



ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2023



Manuela Zamora
Executive Director, NY Sun Works



Ted Caplow
Chairman of the Board

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & THE BOARD CHAIR

Dear Friends of NY Sun Works:

This past fiscal year has been one of tremendous growth for NY Sun Works. From 204 school partners at the end of June 2022 to more than 275 by July 1, 2023, NY Sun Works grew our footprint in New York City by 35%. In FY 24, we're on track to grow to another 80 schools, increasing our presence in the city by another 30%.

Much of this expansion has been made possible by the support of **Representative and House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries, Representatives Nydia Velazquez, Ritchie Torres, and Yvette Clarke, and Senators Chuck Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand**, who secured \$2.9 million in direct funding for NY Sun Works' program through the **U.S. Department of Education's Congressionally Funded Community Projects program**. We're deeply grateful for their affirmation of our work and this crucial funding, which is enabling us to bring our program to underserved communities in the Bronx, Brooklyn, and Queens.

Their support comes at a pivotal moment for advancing equitable access to quality science and climate education. Climate education has increasingly been recognized as a cornerstone to building a sustainable and resilient future. Yet, while teachers want to teach it and students want to learn it, the resources, curriculum, and most importantly teacher support fall woefully short.*

We're proud to be meeting this call, delivering our hands-on, inquiry-based sustainability science and climate education programming to 120,000 students in just this year alone. Our comprehensive teacher training and supporting educational resources have

enabled over 1,000 NYC public school teachers to confidently and effectively engage students in solution-oriented climate education not only this year but, through the training they've received, to successive classes of students in each school year. Recognizing the urgency of climate action, we also recalibrated our curriculum this year to more prominently feature connections to climate science in each lesson so that teachers and students are empowered with the tools they need to build a resilient future.

From the financial perspective, we closed this fiscal year in a very strong position with a revenue growth of 55%. This is our biggest year of growth to date and we are aware of the challenge ahead in managing this growth responsibly while maintaining the quality of our programs and the culture of our organization.

We'd like to close with our thanks and appreciation to the more than 50 members of the NY Sun Works team and our Board of Directors. Their hard work and dedication to the community of students, teachers, and schools we serve turn our mission of delivering high quality science, sustainability, and climate education into a reality for 120,000 K-12 students and growing.

With gratitude,

Manuela Zamora
Executive Director

Ted Caplow
Chair, Board of Directors

*The State of Climate Education: Findings from a National Survey of Educators (NAAEE in collaboration with Edge Research, October 2022)



ABOUT US

MISSION






NY Sun Works is a non-profit organization that builds innovative science labs in urban schools. Through our program, we use hydroponic farming technology to educate students and teachers about the science of sustainability.

VISION

We envision a generation of environmental innovators, empowered to create solutions to global climate challenges.



OUR REACH

	2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR	CUMULATIVE (2010-2023)
 Students Reached	112,000	440,000
 Hydroponic Classrooms Built	72	276
 Hydroponic Systems Installed	282	1,081
 Teachers Trained	300	1,123
 Potential of Food Produced (pounds)	160,000	630,000



OUR IMPACT

Sources: Annual Teacher Surveys 2021-2023

NY Sun Works surveys a sample of our partner teachers to assess our program's impact. Here are the highlights from the last two school years:



96%

of teachers report that the **NY Sun Works** program effectively teaches science concepts



92%

of teachers report that **students develop** a strong awareness and appreciation of the **environment** through NY Sun Works' program



84%

of teachers report that **students are** knowledgeable about climate change issues after a year with NY Sun Works program



100%

of teachers report that **students actively engage** in science through NY Sun Works' program

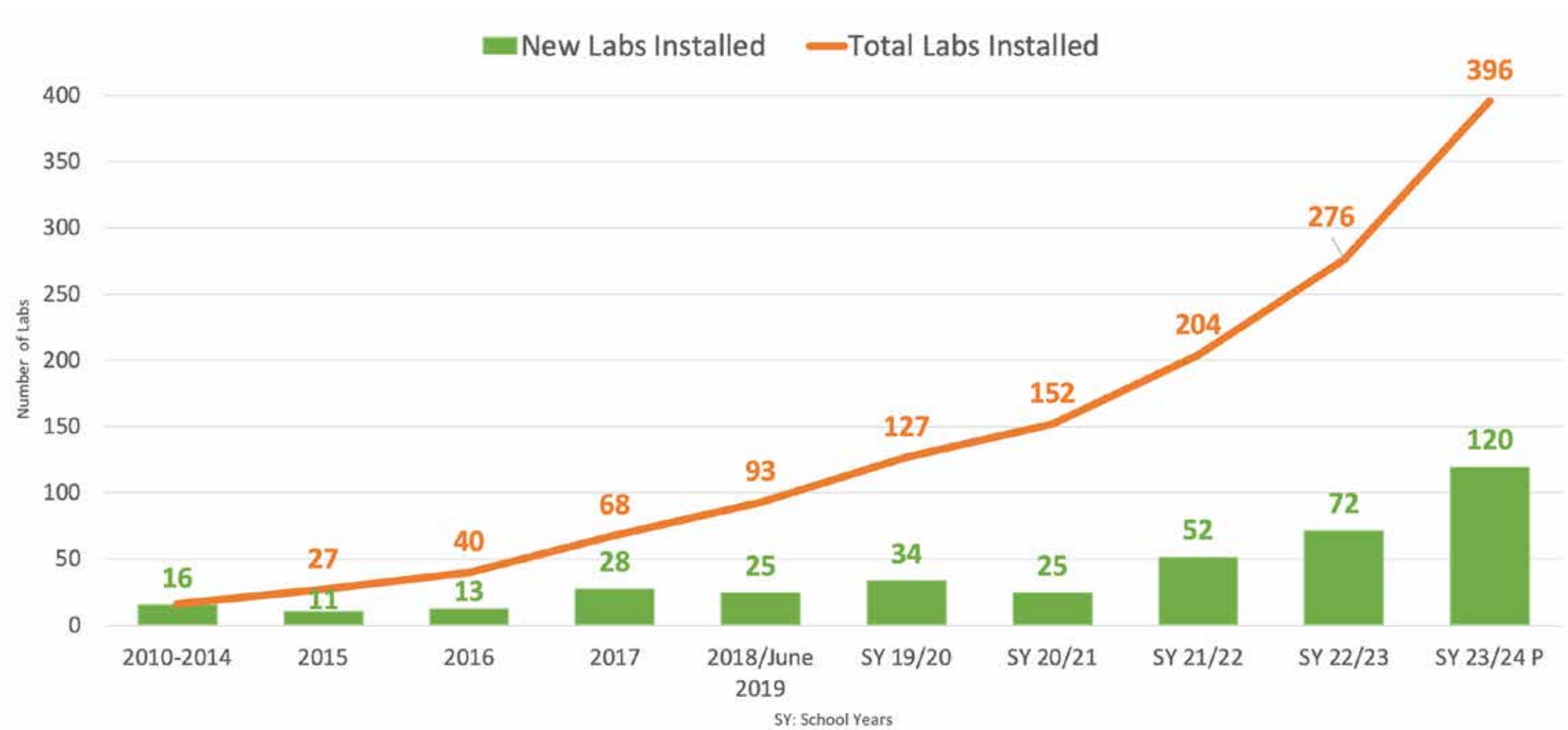


96%

of teachers report that **students are willing to eat** fresh food harvested in their hydroponic classroom

OUR GROWTH

NY Sun Works builds opportunities for today’s youth to become the scientists, innovators, and decision-makers of tomorrow. From the Science Barge in 2004 to our first hydroponic classroom in 2010 to nearly 300 public school partners by June 2023, NY Sun Works is delivering on our commitment to helping students build the skills they need for the future they deserve.



