



**Bronx Lacrosse is a full-day, year-round academic and sports-based youth development program founded in 2017.**

**OUR MISSION:** Improve educational outcomes and life opportunities for underserved students in the South Bronx.



Coyote Action Shots

Argemis Apollinaris



**“Throughout my three years being part of Bronx Lacrosse, I’ve met great people who helped me become more athletic and progress academically—especially in math. Bronx Lacrosse’s tutors helped me boost my confidence and**

**improve my grades. Bronx Lacrosse has also encouraged me to improve my self-advocacy, help others, and ask for help when needed.”**

**—JAYLIN RODRIGUEZ**

**WE USE LACROSSE AS A VEHICLE**

to build community, invest students in school, and improve academic outcomes among young people. Bronx Lacrosse is open to all middle and high school students who live in the Bronx, with a strategic focus on those most in need of academic support, mentorship, and the opportunities that a serious commitment to lacrosse affords students as they apply to competitive high schools and colleges.

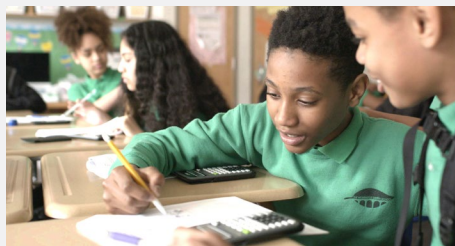
**WE CULTIVATE**



Drew Innis

**ATHLETIC DEVELOPMENT**

through coaching from USA Lacrosse-certified program directors



Drew Innis

**ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT**

through intensive individualized tutoring with a focus on algebra-readiness



Addie Morgan

**SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

through mentorship, team-building, and enrichment experiences



**BRONX LACROSSE** serves 200+ students in the South Bronx, where young people and their families face entrenched inequities, including under-resourced schools, insufficient afterschool/enrichment programming, and limited recreational opportunities.

We combine lacrosse, rigorous academic support, and social-emotional development to ameliorate these inequities and set students on a path toward college admission and post-secondary success.

Our intensive year-round academic and athletic programming includes:

- Algebra Readiness tutoring, with personalized learning plans that build each student’s conceptual understanding and fluency in essential math skills.
- Individualized attention that supports each student’s success by proactively addressing challenges regarding school attendance, academic achievement, social-emotional development, and other issues.
- High school application support.



Addie Morgan



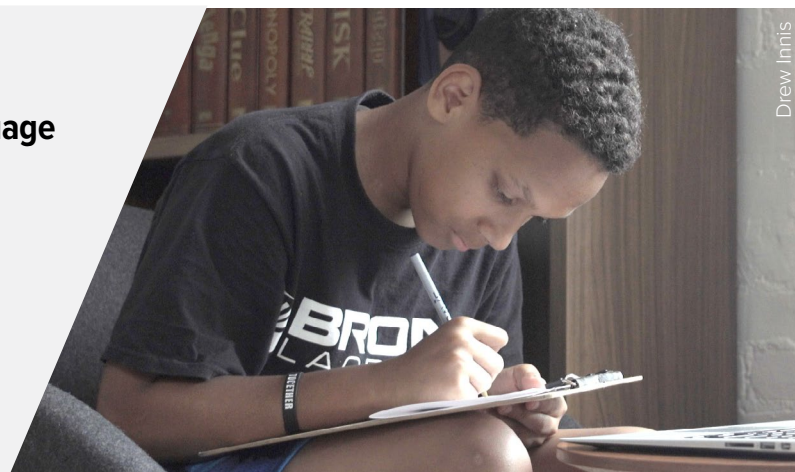
**“Bronx Lacrosse brings out the best in me. Because Bronx Lacrosse gives me a lot of educational support, I’m now in honor roll classes.”**  
— **ASHLEY RAMIREZ**

Argenis Apolmaro

- After-school lacrosse practices.
- Weekend games, tournaments, and clinics to compete against top-level talent across the tristate area.
- Summer Academy—four weeks of daily lacrosse practice, social-emotional development activities, book clubs, and more.
- Other summer programming, including field trips to showcase events and our annual camping trip to the Adirondacks.
- College access and application support, including college visits, SAT/ACT prep, and assisting families with completing applications for college, financial aid, and scholarships.

