

Brooklyn Technical High School Parent Association

Spring Elections 2022-2023

List of Nominees

Please see the positions available below.

1. President or Co-Presidents - up to 2 seats
2. Recording Secretary or Co-Recording Secretaries - up to 2 seats
3. Corresponding Secretary or Co-Corresponding Secretaries - up to 2 seats
4. Treasurer - 1 seat
5. Assistant Treasurer - 1 seat
6. Vice President or Co-VPs of Fundraising - up to 2 seats
7. Vice President or Co-VPs of Communications - up to 2 seats
8. Vice President or Co-VPs of Events and Volunteers - up to 2 seats
9. Vice President or Co-VPs of Diversity and Community Engagement - up to 2 seats
10. Senior Vice President or Co-VPs - up to 2 seats
11. Junior Vice President or Co-VPs - up to 2 seats
12. Sophomore Vice President or Co-VPs - up to 2 seats
13. School Leadership Team (SLT) Parent Representatives - Up to 5 seats

** Please note for those nominations that exceeded the number of seats, the nominees are sorted by the last name alphabetically.

** PA Positions in highlight are contested. SLT positions are contested.

Brooklyn Technical High School Parent Association (PA) Executive Board Nominees 2022-2023			
No.	Nomination/Position	Nominee/Name	Info
1	PA Co-Presidents	Hamilton Cain & Mia Lu	<p>Hamilton Cain: Hamilton Cain is contributing books editor at Oprah Daily and also reviews fiction and nonfiction for a range of print venues, including the New York Times Book Review, Washington Post, and Boston Globe. He currently serves as the BTHS PA junior-class representative. He is running with Mia Lu for PA Co-Presidents.</p> <p>Mia Lu: Mia has served as Co-VP and then VP of Communications for two terms. Her son is a sophomore at Tech. With the great assistance of parent volunteers, she writes the weekly Tech Talk and stand-alone announcements, translates Tech Talks and announcements into Chinese, and manages the PA website. She is running for Co-Presidents with Hamilton Cain.</p> <p>Mia currently works as a law officer for a non-profit organization. She has earned a Chinese law degree and a U.S. law degree. Previously she was a partner of a law firm based in China before she came to the U.S. as a visiting scholar at Yale Law School in 2016. She speaks English, Mandarin Chinese, Cantonese, and Teochew.</p>
2	Co-Recording Secretaries	Vito J LaBella & Chris Zhang	<p>Vito LaBella: Vito is currently serving in this role and would love the opportunity to continue to serve for the 2022-2023 School year. Working with Chris, Vito cohosts the virtual and blended meetings, the PA YouTube and Facebook Group and Page. He would be happy to continue to serve in this capacity.</p> <p>Chris Zhang: Chris graduated from the City College of New York with Bachelor of Architecture and later worked in various architectural companies in NYC, and Tampa Fl as architectural designer & project architect. During 2012-2018, he was operating a wine & liquor retail business in Long Island and earned a nickname the “Wine Guy” in the town. He is running for Co-Recording Secretary again this year.</p>

3	Corresponding Secretary	Michael Reyes	Michael Reyes: As an SLT member, I would advocate for the continued focus on academic excellence and emphasize the importance of rigorous coursework. I would like to see Brooklyn Tech offer all students a class on personal finance, and during gym, the opportunity to learn or improve a skill in a sport.
4	Treasure	Ellen Goldstein	Ellen Goldstein: I have loved our son's years at Brooklyn Tech - he has had amazing academic opportunities and made friends with such a diverse group of kids. I think the education offered at Tech is singular, and I'd welcome the chance to give back and support the school if I can. I have chosen the Treasurer position because as a policy analyst and former city budget analyst, and having been school treasurer at another school (ok, in elementary school...) I am confident I have the skills necessary to do the job properly.
5	Assistant Treasurer	Li Li	Li Li: Li has been working in the financial sector for over 20 years. She also served on the board of trustees and the finance committee at Queens Botanical Garden since 2019. Li has also hosted numerous financial literacy training for students and business owners. She would be running for Assistant Treasurer this year.
6	Assistant Treasurer	Suet Sze	Suet Sze: I used to be a treasurer in my son's middle school in the past.
7	Co-VPs of Fundraising	Samantha Abeysekera	Samantha Abeysekera: I am a mom of three kids (Leela -- 14, Rohan -- 11, Nayan -- 6) and an attorney specializing in employment law. I am also Sri Lankan-American and being part of a multicultural/multiracial family is a big part of who I am. I have experience in school governance as a Trustee of The Hannah Senesh Community Day School, where I'm on the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging Committee and Co-chair of the Advancement Committee. I'm driven and tenacious and detail-oriented, and really look forward to the opportunity to learn more about and participate in the PA at Brooklyn Tech! My daughter loves the school so far and I believe I can really use my experience and personality to help support the students, families, administration, and mission of the school.
8	Co-VPs of Communications	Rachel Hall Danes & Lisa Marsh	Rachel Hall Danes:

