



Monthly Newsletter

HERE IS WHATS HAPPENING AT THE SCHOOL.

IN THIS ISSUE

About Us...

The Urban Assembly school of Music and art is a small college preparatory art high school located in the heart of downtown Brooklyn. We integrate arts learning and self-expression into our curriculum and engage students through visits to museums, galleries, cultural institutions and internships focusing on engagement through direct self-expression through the arts. We celebrate the diversity of our students and make strong connections to the communities we serve. It is expected that students will complete majority of their high school regents based requirements by the end of their sophomore year so that they can earn up to 16 college credits in our early college academy by the end of their senior year.

Early College Academy

The early college academy provides a liberal/ performing arts based college course of study embedded within the UAMA curriculum. By participating with Bard College, The New School, Pratt, Medgar Evers and NYU, students will have the opportunity to take credit-bearing courses, in the beginning of their junior year. Seminar classes will emphasize critical thinking, textual analysis, the performing arts, and intellectual inquiry across all of the disciplines. Our unique early college program prepares students for the college classroom in a setting that underscores the importance of intellectual engagement: students (and Faculty) participation structures self-expression, informal writing in the classroom, group performances/ exercises, and active debate of questions and concerns at the heart of texts.



Trips

This month there were numerous trips happening from college trips to Ellis Island, Come look at what our students got to experience in the past month Page 2



Technology

As the school moves towards greater technological integration in classrooms, you can see what we have done so far. Page 3

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A trip to Ellis Island Museum

On Nov. 17 Mrs. Mohamed and Mrs. Point Du Jour took the 9th grade U.S History and 12 grade AP U.S History Classes to visit the Ellis Island museum and Statue of Liberty Island. The students was able to experience the immigrant journey by viewing a short film, touching artifacts and listening to personal accounts. Students were also about to test their US history knowledge by taking the U.S citizen test new immigrant must pass to become a citizen. I'm pleased to say they passed.

This was also a great time for our PGC leaders and Mentees to bond outside of the classroom. Students came back and shared what they learned with the students that didn't attend the trip. Students were able to apply the information learned to their 2nd MP final essay on the Push and Pull factors of Immigration.



College Trip to Purchase & Bard



On November 28, 2017 College Access for All sponsored an all grades College trip to visit the campuses of SUNY Purchase and Bard College. 50 UAMA students experienced a slice of college life completing a scavenger hunt with Purchase school mascot Percy the Panther. At Bard College chaperone and two-time Bard graduate Mr. Vural lead the students on a self-guided tour, where we ate lunch in the campus dining hall, visited classrooms, and watched the sunset over the Hudson River at the Blithewood Manor gardens. Between the two trips staff and students walked over eight miles while experiencing two phenomenal college environments. We are excited to plan future college tours and give our students the opportunity to see themselves in higher education settings.



The New Technology

SPRINT 1 Million Project @UAMA

The Urban Assembly for Music and Art (UAMA) is pleased to announce that we have begun to provide **1:1 technology to every UAMA student**. Just like college and the world of work, UAMA students need to be able to work inside and out of school, virtually and in-person, on mobile technology or using a pen and paper, so we want all of our students to be connected! Through a partnership with Sprint, we are able to provide smart phones with wireless hotspots to every UAMA student in grades 9-12. The phone comes with 3 GB of free monthly high-speed data to use for research, homework, and overall academic enrichment through technology. The wireless hotspot also enables parents to connect to the internet either through the phone or with their own device so that they can log on to IO Education/Pupil Path where they have 24/7 access to their students assignments, grades, and attendance information. This technology will enable real-time connection between our students, families, and school, and will open the door to information about college, scholarships, jobs, and new possibilities.



The Chromebooks are in!

Chromebooks are being introduced to classes that already incorporate Google Classroom and other digital educational tools. Students in AP Language and Composition are using their Chromebooks in class (and their Sprint Devices out of class) to research and prepare pro and con arguments for a formal debate. As the school moves toward greater technological integration we are engaged as a staff in collaborating on how to best integrate these 21st Century learning tools not just to replace traditional pen and paper, but to also rethink how students can interact with the skills and knowledge they need to be college and career ready.



School Updates!

Bard Early Colleges + Urban Assembly School of Music and Art

We are pleased to announce a new partnership starting in the spring of 2018:
The Bard Early College Academy at the Urban Assembly School of Music and Art

Bard@UAMA

The Bard Early College Academy at the Urban Assembly School of Music and Art (UAMA) enables UAMA students in 11th and 12th grade to enroll as part-time undergraduate students of Bard College and earn **tuition-free college credits** concurrently with their high school studies. Participating students take a liberal arts college course of study that aims to intellectually engage UAMA students and help them prepare for and succeed in college.

The Bard Early College Academy establishes an academic extension of Bard College at the UAMA. College courses are taught by Bard Early College faculty, and take place on the UAMA campus within the UAMA course schedule. Additionally, students participate in field trips, including conferences and academic events on the Bard College campus in Annandale-on-Hudson, and joint programming with Bard's other early colleges in the tri-state area. Upon completion of the Bard Seminar sequence, **UAMA students have the opportunity to earn as much as a semester of Bard College credits, tuition-free.**

See you Soon A.P. Tucker

To the right is a picture of Assistant Principal and United States Navy Petty Officer First Class, Josephine Tucker presents Principal Paul Thompson with a Patriotic Employer Certificate for, "Contributing to National Security and Protecting Liberty and Freedom By Supporting Employee Participation in America's National Guard and Reserve Force." The certificate was presented at a ceremony honoring Assistant Principal Tucker who is leaving for a one-year deployment in January.



Campus Showcase Success!

Below is a picture of our first campus-wide showcase was a huge success with performances from all 3 schools. Students were encouraging and super supportive of each other. Our next showcase will be on **December 18th** at 4pm- in the UAMA cafeteria!



Eyeglasses for Students!

This school year our students received free vision screening by the Department of Health and were also provided with free prescription eyeglasses from Warby Parker. We serviced every student in the school to ensure that all students have available and accurate vision support.



The Parent Corner

Parent Teacher Conferences

Our November's Parent Teacher Conferences parent feedback was positive regarding the clarity of our systems and the documented support that we have in place that support our students. One System in particular that parents raved about the most is **Kinvolved**. We encourage all teachers and staff to utilize the school wide texting tool Kinvolved to communicate to parents and guardians. This tool can be used for taking period attendance and for directly communicating important information regarding our students' academic performance. Kinvolved is the most straightforward tool for direct communication for our parent and they are really appreciating it!



P.T.A Announcement

On December 18, 2017 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm we have our monthly PTA meeting. This month we will be having a guest speaker from The Leadership Program doing a workshop with our parent regarding Effective Partnerships with the school. This workshop is geared to provide strategies to foster positive relationships between parents and the school to ensure that the student's individual needs are being met, while increasing family engagement and creating a sense of community