Citizens Leadership Academy

A BREAKTHROUGH SCHOOL

Citizens Leadership Academy opened in 2011 in the University Circle neighborhood. An Expeditionary Learning school, one of only two in Ohio, the curriculum embeds foundational academic skills into long-term projects called “expeditions.” Expeditions, or journeys into solving real-life problems, are used to make academics relevant, engage students in their community, foster relationships with professional role models, and teach 21st century skills such as critical thinking and collaboration.

5th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service

In its fifth annual MLK, Jr. Day of Service over 100 CLA students, families, and staff held a Family Pancake Breakfast that they cooked, served, and ate together. Then, they spent the rest of the day doing service projects for veterans, animal shelters, and the Ronald McDonald House.

The seventh grade Humanities students published their third edition of Rustbelt Reformers: Stories of Innovation and Invention in Northeast Ohio. This year’s volume included interviews with Calvin Williams, Cleveland chief of police; Jackie Fernandez, co-anchor of “Good Morning, Cleveland”; and Dr. Janet Kavandi, director of NASA Glenn Research Center.

In May, Stephanie Baker, research and presentation teacher, accompanied a group of student leaders at the Cleveland Foundation’s African-American Philanthropy Summit. They met with notables like award winning journalist Jeff Johnson, political strategist Donna Brazile, and former Cleveland Brown Steve Sanders. Awesome job and thanks to the Cleveland Foundation for inviting CLA scholars!

CLA continued its valued community partnership with Cleveland Clinic’s Lerner Research Institute in the third annual LRI Science Day. Over 50 Cleveland Clinic researchers, led by Dr. Angela Ting, gave CLA students behind-the-scenes tours of labs and also led them through hands-on activities about genetics, hematology, and cardiology, among others. This year students even got to operate an ultrasound machine and conduct their own imaging.

In November, CLA hosted its first Career Fair Day with over 50 professionals from medicine to sports to communications to education. Each CLA student met one-on-one or with a small group with their choice of three presenters. Thanks to Mr. Ricardo Franklin, dean of students, for coordinating this first exposure to the professions.

The school garden is a CLA anchor. This spring students spruced it up by designing, constructing, and installing an outdoor classroom space as a joint project of Dwayne Levy, outdoor education teacher, and Trisha O’Hara, arts coordinator.

Highlights from last year...

Get to know...
Citizens Leadership Academy

BY THE NUMBERS

OUR STUDENTS ARE FROM:

- Cleveland: 77%
- Cleveland Heights / University Heights: 4%
- East Cleveland: 6%
- Euclid: 6%
- Garfield Heights: 2%
- Maple Heights: 1%
- Mayfield: <1%
- Shaker Heights: 1%
- South Euclid / Lyndhurst: 1%
- Warrensville Heights: <1%
- Willoughby / Eastlake: <1%

OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY:

- African American: 98%
- White, Non-Hispanic: 1%
- Multiracial: 1%
- Economically Disad.: 79%
- Students with Disabilities: 17%
- Total Enrollment: 258

% of Subjects Taught by Certified Teachers: 100%

2015/16 FINANCIALS

- State: $2,077,133
- Federal: $583,333
- Philanthrophy: $602,484
- Other: $218,638
- TOTAL FUNDING: $3,481,588

- Salaries: $1,548,326
- Benefits: $373,530
- Purchased Services: $1,152,949
- Supplies & Materials: $90,765
- Equipment: $63,633
- Depreciation: $22,225
- Other: $37,374
- TOTAL EXPENSE: $3,288,802

FYE June 30, 2016 Unaudited Financials

City and State Results

CLA's PI score of 77.8 compares with Cleveland's PI of 45.9 and Ohio's PI of 81.1. CLA's Overall Value-Added Gain Index was 9.4, compared with -47.4 in Cleveland and .06 in Ohio.

Source: ODE 2016

8 VOLUNTEER BOARD MEMBERS

- Amonica Davis, Student Outreach Specialist, Nordson Corporation Foundation
- Lolita Hines, Assistant VP for Finance, Administration and Strategic Planning Alignment, Case Western Reserve University
- Arthur Lundberg, Attorney, Baker Hostetler
- Karen Mozenter, Director of Funder Engagement, Fund for Our Economic Future
- Phillip Robinson, Executive Director, City Year Cleveland
- David Stein, Commercial Real Estate Agent, Arnold J. Eisenberg, Inc.
- Cynthia Tancer, Director of Customer Engagement, AmeriMark Direct
- Ricarlo Winfrey, Accountant, Defense Finance and Accounting Service Cleveland

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Alura Winfrey, a graduate of Citizens Leadership Academy, is now attending Laurel High School. Among her highlights at CLA was meeting President Obama at The City Club.

BREAKTHROUGH SCHOOLS

Our school is a member of Breakthrough Schools, the #1 rated non-profit charter management organization in Ohio.