



# TELL AWARDS

MARCH 22<sup>ND</sup> · 2019

EDITH MACY CONFERENCE CENTER · BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY

# AGENDA

<b>8:00 – 9:00</b>	<b>Breakfast</b>
<b>9:05 – 9:15</b>	<b>Opening Remarks</b>
<b>9:15 – 10:15</b>	<b>Keynote</b>
<b>10:15 – 10:30</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>10:30 – 11:30</b>	<b>Outstanding Innovative Teacher Awards</b>
<b>11:30 – 12:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>12:30 – 1:30</b>	<b>Outstanding Innovative Leader Awards</b>
<b>1:30 – 1:50</b>	<b>Outstanding Innovative Partner Award</b>
<b>1:50 – 2:00</b>	<b>Closing Comments</b>

# TELL AWARDS

## ABOUT

This event is a celebration of teaching and learning excellence across the Region. This prestigious award is bestowed upon districts and individuals nominated by their colleagues and peers as demonstrating innovation, best practices, and having implemented systemic change in teaching and learning. Join us for this celebration and find out what the strategies are behind these success stories.





## JEN WALDMAN

### **The Value of Storytelling**

“People don’t buy what you do,  
they buy Why you do it,”  
and the stories we share about  
ourselves and our organizations  
serve as the proof of our Why. ...

Every single thing we do has  
storytelling value. In every moment  
(consciously or not) we are telling  
a story about ourselves or our  
organizations with our  
behaviors and our actions. ...

In this interactive keynote based  
on the principles of the Golden Circle,  
Jen Waldman offers tools for  
identifying, crafting, and sharing  
impactful stories, as well as methods  
for ensuring that your actions are in  
alignment with your message.

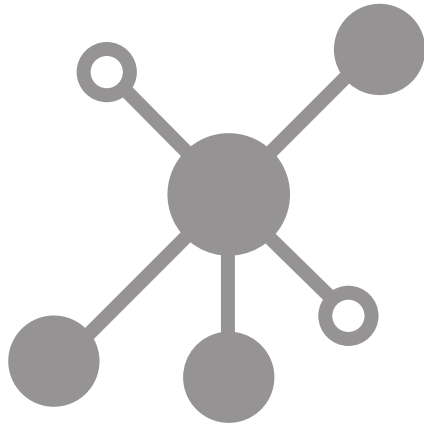
Jen helps people hone in on their unique gifts,  
empowering them to take action with authenticity and  
heart. Using her background in the arts, she encourages  
creative thinking and imagination, so that others can  
cultivate new ideas and share them with the world.

Jen and Simon Sinek united several years ago when  
Simon became aware that Jen was using the Golden  
Circle to inspire artists to make a greater impact with their  
work. The two recognized that by combining their efforts they  
could help people across many different industries discover their  
WHY and bring it to life. Jen now travels the world offering  
Why-inspired keynotes and workshops on leadership,  
communication, and presentation skills so that individuals  
and organizations can have more impact with their ideas.

In addition to her work with Start With Why, Jen is the Founder  
and Executive Director of Jen Waldman Studio, New York City’s  
premiere training studio for Broadway actors. She has worked  
with over a thousand artists to develop and nurture their  
creative voice and technique.

Jen is particularly inspired by and dedicated to mentoring  
young people. She recently served a 5 year term as the Theatre  
Chair for the National YoungArts Foundation and is a professor  
at NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts. She lives in New York  
City with her husband and daughter.

*Start with Why*



# TELL AWARDS WINNERS 2019





# INNOVATIVE *Outstanding* TEACHER

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“My passion is educating users of all ages on the vast varieties of technology to ensure they always have a positive experience where they are comfortable and excited to work with tech!”

## Amanda Burns

**Technical Support Specialist/Webmaster**  
**Yorktown Central School District**

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After graduating in 2006 from The College of Westchester, with a degree in Computer Networking Administration, Amanda Burns began working for Yorktown Central School District. In 2014 she attended Fordham University and graduated in 2016 Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor's degree in New Media. She also holds certifications as an Apple Teacher and a Google Certified Trainer and Educator. Amanda lives in her hometown of Stony Point with her incredibly supportive husband John and their beautiful daughter Lillian. In her spare time she loves to cook and travel to Lake George with her loving family.

Amanda works closely with the students and staff to integrate technology into the classroom. On a regular basis she is doing multiple projects utilizing Google Apps for Education, Chromebooks, iPads, web design, blogging, video and photography, Lego robotics, Makey-Makey, Expeditions, Breakouts, Scratch, coding, 3D printing, social media and ESTEAM. Amanda recognizes that technology is an ever-changing field, yet she is always anxious to help herself and others learn new things, explore, play, network and grow!



“Creativity allows students to make the impossible possible.”

## Anthony Stirpe

English Teacher

New Rochelle High School

Anthony Stirpe is an award-winning teacher who has been working in public schools for almost two decades. Although he spent much of his career teaching English Language Arts, he began to distinguish himself for his unique perspective on film and media literacy. Mr. Stirpe, an English teacher at New Rochelle High School in Westchester, New York, now utilizes technology to infuse film and theatre into English Language Arts. This creativity allows students not only to learn, but to use innovation to reach outside the classroom. In 2017, Mr. Stirpe was proud to be named an Apple Distinguished Educator. Mr. Stirpe was named New York State English Educator of Excellence in 2012, and in 2016 his innovative film program was awarded the New York State English Program of Excellence. In 2015 he received a Pioneer Teacher of the year award for his innovative use of technology in the classroom. In addition, Mr. Stirpe received one of the highest honors at the 2016 International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) Conference, taking home a Content and Curriculum award, co-sponsored by The Center for Digital Education.



