

## LONGWOOD CENTRAL SCHOOLS

35 YAPHANK-MIDDLE ISLAND ROAD • MIDDLE ISLAND, NEW YORK 11953-2369

**MICHAEL R. LONERGAN, DSW**  
Superintendent of Schools

**JOHN J. GALLAGHER, Ed.D.**  
Director of Fine Arts



**OFFICE OF FINE ARTS**  
30 SWEZEY LANE  
MIDDLE ISLAND, NY 11953  
631-345-2960 \* FAX 631-345-2912

# Longwood Central School District

## Department of Fine Arts

### Media Kit

*Community Unity...Be A Part Of The Pride*

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## Fine Arts Department Program Overview

The goal of the Longwood Central School District's Fine Arts Department is to create well-rounded students by offerings in several curricular content areas: Visual and Media Art, General and Performing Music and Family & Consumer Sciences. We also offer extra-curricular Theatre content in grades four through twelve.

We provide our students with the knowledge and skills necessary to be productive citizens in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. They develop self-esteem, self-discipline and cognitive, creative, emotional and social skills by actively participating in the arts.

Our Arts curriculum is centered around and adheres to the Artistic Processes of the new New York State Learning Standards for the Arts:

Process 1	Creating – Conceiving and developing new artistic ideas and work.
Process 2	Performing, Presenting, Producing – Realizing, interpreting and presenting artistic ideas and work.
Process 3	Responding – Understanding and evaluating how the arts convey meaning.
Process 4	Connecting – Relating artistic ideas and work with personal meaning and external context.

### Music

We offer a sequential study of music and performance beginning in kindergarten. They learn Recorder in the third grade and begin formal instrumental in the fourth grade; formal choral training in the fifth grade. On the secondary level, our ensembles encompass several genres including concert, marching and jazz bands; mixed and select choruses; full, string and chamber orchestras; and drama and musical productions. In recognition of their levels of quality, our ensembles have earned high ratings at County and State-level festivals. Students in our music theory program learn in a state-of-the art composition lab.

Longwood's twenty-five (25) music teachers are certified by New York State in Music Education and serve students in four elementary campuses, one middle school, one junior high school and one senior high school. They specialize in either general/classroom music, instrumental or vocal music. Most members of our staff hold a Master's Degree or higher, and we are proud of those that serve their professional associations in leadership roles.

As of the 2016-17 school year, twenty-two percent (22%) of our district's more than nine thousand (9,000) students in grades four through twelve participate in our curricular ensembles.

### Art

Each of our District's fifteen (15) art educators are certified by New York State in Art Education and bring a wealth of experience in drawing, painting, sculpture, pottery, advertising art and more to their classroom. Students are taught basic art skills in grades two through eight; and progress in high school electives such as Fashion Drawing, Pottery, Drawing & Painting, Advertising Art and more.

### Family & Consumer Science

Our Family and Consumer Sciences Curricula is centered around standards related to Career Development, Occupational Studies, Personal Health and Fitness, and Communication & Leadership Skills. It is part of the Career & Technical Education consortium. Our courses enable students to be competent and caring in their work and family lives.

Our eight (8) teachers of Family & Consumer Sciences are certified by New York State in Home Economics and/or Family & Consumer Science and instruct students in grades seven through twelve to develop the process skills in communication, leadership, management and thinking. Students in grades seven and eight are taught the Home & Career Skills curriculum focusing on topics including career, family, nutrition, interpersonal relationships, and clothing. Students participating in high school electives participate in classes in Parenting, Child Development, Adolescent Psychology, Food & Nutrition, Cultural Foods, Gourmet Foods, Clothing & Textiles, and Independent Living.

## Program Awards

Music Program featured in *Teaching Music* a publication of the National Association for Music Education (October, 2016)  
County Proclamation in Conjunction with the Suffolk County Anti-Bias Task Force – *Teaching Tolerance Through the Arts (2014)*  
One of the *Best Communities for Music Education in America* (NAMM Foundation, 2008-2018)  
Finalist, *Grammy Signature Schools Program* (National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, 2009, 2008)  
Gold with Distinction Adjudication ratings from the New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA)  
Gold Adjudication ratings from the New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA)  
Superior Art Portfolio ratings from the New York State Art Teachers Association (NYSATA)  
Multi-Cultural Folk Art Class featured on Cablevision's MSG Varsity (Spring, 2011)

