

2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT



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LETTER FROM CEO



DEAR NEW YORK EDGE COMMUNITY,

With so much turbulence in the past few years, we have an incredible opportunity to not only rebuild our city, but to create something better. We can remake New York City into a place where more people from more communities share in the city's prosperity, where we're more prepared for the predicted and unpredictable challenges ahead, where our city works better because it's powered by people who are reaching their full potential.

That transformation starts with our young people. Here at New York Edge, we're preparing tens of thousands of students to take on critical roles all across the city. We're ensuring that students have the skills and relationships to keep the city running, to care for its people, manage its budgets, and tell its stories. We're guiding a generation of young people who will grow up healthy, happy, and empowered, so they can be active community members and problem solvers.

This moment is too vital, and students' futures are too valuable to leave this to guesswork. That's why New York Edge makes sure we get it right:

- In a recent survey, nearly 100% of parents say their children enjoy the program, 96% say their children have learned about managing emotions and making responsible choices, and 98% see the program as contributing to their children's learning.
- We stand side by side with the Chancellor of Schools, ensuring that schools
 have what they need, using phonics-based approaches to improve literacy,
 bringing in private and non-profit partners to create an ecosystem of support
 for students, and helping students recover from the trauma of the pandemic.
- Every member of the New York Edge staff who interacts with youth is intensively and regularly trained on social emotional learning using verified frameworks, including Mosaic by ACT.
- We're rigorous about evaluating new programs. For example, we're working
 with the Department of Educational Studies at Purdue University to understand
 the impact of the Excellence Project, our new gifted and talented initiative,
 and with the Columbia School of Public Health on Food Explorers, our healthy
 food initiative.

In this report, I'm happy to share the exciting progress we've made in the past year, and to give you a preview of some of the most promising work to come. I hope you'll join us.

Let's make it happen,

Rachael Gazdick
Chief Executive Officer

ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS

ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS

GETTING YOUNG PEOPLE TO WORK

New York City runs the nation's largest youth employment program, Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP). As a part of our commitment to developing New York's next generation of teachers, and to ensure that all of our students are working with well-trained and culturally competent staff, New York Edge is an active participant in SYEP.

Through SYEP, New York Edge created meaningful professional opportunities for more than 130 CUNY, School of Visual Arts, and LaGuardia Community College students in 2021. Participants served as Summer Day Camp Counselors, Assistant Program Directors, Visual Arts Specialists, and Extended Day Activity Instructors, and gained practical experiences in education, youth development, and leadership, with dozens continuing their employment with New York Edge during the 2021-2022 school year.

"SYEP is the ultimate win-win," says Chief Human Resources Officer Dorene Lewis. "New York Edge gets access to an incredible pool of young talent, and we develop our city's educational workforce by exposing these budding professionals to the wide range of exciting opportunities in the field. Participants explore their interests and career pathways, develop workplace skills, and engage in learning experiences that help develop their social, civic, and leadership skills. Participating in structured projects and work-based opportunities prepares them for future careers."

SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (SYEP) IS THE ULTIMATE WIN-WIN.



THE ANNUAL SPRING GALA IS A GREAT PARTY WITH A GREAT PURPOSE







At this year's gala, held on May 10, 2022, New York Edge raised critical funds for its work, and honored Chief Medical Officer of the NCAA Dr. Brian Hainline. President of Networks for Disney Media & Entertainment Distribution Debra OConnell, and Managing Director, Mid-Atlantic Division Executive at Merrill Lynch Craig Young, for their contributions to expanding opportunity for young people and creating a diverse workforce in New York City. CEO Rachael Gazdick introduced Hainline, OConnell, and Young, and shared the organization's impact today, and inspiring vision for our future. Board Members Susan Newman and Niesha Foster also delivered compelling remarks.

66 THE GALA WAS A SPECTACULAR

CELEBRATION OF THE PROFOUND IMPACT
OUR AFTER SCHOOL AND SUMMER
PROGRAMS CONTINUE TO HAVE ON
COUNTLESS YOUNG PEOPLE, AND RAISED
CRITICAL FUNDS THAT WILL LET US
STRENGTHEN OUR INITIATIVES AND REACH

MORE STUDENTS THROUGHOUT THE FIVE

BOROUGHS. 77 —RACHAEL GAZDICK

The gala showed off New York Edge's fun side, too. ABC weathercaster Sam Champion emceed the event, with performances by Alphabet Rockers, a Grammy award-winning hip hop and jazz ensemble, and by students from New York Edge's dance and step programs.

