

# New Jersey is M.A.G.I.C.A.L. 2016

## NJASC REVIEW-ISSUE 3



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# New Year, New Review, New Jersey



**Welcome back, New Jersey, and Happy New Year! This year, we have many exciting events planned for the student leaders of this wonderful state. We hope you all are ready to inspire change and leadership among your schools and communities and make this year yet another great one for NJASC!**

**The 2015 State Officers would like to thank their great state for the support you have given them this past year. Their experiences will help them in the future and they wish the best of luck to the upcoming officers.**

# A Look Back at 2015

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- 1 – Winter Convention/Elections 2015
- 2 – First Business Meeting February
- 3 – Region 2 Conference, Livonia NY
- 4 – Spring Convention at Six Flags

- 5 – NASC National Conference, Albuquerque NM
- 6 – 60<sup>th</sup> Annual LTC
- 7 – Fall Convention

# 2016 Presidential Candidates



Hello, New Jersey! I'm **Sanjana Duggirala** from **Mercer County Technical Schools** and I am honored and beyond thrilled to be running for your next NJASC President! Throughout my life, I have been attracted to enhancing my leadership skills through various opportunities at my school and in my community. In my school's Student Council, I have served as both Vice President and Secretary and helped coordinate many activities, such as our NJASC State Charity fundraisers.

Aside from Student Council, I also participate in HOSA, in which I serve as class President. In order to give back to my community, I regularly volunteer with multiple non-profits, as well as in my local hospital. In my spare time, I also dance, which has increased my self-esteem and helped me to be at ease in front of a crowd. As a result of these experiences, I have acquired and developed a plethora of skills and values, such as determination, teamwork, and open-mindedness.

Though I have had many experiences that have helped me to build my leadership skills, nothing has affected me more than LTC; it was the key that unlocked my potential as a student leader. After attending LTC the first time, I was addicted to its ebullient atmosphere and decided to attend LTC Advanced, where my love for leadership and for service to the Garden State continued to grow. I emerged from LTC with new insight into leadership and an expanded network of dedicated student leaders with whom I can work in order to best serve New Jersey's many Student Council chapters. Ever since I attended my first opening ceremony two years ago, I knew that I wanted to be a part of something larger and running for State office is allowing me to do just that.

The NJASC is very dear to me and has become a top priority in my life. From every NJASC Conference I have attended, I have drawn inspiration from the State Officers and am excited to have the opportunity to walk in their footsteps. NJASC has molded me into an effective leader and I am ready to give back by serving as your 2016 President. If given this phenomenal opportunity, I will work closely with the other members of the Executive Board to empower Student Councils across the state to achieve unprecedented excellence.

# 2016 Presidential Candidates



Hey, New Jersey! My name is **Nicholas Lore-Edwards** and I am from **Neptune High School**. I remember my first time attending a NJASC convention, I was a freshman and it was early January. Before attending the convention, I had always thought that there was relatively little the average high school student could do to positively effect a large group of people. I knew what could be done to help my community where I live, but anything on a larger scale from that felt nearly impossible. When I saw the executive board, made entirely up of students, I was amazed. After seeing the candidates that year, hearing the president's farewell speech, and learning about what the role of a state officer entailed, I left the convention knowing that I wanted to be a state officer.

This past summer, I attended LTC and I learned a lot. I was able to get feedback on my public speaking skills, and I learned what to do and not to do when presenting a speech. I also learned what communication techniques to use in different situations, from brainstorming to running a meeting. Most importantly, LTC taught me that there were other students like me, other students who were just as involved and committed to bettering their student councils and schools.

One of my most defining characteristics is my involvement in my school and community. I am involved in a variety of clubs and sports, consequently there are very few days that I actually leave school when the last bell rings. I also try to take up roles and activities that don't necessarily correlate to a club or sport, such as being the emcee at large afterschool events. In my community, I can be found helping the elderly, at the United Methodist Homes, and the disabled, at the NJ Special Olympics, to aiding our own environment through United by Blue.

As president, my main objective is simple: to have a positive effect on the most people possible. I would like to focus on making sure every school and every student feels included, or continues to feel included, in this amazing organization. Once people feel included and valued, they are more likely to share their ideas and participate in the many events that the NJASC hosts, leading to a stronger organization overall.