Projected for FY24:
100+ NEW hydroponic classrooms built

“When I look at this classroom, I don’t see just plants — I see opportunities for students.”
—US Secretary of Education MIGUEL CARDONA

PEOPLE WE SERVE

NY Sun Works serves a diverse population of students primarily across the five boroughs of New York City, with a small but growing number of schools in the greater metropolitan area and upstate New York. We strive to make our program accessible to all types of learners, especially students who are at-risk, require special accommodations, or are currently underrepresented in STEM fields.

We focus on bringing our robust programming and curriculum to higher needs public schools, with 81% of our partners qualifying for Title I, the federal education program that provides financial assistance to schools with high percentages of children from low-income families, and 71% of students attending our partner schools experiencing poverty.

Number Of NYSW Partner Schools in the Five Boroughs, Westchester and NJ



New Jersey

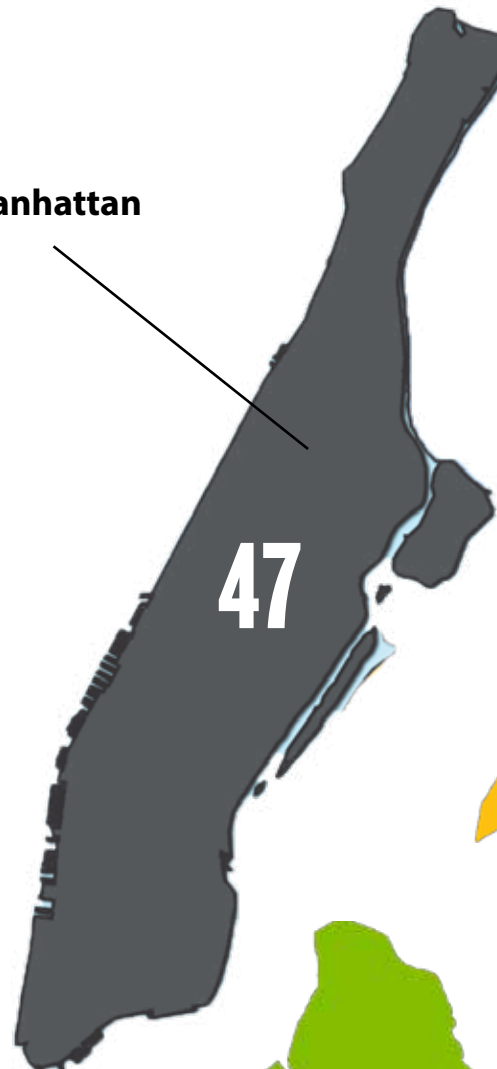
Staten Island



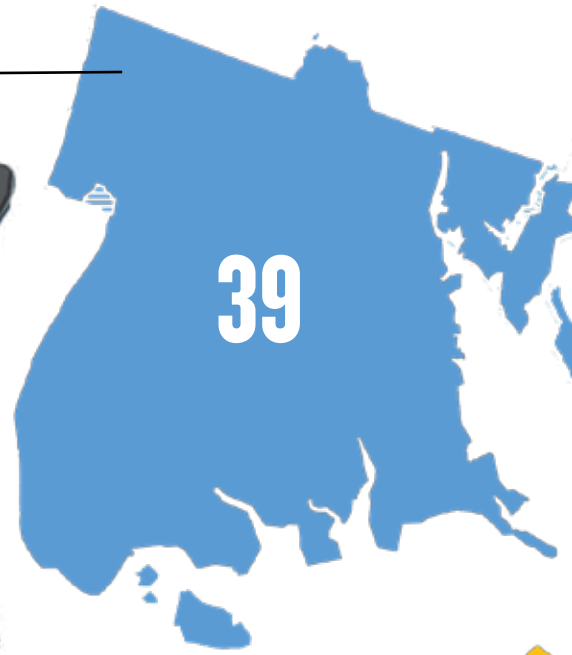
Brooklyn



Manhattan



Bronx



Westchester



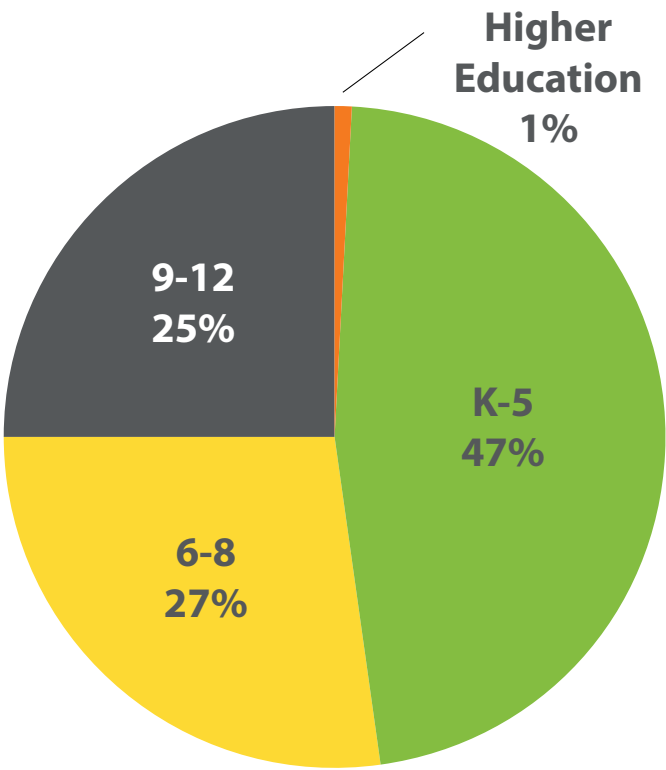
Queens



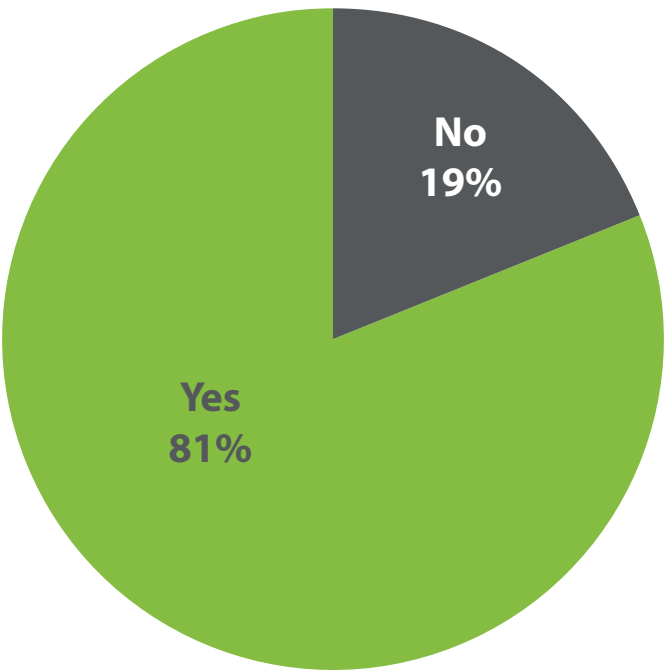
PEOPLE WE SERVE



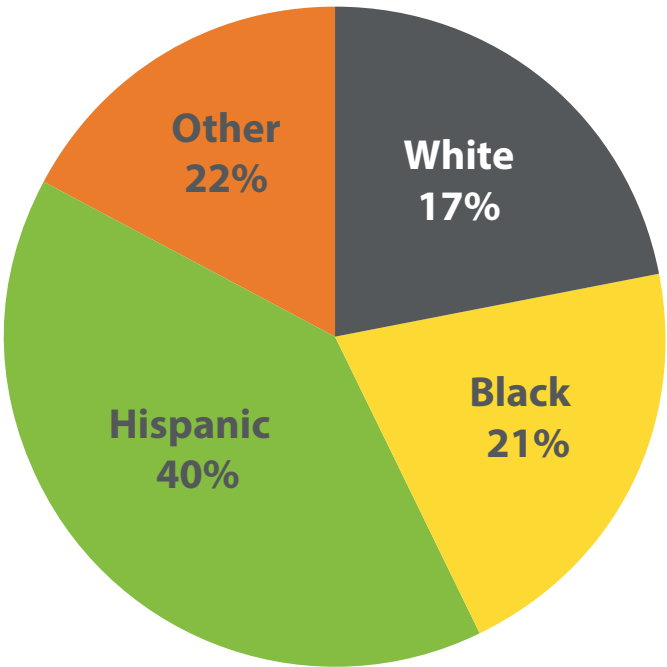
SCHOOLS BY GRADE BAND



TITLE I STATUS



STUDENTS' ETHNICITY



The Students' Ethnicity chart was created using data from the NYC Department of Education Demographic Snapshot (SY 2021-2022), and our Title I status chart was created using data from the National Center for Education Statistics school search database (SY 2021-2022).

TEACHER TRAINING



ASPDP COURSE

Sustainability Professional Development for Non-Partner Teachers

Every year, NY Sun Works offers our 45-hour ASPDP (After School Professional Development Program) course, “Energy, Water and Waste: Integrating Themes of Sustainability Into Your Classroom,” free of charge to NYC public school teachers, regardless of their affiliation with NY Sun Works. The course is approved for teacher continuing education credits by the NYC Department of Education (DOE) and focuses on incorporating sustainability content across the K-12th grade curriculum. The 29 teachers who participated in this year’s two course sessions represented a range of grade levels and taught a variety of subjects, including general elementary education, ELA, math, chemistry, Living Environment, physics, and art.



94% Teachers satisfied with NYSW support services

TEACHER TRAINING

NY Sun Works’ Education & Grow Support Teams are honored to provide partner schools and educators with training and mentoring to support implementing our extensive K-12 curriculum and using hydroponic farming as a teaching tool. Through our combination of one-on-one training and group professional learning, teachers build the skills, confidence, and knowledge they need to deliver meaningful, hands-on, grade-specific, and student-centered lessons that engage and empower students as farmers and scientists throughout the school year.

In the 2022-23 school year, our teams:

- Supported nearly 300 teachers with individual mentoring and training;
- Held 17 professional learning sessions, reaching hundreds of K-12 teachers from the five boroughs, Chappaqua, and NJ;
- Diversified our professional learning content with new training sessions, workshops, and events on: classroom management in the hydroponic classroom, supporting students in designing their own scientific investigations, and bringing environmental justice and advocacy into the curriculum.