## Music Curriculum

General/Classroom Music (Grades K – Seven)	Band, Orchestra, Chorus (Grades Four through Twelve)	AP Music Theory II (Grades Eleven – Twelve)
Instruction on Recorder (Grade Three)	Music Theory (Grades Nine – Ten)	Electronic Composition (Grades Nine – Twelve)

## Art Curriculum

Studio Art (Grades 2 -12) Fashion Illustrated Pottery	Drawing and Painting Crafts Advertising Art	Photography Sculpture Multi-Cultural Folk Art
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## Family & Consumer Sciences Curriculum – High School

Clothing and Textiles Food and Nutrition Culinary Arts	Lifespan Studies Adolescent Psychology Child Development	Early Childhood Education Parenting
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## Family & Consumer Sciences Curriculum – Junior High School

### Home & Careers

*Skills taught include Decision-Making, Problem-Solving, Management, Personal Development, Consumerism and Nutrition*

## Featured Ensembles

The Longwood High School Marching Band was featured in Walt Disney World (2017), the 250<sup>th</sup> New York City St. Patrick's Day parade, and in several performances for our community.

Our High School Jazz Ensemble has been featured at the Brookhaven National Laboratory, performing for such dignitaries as New York Senators Charles Schumer and Kristen Gillibrand, and Congressman Timothy Bishop (2009).

Various ensembles have been featured at Brookhaven Town Hall for arts advocacy partnership with Town Government (2009, 2008, 2007).

Our fourth grade choral students have been featured in New York City as part of The National Anthem Project, sponsored by NAfME, the National Association of Music Education (2006).

The Longwood High School Chorus was featured at the Annual Conference of the New York State School Boards Association (NYSSBA) held in New York City (2006).

## Art Program Awards, Exhibitions

Babylon Citizens Council on the Arts (BACCA) Bay Area Friends of the Fine Arts (BAFFA) Brookhaven Town Hall	The Heckscher Museum, Huntington, NY Parrish Museum – Southampton, NY Long Island Univ/CW Post Campus	Longhouse Reserve – East Hampton, NY Suffolk County Arts Leaders Association (SCALA)
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### Student Honors

NAfME All-Eastern Ensembles  
NYSSMA All-State Ensembles  
NYSCAME All-County Ensembles

SCMEA All-County Ensembles  
NYSATA All-State Art  
SCALA All-County Art

East End Arts Council *Teeney Awards* for Theater  
Long Island Scholar-Artist

### Extra-Curricular Clubs and Ensembles

HS Marching Band  
HS, JHS Jazz Ensembles  
HS, JHS Chamber Orchestras

HS Chamber Choruses  
HS Dramatic Stage Productions  
HS, JHS Musical Stage Productions

HS, JHS, MS Art Clubs  
HS Cartooning, Sewing, Craft & Sculpture Clubs  
Tri-M (Music) and NAHS (Art) Honor Societies

### Professional Affiliations

Our staff remains current in their respective professions with membership in the following national, state and local associations:

The American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences (AAFCS)  
The National Art Educators Association (NAEA)  
The National Association for Career & Technical Education (ACTE)  
The National Association for Music Education (NAfME)

The New York State Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Educators (NYSAFACSE)  
The New York State Art Teachers Association (NYSATA)  
The New York State Council of Administrators of Music Education (NYSCAME)  
The New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA)

Long Island Family and Consumer Sciences (LIFACS)  
The Long Island String Festival Association (LISFA)  
The Suffolk County Art Leaders Association (SCALA)  
The Suffolk County Music Educators Association (SCMEA)

### District Overview

Located in the geographic middle of Long Island, the Longwood School District is home to approximately 9,000 students, one third of which is enrolled in our performing music program alone.

Longwood covers fifty-three (53) square miles and is the largest school district in the town of Brookhaven on Long Island. Longwood is a high-need, low wealth, multi-cultural school district. The District is comprised of one high school that holds grades nine through twelve, one junior high school that holds grades seven and eight, one middle school that holds grades five and six and four elementary campuses that house grades kindergarten through four.

On behalf of our Board of Education, Mr. Frank Muraca, President; our Superintendent, Dr. Michael Lonergan, our staff and students, I hope to be able to demonstrate why we are *A Part of the Pride* of our community.

