



WILLIAMSBURG HIGH SCHOOL for ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN



2021 Open House Schedule

Please attend a Remote or In-Person Open House to learn more about our school and our unique four-year course sequence with a focus in architectural drafting, design principles, and historic preservation.

Remote

Thursday – October 28th at 5:30 PM

Thursday – November 4th at 5:30 PM

Saturday – November 20th at 10:00 AM

Tuesday – November 30th at 5:30 PM

In-Person

Saturday – November 6th at 10:00 AM

Tuesday – November 16th at 5:30 PM



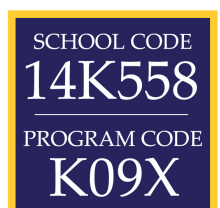
Please Note: All attendees for our In-Person Open House dates must be fully vaccinated.

To register for one of our open house dates:

<https://forms.gle/gYX3Fp8zZWqdpqbM7>



Please contact our Parent Coordinator, Ms. Chu, if you have any questions. You can reach her at (718) 388-1260, ext. 2273 or lchu4@schools.nyc.gov.





FAQ's

*** Who should apply to WHSAD?**

At WHSAD, we believe that ALL students who work hard can achieve their dreams! Whether you are good at math, writing, history, art, science, technology, and/or enjoy doing hands-on work, our school has something to offer you. Therefore, we welcome ALL STUDENTS to apply who have a strong desire to succeed and a particular interest in architecture, engineering, creative design and related fields.

*** If I attend WHSAD, do I have to become an architect?**

Even though our students are exposed to architecture and design techniques and learn valuable skills through required coursework and internship opportunities, our students pursue a variety of careers and college programs post-graduation.

*** When do students start taking architecture classes?**

Students begin taking architecture classes in their freshman year.

*** What AP or college level courses do you offer?**

We currently offer 6 AP courses: United States History, Environmental Science, English Literature, Spanish Language and Culture, Human Geography, and Calculus. Our students can also participate in the College Now Program at City Tech and earn up to 12 college credits.

*** What after school activities are offered at WHSAD?**

Each year we plan after school activities around our students' interests. In the past, our students have participated in our campus wide PSAL sports teams, architecture club (Makerspace), art club, electrical club, and student newspaper.

*** How many students attend WHSAD?**

We are a community of approximately 600 students (9-12 grade). Our student to teacher ratio is 18:1.

*** What is your graduation rate?**

Our 2020-2021 graduation rate was 98%.

*** What is the percentage of students who attend college after graduating WHSAD?**

72% of the Class of 2021 planned to attend college this fall (4 Year – 47%; 2 Year – 27%).

*** What are the school hours?**

Our regular school day consists of 8 periods from 8:20 A.M. to 2:40 P.M. We also offer night school classes twice a week.

*** Will WHSAD be having an Open House?**

Yes. We will be having both in-person and remote Open Houses. Please RSVP on our website www.whsad.org

In-person:

Saturday – November 6th at 10:00 AM

Tuesday – November 16th at 5:30 PM

Remote:

Thursday – October 28th at 5:30 PM

Thursday – November 4th at 5:30 PM

Saturday – November 20th at 10:00 AM

Tuesday – November 30th at 5:30 PM

*** Do I need to be vaccinated to attend an In-Person Open House?**

Yes, all visitors must be vaccinated against COVID 19 in order to enter the school building. Also, in-person visits are limited to two (2) participants per family.

*** What if I cannot attend the Open House?**

That's okay. You can schedule a private tour at a time that is more convenient to you. Please contact our Parent coordinator, Ms. Chu, at (718) 388-1260, ext. 2273 or (646) 678-1861 to schedule a visit.

*** Where is the school located and accessibility to public transportation?**

WHSAD is located in Williamsburg, Brooklyn on Roebling Street, between N 6th and N 7th streets. We are most accessible by the L train (Bedford or Lorimer stop) or the G train (Metropolitan stop), as well as the B39, B44, B59, and B62 buses.

Our Program

In addition to the state required Regents courses in Math, Science, English, History and Foreign Language, we offer a unique, four-year architecture sequence aimed at providing students with specialized skills in the fields of architecture and engineering that will allow them to pursue careers in a continuously changing technological environment.

Year 1: Foundations of Architecture and Design I & II

Year 2: Architectural Drafting and Design I & II

Year 3: Architectural Building and Design I & II

Year 4: The Business of Architecture & Advanced Computer Design

Students who successfully complete the CTE sequence of coursework, and pass the AutoCad exam, will earn a CTE endorsement on their high school diploma and professional certification in Autodesk.