NY Sun Works was also excited to join one of the city’s preeminent educational institutions, the **Museum of the City of New York**, for a day of food-centric professional learning inspired by their newest exhibition: Food in New York. K-12 STEM educators had the chance to dive into hands-on hydroponics, building their own passive hydroponic systems with recycled plastic drinking bottles and other simple materials. By using these tiny but mighty systems to grow adorable baby kale and lettuce sprouts in their own homes, teachers gain a first-hand look at the relative ease of the hydroponic growing process, as well as share in the joys of caring for a living thing of their very own.

**“This was by far the best ASPDP course I’ve taken.
A+ all around. The teacher was caring and empathetic.
The material was interesting. The activities were engaging.
I grew as a person and as an educator this week.”**

—RACHEL, 6th Grade ELA Teacher

HARVEST PROGRAM



NY Sun Works' Harvest Program is a joyful way to connect families with classroom learning and expand access to healthy, fresh produce. Through the program, students bring home the fresh produce they've cultivated in their classrooms and, using Harvest Program discussion cards, gather stories from their families about their traditions as they intersect with food. This knowledge is then brought back to the class to share with their teachers and classmates, creating new opportunities for conversations and projects about the connections between food and culture. The program engages students fully in hands-on farmer-scientist work throughout the school year, brings families' culture into the classroom, and extends the message about the role of urban farming in building sustainable, climate-resilient communities to students' families.

In 2022-2023, students across our nearly 300 partner schools cultivated and harvested hundreds of pounds of lettuce, kale, chard, herbs, tomatoes, beans, eggplants, zucchini, and a universal favorite – cucumbers!



86%

of teachers have used the harvest lessons

90%

of teachers have used the harvest lesson materials

97%

of students participate in the harvest process

90%

of students bring food home

Source: Based on internal performance survey of 106 schools

HIGH SCHOOL URBAN AGRICULTURE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

In summer 2022, we launched New York City’s first high school workforce development program in urban agriculture. Piloted with funding from the USDA, the program provides high school students with technical skills, environmental science foundations, and general workforce readiness training to build pathways for entry into green careers such as Controlled Environment Agriculture (CEA) and other environmental careers. The program bridges the degree divide by enabling students from low-income backgrounds to enter the workforce directly with an in-demand skill set and participate more equitably and inclusively in New York City’s green economy.

The first cohort of 30 students from 3 high schools completed the program and received their certification in CEA in August 2022, followed by 150 students from 6 high schools in Spring 2023.

Students participating in the program also had the opportunity to attend our first-ever Career & College Fair, which took place this May at NYC’s iconic Javits Center. The inaugural fair brought together 150 student participants and 15 representatives from colleges and organizations including **Kingsborough Community College, SUNY programs, Queens Botanical Gardens, East New York Farms, Campaign Against Hunger, the Sustain-**

able Forestry Initiative, and the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets.

