



DE LA SALLE ACADEMY

WHERE MIDDLE SCHOOL MATTERS

MISSION WITH IMPACT

Greetings from our Head of School

Welcome to De La Salle Academy (DLSA)!

DLSA is proud of its long-standing commitment to providing access and opportunity to a world-class independent school education regardless of a family's ability to pay tuition. Founded in 1984 by Brother Brian Carty, FSC, his vision and foresight built both a community and a school. DLSA is a place where children at the margins of our society can step boldly on the shoulders of their ancestors and reach for the hope of a better future.

DLSA is not simply a school; it is, more importantly, a sign of faith. Building upon its strong mission and core values, DLSA faculty and staff have created a community that provides access and opportunity, especially to low income and low wealth families. Our mission is to provide our families with a reason to have faith in our schools. It is the faith that a quality education can be purposefully rigorous, personalized to care, and foster the individual gifts and talents of each of our students. It is the faith that children should not leave who they are at the door to be a student, but rather that they should participate fully and unapologetically to share all of themselves and their gifts in a loving community.

While our children are always at the center of our mission, it is the caring adults to whom we entrust our children that are its driving force. Being a faculty member at DLSA is not for the faint of heart. To teach in a school that should have never existed to begin with means that the adults who show up at our school doors perform miracles every day. This alchemy is only possible because the faculty and staff see God, creation, and the universe in the children we serve. We wake up every day knowing that our work, no matter the odds, is bigger than a job description. To be a LaSallian educator, one must be a living embodiment of faith – a faith that through our care, support, and respect for our children, we become co-creators in the process of healing the human spirit.

I hope that as you take a moment to learn more about our school, you find a place where – over twenty years ago – my family and I found a community that helped me see that another form of schooling is possible.

Warmly,



Ángel Rubiel Gonzalez, Ph.D. '99
Head of School





De La Salle Academy is an independent **middle school** in New York City for academically talented students in grades six through eight. We are proud to provide equal access to an affordable, world-class independent school education and to prepare students to thrive in high school, college, and beyond.

Our students travel from across all five boroughs and represent a wide range of cultural, racial, and socioeconomic backgrounds. Our curriculum intentionally reflects the richness of our **community** through literature, history, arts, and discussions that honor students' voices and identities.

We empower our community of teachers and learners to center joy and purpose. Learning at DLSA is never one-size-fits-all; it is personal, connected, and deeply student-focused. Our **mission and values** are rooted in the Lasallian philosophy that is centered on social justice education and holds space for the social, emotional, and spiritual development of all children.

WHERE MIDDLE SCHOOL MATTERS

DLSA is both a school and a community, renowned for our holistic method of education and our commitment in recognizing and fostering the individuality of each student. De La Salle's supportive environment is specifically designed for the middle school years, one that balances academic rigor with creativity, emotional growth, and leadership development.

Middle school is more than a bridge between elementary school and high school. Students at DLSA are encouraged to take academic risks, explore their interests, and cultivate healthy and positive relationships with their peers and teachers. These relationships serve to support students as they share all of who they are and step fully into their abilities as scholars and leaders.



OUR COMMUNITY



We are a vibrant and diverse community of 130 students who commute from neighborhoods all over New York City and the surrounding areas: 48% from Queens, 31% from the Bronx, 11% from Brooklyn, 4% from Manhattan, and 6% from outside the Metropolitan area.

Our student body represents 31 countries, over 13 languages, and 95% are students of color. We celebrate the rich cultural backgrounds and perspectives that make our community truly unique.

ACADEMIC LIFE



The school day at De La Salle Academy begins at 8:20 a.m. and ends at 3:15 p.m.

All students take five core subjects (English Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, and Spanish) and a wide range of special topics courses. Every student attends universal study hall four days a week to receive additional support from teachers.



DLSA students follow a nine-day color rotating schedule designed to ensure that they have the necessary instructional time for deep learning as well as facilitated relationship building with both their peers and teachers.

Required Courses:

- Algebra I
- American Studies I and II
- Ancient Civilizations
- Foundational Algebraic Concepts
- Foundations of Algebraic Thinking
- Earth Science
- English Language Arts
- Living Science
- Physical Science
- Novice Spanish, Intermediate Spanish, Proficient Spanish, Advanced Spanish

Special Topics Courses:

- Visual Arts
- Creative Writing
- Geography Lab
- Introduction to Acting
- Introduction to Emotional Intelligence
- Lab Skills
- Learning to Learn
- Math Lab
- Moral and Ethics
- Music
- Politics and Society
- Sociology
- Theatrical Storytelling

In addition to their core subjects, 6th grade students take two foundational courses: **Learning to Learn** and **Introduction to Emotional Intelligence**. These courses support their academic, social, and emotional growth as they transition into middle school.

