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THE EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS FOR CAMBRIDGE-HARVARD

School kids have lots of questions about college: Do you really get up at 10 in the morning to go to class? What happens if you don't get along with your roommate? How many hours do you study each night? And Harvard is the place for Cambridge middle school students to get answers. It happens through Project TEACH (The Educational Activities for Cambridge-Harvard). This collaboration among Cambridge Public Schools, Harvard College, Harvard Crimson Key and Harvard Public Affairs and Communications encourages local middle schoolers to raise their educational aspirations, exposes them to the world of college, and helps prepare them for college life. Seventh-grade students are invited for a special half-day visit to Harvard that includes an early college awareness and college preparation session with Harvard students, a tour of campus, lunch in a classic student dining hall, and a science class and demonstration with a Harvard faculty member. This year students are visiting the Harvard Museum of Natural History (HMNH) where science "gets real." The students are meeting earth science graduate students and learning about earth science research, like how earthquakes work.



(l-r) Angel Rivas, Yuan "Jerry" Chen and Estiya Alemisgede, seventh-graders at the Tobin School in Cambridge, talk to Harvard undergraduate Danny Bicknell, '13, after a Project TEACH informational session. "I'm looking forward to college because you can live with your friends and choose your classes," Chen said about his experience. Staff Photo Julie Moscatel/Harvard Public Affairs & Communications

"TEACH is an excellent way for our students to experience being in a college environment, assists them in planning, goal setting, and making choices for their future education and lets them realize a college education is within their reach," said Ann Marie Viaud, CPS seventh-grade teacher. From exposure to student life, more hands-on science experiences, or getting inspiration from graduate students to pursue a career in science or simply set college in their sights, Project Teach has much to offer. For more information visit: community.harvard.edu/programs/project-teach



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Harvard in the Community




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Harvard program keeps the learning fun



Calendar of campus events



Harvard prepares local kids for college

HARVARD FOSTERS A LIFETIME OF LEARNING

The Harvard Achievement Support Initiative (HASI) is a relatively small team with a big mission: help create great environments in which kids can learn, provide easy-to-use activities and tools aligned to the Massachusetts curriculum standards, and keep the learning fun. And it gets around.

Take a look at a week in the life of HASI: One night, HASI is at the Agassiz School in Jamaica Plain working with teachers and staff to help family members discover new ways to support their children's academic success at home. A day later, HASI and staff from the Cambridge Community Center

and Agassiz-Baldwin School meet over lunch to talk about how to keep the learning going in their respective afterschool programs through commercially-available games. The week wraps up on a Saturday with teachers, principals and afterschool partners from the Russell and Marshall Schools in Dorchester and the E. Greenwood Leadership Academy in Hyde Park attending the fourth part of a 30-hour professional development series at HASI's Allston office. During this series, HASI's staff is facilitating a deeper understanding of cutting-edge brain science, using video and experiential activities that show how caring relationships and building the social, emotional and intellectual skills of children early are all critical to a lifetime of learning.



"HASI's secret is talented people and local schools...willing to roll up their sleeves and work together because they believe in supporting our young people." — Karen Daniels, Step UP Executive Director

Shawn Polynice, grade 5, gets help from Danielle DeJoy, '13, right, and the Harvard University Achievement Support Initiative (HASI) in teaching parents at the Marshall School in Dorchester how to support math homework. Staff Photo Rose Lincoln/Harvard Public Affairs & Communications

A quiet but impactful organization, HASI works out of a nondescript building in the heart of Harvard's campus in Allston, called 175 North Harvard, that is home to organizations and non-profits focused on education, including the Harvard Allston Ed Portal and the Silk Road Project. It's a nine-year-old organization with a razor-sharp focus on improving and expanding learning opportunities by working closely with community organizations, childcare providers and schools. HASI goes where the need is.

The organization was created in 2001 when Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino called public and private institutions together to help address the shortage of quality afterschool opportunities for children. Known as the Harvard After School Initiative (HASI) at that time, the group became one of 13 organizations that comprised Boston's After School for All Partnership, a collaborative that infused more than \$26 million into the afterschool system and increased participation of Boston's school-aged children in afterschool programming to 51 percent.

