



2023 IMPACT REPORT

Winning On and Off the Field



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BRINGING OUR BEST GAME EVER

Bronx Lacrosse reached new heights in 2023, with significant, sustainable growth rooted in our mission to improve educational opportunities and life outcomes for underserved middle school and high school students in the Bronx.

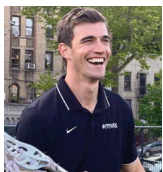
- We provided **240 student-athletes** with our year-round academic and sports-based youth development programming.
- We added new staff positions—including a **Director of Academics** and **Director of Operations**—to take our programming to the next level.
- Our student-athletes outperformed their peers. In 2023, our participants' **school attendance rate was 95%**—a phenomenal achievement given that 36% of New York City public school students were chronically absent during the same period.¹

Bronx Lacrosse gives our student-athletes a unique edge in accessing higher education: high school lacrosse players are over three times more likely than basketball players to leverage their athleticism as a gateway to college and the NCAA.²

We focus on the big picture. Our holistic approach builds academic success through algebra-readiness tutoring, develops life skills through daily mentoring, and provides enriching experiences off the field. We lay the foundation for high school and post-secondary success by guiding students through New York City's complicated high school application process and our college access programming.

In 2024, our impact will be even greater—we'll **serve 25% more young people**, add **new school partners to grow from 4 to 6 programming sites**, and **expand our 6th-to-12th-grade pathway** to academic and athletic opportunities throughout students' middle and high school years.

As our impact grows, we thank you for being a key player in our success!



DAN LEVENTHAL
Founder & Executive Director



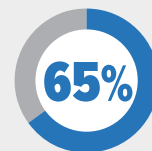
WHAT OUR STUDENT-ATHLETES SAID ABOUT OUR IMPACT IN 2023

87% reported developing a positive vision for their future through their experience with Bronx Lacrosse.

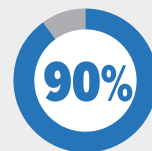
85% felt a sense of mastery over their own learning, school performance, and potential to attain academic success.

87% felt well-resourced to set out on a path to achieve their dreams.

ABOUT OUR STUDENT-ATHLETES

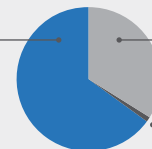


immigrants or the children of immigrants



eligible for free or reduced-price meals

65%
Hispanic/
Latinx



34%
Black/African
American

1% Other



Changing the Game

Championing Inclusivity

We are bringing parity to a sport currently marked by a lack of racial, cultural, and socioeconomic diversity. We've transformed lacrosse into:



A point of pride across diverse Bronx communities.



A new pathway of opportunity for young people of color.

Cultivating Exceptional Athletes



Catholic High School Athletic Association "B" Division Champions



ULAX Summer and Fall Champions



Middle School Athletic League City Champions

Increasing Collegiate Opportunities

Estimated percentage of high school athletes who go on to compete in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA)³:



