



# sanitation

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CONTACT: Vito A. Turso/Belinda Mager  
646-885-5020

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## WINNING SCHOOLS IN THE DSNY'S 2016 "GOLDEN APPLE" AWARD PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

### Awards Presented to City Schools for Successful Environmentally-Focused Projects

The Department of Sanitation announced the winning schools of the Department's 2016 Golden Apple Award program. The awards recognize city schools for completing educational projects on recycling, waste reduction and reuse, composting, and neighborhood beautification.

"Young people are the creative future of our City, and they are leading us on the path to Zero Waste through proper recycling, waste reduction and environmental stewardship," said Sanitation Commissioner Kathryn Garcia. "Teachers who encourage environmental responsibility and sustainability in school are helping us all to meet our goal of zero waste to landfills by 2030."

The annual competition includes three categories: *Super Recyclers*, honoring model school recycling programs; *Reduce & Reuse*, recognizing innovative waste reduction practices; and *Team Up to Clean Up*, which for more than four decades has encouraged NYC students to clean up and beautify their schools and neighborhoods.

The 2016 winners turned a schoolyard parking lot into a green oasis; incentivized and educated students to recycle through 3-D posters, coordinated waste sorting stations, recycling carnivals, and student green team captains; reduced paper waste by promoting a paper-free school; and developed on-site composting systems.

Citywide winners are awarded \$10,000, runners-up garner \$5,000, and honorable mention schools receive \$1,000. Golden Shovel Award winners, selected by the NYC Compost Project as Master School Composter in their borough, receive \$1,000.

In each of the Golden Apple Awards contests, schools competed within their elementary, intermediate, or high school grade divisions for citywide honors by conceiving and completing hands-on applied learning projects. To receive an award, entries must exceed minimum score requirements, though some categories did not produce a winner.

To see the winning entries and more information about the Golden Apple Awards, visit [www.nyc.gov/goldenapple](http://www.nyc.gov/goldenapple).

### About the New York City Department of Sanitation

The Department of Sanitation (DSNY) promotes a healthy environment through the efficient management of solid waste and the development of environmentally sound long-range planning for handling refuse, including recyclables. The Department operates 59 district garages and manages a fleet of more than 2,000 rear-loading collection trucks, 450 mechanical brooms and 500 salt/sand spreaders. The Department clears litter, snow and ice from approximately 6,500 miles of City streets and removes debris from vacant lots as well as abandoned vehicles from City streets.

### 2016 Golden Apple Award Winners

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#### Super Recyclers

Division	Borough	Award	Prize	School
Elementary	Brooklyn	Citywide Elementary Winner	\$10,000	PS 58 The Carroll School
Elementary	Manhattan	Citywide Runner-Up	\$5,000	NEST+m: New Explorations into Science Technology and Math
Intermediate	Staten Island	Citywide Intermediate Winner; Staten Island Golden Shovel	\$11,000	IS 75 Frank D Paulo
High School	Manhattan	Citywide High School Winner	\$10,000	Central Park East High School
High School	Staten Island	Honorable Mention	\$1,000	Tottenville High School

#### Reduce & Reuse

Division	Borough	Award	Prize	School
High School	Manhattan	Citywide High School Winner	\$10,000	Central Park East High School
High School	Queens	Honorable Mention	\$1,000	Maspeth High School

#### Team Up to Clean Up

Division	Borough	Award	Prize	School
Elementary	Brooklyn	Citywide Elementary Winner; NYRP Rose Award	\$10,000	PS 146 Brooklyn New School
Elementary	Brooklyn	Citywide Runner-Up; Brooklyn Golden Shovel	\$6,000	PS 29 John Harrigan

## Top Projects

Applied learning projects completed by the top winners include:

*Super Recyclers* Citywide Winner, Elementary Division, **PS 58 THE CARROLL SCHOOL**, has moved from having no systematic recycling program in 2014 to recycling nearly 75 percent of its waste in 2016. They achieved by creating recycling stations with coordinated signage throughout the school and appointing student recycling captains in classrooms and the cafeteria. By educating students, parents and staff, PS 58 was able to reduce recycling contamination, especially in schoolwide events.

**IS 75 FRANK D. PAULO**, *Super Recyclers* Citywide Winner, Intermediate Division, employed three strategies in an effort to become a model recycling school this year. First, their Green Team reorganized the recycling program in June 2015 with the help of GrowNYC's Recycling Champions Program, Pratt Industries, and the School's Out New York City (SONYC) program. Additionally, the school worked with Terracycle to remove items from the waste stream that could be upcycled into new products. Finally, the Green Team began composting with a small tumbler to produce soil for the spring and was awarded the **Staten Island Golden Shovel Award** for their efforts.

*Super Recyclers* Citywide Winner, High School Division, **Central Park East High School**, started a Green Team to successfully change the culture of recycling at the school. They created posters to promote recycling around the school. The Green Team was also instrumental in creating 3D signage for the cafeteria recycling stations clearly indicating what belongs where. The school also held a weeklong Recycling Carnival to educate students about successful recycling practices through games, raffles, and bake sales.

This year, **Central Park East High School** implemented many effective practices to reduce and reuse items in their school and were chosen as the *Reduce & Reuse* Citywide Winner, High School Division. To reduce paper usage, the school encouraged teachers to give more online assignments. To save electricity, Central Park East High School installed motion sensor lights. Finally, to reduce the number of plastic bottles that end up in landfills, the school installed two new drinking fountains for students to be able to refill their water bottles.

*Team Up to Clean Up* Citywide Winner, Elementary Division, **PS 146 - the Brooklyn New School** turned a schoolyard parking lot into a green space that includes farm beds, beneficial plants, a farm yard, a rainwater catchment system and an outdoor classroom. The green space also incorporates the developmental needs of students—the need to play, to imagine, and to get wet and dirty and work outdoors in nature. The students have been able to plant, maintain, harvest, and eat lettuce, herbs, tomatoes, beans, and radishes. This school also won the *NYRP Rose Award*, presented by the New York Restoration Project.