Extracurricular Activities

Student Government
Yearbook Committee
Art & Architecture Club
Electrical Club
Music Club
Photography Club
Community Service Club
Cheerleading/Dance Club
Handball
Boys' Baseball
Girls' Softball
Girls' Flag Football
Indoor/Outdoor Track
Boys'/Girls' Basketball
Boys'/Girls' Volleyball



Principal
Gill Cornell

Assistant Principals
Maria Basilio
Kimberley Bruno
Giovanni D'Amato

For more information or to arrange a school visit, please contact our
Parent Coordinator, Ms. Chu at
(718) 388-1260 x2273

Williamsburg High School for Architecture & Design



257 N. 6th Street
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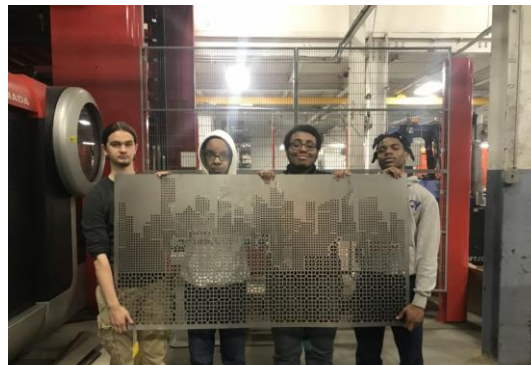
What We Offer

Williamsburg High School for Architecture and Design (WHSAD) is a small, public high school located in the heart of one of New York City's most culturally invigorating neighborhoods. Our focus is on architectural drafting, computer-aided design (AutoCad), and design principles. Our hands-on approach to architecture, design, and the visual arts integrates college prep, internship experiences, and skills training throughout core academic disciplines, providing students with the education to succeed in the 21st century workplace. Partnerships with local businesses and apprenticeships provide students with job opportunities and internships with industry professionals. Students can earn a CTE-endorsed diploma in Architectural Drafting and CAD, and up to six college credits, upon graduation.



Our Partnerships

Our students are offered valuable experience in the fields of architecture and engineering through our **work-based learning program**. We have developed partnerships with several local institutions and companies. Our architecture and engineering students have the opportunity to work and gain practical experience in the operation and current trends of their chosen fields.



Some of Our Partners

*ACE Mentorship
Architectural Grille
Bushwick Generator
Gensler
Heritage Equity
H.E.A.L.T.H. for Youths
Kingsland Printing
Lake Como Environmental Commission
Makeville Studio
New York Cares
New York City Department of Buildings
Park Avenue Armory
Project Witness
School of Cooperative Technology (Co-op Tech)
Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP)*

Who Should Apply to WHSAD?

At WHSAD, we believe that **ALL** students that work hard can achieve their dreams. Whether you are good at math, writing, history, art, science, technology and/or enjoy doing hands-on work, our program has something to offer you. Therefore, we welcome **ALL STUDENTS** to apply that have a strong desire to succeed and a particular interest in architecture, engineering, creative design and related fields.

Our Graduates

WHSAD's 2020-2021 graduation rate was 98%. Past graduates have been accepted to many colleges and universities and have pursued a variety of programs within those schools. These universities include (but are not limited to):

Alfred State College, The City College of NY: The Bernard & Anne Spitzer School of Architecture, The City College of NY: Grove School of Engineering, Howard University, Hunter College, New York Institute of Technology, New York City College of Technology, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, St. Michael's College, Stony Brook University, SUNY Buffalo State, SUNY New Paltz, SUNY Oswego, Temple University, University at Buffalo, Wellesley College, Vanderbilt University and many more...



Our School Quality Snapshot

SCHOOL CODE
14K558
PROGRAM CODE
K09X

Overall Rating for Student Achievement

Excellent



The **Student Achievement** rating looks at students' progress towards graduation, graduation rates, college and career readiness, and postsecondary enrollment.

The overall section rating is a combination of many Student Achievement measures, including those presented here.

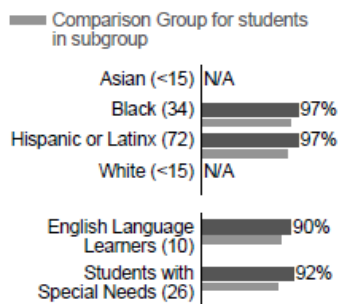
Graduation

4-Year Graduation Rate

98% of the class of 2019 graduated within four years
Comparison Group*: 88%; Brooklyn: 76%; City: 77%

4-Year Grad Rate by Subgroup

(number of students in subgroup is in parentheses)



6-Year Graduation Rate

95% of the class of 2017 graduated within six years
Comparison Group*: 89%; Brooklyn: 81%; City: 81%

Graduation Rates for Students of Different Achievement Levels

Over the past two years, what was the graduation rate for seniors who entered the school with different eighth-grade test scores?

