

## Nobel Prize Committee Member Mats Larsson Inspires Brewster Students

by [Sandra Diamond Fox](#) 11/10/2015 SCHOOLS



Students meet with Mats Larsson, right, at Brewster High School. Photo Credit: *Contributed*

BREWSTER, N.Y. -- Students at Brewster High School recently learned more about the Nobel Prize from Mats Larsson, a member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences and a professor of Physics at Stockholm University in Sweden, as he stopped by the school to speak with students about, "How to Win a Nobel Prize."

Larsson was a member of the 2013 Nobel committee that awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics and Chemistry. He was a member of the Swedish National Space Board and was appointed chair of their Research Committee in 2001. Larsson also sat on the Swedish Research Council and was chair of its Evaluation Committee for Atomic and Molecular Physics, Fusion Research and Plasma Physics from 2001 to 2003.

Larsson came to the Hudson Valley following his visit to Brookhaven National Laboratory on Long Island and while here he wanted to reach out to students to share his knowledge and experiences with them.

Brewster High School teachers and students of AP [hysics, AP chemistry, AP biology, and science research classes were invited to engage with Larsson as he led a lecture at the school citing past Nobel Prize winners, discussing their inventions and debunking myths surrounding the award.

Larsson's presentation was followed by a question and answer session and an informal luncheon where students were able to chat with the professor in a casual environment. "It's important to stimulate the interest in the natural sciences," Larsson said regarding his motivation to visit schools and speak with students. "With science, it's difficult and it takes a lot of work, but if you are inclined and you have the drive, then you were meant to do this work. It's important for young people to be inspired and hopefully this was a small contribution in that direction."