In 2006, as the After School for All Partnership transitioned to a formal public-private agency, Mayor Menino introduced Step UP, a group, including

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APRIL 28

Misplaced Objects Gallery Talk

Arthur M. Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

This talk will prompt viewers to ask questions about the categories into which existing displays are habitually sorted. What is natural? What is artificial? What is art? This series considers objects from more than one point of view. The informal talks is designed to stimulate thinking about works of art and to encourage participants to explore their own ways of seeing. Free with cost of admission, limited to 25 participants, please arrive early. Visit www.harvardartmuseums.org/calendar for more information.

MAY 1

Spring Concert: Messiah

The Memorial Church, Harvard Yard, Cambridge, 4 p.m.

As part of Harvard's Arts First celebrations, the Harvard University Choir and the Harvard Baroque Chamber Orchestra will perform Handel's "Messiah." A staple of holiday celebrations throughout America, Handel himself directed an annual performance of "Messiah" for London's Foundling Hospital at Eastertide, and it seems fitting to present the work during the octave of Easter. The concert is free and open to the public. Visit www.memorialchurch.harvard.edu/ for more information.

MAY 4

Movie Night at Radcliffe

Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe College Room, 10 Garden Street, Radcliffe Yard, 6 p.m.

Join us for movie night at the Arthur and Elizabeth Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America at Radcliffe, followed by a discussion with De Ama Battle, founder of Art of Black Dance and Music and Tufts University faculty member. Visit www.radcliffe.edu/events for more information.



MAY 10

Field Notes on Science and Nature

Harvard Museum of Natural History, 26 Oxford Street, Cambridge, 6 p.m.

In this fascinating new collection, Harvard University Press provides a rare glimpse into the journals and sketches of top scientists such as Charles Darwin, George Schaller, and Kenn Kaufman. Editor Michael Canfield, lecturer in biology at Harvard, will discuss what makes these notes and drawings so important, the secrets they reveal, and how they can help us cultivate skills as a bird watcher, artist, or adventurer. Visit www.hmn.harvard.edu for more information.

MAY 11

Harvard Art Museum In-Sight Evening

Arthur M. Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge, 6-8 p.m.

When it debuted in 1928, Max Beckmann's Self-Portrait in Tuxedo (1927) was widely acclaimed as a "brutal" portrayal of the self and a return to a more painterly style. This lecture will examine the compelling history of this canvas and trace the significant role of Beckmann's work in the American reception of German art. Evenings begin at 6pm; lectures begin at 6:30pm. Visit www.harvardartmuseums.org/calendar for more information.

MAY 14

Guided Tour

Arnold Arboretum, 125 Arborway, Boston, 10:30 a.m.

Experience the Arboretum in a new way--take a free guided tour with a knowledgeable volunteer docent. Tours begin in front of the Hunnewell Building, last around 60-90 minutes, and are geared toward adults. There is no need to register. Visit https://my.arboretum.harvard.edu for more information.



MAY 19

Observatory Night

Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, 60 Garden Street, Cambridge, 7:30 p.m.

NASA's Kepler spacecraft is searching the skies for Earth-sized worlds in Earth-like orbits. It hunts for them by watching for transits - when a planet crosses in front of its star as seen from Earth, causing the star to dim ever so slightly. How is Kepler doing in its quest to find rocky planets that might be able to support life as we know it? Mission co-investigator David Latham will give us an update on the latest released results, as Kepler enters its third year of science operations. Visit www.cfa.harvard.edu/events for more information.

ONGOING

Community Walks

Meet at the John Harvard Statue, Harvard Yard, Cambridge, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12 p.m.

These walks are part of Harvard on the Move, an exercise program designed to build community and fitness among students, faculty, staff, alumni, and members of the community. The program includes weekly runs and walks open to the public. Visit www.facebook.com/Harvard.on.the.Move for more information.



Calendar of Events Check out Harvard's online calendar of events: news.harvard.edu/gazette/section/calendar

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Harvard, focused on addressing key issues that have created Boston's education gap. HASI expanded its focus to include early childhood education and took on a new name - the Harvard Achievement Support Initiative (still HASI). Working with Boston College, Boston University, Northeastern University, Tufts University and 10 Boston public schools designated by the district, Step UP has worked for the past four years to leverage the combined resources of the Boston Public Schools (BPS) and its partner universities, providing leadership coaching, support in math and literacy instruction, afterschool resources and more.

"HASI is an evolving initiative that has quietly had a huge impact in Greater Boston, for principals, teachers, students and families working to support learning," said Karen Daniels, Step UP Executive Director and former BPS principal. "HASI's secret is talented people and local schools and organizations who are willing to roll up their sleeves and work together because they believe in supporting our young people."



