



**NYSAAA ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATORS  
HALL OF FAME**

**NEWS RELEASE**  
**ANNOUNCEMENT**  
**Class of 2019**

The following five individuals (listed alphabetically) have been selected for induction into  
The **Sixth** class of the **NYSAAA Hall of Fame** on Friday, March 15, 2019  
(12 Noon) at the Saratoga Hilton, Saratoga Springs, NY  
The NYSAAA "Alan Mallanda, CMAA" Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony  
is held annually as part of the "David Martens" Hall of Fame & Awards Luncheon

Below, is the school district, current residence (if applicable), and a brief summary of accomplishments for each inductee.

**Dr. Robert Christenson, CAA – Ringgold, GA**  
**Bellmore-Merrick (8) and Northport-East Northport (11) School Districts**

Dr. Christenson spent 20 years in two New York schools on Long Island as a Physical Education teacher and administrator, before accepting a position as Associate Professor for Health & Human Performance at Oklahoma State University where he spent another 7 years before retiring. While in NYS, he was Chair of many Section sports committees. He also served as Section XI Conference 1 President. He was elected President of two state AAHPERD associations (NJ, OK) and Chair for two national (NASPE) leadership committees. Robert spent 9 years on the national editorial board for "Strategies: A Journal for Physical and Sport Educators." He has presented at numerous local, state and national conferences and authored numerous articles that were published. He has been a member of the NIAAA since 1984 and served on the National Faculty as an LTI Instructor. He also served on the national Certification Committee (1990-95) and was elected Chair in 1992-95. He has received the Suffolk Zone Amazing Person Award (2003), the Nassau Zone Honor Award (1995), the Council of Administrators' Recognition Award (1994) along with numerous other local, regional and national awards. In 1994, he received special recognition from the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association. In New York State, he has received the Chapter 8 & !! Athletic Administrator Awards, as well as the Channing Mann Award for his leadership in Health, PE & Athletics and National Physical Education Director of the Year (1994).

**Nick Decillis – Middle Island, NY**  
**Middle Country (11), Sag Harbor (11) and Center Moriches (11) School Districts**

Nick Decillis has served for 56 years as an Athletic Administrator in three schools on Long Island and Section XI. He was also an Army Veteran after serving 16 months in Korea. He has been a two-time President of Suffolk County Athletic Directors' Association and is a Past President of Section XI. Nick has served as an Executive Board member of the NYSPHSAA for 31 years (since 1986), also serving as Chair of Girls Volleyball and Boys' & Girls' Fencing. He has received recognition many times, including induction into the Suffolk County Hall of Fame, NYS COA Physical Education Director of the Year, the NYS AHPERD Ellis Chapman Award, the NYSAAA Chapter 11 Athletic Administrator Award and Suffolk Zone Awards. Newfield High School named their football field in his honor. He has also been inducted into the NYSPHSAA Hall of Fame.

**Liam Frawley, CMAA – New City, NY  
Tappan Zee HS (1)**

Liam Frawley has had an amazing career since graduating from Manhattan College. He has been a professional baseball athletic trainer for 8 seasons with the NY Yankees, Montreal Expos and Milwaukee Brewers. He was also athletic trainer at Columbia University. He worked with the US Olympic Committee and the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games before becoming Assistant Athletic Director at Horace Mann School and then Director of HPE and Athletics at Tappan Zee High School in South Orange School District in 2005. He has blazed a trail of leadership in his district, Rockland County, Section I, New York State and nationally since then. Liam served on many section committees and Chapter 1 NYSAAA activities. He served the NYSAAA as Program Chair for the 2013 annual conference, was the state Chair of the Professional Development Committee and initiated a “New AD/First Timer Orientation” and re-vamped the Sparky Rector Drop-In Center at the annual conference. He also converted much professional development material, the P.O.P. Manual and the Athletic Administrator Handbook to a digital and “live” document on the website. Liam also served as a member of the NIAAA National Faculty for Leadership Training and course instructor at both state and national conferences. He was a rising star at the state and national levels when he was struck down with multiple aneurysms and strokes at the early age of 47. At that time, he was elected as Vice President, then President-Elect of the NYSAAA. His term was fulfilled in absentia as Co-President during Scott Sugar’s term in 2017-18. Liam is recognized for his leadership in developing a “pathway” for coaching certification in NYS through the NYS Education Department and the NFHS in 2015. He also received recognition when Tappan Zee was awarded the National Interscholastic Program of Excellence by Coach & Athletic Director Magazine as “top public school program in the nation. Liam has received many honors, including the NYSAAA Apple Appreciation Award (’14), Chapter 1 Athletic Administrator Award (’16), and NFHS Coach Educator of the Year (’16).

**Harold Fried, CAA – Rock Hill, NY  
Pine Bush CSD (9)**

Harold Fried has had a colorful and varied career over 41 years since graduating from Long Island University. He served as PE Teacher and Coach for Eastchester and Mamaroneck School Districts. Then, he enrolled in the Peace Corps for two years before becoming a flight attendant for Trans World Airlines. Harold later went back to teaching and coaching in the Washingtonville School District before becoming an Assistant Principal in Middletown, NY for five years. He finished his career as Director of Health, PE and Athletics for 13 years in Pine Bush CSD before retirement. Harold served Section IX as Chair of the Constitutional By Laws Committee as well a Co-Chair for Boys and Girls Tennis. He also served on the national (NIAAA) Publications Committee for many years and served as NYS Delegate to the NIAAA Delegate Assembly. Harold represented Chapter 9 as both Assistant Chapter Representative, then Chapter Representative on the NYSAAA Representative Board for many years, before being selected to serve on the Executive Board as Vice President, President Elect, then President in 2010. He served as Conference Planner for President Ken Garry and Chapter 9 in 2007 and worked with Liam Frawley on the Professional Development Committee, helping to digitize the Handbook for the website.

**James Zumbo – Fairport, NY  
Greece Arcadia (5) and Fairport (5) School Districts**

Jim Zumbo has served as an Athletic Administrator for Greece Arcadia (7) and Fairport (20) in Section 5 over his 27 year career, retiring in 2017. He implemented one of the first Unified Basketball teams in Monroe County, as well as special needs students competing at Special Olympic Track & Field Meets and a blind Cross Country student who competed at all level. He served the Executive Committee of Section V for 21 years and was Section V representative to the NYSPPHSAA Executive Committee for 13 years. Jim was Section V President and Officer for 6 years. He was instrumental in developing a “Championship Philosophy” by which all tournaments in Section V are conducted. He also served as Section V Boys & Girls Lacrosse Liaison; the Scholarship Committee (Chair); Section V Finance Committee; Hearing

Officer; and Unified Basketball Assistant Coordinator. In the Monroe County League, Jim served as Scheduling Chair, Banquet Chair, Boys' Lacrosse Chair and Cheerleading Liaison. He continues to serve on the NYSAAA Veterans Committee representing Chapter 5 since retiring. Jim has been recognized by his colleagues with a NYS AHPERD Zone Honor Award, Chapter 5 Athletic Administrator Award and SAANYS Region 11 Administrator of the Year Award. Recently, Fairport HS created the "Jim Zumbo Red Raider Award" in his honor.

**Nominations are now being accepted for the 2020 NYSAAA Alan Mallanda, CMAA Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony to be held in conjunction with the David Martens Awards Luncheon in Saratoga Springs on March 13, 2020. Please download the nomination form from the NYSAAA website ([www.nysaaa.org](http://www.nysaaa.org)) and submit to the Executive Director no later than January 15, 2019 for 2020 class nominations.**