The First Tee of NYC & Westchester Golfzette
The First Tee goes Above and Beyond
The First Tee of Met New York is a non-profit organization made up of many chapters at different locations. The First Tee aims to impact the lives of our youth by opening doors for them they could not reach otherwise. They do this not only through the game of golf but through the teaching of life skills and the opportunities for higher education. The nine core values are instilled in the participants through the coaches to build character in kids ages 6 through 18. Additionally through The First Tee there are many scholarship opportunities offered for golf classes as well as for college. They offer academic support through STEM summer academy, ACE scholars, tutoring, young benefactors, and Path to College Program as well as job opportunities for current and past participants. The First Tee goes above and beyond for participants!

Staff Group Photo

Annual Winter Golf Experience
This February Chelsea Piers gave participants of multiple First Tee locations the chance to play golf safely inside for the Annual Winter Golf Experience! The instructors provided the kids with simulators to experience golf in a very unique way, virtually! They also humbly received stance and posture improving tips from the instructors as they hit balls in the range area and bunker room. The First Tee thanks Chelsea Piers Golf Club staff for putting this memorable experience together every year.

Sports Lounge Experience
This February and March multiple participants of The First Tee of New York City were able to travel to Manhattan to have the chance to use simulators in that would help them work on their golf skills at the Sports Lounge. The participants had access to the necessary materials to help them become stronger golfers thanks to the Sports Lounge employees. The kids had the chance to virtually work on chipping and full swings. For some of the attendees this was their first time using this king of technology. Everyone had a blast watching each others swing and showing off their own! Can't wait to see them put their new and improved swing to use!
**Bringing Golf To Schools**

The First Tee of Metropolitan New York's outreach program “Youth Survey” has been active for a few years now and has been immensely successful. The goal of this program is have the game of golf reach inner city kids and encourage them to continue to play at Mosholu Golf Course or other convenient location. The kids would be learning more than just golf when they attend the classes offered to them in the summer and other seasons. The First Tee promotes its 9 core values to shape their participants into upstanding players and people. Coach Paul, from The First Tee's Westchester location, visits schools in the Bronx where students get the chance to learn some techniques and swing practice clubs in their school yard. At School 21 the students had a blast doing just that. They even excitedly collected the practice balls and placed them back in the bucket for other players, some of them even expressed future interest in taking classes at Mosholu.

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**Bringing Schools to Golf**

A very carefully selected few 3rd through 5th grade students from P.S. 64 were able to come to Mosholu Golf Course to learn some golf skills. This school trip happens twice a year for P.S 64 and only the best behaved students are chosen by their school to attend. For some of them it was their first time participating while others were returners. Every kid enthusiastically picked up a club and tried their best. They all practiced putting, chipping, hitting a driver, and even got a ride from Coach John on a golf cart around the course! The kids had a great time being outdoors, learning how to play golf, and having good sportsmanship during competition.
College Visits
Coaches ARod and Lizzie took select participants of The First Tee on a four day overnight trip to visit a few colleges. Their stops included High Point University, Duke, and Virginia Commonwealth University. The attending participants even had the opportunity to play golf at Pine Hurst. The group bonded over dinner, laughed during their time at a trampoline park, and had a blast at Dave & Busters. The First Tee always encourages education and hope to inspire participants to continue their schooling in college. Everyone was so grateful to have this rare experience that was expense free. Thank you to Yvonne and Kendra from the Pinkerton Foundation for giving these juniors an opportunity of a life time!

PGA Championship
Participants were invited to have a full day of golf experience at Beth Page where they took part in a private clinic with Keegan Bradley. They were also able to enter in a putting challenge with Bradley and work on their full swing as well as chipping with some instructors. The kids were given permission to roam around the area to watch the pros play, get interviewed, and snag some autographs as souvenirs! Thanks to National Car Rental for this exciting day.

