

BARD EARLY COLLEGES

September Newsletter

Welcome parents, alumni, and friends of the Bard Early Colleges to a new school year.

We now celebrate **seventeen years** of immersing high school age students in college and making a liberal arts curriculum accessible, free and inspiring to students at nine Bard Early College campuses across the country.



2018 Bard High School Early College Cleveland commencement, in which the inaugural class of 9th grade students earned the Ohio high school diploma and Bard Associate's degree.

Featured News from the Bard Early Colleges Network



Our ambitious state and federal policy work and communications efforts to elevate early college high schools as a national education reform model are getting a boost from The Joyce Foundation, ECMC Foundation, and the Gates Foundation with a \$1.2 million investment in the [College in High School Alliance](#), of which Bard is a founding steering committee member. [Click here for the full press release.](#)



The second cohort of Early College Fellows came together for a celebratory Symposium.

Our work to create policy and structure for broader application of early college teaching practices in public high schools and to strengthen the understanding of these practices has been awarded a \$825,000 grant from The Carnegie Corporation of New York.



Over 100 Bard Baltimore students see a performance of the award-winning musical Hamilton at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., thanks to a grant from the The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History.

This year, [Bard High School Early College Baltimore](#) celebrates its first year of full enrollment with nearly 500 students. This June, the school's inaugural 9th grade class will graduate with a Maryland high school diploma and free college credits up to an Associate's degree from Bard College.

Diversity in Admissions Pilot Launches in Queens



Photos of the Bard High School Early College Queens Diversity Network of Action and Manhattan Smart Scholars Summer Programs, visiting Bard College's Main Campus in Annandale, NY

2018-2019 marks the first year of BHSEC Queens' participation in the Diversity in Admissions pilot, launched by the New York City Department of Education to increase diversity in the city's deeply segregated school system. This pilot prioritizes 63% of seats in the 9th grade class for students who qualify for free or reduced-priced lunch. This pilot aligns with BHSEC's efforts in New York to recruit and support students from historically underrepresented and/or economically disadvantaged backgrounds through college degrees, including through leadership and skill development workshops, mentoring, summer programs, and ongoing academic support provided through the NYS-funded Smart Transfer grant.

Student Success Snapshot

96% of students (444 students) from the Bard High School Early College Class of 2018 earned a high school diploma and over 50 college credits on average.

83% of students (395 students) from the Bard High School Early College Class of 2018 earned an Associate of Arts Degree from Bard College, free of charge.

Over 2,850 students are enrolled in the Bard Early Colleges in 2018-19. 45% of our students are first generation college students and 68% are from low-income families.

BEC Students in the Class of 2018 are currently enrolled in nearly **200 colleges** this fall. Highlights include Harvard University, Brandeis University, NYU, Northwestern University, Williams College, and flagship public institutions, including Rutgers University, State University of New York, City University of New York, University of Maryland, and Ohio State campuses.



2018 Commencement for Bard High School Early College Manhattan, Queens, and Newark, at which First Lady of New Jersey Tammy Snyder Murphy delivered the keynote address.

Bard Early Colleges in the News

Senator Cory Booker mentions Bard High School Early College Newark as an example of a successful educational reform model in a [recent interview in *The 74*](#).

Maya Martin, Executive Director of PAVE (Parents Amplifying Voices in Education) advocates for the establishment of an early college high school in DC in her blog post entitled: "[How Parents Can — And Should — Change Our Education System.](#)"

Manhattan Students Tackling National Issues: Ian Bickford, Provost and Vice President of Bard College at Simon's Rock, was published in *The Times Union* citing a group of students from BHSEC Manhattan advocating for passage of the Young Voter Act, which would lower the voting age to 17 for state and local elections.

In Cleveland, *the Plain Dealer* lauded Bard College for its partnership with the Cleveland school district to run two early college high schools in the district. This past June, Cleveland graduated its inaugural 9th grade class. In the Class of 2018, 67% of students earned an Associate's degree and 91% earned a high school diploma and 50 college credits on average.

Broadway World praised BHSEC Baltimore student Jacob Ten-Eyck Stull's performance of a poem he wrote from the perspective of King George before a recent production of *Hamilton* at the Kennedy Center.



Upcoming Event

Creative Process in Dialogue: Art
and the Public Today

Wednesday, October 31, 2018

6:30 p.m.

BHSEC Manhattan
525 East Houston Street
New York, NY

[Register for your complimentary tickets.](#)

Join Poet and President of The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Elizabeth Alexander and painter Amy Sherald for a discussion about their creative processes and their commitments to the humanities. This event seeks to diversify perspectives on the arts disciplines and to offer models for collective and inclusive community dialogues.

This event is open to the greater Bard College community, and is co-sponsored by Humanities New York, Bard Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard Center for Civic Engagement, Bard Undergraduate Program in Africana Studies, Bard High School Early College, and Bard American Studies Program.

Questions? Contact Anna Hessa, Development Officer for the Bard Early Colleges at ahessa@bec.bard.edu.

Image, Left: Elizabeth Alexander, Courtesy of Mellon Foundation; Image, Right: Amy Sherald, Courtesy of artist and Justin T. Gellerson

Faculty Updates

Samuel Cooper (Queens) has a new book chapter out in *Frankenstein and Its*

Classics: The Modern Prometheus from Antiquity to Science Fiction. and published with Bloomsbury Academic.”

Katie Singer (Newark) represented BHSEC Newark in Lisbon, Portugal this summer at the International Conference on the Short Story with a paper titled, "Black Women Writers: Every One an Activist."

Brian Mateo (Network) begins research on "Populism and the Defense Community," at the Truman National Security Project in Washington D.C.

Stephen Mazie (Manhattan) - Professor Mazie published a series of articles in The Economist this month. Mazie's work analyses cases pertaining to the evolving state of American Democracy. [Articles can be found here](#), or on The Economist's website.

John B. Weinstein (Network) presented on a panel at this summer's Association for Asian Performance Annual Conference in Boston. His talk, "Figure Skating in Asia as an Asian Dance Form: Exploring a New Field," explored the potential for using dance methodologies for analyzing figure skating. He then went from theorist to practitioner the following week, medaling in figure skating at the Gay Games in Paris.

Stefan Weisman's (Manhattan) opera "The Scarlet Ibis" will show in January 2019 at the Boston Opera Collaborative, and in February 2019 at the Chicago Opera Theater. Scenes from Stefan's latest work-in-progress opera "American Atheist" will be produced in March 2019 by Chants Libres in Montreal, Canada.

Alan Mintz (Cleveland West) participated in The 82nd Midyear Show at The Butler Institute of Art. The annual show exhibited the artwork of adult artists from throughout the 50 United States and its territories. Mintz was one of 286 artists selected from nearly 800 entries.

Donate Today

Please consider supporting our mission to raise the quality and standards of secondary education and to help students from all backgrounds access, afford, and complete college, at Bard Early College campuses and beyond.

Did you know that for every **\$3,000** that we raise, an additional student can be provided with a tuition-free year of credit-bearing college coursework?

Your generosity allows us to sustain and expand the early college model:

- **Free college credits** up to an Associate's degree that transfer to bachelor's degree programs across the country
- **College faculty** teaching all grade levels
- A robust and engaging **liberal arts and sciences curriculum**
- Small, **writing- and discussion-based** seminar classes
- Robust **student supports**
- **Qualitative admissions process** that selects students based on their motivation and intellectual curiosity.

To donate online, [please visit this website](#).

Questions? Please contact Anna Hessa, Development Officer for Bard Early Colleges, at 1-718-361-3133 x8726 or ahessa@bec.bard.edu.

