

Garden City Public Schools
56 Cathedral Avenue
Garden City, NY 11530

Coordinator of Public Information
Catherine Knight, Ed. D.
516 478-1079

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For Immediate Release:



***Kidsday* Reporters from the GC Middle School Interview American Idol Lauren Alaina**

By Patricia Roberts, teacher

Several students from Mrs. Nardone and Mrs. Roberts' sixth grade English class recently boarded the Long Island Railroad and headed into the city. At the Mineola train station, the students and their parents joined *Kidsday* editor Pat Mullooly and Mrs. Roberts to travel into Manhattan to attend a listening party with American Idol Lauren Alaina. Everyone was so excited, as Ava so eloquently stated, "Meeting someone famous is always a thrill!" When the parents left to go shopping at the nearby Chelsea Market, Pat Mullooly and Mrs. Roberts and the students were escorted by Lauren's manager into the Kola House Club. The students, bursting with enthusiasm and excitement, were ready to interview Lauren Alaina as she debuted her latest album, *The Road Less Traveled*.

Lauren's smile and easy disposition made the students feel very comfortable. "This is cool," Dylan said as they began to interview the famous American Idol singer. They

learned that Lauren wanted to be a special education teacher when she was younger and that math was her favorite subject in school. She has been singing since she was six years old and has never suffered from stage fright. Lauren shared that she has written over three hundred songs and was very excited about her new album, *The Road Less Traveled*.

Finally, to end the interview, Ava asked, “Lauren can you help us with this?” When the students started singing her song *Georgia Peaches*, Lauren, pleasantly surprised and excited that the kids knew the lyrics to her song, joined in and sang along. The room was bursting with excitement.

Once the interview was over, the students headed upstairs to the lounge, and sat in the VIP section waiting for Lauren’s concert to begin. They were so surprised and happy when they each received Lauren’s autographed CD from her manager. Lauren moved onto the stage and began singing *Doin’ Fine*, *Queen of Hearts*, *Road Less Traveled*, *Three*, and *My Kinda People* to a room filled with her adoring fans. Everyone was singing and clapping. Then Lauren announced to the crowd that before the concert, she was interviewed by a few students that she really enjoyed meeting. She said, “Those students mean the world to me.” She dedicated her last song to the Kidsday reporters. “You can be whatever you want, as long as you put your heart into it,” she told the students. The crowd went crazy, clapping and applauding. Pat and Mrs. Roberts were very touched by Lauren’s warm, honest and sincere dedication and encouraging words. Nicole yelled, “Lauren just dedicated one of her songs to all of us. That’s amazing!” When Lauren came off stage she went right over to the students and posed for several pictures with them. “She’s really enjoying being with these students,” Mrs. Roberts said as everyone took selfies.

After the event, the students joined their parents at the Chelsea Market for a late night snack and then headed back to Penn Station. The commuters on the LIRR received a special treat that night as they listened to the students singing Lauren’s *Georgia Peaches* song. “I felt like Cinderella and that my fairy tale is coming to an end,” said Kami. We all agreed and continued singing.

