




**Stuyvesant High School Alumni Association presents**

# **The 2022 Benefit for Stuyvesant**

**Tuesday, May 24, 2022  
Tribeca Rooftop**

**#CelebrateStuy**





May 24, 2022

Welcome! Thank you so much for joining us at the 2022 Benefit for Stuyvesant. The Alumni Association is proud to honor the careers and contributions of four remarkable members of the Stuyvesant community: Dr. Roald Hoffmann '55; Hon. Grace Meng '93; Vishal Garg '95; and Lindon Gao '09 – each of whom has been dedicated to supporting New York City's public school students.

We are delighted to be here with you and grateful for your generous commitment to the Alumni Association. Thanks to your support, each year we award students with scholarships and underwrite many of their extra-curricular activities, such as Speech & Debate, Football, Fencing, Chess, SING!, and more. In addition, we help the next generation of Stuyvesant develop important social and professional skills through Alumni Mentoring and the Annual Science Talent Search.

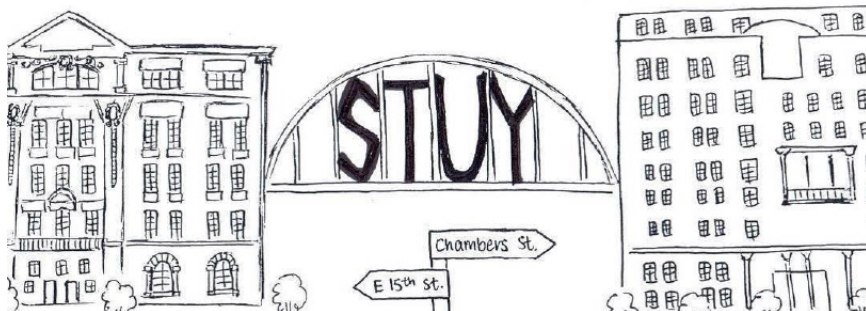
In recent years, we have developed StuyPrep – an initiative that seeks to empower historically underprivileged middle school students with increased access to educational opportunities, tutoring, and awareness of the specialized high school network. Helping to ensure more equitable access to all of NYC's specialized high schools, especially Stuyvesant, is a high priority for the Alumni Association.

Tonight's event, our first major in-person gathering since 2020, and with our new Executive Director, is especially exciting. As we sit here, just down the road, Stuyvesant High School is alive again. The resilience and determination of our school community is unparalleled. With over 3,000 students from diverse backgrounds, Stuy continues to offer a superlative education to all that walk through its doors. And, with additions such as the new Alfred & Edwin Lin Robotics Lab and the Irwin Zahn Innovation Lab (where tonight's awards were designed and printed) the Alumni Association ensures that Stuy remains a beacon of hope for so many bright young New Yorkers.

We could not support thousands of students and connect tens of thousands of alumni without your support and the support of our Board of Directors and Board of Trustees, and in particular, Soo Kim '93. Tonight's successes are due to the work of our incredible Benefit Committee and Staff who work so hard all year long. Thank you all, again, for being here to celebrate Roald, Grace, Vishal, and Lindon, and to support the Stuyvesant High School Alumni Association. Please enjoy the 2022 Benefit for Stuyvesant!

Sincerely,

Yi-Shan Huang '96 and David Gelobter '84  
Benefit Committee Co-Chairs



## **Stuyvesant High School Alumni Association**

# **Benefit for Stuyvesant**

**May 24, 2022**

### **Welcome Remarks**

Diego Segalini '98, SHSAA Executive Director

### **Student Programs**

Principal Seung Yu

### **The Golden Pegleg Award**

Roald Hoffmann, PhD '55

The 1981 Nobel Prize Laureate in Chemistry

### **Outstanding Pegleg in Government Service**

Grace Meng, JD '93

Member of the U.S. House of Representatives

### **Outstanding Pegleg in Support of NYC Public Schools**

Vishal Garg '95

Founder & CEO of Better.com

### **The Young Pegleg Award**

Lindon Gao '09

Founder & CEO of Caper AI

### **Desserts & Dancing**

Music by DJ Bromski



## **Wharton Property Advisors**

Assisting Stuyvesant graduates  
(and others) with their office space needs  
with creativity, integrity, independence  
and diligence for 30 years

