

PASSAGES POST

Principal's Message

Provided by Yvette Baxter-Sweet

Saturday Regents Prep Academy

I just want to give a special thank you to all the staff that participated in this program:

Belmont

Ms. Thomas
Ms. Bennett
Mr. Senft

Bronx Hope

AP Ms. DeLara
Mr. Donocoff
Mr. Fomba
Ms. Walsh

Crossroads

Ms. Waiters - Site Coordinator
Ms. Addy
Mr. Johnson
Ms. Hart

Horizon

Ms. King - Site Coordinator
Ms. Gok
Mr. Soybel
Mr. Arholekas

Ryer

Ms. Mallon

S. Ozone

Ms. Salmeron

Providing our students with a few extra hours of opportunity to practice and build their confidence for sitting for these exams was extremely important. Once again, I thank you for making this happen.

I also want to extend gratitude to our Providers GSS, L&W, SCO and Sheltering Arms. I want to give a really big shout out to Mr. Allan from GSS who also provided a math tutor for both Saturdays at Belmont. I'm ever so grateful to our ACS liaisons for working on a Saturday with us to keep operations smooth and steady. I consider this to be a very successful initiative and look forward to other collaborations on this level in the future.

Bronx Hope Highlights

Provided by Allison Trevaskis

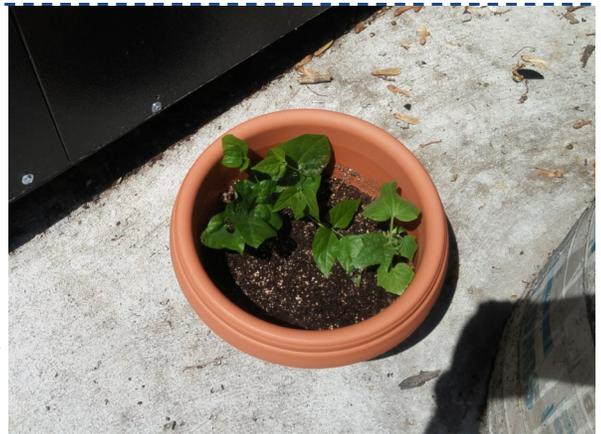
On Tuesday, May 31st, NSP students at Bronx Hope celebrated a four-month journey with a showcase set to the backdrop of the Bronx Hope mural. The group, made up of girls and boys from 162nd and White Plains, saw many changes over their journey, however persevered to put on a captivating performance before their peers. We thank Ms. Martin for her tireless efforts to continually bring quality programming, and her great energy, to our students. We thank Ms. Jadele from Lincoln Center for sharing her tremendous talents of spoken word, singing and sharing so much knowledge with the group. Lastly, thanks to the WP and 162nd St house staff for supporting the students, providing supervision, and sharing in the program.



Bruner Highlights

Provided by Barbara King

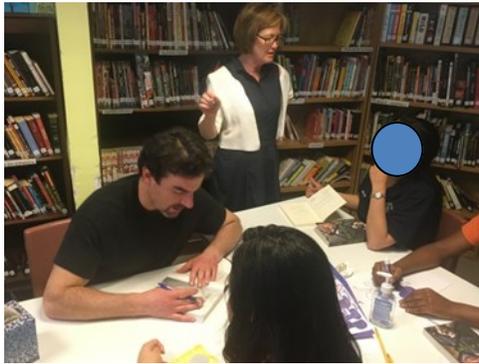
Bruner has been making so much progress, considering the fact that we lost two students who are now at other LSP sites. Students at Bruner are working hard academically to prepare for their regents and their finals for the school year. A big congratulation is given to G. M. for his green thumb with his germination zip lock bag project. Students here at Bruner are gearing up for a much-anticipated field day on June 10th. Finally, Mr. Daly and the teachers here at Bruner would like to send a very big "Thank you" to our Sheltering Arms Director Mr. Cassell, here at Bruner for always working with the DOE staff to make all events very rewarding for the students here at Bruner. Best of luck to all students taking their regents!



