exemplary character in grades 10-12 who are enrolled in at least one semester of Art, maintain a 90 or above average in visual arts and are leaders in the community through art services.

NAHS membership provides scholarship opportunities for students pursuing the visual arts at the college level. Officers create goals, develop a community service calendar and plan a museum field trip. Members volunteer their services to the community through visual arts such as mural painting, the 'Memory Project', mentoring younger students, virtual & school gallery maintenance, fundraising, Art Salon preparation & club designs. Competitions (Scholastic Arts, Young Arts, etc.) are encouraged. Artists submit to Briars and Ivy, etc.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Advisor:	Mr. Courtney
Co-Presidents:	Elise Nakahara and Adrianna Scanga
Co-Vice Presidents:	Markus Bures and JP Kuhn
Secretary:	Gordon Beckler
Treasurer:	Van Prigozen
Meeting Day:	1st Tuesday of every month (8:15 am)
Location:	H208

The members of the National Honor Society are selected from the Junior class (and Senior class for any student who did not qualify as an entering Junior but attains the required GPA for eligibility as an entering Senior), using criteria based on scholarship, service, leadership, and character. Students who wish to be members of this prestigious organization must show a dedication to community service, leadership in school organizations, and exemplary character. Eligible Juniors who have a weighted cumulative average of 93 (unrounded) after 4 semesters of work or an eligible senior after 6 semesters of work will receive NHS candidacy applications in September from the B.H.S National Honor Society faculty advisor. Students will receive official confirmation of their induction the first week of November. National Honor Society members are involved in projects designed to raise funds for projects and scholarships, improve their school environment (including an obligation to tutor other Briarcliff students), and assist their local and global communities. (If conditions permit, the BHS National Honor Society sponsors an annual blood drive during the school year).

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY FOR DANCE ARTS (NHSDA)

NYS Chapter No. 007

Advisor:	Ms. Guida
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Induction into NHSDA requires that a student is currently enrolled in the BHS Dance Program, is a highly active dancer within the program with exemplary character and submits the proper application by the deadline. The candidates earn eligibility points toward induction through participation in special projects, artist residencies, community service, and field trips, in addition to the daily dance classes at BHS.

NHSDA also serves as a training ground for teaching, producing, and choreographing, as an extension of the Dance Program curriculum. The Society sponsors the Middle School Dance Club and facilitates open events when opportunities become available.

NEWSPAPER – THE BULLETIN

Advisor:	Ms. Fishman
Editors-in-Chief:	Tristan Rutman & Mirabel Solomon
Meeting Day:	Tuesday or Thursday per announcements
Location:	H210 or H214

The school newspaper is a forum for all students to write about current issues, express opinions and become familiar with journalistic style. Students are responsible for generating ideas, interviewing subjects, writing and editing articles, and creating the layout of the school paper.

NYS MATH HONOR SOCIETY

Co-Advisors:	Ms. Huber and Ms. O'Brien
Co-Presidents:	Markus Bures and Gautam Gupta
Treasurer:	Nate Tanen
Meeting Day:	Second and Fourth Thursday
Location:	TBD

The NYS Math Honor Society offers students who excel in mathematics an opportunity to share their interest with others and to learn from those in math-related fields by inviting professionals in to speak. Members are required to perform a service by assisting in the Math Lab, a room dedicated to providing additional math support for students who need it.

PEDIATRIC CANCER FOUNDATION CLUB

Advisor:	Ms. Alfonso
Co-Presidents:	Jared Haberman & Spencer Ramer
Co-Secretaries:	James Mulligan and Alex Fenimore
Treasurer:	Luke Diamond
Meeting Day:	Wednesday at 8:00am
Location:	H210

This club's purpose is to bring awareness to and raise donations for Pediatric Cancer. The club does this by making gift boxes for young children who have been diagnosed with cancer. It also participates in annual walks and other activities that promote cancer research and support throughout the year.

RHO KAPPA – Social Studies Honor Society

Advisor:	Ms. Buatti
Co-Presidents:	TBD
Secretary:	TBD
Meeting Day:	3 rd Thursday
Location:	H232

Rho Kappa Social Studies Honor Society is the only national organization for high school juniors and seniors that recognizes excellence in the field of Social Studies. Our club promotes scholarship and recognizes academic excellence in social studies, and provides opportunities for exploration in social studies in the school and the community.