### **Contact**

Ruth Colp-Haber and Eric Haber, Esq. (Class of 1975)

Wharton Property Advisors  
450 Lexington Avenue, 4th Floor  
New York NY 10017

646-265-3770

[eric@whartonproperties.net](mailto:eric@whartonproperties.net)

[www.whartonproperties.net](http://www.whartonproperties.net)

# THANK YOU TO OUR AMAZING SPONSORS!

## **Diamond Supporters**

Soo Kim '93  
Edwin Lin '93

## **Ruby Supporters**

Vishal Garg '95  
Anna Nikolayevsky '88  
Teresa Uthurralt '85

## **Sapphire Supporters**

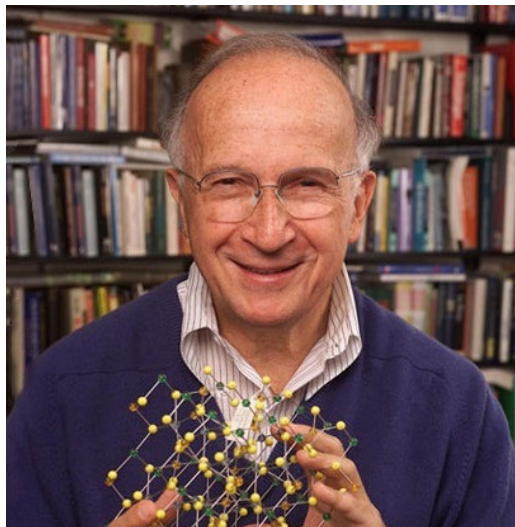
Raymond Fong, MD '73  
David Gelobter '84  
Robert Jacobs '66  
Lawrence F. Marshall, MD '73  
Lina Tetelbaum, JD '03 and Matt Anderson

## **Mini-Reunion Supporters**

Class of 1989  
Class of 1991  
Class of 2018

Thank You for Your Support!

# THE GOLDEN PEGLEG



**Roald Hoffmann, PhD '55** won the 1981 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his work with Robert B. Woodward to develop the Woodward-Hoffmann rules, regarded as one of the most important conceptual advancement in theoretical organic chemistry in the last century. The rules gave chemists a powerful tool for predicting the pathways that chemical reactions may follow. In 1990, he also received the Priestley Medal of the American Chemical Society, chemistry's highest honor.

Dr. Hoffmann was born in 1937 in Złoczów, Poland and survived through a Nazi-occupied Poland by hiding in the attic of a Ukrainian schoolhouse. Decades later, he wrote a semi-autobiographical play, "Something that Belongs to You," based on his experiences from that time. Dr. Hoffmann entered Stuyvesant in 1951, two years after he and his family emigrated to America from Poland. He received an AB from Columbia University and completed his Masters and PhD in Chemistry at Harvard University.

Since 1965, Dr. Hoffmann has taught chemistry at Cornell and became the Frank H.T. Rhodes Professor of Human Letters in 1996. In addition to the 650+ scientific articles attached to his name, Dr. Hoffmann has also published seven collections of poetry, three plays, and five books of nonfiction.



# OUTSTANDING PEGLEG IN GOVERNMENT SERVICE



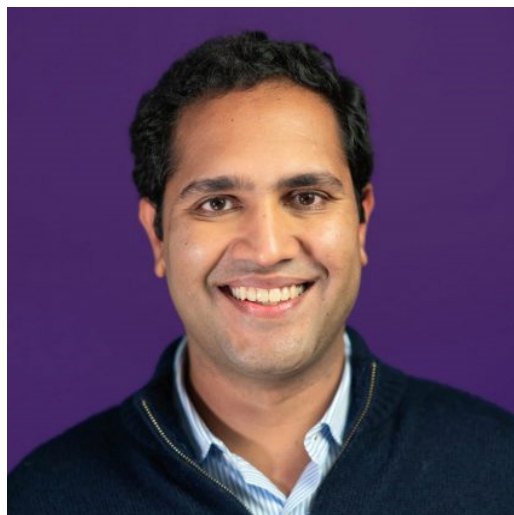
**Grace Meng, JD '93** represents New York's 6th Congressional District located in Queens, New York. As a daughter of immigrants growing up in Queens, the most diverse county in America, Grace quickly came to believe that every person deserves a seat at the table. That conviction prompted Grace to begin her professional career as a public interest lawyer before serving two terms in the New York State Assembly.

