



WILLIAMSBURG HIGH SCHOOL for ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN

2025-26 Open House Schedule

Please attend an In-Person or Virtual 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.

In-Person

Tuesday – September 30th at 5:30 pm

Saturday – October 4th at 10:30 am

Thursday – October 9th at 5:30 pm

Wednesday – October 15th at 5:30 pm

Saturday – October 25th at 10:30 am

Wednesday–November 12th at 5:30 pm

Saturday–November 22nd at 10:30 am

Tuesday–November 25th at 5:30 pm



Virtual

Tuesday – October 7th at 6:00 PM



To register for one of our Open House dates:

<https://forms.gle/PotCHKtkPJmhE8dz5>



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 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.

*** 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: Calculus AB, Environmental Science, Human Geography, Pre-Calculus, Spanish Language & Culture, and US History. Our students can also participate in the College Now Program at City Tech and earn up to 12 college credits.

*** What afterschool activities are offered at WHSAD?**

Each year we plan afterschool activities around our students' interests. In the past, our students have participated in our campus wide PSAL sports teams and clubs. Passed clubs included architecture club (Makerspace), game club, art club, anime club, culinary club, dance club, student newspaper and much more.

*** How many students attend WHSAD?**

We are a community of approximately 600, 9-12 graders. Our student to teacher ratio is 18:1.

*** What is your graduation rate?**

Our 2024-2025 graduation rate was 95%

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

86% of the Class of 2025 planned to attend college this fall (4 Year – 51%; 2 Year – 35%)

*** 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 several Open Houses during the week starting this September through November.

Please RSVP <https://forms.gle/PotCHKtkPImhE8dz5>.

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

That's okay. You can attend one of our virtual Open Houses or schedule a private tour at a time that is more convenient to you. Please contact our Parent Coordinator, Ms. Martinez at (718) 388-1260, Ext. 2273 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) or 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 Aided 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

A&D Makerspace

School Newspaper

Creative Writing

SAT Prep

My Brother's Keeper

My Sister's Keeper

Student Government

Game Club

Dance Club

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 one of our
Parent Coordinator, Ms. Martinez at (718) 388-1260 x2273

Williamsburg High School for Architecture & Design



257 N. 6th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11211
(718)–388-1260
www.whsad.org

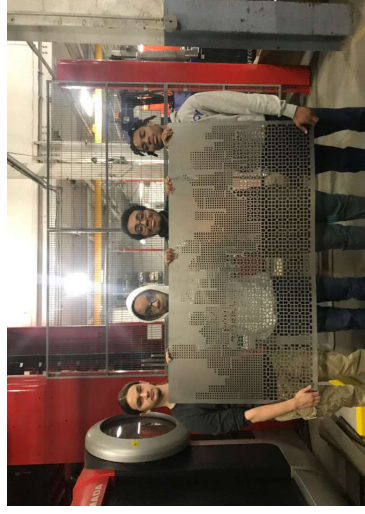
What We Offer

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
Gensler
H.E.A.L.T.H. for Youths
HWKN
Lake Como Environmental Commission
New York Cares
NYC Department of Buildings
Park Avenue Armory
Project Witness
RAMSA
St. Nick's Alliance/SYEP
School of Cooperative Technology (Co-op Tech)
Silman
Staten Island Greenbelt Conservancy

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

Our Graduates

WHSAD's 2022-23 graduation rate was 96%. 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, Baruch College, Bowdoin College, Carnegie Mellon University, The City College of NY: The Bernard & Anne Spitzer School of Architecture, The City College of NY: Grove School of Engineering, Cornell University, Howard University, Hunter College, New York Institute of Technology, New York City College of Technology, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Rochester Institute of Technology, 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...



School Data 2024—2025 School Year

Since 2010, WHSAD has had a 4-year graduation rate of 90% or higher.
Since 2017, WHSAD has had a 4-year graduation rate of 95% or higher.