This in-demand program continues to expand and will be offered in the 23-24 school year as both a full school year and a semester-long option.

“Hydroponics has brought more meaning to my life. I’ve come to the realization that the way we treat our world really affects the climate.”

—ANACIS, High School CEA Student

180

Students certified in Controlled Environment Agriculture in one year



STEM HYDROPONIC KITS

5,000

STEM kits ordered this past school year by 27 different schools (including those as far as Texas!)

21,600

STEM Kits ordered since 2020 program launch

NY Sun Works introduced our STEM Hydroponic Kit program in September 2020 to support hands-on science and sustainability teaching throughout the Covid school closures. The kits and their accompanying curriculum were a welcome resource and learning tool for teachers, parents, and students.

Since then, the kits have evolved into a versatile, affordable option, providing sustainability science and farming education in a compact, portable format. The kits are assembled at the Center for Vocational Rehabilitation in NJ, which helps adults with cognitive and other impairments build employable skills that support their independence, and we're honored to collaborate with and support this community.



“Every time we did a lesson, they wanted MORE.”

—Teacher on NY Sun Works’ STEM kits and curriculum

YOUTH CONFERENCE 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

The Discovering Sustainability Science Youth Conference is an annual celebration of science that places students from the five boroughs of NYC at the center of conversations surrounding the importance of climate education. In May 2023, we hosted our largest conference to date at the iconic Javits Center, with over 900 Farmer Scientists K-12 coming together to share the projects and research they've been working on in their hydroponic classrooms. In addition to student-focused presentations and guest speakers, this year's Conference also included our first ever Career & College Fair! Sixteen organizations and universities joined us in connecting students in our high school workforce development program with career and post-secondary education opportunities, while simultaneously offering these future climate leaders professional guidance in the form of resume and cover letter reviews. Additionally, Farmer Scientists from West End Secondary School created pieces for our first ever Student Art Show, highlighting the thoughtfulness and creativity behind their new understanding of where our food comes from.

This year's Conference connected students with leaders in the fields of sustainability and urban agriculture, including **Qiana Mickie**, the first Executive Director of the NYC Mayor's Office of Urban Agriculture, Gotham Greens co-founder **Viraj Puri**, New York City Council Speaker **Adrienne Adams**, **Kaela Mainsah**, Vice President of New York Power Authority's Environmental Justice Program, and **Jerri Taylor**, Director of Diversity in Career Pathways at the Sustainable Forestry Initiative. **Alan Steel**, Chief Executive Officer of the Javits Center, kicked off the day's presentations with words of encouragement for the students and highlighted the Center's many sustainability features. After the conference, guests were welcome to tour the venue's rooftop green pavilion and farm, which boasts nearly 7 acres of rooftop green space, and produces upwards of 50 unique crops each growing season!



900

Student participants in 2023 Youth Conference

YOUTH CONFERENCE 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

During the Youth Conference, we were honored to receive a Citation from **Mayor Adams**, delivered by **Qiana Mickie**, Director of the Mayor's Office of Urban Agriculture, honoring our work to provide education in climate and sustainability science to New York City's students.

"This organization works tirelessly to provide education in climate and sustainability science to our city's students, serving more than 120,000 children in 250 public schools each year. By providing valuable learning opportunities, farming experience, and a greater understanding of climate change through its hydroponic classrooms, New York Sun Works has brought tremendous benefit to our city and students of all backgrounds." —**Mayoral Citation**

The 2023 Youth Conference was sponsored by **ConEdison**, **CVC Capital Partners**, **New York Power Authority**, and **Clean Path NY**, with additional support from the **Javits Center**.



GROWING WITH CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT

Congresswoman **Nydia Velázquez** joined NY Sun Works in announcing the expansion of our climate science education program in Brooklyn and Queens. Through this \$800,000 investment, which was secured by the Congresswoman via the US Department of Education’s FY22 Congressionally Funded Community Projects program, we built new state-of-the-art hydroponic farms at 20 schools throughout New York’s 7th Congressional District, including one of our first college-level partnerships at LaGuardia Community College. To celebrate this new expansion in North Brooklyn and southwestern Queens, Rep. Velázquez joined NY Sun Works at 3 media events at schools throughout her district that brought together partner principals to kick off new urban agriculture programs in her district.

Additionally, NY Sun Works was honored to receive generous funding from Reps. **Hakeem Jeffries**, **Yvette Clarke**, and **Richie Torres**, with support from Sen. **Chuck Schumer** and Sen. **Kirsten Gillibrand**, from the FY23 Congressionally Funded Community Projects program with a total allocation of \$2.1 million to bring hydroponic classrooms to 50 new public schools.

Clockwise from Top Right: Congresswoman Nydia Velázquez with PS299 students; Rep. Hakeem Jeffries with a K344 Rachel Carson High School student; Representative Richie Torres with Manuela Zamora and Megan Nordgrén

THANK YOU
Reps. Nydia Velázquez,
Hakeem Jeffries, Yvette Clark,
Ritchie Torres and Senators
Kirsten Gillibrand and Chuck
Schumer for supporting our work!



“You will be the future sustainability scientists, environmentalists, urban farmers, climate change activists, and leaders that we need for our country and for our world.”
—Rep. HAKEEM JEFFRIES
addressing students at K334 Rachel Carson High School

