



ANNUAL REPORT
2023-2024

REACH Prep provides access to transformative educational experiences that empower underserved, high-achieving students to graduate from top colleges and emerge as the next generation of leaders.



**30 YEARS
IS JUST
THE START**

Dear Friends,

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Becky Reiser



Becky Reiser, left, began her tenure as CEO in 2023. Pictured with Board Chair Lauren O'Shaughnessy.

In 2024, REACH Prep celebrated our 30th year. Six scholars started in our inaugural class in 1994, while we admitted 24 students for Cohort 30. Cynthia Lauture, one of those first six students, recently joined our Board of Directors – a full-circle moment for her and an exciting milestone for us.

For the last 30 years, REACH Prep has been committed to guiding academically motivated Black and Latine students through independent school and college. Our programming has grown since our founding in 1994, and we now support our scholars throughout their **12-year educational journey from fourth grade through college.** We are proud that our scholars are graduating as empowered leaders in their careers and communities.

In October 2023, we kicked off the first of our anniversary events with our community at Cove Island Park, where we quite literally hit the ground running. This REACH Prep Walk/Run brought together students, families, partner schools, volunteers, and supporters. We carried this momentum into 2024 with our Golf & Tennis Outing, Anniversary Gala, and a new “30 for 30” Giving Campaign.

We thank the Board of Directors for their leadership, the Associate Board for their focus on capacity building, and the REACH Prep staff and faculty for their dedication to our scholars. We are truly grateful for our generous donors and partners who have helped our students gain access to and thrive in transformational educational environments. **Your commitment to our mission enables our scholars to better their lives and achieve their goals.**

With gratitude,

Lauren O'Shaughnessy
REACH Prep Board Chair

Becky Reiser
Chief Executive Officer



100%

of REACH Prep
Scholars graduate
from high school

100%

of REACH Prep
Scholars are accepted to a
college or university

90%+

of REACH Prep Scholars
graduate from
college in 4-6 years*

47%

of REACH Prep Scholars
are the first in their
family to attend college

250

scholars served
each year

\$150M+

of need-based financial
aid awarded to our
scholars by independent
schools and colleges

REACH Prep supports
each scholar for

**12
YEARS**

30 YEARS OF IMPACT



SCHOLARS BEGIN THEIR REACH PREP JOURNEY

at the end of 4th grade with Prep Academy, a rigorous 15-month academic program. This intensive, interdisciplinary program is designed to prepare students for the academic environment they will encounter when admitted to an independent school. The curriculum focuses on academic preparation and study skills.



NEW IN FALL 2023



Sacred Heart Greenwich, one of the founding partner schools of REACH Prep, began hosting Prep Academy in 2023.

Michael F. Baber, President of Sacred Heart Greenwich, expressed his enthusiasm for the deepening partnership, "Sacred Heart Greenwich has been a proud partner of the REACH Prep program for 30 years, and we are equally proud to have REACH Prep graduates as part of our school community. Our mission aligns with REACH Prep's goal of providing exceptional educational opportunities and forming the leaders of tomorrow."

A REACH PREP SCHOLAR IS:

An independent, critical thinker

A thoughtful problem solver

An effective communicator

A responsible digital citizen

Like Shailene!



A STRONG FOUNDATION

"I learn so much from every Prep Academy class and am very thankful for the opportunity that I have been given. I always feel excited when I know the answer in school because of what I've learned in Prep Academy. My favorite class at Prep Academy is humanities because I'm a bookworm, and I know I'm always going to learn something new!"

MIDDLE SCHOOL



AFTER COMPLETING PREP ACADEMY and Placement, REACH Prep provides ongoing guidance, support, and opportunities to ensure each scholar's success on their journey through independent school. REACH Prep's Director of Middle School Programs attends to the academic and social-emotional development of students through year-round advising, workshops, school visits, and enrichment opportunities.

IN THE CLASSROOM & BEYOND



Sydni from Cohort 25, pictured left, shared her experience at the stamp making workshop at Co-Creat saying, "I enjoyed the Co-Creat workshop because it encouraged creativity and helped me bring my design to life."