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ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS
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NEW YORK EDGE STUDENTS HAVE A STORY TO TELL

One of the best ways to teach kids to love reading and writing is to show them that their stories matter. New York Edge is working with award-winning author Jesse Byrd to put that idea into action.

A group of 23 New York Edge students aged 8-12 worked with Byrd to write *The Magical Bakery*, the fun and whimsical story of Miss Bunna Cupcake, an 80 year-old baker who dreams of reliving her rollercoaster-loving childhood. Illustrated by Uruguayan artist Lau Moraiti, *The Magical Bakery* is the first book in New York Edge's new Student Publishing Initiative. Building on the New York City Department of Education's literacy



curriculum, the initiative encourages listening, speaking, reading, writing, analysis, and peer discussions.

Through the Student Publishing Initiative, 150 elementary and middle school students across all five boroughs work with children's book authors and Pixar illustrators to not only write and illustrate their stories, but to publish and sell them too. Bookstores everywhere carry *The Magical Bakery*, and students even get to show up for book signings, practicing their public speaking and basking in the glow of being real authors. As the Initiative grows, so too will the library of books that students create.

THROUGH THE STUDENT PUBLISHING INITIATIVE,

150 ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE-SCHOOL STUDENTS ACROSS ALL FIVE BOROUGHS WORK WITH

CHILDREN'S BOOK AUTHORS AND PIXAR ILLUSTRATORS

BOOKSTORES EVERYWHERE CARRY *THE MAGICAL BAKERY*, AND STUDENTS EVEN GET TO SHOW UP FOR BOOK SIGNINGS, PRACTICING THEIR PUBLIC SPEAKING AND BASKING IN THE GLOW OF BEING REAL AUTHORS.





A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE PINKERTON FOUNDATION.

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ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS

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EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXCELLENT STUDENTS

Through a \$3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Jacob J. Javits Gifted and Talented Students Education Program, New York Edge expanded its Excellence Project this year. The Excellence Project provides accelerated learning to diverse, underrepresented students, promoting social-emotional learning and healthy development alongside academic achievement. With the grant, New York Edge can provide 275 students from six additional elementary and middle schools with new opportunities and support.

The Excellence Project takes a unique approach to gifted and talented programs. In most programs, educators choose who participates, whereas students and families can self-nominate in the Excellence Project. English language learners, first-generation Americans, special education students, and students from other diverse populations who

are determined to succeed and confident that they will rise to the challenge of accelerated learning are not only allowed, but encouraged to self-nominate.

The Excellence Project provides a model for expanding gifted and talented opportunities to many more students. To provide evidence of its impact, New York Edge has worked with the late Dr. Marcia Gentry, Professor of Educational Studies and Executive Director of the Gifted Education Research and Resource Institute at Purdue University. Dr. Gentry recently passed, and New York Edge is deeply grateful to have worked with this champion and leader for gifted and talented programs. Dr. Jennifer Richardson, Professor of Learning Design and Technology at Purdue University and Dr. Pavan Antony, Associate Professor of Special Education at Adelphi University will continue to lead this work.

THE EXCELLENCE PROJECT PROVIDES

ACCELERATED LEARNING TO DIVERSE, UNDERREPRESENTED STUDENTS.

TECHNOLOGY UNLOCKING STUDENTS' POTENTIAL

Nearly every growing job sector involves a healthy dose of technology. What better way to prepare the next generation for the technology of tomorrow than to have them work with cutting-edge technology today?

New York Edge offers Makers Clubs at a number of program sites, where students can develop a hands-on understanding of the opportunities technology can create. These Makers' Clubs include Designers Den Merch Shop, where students are creating a line of t-shirts to fund other educational opportunities; Children's Stationery Shop, where students design innovative custom holiday cards; Toy Makers Club, where they design gamified experiences and products; and Crust Shop, where they learn how to create baked goods at scale.

Design Studio 267K





WHAT BETTER WAY TO PREPARE THE NEXT GENERATION FOR THE TECHNOLOGY OF TOMORROW THAN TO HAVE THEM WORK WITH CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGY TODAY?

In addition, supported by BankUnited, Medgar Evers College partnered with New York Edge and the Central Brooklyn Economic Development Corporation to create a new job training pilot program that takes place in the Metaverse, a technology platform that blends virtual reality and augmented reality. Through the eightweek virtual course, GED holders, high school graduates, and college students participated in interactive entrepreneurship coursework from their own homes or other sites.

