

BARD EARLY COLLEGE 2020

Bard



“Bard taught me to be skeptical of the world...to be aware and mindful of things,... don’t just take things at face value,...don’t take assumptions and stereotypes and just hold them to your heart when there’s so much more. I think that goes for all of my other classes. At Bard, I’ve learned how to critically think.”

—JENNORA, MANHATTAN '20

Cover: BHSEC Queens, photographer Bruce Schwarz
BHSEC Baltimore, photographer Bradley Sawyer



Welcoming Dr. Dumaine Williams, Dean & Vice President for Early Colleges

We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Dumaine Williams as Vice President and Dean of Bard Early Colleges. As Dean, Dr. Williams leads the academic program across Bard Early College’s growing network. Previously, Dr. Williams served as founding principal of Bard Early College Cleveland. Williams, who is from Jamaica, graduated from Bard College with a degree in biology, received a MA in education leadership from Montclair State University and a Ph.D. in molecular biology from Stony Brook. Dr. Williams was then a research associate in the Department of Medicine, Division of Endocrinology at Albert Einstein College of Medicine and a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Pharmacology and Systems Therapeutics at Mount Sinai School of Medicine.

The philosopher Hannah Arendt - who was a member of the Bard College community toward the end of her life - wrote that “education is the point at which we decide whether we love the world enough to assume responsibility for it, and, by the same token, save it from that ruin which, except for renewal, except for the coming of the new and the young, would be inevitable.”

This year, both ruin and renewal have taken on sharper meaning. At Bard Early College, we celebrated new partnerships, new forms of collaboration among our students and faculty, and an extraordinary milestone in the opening of Bard Early College DC. And, in a brutal season this spring, we saw every Bard Early College classroom close their doors, followed by the gut-wrenching and painfully familiar murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and so many others.

Our work at Bard Early College recognizes that the point of decision that Arendt describes comes very early for many young people. If our society sought to spare young people any confrontation with social tragedy until later in their lives, we can all agree in 2020 that that ship has sailed. At a time when young people are some of the clearest and most urgent moral voices in American life, their readiness to confront and contest the status quo should not come as a surprise.

So what would it look like if, as an organizing principle of schooling, we were to embrace the impatience, idealism, and intelligence of teenagers? I believe that it would look a lot like Bard Early College - eight tuition-free campuses, 3,000 extraordinary young people, 250 dedicated and expert faculty, and a shared belief that patience is not always a virtue.

Thank you for all that you do in support of this remarkable community of young people. With impatience and with courage, they are claiming responsibility for the world and they are pushing hard for its renewal.

Stephen Tremaine
VICE PRESIDENT FOR EARLY COLLEGES, BARD COLLEGE

Our Model

Bard Early College fundamentally rethinks the connection between high school and college. BEC directly links the two by replacing the last two years of traditional high school with a tuition-free and rigorous immersion in college study - one that is designed toward student success. In this sense, BEC fills in a missing piece in the pathway to a BA in America.

The Bard Early College model replaces the 11th and 12th grades with the first two years of college, all within public schools. BEC provides adolescents with a rigorous, credit-bearing, college course of study in the liberal arts and sciences following the 9th and 10th grades, at no cost to students or their families. Students receive up to 60 college credits and an associate in arts (A.A.) degree from Bard College, alongside a high school diploma. These schools are designated as public high schools and accredited as branch campuses of Bard College.

Bard Early College New Orleans

“After coming to BHSEC, I learned how to speak out. I learned how to lead conversations. I learned how to participate in discussions, and I also learned, most importantly, how to be a leader.”

—GENESIS, QUEENS '20

Leveraging public school funding in place of college tuition, Bard Early College awards over \$30 million in college credits and degrees every year, at no cost to students or their families. To date, Bard Early College has contributed over \$270 million in college credits and degrees.