		<p>I'm Rachel Hall Danes, my daughter is a sophomore at Tech, and law will be her major. She currently runs on the track team, and I hope she will become more involved with the school activities. I have three years experience at Bronx Science on the Executive Board, as a co-recording secretary. My viewpoint I shared in meetings at Bronx Sci often stemmed from the social emotional health of the students as well as communications issues inherent in large schools. Professionally, I co-founded and was the President of a niche luxury women's wear collection for over 25 years. We designed unique bias cut patterns, and cut and sewed primarily in our New York studios. I exited the brand full time in 2018 and my former partner remains designing and selling to stores like Bergdorf Goodman, Sak's Fifth Avenue and Neiman Marcus. I now do business consulting with a holistic view for technology and apparel companies. I would consider doing the recording secretary position as well. But I prefer a collaborator/co-person for either. Teens have suffered a lot in the last two years and I'd like to contribute to the school's Parent's Association in order to help our wonderful Brooklyn Tech students and administration have the best possible outcomes after the Covid Years.</p> <p>Lisa Marsh: Professionally, I am a specialist in telling the stories of people, brands, and ideas in innovative ways. With 20+ years as a journalist, I am adept at getting the story right and delivered in the most effective way.</p> <p>Communication from your child's school and PA is some of the highest stakes messaging we will ever see. I have been helping compile/edit Tech Talk this year, so can hit the ground running. I'm also a part of the BTHS Diversity committee, leading Book Club discussions which feed off my passion for books (I try to read 52 each year).</p> <p>Personally, I am competitive saber fencer and love to cook. I look forward to doing my part on the BTHS PA."</p>
9	Co-VPs of Events and Volunteers	Xiaohua Hu & Xiu Min Wang Xiaohua Hu: Hello, I am Xiaohua (Sarah)Hu, the Vice President of Events and volunteers (2021-2022). This year, I have hosted meetings with the principle and 3 workshops. (Understanding College Financial Aid, Paying for college, and Stravinsky for Writing the College App Essay). Next year(2022-2023), I still want to partake the role of VP of Events and Volunteers to help more parents and kids for their future.

			<p>Xiu Min Wang: Hello , I am Xiu Min Wang (Annie) ,freshman Alfred Chen's Mom . I am very happy to join the big family of brooklyn Tech. I used to be a parent volunteer in elementary school for more then ten years. This time I am running for a VP-Events Volunteers. I hope to work with the parent volunteers, please Vote for me. Thank you very much for your support!</p>
10	Co-VPs of Diversity and Community Engagement	Kim Jalet & Sharon Mei	<p>Kim Jalet: My name is Kim Jalet and I joined the Tech PA Executive Board as a freshman rep during the 2017/2018 school year. I then served as a Corresponding Secretary and currently serve as a co Vice President of the Diversity and Community Engagement Committee with Jennifer Lu. During this past year, our committee planned a Lunar New Year Celebration that was broadcast on the PA's YouTube channel showcasing the talents of Tech's students and parents and raised several thousand dollars for the Tech PA. While we had to adapt to virtual meetings, our Social Justice / Racial Equity Book Group has met to discuss some powerful books in the last two years including Caste, Minor Feelings, We Are Not Like Them, The Narrows, and most recently Crying in H Mart. If re-elected, I hope to continue my work on the Diversity and Community Engagement Committee next year with a new co Vice President, Sharon Mei and bring back our in person events including Movie Nights and our Ice Cream Social. My son Dylan will be a senior here at Tech next year and I am so excited that my daughter Morgan will be joining him at this amazing school in the Fall. Thank you for considering me and Sharon Mei for co Vice Presidents of the Diversity and Community Engagement Committee.</p> <p>Sharon Mei: Hi, my name is Sharon Mei and I am the parent of a current 9th grader. My daughter loves Brooklyn Tech and so do I. I have become an active volunteer in helping all of the following groups since last September:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Helping the parent group of class 2025 to answer all inquiries related to daily announcements from school administration. 2) Helping the incoming parent group of class 2026 by answering questions to prepare them for a smooth transition. 3) Active member of BT LNY Committee 4) Active member of BT LNY Performance Team 5) Active member of BT volunteers team to promote fund raisings and raffles for LNY event.