Kindergarten teacher Sarah Robinson (left) and Family and Community Outreach Coordinator Deandre Williams, both from the E. Greenwood Leadership Academy, attend Harvard's Mind in the Making Module 5: Understanding Temperament. Participant were asked to examine their own temperaments as well as that of a child with whom they work and reflect with one another on the experience to realize the important role temperament plays in the relationships between children and adults in the classroom. Staff Photo/Mind in the Making

MINDS IN THE MAKING

Today HASI has two signature programs, Mind in the Making and SmartTALK: Homework Support for Kids. As of 2011, HASI's SmartTALK has been adopted by more than 26 schools within Boston Public Schools (BPS). HASI, in collaboration with BPS' Department of Extended Learning Time and Afterschool Services (DELTAS), City Year and program partners, prepares afterschool staff to help kids develop their academic skills in out-of-school time by creating a positive learning environment and by providing students with standards-aligned, games-based activities to support homework and continued academic learning.

Mind in the Making (MITM), a program of the

Families and Work Institute (FWI), is a series of 12 research-based Learning Modules focused on improving young children's learning experiences by helping teachers and caregivers to understand more deeply how children learn.

Since 2007, more than 232 early childhood, school-age professionals, public school teachers and principals have been trained in MITM, an effort that has reached more than 1299 children throughout Boston and Cambridge. During MITM, facilitators use research from leaders in neuroscience and child development to help adult participants examine their own learning styles and equip them to make positive and lasting changes in their practice. For more information visit: community.harvard.edu/hasi



Harvard Achievement Support Initiative builds on its efforts to engage families in their children's academic success during out-of-school time learning by providing homework support kits, which are distributed to families who attend Back-to-School Nights and include materials to support homework at home. Staff Photo Stephanie Mitchell/Harvard Public Affairs & Communications

HARVARD SUPPORTS LOCAL NON-PROFITS

In today's economy funding sources for non-profit institutions are scarce, but Harvard University remains a steadfast partner to neighborhoods on both sides of the Charles River.

Harvard has a long history of supporting a range of Cambridge and Boston neighborhood organizations in a variety of ways, including hundreds of thousands of dollars in direct grants. Harvard grants bring dollars directly to the source of community programming, the non-profits that understand the neighborhood needs and serve local residents.

The Cambridge Agassiz Harvard Fund, created by Harvard and Cambridge residents, distributes grants each year. The fund, the second-largest grant-maker in Cambridge, specializes in providing dollars to fledging programs that can sustain themselves once off the ground. An example: Aging in Place, a group that sprouted from an idea of providing services to elderly residents, today has three agency offices in Cambridge. Other grants have gone to City Sprouts, Cambridge Community Television (CCTV)'s programming for middle and high school students, fitness programs, after-school initiatives, and



On a visit to the Vocational Advancement Center (VAC), Christine Heenan (right), Harvard's vice president of public affairs and communications, and Amy Bell (left), executive director of VAC, talk with participants in a cooking group. The VAC, which was awarded a \$25,000 grant from the Harvard Allston Partnership Fund, is one of eight local nonprofit organizations to receive checks recently totaling \$100,000. Staff Photo Stephanie Mitchell/Harvard Public Affairs & Communications

education programs that serve all residents today.

"Harvard has been an outstanding community partner and has been a strong supporter of our efforts in public education, housing and quality-of-life issues. The Cambridge Agassiz Harvard Fund serves our neighborhoods and helps the citizens of Cambridge," said Cambridge Mayor David Maher. "These grants are truly 'impactful.'"

This February, Harvard distributed a new round of Harvard Allston Partnership grants to eight non-profits serving the Allston-Brighton community. HAPF grants have gone to 17 organizations over the past three years. "Harvard Allston Partnership grants bring opportunity, education, and vital services

to North Allston's residents. As non-profits try to meet the increased demand or their services and programs during difficult economic times, we can help more families, youth, and our most vulnerable citizens connect to these organizations," said Mayor Thomas M. Menino.

Direct grants to local non-profits are only one way Harvard addresses local and regional needs. Harvard's engagement in its neighboring communities is broad and deep. The connections include everything from volunteer engagement, professional development for teachers, college readiness programs for children, to free dental, medical and legal services through the work of Harvard professional students.

We'd love to hear from you! Let us know what you think of Connections by emailing us. community@harvard.edu