8th-grade test score	Graduated in four years
Level 3 or 4	100% (Comp Group*: 97%)
Level 2	98% (Comp Group*: 90%)
Level 1	97% (Comp Group*: 75%)
8th-grade test score	Graduated college ready
Level 3 or 4	96% (Comp Group*: 90%)
Level 2	78% (Comp Group*: 65%)
Level 1	48% (Comp Group*: 26%)

Please note, due to COVID-19, the most recent year with complete data is 2019.

For partial 2020 data, please visit:
<https://tools.nycenet.edu/snapshot/2020/14K558/>

College and Career Readiness

96% successfully completed approved college or career preparatory courses and exams
Comparison Group*: 53%; Brooklyn: 50%; City: 51%

83% graduated college ready (met CUNY's standards for avoiding remedial classes)
Comparison Group*: 62%; Brooklyn: 55%; City: 57%

75% graduated from high school and enrolled in college or other postsecondary program within six months
Comparison Group*: 69%; Brooklyn: 60%; City: 62%

College or Career Preparatory Courses and Exams

(number of students successfully completing out of 123 seniors):

Technical Assessment (118)
CTE Diploma (113)
College Credit Course (44)
Algebra II Regents (37)
Other A.P. Exams (29)
Chemistry Regents (25)
A.P. US History (3)
A.P. Calculus (2)
A.P. English Language (2)

Where Did Students Go After Graduating?

31% CUNY (City University of New York) - 4 year
21% CUNY (City University of New York) - 2 year
7% New York State Public
6% New York State Private
8% Out of State
2% Other

Progress Towards Graduation

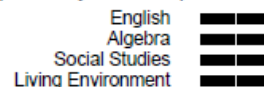
Credits

91% earned enough credits in ninth grade to be on track for graduation
Comparison Group*: 85%; Brooklyn: 83%; City: 85%

92% earned enough credits in tenth grade to be on track for graduation
Comparison Group*: 79%; Brooklyn: 79%; City: 82%

Regents

How well does this school help students improve from their incoming proficiency levels and perform on Regents exams?

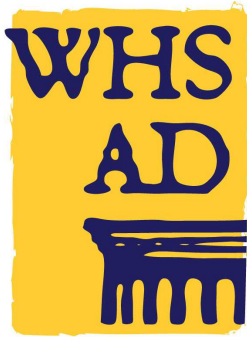


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Where Are They Now? WHSAD Alumni In College and Careers

<https://www.whsad.org/the-column/the-keys-to-success-at-whsad>



Nathifa Debellotte, WHSAD Class of 2016, graduated with a B.S. in Architecture from Wentworth Institute of Technology in June 2020. She is currently pursuing a post-graduate Professional Certificate in Construction, also from Wentworth, and has created her own design consulting business, specializing in photo and video editing, and textile design. About her time at WHSAD, Nathifa said: "If you can think and design conceptually, you will do great in architecture school ...architecture is a great foundation to learning the other trades such as engineering and construction. Learning the basics can guide and lead you into other trades that you can benefit and grow from."

Ramon Williams, Class of 2014, exemplifies the versatility of architecture skills. Ramon participated in Skills USA in WHSAD and interned at an architecture firm through the school. When talking about his internship experience he said, "It truly was an amazing experience. But one thing I realized was I wanted to be more hands-on. While I was working at the firm, I realized that the thing I thought I loved wasn't really what I wanted. That's what made me change my focus to a physics degree." Ramon studied Astrophysics and Chinese at the College of Franklin & Marshall. What he says made astrophysics stand out was the fact that it incorporates all types of engineering and with it he can work on almost anything. About WHSAD he said: "It gave me my foundation for everything I had to build on."



Russell James, WHSAD Class of 2016, is now an electrical apprentice with IBEW Local 3. Russell got his start in the world of electrical installation when he was an 11th grader in Mr. O'Brien and Ms. Moos' Architectural Building and Design class. Russell continued his studies at Co-op Tech, taking classes in Electrical, Carpentry, and Welding, before joining the union. Last summer, he met up with his mentor Mr. O'Brien to talk about his experiences. Mr. O'Brien also gifted some electrical tools to his former student to use as he pursues his career.

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Read more
about
WHSAD
graduates:



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WHSAD 's Industry and Community Partnerships

September 13, 2021 (Brooklyn, NY)

WHSAD is very fortunate to have the support of a variety of partners who provide WBL opportunities, student mentoring, equipment and materials, curriculum feedback, and more to help us provide academic and extra-curricular experiences for our students, both in-person and remotely. (Use the hyperlinks to view articles on www.whsad.org about our partners.)