			I have gained experience from working on the LNY event of 2022, and I am looking forward to participating further if I can become the co-VP of the Diversity and Community Engagement Committee. Thank you for your support!"
11	VP of Diversity and Community Engagement	Paula Diaz Antonopoulos Wolfe	<p>Paula Diaz Antonopoulos Wolfe: The position that I will run for is School Leadership Team Parent Representative and Vice President of Diversity.</p> <p>I am very excited to submit my application for Vice President of Diversity at Brooklyn Technical High School. As a trustworthy, mature, honest, and patient individual. I want to support ongoing communication with the school principal, teachers, and parents on specific concerns to advance policies and procedures to enhance achievement and meet educational, safety, and parent involvement goals.</p> <p>A former educator with over 20 years of experience locally, nationally, and abroad in various areas of education-I take great pride in being an educator for Dual Language and Bilingual students.</p> <p>I am confident of being able to advocate for educational opportunities for all at Brooklyn Technical School, making sure that resources support those policies. In addition by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Providing ongoing communication and interaction among families in the school community. -Analysing data as a driving force to support programmatic instructional change in the areas of need. -Providing ongoing evaluation review of school's educational programs and their impact on student advancement. -Participate in management level committees and ensure parents and students are involved in every crucial decision. <p>Finally, I am thrilled at the prospect of joining such an impressive group of leaders voicing for the Brooklyn Technical High School Community.</p>
12	Senior Co-Vice Presidents	Patricia Correge & Susan Small	<p>Patricia Correge: Susie and I are currently Co-VPs of Fundraising.</p>

		<p>We have volunteered together consistently since our children were in kindergarten - chairing Auction Committees in both middle and elementary school, as well as working as Co-Vice Presidents of their Middle School and Co-Presidents of their elementary school, located on the Upper East Side.</p> <p>At Tech, we have been Freshman Representatives, Sophomore Representatives, and this year have been Co-VPs of Fundraising - so far having raised 3000K as of March 2022 in the campaign for a matching grant. WE were also on the Auction Committee as Freshman parents in 2020 - working to plan an auction celebration which unfortunately could not take place due to the pandemic.</p> <p>Susan Small: Currently, I am a Co-VP of fundraising with Patricia Correge, and would like the opportunity to continue working with the PA as Co-Senior Class Representative with Patricia Correge.</p> <p>I have twin boys who will be seniors next year and I would like to have an active role in planning their senior events.</p> <p>Patricia and I have planned many events as we have worked together since our children attended PS 183 and Wagner Middle School. We were on the auction committee in both school's and were Co-Presidents at 183 and Co-Vice Presidents at Wagner. I was also a member of the SLT at PS 183 and planned a number of fun academic events.</p> <p>In the spring of 2020, when we were Freshman parents, we were set to have an outstanding auction-both as a community event and a successful fundraising event, however, the pandemic prohibited the auction from happening</p> <p>Having worked closely with District 2 leaders to continue to build and enhance our neighborhood schools, I chaired and planned many community events and fundraisers such as auctions, basketball tournaments, movie nights, parties, and hurricane relief drives. I have worked with foundations professionally and as an executive board member/officer to procure grants.</p>
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13	Junior Co-Vice Presidents	Shanny Bang & Michelle Cheung	<p>Shanny Bang: Hello, my name is Shanny Bang and I am your Sophomore Representative. Along with Michelle Cheung, we are currently running for Junior Representatives for next year. For the past 10 years, I have served on previous PTAs and committees. As a Co-Vice President for middle school, I was involved in working closely with the school administration, teachers, parents and students. I am familiar with the many aspects of a PA/PTA such as monthly meetings, budgeting, fundraising and organizing events. As the former, Director of Events and Conferences for Adweek Group, I managed a team to create many successful industry events. I know a great deal about organization, collaboration and getting people involved. Also, as a parent of a child with Special Needs, I understand the importance of diversity, inclusivity and an un-biased education for all. I know the amount of time and dedication it takes to serve on a PA but more importantly, what it means to be a part of a community. I would love this opportunity to serve again as your Junior Rep for next year. Thank you.</p> <p>Michelle Cheung: Michelle Cheung is currently serving in the role as Treasurer and a member of the SLT. Previously, she had served as a Recording Secretary, VP Class Representative and VP of Diversity & Community Engagement.</p>
14	Junior Vice President	Hua Han	<p>Hua Han: I am a bioinformatician at Icahn medical school. I am an immigrant from China. I have been working and studying in US since mid 1990's, first as technology consultant and then a Public Health student at Brown and Cornell. I am also a cancer survivor, I was saved by capable and kind-hearted nurses and doctors of New York city. I feel fortunate to have my child attending Brooklyn Tech, and cherish everyday with my family, colleague and friends in this city.</p>

