



BARD



HIGH SCHOOL • EARLY COLLEGE

A BARD COLLEGE - NEWARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

“Changing Hearts and Minds to Value Education”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bard College and Newark Public Schools Announce Opening of Bard High School Early College Newark in Fall

Program is a One-of-a-Kind Alternative for Highly Motivated Students, Offering an Associate in Arts Degree and 60 Free College Credits in High School

NEWARK, N.J. — March 17, 2011 – This September, Bard College and Newark Public Schools will open Bard High School Early College Newark (BHSEC Newark), a new four-year school (grades 9–12) in which two years of free college are embedded in the four-year program.

The program seeks to demonstrate that an academically rigorous liberal arts program can intellectually engage a diverse group of Newark high school students and better prepare them for success beyond high school.

Based on the highly successful Bard High School Early College in Manhattan and Bard High School Early College Queens, BHSEC Newark will be a selective, tuition-free, public school that offers highly motivated students from all neighborhoods in Newark the opportunity to earn a high school diploma, as well as 60 college credits and an associate in arts (A.A.) degree from Bard College.

BHSEC Newark will open in September with an initial summer school program to begin in July.

Recruitment of students is underway, with open houses scheduled in late March.

Lauded by President Obama as a model of innovative public education, BHSEC has graduated hundreds of students, with more than 800 students earning an A.A degree, at its two New York locations over the past 10 years. BHSEC currently serves 1,140 students from diverse backgrounds from all five boroughs.

A consistent 95 percent of BHSEC graduates enroll in four-year colleges. Graduates believe they are extremely well prepared for advanced course work, and they complete four-year college degrees at a much higher rate than the national average. BHSEC credits transfer to almost all four-year, degree-granting colleges and universities.

Students from BHSEC's early graduating classes are already pursuing doctorates in mathematics, or advanced degrees in science and the professions, or are working as teachers, dentists, writers, and engineers. Half of BHSEC graduates earn B.A./B.S. degrees within three years, saving thousands in tuition dollars.

At BHSEC Newark, students in grades 9 and 10 undertake studies in an alternative high school curriculum that prepares them to do college work by grade 11. The early college program, which comprises grades 11 and 12, offers a core curriculum in general education, writing and thinking, foreign language, literature, history, mathematics, science, and the arts—supplemented by many electives.

Admission to BHSEC Newark will be by application, which will include an essay and interview with the student and parents/guardians. Students from all neighborhoods of Newark are eligible to apply. Additional information is available online at <http://bhsec.bard.edu/newark>. You can also e-mail dwilliams@bhsec.bard.edu or call 478-BARD-NWK.

Open Houses:

South Ward

Wednesday, March 23 – 5:30-7:30

Weequahic Branch Library

355 Osborne Terrace

Central Ward

Thursday, March 24 – 5:30-7:30

Newark School of the Arts

89 Lincoln Park

North Ward

Tuesday, March 29- 5:30 - 7:30

La Casa de Don Pedro

23 Broadway

East Ward

Wednesday, March 30 – 5:30-7:30

Van Buren Branch, Newark Public Library

140 Van Buren Street

West Ward

Thursday, March 31 – 5:30-7:30

Memorial West Presbyterian Church

286 S. 7th St

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