Sincerely,



John J. Gallagher, Ed.D.  
Director of Fine Arts  
Longwood Central School District  
631-345-2960  
[John.Gallagher@longwoodcsd.org](mailto:John.Gallagher@longwoodcsd.org)

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## Department of Music & Fine Arts General Statement

The Longwood Central School District is a nationally recognized school district for public school music education, and has been identified by the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) Foundation as one of the Best Communities in America for Music Education. We offer a comprehensive program that includes instruction in general, instrumental, and choral music.

The program is staffed by twenty-five highly-qualified music educators, and is led by a Director of Fine Arts. The Longwood community maintains a strong tradition of supporting the arts as a core subject in the public school curriculum.

The focus of the program is on the development of music literacy, that we define as the ability to perform and create music, to perceive and understand music, and to comprehend the powerful connections between music and the other arts, other content areas and the community.





We articulate this paradigm for comprehensive music education through a sequential curriculum with clearly defined skills, concepts and understandings. Our curriculum is grounded in the New York State Standards in the Arts and the National Standards in the Arts.



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## LONGWOOD HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

### Music Program Overview

Longwood's Music Education program provides our students with a sequential study of music and performance beginning in fourth grade.

Our twenty-five (25) music teachers are certified by New York State in Music Education and serve students in four elementary campuses, one middle school, one junior high school and one senior high school. They specialize in either general/classroom music, instrumental or vocal music. Our staff boasts one state chairperson with the New York State School Music Association.

The Board of Education and Administration strongly and proudly support the District's Music program. More, our students have received recognition and honors in all areas of the arts on the national, state and local levels.

### Program Awards and Recognition

County Proclamation in Conjunction with the Suffolk County Anti-Bias Task Force – *Teaching Tolerance Through the Arts (2014)*  
Named among the Best Communities for Music Education in America (NAMM Foundation, 2008-2012 & 2014-2016)  
Finalist, Grammy Signature Schools Program (National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, 2009, 2008)  
*Gold and Gold with Distinction* Adjudication ratings from the New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA)

### Past Marching Band Performances

Dickens Festival Parade, Port Jefferson, NY – December, 2017

Walt Disney World, Orlando, FL – April, 2017

Yaphank Community Christmas Parade – Annually since 2010

Newsday Marching Band Festival at Hofstra University since 2000.

New York City's 247<sup>th</sup>, 249<sup>th</sup>, 250<sup>th</sup> St. Patrick's Day Parades.

Brookhaven National Laboratory, performing for New York Senators Charles Schumer & Kristen Gillibrand, and Rep. Timothy Bishop (2009).

Brookhaven Town Hall for arts advocacy partnership with Town Government (2009, 2008, 2007).

### Student Honors

NAfME All-Eastern Ensembles  
NYSSMA All-State Ensembles

NYSCAME All-County Ensembles  
SCMEA All-County Ensembles

Long Island Scholar Artist  
East End Arts Council *Teen Awards* for Theater

*Community Unity...Be A Part Of The Pride*



## Professional Affiliations

The National Association for Music Education (NAfME)  
The New York State Council of Administrators of Music Education (NYSCAME)  
The New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA)  
The Suffolk County Music Educators Association (SCMEA)

## District Overview

Located in the geographic middle of Long Island, the Longwood School District is home to 9,100 students, one third of which is enrolled in our performing music program alone.

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Please keep the Longwood High School Marching Band in mind for recognition events, parades and more. I hope to be able to demonstrate why we are *A Part of the Pride* of our community.





Pamela.donovan@longwoodcsd.org

## Press Release

# Longwood Central Schools

35Yaphank Middle Island Rd., Middle Island, NY 11953-2373

**Michael R. Lonergan, DSW**  
Superintendent of Schools

**For further information contact:**  
**Pam Donovan**, Public Relations Specialist  
(631)345-2949

*For Immediate Release:*

## Longwood High School Senior Named Long Island Scholar-Artist



*Longwood High School senior Alyssa Arbuiso is pictured with Longwood Central School District's Director of Music and Fine Arts John J. Gallagher, Ed.D.*

**Middle Island, NY, September 20, 2017** - Longwood High School senior Alyssa Arbuiso has been selected as a Long Island Arts Alliance Scholar-Artist for the 2017-2018 school year. Alyssa was recognized for her achievement in the genre of theater and is now eligible to earn scholar-artist scholarships from several Long Island colleges. Recently, Alyssa was recognized in the Scholar-Artist Gala at Long Island University's Tilles Center for the Performing Arts.