STUDENT LIFE



Middle school is a time for exploring new opportunities, building friendships, and self-discovery. DLSA offer a wide variety of clubs and programs designed to complement our academic curriculum and enrich the middle school experience.

Current activities, clubs, and extracurriculars include:

- Chess
- Choir
- Civic Spirit Club
- Community Arts Club
- Crochet Club
- De La Salle Magazine
- DLSA Debate Club
- Drama Club: DLSA Players
- Green Team
- Improvisation Club
- Intramural Athletics (basketball, judo, rugby, soccer, track)
- Library League
- Music Lessons
- Painting Club
- Young Engineers Club



Our extracurricular activities gives each student the chance to explore their interests, discover new passions, develop important life skills, and build lasting friendships outside the classroom.



BEYOND THE CLASSROOM



DLSA's location in Times Square allows us to transform the City into an extension of our classroom.

Each year, students participate in a wide range of thoughtfully planned on and off-site learning experiences tied directly to their coursework. These opportunities not only enhance academic understanding, but also build critical life skills including curiosity, independence, empathy, and real-world problem solving.

These have included:

- Museum visits that bring literature, social studies, and science to life
- Theater workshops and Broadway performances that deepen an understanding of storytelling and performance
- Career exposure through visits with alums and professionals
- Weekly Community Meetings that are responsive to and reflective of the curriculum, including cultural celebrations and alum visits

STUDENT SUPPORT

Our specialized approach is rooted in current research on what middle schoolers need to grow, learn, and flourish. We believe that every child benefits from a holistic approach to student support that addresses students' academic, social, and emotional needs.

DLSA student support programming includes:

- Dedicated school counselor
- On-site and off-site retreats for each grade
- Advisory (daily, mixed gender, mixed grade)
- Homeroom (weekly, single gender, single grade)
- Weekly individual counseling and support groups
- Academic support
- Weekly community meetings
- High school entrance exam preparation (starting in 7th grade)



FAMILY LIFE

When your child joins DLSA, your entire family becomes part of our community. Family life is woven into the heart of the DLSA experience, because we know that a child's success is strengthened by a strong partnership between school and home. The transition to middle school impacts not only the student, but the whole family and we are here to guide and support you every step of the way.

At DLSA, we want families to feel both valued and deeply connected. We foster this sense of belonging through:

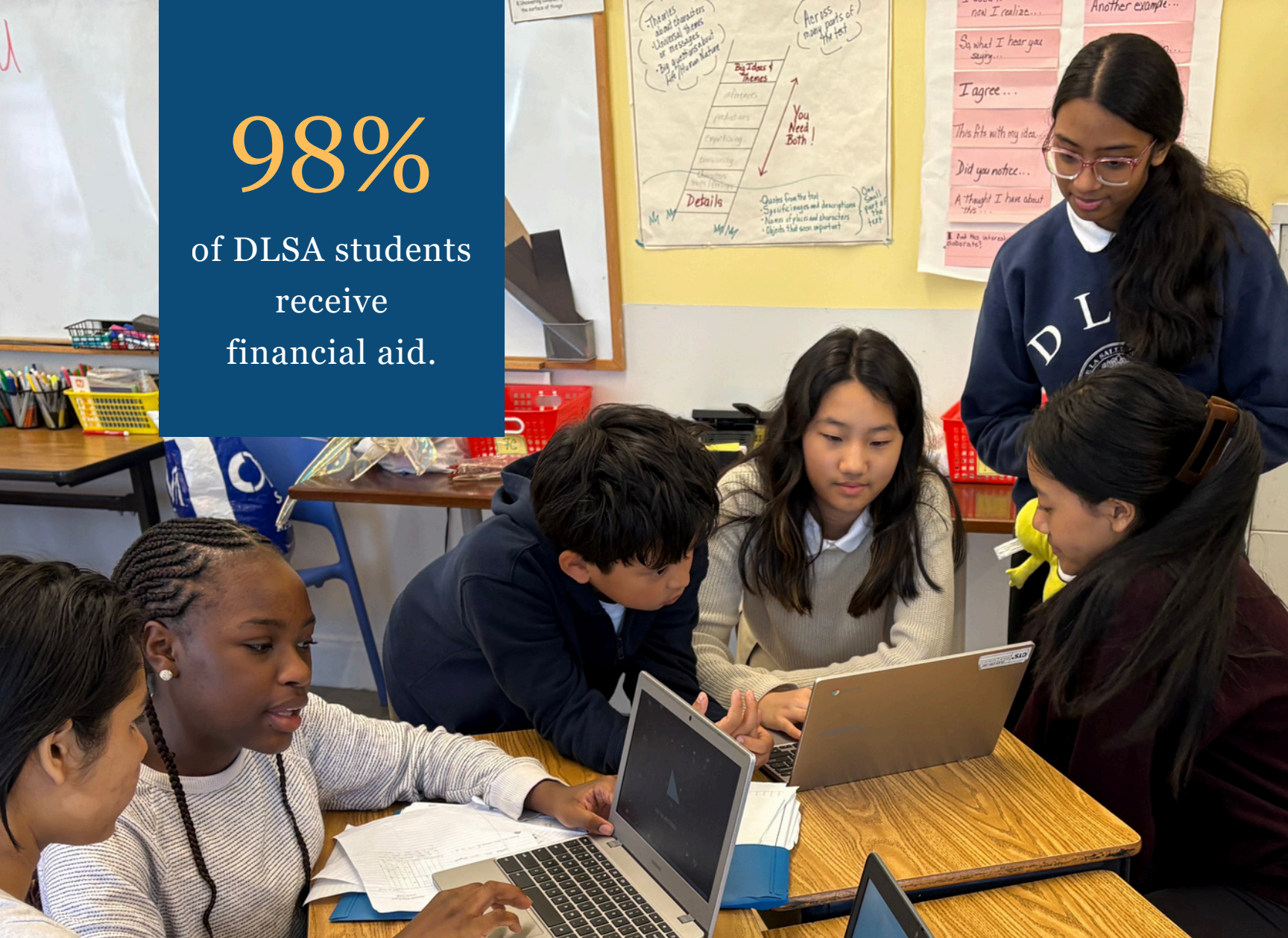
- Family Life Committee
- Community gatherings
- Child development workshops and guest speakers
- Parent/guardian retreats
- Regular check-ins throughout the year