As a ninth-grade student at Greens Farms Academy, Sydni also explained how REACH Prep helped her transition from middle to high school. "REACH Prep helped me by providing academic support, mentorship, and a strong community to lean on. The program prepared me for the challenges of high school and gave me the confidence and resources I needed to succeed."

NEW IN 2023



We were thrilled to launch a strong partnership with **GE's Co-Creat in Stamford**. REACH Prep Scholars have access to unique learning opportunities that allow them to collaborate outside of the classroom, explore the Co-Creat space and tools, and put their creativity to use.

During middle school workshops in fall 2023 and spring 2024, the Co-Creat makerspace team taught the scholars about making stamps and designing logos. Scholars designed logos that were laser-printed on insulated mugs and water bottles.

PARTNER SCHOOLS

- Browning School
Brunswick School
The Calhoun School
The Chapin School
Choate Rosemary Hall
Columbia Grammar & Prep
Concord Academy
Convent of the Sacred Heart, New York City
Ethical Culture Fieldston School
Fairfield College Preparatory School
Fairfield Country Day School
The Foote School
Greens Farms Academy
Greenwich Academy
The Greenwich Country Day School
Hackley School
Hamden Hall Country Day School
The Harvey School
Hopkins School
Horace Mann School
- The Hotchkiss School
King School
The Masters School
New Canaan Country School
Northfield Mt. Hermon
Phillips Academy Andover
Pierrepont School
Ridgefield Academy
Rippowam Cissqua School
Riverdale Country School
Rye Country Day School
Sacred Heart Greenwich
School of the Holy Child
Spire School
St. George School
St. Luke's School
St. Mark's
Taft School
Trevor Day School
Whitby School
Wooster School



THE STUDENT-CENTERED PROGRAMMING that begins in middle school continues throughout high school. Once the transition into high school is complete, students begin to work with REACH Prep's Director of College Guidance. Scholars receive individualized college and financial aid support, access to college admission and transition workshops, college visits and presentations, SAT/ACT preparation, and resume-building and networking opportunities.

REACH PREP COLLEGE GUIDANCE

Arnez from Cohort 23 is a senior at Brunswick School. He attended the college visit trips in 2023 and 2024. In addition to benefiting from these campus visits, Arnez shared how REACH Prep has been supportive as he prepares for college.

"REACH Prep has been incredibly helpful to me in many ways. They provided an SAT course that helped me boost my score by over 100 points, offered tutors during exam weeks, and have continued to be a great resource during the college application process. REACH Prep guided me through the important aspects of understanding FAFSA and other aspects of financial aid, the CSS Profile, and explained the differences between early decision, early action, and regular decision."

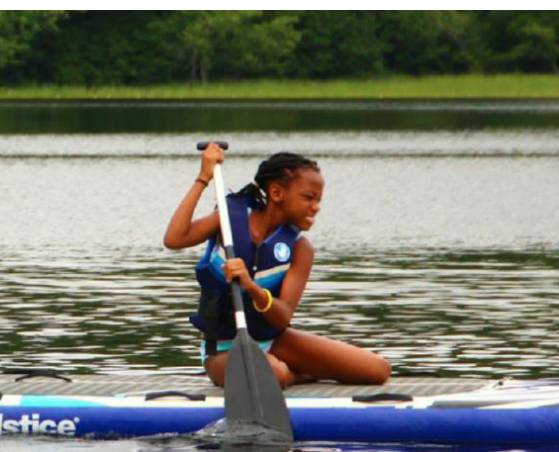


COLLEGE VISITS



An impactful part of our high school programming is the spring break college trip each year. This offers high school students the opportunity to tour several college campuses. When possible, REACH Prep college scholars meet with the visiting students to provide additional insight into the schools and adjusting to college life. The high schoolers traveled to Massachusetts where they visited four schools and met four REACH Prep college students and alumni local to Boston.

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES



REACH PREP PROVIDES constructive and enriching summer experiences for students. Through programs and summer opportunities offered by generous partners, our goal is for each student to attend transformative and otherwise unobtainable experiences for personal growth, early career exploration, and academic enrichment from middle school through college.