Basketball
3.8%



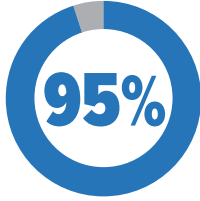
Soccer
6.4%



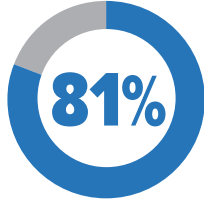
Lacrosse
12.6%



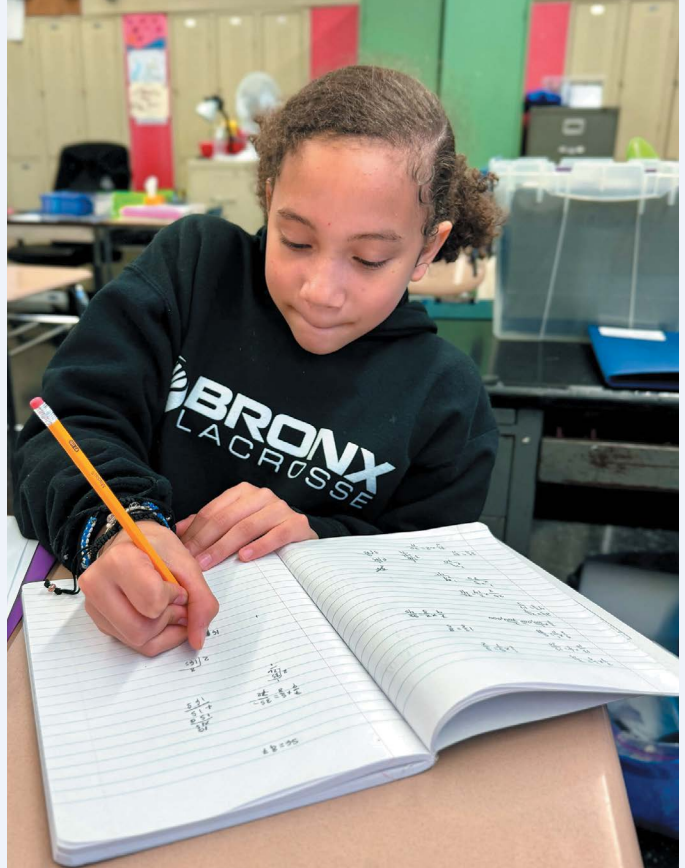
Investing Students in School



SCHOOL
ATTENDANCE RATE



STUDENT
GPA



ALGEBRA-READINESS

A Pathway to Educational Equity + Achievement

Our Algebra-Readiness Tutoring Program builds math fluency and Regents-readiness to position our student-athletes for success in middle school, high school, college, and beyond.

HIGH-DOSAGE TUTORING GETS RESULTS

ALGEBRA REGENTS PASS RATE

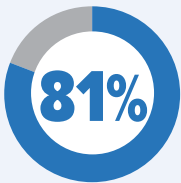
BRONX LACROSSE
STUDENTS*

86%

BRONX DISTRICT 9
STUDENTS

46%

*Students enrolled in Algebra-Readiness Tutoring for at least one year.



GPA IN MATH



PERCENTAGE-POINT
INCREASE ON
BRONX LACROSSE MATH
ASSESSMENT SCORE

HIGH SCHOOL APPLICATION SUPPORT

Improving Access to Quality High Schools

We provide every middle school student-athlete and their family with personalized guidance to pursue a quality high school education and ease the transition to 9th grade.

100%

OF OUR 8TH GRADERS
WERE ADMITTED
INTO TOP-TIER

HIGH SCHOOLS WITH GRADUATION RATES
OF 85% OR HIGHER

“

Three years into our partnership with Bronx Lacrosse, it is easy to see the impact on our students and school. Our 8th graders, who have worked the longest with Bronx Lacrosse’s coaches and tutors, have entered this school year as quintessential scholar-athletes: mature, kind, self-confident, hard-working kids who serve as leaders in our school.”

—REBECA WOLFE-BALBUENA

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, FAMILY LIFE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL MS

Prioritizing College Access

Launched in September 2022, our College Access Program fully hit its stride in 2023.