Crossroads Highlights

Provided by Erica Addy

Paul Griffin, the author of "Stay with me", and Patricia McCormick, the author of "Sold", visited Crossroads, Library to sign and discuss their works. The first time visitor, Patricia McCormick, shared her background working with women who were victims of the international sex trafficking trade. One student described the experience as "crazy" and could not believe this was happening in 2016.



At the end of the unit, students were honored for their hard work and dedication at the award ceremony. Students who scored an 85 and above received certificates within each content area. Students with an overall GPA of 85 and higher were placed on the honor roll.



On June 2nd, Crossroads observed National gun violence awareness day. Faculty and staff wore orange to bring awareness to the ongoing problem of gun crimes in the community. Information, facts, and dialogue were shared throughout the school community.



Dobbs Ferry Highlights

Provided by Fred Lauf

Children's Village Dobbs Ferry students are wrapping up their school year in a number of ways. The majority of the students are taking at least one Regent's Exam, and are preparing diligently to familiarize themselves with the test and to fill in any gaps in their learning. Other students are completing playwriting projects and are looking forward to doing a table reading of their work.

Also, even though both cottages are beginning to fill to capacity, several of the students who have been with us the longest are preparing to return home in the next few weeks. We believe the social/coping skills they have developed and academic progress they have made will make an important difference in their future lives.

Passages Academy Library News

Provided by Allison Trevaskis

On May 25th, author Patricia McCormick made her first visit to Passages Academy when she met with students at Crossroads to discuss her award-winning novel in verse, *Sold*. Students and staff alike were moved by the powerful writing and conversations that ensued on the topic of human trafficking and child slavery.

Brooklyn Public Library librarians Johanna Lewis and Leigh Hurwitz visited students at Belmont to extend a warm invitation to students to visit their public library branches and engage in summer reading. They distributed reading lists and book-talked their favorite selections from it. Finally, they gave away gift copies of featured titles, courtesy of [Literacy for Incarcerated Teens](#).

Passages Academy's Belmont site has received the Great Stories CLUB grant award for the 2016-17 Fall/Winter cycle. The book club-centric grant will be implemented during the fall semester.

In a partnership with the New York Public Library, students at both Horizon and Bronx Hope participated in a memoir writing workshop. From May 3rd to June 1st, students were hard at work brain storming, drafting and editing their own memoirs under the guidance of *Taino Zen* author Bobby Gonzalez. Mr. Gonzalez directly worked with our students for three days, during which he helped the students select personal stories which could be told and shared through their writing. The memoirs will be independently published and given to the students. Thanks to NYPL's Young Adult Librarian Stevie Feliciano for establishing a partnership with our sites and providing students with free copies of *Fist Stick Knife Gun The Graphic Novel Version* by Geoffrey Canada and *Life in Prison* by Stanley "Tookie" Williams.

Upcoming Events

June 14-22: Regents Exams

June 23: Regents Rating Day

June 28: Last Day of School



*"I am what I am today
because of the choices
I made yesterday."*

Stephen Covey

Important Links

Passages Academy Public Website: www.PassagesAcademy.org

Passages Academy Staff Website: <https://sites.google.com/a/passagesonline.com/staff/>

Passages Academy Handbook: <https://sites.google.com/a/passagesonline.com/staff/documents>

Passages Academy Library Website: www.passagesacademylibraries.org

Passages Academy Library Blog: www.whatsgoodinthelibrary.blogspot.com

Chancellors Regulations: <http://schools.nyc.gov/RulesPolicies/ChancellorsRegulations/default.htm>

ELA & Math Middle School Testing: <http://engageny.org/content/just-released-2013-test-guides-for-ela-mathematics>

Online Textbook Codes: <https://sites.google.com/a/passagesonline.com/staff/textbook-online-access-code>

ACS Online Policy Library: http://www.nyc.gov/html/acs/html/home/policy_library.shtml

Facts, Thoughts, and/or Questions for the Week

"Set a goal SO BIG that you can't achieve it until you grow into the person who can."

-Unknown