

FOCUS

A Blind Brook High School Student Publication

Freshman Composer Uses Music to Expand Horizons

By Jessica Schoen

Freshman Josie Yalovitzer, an accomplished musician, has been playing piano since she was three years old, and composing since she was six. At ten years old, she composed a song entitled "My Favorite Place" that won first place in the Reflections Program, and was given Song of the Year in another competition. Oksana Lepska, a Russian singer who has been on "Russia's Got Talent" sung Yalovitzer's song at Carnegie Hall.

Yalovitzer has competed in many statewide, national, and international competitions. Through her work, she has encountered people from places unlike Rye Brook, such as California, Kentucky, and even Russia and Japan.

"I love Rye Brook, but it is nice to see all different perspectives, places, and people," said Yalovitzer. "I have the best of both worlds, the tight knit community of Rye Brook and the entire rest of the world."

Yalovitzer sees a bright future for herself in music, and believes that anyone can achieve greatness if they give it one hundred percent.

"I'm so thankful for my gift of music," said Yalovitzer. "I am grateful to have friends and family that support me in pursuing my dream."

One Year in Colombia

By Samantha Miller

Junior Melissa Blanco is spending a year living and attending school in Colombia. After visiting this summer, Blanco fell in love with the country and the people she met there.

"I wanted a new and different experience," said Blanco. "Spending my summer in Colombia, I loved it so much that I knew I had to stay."

Blanco was excited to know that she had an entire country to explore, and that everything, unlike Rye Brook, was not just five minutes away.

Blind Brook S Reaching New F

By Samantha Miller

Senior Jason Kaye chose to pursue becoming a pilot. He attends English at High School in Stamford, Connecticut. He is also being certified as an instructor in a class that certifies him as a pilot at Panola College in Plains, Georgia. This certification allows him to fly through rough weather conditions that are not able to handle at the Westchester County Airport.

"I can't say anything compares to being a pilot," said Kaye. "It's very cool to see the BB on the ground and think about my last couple of flights in the air and think about my last couple of flights in the air."



Photo/Jason Mandel