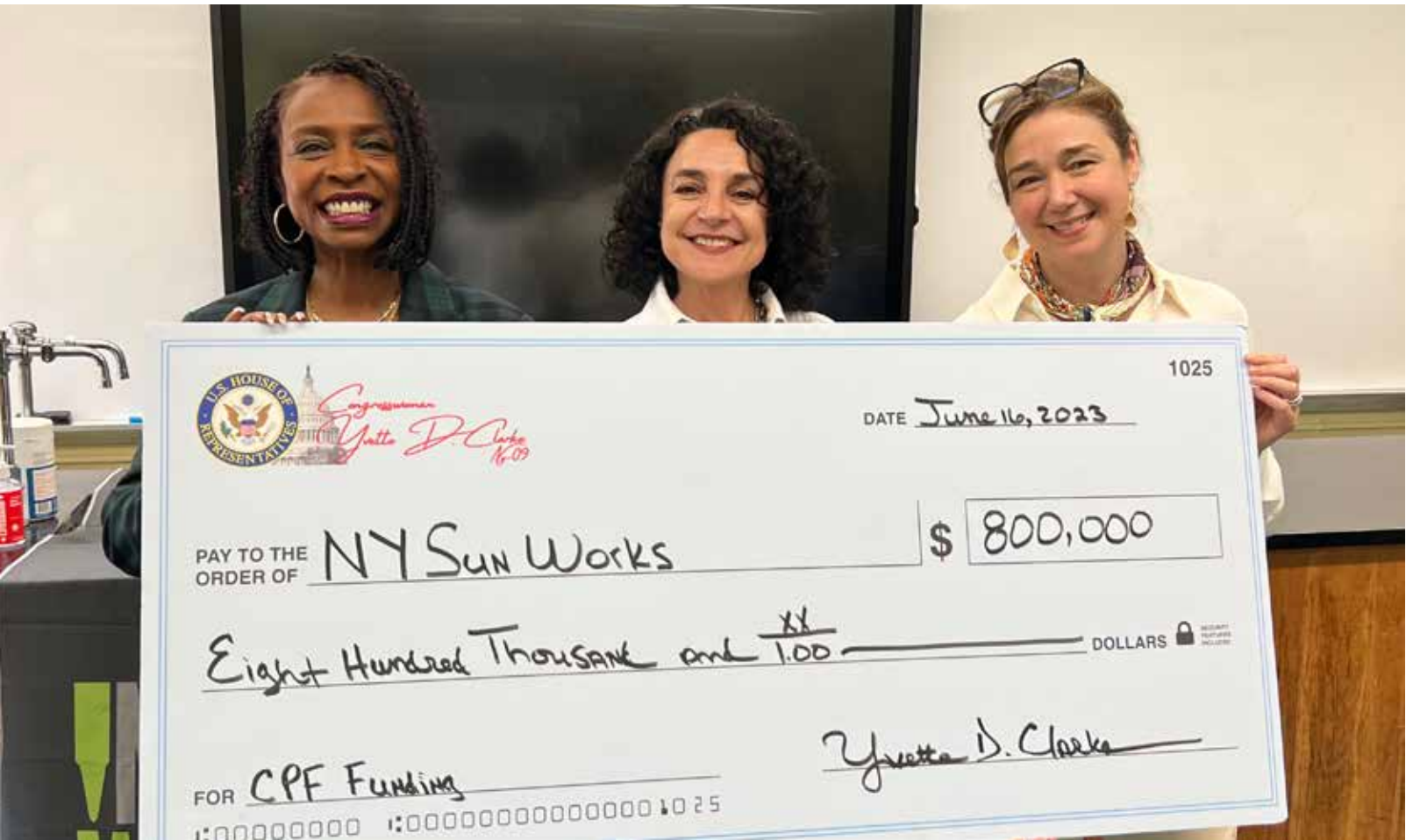
GROWING WITH CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT

These federal allocations are allowing NY Sun Works to increase the breadth of our program and helping us work toward an equitable, accessible, and sustainable future for the next generation of New Yorkers in Brooklyn and the South Bronx. House Minority Leader Jeffries joined NY Sun Works leadership at IS 303 and the Rachel Carson High School for Coastal Studies in announcing the \$500,000 allocation for 12 new hydroponic labs in Brooklyn public schools, which he helped secure through the federal funding law.

We also welcomed Congresswoman Yvette Clarke to her alma mater Edward R. Murrow High School in Brooklyn to announce her \$800,000 investment in public education, which was also made possible by the Community Project Funding initiative. Through this landmark investment, 18 new public schools received NY Sun Works hydroponic classrooms and their associated curricula, and 2 public high schools were incorporated into our urban agriculture workforce development program.



Clockwise from Top Right: Rep. Hakeem Jeffries with a K344 Rachel Carson High School student; Congresswoman Nydia Velázquez with a PS299 student; Rep. Yvette Clark with Manuela Zamora and Megan Nordgrén



“[NY Sun Works’] work is certain to ignite the prosperity of our community, and is a crucial key in creating significant and lasting positive change, that will be seen and felt across and beyond the 9th Congressional District of New York.”

—Rep. YVETTE CLARK
at Edward R. Murrow

GROWING WITH OUR CORPORATE PARTNERS

Our corporate partners play a vital role in bringing our vision for climate education to life, providing us with the resources, connections, and at times even volunteer people-power necessary to bring nature back into the classroom. From Youth Conference sponsorship to funding in-school programming to the hard work of assembling new hydroponic systems, our corporate supporters are truly partners in engaging and empowering students we serve.

Our thanks to the **New York Power Authority, Bregal Investments, CVC Capital Partners, ConEdison, Clean Path NY, Lettuce Grow, Tower Garden, and Crop King** for supporting our work and joining us in our commitment to education this past year.

Long-time partner **NY Power Authority (NYPA)** supports our ongoing programming at 18 of our NYC partner schools and helps sponsor our annual Youth Conference. We were thrilled to have them join us for a series of harvests in the hydroponic classroom this past year, culminating in a landmark ribbon cutting ceremony at Energy Tech High School in Queens!

Thank you to **Con Edison**, our long-time Youth Conference sponsor, and to new supporters **CVC Capital Partners** and **Clean Path NY**, for generously supporting this year's Youth Conference, our largest Conference ever. And a special thanks to the CVC team who put in the hard work of assembling the goody bags for the 1,000 student participants. That's a lot of bags – but they did it in record time!

Every year, **Bregal Investments** and **COFRA Foundation** fund a new NY Sun Works hydroponic classroom and lend their people-power to assemble hydroponic systems and get the new classrooms up and running. This year, volunteers and their families from **Bregal Investments** generously gave their time to build a new lab at The American Sign Language and English Secondary School, a high school on Manhattan's East Side. Working alongside leaders from our Grow Support Team, who support each and every hydroponic classroom, the Bregal team learned not only about how each system works, but how to assemble them too, and what students will use them for upon completion!

Crop King and **Lettuce Grow** provide the supplies that keep our hydroponic classrooms humming and make it possible for our students to farm and learn in their hydroponic classrooms.

