



Dream Charter High School
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Community

DREAM Charter High School's student population reflects the communities we serve in East Harlem and the Bronx:

- ▶ 81% of students are eligible for free lunch
- ▶ 22% of DCHS students live in public housing
- ▶ 27% of DCHS students have identified special needs
- ▶ 4% of students are English Language Learners
- ▶ Student breakdown includes: 53% Hispanic; 41% Black; 2% Multiracial/Other; 1% Asian/Pacific Islander

Curriculum

DREAM Charter High School was born to create powerfully literate young people. Professor Patrick J. Finn defines powerful literacy as, "the literacy of persons who are conscious of their own power and self interest." Our culture and curriculum foster academic skills, while cultivating alumni who are poised to leverage their own achievements to empower others from their communities. In short, DREAM Charter High School graduates are highly skilled and critically conscious--they recognize that their capacity to read, write, and speak are tools to drive social change.

Defense of Learning

Over the course of their time at DREAM, students assemble a portfolio that is representative of their own ability to learn, apply, and reflect across all disciplines. In Defenses of Learning that occur in 10th and 12th grade, students present and defend their portfolios as a capstone activity and rite of passage. Drawing on the structures of AP Capstone* and in alignment with the school's mission of developing powerfully literate individuals, 12th grade students design, plan, and implement a yearlong, in-depth study that explores an issue of justice which they are passionate about. A successful Defense of Learning signals to graduates, families, colleges, and the school community that the student is well prepared for the rigor of college and challenges that lie beyond.

*Advanced Placement (AP) courses are an integral part of our coursework at DREAM Charter High School. All students within our Upper House of 11th and 12th grades are expected to choose from our suite of AP classes. By the time they graduate, all DREAM Charter HS students will have taken a minimum of four AP classes. Our AP Course options are **AP Capstone: AP Seminar and AP Research, AP United States History, AP African American Studies, AP Computer Science, AP English Literature and Composition, AP Biology, and AP Environmental Science.**

Our Mission

DREAM Charter High School is committed to developing powerfully literate young people and preparing students for college and beyond through a rigorous academic program that develops critical thinkers who demonstrate a love of learning, strong character, and a commitment to wellness and active citizenship. DREAM Charter High School inspires all students to recognize their potential and realize their dreams.

Our Story

DREAM, founded as Harlem RBI in 1991, serves over 2,500 youth in East Harlem and the South Bronx through a growing network of extended day, extended year charter schools and community sports-based youth development programs.

In 2008, DREAM Charter School opened to mitigate the reality of failing schools in our community. Informed by nearly 30 years of community-based youth development work and in service of its mission, DREAM has adopted a unique school model that focuses on growing the whole child through academics, social-emotional learning, health and wellness, and family and community engagement. The intentional integration of these four core areas of work distinguishes DREAM Charter High School in offering a new model to tackle the cycle of inequity.

DCHS graduated its first class in 2021.

Extracurricular Opportunities

DREAM Charter High School is committed to growing the whole child by integrating extracurricular opportunities into our extended school day. To that end, we ensure 80% of scholars participate in at least one extracurricular opportunity aligned with their college and/or career interests. Additionally, the school works closely with each scholar to secure a meaningful summer experience each year in preparation for college and beyond.

Athletics

- ▶ Cheer
- ▶ Flag Football
- ▶ JV Boys Basketball
- ▶ JV Girls Basketball
- ▶ Boys Soccer
- ▶ Track
- ▶ Cross Country
- ▶ Girls Volleyball
- ▶ Varsity Boys Basketball
- ▶ Varsity Girls Basketball
- ▶ Baseball
- ▶ Softball



Extracurricular Activities

- ▶ Student Government Association
- ▶ Coding Club
- ▶ Theatre Club
- ▶ Student Ambassadors
- ▶ Debate Team
- ▶ Yearbook
- ▶ Newspaper
- ▶ Urban Gardening Program
- ▶ Muslim Students Association
- ▶ National Honor Society



Students participate in early college programs including at NYU, Barnard, Syracuse, Stanford, Quinnipiac University Tufts University, and Carleton College. DCHS also has partnerships with programs such as The Knowledge House, MetaBronx, and The Opportunity Network.

Alumni Support

All DCHS graduates continue to be supported throughout their time in college by our post-secondary success program, the Legends Fellows program. As Legends Fellows, graduates receive mentorship, college transition support, and regular touchpoints, including visits, from their success coordinator each semester. This program aims to guide, support, and resource members of our alumni community to ensure that they can successfully navigate and complete their post-secondary pathway.

Class of 2025 Profile

87 students

Average GPA* 2.9

Highest GPA* 4.0

DCHS uses a 4.0 grading scale and does not rank students.

***unweighted**



DCHS college counselors have our scholars' backs.

Matthew Relevo
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Post-Secondary Enrollment DCHS Class of 2024

85% Four-Year Institution
5% Two-Year Institution
10% Other

Notable College Acceptances for DREAM Charter High School

Barnard College
Boston College
Brandeis University
Case Western Reserve University
Colgate University
Colby College
Columbia University
Connecticut College
CUNY Baruch College
CUNY City College
CUNY Hunter College
CUNY John Jay College
CUNY Lehman College
CUNY Queens College
Dartmouth College
Emory University
Fordham University
Franklin & Marshall College
George Washington University
Gettysburg College
Hamilton College
Haverford College
Ithaca College
Lafayette College
Lehigh University
Manhattan College
Middlebury College
Morgan State College
New York University
Northeastern University
Pomona College
Rochester Institute of Technology
Smith College
Stanford University
St. Bonaventure University
St. John's University
St. Thomas Aquinas College
SUNY Binghamton University
SUNY Buffalo State
SUNY Cortland
SUNY Fredonia
SUNY New Paltz
SUNY Old Westbury
SUNY Oneonta
SUNY Oswego
SUNY Potsdam
SUNY Purchase
SUNY Stony Brook University
SUNY University at Albany
SUNY University at Buffalo
Syracuse University
The University of Chicago
Tufts University
University of Pennsylvania
University of Rochester
Washington University in St. Louis
Wellesley College
University of Southern California
Wheaton College (MA)