Now, in her third term in Congress, Grace continues to advocate for inclusive policies that benefit the vulnerable and the often overlooked. From her seat on the House Appropriations Committee, she regularly fights for federal programs that benefit women and children. She even co-founded the Bipartisan Congressional Kids' Safety Caucus which she still co-chairs.

While Grace remains one of the 15 youngest Democrats in Congress, she has been ranked the 8th most-effective legislator in the Democratic Party according to the Center for Effective Lawmaking. She serves as Chair of ASPIRE PAC through which she supports Asian American candidates across the country, and works to ensure that Asian American voices and concerns are heard in the political process.

In February of 2017, Grace was elected Vice Chair of the Democratic National Committee where she focused on winning back the House in 2018 and winning back the White House in 2020.

# OUTSTANDING PEGLEG IN SUPPORT OF NYC PUBLIC SCHOOLS



**Vishal Garg '95** is the Founder and CEO of Better, the first and only digital-first homeownership company whose goal is to make homes more affordable, more accessible and just plain better, for all Americans and eventually everyone else. To date, under Vishal's leadership, Better.com has provided over \$40BN in home financing and provided over \$16BN in cumulative coverage through Better Cover and Better Settlement Services, the insurance divisions of Better.com. Better.com has raised over \$400M in equity capital and is backed by SoftBank, L Catterton, Kleiner Perkins, Goldman Sachs, Ally Bank, American Express, Citi and other investors.

In addition to his role at Better, he serves as the founding partner of One Zero Capital, an investment holding company focused on creating and investing in businesses within consumer finance, technology, and digital marketing. At 21, Vishal dropped out of the investment banking analyst program at Morgan Stanley and started MyRichUncle, which became the second largest private student lender in the United States. It went public in 2005 and was subsequently acquired by Merrill Lynch.

In 2021, Vishal launched a partnership with the Fund for Public Schools in NYC, donating nearly \$2M to buy Chromebook, iPads, Wi-Fi hotspots, books and uniforms for over 20,000 NYC public school students from low income backgrounds to better cope with at home and online learning during the COVID pandemic.



# THE YOUNG PEGLEG



**Lindon Gao '09** is the Founder and CEO of Caper AI, the world's first smart grocery cart powered by artificial intelligence. Caper Cart uses AI-powered cameras and weight sensors to recognize items as they are placed into the cart without having to scan or weigh them. Customers can pay with the cart and bypass the checkout lines. In October 2021, Instacart announced that it was acquiring Caper for \$350 million.

Caper might be Lindon's most successful company to date but it is definitely not his first. Lindon already started his first company trading gaming collectables by the time he entered Stuyvesant. By age 19 when he was studying at NYU Stern, he started his second company, LPG Crafts, which he turned into a multi-million dollar business.

Post-college, he worked at Goldman Sachs as an investment banker for more than two years but eventually realized that he preferred entrepreneurship to finance. In 2016, Lindon and his co-founders launched QueueHop, an anti-theft apparel tag that would unlock when you pay with an app. QueueHop was accepted by Y Combinator and even raised \$150K in seed capital. Their work on QueueHop eventually led them to develop Caper. In 2020, Lindon and his Caper co-founders were all named to Forbes' "30 Under 30" list for their transformative product in the Retail & Ecommerce industry.



STATE OF NEW YORK  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER  
ALBANY 12224

**KATHY HOCHUL**  
GOVERNOR

May 24, 2022

Stuyvesant High School Alumni Association  
345 Chambers Street  
Room 101  
New York, NY 10282

Dear Friends:

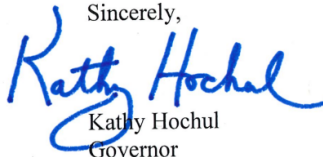
It is my pleasure to send greetings to everyone gathered for Stuyvesant High School Alumni Association's 2022 Benefit for Stuyvesant.

Since 1904, Stuyvesant High School has educated confident young men and, later, young women, who have gone on to make New York State proud of their amazing accomplishments. Known as a competitive school with an emphasis on math and science, Stuyvesant also has comprehensive humanities and arts departments. The Alumni Association is committed to supporting the diverse student body at Stuyvesant High School through scholarships and grants, offering mentoring programs, and facilitating academic and extracurricular activities and events.