**“It was hard for me when I first came here from the Dominican Republic—I didn’t really know the language and I wasn’t the best student. Bronx Lacrosse has been a guiding light for me. It improved my grades a lot. The coaches’ support and the support of my teammates—who became brothers to me—guided me to the right path.”**

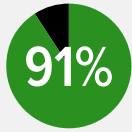
—**YORLYS MATIAS**



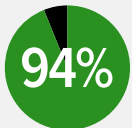
Drew Innis

## KEY IMPACTS

### IN SCHOOL YEAR 2020-2021



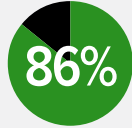
of families reported their children are more interested in attending college



of students passed every core subject (ELA, Science, Social Studies, Math)



average school attendance rate



attendance for virtual tutoring sessions



of 8th graders graduated on time



**BOTH BOYS' AND GIRLS' TEAMS** from the Highbridge Green School were NYC Middle School Athletic League (MSAL) champions in spring 2019.



### BRONX LACROSSE'S

**IMPACT** on our school community has been tremendous. In an unprecedented global pandemic, the support Bronx Lacrosse gave our students was nothing short of game-changing. Our students in the Bronx Lacrosse program are significantly outperforming their peers in academic and social-emotional readiness, as demonstrated on baseline assessments and school attendance."

—KYLE BRILLANTE, PRINCIPAL,  
HIGHBRIDGE GREEN SCHOOL

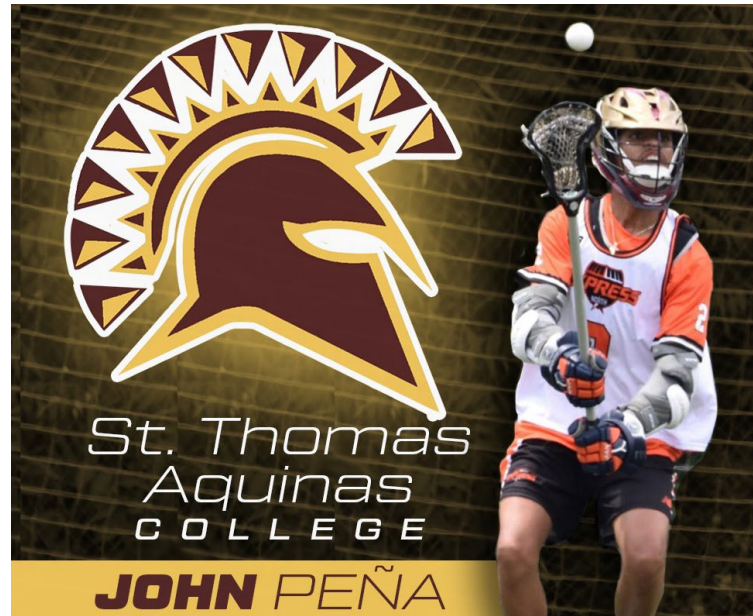
## THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

brought tremendous harm to the communities we serve. From the early days of the pandemic onward, we came through for our students in so many ways:



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- During the first year of the pandemic, we provided 2,300 virtual, one-on-one tutoring sessions, 200 in-person lacrosse practices, and 20 lacrosse field trips and games to keep our students learning, connected, and motivated.
- We disbursed \$100,000 in grocery gift cards to assist students' families in a time of extreme food insecurity, supporting 500 community members.
- 97% of parents reported that being part of Bronx Lacrosse helped their children maintain a positive mindset during the pandemic.
- 95% of parents told us their children felt connected to their peers and mentors, despite school closures.
- 99% of families said Bronx Lacrosse was a reliable presence and valuable resource during the pandemic.
- We welcomed 75 new participants to our Summer Academy in 2021. Many went on to join our school-year programming as part of our evolution from a school-based model to an even more inclusive community-based model.



**JOHN PEÑA** first picked up a lacrosse stick in middle school, as one of Bronx Lacrosse's first participants. The passion for lacrosse he discovered with us deepened during his years at Cardinal Hayes High School, where he was named Midfielder of the Year in the CHSAA and All-League. Hard work and determination—on and off the field—earned John a scholarship at St. Thomas Aquinas College, where he plays Division II lacrosse. John is the first person in his family to attend college. He's also part of the first wave of Bronx Lacrosse success stories, a role model for our current Bronx Lacrosse students, and a powerful example of our impact.