Middle school students attend summer camps as well which encourage independence and cultivate leadership skills. Some of these partners include Camp Woodstock, Camp Jewell, and Great Books, an academic camp.



SUMMER PARTNER HIGHLIGHT

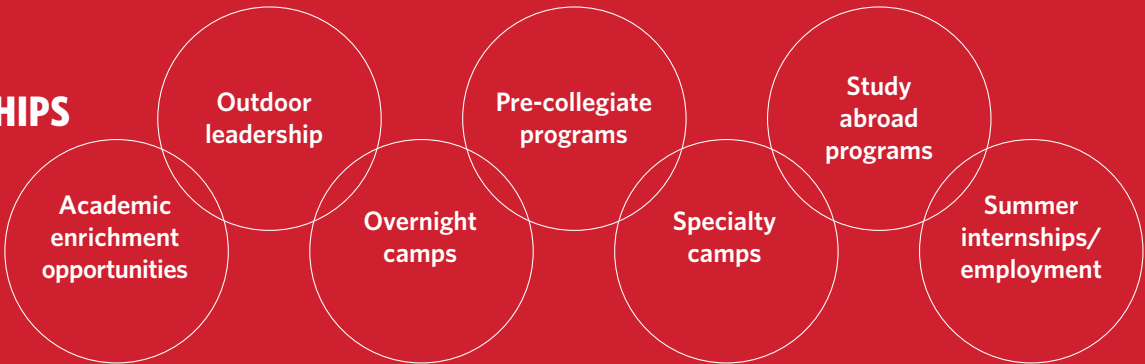
One of REACH Prep’s partners for summer opportunities for high school students is **Worcester Polytechnic Institute**, where students participate in pre-collegiate programs. For the past several years, four REACH Prep students have participated in this program each summer.

Nicole Anterini is a Director in the Office of Pre-Collegiate Outreach Programs at WPI and shared her thoughts on our partnership. “WPI’s Office of Pre-Collegiate Outreach Programs is proud to partner with REACH Prep to provide impactful opportunities for high school students to explore STEM at our Frontiers summer program. The guidance and support the students receive from REACH Prep are evident in the quality of the participants they send us. We are grateful to the wonderful people at REACH Prep for their dedication and the transformative work they do to enrich students’ lives.”

SUMMER PARTNERS

- A Thousand Summers
- (John Austin Cheley Foundation)
- Academy Camp at Suffield Academy
- Camp Jewell (YMCA)
- Camp Nebagamon
- Camp Wa Wa Segowea
- Camp Woodstock (YMCA)
- Columbia University Pre College Programs
- French Woods Camp
- Great Books Summer Programs
- Launch Generation by Cresset Capital
- Marist Pre College University
- New England School of Music
- School of Interactive Arts
- School of the *New York Times*
- SoundWaters
- Student Diplomacy Corps
- Summer at Brown University
- Syracuse University Pre College
- Temple University Pre College
- University of Connecticut
- Worcester Polytechnic Institute
- Yale Young Global Scholars

OUR SUMMER PARTNERSHIPS INCLUDE





REACH PREP SCHOLARS receive personal support throughout their transition to college. The Director of College Success conducts campus visits to ensure students thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. Students are guided through goal setting and course selection, financial aid and reapplication guidance, early career exposure, internships, and resume and interview prep. And with our dedicated corporate partners, we host in-person and virtual panels and workshops to prepare our college students to transition from college into the workforce. These opportunities cover a range of topics and provide essential skills, knowledge, and resources. Key partners and workshops from summer 2023 are listed below.



GREAT INTERNSHIPS LEAD TO GREAT OPPORTUNITIES

Our strong partnership with Union Capital has long benefited our scholars. Most recently in 2023, three college students earned spots in their competitive summer internship program, including Anthony C. "My time at Union Capital was most impactful giving me guidance and clarity about furthering my journey into finance while opening my eyes to the different experiences and possibilities of various sectors. Those who worked at the firm gave me invaluable knowledge about their journeys, education, and careers. REACH Prep helped me prepare for this role by providing resume workshops and interview prep and helped with the cost of business clothing."