Bard also provides early college curricula through partnerships with existing schools and school networks. This partnership model, the Bard Sequence, builds on the success and ongoing innovation of Bard Early College. The Bard Sequence is an opportunity for schools to provide students with engaging, meaningful early college experiences. Students leave the Bard Sequence having taken college courses in the humanities with an official transcript from Bard College, allowing them to transfer their credits to a wide range of institutions of higher education, and the confidence to pursue post-secondary degrees. Bard Sequence courses were provided in partnership with over 30 high schools in 2020.

Our Mission and Philosophy

Bard Early College, a tuition-free, multi-site college exclusively for adolescents in public school systems, empowers high school students, particularly those at risk of not completing postsecondary education, to access, afford, and complete college prepared to contribute to civic life and a range of professional pathways. Bard Early College simultaneously works to influence and lead a growing early college movement focused on equity and excellence.

Bard Early College is built on the belief that intellectually curious high-school-age students, irrespective of background, are ready and eager to do serious college work, that their ambition should be taken seriously, and that a liberal arts education can effectively engage them and prepare them to excel as the next generation of leaders.

Our Commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Bard Early College is committed to upholding the dignity of all marginalized groups and dismantling systemic inequities that inhibit access based on race, immigration status, class, (dis)ability, sexual orientation or gender expression. We believe in working towards an inclusive and just society, through the intersection of education and social justice. The Bard classroom, at its best, embodies the ideal that we are all better in a space that fosters inclusive excellence. An everyday gesture in class discussion – the simple act of turning to your classmate and saying, “I hear you saying,” before a single response – that act of listening and recognition is the seed for a dignified society that we collectively work towards in and outside our collegiate community. We learn together so that we may move the world forward.

Who We Are

Bard Early College is a division of Bard College, a leading non-profit college of the liberal arts and sciences. Bard is renowned for innovation in the public interest, leading nationally recognized undergraduate programs for non-traditional students, including those who are incarcerated, adult learners, and students in urban high school systems.

Bard Early College is one undergraduate organization distributed across eight sites - Manhattan (New York City), Queens (New York City), Newark, New Orleans, Cleveland, Baltimore, Hudson Valley and Washington D.C - with a total of 2,961 students and 248 faculty.

This work began in 2001, when Bard College partnered with the NYC Department of Education to open the country’s first public early college. It has inspired a national movement for early college education, a movement that Bard Early College continues to lead.



About Our Students

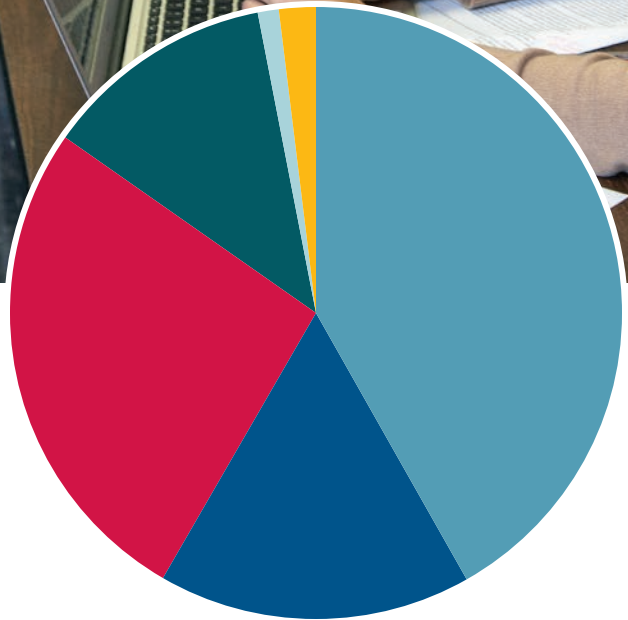
The BEC student body is truly unique: half are the first in their families to go to college, two-thirds are eligible for federal Pell grants, and 73% are finishing high school with two years of transferable college credits, all without being charged tuition.

- ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL PELL GRANTS: 63% (CLASS OF 2019)
- FIRST GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENTS*: 50% (CLASS OF 2020)

**Defined as students with neither parents having attained a four-year college degree*



BHSEC Manhattan, photographer Bruce Schwarz



- RACE AND ETHNICITY**
- 41% BLACK
 - 16% LATINX
 - 26% WHITE
 - 12% ASIAN
 - 2% MULTIRACIAL
 - <1% AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE

“With virtual learning, I was kind of nervous... because what I enjoy the most about Bard are the discussions and being present with everyone. I was worried about losing that aspect of learning, but in the process of remote learning, I realized that was never gone.”

—OLIVIA, CLEVELAND '20

Bard Early College New Orleans, photographer James Owens/Morgan & Owens.



Early College Excellence

At eight Bard Early College campuses, our students are able to earn up to two years of college credit. They are supported in enrolling in and transferring Bard credits to 4-year institutions upon graduation: 85% of college-going alumni report successfully transferring credits to their next institution.

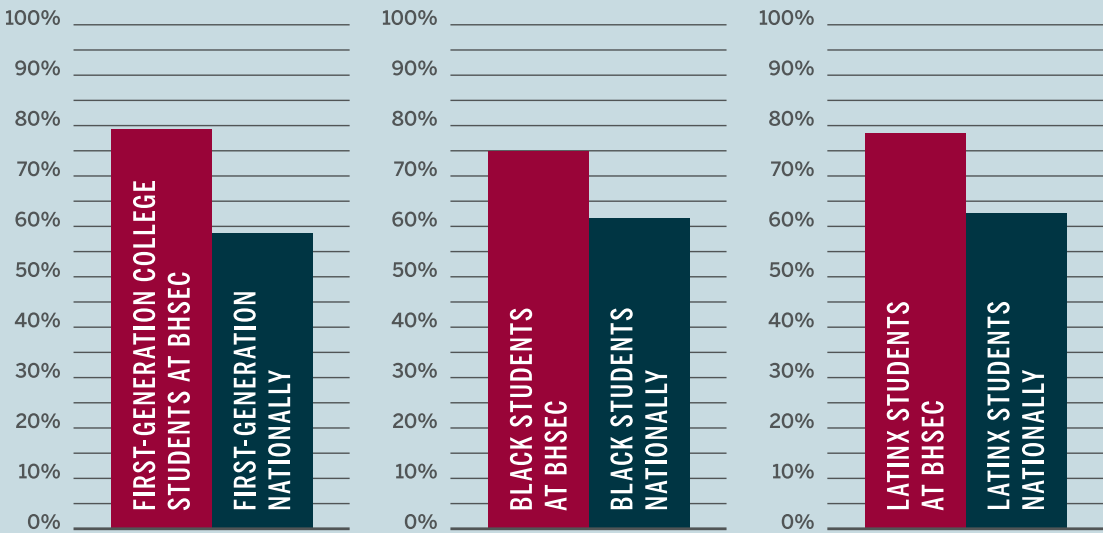
Increasing access to four-year degrees

Bard Early College alumni/ae enroll in college after high school and earn 4-year degrees at higher rates than college-goers nationwide, especially alumni/ae from historically excluded groups.

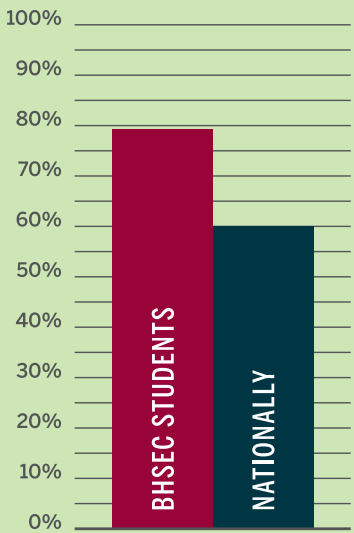
- 73% OF THE CLASS OF 2020 GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL WITH AN ASSOCIATES DEGREE AND 60 OR MORE TRANSFERABLE COLLEGE CREDITS.
- GRADUATING STUDENTS EARNED AN AVERAGE OF 56 TRANSFERABLE COLLEGE CREDITS.