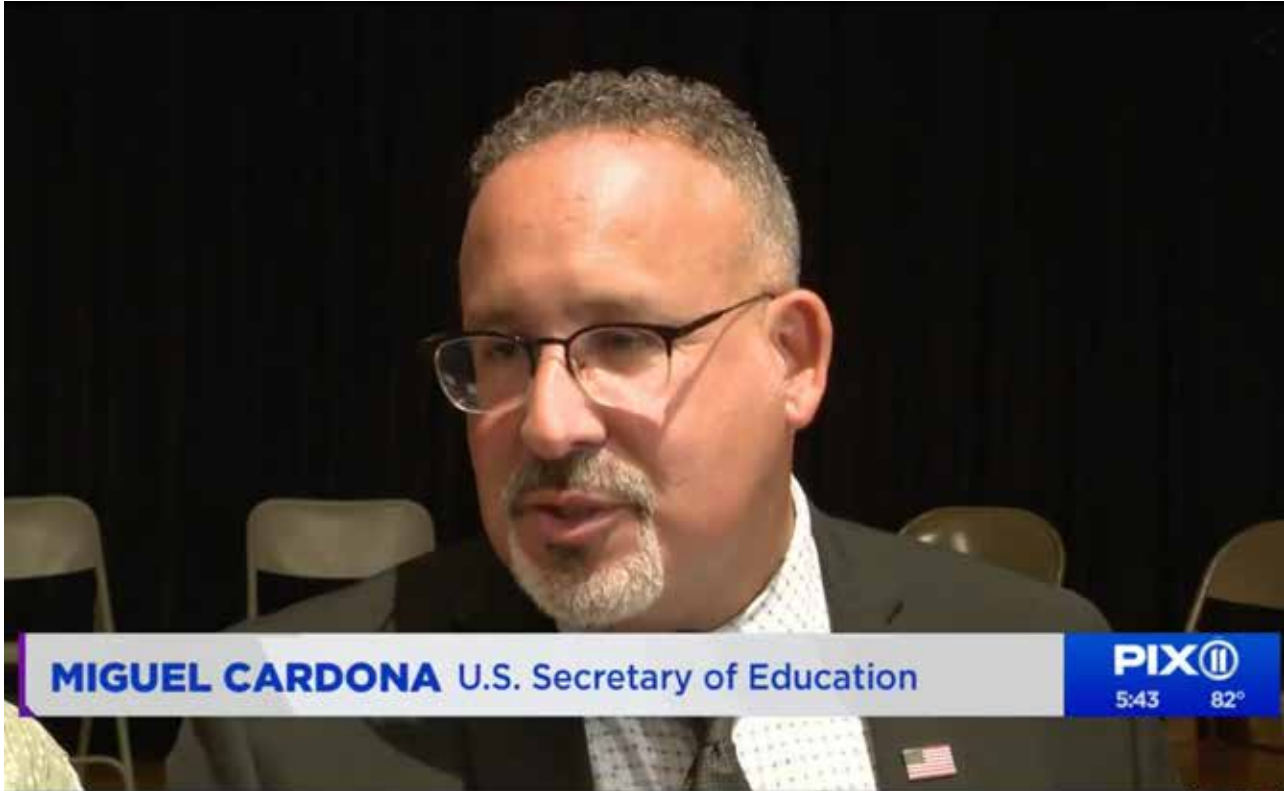


Left: CVC team members assemble goody bags for NY Sun Works Youth Conference, May 2023; Right (top): Ribbon cutting with NYPA at Energy Tech High School; Right (bottom): Bregal team and NY Sun Works staff assembling the new hydroponic classroom at the American Sign Language and English Secondary School

NY SUN WORKS IN THE NEWS

NY Sun Works’ climate education initiative was shared far and wide this year. We found ourselves in the spotlight alongside education and sustainability superstars such as US Secretary of Education **Miguel Cardona**, as well as Representatives **Nydia Velazquez**, **Hakeem Jeffries**, and **Yvette Clarke**. We’re incredibly excited to share the stories behind our impact, and look forward to another year of many more!

Clockwise from Top Left: Rep. Hakeem Jeffries and NY Sun Works Bring Hydroponics to 12 Schools on Coney Island (News 12); US Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona Visits a NYSW Hydroponic Classroom (PIX 11); Bronx Week - Bringing Hydroponics and Climate Education to dozens of schools across the Bronx (NBC News 4 NY); Rep. Nydia Velázquez Joins NY Sun Works in expanding Hydroponic Farming Education to 20 Schools in Queens and Brooklyn (QNS.com)



“Greenhouse hydroponic farming is not only a financially wise investment, with excellent educational returns, but will also create a sound foundation in young students of self-sufficiency, respect for the environment, and a desire for healthy living and nutrition.”
—Congresswoman NYDIA VELÁZQUEZ

JOINING THE NATIONAL CONVERSATION

Scaling for Impact @ Harvard University — In March 2023, NY Sun Works leadership attended the Harvard Graduate School of Education for their Scaling For Impact program in Cambridge, Massachusetts, joining other education nonprofits from across the nation to explore the ins and outs of how to make effective change. With a focus on maximizing the naturally limited resources of non-profit organizations, this program aimed to not only encourage changemakers to reach for the sky, but also connected them with peers in the nonprofit world, arming them with tools, strategies, and resources necessary to foster our momentum and empower us to achieve our lofty goals.

Harvard University Building Our Resilient Future: Education Driving Hope, Innovation and Action — In May, NY Sun Works was invited back to the Harvard Graduate School of Education to present our program at a Solutions Showcase, a part of the Harvard Climate Work. We joined non-profits from across the US as we shared how we bring climate education to NYC schools.

US Summit on Transformative Education @ Columbia University's Center for Sustainable Development — This March, NY Sun Works Executive Director Manuela Zamora was also invited to participate in the US Summit on Transformative Education, hosted by the Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University. Speaking on the panel Learning in the Age of Climate Uncertainty, Manuela shared the NY Sun Works story and spoke about the importance of climate education that addresses not only content but the 21st-century skills and values that prepare students to understand, advocate for, and participate in a more equitable and sustainable future. The 3-day event brought together voices from a variety of backgrounds and locations to collaborate on a new vision for the way our nation approaches education and was a resounding and inspiring success that we were honored to be a part of.

“Our NYSW Hydroponic Classroom has helped us become more connected to each other, and to the world beyond our classroom!”

—JOAN CHRISTOU, Teacher and Sustainability Coordinator, NEST+m



North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) Conference NY Sun Works was honored to present at this year's NAAEE Conference. Executive Director Manuela Zamora and Director of Program Development Megan Nordgrén attended in person in Arizona, alongside numerous other sustainability and education icons such as Kimberly Noble of the US Environmental Protection Agency, Dr. Robin Wall Kimmerer of SUNY, Jerri Taylor of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative and Tucson mayor and environmental champion Regina Romero.

The first in-person conference held by the NAAEE in three years, this event's focus lay squarely on the powerful role education plays in creating healthier, more sustainable communities. Attendees tackled today's complex environmental and social issues and dove into vital topics in the field, such as climate change education and climate justice, the benefits of connecting to nature, building a green workforce, protecting biodiversity, and centering equity in our work. NY Sun Works joined Alex Kudryavtsev of Cornell University and Chrissy Word of the City Parks Foundation to present on the topic of urban agriculture and how it can foster youth civic engagement. NY Sun Works also held another presentation on our science and sustainability program and the STEM Hydroponic Kits. The NY Sun Works booth was a big hit, drawing visitors from across the country to learn about how hydroponic farming can be used for the teaching of science and critical climate topics.