WORKSHOPS WITH CORPORATE PARTNERS



MACY'S

Students received a personal stylist to help curate a professional wardrobe and gift cards to make purchases, so they can enter the workforce feeling confident.



STONE POINT CAPITAL

Stone Point employees conducted a resume and interview prep workshop to help students prepare for internship and job applications.



WALMART CONNECT

Students visited the Walmart Connect headquarters in New Jersey for a workshop that provided a deep dive into internship best practices.

Amherst College
Barnard College
Bates College
Boston College
Boston University
Bowdoin College
Brandeis College
Bryn Mawr College
Bucknell University
Carnegie Mellon University
Colgate College
Columbia University
Cornell University
Dartmouth College
Duke University
Emory University
Fordham University
Franklin & Marshall College
George Washington University
Georgetown University
Gettysburg College
Harvard University
Howard University
Johns Hopkins University
Lafayette College
Lehigh University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Middlebury College
New York University
Northeastern University
Northwestern University
Oberlin College
Princeton University
Providence College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rice University
Smith College
Spelman College
Stanford University
Swarthmore College
Syracuse University
Trinity College
Tufts University
University of California
University of Chicago
University of Connecticut
University of Pennsylvania
University of Virginia
Vassar College
Villanova University
Washington and Lee University
Washington University
Wesleyan University
Williams College
Yale University

Partial list of schools to which our Scholars have been accepted over the last 10 years.

ALUMNI



WHEN SCHOLARS GRADUATE COLLEGE, THEY BECOME REACH PREP ALUMS. REACH Prep continues to support our alums as they transition into the workforce, and benefit from alumni continuing to stay involved in our community. REACH Prep alumni speak at events, participate in a lecture series for Prep Academy Scholars, join the Associate Board and Board of Directors, establish corporate partnerships, and support fundraising campaigns., REACH Prep alums have great success in their fields, becoming leaders in their communities.

Each year we host several reunion opportunities for REACH Prep college scholars and alumni to gather to reconnect and network.



2023-2024

1

alum on the
REACH Prep Board
of Directors

2

alums employed
by REACH Prep

3

alums on
the Associate
Board

16

alums spoke at
Prep Academy and
other events



CATHERINE PEREZ

Cohort 12

Litigation Associate at
Pillsbury Winthrop
Shaw Pittman in NYC

St Luke's School '11

Blair Academy '13

George Washington
University '17

University of Miami
School of Law '22

ALUMNI PROFILE: A LIFETIME OF RELATIONSHIPS

"It is remarkable to think back to my introduction to REACH Prep and how the relationship has led to so many opportunities and accomplishments that I only dreamed of when I first started at Prep Academy. At this point, my relationship with REACH Prep is nearing 20 years, one of the longest relationships in my life! Over those twenty years, REACH Prep of course helped me to enroll in independent school, and also made sure I had funding for tutors and SAT prep when I needed it.

REACH Prep further provided access to opportunities, such as interview and resume workshops, volunteer positions within REACH Prep and partner organizations, guidance in completing the FAFSA application and bringing awareness to federal work-study opportunities to help make college more affordable. Simply put, REACH Prep has been there every step of the way, for which I'm eternally grateful."

WALK/RUN



REACH Prep hosted its inaugural in-person Walk/Run at Cove Island Park in Stamford on October 14, 2023. Co-Chairs Cassie Karnal and Katie Poznyakov led the successful event.



The 4th Annual Swing for our Scholars Golf & Tennis Outing was at Round Hill Club on May 20, 2024. Philip Bartow and John Kim were Golf Co-Chairs, and Christina Failing and Asya Geller were Co-Chairs for Tennis.

4TH ANNUAL SWING FOR OUR SCHOLARS





As we kicked off the celebration of the 30th anniversary of REACH Prep, we were excited to provide an opportunity for donors, companies, and foundations to have a lasting impact on the organization.

This special gift initiative is the 30 for 30 Campaign, with 30 funders gifting \$30,000 or more in honor of our three decades of empowering leaders.