Congratulations!
We have a special congratulations for The First Tee’s participant William Chin for being selected out of 96 participants for the Joe Louis Barrow Jr. Life Skills & Leadership Academy at Boise State University this summer! The program runs for one week and will give participants the experience of dorm living, championship golf, career exploration, and a chance to make new lasting friendships with other teen who have similar interests. This reward is given to recognize teens who have great leadership skills that they are ready to build up. Will has the chance to develop more skills to become a leader in his communities.
**Young Benefactors**

One of The First Tee’s programs, Young Benefactors, strives to encourage academically inclined participants by providing materials and funding needed to further the youths education opportunity’s. The First Tee’s website summarises what Young Benefactors is all about saying how they, “...maximize and extend the academic impact of the First Tee of Metropolitan New York by creating and funding an academic support infrastructure for the young people in our community. All funds go to support the Path to College Program, which provides tutoring, advising, and SAT prep classes for members of TFTMNY’s Youth Development Program.”

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**Nine Core Values**

The First Tee revolves its teachings around building up great characteristics in their participants. The coaches educate the children in these nine carefully selected fundamental beliefs to help them take the right paths in life when facing difficulties on and off the course. Coaches at The First Tee are influencing good golfers to be even better people.

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**College and High School Consultation**

Karen Les Pierre, director of the Path to College program, prepares students for high school and college. SAT prep classes are offered in the fall and spring as well as application assistance and tutoring in order to have a better chance to get into excellent colleges and high schools. Students who have participated in the consultations have been accepted to Yale, Iona, Ithaca, Stony Brook, Duke and many more Universities as well as the following high schools: Horace Mann, Fordham Prep, Bronx Science and many more.

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**ACE Scholars**

The First Tee also offers ACE Scholars, which is another academic program that aids participants for a period of 10 weeks through intensive study programs. These participants are taught study skills, advanced vocabulary, time management skills, and much more. There are additional benefits to ACE scholars like internships and trips! For more information visit The First Tee's website at thefirstteemtny.org
Different Skill Levels
The First Tee has a system of multiple skill levels that participants can work hard to advance through. There are age requirements for each level and to advance to the next participants need to show they have mastered the requirements of the skill level they are currently in. To properly do so they must have a passing score on their written golf exam and play a round of golf with a coach to show they know how to keep score, use correct swings, keep up the pace of play, as well as anything else they might have learned in their class.
Gift that Keeps on Giving
Two year participant Austin Cepeda had a surprise waiting for him at the start of class. When he went to grab his clubs from a closet in the club house, he noticed something was different, "Oh, new clubs! Cool," he says. Elatedly he goes out to tell his mother the great news. Coach ARod was very excited to be able to give this gift of a full bag of new clubs to someone so hard working and driven. Austin says, "I'm very happy because I was using adult clubs before and my back would hurt." Congratulations Austin, you deserve it!

PGA Junior League Tournament
Participants of The First Tee's PGA Junior League played a shotgun tournament to close off the great season. They were competing not only to win the Met Championship but to also secure a spot on the All Star Team. Although it was challenging all the teams had a great time on the course showing off their teamwork, sportsmanship, and golf skills. Congratulations to the winning team Wacky Wombats! Special thanks to PGA Reach and Dick's Sporting Goods for making this possible!

Girls Golf
The young ladies of LPGA returned to Morgan Stanley headquarters for the 5th annual Women's & Girl's Golf & FORE Mentoring day. The attending participants were able to enjoy food and conversation with employees and mentors. The 40 girls in attendance were provided with a tour of the trading floor, a financial spending workshop, a resume building workshop, and even spoke to James Gorman who is the CEO of Morgan Stanley. Opportunities like this help inspire the young ladies of The First Tee to reach for the stars. This would not be possible without the Valerie Wong Foundation and Morgan Stanley and so for that The First Tee sends out a very special thank you!
Look Out Yale!
Congratulations are in order to Amanda Rose Ivatorov. Amanda is the recipient of the Woman's Metropolitan Golf Association Foundation Scholarship. The scholarship was rewarded to her due to Amanda's shining recommendation letters, active involvement with The First Tee, amazing academic record, and notable extra curricular activities $9,600 will be given to her over the next four years she will spend at Yale. Earlier in the year she also earned her spot in The First Tee Scholars Program attributed to her excellent academics, leadership skills, character development, and involvement in her chapter and community.

