

# REVIEW

New Jersey  
Association of Student Councils

January 2011



***Devoted Responsible  
Individuals Volunteering  
Endlessly***

Don't forget to visit the website  
[www.njasc.org](http://www.njasc.org)

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# WELCOME BACK!

*On behalf of the NJASC,  
WELCOME TO 2011!!! We hope everyone had an awesome holiday break! The 2010 NJASC Executive Board would also like to wish the best of luck to the newly elected 2011 State Officers and to all of New Jersey's leaders in the new year.*

*In this issue of The Review, you will learn a little more about this year's State Charity, the 2011 Presidential Candidates, and read a farewell from your 2010 NJASC President.*

# AND OF COURSE...

*ALL of this Information can also be found on the NJASC WEBSITE! The website offers all state forms, information on all NJASC hosted events, information on your state officers and past editions of The Review!*

# WWW.NJASC.ORG

# State Charity

Join us in our quest to provide children with a smile that will last for a life time. The families and kids fighting cancer will forever feel the warmth of the magic.

## Our Mission:

To spread hope and inspiration to children battling cancer through the power of magic. We achieve this by:

- ◆ Creating live magic shows for hospitalized children battling cancer, camps and foundations.
- ◆ Distributing our magic DVD that teaches simple magic for patients while they are receiving cancer treatment
- ◆ Funding services for the oncology survivorship program at
- ◆ Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.



With each performance we hope to      So What's Our Goal?



“Spread the Magic is here to share a little abracadabra with all the children of New Jersey.”

# Presidential Candidates....

Every year at the NJASC Winter Convention, elections and speeches are given to decide the new executive board. A student representative from each school will listen to speeches, and vote for the candidate they feel would best fit the NJASC position. The two candidates running for the position of the NJASC President would like to say a little about themselves and what they could offer the NJASC if elected in 2011.

Hey New Jersey! I'm Jimmy LaFaso and I attend Rutherford High School in Southern Bergen County where I currently serve as class representative. I have been involved in Student Council since I was able to in 6th grade. From there I have held many different positions, including president of my class, twice. Throughout these amazing years, I have had the opportunity to partake in food, clothing and coin drives that aim to make our community a better place. On top of Student Council, I am involved in a wide range of activities that include baseball, a co-leader in our Model United Nations delegation, Spanish Honor Society and an anchor for the morning announcements. All these activities have helped me develop friendships and leadership skills that keep me going everyday and give me an incentive to walking into school knowing it will be a great day. Although school takes up a good portion of my time some of my hobbies include, skiing, sports, hanging out with friends and watching some great movies. During the summer, I volunteer as a camp counselor for under-privileged children within Bergen County. The camp has been such an amazing experience and is something that I really wish everyone could partake in. Seeing the smiles on the kids' faces when they win a game of Connect-4 or score a home run in kickball gives me the satisfaction of knowing I did something great.

## Presidential Candidates... continued

# Michaela Brown

Hello New Jersey! My name is **Michaela Brown**, and I'm asking student leaders across our beautiful Garden State to present me with the opportunity to become the NJASC President. Student Council has played the largest role in shaping my personality, character, and interests throughout my life. I first became involved in fifth grade, and haven't looked back since, obtaining the roles of Student Council President, Class President, and currently serving as Secretary of the Student Council at Phillipsburg High School. However, my love for Student Council grew beyond my middle school and high school. In 2007 I was elected to become the Middle Level Representative of the New Jersey Association of Student Councils; when my term ended I could not say goodbye to this wonderful organization and applied to become a Junior Councilor at the happiest place on earth, LTC. This summer was my fifth year at LTC and it is still the highlight of my year to see leaders come together and develop and grow to become better than they ever thought possible.

This is why I'm asking to become the President of the NJASC. I have seen first hand examples of the power this organization has to change lives and make people live happier and more productive lives. I personally attribute my work ethic, outgoing personality, and dedication to success to the NJASC. I grew up with the NJASC, and it has encouraged me to be a leader in every aspect of my life. When I'm not leading in Student Council you can find me leading on the newspaper staff, the lacrosse field, debate club, and volunteering in my community. I believe I will always continue to grow and improve on my leadership skills, but I really want to be elected President of the NJASC, so I can finally give back to the organization that has taught me so much, and I can make an impact on improving my fellow student leaders across the state. Every Student Council President, every single member of Student Council, and the students who benefit from the tireless work of their Student Councils deserve the same amazing experiences I have received, and I want to be a part of making that happen through the hard work of the NJASC.

# FAREWELL FROM YOUR 2010 PRESIDENT

## STEPHEN DESILETS

Dear Leaders of New Jersey,

It is with a heavy heart that I accept that 2010 has come to a close. The memories and experiences that I have had over the past year through the NJASC will last a lifetime. However, looking at the two candidates for president next year, Michaela and Jimmy, I can say with confidence that you are in good hands, New Jersey.

Over the past seven years, Student Council and the NJASC have become such a meaningful aspect of my life. The work that Student Councils do every day for their communities is truly amazing. Through afterschool activities, fundraisers, volunteering, spirit, and donations to the State Charity, you, the leaders of New Jersey, show your DRIVE! I am proud to say that I am a part of this cooperative effort to improve New Jersey. The NJASC and Student Council have shown me both the power of impacting others' lives and the amazing, fun memories one can make along the way

Through the NJASC, I have met some of the most extraordinary people I've ever met. I'm so honored to have had the chance to work with many of you at LTC this past summer. The leadership skills we learned together, as well as the laughs we shared together, will remain with me for a lifetime. Thank you so much for giving me this incredible opportunity and trusting me as your 2010 president. (I hope I haven't disappointed you all too much.) I know that, for me, this experience has been life-changing and has taught me so much about myself as both a leader and, more important, as a person.

To my advisors, thank you so much for your inspiration. I feel honored to have been a part of your 25th year, Wendy, and your Shull Award triumph, Lou. To my fellow state officers, you all are the most incredible people I have ever met, and I will always cherish our memories together forever. Though our terms may be ending, I smile because I know this could never be goodbye. Our friendships and memories together have only just begun. To the 2011 state officers, congratulations, and prepare for the best year of your lives. Make sure not to blink because you won't want to miss a second of it. Finally, to you New Jersey, thank you so much for this opportunity, and continue to show your DRIVE and Spread the Magic in your school, your community, and, of course, your state!

Yours Truly,  
Stephen Desilets

# Coming up...

**Spring Awards Program**  
Thursday May 12, 2011  
Six Flags Great Adventure

**56th Annual LTC**  
Session 1: July 13-16  
Session 2: July 17-20

**NASC Star Leaders National Conference**  
June 24-29, 2011  
St. Louis, Missouri

# SPECIAL THANKS...

The 2010 State Officers would like to first thank the two best state advisors a group of student leaders could ask for Lou and Wendy. We would also like thank each and every person throughout NJ who has supported the NJASC by coming to a meeting, attending LTC, or just viewing the website. Your support is truly appreciated. We couldn't do any of this without our parents and school advisors who took the time out to support us by allowing us to join a great organization. Lastly, we would like to congratulate all of the candidates for making it this far and remind them that the 2010 State Officers had

DRIVE!

I welcome and appreciate any questions, comments, or articles you'd like to add to The Review! Please don't hesitate to contact me, Rajhon White, at [review10@njasc.org](mailto:review10@njasc.org) or my newly elected successor at [review11@njasc.org](mailto:review11@njasc.org)