# 2016 State Office Candidates

## **President**

Sanjana Duggirala – Mercer County Tech-Health Sciences HS

Nicholas Lore-Edwards – Neptune HS

## **Vice President**

Beau Bruneau – Holy Cross Academy

Brynn McCall – Riverside HS

## **Treasurer**

Katie Lamb – Shore Regional HS

Cindy Lin – Pemberton Township HS

## **Secretary**

Jessica Lail – Kingsway Regional HS

Adam Mangold – Donovan Catholic HS

## **Executive Members**

Matthew Edwards – Ocean City HS

Vanessa Livingstone – Palmyra HS

Kayla MacKinnon – Washington Township HS

Kritk Mirg – West Windsor-Plainsboro HS South

Victoria Myers – Rancocas Valley Regional HS

Kevin Phildor – Hamilton HS West

Kelsey Raymond – Northern Burlington HS

## **Board of Education Representative**

Ava-Kathleen Rybicki – Williamstown HS

## **Middle Level Representative**

Shruti Nagpal – Melvin H. Kreps MS

Sabrina Capoli – Kenneth R. Olson MS

# 2015 Presidential Farewell



To New Jersey's Finest,

Twelve months have never gone by so fast! It's difficult to believe that 2015 is already over, and even harder to think that the 2015 State Officers and I have completed our term. I believe that I speak for all of us when I say that it has been a pleasure and an honor to represent this great state and its incredible leaders. This will forever be one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. Working closely with eight of the strongest leaders I have ever known, as well as getting to

know some of the most inspiring individuals from all over the state, has been truly incredible. This past year is one that I will never forget thanks to my fellow state officers, Lou and Wendy, and the outstanding student leaders of New Jersey.

The 2015 State Officers truly made this a **MAGICAL** year. Each member of the board brought a different leadership style that helped us to grow as individuals and as a team. We were able to learn from each other about leadership, which is what the NJASC is all about. Every decision made and every action taken was a team effort and we all contributed our ideas to the group. I learned valuable lessons from each officer that will last a lifetime. There is no other group I would rather see every month, travel to New Mexico with, or celebrate the 60th annual LTC with. I am forever grateful to have served with these eight remarkable leaders, whom I will always call my family.

My role as president showed me a new perspective on the different functions of leadership. I learned that leadership does not always mean being the loudest or most visible. Often, the most effective leaders are able to govern from within a group, leading alongside their team.

# 2015 Presidential Farewell

I witnessed all of the New Jersey student leaders accomplish this at the Spring Awards Program, LTC, the Fall Business Meeting, and even at my own school. It was gratifying to be able to contribute to the planning of these conferences and the sharing of ideas.

A tremendous amount of work goes into making the NJASC the success that it is. Thank you to the Administrative Assistants who work so hard to make everything run smoothly. We could always count on your success, support, and friendship. Lou and Wendy have been such influential people in my life, setting a wonderful example for the State Officers and I, and always encouraging us to be the best versions of ourselves. The time and effort that they dedicate to the NJASC makes a huge difference in the lives of student leaders all over the state. I am so grateful to have the support of the South Brunswick School District, my student council and my advisor, Kelly Boyer. They have been more supportive than I ever could have imagined and they exemplify the true meaning of friendship and leadership.

There are no words that can fully express my gratitude to have been able to serve as 2015 NJASC President. This past year has been nothing less than **MAGICAL** for myself, the State Officers and our state as a whole. The ambition, drive, and passion to lead that NJ's student leaders show every day inspires me to further my own leadership abilities. You are the leaders that make all goals ignite change. You are all the leaders that make this state so **MAGICAL**.

Sincerest Thanks,  
Nina G. Trach  
2015 NJASC President

# Hope Loves Company



Hope Loves Company was founded by Jodi O'Donnell-Ames, a resident of New Jersey, and is the only non-profit organization in the United States dedicated to supporting children who have a relative living with Lou Gehrig's disease (ALS). It has helped thousands of children cope with the struggles of having parents or grandparents living with ALS.

As the 2015-2016 NJASC State Charity, we hope that HLC has provided or will soon provide awareness to your schools. Jodi has been visiting many towns in New Jersey to help inform student leaders about her wonderful cause. We hope that you get involved and look for ways to fundraise in your schools and communities.

## **For more information:**

Visit: [hopelovescompany.com](http://hopelovescompany.com)

Follow: @HopeLovesCo on Twitter

Email: [hopelovescompany@gmail.com](mailto:hopelovescompany@gmail.com)

Thank you for inspiring us, Hope Loves Company!

# 2015 Farewell

The 2015 State Officers would again like to thank the wonderful state of New Jersey for their time and support. Through the conventions, conferences and countless experiences they have made, they would not have done it without the motivation from the student leaders of this great state. They would also like to thank the administrative assistants and the executive directors for all their help and influence this past year. It was their



pleasure to work with such driven and intelligent people and represent them every step of the way. They hope to have truly made all goals ignite change and wish the best of luck to the upcoming board. Get ready for an exciting year!

## What's Coming Up?

- **Winter Convention @ The College of New Jersey**  
Wednesday January 6
- **Executive Transition Meeting @ Edison HS**  
Monday February 8
- **Spring Awards Program @ Six Flags Great Adventure**  
Wednesday June
- **61<sup>st</sup> Annual LTC @ The College of New Jersey**  
Session 1: July 13-16  
Session 2: July 17-20