



City Honors Fosdick-Masten Park FOUNDATION

#1 School
in Upstate New York!
US News and World Report



DISTINCTIONS

What inspires us to give to the CHS Annual Fund



Jim Duggan
Faculty Emeritus

The City Honors dream has been a part of my/our lives for more than 40 years. We are a community, a family of friends, with a worldwide network of successful and contributing alumni. As do the many former faculty and parents, I want to see the "Dream" continue. "Proud and strong whose will keeps living on."



Kristin [McCullough] Roberts '00

My family is inspired to give to the CHS Annual Fund, because as alumni and now parents of a 7th grader, we want to ensure that there are no financial roadblocks for students looking to excel in academics or extracurriculars. There's a special bond with City Honors alumni, no matter the class, and there's no denying the lasting impact our years in the halls of CHS have had in our lives.

Your gift makes an impact on the student experience...



Andrew Krause

*CHS Physical Education Teacher
Unified Sports Coach and Parent of Alums*

The support that Unified Sports at CHS has received from the Annual Fund has been invaluable. CHS Unified Sports teams provide a quick path to friendship and understanding for athletes with and without intellectual disabilities. Thanks in part to this funding, participation in Unified Sports on the Hilltop has flourished since we established our first team in 2018.



Karrington Mann '26

African Drum and Dance is a form of art that unites people regardless of culture, race or ethnicity. It teaches me leadership, teamwork and how to express myself through dance.



Charles Augustine '25

Participating in CHS African Drum and Dance has brought me many fun, engaging and impactful experiences outside of school, as well as connecting to people within my own school.



Juanita Ambrusko-Velasquez '30

The CHS Lego Robotics Team is a place where you can learn to build as well as study technology, science and math!



Vera Vishwanath '26

Participating in the CHS Science Research Program (SRP) at the Buffalo-Niagara Medical Campus has been an invaluable experience. It has deepened my understanding of scientific principles and exposed me to real world research, which has prepared me for future academic endeavors. Albert Einstein told us to never stop asking questions and SRP has taught me how to ask the right questions and answer them using science.

ANNUAL FUND DRIVE

Dear Friends of City Honors and Fosdick-Masten Park,

We write to you on behalf of the City Honors/Fosdick-Masten Park Foundation's Annual Fund Campaign.

If you haven't heard the exciting news yet, City Honors was recently named a **2024 National Blue Ribbon School** by the United States Department of Education. So many of us have known the magic of an education on the Hilltop for years, but this is the first time in the school's history to receive this selective designation. The school's success with students from a wide range of economic and racial backgrounds as well as students with autism, were important factors in the New York State Education Department nominating City Honors as a candidate for National Blue Ribbon status.

It's important to acknowledge that this success did not happen by accident! Our families, educators and specialized curriculum are all to be credited. The success can also be attributed to the CHS Annual Fund. Since 1996, current and past members of our school community have engaged in the unique concept of giving back each year to a public school that has given them so much. Donations to the CHS Annual Fund remove financial barriers for economically disadvantaged students so they can focus on the joy of learning and student activities. These donations also enhance the City Honors' experience resulting in students looking forward to coming to their school each day. We know that strong attendance means students who are more successful in their studies and, eventually, in college and life.

As an all-volunteer board, we minimize overhead and work to be sure your gifts go directly to our students and school. We hope you will join the members of our board in making a gift to the 2024-2025 CHS Annual Fund.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Gandour
CH/FMP Foundation Board President

William Kresse, Ph.D.
Principal

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Kristin Roberts '00

Misha Russo '97

Frances Teaman '26
Alexis Wright

City Honors Named 2024 National Blue Ribbon School

GOOD NEWS SPOTLIGHT

On September 23, 2024, **City Honors was named a 2024 National Blue Ribbon School** by United States Secretary of Education, Dr. Miguel Cardona. This designation recognized City Honors as a model for effective teaching, intentional collaboration, a caring environment and academic excellence.

The Department of Education selected 356 schools for this accolade out of almost 130,000 public, private and charter K-12 schools in our nation. *City Honors was the lone school in upstate New York to receive this designation.*

In addition, on October 16, Secretary Cardona announced that our principal of 20 years, Dr. William Kresse, was one of the nine principals selected to receive the Department of Education's Terrel A. Bell Award for outstanding leadership. The Bell Award winners were chosen from those nominated by their school communities.



STARS Fund (STudents with Autism Rising to Success)

FUND SPOTLIGHT

Established in 2005 at City Honors, the **STARS program (STudents with Autism Rising to Success)** provides students with autism a tailored instructional experience with support from a team of educators specializing in autism spectrum disorders. The STARS program has become an important part of our school's mission and identity, comprising approximately 13% of our student body in 15 home base classrooms.

Students in the STARS program and their classmates in the traditional education program at City Honors learn and grow from their experiences with one another in important ways. This fund is used to support special opportunities and activities for students within the program, as well as ongoing professional development specific to the needs of students with autism for teachers and teacher assistants.

Auditorium

SPECIAL PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

The City Honors auditorium plays an important role in fostering a vibrant school community and enhancing our students' educational experiences. Not only a venue for performances and assemblies, but also a hub for creativity and collaboration, the auditorium is used daily by teachers and students.

Thanks to a generous donation from an alumnus, the CH/FMP Foundation recently funded a significant upgrade project that includes a new 13,000 lumen laser LED projector and full stage width motorized screen, allowing for a more engaging and immersive experience for both performers and audiences.

SPECIAL SCHOOL PROGRAMS

- ▶ International Baccalaureate Diploma Program since 1989
- ▶ International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program since 2008
- ▶ Pelion Outdoor Classroom at City Honors School
- ▶ Science Research Program at Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus
- ▶ STARS Program (STudents with Autism Rising to Success)
- ▶ Woz Ed Pathway School
- ▶ Hilbert College and SUNY Erie Dual Enrollment Programs
- ▶ World Language Instruction: French, Mandarin Chinese, Spanish

1095 | STUDENT ENROLLMENT FOR 2023-24

58% | MINORITY STUDENT ENROLLMENT

37 | GRADUATES EARNING NYS SEAL OF BILITERACY

47 | LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH SPOKEN IN STUDENT HOUSEHOLDS

77% | ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS

13% | STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

91% | GRADUATES EARNING ADVANCED REGENTS DIPLOMAS

97% | EQUITY AND EXCELLENCE RATE (graduates meeting college credit threshold in one or more AP/IB courses)

STATS