

## **News**

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### **New York Edge Hosts Virtual Fundraiser to Support New York City Students**

***Online celebration hosted by NYC's largest provider of on-site afterschool and summer programming raises critical funds to support essential programs;  
Event features performances, special guests & more***

**NEW YORK, NY – May 22, 2020** – [New York Edge](#) – the largest provider of afterschool and summer programming in New York City – hosted a virtual fundraiser on Thursday, May 21 at 5:30 PM, titled [New York Edge for NYC Kids. The virtual event](#) raised critical funds to support the organization's afterschool and summer initiatives, and ensure its ability to continue providing students across the five boroughs with rigorous, innovative programs designed to give them the edge needed to succeed.

“Now more than ever, it is vitally important that our city's youth have access to enriching afterschool and summer programs that will motivate them to continue learning, lead healthy lifestyles, and prepare for the school year ahead,” said **New York Edge CEO Rachael Gazdick**. “New York Edge has been supporting our students through online programming during this pandemic, and these much-needed funds will ensure that we can continue to support students and families across the city as we work to reopen our economy.”

The fundraiser was hosted by **FOX 5 Sports Anchor Tina Cervasio** and featured a performance by **Tony Award-winner Cady Huffman**. Special guests included rapper, record producer and beatboxer **Doug E. Fresh**, Olympic gold medalist **Dalilah Muhammed**, New York Ranger Stanley Cup Champion **Adam Graves**, and New York Knicks alumnus **John Starks** among others.

During the program, Rachael Gazdick discussed the profound, life-changing impact of New York Edge's initiatives and how funding is critical in ensuring the organization can continue to serve its 40,000 students into the next academic year. Attendees also had the special opportunity to hear from New York Edge students about their experiences in the program and how it enabled them to achieve their goals of graduating high school, getting accepted to college, and more.

Following the COVID-19 outbreak and school closures in March, New York Edge moved its afterschool initiatives online, providing students with continued access to programs in academics, arts, health and wellness, college and career readiness, and more. The organization stands ready to provide summer enrichment – whether in-person or virtual – that

promotes collaboration and empowerment while reinforcing academic progress. Earlier this month, New York Edge called on the City Council to resist Mayor de Blasio's proposal for funding cuts to essential summer programs.

New York Edge provides under-resourced students from 130 schools in grades K-12 across the five boroughs with engaging programs that will enhance their learning, enable them to grow academically and personally, and help them develop the passion and perseverance to meet their goals. From robotics classes, to leadership programs, to chess club, fencing, step club and beyond, New York Edge's groundbreaking initiatives are customized to integrate the school day curriculum and lead to improved academic performance at every level.

For more information, please visit <https://newyorkedge.org/>.

**Foundation support** for New York Edge's COVID-19 Response includes: Garden of Dreams Foundation, Hayden Foundation and United Way of New York City. The *New York Edge for NYC Kids* sponsors are: **Platinum Sponsors** including, The Francis J. Greenburger Foundation Inc. and Time Equities Inc., World-Wide Holdings Corp and Niko Elmaleh; **Gold Sponsors** including, Barbara and Peter Georgescu; **Silver Sponsors** including Bank United, Fidelis Care, and M&T Bank. (List in formation.)

### **About New York Edge**

New York Edge, formerly known as the Sports & Arts in Schools Foundation (SASF), is a non-profit organization and the largest provider of afterschool programs in all five boroughs of New York City and the metropolitan region. With more than 40,000 students from over 300 programs in grades K-12, the organization provides under-resourced students with year-round programs to give them the edge needed to succeed. [www.newyorkedge.org](http://www.newyorkedge.org)

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