

# THE BRIDGES ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE MATRICULATION

## HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT

Many of our students also attend their school district's high school

Blair Academy	Regis High School
Chaminade High School	St. Anthony's High School
Friends Academy	St. Dominic High School
Kellenberg Memorial High School	St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School
Long Island Lutheran High School	The Stony Brook School
Our Lady of Mercy Academy	

## COLLEGE PLACEMENT

Binghamton University	Muhlenberg College	University of Albany
Clark University	Northeastern University	University of Connecticut
College of William & Mary	Pace University	University of Miami
Connecticut College	Pennsylvania State University	University of New Haven
Cornell University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of North Carolina
Fairfield University	Roger Williams University	University of Rhode Island
Farmingdale State College	Sacred Heart University	University of San Diego
Fordham University	Seton Hall University	University of Tampa
Franklin University, Switzerland	Siena College	University of Vermont
High Point University	St. John's University	Villanova University
Hofstra University	Stony Brook University	Yale University
Ithaca College	Stevens Institute of Technology	
John Jay College	SUNY Maritime	
Long Island University	Syracuse University	
Marist College	The Webb Institute	
Mills College	University of Alabama	



**THE BRIDGES**  
ACADEMY  
Preschool through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Explore the *Bridges* Difference.







"EDUCATION IS ALL A MATTER  
OF BUILDING BRIDGES."

—RALPH ELLISON

## MISSION

As a member of the New York State Association of Independent Schools (NYSAIS), the Bridges Academy's mission is to educate and empower our students to become innovative leaders of tomorrow with character, confidence, and knowledge.

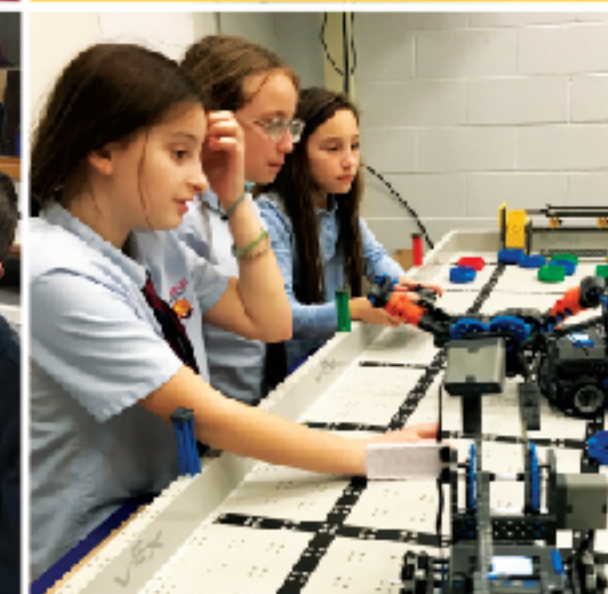
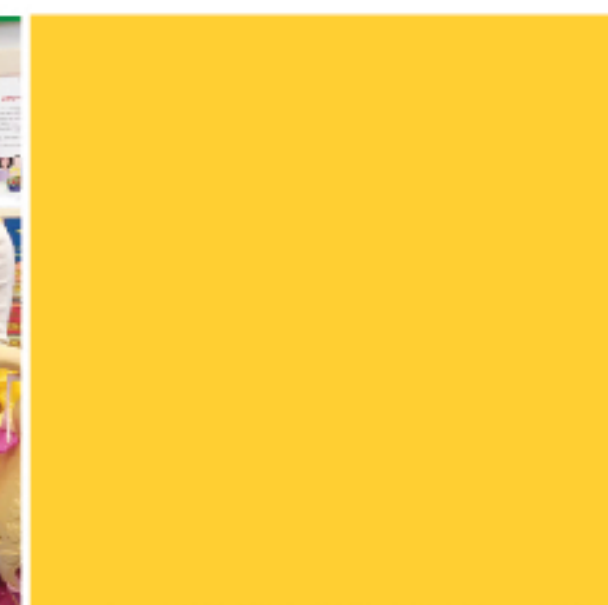
## VISION

The Bridges Academy is a top independent private school on Long Island. Our vision is to develop high-achieving, critical and creative thinkers who are happy and well balanced with a lifelong love of learning as they advance from early learning to eighth grade. Our rigorous and robust academic program focuses on building character, confidence, knowledge, and independence supported by a diverse community of family, students, faculty, and alumni.



National Association  
of Independent Schools

Character . Confidence . Knowledge





## SMALL CLASS SIZE

Research shows that students learn more in smaller groups where teachers can have one-on-one time with students. The Bridges Academy ensures our class sizes are set appropriately for the most productive learning environment possible.

## OUR STUDENT BODY

With children coming from more than 25 school districts, we have a wonderfully diverse student body. This diversity represents the real world and helps to give students the opportunity to learn from each other's ethnic, cultural, and religious backgrounds. During the course of the school year, there are numerous activities, assemblies, and celebrations that do much to enrich all of our experiences at school.



## ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

The Bridges Academy is proud to offer a program that not only meets the expectations of the Common Core curriculum but surpasses it. Reference to national standards, including the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), National Council of Teachers of Math (NCTM), and Next Generation Standards in Science, as well as the standardized testing offered by the Educational Records Bureau (ERB), affords us the opportunity to consistently monitor, analyze, and refine all aspects of our students' experience. Our teachers receive regular professional development to support this work, including recent workshops offered by Columbia University's Reading and Writing Project.

In our Early Childhood and Lower School programs, the curriculum is focused on hands-on, open-ended activities that develop children's curiosity and problem-solving skills. Instruction is carefully sequenced to encourage skill consolidation and cross-curricular connections.

In the Middle School, dedicated faculty build upon what was learned in the Lower School by providing an in-depth learning experience in language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.

Courses that round out the student experience include foreign language (Mandarin, French, and Spanish) instruction, STEM, public speaking, art, health, physical education, research, band, strings, and chorus.



## INDIVIDUALIZED LEARNING

At The Bridges Academy, we aspire to provide the most academically accelerated program while teaching "The Whole Child" in a complex 21st-century global community. Our lower grades incorporate the "Foundations Reading Program," which uses a multisensory approach to focus on individual learning styles. To complement that, we also use guided reading strategies that allow each student to excel at the level that they are capable of. Our schedule and curricula allow for acceleration in science and mathematics as needed, which ultimately results in different course placements in the upper grades.

The Middle School advisory program sets out to establish strong connections between adults and students so that the student is better understood and embraced, establishing an optimal learning environment.



*The Bridges Difference.*

## STEM

The Bridges Academy embraces STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) to prepare our students for the future demands for these skill sets in the workplace. In recent years, significant investment has been made in offering robotics, engineering, 3-D printing, and one-to-one computing throughout the grade levels. These types of project-based activities are integrated into the courses to enhance the student experience.

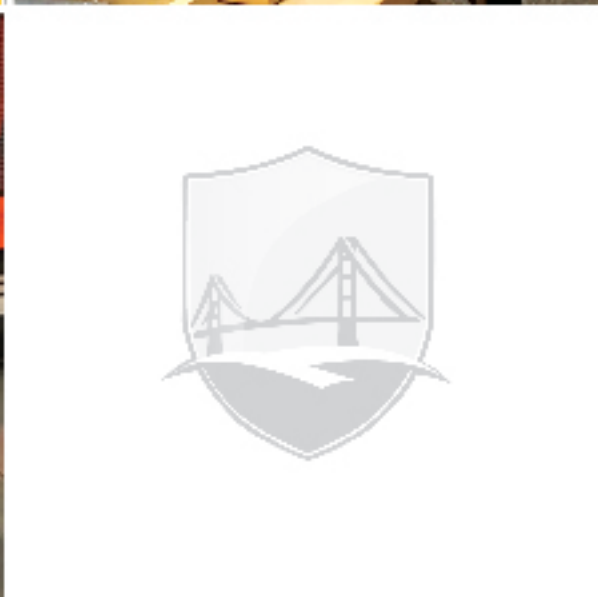
## CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

One of the pillars of our school is our commitment to character education. Students are active in community outreach programs and understand that service to others is an integral part of their experience at our school. Research indicates that developing moral and ethical character are critical aspects of a child's development and play a central role in how one achieves both in and out of the classroom. To that end, our school has recently entered into a partnership with both the Character Counts Program and Harvard University's Making Caring Common Initiative.

## PUBLIC SPEAKING

Public speaking is as much an art as it is a science. Bridges offers many opportunities for our students to speak in front of an audience, starting in our early learning program and continuing through eighth grade. We believe it is critical for our students to be able to communicate their views and thoughts to convince, persuade, and energize others. When we teach students to speak more effectively and understand the basic principles of public speaking, we help them build and grow their leadership skills.





## OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Exploratory classes in technology, art, health and physical education, band, and chorus complement the program and provide a well-rounded education for students. Our students flourish when participating in activities such as our all-school musical, NYSSMA, and the National History and Geography Bees, to name a few. Our students are accepted into the most desired day and boarding secondary schools and ultimately into the finest colleges and universities.

Additionally, our school offers robust extracurricular programming that effectively serves as an extension of the school day. These activities include chess, computer technology, art, drama, soccer, robotics, volleyball, basketball, and yearbook. During the year, The Bridges Academy offers several field trips throughout Long Island and New York City. In the Middle School, students are offered the opportunity to go on an overnight experience, which includes trips to Frost Valley, Boston, and Washington, D.C., as well as a fun skiing day trip to Massachusetts.

The Bridges Academy offers a full-size gym with a variety of sports programs to keep children active and to promote healthy competition and team involvement. Our school offers intramural soccer, volleyball, and basketball teams that actively compete with other independent schools.

These activities provide students with the opportunity to build leadership skills, strengthen self-esteem, and nurture their capacity for global competence.



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