Twenty diversely talented high school seniors were selected as Scholar-Artists from among the top students in Nassau and Suffolk counties.

Created and sponsored by the Long Island Arts Association, the Long Island Scholar-Artist award program recognizes students judged to be "the best of the best" on Long Island in both academics and in the arts. Honorees are selected based on a demonstration of excellence in the arts established by a portfolio of their work, a demonstration of excellence in academic achievement and submission of an essay on how the arts have enriched the life of the student.

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## PRESS RELEASE

# Longwood Central Schools

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**Michael R. Lonergan, DSW**  
Specialist  
Superintendent of Schools

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**Pam Donovan**, Public Relations

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*For Immediate Release:*

## Longwood High School Musicians Selected for NYSSMA All-State Music Conference



*Longwood's outstanding musicians are congratulated for their selection to the All-State Conference. Pictured (l-r) back row: Director of Music and Fine Arts Dr. John J. Gallagher, Orchestra Director Kim Burns, Chorus Director Brendan Sparks, Band Director Adam Wilbur, and High School Principal Scott Schuster. Pictured (l-r) front row: Holly Fazio, Caitlin Rossbotham, Claire Bush and John De Lucia. Not in photo is Alyssa Arbuiso.*

**Middle Island, NY, October 4, 2017**—Five Longwood High School students have been recognized for exemplary musical excellence, and have been selected to attend the prestigious New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) All-State Conference held in Rochester, NY from November 30 – December 3, 2017.

Holly Fazio (cellist orchestra), and Alyssa Arbuiso, Claire Bush, John De Lucia, and Caitlin Rossbotham (vocal alternates) will have the opportunity to perform with the most recognized conductors in the country.

“Each year, our students are selected to be among the best musicians in New York State,” said Dr. John J. Gallagher, Longwood’s Director of Music and Fine Arts. “It is a testament to the sequential, quality music education we provide. Our students are active in various ensembles that provide them with different performance experiences. We could not be more proud.”

The process for selecting an All-State musician includes teacher recommendations, audition scores at the NYSSMA solo evaluation festival, and participation in other performing organizations. Each spring, thousands of high school students from across New York State compete for a limited amount of positions in the NYSSMA All-State ensembles.

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*For Immediate Release:*

## Three Longwood High School Students Receive Suffolk County Art Leaders Association Awards



*Photo l-r: High School Chair of Art, Music, and Family Consumer Sciences Kimberly Burns; Art Teacher Cynthia Gerard; students Brennan Viruet, Caitlyn Long, and Alyssa Frey, and High School Principal Scott Schuster.*

**Middle Island, NY, March 5, 2018** - Three Longwood High School student artists recently received awards at the Suffolk County Art Leaders Association (SCALA) All-County and Scholarship Show at the Old Babylon Town Hall.

- Senior Alyssa Frey is the recipient of the All-County Scholarship Award for her submission of three entries, “Exist,” “Serenity,” and “Out of My Head.”
- Senior Caitlyn Long was named first place winner in 3-D for “Autumn Reflection.”
- Junior Brennan Viruet won the BACCA Award for Drawing and Painting, “Abstract Symphony.”

“There were 14 districts and 53 entries represented in the show,” said High School Art Teacher Cynthia Gerard. “Our hardworking students put in countless extra hours to achieve their highest goals, and we are so proud of them.”

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*For Immediate Release:*

## Longwood Junior High School Hosts Art Beyond Borders Traveling Exhibit



*Longwood Junior High School students explore the Art Beyond Borders exhibit.*

**Middle Island, NY, April 6, 2018** – In observation of National Foreign Language Week held in early March, the Language Other Than English (LOTE) Department at Longwood Junior High School displayed the Teacher’s Discovery Traveling Exhibit, “Art Beyond Borders.”

In partnership with Teacher’s Discovery and The International Museum of Twenty-first Century Arts (TIMOTCA), the display was born from a series of international exhibits that had premiered at the headquarters of the United Nations. The goal is to collect one piece of art from an artist in every country in the world to catalyze peace and cultural understanding through the universal language of art.