Annual 19th Hole Event
The Young Benefactors board of directors hosted the 10th annual 19th Hole event at Liberty National Golf Club benefiting the students of the Path to College program. A buffet, silent auction, and golf simulator were all exciting exhibits included. Because of the large amount of money that was raised things like individual tutoring, summer STEM academy, and other programs within Young Benefactors could be funded.

Top Golf Experience
Ace and Eagle level participants traveled to Topgolf Edison on two separate occasions to better their golf games. Topgolf Coach, Adam Giordano, allowed the kids to experience "flightscope" in order to see what they need to work on to strengthen their golf skills. The technology helped them develop a better swing and could track their progress over an extended period of time. The group had an amazing time competing with each other through the different Topgolf games available. Thank you to Topgolf and coaches for this experience.
Posse Foundation College Scholarship
Tin Lon Chiu, Zachary Canale, and Lauren Zou are all participant at Moshulu to be nominated for the Posse Foundation College Scholarship. The Posse Foundation works hard to diversify the community of people in leadership positions in the modern multicultural world. Posse sees the value in talented diverse groups and seeks to coach them to inspire and motivate the development of communities as well as individuals for a better tomorrow. These participants were nominated based on their drive, potential, teamwork, and leadership skills. We, as well as Posse, know they will go far. We wish good luck to everyone including our nominated participants on their interviews! We are rooting for you!

Drive Chip & Putt Competition
Seven year old participant Chelsea from The First Tee of Metropolitan New York won both first and second place in a Drive, Chip, and Putt tournament. She got first place for the putting division and second place in the competition overall. This was her first Drive, Chip and Putt tournament and she did an amazing job. All of her practice during classes at The First Tee went to great use as she took home not one but two wins. Congratulations Chelsea! Keep up the good work.
Other qualifiers include Leon Bui, Veronika Niklin, Akari W., Conor Carty, Jonathan Zhary, and many more First Tee participants.
Summer Classic

Participants of The First Tee poured into Moshulu Golf Course for this year’s summer invitational to compete for the big win in their respective divisions. The eagerness for the arrival of each group's pending tee time was heavy as participants warmed up at the driving range, putting green, and chipping area. One by one as each group tee'd off the only thing left to do was play as best as they could. As a few teams finished up a storm blew through causing everyone to scramble inside. While every body waited out the storm they enjoyed food, drinks, and cake from a participants birthday party. Finally the storm eased down and the competitors made their way back onto the course to pick up where they left off. Finishing the match off strong and shaking hands the kids awaited the announcement for closest to the pin, second place, and first place. Congratulations to everyone who got to take home a prize.

First Place Winners:
Ryan Nappi
Leon Bui
Skylar McCall
Dillon Blades
Lauren Zou

Second Place Winners:
Rikito Araki
Taishu Araki
Emily Bui
Jaylon McDuffie
Olivia Sexton

Closest to the pin:
Rikito Araki
Steven Breger
Skylar McCall
Willy Swenson
Vivian D’Orazi

Pure Insurance Invitational

Evan Koutsopetras, a participant of The First Tee NYC, was one of 78 participants to be selected to play in the Pure Insurance Championship. Evan worked very hard and was determined to be selected. The applicants were evaluated based on each participant's handicap, golf accomplishments, length of time with First Tee, activities, essays, chapter participation survey, and chapter interview form which shows the processes level of difficulty. All that hard work gave him this amazing opportunity to play alongside PGA Champions and amateurs. He will be competing for the pro-junior title at Pebble Beach and Poppy Hills. We are very proud of Even and wish everyone the best of luck! Thank you to The First Tee for making this happen.
What is STEM Summer Academy?
STEM, which stands for science, technology, engineering, and math, is a six week summer day camp for kids interested in furthering their golf skills as well as their education. With the aid of Karen Les Pierre, Mark Cognata, and some junior workers the campers get to experience coding, golf instruction, tutoring, literacy instruction, multiple field trips and much more! This camp can help open other doors for educational opportunities at The First Tee and many practice hours.