New York Edge is always looking for new ways to engage more students in high-caliber programming, and this Metaverse partnership offers an exciting new model to do that. Alongside the entrepreneurship pilot, the organization is developing a whole new virtual platform for middle school and high school programs.





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YEAR IN PHOTOS + IN THE NEWS

YEAR IN PHOTOS + IN THE NEWS

GOOD DAY STREET TALK

Rachael Gazdick, on FOX 5's Good Day Street Talk, discusses the impact of New York Edge's Programs.



TODAY GOES BACK TO SCHOOL WEDNESDAY 11:30AM ET TODAY.com/AllDay peccock

TODAY SHOW

On September 7th, The Today Show featured New York Edge students talking about their experiences in transitioning to middle school.



A LOOK AT NYE PROGRAMMING







CHALKBEAT

Through a program called the Excellence Project, after-school provider New York Edge hopes to offer more students access to "gifted" education. "We think this can be a powerful place and space for gifted and talented education, and really, for equity," said Rachael Gazdick, CEO of New York Edge.



CHESS CLUB CHAMPION

"Chess gives me something to depend on," Jessica said. The young girl's goal is to one day become a grandmaster — the highest title one can achieve in chess.





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PROFILES PROFILES

FOR PARENTS TO GET INVOLVED AND HAVE THEIR SAY. AND THE STAFF REALLY LISTENED. THAT GAVE ME A LOT OF CONFIDENCE THAT THEY WERE INVESTED IN MY KIDS' SUCCESS.



TAKISHA RANDALL

NEW YORK EDGE PARENT AND FORMER PARENT ADVOCATE

Takisha Randall has always tried to give her kids choices. When they get to make their own decisions, they're more invested in what they do. Jeremiah, 11, and Makalia, 13, are both students at M.S. 382K in the Flatbush neighborhood of Brooklyn, and they chose New York Edge in part because they saw how much their older sister enjoyed it when she had been a student there.

Makalia and Jeremiah are glad they chose New York Edge, and Takisha is thrilled. "Makalia loves the dance and step classes that New York Edge offers, and Jeremiah has found that the tutoring is really boosting him in his classes. It's a fun and supportive environment for them, and keeps them active after the school day is over."

In particular, Takisha appreciates that the New York Edge staff work hard to connect with students. "The staff have great relationships with the kids. It keeps things consistent for Makalia and Jeremiah to know the New York Edge staff are looking out for them. The programs and opportunities change to keep things interesting, but the staff are a steady presence."

New York Edge doesn't connect only to students: Programs offer opportunities for families to get involved, too. "Makalia had a dance performance, and beforehand they had a paint-and-sip for the families. It was so much fun for us to all be creative together."

Takisha is committed to New York Edge: She served as a Parent Advocate when her older daughter was involved. "I loved that New York Edge has a role for parents to get involved and have their say. And the staff really listened. That gave me a lot of confidence that they were invested in my kids' success."

LAWMAN LYNCH

NEW YORK EDGE PROGRAM MANAGER

For Program Manager Lawman Lynch, New York Edge has been an opportunity to bring to life the ideas and values he has always cared about. Growing up in Kingston, Jamaica, he recognized that young people who had access to quality primary and secondary education, and who took that education seriously, had a better shot at excelling.

Lynch faced a long educational journey of his own, moving from Jamaica to the United States while earning his post-secondary degree. He bumped up against multiple social, financial and administrative barriers, but kept focus every step of the way on his passion for helping young people develop their talents and achieve their dreams.

After admiring and hearing great reviews about New York Edge, Lynch applied and was hired, bringing lofty expectations. "I was overwhelmed to have the chance to work with the gold standard in child and youth

development. New York Edge is deeply committed to the educational, social and emotional growth of not just the students, but the staff as well."

After serving as a Specialist and a Program Director, in his new role as a Program Manager he supervises operations at eight different schools, directly impacting the lives of more than 1,000 students and families daily. Though his own skills and hard work are certainly a big part of the equation, he credits the New York Edge leadership team and the support of his peers for his rapid ascent.

"Just as we are mandated to go above and beyond to ensure student success, my supervisors have always gone above and beyond to make sure I have what I need to develop. New York Edge is the kind of place where people invest in you."

Lynch is pursuing a Ph.D. in Ethical Leadership, which will position him to make an even greater impact at New York Edge.



