

## The **FACTS** About Success Academy in Lower Manhattan

- Success Academy is committed to providing Lower Manhattan and the District 2 community with another high quality public school that reflects the area's diverse population.
- Success Academy City Hall\* will serve children in grades K-8, beginning with kindergarten and first grade in August 2014.
- Success Academy welcomes a diverse population of students with a variety of academic and developmental needs. Last year, 15% of our scholars had IEPs, and 11% were English Language Learners or had graduated from that status while enrolled at our schools.
- District 2 has an enormous racial and ethnic achievement gap, which Success Academy has a strong record in reversing. Our African American and Hispanic students significantly outperform white students across the city and state.
- While 71% of white students and 75% of Asian students in District 2 passed the state math exam in 2013, less than 30% of African American and Hispanic students passed.
- At Success Academy schools, among the top performing in all of New York State, 82% of students met state standards in math and 58% met standards in English.
- Demand for Success Academy Charter Schools in District 2 is overwhelming. Last year, we received more than 700 applications from District 2 families. Success Academy Union Square and Success Academy Hell's Kitchen are thriving.
- Many elementary schools in Lower Manhattan are overcrowded or have waiting lists, which creates anxiety for families. Success Academy will provide another choice.
- In the Murry Bergtraum building where Success Academy is proposed to open, there are currently more than 500 empty seats. There is plenty of space for a new, high quality school.

*\*Name pending government approval*

*For more details, please contact Kerri Lyon at: [klyon@skdknick.com](mailto:klyon@skdknick.com). Please see reverse for more information about Success Academy.*



## About Success Academy

Success Academy was founded in 2006, with the dual mission of building world-class public schools across New York City and advancing education reform across the country. Starting with a single school in Harlem and 165 kindergarten and first-graders, Success Academy now serves 7,000 children in 22 schools from the Bronx to Brooklyn. The nonprofit network of public charter schools receives approximately 70% of the public funding that district schools receive. Every Success Academy elementary school is self-sustaining on public funds within its first three years. Students are admitted by random lottery, held each April; this year we received more than 12,000 applications for 2,500 seats.

Success Academy is known for its excellent teachers who engage and inspire students to fall in love with reading and learning, and to think critically and independently. Through an extended-day schedule and a well-rounded, rigorous curriculum that includes daily science, block play, chess, arts, music, and sports – and computer science, robotics, and debate for middle schoolers – Success Academies provide students with the real-world skills they need to succeed in college and in their careers. Both students and teachers have exceptionally high attendance records (96% and 99%, respectively), evidence that Success Academy is meeting its goal of making classrooms inviting, magical places where children would *want* to be even if they didn't have to attend school.

Across the Success Academy network of schools, 77% of students are from low-income households; 11% are English Language Learners, and 15% are special needs students. The demographic breakdown is: 64% African-American, 22% Hispanic, 8% multiracial, 3% white, and 3% other/not specified. For more information about Success Academy Charter Schools, go to [www.successacademies.org](http://www.successacademies.org).