15	Sophomore Vice President	Jane Cheung	<p>Jane Cheung: My name is Jane Cheung. I am very grateful to this great opportunity for participating in our BK Tech High School PA election and I would like to run a member of our SLT position tonight. I have two sons in our school. Currently, my elder son, Tobias Cen is a Sophomore and my younger son, Theodore Cen is a Freshman.</p> <p>I would like to represent as our parents of the school students and I will build up better communications between school, teachers and our parents. I can speak English, Mandarin, Cantonese and also the Fuzhou dialect.</p> <p>I have participated in the school PA team and the SLT in my both sons' primary schools and also their middle schools in Chinatown Manhattan. I was a Vice President of PA in PS184 ShuangWen School. I was a SLT member of MS126. And I was a PA President and also the SLT member of MS131.</p> <p>The students' health issues and academic progress and the safety of our schools are our greatest concerns during this difficult time. I firmly believe that the most important foundation for our school is, our school leaders and the school staffs can reunite with our parents for establishing a stable and a harmonious relationship between each others.</p> <p>I am willing to continuing to donate my time and serve my wonderful experience I have learned from the public school system for our excellent school PA team and the SLT. I look forward to communicate and cooperate with all of you happily and sincerely.</p> <p>Thank you all your loves and trusts in me, and please please remember to vote for me tonight, Jane Cheung!</p>
16	Sophomore Co-Vice Presidents	Elton Dodson & Felix Lempert	<p>Elton Dodson: I have two children in NYC DOE schools and one who graduated from Stuyvesant and is in college, and serve BTHS as a Freshman Representative. I am an attorney with experience in education law and serve as the Executive Director of an education non-profit. I believe very strongly in transparency and parental engagement.</p> <p>Felix Lempert: As an alumnus of Brooklyn Tech and as a parent of a current Tech student, I believe that I can keep helping the teachers, administrators, parents and the students by continuing on the</p>

		PTA board as a Sophomore Rep. Having served as a Freshman Rep, I feel that I can do even more next year and beyond! Vote for Pedro, I mean Felix!
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School Leadership Team (SLT) Nominees 2022-2023		
No.	Name	Info
1	Jennifer Bernstein	I am a current member of the SLT interested in continuing the work I have been doing as a member of the team over the past two years. I have served as SLT secretary for both years and as a member of what we informally call the "Caring Subcommittee." I also served on the SLT at my children's middle school, MS 447, and I believe that my participation and persistence over the years have brought beneficial results to both schools. My son is a junior in the SSR major. For my day job, I am a freelance book editor, which gives me lots of flexibility to attend meetings, prepare minutes, research issues, etc. I was born in Indiana, grew up in Virginia, and attended Harvard College. Thank you very much for your consideration!
2	Jane Cheung	<p>My name is Jane Cheung. I am very grateful to this great opportunity for participating in our BK Tech. High School PA election and I would like to run a member of our SLT position tonight. I have two sons in our school. Currently, my elder son, Tobias Cen is a Sophomore and my younger son, Theodore Cen is a Freshman.</p> <p>I would like to represent as our parents of the school students and I will build up better communications between school, teachers and our parents. I can speak English, Mandarin, Cantonese and also the Fuzhou dialect.</p> <p>I have participated in the school PA team and the SLT in my both sons' primary schools and also their middle schools in Chinatown Manhattan. I was a Vice President of PA in PS184 Shuang Wen School. I was a SLT member of MS126. And I was a PA President and also the SLT member of MS131.</p> <p>The students' health issues and academic progress and the safety of our schools are our greatest concerns during this difficult time. I firmly believe that the most important foundation for our school is, our school leaders and the school staffs can reunite with our parents for establishing a stable and a harmonious relationship between each others.</p>

