#### **OCTOBER 2024**



### ABC New Canaan

Fall Newsletter

Our mission is to provide transformative academic opportunities to talented young men of color, support them in becoming wellrounded and confident leaders, and prepare them for success in college and in life.

# WHAT'S NEW

#### **50th ANNIVERSARY GALA**

#### NEW SCHOLARS, HOST FAMILIES, AND BOARD MEMBERS

#### **ANNUAL HALLO-WINE PARTY**



### A WORD FROM OUR DIRECTORS

Dear Community Members,

As we kick off this new academic year, our excitement is palpable and our spirits are high. The scholars are enthusiastically settling into their routines, and we are thrilled to see their eagerness and energy as they embark on this journey of learning and discovery.

We want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the parents of our scholars for placing their trust in us. Your confidence in our program is invaluable. To our dedicated host families, board members, alumni, volunteers, and donors: your unwavering support is the cornerstone of our success. Without you, our work simply would not be possible! We are deeply appreciative of everything you do, and we look forward to an incredible year ahead, filled with growth, achievement, and success.

Thank you for being an integral part of our community!

Jamie Boris, Executive Director Khanisha Denise Moore, Resident Director

## **50TH ANNIVERSARY GALA**



The 50th Anniversary Gala was an unforgettable night filled with joyful reunions, warm memories, and heartfelt moments. In a remarkable celebration of the past and the present, we honored our founders and original 1974 scholars and staff and paid tribute to fifty years of board members, host families, and supporters who have paved the way to our success. Above all, we celebrated our extraordinary alumni scholars. These men, forty of whom were in attendance, are the heart and soul of our organization and a testament to the transformative power of education and community support.



### **NEW SCHOLARS AND HOST FAMILIES**

Meet our new freshman scholars, Elias Ortiz and Malicah Hatten. Elias, originally from the Bronx, is thrilled to join his older brother, sophomore scholar Dariel Ortiz, at ABC House New Canaan. Elias is hosted by the Nussbaum family: Lauren, Matt, Nora, Bridgy, and Grace. Malicah, from Brooklyn, is loving his first few weeks at NCHS. He is hosted by the Wartinbees: Denise, Jim, Danielle, Shane, Kieran, and Liam.



# **NEW BOARD MEMBERS**



Kate Thomas joins the board after serving as Co-Chair of the 50th Anniversary Gala. She and her husband Matt are the proud parents of three boys, and have called New Canaan home since 2008. After graduating from Boston College, Kate enjoyed a successful career in sales and marketing. She is currently a luxury travel advisor at Journeys by Soldi, where she curates unforgettable travel experiences for her clients. Passionate about community involvement, Kate has had the opportunity to serve on several boards supporting local schools and youth sports.



Jill Gordon brings to the board more than a decade of strategic marketing and communications experience, having worked with brands like Travelocity and the Discovery Channel. She served as marketing director for the Modest Needs Foundation and was a longtime board member of the Child Guidance Center of Southern **Connecticut. A graduate of American** University, she has volunteered with ABC House in several capacities, including serving on the 50th Anniversary Gala committee. Jill lives in New Canaan with her husband, Dan Malkoun, two teenagers, and two misbehaved rescue dogs.

### **SECOND ANNUAL HALLO-WINE PARTY**

It was a night for Gilligan, skeletons, zombie prom queens -- and supporting our scholars! The New Canaan community celebrated spooky season in style at our sold-out second annual Hallo-Wine Party fundraiser. Special thanks to Walter Stewart's Market and Stewart's Wine & Sprits for sponsoring our fun and festive night.









# SAVE THE DATE

Benefit Dinner Saturday, May 17, 2025 6:30pm



### **Contact us:**

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