Summer STEM Academy Begins
Summer STEM Academy kicks things off with a warm welcome. The kids rotate between literacy, golf fundamentals, coding, and STEM classes. They re-energize with lunch and then play nine holes on the course for the remainder of the day. Alternative options for on-course play include tutoring or academic prep. The participants, whether returning or new, had an amazing first week at the summer STEM program and are excited for the rest of the weeks. Participants can't wait for all the trips to come!
**Metropolis Country Club**
Over twelve "nine hole certified" participants of The First Tee of New York City were specifically selected to visit Metropolis Country Club for an exclusive experience. Upon arrival they were welcomed with a warm-up before going out to play nine holes on the course. Everyone loved how beautiful the scenery was and really appreciated this opportunity given to them by Mark Canoe and The First Tee. The winning team consisted of participants Vivian D'Orazi, Lauren Zou, and Even Koutsopetras and their provided coach Eikoh. The First Tee also got to take many golf clubs donated by Metropolis. Thank you!

**Practice and Play Class**
The First Tee strives to give their participants as many opportunities to become a better golfer by playing nine holes once a week in the Practice and Play class. The class vastly ranges in participants ages and skill levels which can help challenge the participants. The kids really enjoy the extra time out on the course, 16 year old Kishan saying, "It's really cool because I can help the future generation of golfers while working on my own skills as well." Everyone has a great time making friends and memories together.
Goldman Sachs

For about 10 years now employees of Goldman Sachs have been coming to Mosholu Golf Course to beautify the area through renovations expense free. They also go out and play a nine hole scramble on the course with some of the participants. This year the generous workers rebuild two fences and painted a new storage unit that holds golf equipment for TFT participants. They also had a prepared powerpoint complete with golf trivia and prizes. The staff members of Goldman Sachs truly enjoy coming out for the benefit of the kids. Tom Truglio, who does technology infrastructure at Goldman Sacs, says his motivation to come out and do this for the past 6 years he has been participating is the kids and the grate cause also he hopes the kids get inspired to give back when they get older. The kids who participated loved the event so much they hope they play again with the employees next year. Congratulations to Alix Adams and Zareon Francis for closets to the pin, Charles Doyal for longest drive, and the winning team made up of participants Zareon Francis and Nathaniel Samson with their Goldman Sacs partners Gil Kim and Frank Vese. The First Tee is very grateful for the charitable time and work that went into enhancing the surroundings.

Volunteer's

A very special thanks to volunteer's at Mosholu for positively impacting participants and creating growing relationship with them throughout the seasons. The willingness to help The First Tee encourage healthy choices, education, and life improving values through mentor-ship is much appreciated. The kids really value the volunteers, for example participant Sarah Brannigan said, "It's nice because they want to come out here and you get more feedback (in addition to the coaches)." Volunteers whether they are juniors, current or former participants, or adults they have the same important impact on the young participants and they end up having just as good a time as the participants!

For information on volunteering visit our website thefirstteemtny.org find the "Ways To Give" tab and click Volunteer!
Sleepy Hollow Country Club

About two weeks after the Girls Golf and FORE event The First Tee and Morgan Stanley get together again for another great opportunity. On an early Tuesday morning participants traveled to Sleepy Hollow Country Club to play a round of golf with Morgan Stanley employees as they do every year after visiting their headquarters. The excitement was high and energizing for the participating girls. They were welcomed with complimentary hot pink golf balls, a ball marker, and a hat. The many young girls from TFTNYC warmed up, heard from Sleepy Hollows head pro Dave Young, and got into their groups to head off. Every team persevered through the heat and challenging course with a strong finish. The women and girls all had an amazing time getting to know one another while playing nine holes. Everyone was able to wind-down at lunch before speeches and the announcement of the winners. Very big congratulations to Lauren Zou and Olivia Sexton on securing their internships and giving heartfelt speeches full of gratitude. There was also a raffle that raised over $25,000 for the Golf and FORE Program and The First Tee! Extra special thanks to all the sponsors, the ladies of Morgan Stanley, Sleepy Hollow Country Club, Dave Young and all who made this possible for the girls.
Outreach at El Alto Fest
The First Tee had a great opportunity this summer to be a part of El Alto Fest in Washington Hights. A few coaches attended the event to bring awareness of The First Tee and the many programs that they run to the Dykman community. Through a great collaboration with some PGA Tour representatives, a small putting green and simulator were brought to the fair in order to give people a chance to give golf a swing! Many people were eager give it a try and ended up really impressing the instructors. Information about The First Tee was available for interested parents. The fair was a great experience for everyone involved.