Tonight, you come together to look back at a year of accomplishments and to pay tribute to remarkable alumni members. I am certain that each of these distinguished honorees and the longstanding tradition of excellence at Stuyvesant High School will continue to inspire generations of young people who will contribute in meaningful ways to making a positive difference in our world.

Best wishes for an enjoyable evening.

Sincerely,

  
Kathy Hochul  
Governor



THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
NEW YORK, NY 10007

May 24, 2022

Dear Friends:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome everyone to Stuyvesant High School Alumni Association (SHSAA)'s second annual Benefit for Stuyvesant.

For every New Yorker to receive the comprehensive, high-quality education they deserve, we must all be invested in the futures of our children and the success of our schools. The SHSAA has long been a crucial connection between our schools and our hard-working professionals. By informing graduates of upcoming events and important changes at the school, this organization strengthens the deep-rooted, communal bonds that have been formative to so many New Yorkers. In addition, the Association directly engages Stuyvesant High School's current students through its mentoring program, allowing them to build strong relationships with trusted adults, discover different professional careers, and develop the skills they need to achieve their dreams and pave their own pathways to success. Today, I am pleased to recognize the SHSAA for its commitment to supporting our city's youth and bettering its community.

On behalf of the City of New York, please accept my best wishes for a joyous and successful event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric Adams".

Eric Adams  
Mayor



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

1 Centre Street, 19th floor, New York, NY 10007  
(212) 669-8300 p (212) 669-4306 f  
431 West 125th Street, New York, NY 10027  
(212) 531-1609 p (212) 531-4615 f  
[www.manhattanbp.nyc.gov](http://www.manhattanbp.nyc.gov)

Mark D. Levine, Borough President



May 24, 2022

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to join you in celebrating the second annual Benefit for Stuyvesant and the renowned Stuyvesant High School Alumni Association.

It is no surprise that Stuyvesant – which has one of the most active student and parent communities in the city – has such an engaged alumni association. The SHSAA is a testament to the outstanding education you received and Stuyvesant's culture of excellence. Whether you graduated 50 years ago or five years ago, your support for current Stuyvesant students is invaluable.

I would also like to congratulate tonight's honorees: Dr. Roald Hoffmann '55, recipient of the Golden Pegleg Award; Grace Meng '93, recipient of the Outstanding Pegleg in Government Service; Vishal Garg '95, recipient of the Outstanding Pegleg in Support of NYC Public Schools; and Lindon Gao '09, recipient of the Young Pegleg Award. You represent the talent and tenacity that distinguish Stuyvesant students and alumni.

On behalf of the Borough of Manhattan, I wish you another year of success!

Sincerely,

Mark Levine  
Manhattan Borough President



"Human Connection Experts  
Helping Workplaces Thrive"

Our mission, and our passion,  
is to bring the human connection  
back to the workplace.



[www.lpconnexio.com](http://www.lpconnexio.com)

Email: [frances@lpconnexio.com](mailto:frances@lpconnexio.com)

Congratulations to the honorees of the 2022  
Benefit! Shout-out to the Class of 1989 from  
Renee Stevens '89 and Frances Lopez '89.



# The Class of 1991

Anthony Bosco '91  
Nick Daraviras '91  
Michael Garvey '91  
Chandra Reddy Metzler '91  
Nell Patel (nee Maloney) '91  
Greg Plotko '91  
Mitchell Raab '91  
Gloria Radeff '90  
David E. Ross '91

would like to offer their congratulations  
and best wishes to all the honorees of  
the 2022 Benefit for Stuyvesant!







Since 2016, **StuyPrep** has provided **free tutoring and preparation** for the Specialized High School Admissions Test to **hundreds of underserved and underrepresented students** throughout New York City.

Thank you to StuyPrep founders, **Kent Kim '05** and **Christina Alfonso '01**, who devoted countless hours and immeasurable efforts these last six years to make the Program possible.

The Stuyvesant High School Alumni Association is **proud to sponsor StuyPrep.**

Help us change more students' lives through the power of education.