TO WORK WITH THE GOLD STANDARD IN CHILD AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT. NEW YORK EDGE IS DEEPLY COMMITTED TO THE EDUCATIONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL GROWTH OF NOT JUST THE STUDENTS, BUT THE STAFF AS WELL. ***

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PROFILES

MONICA CHAVES

STRATEGIC GROWTH GLOBAL B2B MARKETING, MASTERCARD

NEW YORK EDGE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Growing up in Woodside, Queens in the 70's, New York Edge Board Member Monica Chaves didn't always have a safe place to go after school. "We were in the streets, taking risks. We were learning something, but probably not what our parents wanted."

But Chaves was a diligent student, and she found resources and opportunities for herself. Reflecting back on that time, she wishes she'd had access to a program like New York Edge. "Today, New York Edge gives students a safe place to find something they're passionate about and to keep learning after school. It's powerful to see them take advantage of it."

In particular, she appreciates how the organization prioritizes the social and emotional. "I was a very empathetic kid – if another student was crying, I was crying too. So I appreciate that New York Edge prepares

the staff to support kids' social and emotional growth, and feel proud of who they are so they can grow up happy and healthy no matter what they might be going through."

Chaves channeled that empathy into a career of caring, first working in corporate philanthropy and now playing a leadership role in Mastercard's efforts to share their environmental, social, and corporate governance work as the company's Vice President for Strategic Growth Global B2B Marketing. She's excited to bring her storytelling savvy to the organization as a member of New York Edge's Board. "New York Edge is the city's best-kept secret. We're doing so much good work and touching the lives of so many students and families. The world needs to know about it."

Chaves sees an organization that helps young people become the best, most authentic possible versions of themselves. "New York Edge isn't asking these kids to fit in or become something other than themselves to succeed. It's exactly the opposite – the staff recognize that these are amazing kids, and that all they need is a safe space to learn and grow. What a powerful message to tell a young person: 'You matter, and the world needs your talents, so let's make sure you have the opportunity to give everything you've got."'

NEW YORK EDGE IS THE CITY'S BEST-KEPT SECRET.

WE'RE DOING SO MUCH GOOD WORK AND TOUCHING THE LIVES OF SO MANY STUDENTS AND FAMILIES.



WE'RE ABLE TO CREATE A SEAMLESS ENVIRONMENT
BETWEEN THE SCHOOL HOURS AND AFTER SCHOOL.
THERE IS ALIGNMENT BETWEEN WHAT'S BEING
TAUGHT DURING THE SCHOOL DAY AND THE
ACADEMIC SUPPORT DURING THE AFTER SCHOOL
HOURS, AND THE ARTS SPECIALISTS THAT NEW YORK
EDGE BRINGS IN ARE EXCELLENT. **

DR. MICHELE LUARD

PRINCIPAL, M.S. 484

The students at Dr. Michele Luard's school in the Ocean Hill/Brownsville neighborhood of Brooklyn are smart, dedicated, and caring, but many don't get the cultural exposure that they need to fully bloom. "Being exposed to music is very healthy for students' development, but most of them only listen to rap. Rap is good, but they need some variety. New York Edge has helped us reach the kids with music of different genres, but also many other types of arts, and of course the academic support."

Dr. Luard has been the principal at M.S. 484 for 11 years, and New York Edge has been there for most of those years. She says the partnership has been critical to the school's success. "We're able to create a seamless environment between the school hours and

after school. There is alignment between what's being taught during the school day and the academic support during the after school hours, and the arts specialists that New York Edge brings in are excellent."

Dr. Luard has been particularly impressed by New York Edge's adaptability, and by how hard the staff work to grasp her vision for the school as whole. "Not everything is perfect all the time. That's inevitable. But the school is in constant communication with New York Edge staff, and when we see opportunities to improve we take them on together. It takes a lot of courage and humility from the staff to keep looking for ways to improve, but they always do, because the kids come first."

The partnership has been especially critical in the wake of COVID-19. "The pandemic created so much disruption in students' lives and at the school, but New York Edge has helped us get back a feeling of normalcy. A school should feel like a home for these kids. It should be a safe and welcoming place where students are learning and growing the whole time we're here. New York Edge is a big part of that."

NEW YORK EDGE = 2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT

NEW YORK EDGE COVERS NEW YORK CITY

AND LONG ISLAND

136 LOCATIONS

New York Edge programs are in ALL five boroughs of New York City and Wyandanch, Long Island.

27,000+ STUDENTS

And their families served every year!

100+ MULTI SCHOOL EVENTS

Sports leagues, spelling bees, robotics tournaments, and performances are all core components to the after school experience.