Caddie Scholarship Program
Coaches and participants are very excited for TFTNYC participant Asaru Wahls for being selected for the Caddie Scholarship Program. Thanks to The Westchester Golf Association Caddie Scholarship Fund, Asaru will receive $24,000 to aid his education at Stony Brook University which he will be attending this upcoming fall. His determination and enthusiasm as an intern for GOLFWORKS at TFTMNY is what lead him to be recognized as a candidate to receive the scholarship and all that hard work paid off when he was chosen. He will now join the group of about 2,800 Caddie Scholars due to his a achievements on and off the course. Thank you WGACSF for gifting this award to help our participant pursue is dream. Congratulations Asaru, we know you'll do great!

Stony Brook University
**Girls to the Tee**

The LPGA Girls Golf event at Westchester Country Club, Girls to the Tee, was very exciting and influential for the group of young ladies who were in attendance. This was the 11th annual Girls to the Tee free clinic for junior girls ages 6 to 18. There were 20 expert golf pros spending time with the girls and teaching them more about golf while also giving them some advice on things like their swing, stance, grip, and much more. The girls also had a fun opportunity to try and chip into a huge blown up dinosaurs mouth as well as aim for a bulls-eye on a blow up dart board. It was a fantastic time for the girls! Thank you to WMGA Junior Golf and Women’s Met Golf for putting this event on for the females in the golf community.

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**On to the Next Round for The First Tee!**

First hole jitters had participants buzzing with nervous chatter as everyone waited for their tee time to arrive. One by one each team made their way out to the first tee box and hit amazing shots. Each team tried their best some participants having to hit very difficult shots up and down hill, from the rough, and making long putts. Although their was 11 divisions only 4 could move on to the next round the following week. The First Tee of Met New York advanced to the next round this week in the Metropolitan PGA Jr. League All Star Qualifying Tournament. Every single one of these kids worked tirelessly to play the best that they can with endless practice and mountains of advice and support from amazing people. They are now working hard to make it through the next few rounds, we know that they can do it!
Meet and Greet with PGA Tour Professionals

PGA Tour provided two participants of The First Tee of NYC, Austin Cepeda and Madison Rios, with a memorable encounter at The Norther Trust on the beautiful Liberty National Golf Club. A meet and greet with PGA Tour professionals Brooks Koepka and Rory McIlroy was arranged for Madison while Austin was able to have some one on one full swing and short game instruction from Emiliano Grillo. Thank you PGA Tour for providing our participants with such an amazing experience.
Are you interested in registering?
Fall registration for new or returning participants is open on The First Tee's website. You won't want to miss out on such an amazing opportunity to expose young children to golf and all of the life lessons that are encouraged in each class. To find out more information, skill levels, and the schedule for the fall you can go to thefirstteemtny.org or dial (718)655-9164 to talk to someone. We hope to see you in the fall!

We Couldn't do it Without You
We would like to thank everyone who has helped us in our journey with all of our participants. From sponsors to volunteers to coaches and even the participants themselves without the help from everyone The First Tee wouldn't be able to reach as many people as it does, it wouldn't be able impact so many lives, it wouldn't be able to run. Thank you for always being there for us year after year supporting our mission to impact the lives of young people by providing educational programs that build character, instill life-enhancing values and promote healthy choices through the game of golf, with a focus of serving minority and under-privileged youth.
Visit us at...

**Address:** 3545 Jerome Ave

**Instagram:** @tftmny

**Twitter:** @FirstTeeMetNY

**Website:** thefirstteemetny.org

**Facebook:** The First Tee of Metropolitan New York

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We hope to see you next season!