96% of WHSAD's Class of
2025 Graduated in four years



97% of WHSAD's graduating
class successfully completed
approved college or career
preparatory courses or exams

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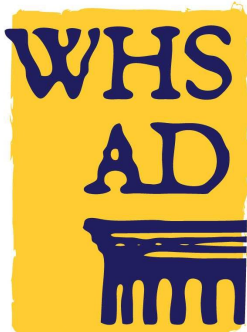


FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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Parent Coordinator
martinez@whsad.org
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www.whsad.org

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CTE in NYC**



Where Are They Now? WHSAD Alumni In College and Careers

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



Jalen Vasquez, Class of 2017, completed both his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Architecture at Howard University. After graduation, Jalen landed a job as a Job Captain at Gensler, the largest architecture firm in the world (and a longtime WBL partner of WHSAD). Working out of the NYC office, Jalen oversaw a massive project of more than 1,000,000 square feet, while he continued to develop his own architectural practice and work towards his professional architecture license. Currently a Junior Designer at IA Architects in Houston, TX, Jalen credits his time at WHSAD with helping him understand the role architects play in creating the built environment and what he could contribute to the field.

Kenny Singh, Class of 2019, participated in the Construction Skills Pre-Apprenticeship program during his senior year, which prepares students for careers in the unionized building trades. After graduation, he began his four-year apprenticeship with Local 580, the Ornamental Ironworkers union. As part of the union, Kenny works on some of the largest construction projects in NYC. His tasks are as diverse as welding gutters on high-rise buildings, to installing curtain walls on glass skyscrapers. His union training also included 838 hours of classroom experience, upon completion of which he became a Journeyman. He also earned numerous certifications during the course of his apprenticeship, which will only add to his opportunities in the construction field.



Chandler McLaurin, Class of 2020, is making waves in the world of Landscape Architecture. After graduating from Temple University in 2024, Chandler is pursuing her professional career at Gale Nurseries, in Gwynedd Valley, PA, where she works to create unique and inviting outdoor spaces in the greater Philadelphia area. Her work has been featured at the Philadelphia Flower Show, and she was a guest on the "Women Talk Construction" podcast, where she shared her journey from WHSAD to Temple, stressing the importance of mentorships and networking, especially for young women in the field.



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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Check out the
podcast here —>

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WHSAD 's Industry and Community Partnerships

September 4, 2025 (Brooklyn)

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 partner projects.)

[ACE Mentorship](#)

AIA Brooklyn
Architectural Grille
Assembly Member Emily Gallagher
Bill Harvey
Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso

[Broadway Stages](#)

[Columbus Citizens Foundation](#)

Community Board 1

[Construction Skills](#)

[Co-op Tech](#)

[Crème Architects](#)

[CTA Architects](#)

CUNY Creative Arts Team

[Fidelity Triangle](#)

[Freshkills Parks](#)

[Friends of the Ruin](#)

[Gensler](#)

Grant Associates/CTE ISP

Greenbelt Nature Center

[Green-Wood Cemetery](#)

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

HWKN

Kingsland Printing

Kohn Pederson Fox

[Lake Como Development Corp.](#)

[Little Free Libraries](#)

Macri Triangle

Make STEAM

Makeville Studio

[Manitoga](#)

[MAO Architects](#)

Materials for the Arts

MTA/COMTO-NY

[My Brother's Keeper](#)

[My Sister's Keeper](#)

[Newtown Creek Alliance](#)

North Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce

North Brooklyn Neighbors

NYC Council Member Jennifer Gutierrez

NYC Council Member Lincoln Restler

NYC School Construction Authority

[NYC Together](#)

Office of Topography, Bklyn Borough President

[Park Avenue Armory](#)

Passive House for Everyone

Pei Cobb Freed + Partners

Pilecki Project

Powerhouse Environmental Arts Foundation

[RAMSA](#)

[Salvadori Center](#)

Silman

[St. Nick's Alliance](#)

[Two Trees Management](#)

[Walter B. Melvin Architects](#)

[World Monuments Fund](#)

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CTA Architects Bring Real-World Experience to WHSAD Students

September 5, 2024 (Brooklyn, NY)