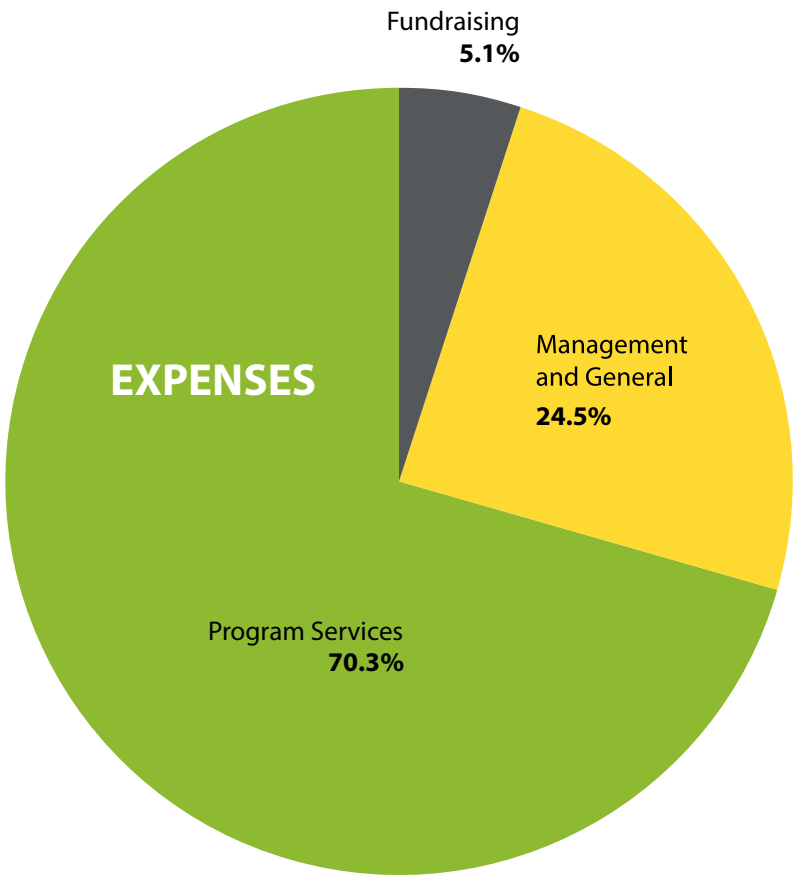
Legislative Initiatives: Farm Bill and Nutrition — NY Sun Works joined the national conversation on agriculture and nutrition throughout the year. We joined a forum on Hunger, Nutrition and Health led by Congresswoman Nydia Velázquez for input on the Biden-Harris roadmap to end hunger. NY Sun Works was also invited to participate in sessions to inform an Urban Agriculture study in New York State. With the federal farm bill up for reauthorization, NY Sun Works joined agriculture stakeholders from across the region on multiple occasions to provide input on how to bring improvements to the landmark legislation. We are committed to working to make sure that legislative initiatives support sustainable agriculture, and help bring much-needed educational opportunities to students.



FINANCIALS

FISCAL YEAR 2023

Program Services	3,118,132
Management and General	1,087,883
Fundraising	227,455
<hr/>	
Total expenses	4,433,470



	2020	2021* (Jan-June)	2022	2023
REVENUE				
Contract Revenue	1,178,341	830,674	2,416,853	3,668,049
Grants and Contributions	427,753	104,417	918,052	1,480,136
Special Events	-1,200	0	0	0
Investment	57	15	25	24
Other Income	114,825	137,617	700	8,276
Total Revenue	1,719,776	1,072,723	3,335,630	5,156,485
EXPENSES				
Program Services	1,065,079	629,086	2,265,514	3,118,132
Management and General	290,190	198,026	490,438	1,087,883
Fundraising	147,287	66,963	245,627	227,455
Total Expenses	1,502,556	894,075	3,001,579	4,433,470
NET	217,220	178,648	334,051	723,015

2020 -2022 (Audited Numbers)
2023 (Draft from Financial Controllers)
* 2021 was a short year. Starting July 2021 NYSW transitioned from fiscal year (Jan to Dec) to fiscal year (July to June)



MEET OUR TEAM

Manuela Zamora: Executive Director
Megan Nordgrén: Dir. of Development & Gov't Relations
Dave Hazan: Director of CEA Operations
Elizabeth McKoy: Director of Education
Margarita Rosas: Director of Finance & Performance
Elana Mass: Assoc. Dir. of Devel., Institutional Giving
Madeline Turner: Program Development Manager
Linda Ohairwe: Head of People and Culture
Sajeeda Frazier: Operations Manager
Ariel Duran: Area Manager
Carlos Quintana: Area Manager
Nefratia Coleman: Area Manager
Spencer King: Area Manager
Wyatt Boone: Area Manager
Ivan Jordon: Finance Associate
Maria Jose Aparicio: Finance Associate
Melissa Arias: Purchasing Officer
Jake Bronstein: Communications & Social Media Coord.
Rachel Williamson: Executive Assistant
Cindy Lee: Graphic Design

EDUCATION TEAM:

Becky Higgins: 6-8 Curriculum Specialist, Professional Learning Manager
Hannah Luna: High School Curriculum Specialist, CEA Program Coordinator
Joliette Mandel: K-5 Curriculum Specialist/ Teacher Trainer
Julia Levine: K-5 Curriculum Specialist/ Teacher Trainer
Melissa Laudenbach: CEA Operations & Curriculum Coordinator
Sarah Young: Curriculum Development & Education Team Manager

GROW SUPPORT TEAM:

Alex Lola	Isabel Ksenak
Alvaro Gonzalez	Jasmin Wilson
Anita Gitta	John Kilkelly-Schmidt
Arneal Satram	Jonathan Betancourt
Carter Hahn	Karyn Wyche
Dahlia Jemmott-Wiley	Kristen Rodriguez
Ella Bayer	Leslie Hiciano
Erin Degnan	Lucy Yang
Evan Alexieff	Mario Fong
Gianluca Astudillo	Miguel Araujo
Hassan Rashid	Mikaela Charalambous

Naeem Johnson
Rebeca Paredes
Rowan Vasquez
Russell Rovira-Espinoza
Sage Cormier
Sasha Karleusa
Timothy Grimes
Trevor Moynagh-Cronin
Uma Basu

List is current as of time of publication

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Kevin Tian
Catherine Quiroz
Dan Lee
Julian Silverman
Katerina Smith
Rikhil Shah
Sharene Williams

**Joined in September 2023*



ELECTED OFFICIALS

Thank you to our Elected Officials who have
Funded Lab Construction and Programming:

Representative Nydia Velázquez

Representative Hakeem Jeffries

Representative Yvette Clarke

Representative Ritchie Torres

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand

Senator Chuck Schumer

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Queens Borough President Donovan J. Richards