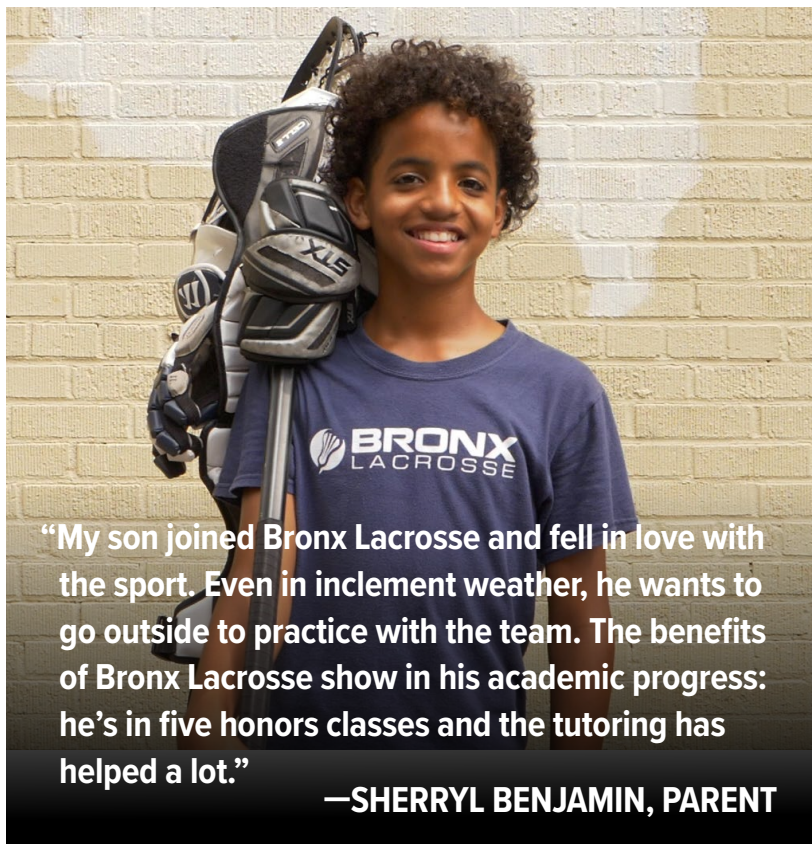


## GROWING OUR GAME

In fall 2021, Bronx Lacrosse:

- Returned to fully in-person programming.
- Initiated our first high school partnership with University Heights High School.
- Launched a new partnership with SCAN-Harbor that enabled us to move our ever-growing organization into a new office space in the Mullaly Recreation Center (NYC Parks).

We'll be growing these and other partnerships as we expand our programming to serve more young people, launch our first Youth Council, and deepen our positive presence in the South Bronx community.



**“My son joined Bronx Lacrosse and fell in love with the sport. Even in inclement weather, he wants to go outside to practice with the team. The benefits of Bronx Lacrosse show in his academic progress: he’s in five honors classes and the tutoring has helped a lot.”**

**—SHERRYL BENJAMIN, PARENT**

Drew Immis

### FOUNDATION AND CORPORATE SUPPORTERS

Bronx Community Foundation  
Bill Belichick Foundation  
DICK’S Sporting Goods Foundation  
Gray Foundation  
Heckscher Foundation for Children  
Laureus Sport For Good  
MarketAxess  
Patrina Foundation  
Pinkerton Foundation  
Robin Hood Foundation  
Spark Youth NYC  
Thomas F. Staley Foundation  
Torch Foundation  
UJA Federation of New York  
Women’s Sports Foundation  
Youth INC

### OUR PARTNERS

The Highbridge Green School  
The Rafael Hernandez Dual Language Magnet School  
University Heights High School  
NYC Department of Education  
WHEDco  
SCAN-Harbor  
Mullaly Recreation Center, NYC Parks  
Sustainable Nutrition and Community Connection (SNACC)  
Premier Lacrosse League  
Up2Us Sports  
USA Lacrosse  
The City Tutors  
Bryn Mawr College  
Fordham University  
Manhattan College  
St. John’s University



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