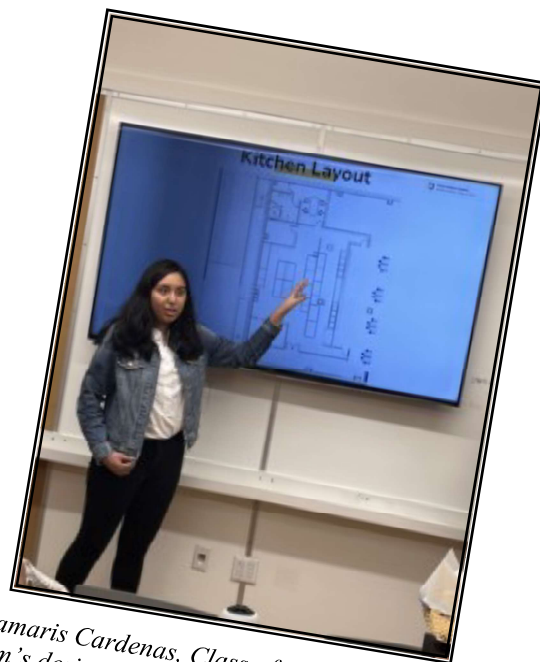
CTA Architects, a certified B-corp architecture firm in Manhattan, launched a partnership with WHSAD in the 2022-2023 school year that provided students with the opportunity to work on a real-world redesign of an elementary school in the Bronx. WHSAD students worked in teams to create interior designs, floor plans, color palettes, space diagrams and other components of the redesign project. Teams were composed of students from all grade levels, with senior students acting as mentors to those in the younger grades.

Students visited CTA's offices every week, to share their ideas and get feedback and suggestions from their professional architect mentors. In between office visits, the teams worked on their designs after school and on weekends, culminating in a final presentation at the end of the school year.

In addition to refining and enhancing their architectural knowledge, the students also gained experience in presenting, working with a pre-existing space, and meeting a client's demands. In interviews on the WHSAD website, all the students commented on how this experience helped them gain confidence in their presentation skills and collaborating with others.

In the 2023-2024 school year, architects from CTA provided ongoing mentoring to students who were working on a proposed redesign of a building belonging to one of our community partners, St. Nick's Alliance. As in the first year, regular meetings and critiques by professionals were essential to the success of the program, and the students' continued development.

CTA has also been able to host WHSAD students as interns in their office, where the students learn first hand what it is like to work in the "real world."



Adamaris Cardenas, Class of 2024, presents her team's design for the kitchen at P.S. 105X.



Mohammad Hassan, Class of 2023, presents his group's plan for the colors of the new space.

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WHSAD's Incoming Freshmen Get a Jump Start on Their Architecture Education

September 2, 2025 (Brooklyn)

Since the summer of 2015, WHSAD's incoming 9th grade students have had the opportunity to participate in the school's SummerBridge program, which allows them to begin exploring the world of Architecture and Design prior to the start of school. Read on to learn about some of the experiences students had during this special pre-9th grade program.

The Edge:

WHSAD students visited The Edge observation deck at Hudson Yards in Manhattan to practice one-point perspective drawing and learn about the world of urban planning. With breathtaking views as inspiration, they sketched the skyline and captured photos to support their artist statements, blending real-world observation with artistic technique.



WHSAD SummerBridge students take photos of the NYC skyline from The Edge to inspire their sketches and explore the city plan of Manhattan.

Gale Nurseries:

WHSAD SummerBridge students visited Gale Nurseries, in Lower Gwynedd, PA, where they were hosted by WHSAD alumna Chandler McLaurin, a landscape designer who recently graduated from Temple University. The students explored landscape design projects and learned about the process of selecting vegetation for landscape architecture. They also had the hands-on experience of potting plants to take home, gaining deeper appreciation for the craft behind designing outdoor spaces.

Turn over to learn more about what students can do in other summer programs after they've completed 9th, 10th, or 11th grade.



WHSAD students get their hands dirty at a visit to Gale Nurseries, a landscape architecture company.

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Students have the opportunity to work and study at WHSAD in successive summers through the SYEP program, in addition to having some off-site internship experiences. Some of the students who stay to work in the school are the mentors to the incoming freshmen in the SummerBridge program, while others are given the opportunity to create a design project with the help and guidance of professional mentors.

RAMSA:

One of the main summer architecture experience for older students is the program sponsored by Robert A.M. Stern Architects (RAMSA). Through this six-week intensive programs, students worked to design new spaces that could be "explored" and were asked not to limit themselves to traditional ideas like "kitchen" or "bedroom". Students also have the opportunity to learn additional design software beyond AutoCAD, like Rhino and Photoshop.