Recent analysis by the Education Trust - New York follows the rate at which students of economic need in New York State are progressing from high school to a bachelor’s degree. Their research found that, among families for whom college was financially inaccessible, BHSEC Manhattan and Queens alumni/ae had higher on-time college graduation rates than any other high school in the state of New York.

RATES OF IMMEDIATE COLLEGE ENROLLMENT (WITHIN 6 MONTHS OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION)



RATES OF 4-YEAR DEGREE COMPLETION WITHIN SIX YEARS OF COLLEGE ENROLLMENT:





Performance still of Liana Conyer's *Jars of Pennies*, Movement Research at the Judson Church, 2014, photo by Walter Włodarczyk.

An excellent college faculty provides rigorous, high-quality instruction

- 64% OF INSTRUCTORS ACROSS OUR NETWORK HAVE TERMINAL DEGREES IN THEIR FIELD (E.G. PHD, MFA)

Faculty Highlights

Victoria Bampoh, PhD (DC; Chemistry) was one of 200 teachers selected to participate in the High School Research Teacher's Conference to help with supporting student-led research.

Liana Conyers, MFA (DC; Performing Arts) was recently awarded a Fulbright Distinguished Award in Teaching to conduct scholarly research on dance in Singapore.

Jess de courcy Hinds, MFA's (Queens; Library) essay "Overcoming the Fear of Making a Wrong Turn" was published in *The New York Times*.

David A. Guba, Jr., PhD (Baltimore; History) published his book *Taming Cannabis*.

Chandrai Jackson-Saunders, MEd (DC; Counseling) was named the National Association of School Psychologists' 2020 National School Psychologist of the Year.

Richard Kurker, PhD (Baltimore; Biology) won a grant from the Toshiba America Foundation to develop an applied genetics project at Bard Baltimore.



Bampoh



Lehmann



de courcy Hinds



Mazie



Jackson-Saunders



Schulz

Christian Lehmann, PhD's (Cleveland; Literature) article "Reading Dickens' Running Headers" was published in *Dickens Quarterly* in June 2020.

Pearl Marasigan (Manhattan; Dance) presented "Exploring Equity in the Dance Classroom" at the 2020 Winter Conference of the New York State Dance Education Association (NYSDEA) at Hunter College. As a choreographer and performer, she auditioned for and was accepted for the 2020 Dance Educators Collective Concert at the 92nd Street Y.

Steven Mazie, PhD (Manhattan; Social Studies) published a piece about Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's passing in *The Economist*, "A battle for the Supreme Court looms after the death of Ruth Bader Ginsburg."

Jeffrey Peters, PhD (Baltimore; Literature) will lead a session at the 2021 American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies conference entitled "Madness: Medicine or Politics?" which focuses on the social and political re-evaluation of "madness" as used in the 18th-century.

Zohra Saed, PhD candidate (Queens; Literature) spoke about the history of Afghan poetry and read poems on the "The Greenspace," WNYC Radio in February 2020, and shared her work on Langston Hughes in Central Asia and Global Harlem in April 2020 as part of an online Film Screening of "Looking for Langston" through the Poets House. Zohra also published poetry in a variety of venues, including, "Sister of my spine, with wearing war behind one ear" and "Just like Jalalabad" in *Tinderbox Poetry Journal*. The former poem was nominated for a Best New Poets 2020 award by the journal.

Suzanne Schulz, PhD's (Queens; Social Studies) work-in-progress film *In Eskişehir* was selected to be part of the University Film and Video Association Conference for July 2020. This experimental documentary offers an account of Turkish state violence against Kurds through a remembered story about play-fighting between Kurdish boys on a military base in Eskişehir Turkey.

Mika Turim-Nygren, PhD (DC; Literature) was nominated by the *Journal of Nineteenth-Century Americanists* for her essay, "Twain's Modernism: Death of Speech in Huckleberry Finn as the Birth of a New Aesthetic" for the 1921 Prize in American Literature.