ROBOTICS TEAM (BearBots)

Advisor(s):	Mr. Lo and Mr. Sandomenico
President:	Austin Lee
Co-Vice Presidents:	Edmund Tsou and Jordan Kratz
Secretary:	Theodore Schwartz and Hudson Ludwig
Treasurer:	Nathaniel Tanen and Ethan Weiss
Public Relations:	Samuel Plitt and Noah O’Neill
Meeting Day:	Thursday
Location:	H103

The Robotics Team is designed to allow students an opportunity to work on robotics projects outside of the classroom. Students are able to utilize materials found in the class to experiment and build projects towards competing in the FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) competition and events throughout the year. All high school students are welcome.

SPANISH CLUB

Advisor:	Ms. Dilworth and Ms. Gavin
Co-Presidents:	Greta Martin
Treasurer	Ava Makaron
Meeting Day:	Every other Tuesday
Location:	H124

The Spanish Club is open to all students who are eager to learn more about the Spanish language and culture. Some activities include exploring holidays, customs, and music along with preparing foods and playing games. We also work to promote cultural awareness within our school.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS CLUB

Advisor:	Mr. Fiorillo
Co-Presidents:	Will Alenstein and Lexa Halpern
Co-Secretaries:	Nina Mischenko and Ella Salvati
Co-Treasurers:	Abby Healy and Marquesa Leggio
Meeting Day:	Thursday
Location:	MS 110

"Special Olympics provides people with intellectual disabilities continuing opportunities to realize their potential, develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage and experience joy and friendship"

Our club volunteers at Special Olympics events throughout Westchester. We keep score, escort athletes around events, cheer them on, give out medals and help with what the Special Olympics organization needs. We have a lot of fun, especially interacting with athletes. They are very excited to have us there and proud to share their skills with us.

*Polar Plunge – November 11, 2023

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Co-Advisors:	Ms. Gordon and Ms. Huber
President:	Karina Bar and Nate Tanen
Treasurer:	Luke Dennis
Secretary:	Jared Haberman
Meeting Day:	Monday
Location:	H122

The Student Council consists of student elected officers for each grade. The group plans and organizes a wide range of events and activities for the student body and for the Briarcliff community.

TRI-M MUSIC HONOR SOCIETY

Advisor:	Dr. Banks and Mr. Fraioli
President:	TBD
Vice President:	TBD
Secretary:	TBD
Treasurer:	TBD
Historian:	TBD
Song Leader:	TBD
Meeting Day:	TBD
Location:	Troy

The Tri-M (Modern Music Makers) Music Honor Society is an international program dedicated to the recognition of exceptional music students in grades 6-12 that meet a notable music, academic, leadership and character criteria asked of every Tri-M member. Tri-M is a program of NAFME: The National Association for Music Education, which is the largest arts education association in the world. The purpose of this organization is to inspire music participation, create enthusiasm for scholarship, stimulate a desire to render service and promote leadership in music students of secondary schools.

WORLD OF DIFFERENCE CLUB

Advisor:	Ms. Becerra and Ms. Mosley
President:	Van Prigozen and Drew Galeno
Secretary:	Kaitlyn LoParrino
Treasurer:	Maya Siegel
Meeting Day:	Wednesday, 8:00am
Location:	H200

This is a club that promotes engaged communication, awareness and tolerance amongst our members and society at large. Members work to create a difference within the BHS and local communities. We meet twice a month to actively engage one another in how to raise awareness on the issues of age, gender, religion, socio-economic status, levels of education, and sexuality. Students work to develop a support system for our schools and community at large, to build inroads of communication about our differences and celebrations of our shared interests and backgrounds. Students also select several charities to provide assistance throughout the year.

WRITERS' CIRCLE CLUB

Advisor:	Ms. Fernandez
Co-President(s):	Diana Jones and Sabrina Venezia
Meeting Day:	Tuesday
Location:	Writing Lab

Writers' Circle is designed to explore creative writing processes, to analyze author techniques, and to engage in a variety of genres. Students will write and workshop pieces for peer editing and submission to contests and literary publications. The club also pursues venues for author readings and conferences as well as engaging in school related publications like Briars and Ivy.

YEARBOOK

Advisor:	Ms. Bendlin and Ms. Sipe
Editors-in-Chief:	Maya Siegel, Harper McDermott and Aoibh Murray
Treasurer:	Jared Epstein
Secretary:	Nathaniel Rohde
Meeting Day:	Tuesday
Location:	H201

Members of the Yearbook Club work on various tasks leading up to the annual publication of our award-winning yearbook, The Bruin. These tasks include computer software training, organizing photography coverage of events and preparing layouts and formats for the Yearbook.