



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 6, 2018

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LOCAL STUDENTS CHOSEN BY LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS TO ATTEND STATEWIDE “STUDENTS INSIDE ALBANY” PROGRAM

Sophia Cetina, a junior at Rye High School and Peter Manos, a sophomore at Port Chester High School have been chosen to attend this year’s *Students Inside Albany* program sponsored by the League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation, Inc. This 18th annual *Students Inside Albany* program will take place from May 20-23, and will bring approximately 60 students from across the state to Albany to get a first-hand education about their state government. The program is designed to increase high school students' awareness of their responsibility in representative government and provide information about the tools necessary for meeting that responsibility.

Sophia Cetina is an editor of Rye High School’s Zephyr magazine as well as the Garnet and Black newspaper, has hosted creative writing lessons, and has been published in TeenInk Magazine. She is a member of the RowAmerica Rye Crew team and president of the school library council; is a member of Voices Against Substance Abuse and the Science Olympiad. Peter Manos is a member of the Port Chester High School debate team, the Spanish Club, the Gay-Straight Alliance, and is treasurer of the Music Honor Society. He is also a member of the Model United Nations Club, plays trumpet in the Port Chester High School Marching Band, is a member of the Port Chester Leadership Institute, and is working on his Eagle Scout Service Project.

While at the conference, students will join their peers in a hands-on learning experience about how state government works. Students will participate in a series of interactive lectures on topics such as the state budget process, the role of lobbyists in the legislative process, citizen rights to access government information, the role of media in politics, and the move to reform state government. While in Albany, the students will have an opportunity to tour the state’s Capitol. The highlight for most students is the opportunity to shadow their Senators and their Assembly member for an afternoon attending session on the Chamber floor.

“It’s so important, and we are so pleased, to help outstanding young people such as Sophia and Peter to advance their interest in, and their involvement in their government. They are after all, our countries future,” said Stephen McCabe, local League Project Coordinator.

For more information on the League of Women Voters of Rye, Rye Brook & Port Chester, please visit their website at: www.lwvryerbpc.org.

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