Stefan Weisman, PhD's (Queens; Music) contributions to the theater piece *Science Fair* were heard in October 2019 and April 2020 at the Hudson Opera House and the Morris Museum. *The Wall Street Journal* article, "The Staying Inside Guide: Arias for All Ages" (May 26, 2020) selected his opera *The Scarlet Ibis* as "an entertaining introduction to the world of opera." He is currently developing two new operas: *American Atheist* about the life and murder of the infamous atheist Madalyn Murray O'Hair, and *Edinburgh* with a libretto by the acclaimed novelist Alexander Chee.

“At Bard, you have a sense of independence, but while at home online you have to have discipline to sit down and actually do the work, and I wouldn’t have had that discipline nor that sense of responsibility had I not been at Bard.”

—KIMBRIELLE, NEW ORLEANS '20

BHSEC DC, photographer Bradley Sawyer



Alumni/ae Highlights

Deep Dave (Newark '15) is a 2015 graduate from BHSEC Newark who went on to complete a Computer Science Degree at UC Berkeley. After graduating in 2019, Dave now works as a data scientist and artificial intelligence engineer working on space weather predictions and COVID-19 predictions.

Sahara James (Queens '13) received her BA in Environmental Studies from Hunter College in 2018. She went on to work as an Environmental Inspector for an environmental consulting firm, Athenica Environmental Services, Inc. before pursuing an MBA in Sustainability from Bard College in Fall 2019. In fall 2020, James transitioned to a role as an Environmental Planner for The Palladium Group, a boutique environmental consulting firm.

Daphany Rose Sanchez (Queens '10) was named one of 2020's 30 NYC Climate Heroes. Sanchez is the Executive Director of Kinetic Communities Consulting.

Glendean Hamilton Stewart (Manhattan '09) went on to complete her BA at Smith College and her graduate studies at the Harvard Kennedy School. She currently serves as Associate Partner focused on the Postsecondary Innovation for Equity Initiative at New Profit, a national venture philanthropy organization. Previously, Hamilton Stewart worked at the Nellie Mae Education Foundation and as a Program Manager of Mayoral Relations at Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative.

Kasia Wiacek (Manhattan '05) is a first-generation student from Poland who, after leaving BHSEC, went on to complete a degree in industrial and labor relations from Cornell University. Wiacek now works in human resources and recruiting as a sourcer and has been employed by companies such as Facebook and Uber. Now living in Oakland, Wiacek works as a recruiter for a biotech company.

If you are a Bard Early College alumna/us and would like to stay engaged with BEC's work, please email alumninetwork@bec.bard.edu to learn more about the BEC Alumni/ae Leadership Council.

Student Highlights

Paul Bloom (Manhattan '21) was highlighted in the July Newsletter for Imagine Society Inc., a non-profit dedicated to supporting the efforts of rising service leaders, for his ongoing leadership in NYC.

Lynnea Davis (Baltimore '21) spoke at a rally in January 2020 to show her support of the Kirwan Commission's proposal which called for lawmakers to provide additional education funding to Baltimore public schools.

Domonique Hanson (Manhattan '21) received an African American Scholar award from the College Board, which awards high-achieving students from underrepresented communities academic honors and connects them with universities across the country.

Ameila Harbutt (Queens '22) won the NYC Department of Education & Brooklyn Public Library Ezra Jack Keats Award for her booklet, "Snail Garden."

Kutorkor Kotey (Newark '20), while a student at BHSEC Newark, participated in the Abbott Leadership Institute at Rutgers University-Newark, joined the LEDA program and participated in an entrepreneurship program that helped her to create her own business. After graduating, she is attending Princeton University on a full tuition scholarship.

Cherie Qu (Queens '20), helped make the discovery of two new species of burrowing sea anemones that inhabit a deep-sea canyon off the coast of Ireland. Through her work as a research intern at the American Museum of Natural History, Cherie co-authored a new study published in the science journal, *American Museum Novitates*, which introduces the previously undescribed species, *Scolanthus shrimp* and *Scolanthus celticus*.

Christel Robinson (Queens '20) read Clint Smith's poem "August 1619" and performed an original piece at the National 1619 Project Symposium held at the National Museum of African American History and Culture in October 2019.