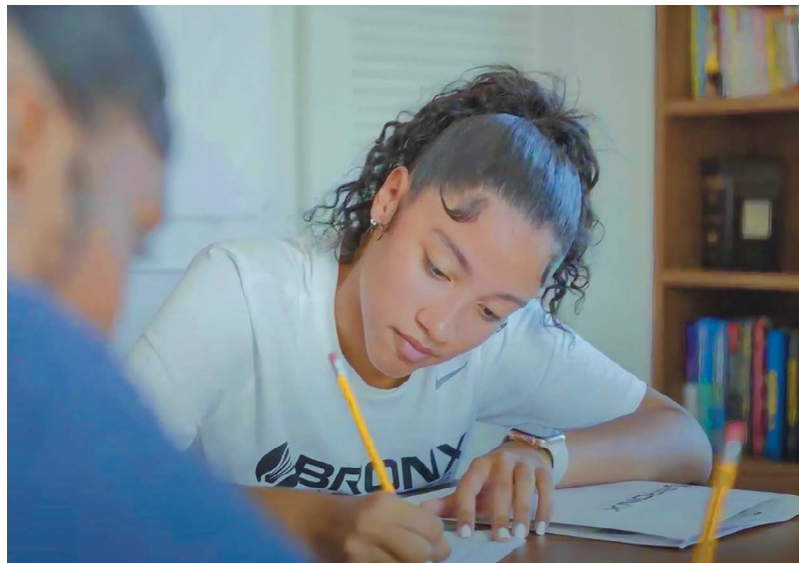
40 HOURS PER YEAR OF COLLEGE-INQUIRY AND ACCESS PROGRAMMING

During these interactive, individualized sessions, our student-athletes:



- WRITE COLLEGE ESSAYS
- PARTICIPATE IN MOCK INTERVIEWS
- COMPLETE FINANCIAL AID APPLICATIONS
- RESEARCH AND BUILD COLLEGE LISTS

9 COLLEGE TRIPS AND EVENTS at Kean University, Tufts University, Manhattan College, Columbia University, West Point, and other leading institutions of higher learning.



We designed our College Access Program in partnership with College Access: Research and Action (CARA), whose mission is to ensure that first-generation college students, low-income students, and students of color have the knowledge and support to enroll in and persist through post-secondary education.

100% OF OUR SENIORS GRADUATED ON TIME AND ARE ENROLLED IN COLLEGE



“ Thanks to Bronx Lacrosse, I developed life skills beyond the world of lacrosse. I learned how to formulate professional emails, write college essays, network, and speak with confidence in front of hundreds of people. I use these skills on a daily basis now that I’m in college. Bronx Lacrosse kick-started my growth as a lacrosse player, a student, and an engaged citizen.”

—BRYCE HALL-KNIGHT
FIRST-YEAR STUDENT AT TUFTS UNIVERSITY
BRONX LACROSSE ALUMNUS

Growing Beyond the Game—All Year Long

We keep our student-athletes physically, intellectually, and socially active year-round.

Summer Academy

Our Summer Academy sustains the momentum our student-athletes built with us during the school year and mitigates summer learning loss. In 2023, we engaged our students in:

- ☀️ daily lacrosse
- ☀️ team-building and social emotional learning
- ☀️ algebra-readiness tutoring
- ☀️ book clubs, hands-on drone-flying, and yoga

Overnight Adirondack Camp

We returned to Camp Echo Lake for our annual Adirondack Camp, where our student-athletes conquered the ropes course and climbing wall, learned to swim at the lake, bonded at the campfire with stories and s'mores—and played lacrosse with an Adirondack mountain view.



Enrichment Experiences

We offered 50+ enrichment excursions in 2023, including a coding workshop at the Microsoft Experience Center and a trip to see *Wicked* on Broadway.

In October 2023, we were thrilled when USA Lacrosse invited us to join them at the New York Stock Exchange to mark the launch of ELEVATE28, a campaign to grow lacrosse participation nationwide.

Cultivating Healthy Habits

Our community has high rates of food insecurity and health conditions linked to inadequate nutrition. That's why we've deepened our partnership with Sustainable Nutrition and Community Connection (SNACC).