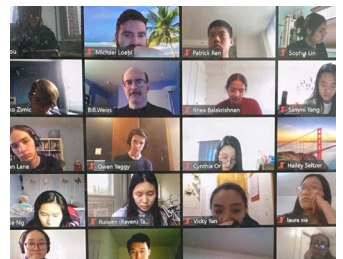


The Alumni Association is proud to sponsor  
**The Alumni Mentoring Program**  
which has provided



Thank you to **YanJie Hou '06** (Program Founder & Co-Director), **Bill Weiss '80** (Program Co-Director), and the **hundreds of alumni** who have volunteered their time and energy to **mentor 1,500+ Stuyvesant students** over the last seven years.

The skills and knowledge - **resume editing, interviewing, career exploration, college application process** - taught by mentors empower our students and set them up for future success.





CONGRATULATIONS TO  
THE 2022 BENEFIT  
HONOREES!

**From the Class of 2018  
& Friends**

Shaik Abiden '17  
Luola Chen '18  
Zachary Ginsberg '17  
Niels Graham '17  
Derek Lung '18  
Inbar Pe'er '18  
Abie Rohrig '18  
Isaac Rose-Berman '18



# Join us for Spring Reunions!

Join us the weekend of June 11 - 12 for the first Stuyvesant Reunion since Fall 2019!

**Saturday, June 11, 2022 (2PM - 5PM)**

**New Stuyvesant (345 Chambers Street)**

All classes are invited to an afternoon at New Stuy:

- Catch up with old friends while enjoying light refreshments
- Get a tour of the new building from current students
- Enjoy various student performances
- Buy Stuy merchandise at the School Store

Register early to book your spots - tickets are only \$10!

**Sunday, June 12, 2022 (11AM - 12:30PM)**

**Old Stuyvesant (345 East 15th Street)**

The Old School will be open for self-guided tours from 11AM to 12:30PM. The tours are free to attend, but you must register in advance.

**To register and for updated information  
on specific class reunions, please visit  
[stuyalumni.org/events](https://stuyalumni.org/events)**



**Thank you for attending  
the 2022 Benefit!**

Funds raised will go  
toward StuyPrep, Alumni  
Mentoring, and numerous  
classes, clubs, and  
programs that make  
Stuyvesant the life-  
changing experience it  
was for so many alums.

**Help us get to our  
fundraising goal of  
\$200K!**

*Your gift will make a  
huge impact for so many  
deserving students!*

**Scan below to Donate**



**The Stuyvesant High School  
Alumni Association is a 501(c)(3)  
not-for-profit organization.**

## **2021-2022 Board Members**

Soo Kim '93, *President*  
Alice Kim '98, *1st Vice President*  
Elina Tetelbaum, JD '03, *2nd Vice President*  
Kent Kim '05, *Treasurer*  
Daniel Egers, JD '03, *Secretary*  
Edward Balaban '69  
Harold Diamond '78  
David Gelobter '84  
Michael Hartig '72  
Yi-Shan Huang '96  
Ling Wu Kong, JD '01  
Jonah Kupperstock '09  
Brett Lewis '02  
Frances Lopez '89  
Anna Nikolayevsky '88  
Bart Schwartz, JD '64  
Lillian Seu, PhD '01  
Ashley Stevens '93  
Renee Stevens '89  
Teresa Uthurralt '85

## **Trustees**

Philip Lehman, PhD '72, *Co-Chair*  
Christopher McGowan '88, *Co-Chair*  
Joan Ai '94  
Tyrone Chang '92  
Raymond Fong, MD '73  
Josh Mohrer '00  
Paul Weichsel, PhD '49

## **Staff**

Rachael Ann Biscocho '12  
YanJie Hou '06  
Diego Segalini '98

# Stuy Students Need You... To Be a Mentor

**Independent Research Mentors are needed in:  
Social Sciences, Biology, Mathematics, Chemistry,  
Physics, Computer Science, & other fields.**



Science Talent Search Finalists, 1992, including 4 students from Stuyvesant High School

Mentors can choose to:

- Provide direct mentorship in a lab
- Provide virtual mentorship with lab projects
- Review Stuy student proposals for submission to Regeneron Science Talent Search



The Parents Association & Alumni Association of Stuyvesant HS warmly invite you to participate by scanning this QR code & filling out the Stuyvesant HS Mentor form.

**Page Sponsored by SHSAA Board Member, Lillian Seu '01**