[ACE Mentorship](#)

[Architectural Grille](#)

[Areaware](#)

Assembly Member Emily Gallagher

Aurora Lampworks

Berry Street Garden

Bill Harvey

[Broadway Stages](#)

[Bushwick Generator](#)

Community Board 1

[Construction Skills](#)

[Co-op Tech](#)

CUNY Creative Arts Team

[Diana Reyna](#)

[Fidelity Triangle](#)

[Gensler](#)

Grant Associates/CTE ISP

[Green-Wood Cemetery](#)

H.E.A.L.T.H. for Youths

[Heritage Equity Partners](#)

Historic House Trust

HWKN

[Kingsland Printing](#)

[Lake Como Development Corp.](#)

[Little Free Libraries](#)

Make STEAM

[Makeville Studio](#)

Moore Street Market

[My Brother's Keeper](#)

[My Sister's Keeper](#)

Neighborhood Preservation Center

[Newtown Creek Alliance](#)

North Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce

North Brooklyn Neighbors

NYC Council Member Antonio Reynoso

NYC Council Member Steve Levin

NYC School Construction Authority

[NYC Together](#)

Office of Topography, Brooklyn Borough
President

[Park Avenue Armory](#)

Pei Cobb Freed + Partners

Powerhouse Environmental Arts Foundation

[Powers Street Garden](#)

[Project Witness](#)

Pushcart 101

[RAMSA](#)

[Salvadori Center](#)

Silman

Skills USA

St. Nick's Alliance

Two Trees Mangement

[World Monuments Fund](#)

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Summer Internships and Employment Opportunities

October 1, 2021 (Brooklyn, NY)

Since the summer of 2009, WHSAD has offered hundreds of students the opportunity to complete summer internships in architecture, engineering, design, historic preservation, and related fields. Beginning in 2018, WHSAD has hosted school-based *Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP)*, currently partnered with St. Nick's Alliance, which has allowed the school to greatly expand its summer employment opportunities for students.

Past Internship hosts have included, but are not limited to:

- ◆ Green-Wood Cemetery, Brooklyn
- ◆ Silman, Manhattan
- ◆ World Monuments Fund, Manhattan
- ◆ Park Avenue Armory, Manhattan
- ◆ Topographical Bureau, Brooklyn BP's Office
- ◆ Northside Development/Heritage Equity, Brooklyn
- ◆ Neighborhood Preservation Center, Manhattan
- ◆ NYC Department of Buildings, Manhattan Office
- ◆ Sabir, Richardson, & Weisberg Engineering, Manhattan

Since 2019, WHSAD has also offered the *Work Learn Grow* program in conjunction with St. Nick's Alliance and College Now. As part of *Work, Learn, Grow*, eligible students enroll in a "First Year Seminar" college level course during the fall term before being partnered with an employment opportunity for the remainder of the school year.

Through their internships and other employment opportunities, WHSAD students gain valuable insight into various jobs available within the fields of architecture, engineering, design, and preservation, while also building career skills that will be essential to them as they continue their education and prepare for the 21st Century workplace.

You can read more about WHSAD's summer programs, for 2021 and past years, on our website: www.whsad.org



Malachi McGarrel (right), Class of 2020, shares his research on historic buildings of NYC at the Neighborhood Preservation Center with WHSAD Student Correspondent Antonio Perez, during his Summer 2019 internship.



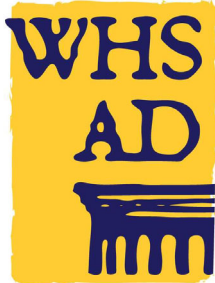
Aedan Schoen Thomas, Class of 2020, works with another intern to unearth Cemetery during his 2019 Summer Internship.

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WHSAD Students Intern with Battery Park City Authority

April 22, 2021 (Brooklyn, NY)

In the Spring of 2021, WHSAD partnered with the Battery Park City Authority (BPCA) to create a new internship opportunity for students to use their AutoCAD design skills to generate plans of the various spaces in Battery Park for use by the BPCA's Permitting Office. BPCA Permit Associate John Sherzai approached WHSAD about creating the internship because he was confident the students would be prepared for this kind of work. How did John know? He graduated from WHSAD in 2016!

After WHSAD, John studied at the City College of New York, and during his senior year, he began working with the BPCA in their Permit Office. He quickly discovered that the maps and plans of the various spaces in Battery Park City were lacking in detail and in dire need of improvement and updates. After reaching out to WHSAD in February 2021, BPCA came on board as an internship host, and 10 students worked from late March through June to survey the spaces in Battery Park City and generate updated maps for use by the Permit Office. Eventually, the students' work will be available on the BPCA website to aid those hoping to host events in Battery Park City.