Together, we create a community where students and families thrive.



98%

of DLSA students
receive
financial aid.



Tuition at DLSA is based on a sliding scale and is determined after the applicant is accepted. While every family pays a portion of tuition, DLSA takes into account all aspects of a family's financial situation to ensure affordability. 98% of our families receive financial aid.

We use Tuition Aid Data Services (TADS) to determine a recommended family contribution to tuition. TADS provides a streamlined process for families seeking financial assistance. It allows DLSA to assess needs fairly and efficiently, ensuring that all eligible families receive support.

Nearly 90% of our annual needs and expenses are funded by contributions. Unlike many institutions, we do not depend on tuition revenue. Instead, philanthropy is essential to sustaining and enriching our programs and empowering us to invest in our faculty, facilities, and the transformative experiences that make a DLSA education exceptional.

PERSONALIZED HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELING

De La Salle Academy is committed to providing personalized counseling to support the success of all our students and alums. Our approach to transitioning students to high school is comprehensive and tailored to meet each child's needs. Our priority is to ensure our students are academically and socially prepared for the independent day, boarding, Catholic, and specialized high schools they attend.

We guide families every step of the way as they choose the high school best suited for their child. Our High School Counseling Department provides support and advice to our students and their parents/caregivers through:

- Assembling a list of schools best suited to the child
- Completing admissions applications
- Preparing for interviews
- Applying for financial aid
- Maintaining a connection to our alums to support them in their college/career plans, which includes Head of School visits to high schools and regional events with older alums





77%

of DLSA graduates
attend independent
high schools.

Our goal is that upon graduation, every DLSA student:

- Possesses strong moral and ethical values.
- Is collaborative, inclusive, and advocates for those on the margins of society.
- Asks critical questions.
- Is a creative problem-solver.
- Embraces multiple perspectives.
- Demonstrates effective leadership and a servant heart.
- Finds joy in learning.
- Is comfortable and proud of who they are.
- Is confident in their abilities and aware of areas for personal growth.
- Is academically and socially prepared for the next step: be it an independent day school, boarding school, Catholic school, or specialized public high school - as well as after high school as they embark upon college/university and careers.

100% of DLSA alums graduate from high school and 94% attend college.