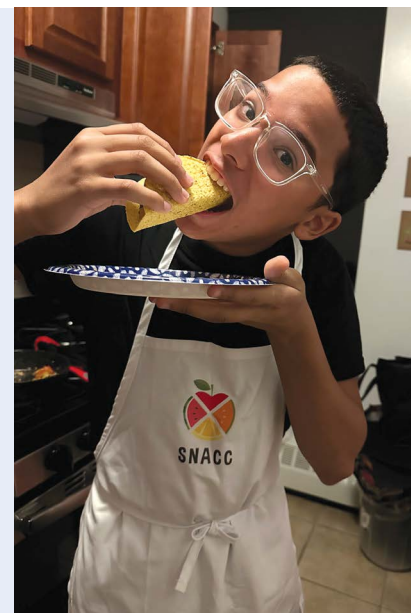
FOR OUR 7TH GRADERS:

5 monthly SNACC workshops on the building blocks of nutrition, healthy portioning, cuisines of diverse food cultures, and cooking techniques.



FOR OUR 8TH GRADERS:

30 weeks of nutritious grocery deliveries to our student-athletes' homes and virtual classes on healthy cooking led by a professional chef.





“ Physically, mentally, and academically, I wouldn’t be the person I am today if it wasn’t for Bronx Lacrosse. Bronx Lacrosse helps kids in the Bronx find their passion, find a sport that they love, and get to a better place in the future.

In my community, it’s not easy—a lot of kids are drifting. Before I joined Bronx Lacrosse, I wasn’t as happy as I knew I could be. I wasn’t doing good in school and I wasn’t the leader I am today.

What kept me with Bronx Lacrosse is seeing how much they care and want the best for me. They treat me like family. They care about my success.

Bronx Lacrosse changed my life, and I believe it has and will change many other kids’ lives.”

—RABILL MOHAMMED
8TH GRADER

BRONX LACROSSE MEMBER SINCE 2021

OUR PARTNERS


Athletes Unlimited
Bronx Writing Academy
Cardinal Hayes High School
College Access: Research and Action (CARA)
Family Life Academy Charter School MS
Fordham University
Foster Recreation Center, NYC Parks
Good Sports
The Highbridge Green School
Jordan L. Mott Junior High School
Manhattan College
My Lacrosse Tournaments
New York City Department of Education
Nike Lacrosse
Premier Lacrosse League
Rafael Hernandez Dual Language Magnet School
ReLax Collections
SCAN-Harbor
String King
Sustainable Nutrition and Community Connection (SNACC)
Swax Lax
Team 91 Tristate
Trilogy Lacrosse
USA Lacrosse
WHEDco
X10 Lacrosse



“ When I found lacrosse, I found a passion that made me think about the world in a different way. At Bronx Lacrosse, I’m learning and I’m having fun.”

—ICHANE DOUNGBE
8TH GRADER
BRONX LACROSSE MEMBER SINCE 2022

JOIN OUR BRONX LACROSSE FAMILY. STAY CONNECTED AS OUR IMPACT GROWS.

 **DONATE** to help us reach more young people in the Bronx.

 **FOLLOW** @bronx_lacrosse on X, Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn.

 **VOLUNTEER** with us.

 **SUBSCRIBE** to our newsletter.

¹ Chalkbeat New York, 36% of NYC public school students were chronically absent last school year, <https://ny.chalkbeat.org/2023/9/6/23862246/nyc-public-school-chronic-absenteeism-pandemic>

^{2,3} National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), Estimated probability of competing in college athletics, <https://www.ncaa.org/sports/2015/3/2/estimated-probability-of-competing-in-college-athletics.aspx>

2022–2023 FOUNDATION AND CORPORATE SUPPORTERS

Charles Hayden Foundation
Citibank
Cleveland H. Dodge Foundation
DICK’S Sporting Goods Foundation
Fordham Street Foundation
Gatorade
Gray Foundation
Heckscher Foundation for Children
Jack Sandler Leadership Foundation
Heisman Trophy Trust
Ichigo Foundation
Kohlberg & Company
Laureus Sport For Good
Marc Haas Foundation
Nuveen
New York Life Foundation
Patrina Foundation
Pinkerton Foundation
Spark Youth NYC
Thomas F. Staley Foundation
Torch Foundation
UJA Federation of New York
Women’s Sports Foundation
Youth INC

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