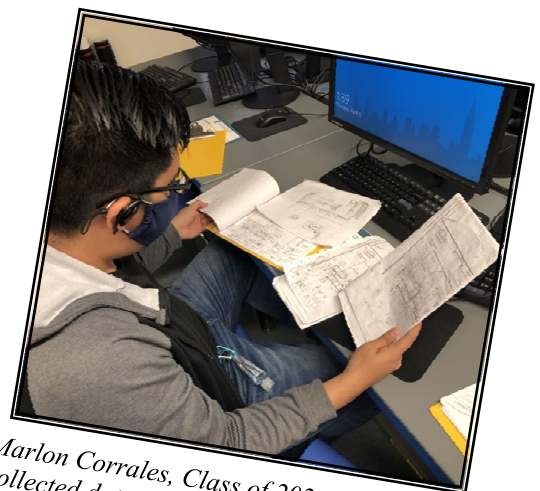
Marc Joseph, Class of 2023, had this to say about the early stages of the project:

"Working on this project has been really educational and fun, we get real-life experience on this type of work and we get paid for it. At first, we visited the site using Google Maps and Google Earth and looked at the different parts of Battery Park City sort of like a tour. On the second investigation, we began taking measurements to update the blueprint of the park. Everything has been pretty much good, and now we're putting the measurements in CAD and as we measure more parts of the park the more information we can put in CAD."

While the initial set of drawings were completed in June 2021, the project will be ongoing for several years as the Battery Park City Authority completes its "Resilience Action Plan" and redevelops spaces within the park area.



Ryan Singh, Class of 2021, inputs site data into the original BPC AutoCAD files.



Marlon Corrales, Class of 2021, reviews the collected data for accuracy before it is input into the AutoCAD files.

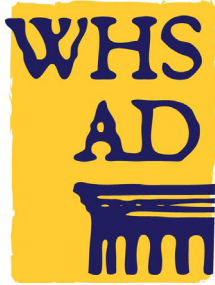
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WHSAD Student Designs Mini-Golf Hole Inspired by Climate Change

September 1, 2021 (Brooklyn, NY)

In the spring of 2021, WHSAD partnered with Two Trees, a realty and management company in Brooklyn, to contribute a design to a temporary mini golf course and urban farm just north of Williamsburg's Domino Park. The entire project is a collaboration between many local artists, not-for-profit organizations, and climate change activists, to all create a fun and educational course.

During his junior year, as part of a project for his Building and Design Class, Lawrence Pierre designed a hole around the idea of waterfront resiliency. Several classmates helped with research about coastal erosion mitigation efforts, and WHSAD teachers Ms. Moos and Mr. Rodriguez helped with the design presentation. After incorporating feedback from Two Trees management, Lawrence adjusted his design to better fit the theme of the course.

After construction was completed, WHSAD students were able to take a trip in early August and play the course, including the hole designed by their classmate. Students were able to have some fun, while also learning about climate change, and all the recycled materials that were used in the construction of the course.

Said Kimberly Castro, Class of 2022:
"I've never been mini golfing before and having the opportunity to do it with my friends and incoming freshmen students was great, seen ever ybody engaging and having fun after not being able to do this kind of activities since the pandemic started was a unique experience that made me realize how much we need human interaction...It's so impressive how the designers were able to create a different scenario and make it so creative even though it wasn't a huge space, not only is this a fun place to go to but it's also very educational to make people more aware of climate change and how important it is to take care of the planet we live in."



Lawrence Pierre, Class of 2022, poses with the mini-golf hole he designed for the course at Domino Park in Brooklyn.



WHSAD students enjoy a field trip to the mini-golf course at Domino Park.

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PUSHCART 101:

WHSAD Students Design Sustainable Solutions for their Communities

October 3, 2021 (Brooklyn, NY)

For the past three years, Human Geography students at WHSAD have partnered with design educators Sinclair Smith and Jennifer Rittner to identify authentic problems within their communities and create sustainable solutions that address the needs of real people.

By synthesizing design skills with the AP® Human Geography curriculum, students learn how to empathize with users, define their needs, and develop original products that address those needs.

Skills of focus include demographic analysis, ethnographic research, qualitative data coding, construction of personae, ideation, prototyping, and user testing.

Students develop these skills while investigating user needs related to population growth, migration, multiculturalism, political participation, agriculture, urban design, and sustainable development.

Beginning next school year, students will further develop their design prototypes throughout their senior year Business of Architecture course.



Students investigate present-day urban challenges and sustainable solutions at the Museum of the City of New York.

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Project Witness

Meeting Holocaust Survivor and Author Ruth Gruener

October 12, 2021 (Brooklyn, NY)

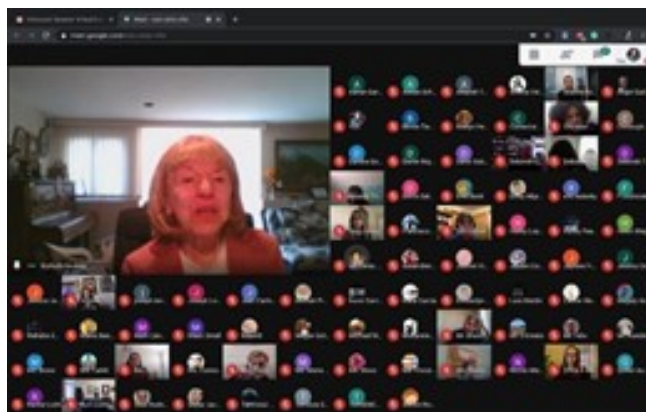
For the past two years, WHSAD students have gotten the opportunity to meet virtually with Holocaust survivor and author Ruth Gruener through Project Witness, a Holocaust education and resource center.