Rodricka Robinson (BECNO '20) received a prestigious Cardea Fellows Program award, a full tuition scholarship to pursue medical studies at Duke University.

“I witnessed in March how our community came together and made sure students had everything they needed. We set up a grocery fund and a technology drive to make sure everyone had an electronic device. We made phone calls to check in with families and we dropped off books and supplies. BEC gets things done. I am immensely proud of the work that’s been done at our 8 campuses around the country.”

**—OLGA RAMOS, BHSEC MANHATTAN
CLASS OF 2003 AND DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS, BHSEC QUEENS**

Photographer Bruce Schwarz



BHSEC Queens, Photographer Bruce Schwarz

Support Bard Early College

Financial Support

To provide a robust college course of study, Bard Early College depends on generous financial support in addition to the recurring resources made available by our public school partners. Through gifts and grants, Bard Early College commits an average of \$3,000 per student. This commitment makes it possible for Bard Early College to provide one year of tuition-free early college.

Please consider a gift of any amount today. Gifts may be directed to:

- THE BARD EARLY COLLEGE FUND, OUR ANNUAL FUND WHERE YOUR GIFT IS ALLOCATED TO WHEREVER THE INSTITUTION NEEDS IT MOST
- A BARD HIGH SCHOOL EARLY COLLEGE CAMPUS

To make a credit card gift, visit <https://bhsec.bard.edu/support/>.

Checks and other correspondence should be sent to:

Office of Development and Alumni/ae Affairs
Bard College
Attn: Gift Recorder, PO Box 5000
Annandale-on-Hudson, NY 12504-5000

COVID-19 Needs

Gifts to the Bard Early College Fund ensure BEC can respond adeptly to the most urgent operational needs resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Current efforts include providing technology (laptops and wireless access devices) to students and families in financial need.

“Learning to think for myself was a lot harder than learning how to get good grades or test scores. BHSEC has allowed me to unlock an intellectual vitality and curiosity that I carry with me everywhere.”

–TAYLOR SPANN, 2017 BHSEC BALTIMORE GRADUATE,
CURRENTLY ATTENDING STANFORD UNIVERSITY

BHSEC Queens, photographer Bruce Schwarz
Back cover: Bard Early College New Orleans



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Glendean Hamilton Stewart
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Former Founding Principal of Bard High School Early Colleges Manhattan and Newark

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Marquitta Speller, EdD
CEO, Ivy Learning Services

Campuses & Leadership

BARD HIGH SCHOOL EARLY COLLEGE MANHATTAN
525 E. Houston Street, New York, NY 10002
Dr. Michael Lerner, PhD, Principal
Founded 2001

BARD HIGH SCHOOL EARLY COLLEGE QUEENS
30-20 Thomson Avenue, Long Island City, NY 11101
Dr. Valeri Thomson, PhD, Principal
Founded 2008

BARD HIGH SCHOOL EARLY COLLEGE NEWARK
321 Bergen Street, Newark, NJ 07103
Dr. Carla Stephens, PhD, Principal
Founded 2011

BARD EARLY COLLEGE IN NEW ORLEANS
3820 St. Claude Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70117
Ana María Caldwell, PhD candidate, Executive Director
Founded 2011

BARD HIGH SCHOOL EARLY COLLEGE CLEVELAND
13501 Terminal Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44135
Marjelo A. Mines, PhD, MEd, Acting Principal
Founded 2014

BARD HIGH SCHOOL EARLY COLLEGE BALTIMORE
2801 N. Dukeland Street, Baltimore, MD 21216
Dr. Francesca Gamber, PhD, Principal
Founded 2015

BARD EARLY COLLEGE HUDSON
364 Warren Street, Hudson, NY 12534
Molly Albrecht, Executive Director
Founded 2017

BARD HIGH SCHOOL EARLY COLLEGE DC
4430 H Street SE, Washington, DC 20019
Dr. Vanessa Anderson, PhD, Principal
Founded 2019

BARD EARLY COLLEGE

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