Sponsored by MESTRACT through the Professional Learning Circle project, students participated in engaging activities including accessing QR codes to learn teacher’s opinions of artwork and comparing favorite pieces with peers. Students also took a virtual field trip to El Prado, purchased gifts at the virtual gift shop created within Google Classroom, and presented reflections about their favorite pieces. Responses were recorded in Italian, French, or Spanish. Virtual reality headsets provided students with the opportunity to explore museums through Google Arts and Culture.

This rich cultural experience featured works of art in a vibrant, educational, eye-opening exhibit further enhanced by virtual tours to bring an authentic experience to language acquisition within countries and cultures.

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# PRESS RELEASE

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*For Immediate Release:*

### **Longwood’s Music Education Program Receives National Recognition** *District Named “Best Community for Music Education” for Tenth Year*



**Middle Island, NY, April 18, 2018** – Longwood Central School District has been honored, for the tenth time, as one of the nation’s best communities for music education by The National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) Foundation for an outstanding commitment to music education.

The Best Communities for Music Education designation is awarded to districts that demonstrate outstanding achievement in efforts to provide music access and education to all students. To qualify for the Best Communities designation, Longwood answered detailed questions about funding, graduation requirements, music class participation, instruction time, facilities, support for the music program, and community music-making programs. Responses were verified with school officials and reviewed by The Music Research Institute at the University of Kansas.

“Being named among the best for music education in America enables us to let others know what we’ve known for a long time – that our music education program is well-supported by our Board of Education and administration, and by our community as a whole,” said Dr. John J. Gallagher, Director of Fine Arts. “Our students are consistently selected for local, regional and state-level music festivals, earning high ratings for their performance abilities and partake in many performance-based opportunities outside of school as well.”

This award recognizes that Longwood is leading the way with learning opportunities as outlined in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The legislation guides implementation in the states and replaces the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) which was often criticized for an overemphasis on testing-while leaving behind subjects such as music. ESSA recommends music and the arts as essential elements of a well-rounded education for all children.

Research into music education continues to demonstrate educational/cognitive and social skill benefits for children who make music. In a series of landmark studies by scientists and researchers at Northwestern University a link was found between students in community music programs and life-long academic success, including higher high school graduation rates and college attendance.

In another study from the University, it was discovered that the benefits of early exposure to music education improve how the brain processes and assimilates sounds, a trait that lasts well into adulthood. The NAMM Foundation is a nonprofit supported in part by the National Association of Music Merchants and its approximately 10,300 members around the world. The foundation advances active participation in music making across the lifespan by supporting scientific research, philanthropic giving, and public service programs.

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# Press Release

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*For Immediate Release:*

## Longwood High School Announces 2018 Valedictorian and Salutatorian



*Photo (l-r): Superintendent of Schools Dr. Michael R. Lonergan, Valedictorian Matthew Gries, Salutatorian Alyssa Arbuiso, and High School Principal Scott Schuster.*

**Middle Island, NY, May 31, 2018** - Longwood High School is proud to announce Matthew Gries and Alyssa Arbuiso as the Class of 2018 Valedictorian and Salutatorian, respectively.

Finishing at the top of his class, Matthew will study Computer Science at Northeastern University. He is a vital member of the Robotics team, Quiz Bowl, Science Olympiads, and has earned the American Chemical Society Award and the American Association of Physics Teachers Award. Matthew was named a commended student for the 2018 National Merit Scholarship Corporation. He serves as secretary for the Tri-M Music Honor Society, and is an active participant in the Marching Band, Jazz Band, Pit Orchestra, and competes in NYSSMA, SCMEA All-County and All-State for the Tuba.

Alyssa is receiving her Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation with honors in mastery in math and science. She has earned numerous Exceptional Academic Achievement Awards, the Bausch and Lomb Honorary Science Award, New York State Senate Youth Leadership Certificate, and the National Merit Scholarship. A talented student-actor, Alyssa has been cast in numerous leading roles in musicals and plays and earned a Teeny Award for her role in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. This past fall, she was designated *Newsday's* Long Island Scholar Artist for Musical Theater. Alyssa will attend The University of Notre Dame as Biochemistry major in the Glynn Family Honors program.

“Both Matthew and Alyssa have earned top honors in their class through their outstanding commitment to academic excellence,” said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Michael R. Lonergan. “They serve as excellent role models and leaders for their peers. We are extremely proud of their accomplishments and wish them well in their future endeavors.”



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## Contact Information:

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