		<p>I am willing to continue to donate my time and serve my wonderful experience I have learned from the public school system for our excellent school PA team and the SLT. I look forward to communicate and cooperate with all of you happily and sincerely.</p> <p>Thank you all your loves and trusts in me, and please remember to vote for me tonight, Jane Cheung!</p>
3	Denise Galang	<p>As a public school teacher for the last 21 years and a public school parent for the last 10 years, I have ample experience collaborating with many different parents, administrations, teachers, and other school staff. I appreciate and respect every member of each school community and am a team player. I also advocate for all students and believe in a holistic approach to education, helping to ensure that students are supported physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually, components of the Morningside Center restorative circles approach. I believe my experience in education, commitment to community, and my collaborative nature would contribute well to the BTHS family.</p>
4	Norma Gaytán	<p>Hi my name is Norma Gaytán and I am the mother of a rising junior at BTHS. I was born México, but came to the USA for college. I am a Bilingual Special Education high school teacher at another public high school in Brooklyn, so I am aware of many of the DOE procedures. I have taught at the university level in México and at the vocational level in UK (NVQ) I am fluent in English, Spanish and French. I am a firm believer of public education, and although I have never held a PTA position, I know, both as a parent and as a teacher, that there is still a great deal of work to achieve. I want to take part in the SLT at BTHS since I want to part of the school-based policies that promote diversity and therefore create a more collaborative and inclusive school culture.</p>
5	Xiaohua Hu	<p>Hello, I am Xiaohua (Sarah)Hu, the Vice President of Events and volunteers(2021-2022). This year, I have hosted meetings with the principle and 3 workshops. (Understanding College Financial Aid, Paying for college, and Stravinsky for Writing the College App Essay). Next year(2022-2023), I still want to partake the role of VP of Events and Volunteers to help more parents and kids for their future.</p>
6	Vito J LaBella	<p>Vito is currently serving in this role and would love the opportunity to continue his work as a parent representative. These past two years he has applied some of his advocacy as a cofounder of PLACE NYC to his work on the SLT. To wit, most recently Vito and PLACE NYC advised parents how to FOIL their children's lottery numbers for admissions to middle and high school. Because so many parents did so, the DOE included lottery numbers in students'</p>

		<p>MySchools Profile. When the use of a lottery was proposed for the choice of a majors, Vito personally lobbied Mr. Newman and as a result of this collaboration and the extraordinary efforts of Mr. Newman and his team, no lottery was necessary. He is a retired police lieutenant and twice elected parent member of District 20's Community Education Council as well as a current candidate for State Senate. In everything he does, he advocates for the appropriate education for every child, a Parents' Bill of Rights, public safety and for accountability and transparency in all levels of Government and most relevantly in the Dept. of Education and Brooklyn Tech High School.</p>
7	Kathy Lee	<p>Hi my name is Kathy Lee, parent of Hannah Lee who will be a senior next year. Unfortunately due to a prior commitment, I am unable to introduce myself to you all today, but I am running for the 12th grade Co-VP representative positon. I grew up in New York City, and went to public school myself. I currently work in an elementary school as well. I am deeply passionate about being involved in my child's school community, and to be able to represent the interests of the students and the parents of the 12th grade. I have some experience as I was previously class parent, and part of the senior committee for each of my children at other schools. I not only helped in listening and communicating the interests of the class, but I also helped to plan graduation, dances and any other events related to the seniors. With this experience, I know what being a class parent entails. I am also bilingual in English and Cantonese, which has helped me reach a lot of parents when I was previously a class parent. I look forward to representing the 12th grade parents if given the opportunity. Thank you for your consideration!</p>
8	Michael Reyes	<p>As an SLT member, I would advocate for the continued focus on academic excellence and emphasize the importance of rigorous coursework. I would like to see Brooklyn Tech offer all students a class on personal finance, and during gym, the opportunity to learn or improve a skill in a sport.</p>
9	Paula Diaz Antonopoulos Wolfe	<p>The positions that I will run for are School Leadership Team Parent Representative and VP Diversity.</p> <p>I am very excited to submit my application for School Leadership Team member at Brooklyn Technical High School. As a trustworthy, mature, honest, and patient individual. I want to support ongoing communication with the school principal, teachers, and parents on specific concerns to advance policies and procedures to enhance achievement and meet educational, safety, and parent involvement goals.</p> <p>Some of my qualifications include but not limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A former educator with over 20 years of experience locally, nationally, and abroad in various areas of education-I take great pride in being an educator for Dual Language and Bilingual students.

	<p>2. Former SLT School Chair 3. Educational and Parent Consultant 4. Education Advocate 5. Entrepreneur</p> <p>I am confident of being able to advocate for educational policies at Brooklyn Technical School, making sure that resources support those policies.</p> <p>In addition by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Providing ongoing communication and interaction among families in the school community.-Analysing data as a driving force to support programmatic instructional change in the areas of need.-Providing ongoing evaluation review of school's educational programs and their impact on student advancement.-Participate in management level committees and ensure parents and students are involved in every crucial decision. <p>Finally, I am thrilled at the prospect of joining such an impressive group of leaders voicing for the Brooklyn Technical High School Community.</p>
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