540 PROGRAM HOURS PROVIDED YEARLY

Each year, students have the opportunity to participate in thousands of hands-on activities, informative trips, and academic enrichment programs.

■ STEM EDUCATION

Through our STEM curriculum, students learn to question, test, observe, collaborate, and explain their findings in all activities. These skills are crucial as children experiment and investigate issues relevant to the world around them through hands-on learning opportunities.

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING AND LEADERSHIP

The underlying thread for all NYE programs is the social emotional development of our students, which opens the door to learning. Students benefit from SEL curricula focused on character development and leadership capabilities, and these lessons are reinforced through NYE programming.



■ VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

Through our visual and performing arts programs, we aim to foster creativity. The goal of each program is to inspire curiosity through careful observation and artistic exploration.

■ SPORTS, HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Sports, health and wellness is dedicated to promoting the physical and nutritional health in our youth in all of our school communities through engagement in programs that encourage involvement in sports, nutritional awareness and personal fitness.

■ ACADEMICS AND COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

Academics is led by a team of education professionals who have expertise in curriculum, coaching, and program development in the areas of literacy, integrated technologies, and STEM. NYE builds in college and career readiness to all of our academics, as well as providing focused programming, counseling, campus visits and more.

■ SUMMER PROGRAMS

Each summer, New York Edge provides school communities with camps that feature fun activities and trips. Students are engaged in sports and arts programming as well as activities that keep their academic skills sharp.



INCOME AND EXPENSES

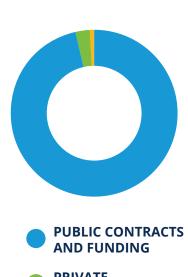
JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022



SUPPORT AND REVENUE

PUBLIC CONTRACTS AND FUNDING

PUBLIC CONTRACTS AND FUNDING		
Government Contracts	48,744,947	96.6%
Total Public Contracts and Funding	48,744,947	96.6%
PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS		
Foundations and Grants	462,532	0.9%
Individual Giving	922,906	1.8%
Total Private Contributions	1,385,438	2.7%
OTHER REVENUE		
Family Sustained	301,925	0.6%
Miscellaneous	51,878	0.1%
Total Other Revenue	353,803	0.7%
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	50,484,188	100.0%
EXPENSES		
Program	42,690,175	86.2%
Management and General	6,335,925	12.8%
Fundraising	481,365	1.0%
TOTAL EXPENSES	49,507,465	100.0%
NET ASSETS		
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	4,651,693	
Surplus	845,192	
	1	1







FUNDRAISING







DONOR LIST

EVERYTHING WE DO, WE DO TOGETHER. NEW YORK EDGE IS DEEPLY GRATEFUL TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS AND PARTNERS, WHO MAKE POSSIBLE OUR EFFORTS TO SUPPORT OUR CITY'S YOUNG PEOPLE IN REACHING THEIR FULL POTENTIAL. THANK YOU FOR BEING A VITAL PART OF OUR COMMUNITY.

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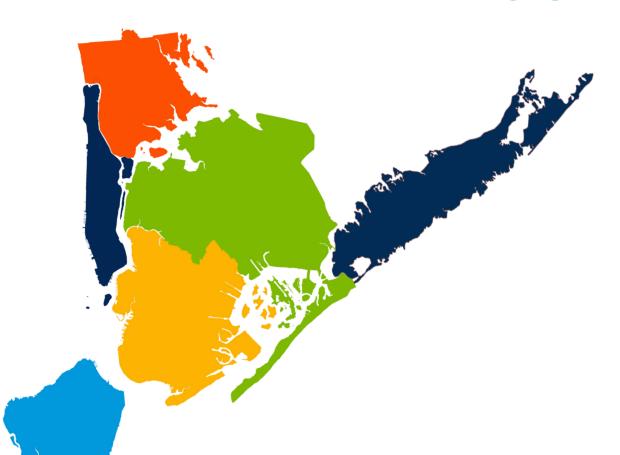
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THE FIVE BOROUGHS CAN'T CONTAIN US!



NEW YORK EDGE IS NOW A PART OF TWO LONG ISLAND SCHOOL COMMUNITIES!

This year, we're starting work with hundreds of students at LaFrancis Hardiman and Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary Schools in Wyandanch. We're gearing up to expand all across Long Island, so that thousands more young people and families can access our life-changing opportunities in the years to come.

VISIT NEWYORKEDGE.ORG FOR MORE!





58-12 QUEENS BOULEVARD, SUITE 1 WOODSIDE, NY 11377

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