

THE Yonkers Teacher

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35 East Grassy Sprain Rd.
Yonkers, NY 10710
(914) 793-0200
Fax (914)793-7365

EDITOR:
Christine Morrone

**PRODUCTION/
DISTRIBUTION
EDITORS:**

Jayme Downes
Alyssa Murray
Christine Heidelberger

**PRODUCTION/
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A Union of Professionals



Dear YFT Family,

NYSUT's Members of Color Affinity and Action (MOCAA) Project

On September 19, NYSUT launched **The Members of Color Affinity and Action (MOCAA) Project** as part of NYSUT's ongoing effort to encourage members of color to make their voices heard within our union with the goal of creating a space to listen to and be led by the voices of members of color. Members were able to join the launch via Zoom.

The MOCAA Project focuses on:

Affinity and Healing — Fostering a sense of connection, understanding, and emotional well-being as members of color navigate and address the impacts of systemic injustices.

Community and Support — Promoting a brave and inclusive space where members can collaborate, uplift one another, and build solidarity through conversations that develop support for our BIPOC members.

Intentional Advocacy — Purposefully engaging in informed, targeted and impactful actions and initiatives that improve the lives of members of color and advance NYSUT's social justice work within the union, in our communities and in our schools and classrooms.

Leadership and Mentorship — Guiding and empowering members of color in their journey as unionists and labor activists.

Please log onto to NYSUT's website for upcoming opportunities and events.

YFT Welfare Fund

We have exciting news from the YFT Welfare Fund. Stacey Braun Associates, the provider of our Financial Counseling Benefit, will be conducting two webinars this Fall – “Financial Planning for New Teachers” on October 18th and “Retirement Planning” on November 2nd.

The “Financial Planning for New Teachers” webinar will discuss items such as Tier 6, selecting and investing in a 403b plan, buying a home and paying off student loans.

The “Retirement Planning” webinar will discuss cash flow needs in retirement, selecting a pension option, social security, distributions from 403b, investing in retirement and much more.

The Financial Counseling Benefit provides each YFT member with six hours of financial advice per year. Advice can be given on topics such as retirement planning, buying a home, investing in your 403b plan, tax planning, or any other financial matter. The benefit is paid for by the YFT Welfare Fund and is free to all members. Best of all, no financial products are sold!

Webinar registration details were sent out in emails.

If you would like to schedule your free consultation, please call Stacey Braun at 1-800-949-1925.

In Solidarity,

Samantha Rosado-Ciriello

President

RELAY FOR LIFE 2023

By Erin T. Gorman, Team Captain

On June 2nd, 2023 The Yonkers Federation of Teachers Relay for Life Team set a new record in our fundraising efforts. The Union Building Representatives helped by collecting early raffle ticket sales and the onsite raffles inclusively provided \$4,000.00 in fundraising support for the American Cancer Society. The YFT impressively reached the top five donating teams at the Gorton High School event. Despite high temperatures and a thunderstorm, our tent raffled off some of the most sought-after baskets! Thank you to all of the onsite volunteers.

The baskets included a "Pamper Yourself" basket with a \$100 gift certificate from the owners of Tranquility Spa and a beautiful chunky knit afghan created by a local, woman-owned small business. The baskets included Barnes and Noble, Amazon Gift Cards, Lotto Tickets, Dunkin Donuts and Starbucks gift cards. The Saunders Cosmetology Department raffled off a Dyson Hair Dryer, Zuppa's Restaurant and Gianna's Family Deli and P&D Prime Meat on Midland Avenue donated \$100 each for a second year in a row. The newly named Las Hermanas Mirabal Community School staff collected a basket of restaurant gift cards valued over \$350.00. Stop and Shop Manager, Chris Liberatore and husband of our member, Karen Liberatore donated a bicycle to the raffles!

Thank you to Isabelle Carreira, a student volunteer, for helping our children participants create beaded Relay bracelets.

Big thanks to all the participants, volunteers and donors:

Christine Morrone

Brooke Nealis Merna

Monica Avila

Karen Liberatore

Carolina Carreira

Isabella Carreira

Jessica DeDonato

Florence McCue

Jeanette LeBlanc

Lisa Foto

Victoria Butler

Thomas Rusk

Dawn Dorazco

Margaret Scaglione,

Jennifer Lorio Yedowitz

Sharon Bash

James Riley

Wendy Hollander

Christina Giuliano

JoAnn Kingston

Margaret Ribeiro Radbell

Elena Weiss

Alish Doran

Maritza Fasack

Zuleima Ruge

Annie Talone

Herman Martinez

Kerri Vanadia

Brian Foster

Christie Rotella

Debra Cantor

Georgia DeMuro

Miriam Rodriguez

Dan Gallagher

Noreen O'Shea

Jeanette Arroyo

Yonkers Early Childhood Academy

Rosemarie Siragusa School

Las Hermanas Mirabal Community School

School 16 Staff

Ella Fitzgerald School Staff

YFT Executive Board

School 24 Paideia School

Enrico Fermi School

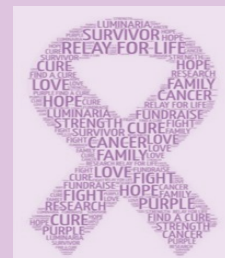
Saunders Cosmetology Department

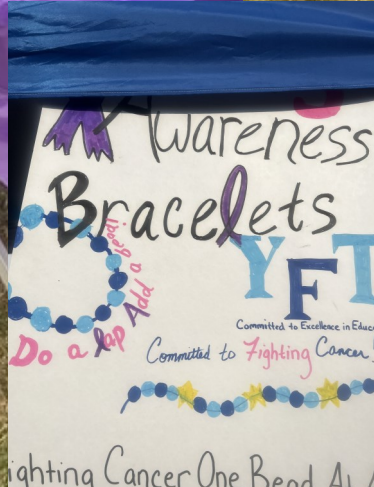
School 17

Casimir Pulaski School

Martin Luther King Jr. School

PEARLS Hawthorne School





YFT Community Outreach

On August 21, 2023, the **Yonkers Federation of Teachers Community Outreach Committee** held its annual YFT/NYSUT Backpack & Supplies Giveaway at Riverfront Library. A huge thanks to the volunteers for their time and dedication to this event:

Samantha Rosado-Ciriello
Pat Puleo
Debbie Collier
Emiko Castro

Nubia LeBlanc
Claudia Wright-Henry
Denise Wiggins
Jeanne Ismail



October 2023 Calendar

4th	3:45pm	Executive Board	YFT
15th	9:00am	Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk	Manhattanville College
18th	3:45pm	Executive Board	YFT
18th	7:00pm	Board of Education Meeting	Saunders
19th	3:45pm	Building Assembly	Roosevelt HS

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JOIN US AT OUR NEXT MEETING AND BRING A FRIEND!
Wednesday, October 11
3:30pm
YFT Union Office
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Women’s Committee of the YFT