“My ‘why’ is: Excellence and Equity for all.”

## Dorothy Venditto

Teacher

Bedford Central School District

Dorothy Venditto teaches at West Patent Elementary School in Bedford, providing both academic support and enrichment classes across all elementary grade levels. Dorothy created and facilitated workshops on both gender equity and teacher leadership and piloted several new online academic programs to support student growth. She is the recipient of the Empire State Teacher of Excellence Award, National Board Certification and Certificate of Advanced Educational Leadership from Harvard University.

“How Might We?” is a noted question within innovation circles and one Dorothy embraced when considering how to change a philosophy of enrichment for a few to one that supported enrichment for all. Technology proved to be central to this change as the use of a wide range of tools allowed for individualizing instruction and promoting student choice. Whether gathering her students for an evening of hot chocolate and stargazing in her space class or studying the effects of girls’ education across the globe, Dorothy considered how the right technology could make learning engaging and accessible for all of her students.

# *Outstanding* INNOVATIVE LEADER



“My ‘why’ is to develop the comfort and confidence within teachers so that they have the tools they need to successfully integrate technology into the classroom.”

## Edward Maltbie Director of Information Systems North Rockland Central School District

Edward Maltbie, Director of Information Systems in North Rockland Central Schools, is in his 16th year with the district and his third year in his current role. His roots in the community run even deeper, though. A North Rockland graduate himself, he now has three boys, ages 11, 8 and 6, who also attend its schools. “I’m a product of our district, and I take great pride in seeing where our students are going,” he says.

That familiarity engenders trust among colleagues with whom he has worked closely to implement such innovations as a micro-credentialing system wherein educators earn instructional badges for self-paced professional development. He has instituted the S.A.M.R. model to help teachers connect technology to its impact on learning. The aim is to encourage students to become thinkers, he says, to create something they can’t simply Google. Under his leadership, the professional development framework fosters an environment of instructional sharing, and teachers are encouraged to take risks.

He says that it is gratifying to know that his colleagues appreciate his efforts. “To be honest, it’s something that no paycheck can ever give you,” Mr. Maltbie says. “You go to work every day, and you do the best you can. Our end goal is making sure our students are given the tools that will redefine their future.”





## Lucy Roman

**Coordinator of Instructional Technology,  
Library Media & Business**  
**White Plains School District**

“Collaboratively provide support that empowers educators and students with knowledge, skills and attributes that enable them to continually learn, think critically, enhance their achievements and contribute to the ever-changing world.”

An educator for more than 30 years, Lucy Roman has a Master of Education in Instructional Technology and a dual bachelor's degree in Mathematics and Elementary Education. She began as a junior high math and computer teacher in New York City and has been an adjunct professor, a conference presenter and an advisory board member. She has supported and led the integration, implementation and assessment of instructional technology for schools in the tri-state area in addition to the CUNY Graduate School and educational organizations in the Caribbean and South Africa.

Her experience includes planning and implementing instructional technology projects, supporting content specific initiatives, and designing professional development on technology as a powerful tool for learning. In collaboration with the White Plains Public Library, she received the WLA/WLS School Library/Public Library Cooperation Award in 2010 for the Project Summer Read Program. Her collaboration on videoconferencing earned her district a Pioneer Award. She also received a School Web Page Award, the SWBOCES School Library System Administrator Award and the Recognition Award by El Centro Hispano.

A life-long learner and educator, she strives to bring out the best in others with collaboration and knowledge building. Her experience, knowledge and skills enable her to provide leadership and support to empower students and teachers to use technology to enhance learning and achievement.



## Kaitlyn Sassone

**Director of Technology/Chief Information Officer**  
**Rye City School District**

“My ‘why’ is to support students to reach their potential as learners. We’re all here working as a team to educate the whole child in different ways. When we support our faculty to be the best teachers they can be, we are ultimately supporting our students.”

Kaitlyn Sassone believes technology should be customized to students’ needs. The approach in Rye favors tools that foster inquiry and understanding over “skill-and-drill” applications. “We spend a lot of time here looking at pedagogy, instructional practice, and teaching and learning,” Ms. Sassone says. “What does that look like in a 21st century classroom?”

She joined Rye in 2012 as Instructional Technology Specialist, becoming Instruction Technology Coordinator two years later. She assumed her current role in 2016. She is certified in elementary/special education, holds master’s degrees in educational technology and administration and is pursuing her doctorate in Educational Leadership at Manhattanville College. “Technology gives students the ability to have both a voice and a choice, so that they can express themselves and show their thinking and learning in a variety of ways,” Ms. Sassone says.

As the district invests in classroom design and innovation, she works to provide the professional development needed to support teachers.

# *Outstanding* INNOVATIVE PARTNER

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## NOTE:

This year's

*Outstanding*  
Innovative  
PARTNER

TELL Award Winner  
will be revealed the  
day of the event.

Join Us!



