



**SUMMER ACADEMY AFTER SCHOOL
FOLLOWING THROUGH IT WORKS!**

**HIGHER
ACHIEVEMENT
PROGRAM**

**HIGHER
ACHIEVEMENT
INVESTS IN
ACADEMIC
TALENT AND
DRIVE—THE
RETURN IS
ACADEMIC
EXCELLENCE.**

Higher Achievement invests in the talent and drive of inner-city middle school children from under-served communities by developing the critical academic behaviors, skills and attitudes that improve grades, test scores and opportunities: acceptance and scholarships to top high schools. Higher Achievement's success is found in year-round academies after school and in the summer that operate as a four-year academic magnet program for highly motivated learners from 5th through 8th grade. These academies are combined with a rigorous high school placement program called Follow-Through.

Higher Achievement has proven to close the achievement gap (and quickly—65% of "C" scholars improved a full letter grade; 86% of scholars increased their standardized test scores) by teaching the "culture" and "content" of high-level academics in under-served inner-city neighborhoods. It does so with academic mentors and a summer faculty who teach hands-on curricula in mathematics, literature, technology, social studies, science and various electives. Furthermore, we combine this training with opportunity: 75% of Higher Achievement graduates advance to the competitive private, parochial and public magnet schools.

To truly influence a scholar's potential for success, educators must foster a passion for learning. By combining academic skills and behavior development with challenging hands-on curricula, Higher Achievement fosters the intellectual fire, curiosity and confidence that bring our scholars to the level expected in demanding college preparatory schools.

**THE HIGHER
ACHIEVEMENT
PROGRAM PREPARES
SCHOLARS FOR
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
AND COMMUNITY
LEADERSHIP.**

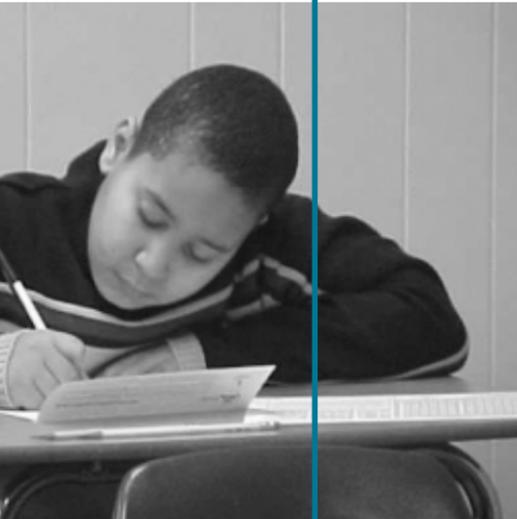
SUMMER ACADEMY



Summer Academy is an intensive summer session that bolsters scholars' academic skills and provides needed continuity and reinforcement in preparation for the following school year. During the six-week full-day program, scholars attend challenging classes in mathematics, literature, social studies, science, and one elective course in addition to weekly field trips, community action projects and a three-day overnight university visit. **Small class size allows teachers to stress scholar participation**, cooperative projects and hands-on learning.

AFTER SCHOOL AFTER SCHOOL AFTER SCHOOL

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Three evenings a week, small groups of two to three scholars; under the guidance of their learning mentors; move through an accelerated curricula of literature, math and technology that teach them to think for themselves, while developing analytical-thinking, problem-solving and communication skills. Small groups allow for a tailored learning experience maximizing subject mastery. Scholars come early for homework help, a free nutritious meal and for studio electives like mosaics, Afro-Caribbean percussion or sculpture. By studying and performing for others, **scholars develop focus, poise and self-confidence.**

FOLLOWING THROUGH



After investing four years, Higher Achievement “follows through” on that investment by helping scholars identify and pursue top middle and high school programs. To prepare families for the rigorous admission process, Higher Achievement offers the 10-week SSAT preparation classes, application and financial aid workshops, interview coaching, and opportunities to meet with representatives from top public magnet, private and parochial schools. **Higher Achievement provides highly individualized support to families** as they navigate the admissions process.

Achievement Centers establish a culture that values intellectual curiosity, academic persistence, and scholastic achievement. Being part of a community where your chin is lifted when you speak, where high expectations dictate the culture and where you are pushed to think further builds self-esteem and reinforces the rewards of hard work.

READING

65% of all "C" (or below) scholars increased a full letter grade or more in reading.

MATH

58% of "C" (or below) scholars increased a full letter grade or more in math.

STANDARDIZED TESTS *2002 – 2003 Academic year*

51% of Higher Achievement scholars improved their standardized reading score with the average increase calculated at 9.49 NCE.

62% of Higher Achievement scholars improved their standardized math score with the average increase calculated at 10.75 NCE.

OPPORTUNITIES

74% of 8th grade of Follow-Through scholars were accepted into top high school programs including Banneker, St. Alban's, Georgetown Visitation, Gonzaga, Sidwell Friends, Wilson, etc.

57% of Follow-Through scholars advanced before their 9th grade year to competitive schools including Rock Creek International, Saint Anselms, Burke, and Georgetown Day School, etc.



HIGHER ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

19 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-1425
phone 202.842.5116
fax 202.842.5123

United Way/CFC #
8949

HOW YOU CAN HELP

VOLUNTEER! Volunteers of all ages, professions and backgrounds are invited to share their interests and explore new ones at Higher Achievement. Volunteer learning mentors are needed one night a week to teach literature, technology or mathematics to a small group of scholars.

WORK! Higher Achievement hires artists and art educators to teach 10 and 20 week artistic studios. Studios are as diverse as yoga, sculpture and West African Dance. In addition, we hire teachers of mathematics, literature, social studies and science for the summer.

CONTRIBUTE! Supporters can sponsor a student scholarship, provide transportation for a field trip, fund an Achievement Center, attend Higher Achievement events or donate needed educational and recreational supplies.