Ruth lived through both Soviet occupation and Nazi rule in Poland, including eight months hiding inside a cramped closet space to survive the latter.

During both meetings, Ruth shared her experience with our students, passed on words of wisdom, and answered several of their questions. Students prepared for the event in their Social Studies and English classes, including by creating pieces of artwork and poetry based on Ruth's experience, as told in her books. Several students were able to share these pieces with Ruth during the virtual visits.

According to Deselle Thompson (class of 2022), the experience meeting Ruth was ultimately an inspiring one. "Ruth leaves us with the message of peace," says Deselle. "She wants us to forget hate because she knows the consequence. She wants us all to find peace with each other to ensure we never let another Holocaust happen again."

Ruth Gruener passed away October 6, 2021, at the age of 88.



Ruth Gruener, largest screen, with WHSAD students, teachers, faculty, and other special guests during a Google Meet session.



Artwork created by Justin Bamaca (class of 2023), inspired by Ruth Gruener's experience during the Holocaust.

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WHSAD Students Gain Hands-On Experience in Woodworking & Screenprinting

September 1, 2021 (Brooklyn, NY)

Since February 2016, more than 50 WHSAD students have had the opportunity to engage in hands-on learning experiences afterschool, working directly with professionals and their teachers in the fields of woodworking and screenprinting. Students were in the middle of a woodworking course when schools closed in March 2020, and are looking forward to resuming later this school year.

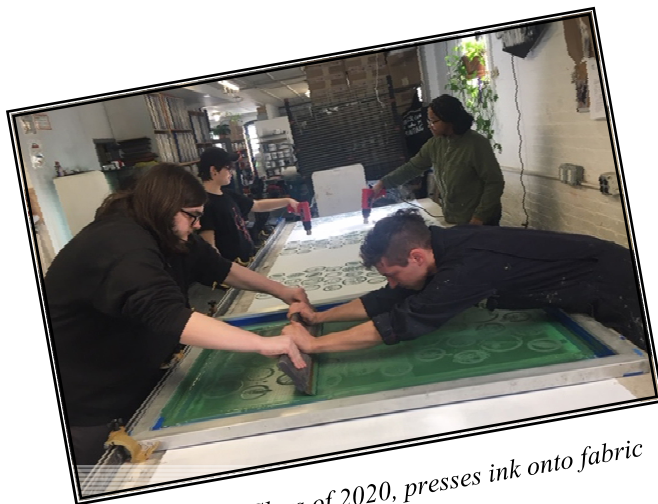
Students first began learning introductory woodworking at Makeville Studio, in Gowanus, Brooklyn, in February 2016. Supported and sponsored by Powerhouse Environmental Arts Foundation, 6-10 students and two teachers have spent approximately 30 hours each semester working on a targeted woodworking project: mallets, lamps, boxes, and stools. In Spring 2019, a group of 10 students designed and carved spoons using hand tools in preparation for teaching their classmates about it later in the semester.

Based on the success of the Makeville projects, Powerhouse connected WHSAD to Kingsland Printing, a print shop in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, and supported design classes in Spring 2018 and 2019, and Fall 2020. Students learned the different machinery and design aspects involved in screenprinting, and were able to create their own poster and textile designs. DeAndre Richards, Class of 2019, was hired to be a summer intern at Kingsland based on his exemplary work during the semester.

Says, Katie Dixon, Executive Director of Powerhouse Environmental Arts Foundation: "Working with WHSAD students and staff has been an amazing experience for Powerhouse. We have learned so much and look forward to developing our partnership in new ways."



Edgar Cruz, Class of 2020, uses the band saw at Makeville Studio to cut precisely the outline of his spoon.



Dillon Lynch, Class of 2020, presses ink onto fabric during the printing workshop.

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Meet Ms. Cumberbatch, WHSAD Alumna and Teacher

October 19, 2021 (Brooklyn, NY)

Ms. Cumberbatch is WHSAD's newest Freshman Architecture & Design teacher, and has the special distinction of being a WHSAD alumna, Class of 2014.

Ms. Cumberbatch credits her experience at WHSAD, particularly learning AutoCAD, for giving her an advantage in her college career.

"Learning AutoCAD at WHSAD gave me the upper hand especially when studying abroad in Italy," says Ms. Cumberbatch. "I was able to utilize the skills I learned here to create my projects a bit faster than the other kids in my class."

