

# Plymouth No Place for Hate Committee awards three local students

**Courtesy Plymouth No Place for Hate Committee**

PLYMOUTH - The Plymouth No Place for Hate Committee, a committee of the town of Plymouth, has presented its fifth annual Outstanding Citizenship Award to three Plymouth high school students. The purpose of this award is to recognize a student who has shown a commitment to social justice by challenging discrimination or bigotry through his/her actions, and/or who actively works to celebrate diversity and inclusivity or to protect the civil rights of all people in our community. The recipients were nominated by the faculty or guidance staff of their respective high schools. A financial gift is included in the award. The awards were presented at the June 28 Select Board meeting at Town Hall.

The first recipient is Brooke Holmes, a 2022 graduate of Plymouth North High School. Among her many activities, she was a member of Plymouth North's Equity and Justice Committee, whose goal is to provide a safe environment for students to voice concerns about injustices experienced in school from faculty or from peers. For the past two years, she has been Plymouth North's Student Representative to the No Place for Hate Committee. She has worked on the committee's social media

posts and has helped to plan and bring to fruition the MLK breakfast, Transgender Day of Remembrance, and other events. Brooke ran the PNHS Intergenerational Debate Club in conjunction with the Center for Active Living. Brooke was a member of the National Honor Society, the Amnesty International Club, and the Environmental Club. According to Megan White, Brooke's guidance counselor, Brooke prides herself in wanting to make a change in the world, and to make it a more welcoming, equal, safe, and peaceful place. She will be attending George Washington University, and has an interest in majoring in Political Science and/or International Relations.

The second recipient is Yuna Yi, a rising senior at Plymouth North High School. Yuna is a former English Learner who, in an effort to make Plymouth North a more welcoming and inclusive place for current English Learners, recently founded a club called Friends Without Borders. Her vision, according to club advisor Matt Carpenito, was to create a space where students could not only learn about each others' cultures, but more importantly, could become friends. She is also a member of the PNHS Equity and Justice Committee. Yuna's work on inclusion goes well beyond Plymouth's borders. She is enrolled in a virtual internship with other

young people around the country collaborating on ways to stop Asian American and Pacific Islander hate. She has tutored students internationally in English through virtual peer-tutoring agencies with the goal of promoting equity by bridging the access to education gap. Finally, she has recently started a local chapter of the organization Dear Asian Youth, which promotes intersectional activism, solidarity with other marginalized communities, and equality and equity.

The third recipient of the No Place for Hate Outstanding Citizenship Award is Niamh Doyle, who is a 2022 graduate of the Rising Tide Charter Public School. Her college and future planning counselor, Isabella Trauttmansdorff, says that "Niamh is bright, thoughtful, passionate, and caring, and has contributed many ideas to help support the inclusion and representation of various groups within the school community." Niamh was one of the key founding members of Rising Tide's Diversity, Belonging, Inclusion, and Equity Working Group, to which she has given her consistent participation and attention. She says that in DBIE, "Our group worked to create a welcoming and safe environment for people of all backgrounds. We started a school mural made up of smaller, personal art pieces from the students and created a cultural calendar



**Left to right: NPFH award recipients Brooke Holmes, Yuna Yi, and Niamh Doyle** COURTESY PHOTO

which highlights different holidays and events of different cultures, religions, etc." Niamh was also actively involved in the Language Club, Model United Nations, and Student Government. This fall, she will be heading to Suffolk University, where she plans to major in History.

If you wish to help the No Place for Hate Committee to fund future Outstanding Citizenship Awards, you may send a check to Town of Plymouth, Attn. Treasurer, 26 Court St., Plymouth, MA 02360. Please make your check payable to No Place for Hate Committee. Note that such contributions are not deductible for income tax purposes. The awards are funded through private donations.

For more information about the No Place for Hate Committee, see its Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/PlymouthNPFH](http://www.facebook.com/PlymouthNPFH) or its website, [www.plymouthnoplacforhate.org](http://www.plymouthnoplacforhate.org).