



**PRESS RELEASE  
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## **Competition Was In the Air at the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the MarcUS for Change 5K Walk & Run**

### ***Stamford High Students Denis Proskuryakov & Eleanor Fox Lead the Way***

**STAMFORD, CT – October 28, 2022** – What do you get when 385 community members line up on Mill River Street awaiting the blaring sound of an air horn? The enthusiastic kick-off of the 10th Anniversary Celebration of the **MarcUS for Change 5K Walk & Run, presented by the Stamford Public Education Foundation (SPEF) on Sunday, October 23rd.**

The MarcUS for Change 5K was launched by the McInerney Family back in 2013, to honor the memory of their son Marcus (a Stamford High graduate), to promote the importance of mentoring, and to take action to help forge a united Stamford, in which all students have an equitable access to public education. This year's event furthered their guiding goals, with 385 walkers and runners gathering at Mill River for a day of fitness and fall fun. All proceeds from this event support SPEF's programming for Stamford's students and families, including mentoring, tutoring, and parent engagement.

Stamford High's Cross-Country members took home the top honors:

- Denis Proskuryakov, ran the 3.1 miles in just 17 minutes and 8 seconds, and
- Eleanor Fox, followed closely behind at just 21 minutes and 31 seconds.

PLUS, Stamford High was the recipient of the MarcUS for Change 5K Spirit Awards, which includes a \$500 prize for their PTO.

Additional highlights surrounding the race included a performance by the Stamford High Cheer Team, the National Anthem sung by Westhill High School Senior MadisonElizabeth Anderson, and a special award presented to the McInerney Family for their ten years of support.

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A FallFest followed the race. Families visited tables hosted by community members such as Kids Helping Kids, Books Across Stamford, the Office of Family and Community Engagement, Cradle to Career, and the Boys and Girl Scouts. There were arts & crafts, fall activities, face painting, and a hospitality tent with snacks.

**About SPEF:** Founded in 1996, the mission of the Stamford Public Education Foundation is to elevate student success by delivering educational programs and solutions that promote equitable access to quality public education in Stamford. For further information, visit [www.spefct.org](http://www.spefct.org).

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