Furthermore, the summer internships she completed and her experience at Co-op Tech during her senior year at WHSAD taught her valuable skills such as networking, and exposed her to additional facets of the design world, including construction.

After graduating from WHSAD, Ms. Cumberbatch attended Arcadia University and later spent two years working for an architecture firm in New York.

Her experience in the field helped her realize that "college doesn't prepare you for real world scenarios." Because of this, her goal for her course at WHSAD is "to equip students with the right software and technical skills that are currently used in the field today."

According to Ms. Cumberbatch: "Most times, companies are looking for people who have 10 years of experience from an entry level employee. So why not give them what they want. By teaching our students how to read construction documents, to understand ADA compliance, to create finish boards, and to design development packages, they will be ahead of the curve."



Ms. Jasmyn Cumberbatch, WHSAD alumna and Freshman Architecture and Design Teacher.

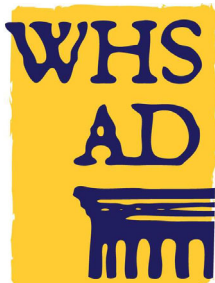


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WHSAD Senior Wins POSSE Scholarship

January 28, 2020 (Brooklyn, NY)

The Posse Foundation identifies, recruits and trains individuals with extraordinary leadership potential. The Posse model is rooted in the belief that a small, diverse group of talented students—a Posse—carefully selected and trained, can serve as a catalyst for individual and community development.

Each spring School staff or community organizations nominate students who demonstrate strong leadership and academic potential. Starting in the Fall of their senior year, Posse conducts intensive interview and application process known as Dynamic Assessment Process (DAP). This a unique evaluation method is designed to identify young leaders who might be missed by traditional admissions criteria but who can excel at selective colleges and universities. DAP offers students an opportunity to demonstrate their intrinsic leadership abilities, their skill at working in a team setting, and their motivation and desire to succeed.

Jonah Vazquez, a 2020 graduate of Williamsburg High School for Architecture and Design was selected as Posse Scholar at Vanderbilt University in Tennessee. During an interview with Jonah, we asked how did it feel to find out you were a finalist for the Posse Scholarship. He responded, *"Excited, very, very, excited. The whole process was a huge ego boost, as I got chosen again and again out of many other candidates through the first and second interviews. Being a finalist was like an extra ego boost because you're one of the special selected 20 out of the 3,000 something that applied. Plus, you have the opportunity of going to an elite school, like Vanderbilt, tuition free for four whole years, so, yes, I was absolutely ecstatic."*

Read more of our interview with Jonah at:
<https://rb.gy/1qj2za>

Read more about WHSAD's first POSSE scholar, Ramon Williams, Class of 2014, on the "Where Are They Now?" page.



Jonah Vazquez, WHSAD Class of 2020, was awarded the POSSE Scholarship to Vanderbilt University .

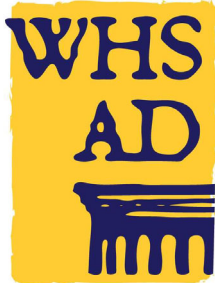


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WHSAD Student Wins Walter A. Hunt Jr. Scholarship

June 28, 2019 (Brooklyn, NY)

The Center for Architecture is pleased to announce the 2019 recipient of the Walter A. Hunt, Jr. Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to a high school senior attending a New York City public or charter school who plans to pursue an undergraduate degree in architecture at a NAAB-accredited school within the US. The recipient will receive \$10,000 per year for the first two years of study to subsidize their college tuition and related costs.

The rigorous application process included essays, letters of recommendation, and a portfolio submission. Four finalists were then interviewed by the scholarship jury comprising: Judy Hunt, wife of Walter Hunt; Keith Frome Rosen, AIA; Madeline Burke-Vigeland, AIA; Joshua Katz, AIA; and Leslie Jabs, AIA, all of Gensler.

After careful consideration, Reginald Huggins, a 2019 graduate of Williamsburg High School for Architecture and Design was selected as the recipient of the Walter A. Hunt, Jr. Scholarship. Huggins' remarkable skills displayed in his portfolio, as well as his thoughtfulness and commitment towards the discipline and his community stood out from among the other applicants. During the interview, the jury was impressed with the breadth of Huggins' interests and passions. In the fall, Huggins will begin the five-year B. Arch program at Howard University. We look forward to following him along his education and career.



Reginald Huggins, WHSAD Class of 2019, graduate wins Walter A. Hunt Jr. Scholarship.