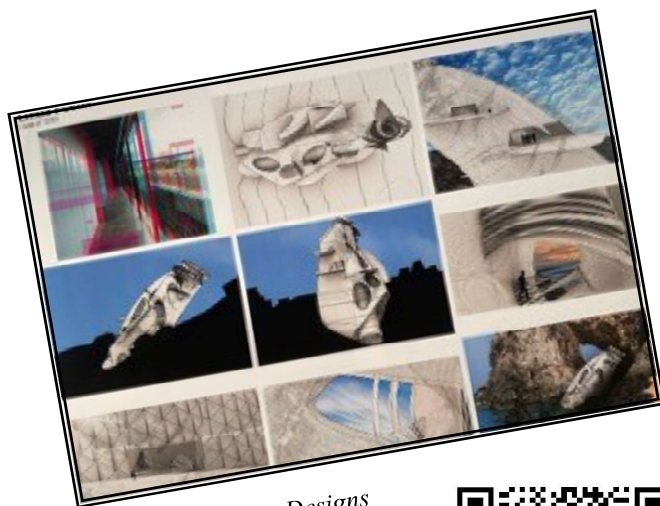
Linda Foster, class of 2025, had this to say about her RAMSA experience:

"(I created) a pavilion that was intended to elicit a sense of awe and wonder in its visitors. Throughout the design process, we were able to freely use our imagination, resulting in a project that exceeded our initial expectations.

One of the most exciting and fulfilling moments during the RAMSA program was the final presentation, where all of our hard work from the past six weeks was finally put on display. Presenting in front of a room full of architects was extremely nerve-wracking, but the sense of pride and satisfaction that I felt upon sharing my project and seeing the wonderful work of my peers was unparalleled. It was truly a win in my book. Above all, being a part of such an enriching experience that will undoubtedly help me in my future architectural endeavors is a testament to how incredible and worthwhile this program is."



Linda Foster, Class of 2025, presents her final design.



Linda's Pavilion Designs

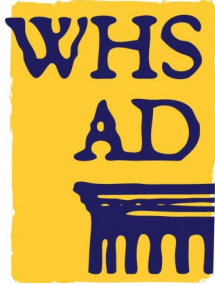
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WHSAD Students Continue to Shape the Future of Staten Island

Sept 2, 2025 (Brooklyn, NY)

WHSAD students continue taking their talents to other boroughs! Starting in the Fall of 2021, students have been participating in a variety of projects on Staten Island, originally in the Greenbelt Nature Conservancy area and then branching out to other parts of the borough, including, among others, Historic Richmond Town, the Northshore Esplanade, Corporal Thompson Park Playground, Cole House, and even the Staten Island Ferryhawks stadium.

One project that was almost entirely student-run consisted of a team who created "Wayfinding": signage to help tourists and other visitors find their way around downtown Staten Island. Led by Abraham Galindo, Class of 2024, the students on the team used their 3-D design and printing skills to create the signage and a model for how it would be integrated into the existing area.

Another Staten Island project that students contributed to was Historic Richmond Town, a "living history village" that showcases the diverse history of the people and communities that have inhabited Staten Island for over 400 years. A team of students was tasked with designing a historically accurate and appropriate fence to be part of the exhibit about the Lenape community. Students first had to visit the site to understand how their work would fit with existing structures. Throughout the process, they worked with various stakeholders to make sure that their vision fit with that of the organization, and that any necessary adjustments could be made. Students were constantly adjusting and refining their concept design and presentation, just as professional architects and engineers do on large-scale projects.

WHSAD students continue to have an impact on Staten Island. Check out more examples of their work on our website:

<https://www.whsad.org/the-column/whsad-students-reflect-on-their-staten-island-work-learn-grow-projects>



Abraham Galindo '24 presents the 3-D model of downtown Staten Island to the project stakeholders.

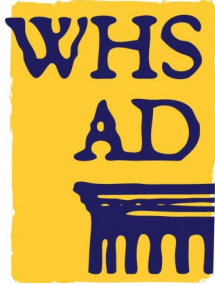


Jordan Louis, Jake Kadar, and Jayden Maitland, all Class of 2026, present their design for Historic Richmond Town.

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WHSAD Students WOW Attendees at Italian-American Heritage Gala

November 1, 2024 (Brooklyn, NY)

WHSAD students' impressive work was on display at the annual Columbus Citizens Foundation gala, held at Cipriani 42nd Street on the evening of October 12. Approached in the spring by CCF Executive Director Lisa Ackerman, students were tasked with designing and building centerpieces for the more than 50 tables at the foundation's 80th Annual Gala. At the end of the evening, the centerpieces were auctioned off to support the organization's scholarship fund, and lucky attendees were able to take home the works created by talented WHSAD students.