DLSA Class of 2025 High School Matriculation

Albany High School, CA	Dominican Academy (2)	Northern Valley Regional High School
Avenues The World School (2)	Fordham Preparatory High School	Notre Dame School (2)
Bergen Catholic High School	Frank Sinatra High School	Packer Collegiate Institute
Berkeley Carroll School	Friends Seminary	Peddie School
Bishop Loughlin Memorial High School	Grace Church School	Phillips Academy Andover (2)
Brearley School	Hackley School	Poly Prep Country Day School (2)
Bronx High School of Science (2)	Horace Mann School	Regis High School (3)
Brooklyn Technical High School	La Salle Academy	Riverdale Country Day School
Browning School (2)	Lion Charter High School	Rye Country Day School
Chapin School	Masters School	St. Jean Baptiste High School
Columbia Grammar & Preparatory School	Math, Science & Engineering High School	Spence School
Concord Academy	Medgar Evers College Preparatory School	Townsend Harris High School
Convent of the Sacred Heart	Monsignor McClancy High School	Trinity School (2)
Cristo Rey New York High School (2)	Nightingale Bamford School	

DLSA Class of 2021 College/University Matriculation

American University	Oberlin College
Bard College	Pace University
Boston College	Princeton University
Boston University	Rutgers University - New Brunswick
Bowdoin College	Skidmore College
Carnegie Mellon University	Smith College
City University of New York - Borough of Manhattan Community College	State University of New York - Binghamton
City University of New York - Hunter College (2)	State University of New York - Stony Brook (2)
City University of New York - Lehman College	Syracuse University (2)
Columbia University	The George Washington University (2)
Cornell University (2)	United States Naval Academy
Emory University (2)	University of Michigan
Fashion Institute of Technology	University of Notre Dame
Florida A&M	University of Pennsylvania (3)
Fordham University (4)	University of Richmond
Harvard University	University of Rochester
Northeastern University	Williams College (2)
	Yale University (2)

DLSA ALUMS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

With over 2,000 alums across the globe, De La Salle Academy cultivates a reciprocal partnership with our network of alums throughout their high school career, college, and beyond. We stay connected with our graduates by providing them opportunities to attend reunions, give back, serve on our board, return as faculty, and mentor the next generations of DLSA students.

BORA MALOTI '21

After graduating from DLSA, Bora went on to Cristo Rey High School and will be attending Notre Dame. Born and raised in the Bronx to immigrant parents from Albania and Kosovo, she is the first in her family to graduate high school or university. She was named an Evans Scholar as well as a Dell Scholar and is involved with many extracurriculars like volleyball, drama, and creating podcasts.

"I love De La Salle and will forever be amazed by all the school does. Without DLSA, I would not have been able to become the compassionate, determined, and communicative young woman I am today. From the encouraging faculty members to daily hugs from friends in all grades, I became well rounded individual who was more than ready for high school."

LEI-ANNE RABEJE '14

After graduating from DLSA, Lei attended the Hackley School then Cornell University, where she studied Industrial & Labor Relations with minors in Environment & Sustainability and Law & Society. She then went on to work for a consultancy firm in Boston. Lei is pursuing a Masters in Environment, Politics, and Development at King's College in London, and she is also an incoming water policy intern at a climate think tank in Berlin, Germany.

"I loved my experience at De La Salle. At the time, my family and I had just emigrated from the Philippines, and the school immediately immersed me in a diverse community of people from various backgrounds and cultures. De La Salle fostered a profound curiosity about the world while teaching me how to connect and build relationships with people from diverse backgrounds."





JAMMIL TELFORT '12

After graduating from DLSA, Jammil went on to St. Mark's School, then earned his B.A. at the University of Pennsylvania. He is now an Associate Marketing Manager at PepsiCo, working on the digital commerce business. Jammil has worked with Gatorade, Starbucks, and Pepsi brands with roles spanning across innovation, communications, and commercial growth.

"DLSA has impacted my life tremendously by surrounding me with kids who were not just smart, but also cared about the people they were developing into. Through DLSA I've made lifelong friends who have seen me in all different stages of life, who've celebrated my highest of highs and picked me up in my lowest of lows. The community has opened up many doors for me personally, educationally, and professionally."



ROSEMARY THOMAS-MOHTAT '91

After graduating from DLSA, Rosemary went on to the Trinity School, Brooklyn Medical College, and State University of New York at Brooklyn Medical School. She is a pediatric emergency physician at one of the top 10 children's hospitals in the country.

"De La Salle fostered in me a sense of duty and service to the community. I remember being humbled when Brother Brian asked me to be the 'bell ringer' for the school on 96th Street, when a singular hand-rung metal bell moved the whole school class to class. I am forever thankful to Mr. Hipolito who fostered my love of language, teaching me Latin and Spanish, taking us from present tense all the way to the future, conditional, and subjunctive tenses in one 7th Grade year! Whenever someone asks how as an Indian woman I'm fluent in Spanish, I always credit him! In the intimate school environment, my shy immigrant self was truly seen and encouraged to blossom into the person I am today."

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