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Diana Ayala

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Amanda Farias

Oswald Feliz

Jennifer Gutiérrez

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Kristen Richardson Jordan

Ari Kagan

Julie Menin

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Sandy Nurse

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Carlina Rivera

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Marjorie Velázquez

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Queens Delegation



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SCHOOLS

47 The American Sign Language and English Secondary School
75 Morton
A. Philip Randolph Campus High School
A.C.E. Academy for Scholars
Art and Design High School
Bayside High School
Boys and Girls High School
Bronx Charter School for Excellence 3
Bronx Charter School for Excellence 5
Bronx Latin
Brooklyn Occupational Training Center
Brooklyn School of Inquiry
Brooklyn Technical High School
Brooklyn Urban Garden Charter School (BUGS)
BS The Biondi School (Yonkers, NY)
Bushwick Community High School
City-As-School
Citywide Gifted and Talented School: Upper Division Campus
Comprehensive Model School Project MS 327
Douglas Grafflin Elementary School (Chappaqua, NY)
Eagle Academy for Young Men of Harlem
East Brooklyn Community High School
EBC High School for Public Service
Edward R. Murrow High School
Energy Tech High School
Francis Lewis High School
Franklin Delano Roosevelt High School
Frederick Douglass Academy VII High School
George Westinghouse Career and Technical Education High School
Harlem Renaissance High School
High School for Climate Justice
High School for Environmental Studies
High School for Innovation in Advertising and Media
High School For Medical Professions
High School of Telecommunication Arts and Technology
Horace Greeley High School (Chappaqua, NY)
Institute for Collaborative Education
International High School at LaGuardia Community College
IS 10 Horace Greeley Intermediate School
IS 125 Thom J. McCann Woodside
IS 126 Albert Shanker School For Visual And Performing Arts
IS 141 The Steinway

IS 204 Oliver W Holmes
IS 211 John Wilson
IS 217 School of Performing Arts
IS 239 Mark Twain Intermediate School for the Gifted and Talented
IS 281 Joseph Cavallaro
IS 303 Herbert S. Eisenberg
IS 5 - The Walter Crowley Intermediate School
IS 915 Bridges: A School for Exploration and Equity
JHS 050 John D. Wells
JHS 162 The Willoughby
JHS 218 James P Sinnott
JHS 223 The Montauk
JHS 278 Marine Park
JHS 292 Margaret S. Douglas
Jill Chaifetz Transfer School
JM Rapport School for Career Development
John Bowne High School
John Ericsson Middle School 126
John F Kennedy Jr. School
LaGuardia Community College
Leaders High School
Liberation Diploma Plus High School
Long Island City High School
Martin Van Buren High School
Mott Hall II
MS 358 The Magnet School for STEAM Exploration and Experiential Learning
MS 582
MS 890
MS 935
Multicultural High School
NEST+m
New Visions Charter School for the Humanities II
NJ County Prep High School
NJ East Orange STEM Academy
NJ Emerson Middle School
NJ George Washington Elementary School
NJ Jose Marti STEM Academy
NJ JPHCS John P. Holland Charter School
NJ Sara M. Gilmore Academy
NJ Thomas A. Edison School
NJ VET Veterans' Memorial School

NJ Weehawken High School
NJ WES Watchung Elementary School
Origins High School
Philippa Schuyler Middle School for the Gifted and Talented
Port Richmond High School
PS 002 The Alfred Zimberg School
PS 106 Edward Everett Hale
PS 108 Sal Abbracciamento
PS 11 Purvis J. Behan
PS 110 The Monitor
PS 118 The Maurice Sendak Community School
PS 12 Dr. Jacqueline Peek-Davis School
PS 121 Nelson A. Rockefeller
PS 122 Mamie Fay
PS 125 Ralph Bunche
PS 130 The Parkside
PS 132 The Conselyea School
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PS 152 Dyckman Valley
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PS 160 William T. Sampson
PS 166 Henry Gradstein
PS 17 Henry David Thoreau
PS 171 Peter G. Van Alst
PS 176 Ovington
PS 18 Edward Bush
PS 181 Brooklyn
PS 183 Robert Louis Stevenson
PS 185 The Locke School of Arts and Engineering
PS 187 The Christa McAuliffe School

SCHOOLS

PS 188 Michael E. Berdy
PS 190 Sheffield
PS 191 The Riverside School for Makers and Artists
PS 196 Ten Eyck
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PS 319 Village Academy
PS 322 Salome Urena Leadership Academy
PS 328 Phyllis Wheatley
PS 331 The Bronx School of Young Leaders
PS 333 Manhattan School for Children
PS 333 The Longwood Academy of Discovery
PS 34 Oliver H. Perry

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PS 349 The Queens School for Leadership and Excellence
PS 354 The Jermaine L. Green STEM Institute of Queens
PS 361 Highbridge Green School
PS 361 The Children's Workshop School
PS 373 Brooklyn Transition Center
PS 376 Felisa Rincon de Gautier School of Technology
PS 377 Alejandrina B. De Gautier
PS 380 John Wayne Elementary
PS 403 Academy for Excellence in Leadership
PS 41 Francis White
PS 47 John Randolph
PS 48 PO Michael J. Buczek
PS 481 The Steam Bridge School
PS 514 New Design Middle School
PS 529 One World Middle School at Edenwald
PS 531 The School for Human Rights
PS 542 Pelham Preparatory Academy
PS 552 The Academy Of Urban Planning and Engineering
PS 555 Brooklyn College Academy
PS 557 Brooklyn Gardens Elementary School
PS 561 Williamsburg Preparatory School
PS 562 Evergreen Middle School for Urban Exploration
PS 58 The Carroll School
PS 586 Lyons Community School
PS 59 William Floyd
PS 6 Lillie D. Blake
PS 60 Woodhaven
PS 637 Academy for Conservation and the Environment
PS 643 Brooklyn Democracy Academy
PS 661 Vista Academy
PS 662 Liberty Avenue Middle School
PS 67 Charles A. Dorsey
PS 670 Benjamin Banneker Academy
PS 682 The Academy of Talented Scholars
PS 7 Abraham Lincoln
PS 70 Queens
PS 75 Mayda Cortiella
PS 76 William Hallet
PS 81 Thaddeus Stevens
PS 84 Steinway
PS 85 Great Expectations (Bronx)

PS 85 Judge Charles J. Vallone School
PS 89 Cypress Hills
PS 9 The Sarah Smith Garnet School
PS 938
PS 94 David D. Porter
PS 98 Shorac Kappock
PS K004
PS X017
PS/IS 120 Carlos Tapia School
PS/IS 157 The Benjamin Franklin Magnet School for Civic Leadership
in Health & Science
PS/IS 84 Jose de Diego
PS/IS K394
PS/MS 031 William Lloyd Garrison School
PS/MS 042 R. Vernam
PS/MS 108 School of Authors - Assemblyman Angelo Del Toro
Educational Complex
PS/MS 20 PO George J. Werdann, III
Q389 District 30 Pre-K Centers
Rachel Carson High School for Coastal Studies
Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation
Research and Service High School
Richmond Hill High School
Satellite Academy High School
South Bronx Early College Academy
St. Bernard's School
St. Matthias Catholic Academy
St. Saviour High School
St. Stanislaus Kostka Catholic Academy
The Allen Stevenson School
The Bronx School for Continuous Learners
The Hugo Newman College Preparatory School
The Suydam Magnet School for STEAM
The Urban Assembly School for Green Careers
Thomas A. Edison Career & Technical Education HS
Thurgood Marshall Academy for Learning and Social Change
Unity Center for Urban Technologies
Urban Assembly Institute of Math and Science for Young Women
Urban Assembly New York Harbor School
Washington Heights Expeditionary Learning School (Wheels)
William Cullen Bryant High School



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