Each of the five different designs was chosen to celebrate the role that Italians and Italian-Americans have played in the architecture and design of New York City: the Whitney Museum, the Verrazzano-Narrows Bridge, the Wall Street Charging Bull Statue, the Scholastic Building, and the lion sculptures outside the main branch of the New York Public Library. Students visited each of the sites to learn their histories before returning to school to begin the designs. Each landmark was rendered using 3-D modeling software, printed, and then encased in a laser-engraved clear box, where it was illuminated from below.

Throughout the process, students learned not only about the history of NYC, but also how to work in the real world: use advanced drafting software, design a concept from scratch, and work through troubles along the way. "As Project Manager I got to indulge more into the business side of the project. I communicated with the adults in charge to understand what needed to be done" said WHSAD Senior and Project Manager, Alexa Kinlaw. Students not only had to work with their peers but also had to report to stakeholders and learn how to communicate effectively in the professional world.

On the morning of the gala, the students came to the school bright and early to put finishing touches on their creations. After a few hours of work, they returned home to get ready for the event they'd all been waiting for, before venturing into Manhattan to network with the attendees, enjoy impressive performances, and celebrate their contributions to an incredible evening.



WHSAD students and staff at the Columbus Citizens Foundation Gala.



The centerpiece celebrating the Whitney Museum, which was designed by world-renowned Italian architect Renzo Piano.

Use this QR code to watch the ABC7 feature on the WHSAD students and their work.



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WHSAD Students Help Rehabilitate Newtown Creek

September 2, 2025 (Brooklyn, NY)

Over the last few years, WHSAD students have been able to see first-hand their work impact the ongoing improvement of a neighborhood Superfund Site, Newtown Creek, a tidal arm of the New York-New Jersey Harbor Estuary, which forms the westernmost part of the Brooklyn-Queens border.

Designated a Superfund site in 2010, after decades of industrial pollution, Newtown Creek has seen a flurry of activity over the years in an effort to rehabilitate and rejuvenate the beleaguered waterway, and WHSAD students have been part of several key projects.

First, in 2023-2024, students worked to design and build a Living Dock in Newtown Creek, which was used to monitor and improve water quality by encouraging the growth of biodiverse aquatic species. Students used underwater drones to capture video of the underwater ecosystem. The project taught students about the vital link between nature and technology and how the latter could be used to benefit the former.

This past year, 2024-2025, a team of students worked to design an expansion of the Green Roof on the building that houses the Newtown Creek Alliance, along the shores of the superfund site. In addition to visiting the site to help inform their designs, students researched the different methods for green roof construction and how they can best be utilized to encourage biodiversity and create thriving ecosystems in areas that lack green spaces.

Read the students' reflections on the Green Roof project here:

<https://www.whsad.org/the-column/whsad-students-reflect-on-their-newtown-creek-alliance-green-roof-design-work>



Drone footage captures students working alongside NCA staff on the living dock.



Mahkaylla Joliboisgantt, Class of 2028, presents the team's design for the Green Roof.

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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 3rd POSSE Scholarship in 5 Years

(and 4th overall!)

June 2024 (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.

Mia Kokilashvili, Class of 2024, was selected through a highly competitive application and interview process as a member of the cohort of Posse Scholars for California Institute for the Arts. In addition to the traditional Posse application, Mia, a filmmaker, also had to submit a portfolio of her work for consideration. The CalArts Posse program was launched in 2022, with funding from the Miranda Family Fund, created by Lin-Manuel Miranda to further support students in their study of the creative arts.

Jordan Dove, Class of 2023, was also chosen to be a member of the CalArts Posse the previous year. He is studying visual arts.

Jonah Vazquez, Class of 2020, was selected as a Posse Scholar at Vanderbilt University in Tennessee. During his time at Vanderbilt, he was selected to be part of University of Virginia's first cohort of Roadmap Scholars, a program that aims to help first-generation students enter the law profession. Since his graduation from Vanderbilt, Jonah has been working in Manhattan at the law firm Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison, while he prepares for the LSAT and completes his law school applications. Read an interview with Jonah at: <https://rb.gy/1qj2za>

WHSAD's first POSSE scholar, Ramon Williams, Class of 2014, attended Franklin & Marshall College, in Lancaster, PA, where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Astrophysics. He later earned a Master's Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Carnegie Mellon University, and currently works at Lockheed Martin as an industrial engineer.



Mia Kokilashvili, Class of 2024, celebrating her selection as a Posse Scholar with WHSAD art and design teacher, Pia Moos.



Jordan Dove, Class of 2023, and Ms. Moos.

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