

## Plainview-Old Bethpage JFK High School Students Shine at New York State Portfolio Project

Fifteen talented students from Plainview-Old Bethpage JFK High School's art department, under the guidance of art teachers Kelly Verdi and Linda Curran, participated in the New York State Portfolio Project, showcasing their remarkable artistic abilities on May 11th. All 15 students achieved the highest adjudication level of "Distinguished," with several receiving the State's rare "Perfect Score."

The distinguished students are:

Ella Berko, \*Ines Cardoso, \*Erin Donovan, Abigail Goldblatt, Becca Hitsky, Dahlia Kron, Emma Leibowitz, \*Claire Lim, Alexis Mauer, \*Diana Parrino, \*Samantha Peace, Isabella Phass, Eric Ronen, Brooke Selmer and Samantha Witz.

\*denotes Perfect Score

Additionally, many of these student artists volunteered to pilot the NYS IAAP model of the new Portfolio 2.0, which has been realigned to meet the updated NYS standards. This beta test provided invaluable real-time feedback and experience to the NYS portfolio committee, aiding in refining the program before its statewide rollout for all K-12 students in fall 2024. "Our students' contributions were praised by educators and artists across the state for their insightful feedback and intellectual engagement," said Curran.

Each participating student will have a piece showcased in the Nassau region's virtual show, opening at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. Furthermore, three seniors and five juniors are now eligible to apply for the State portfolio scholarship due to their exceptional performance at this event.

"We are incredibly proud of these young artists and their accomplishments," said Verdi. "Their dedication and hard work have not only brought them individual accolades but have also contributed significantly to the future of arts education in New York State."

