

The Sara K. Wallace Leadership Award of the League of Women Voters of Brookline

It is a pleasure to represent the Brookline League of Women Voters to give Sophie Nystuen the Sara K. Wallace Leadership Award, named for a resident who served as a leader and advocate in the Town of Brookline for many decades. It is given annually to a BHS senior who represents the League's ideas of civic engagement and community service.

Sophie saw a need and responded in December 2022, creating a website for teens called *Breathe*, which provides a safe space for those struggling with trauma to have an open forum to discuss their experiences and feelings.

She has been a leader in the Brookline school system for sexual harassment and assault response and prevention. She started with her "truth" and experience and reached out to help others with their mental health needs.

Sophie represents the energy and commitment it takes to identify issues, act on them, and make a positive and powerful contribution to her community. Sophie, the League wishes you the best as you move on to the next phase of your life.