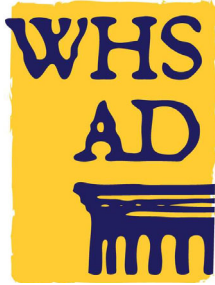


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WHSAD Students Present Design for Lake Como Revitalization Project

June 5, 2020 (Brooklyn, NY)

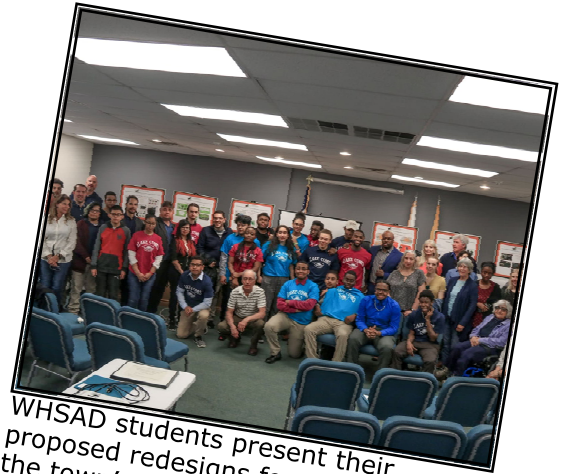
In late 2018, the residents of Lake Como, NJ, formed a commission to renovate and revitalize the town's lakefront property. Heather Butts, cofounder of H.E.A.L.T.H. for Youths, suggested they partner with WHSAD. Kevin Higgins, Mayor of Lake Como, and Jon Gibbons, chairman of the Lake Como Environmental Commission, met with WHSAD principal Gill Cornell, and a partnership was born. The goal of the project, titled "Lake Front Fun and Wildlife Park", is to achieve environmental, health, social, and economic improvement in the town of Lake Como.

On Friday, June 5th, 2020, Mahalia Saint-Eloi and Deselle Thompson, both 10th graders at WHSAD, presented their proposed redesigns for Lake Como to the town's committee.

Mahalia: "After Hurricane Sandy, the lake became toxic, and the wildlife degraded. That's why revitalizing the lakefront by adding new plants and creating areas where wildlife can flourish as well as creating a fun but also sustainable environment is important. As a result of being located right next to the Jersey shore, Lake Como is often overlooked. That's why we want to make Lake Como into a hotspot attraction, so that the residents or tourists of Lake Como or in New Jersey itself can see what they're are missing."

When asked to describe the students' presentation in one word, aid Jon Gibbons said "Stunning! Everyone in attendance was bowled over by the extent of the research and the quality of the design, especially as it was carried out by 10 [grade] high school students. Nobody expected this. People were also impressed with the wide educational experiences developed by Mr. Rodriguez during the project."

Deselle said: "The Lake Como Project was a great learning experience for me. I learned how to design a plan that benefits both people and the environment, how to use sustainable alternatives and ways to repurpose waste from a site (the Bradford Pear trees), and even how to multitask and manage my time so I could still do other activities outside of the project."



WHSAD students present their proposed redesigns for Lake Como to the town's committee.



WHSAD CTE teacher Abe Rodriguez and several students participated in a gardening project at Lake Como over Spring Break.

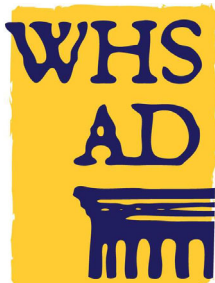
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WHSAD Students “Jazz Up” Black History Month Designs

February 28, 2020 (Brooklyn, NY)

For the last three years, WHSAD students have participated in a partnership project with the Department of Buildings to commemorate the contributions of Black architects and designers in New York City as part of the DOB's Black History Month celebrations.

Previous year's projects have included presentations about significant NYC buildings that were designed by Black architects, and student designed light boxes that were inspired by the historic jazz clubs of New York City.

In 2020, students worked throughout the month of February on a series of speeches that they presented at DOB's annual celebration. Mr. Victor Body-Lawson, founder of Body Lawson Associates Architects and Planners, spoke at the event about his experiences founding his own architecture firm in New York City. He was followed by short speeches from a group of WHSAD students about their own experiences attending an architecture high school, and the career paths they hope to pursue.

Students spent numerous hours writing, editing, and practicing their speeches in preparation for the event where they would have the opportunity to connect with a variety of professionals in the NYC architecture field.

Senior Genavieve Ramirez said: “Working on my Black History Month speech allowed me to put my perspective as a Hispanic female. The experience was amazing and a little nerve wrecking. I was nervous that that my point of view wouldn't be heard, but I was assured that it would be. It was a small amount of people to hear my speech but it was still enough to hear a big message. They were welcoming and hearing my classmates give their speeches was comforting as well. My overall experience taught me many new things on Black History and I'm grateful for that.”

Visit www.whsad.org to see videos of the students' speeches and learn more about their collaborations with the Department of Buildings:

<https://www.whsad.org/the-column/whsad-students-black-history-month-speeches-at-new-york-city-department-of-buildings>



Keldwin Portes from Architecture Grille and Lisa Lewis from the Department of Buildings pose with several WHSAD students and their projects.



WHSAD students with professionals from the Department of Buildings after their speeches.

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