**Name:** Julianne Pelegrino

**Year in Course:** 3rd (Senior)

**Topic:** Behavioral Sciences

**Mentor:** Dr. Gigliana Melzi, L-Feld Lab/ NYU Steinhardt

**Title:** Latino FAMILY Engagement Across Preschool Types: A Comparison of Head Start and Public Preschool

**Biography**

Julianne Pelegrino is a Senior and third-year student in the Science Research program at Pawling High School. She has enrolled in rigorous coursework throughout her educational career.

When Julianne is not intensely studying, she is involved in a number of sports teams and extracurricular activities. In the fall, she is a member of the Varsity Cross Country team. During the winter and spring, she is a member of the Varsity Track and Field Team. Julianne truly enjoys running and her favorite event to compete in is the pole vault. Julianne belongs to the Peer Leadership club and helps organize fundraisers, plan events, and aid the community in various events throughout the year. She was also elected as secretary of the Peer Leadership program during her senior year. She was also a member of the math team, art club and mock trial. She is the Vice President of the Spanish Honor Society and the Secretary of National Honor Society, demonstrating her leadership and dedication to integrity and community engagement. Additionally, she volunteers at her local library encouraging children to read during the summer. For the past three years she has volunteered at the University Plaza Nursery Preschool in NYC helping teachers assist preschoolers in the classroom to gain a better understanding of developmental psychology in a classroom setting. Julianne will be attending Farmingdale State College in Long Island, NY to pursue a degree in nursing.

Julianne’s passion for science began when she started exploring different topics of research involving developmental psychology. During her sophomore year she read a plethora of peer-reviewed journal articles on family engagement, she realized there was little research being conducted on adolescents and the different level of engagement among parents and guardians in Head Start and Public preschool in NYC. Since finding a mentor and analyzing research data at NYU Steinhardt, she has had the opportunity to explore issues and mitigation techniques to improve parental engagement in low-income minorities.

Awards/Achievements/Competitions

1. Somers 2018 Competition

2. 3 Sport Athlete with over a 90 cumulative Average

3. Poster Presenter at the 32nd Association of Psychological Sciences Conference