

## HHS Model UN Team Prepares for NYC Conference

The Haverhill High School Model United Nations team will participate in the National High School Model United Nations conference in New York City March 2 through 5.

Model UN is a competition that enables students to act as diplomats to the United Nations, explains Anna Rossi, one of three student head delegates. Participants are assigned a country — Haverhill High will represent Sweden — and current event topics to research, write about, and formulate their



The HHS Model UN team and their adviser, teacher Zachary Simmons, are preparing to participate in the annual National High School Model United Nations conference in New York City on March 2 through 5.

countries' positions, Rossi says. The other student head delegates for this year's HHS Model UN team are Daniel Brown and Michael McIntosh.

Students are judged on their public speaking ability, debate skills, research of their country, and the accuracy of the depiction of their country's views.

To allow all HHS students — and other interested parties — to learn more about Sweden and its foreign ministry, the Haverhill Public Schools will follow and share from the Swedish Foreign Ministry's Twitter feed (@SweFM) through March 5.

The HHS Model UN team goes to the NHSMUN conference each year. "Attending this conference is an exceptional experience for all students and really makes a difference in how each one of them sees the world as a whole," says adviser and International Relations teacher Zachary Simmons. At the conference, students have a chance to

meet fellow high school students from around the world as well as visit the United Nations and participate in the largest conference in the world.

Best of all, students spend a day in the Great Hall of the United Nations in New York, using the desks and microphones used by actual UN ambassadors. Many students have the opportunity to make a speech from the UN General Assembly's podium, the highlight of the trip.

The entire Model United Nations program had inspired and created graduates who go on to choose in college to major in International Relations. Those students have made careers from the program, and many have returned to inform us on how the program has influenced them in special ways and made a positive impact on them.

Each student is responsible for covering the \$700 cost to participate. The team is taking part in many fundraising efforts to offset the total that each student will have to pay.

Fundraising includes tagging, fundraising at local eateries, and others. The Haverhill Education Association has donated each year to help pay for the trip. Most fundraising comes from the generosity of the community. The Model UN team has set up a Go Fund Me page to accept donations. Papa Gino's in Bradford will donate 20 percent of sales during a specific four-hour period on February 10 to the Model UN team. Stay tuned for more information about the time of this fundraiser.