We'd like to recognize those who have joined the 30 for 30 Campaign so far. The 30 for 30 Campaign is still open through June 2025. If you would like to learn more about this special gift initiative, please reach out to Becky Reiser at breiser@reachprep.org.

Thank you to the generous donors who made their gift to commemorate this milestone and continue our commitment to empowering the next generation of leaders.

30 FOR 30 FUNDERS*

The Angelique and William F. Dawson Jr
Charitable Foundation
Kim & Neil Augustine
Christina and Field Failing
Lindsey & Jeffrey Goldfaden
Barbara & Edgar Harty
Cassie & Alex Karnal
John & Eileen Kim
The Khan Family
Macy's
Nicole Mitchell
Heather & Dan Mosley
Bill & Linda Ogden
Lauren & Patrick O'Shaughnessy
Melissa & Jim O'Shaughnessy
Simmons Family Foundation
The Per and Astrid Heidenreich Foundation
The Pike Family
Jeff & Lisa Volling

**at time of print*

We are incredibly grateful for the generous contributions received throughout the year from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

\$100,000+

Serenbetz Family Foundation
Jean and Stuart Serenbetz
Cindi and Warren Serenbetz
Skyler Serenbetz

\$50,000+

Atlas Holdings
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William S. Paley Foundation, Inc.
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SPIDACARES
Nicole Mitchell

\$20,000 - \$49,999

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Judy and Chris Collins
Karen and Bill Doniger
The Edith B. and Lee V. Jacobs Fund
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\$10,000-\$19,999

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and the Arts

\$5,000 - \$9,999

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\$1,000 - \$4,999

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Megan and Ulric Sullivan
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Sofia and Marco Viola
Valerie and Steven Wayne

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Sarah Pribyl
Katie and Erik Pridham
Jon Pruchansky
Arianna Psareas
Samantha Purcell
Kristin Queen Shaffer
James and Jacqueline Quigley
Fatima Rabinowitz
Aysha Ramseur and Nathan Moore
Ayna Ramseur-Moore, Cohort 16
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Deon Richardson
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Sarah Robinson
Marcelina Robles
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Gilberto Rodriguez
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Kristen and Dan Rosenbaum
Megan Rosenblum
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Lydia Rouzeau and Andrew Cohen
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 Gail Saltz
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 David Scanlan
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 Lylyan Floresta do Val
 Clay Serenbetz
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 Kelly Sheehy
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 Michele Siegelman
 Ariel Silberman
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 Alexandra Franklin
 Steven Greenbush
 John Reiser
 NeighborShare
 Julia Simmons
 Sacred Heart Greenwich
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 Skyler Serenbetz
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 Kevin O'Keeffe
 Jessica Thomson
 Christina Tilt
 Brandon Velez
 Lisa Volling
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 Amanda and Sam Wilson
 Leigh Wit

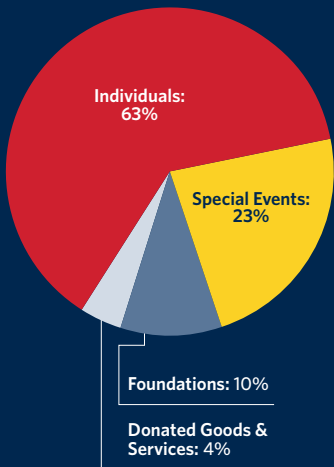




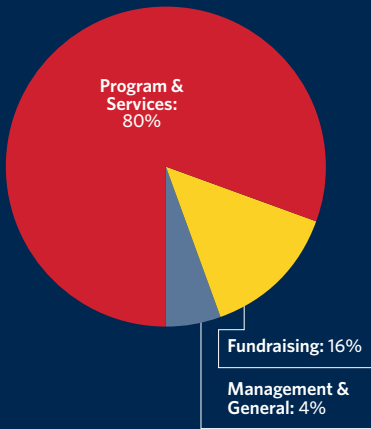
YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS AT WORK

July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

Revenue By Source
Total Revenue: \$2,361,946



Functional Expenses



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SAVE THE DATE!

2025 SPRING LUNCHEON

Monday, April 28, 2025

11:30 am

Hyatt Regency Greenwich

