

2021-2022 Impact Report

Philadelphia ^{CADEMIES} INC.



Alleviating poverty by creating opportunities for underserved students to thrive.



ABOUT US

Philadelphia Academies, Inc. (PAI), was established in 1969 to address the dropout crisis plaguing Philadelphia schools. This issue inspired our founders to create Career Academies, a specific learning model that has since been embraced by over 7,000 schools nationally and has led us to our current programming model which emphasizes Career-Connected Initiatives, Teacher & School Leader Support, and Industry Organizing, designed to drive successful students outcomes, including post-secondary education opportunities and placement into life-sustaining career pathways.



MISSION, VISION, AND VALUES

At PAI, we are driven by our **mission** to "alleviate poverty by creating opportunities for underserved students to thrive."

We **envision** a world where all young people have the skills, resources, and networks to reach their full potential.

Our **values** lead us forward in our work:

Equity: We believe that ALL students have the capacity to succeed, and we are committed to creating equitable opportunities for them to do so.

Innovation: In a constantly changing world, we embrace new ideas, foster creativity, and strive for continuous improvement.

Collaboration: We recognize that no one individual or organization can solve complex issues in isolation, and, as such, accomplish our goals through partnership.

Integrity: We practice honesty, accountability, and fairness in our interactions with our stakeholders and with one another.

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

We are pleased to share with you our impact report for the 2021-22 school year.

The COVID-19 pandemic, like other significant events during our 53 years as an organization, challenged us to adapt our practices as access to classrooms and in-person programming opportunities remained uneven for much of the year. Despite this, our dedicated staff rose to the occasion, and we meaningfully increased the number of students, teachers/administrators, and schools we served.

Our year began with a big move. After 7 years at 1401 Walnut Street we relocated just west of City Hall to 1500 JFK Blvd. This new space allowed us to welcome back staff to the office and once again conduct in-person meetings with business and school partners. Please drop us a note to schedule a visit!

On the programmatic side, our staff's dedication and creativity led to a wide range of accomplishments over the past year, many of which are highlighted within this report. Notably, we launched our first ever after-school program (Philly Tech Gateway), expanded our 9th Grade Success Network, redesigned our signature Interview Expo, and began to roll out a new Network for Schoolwide Success serving 1st through 8th grade students and teachers.

I'd like to thank our staff, business and school partners, donors, and board of directors, all of who worked tirelessly during this past school year to continue enacting our mission of "alleviating poverty by providing opportunities for underserved students to thrive."

Your continued support of Philadelphia Academies, Inc. helps us make education relevant for students so they can realize life-sustaining, fulfilling careers.

Sincerely,
Jay Vazquez



Jay Vazquez - President & CEO
Philadelphia Academies, Inc.

2021-22 IN NUMBERS

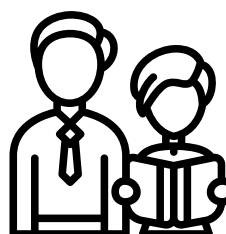


4,315

+723 FROM PRIOR YR

STUDENTS SERVED/SUPPORTED

(89% FROM HISTORICALLY
UNDERREPRESENTED GROUPS)



312

+132 FROM PRIOR YR

**TEACHERS &
ADMINS
SUPPORTED**

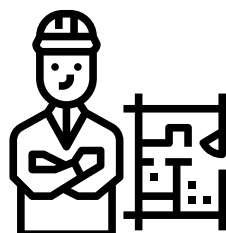


21

+3 FROM PRIOR YR

**SCHOOLS
SERVED**

WITHIN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PHILADELPHIA



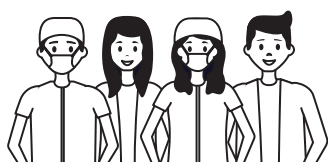
13

**CAREER
TRACKS
SUPPORTED**

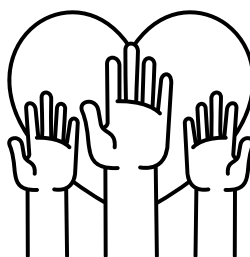
HELPING STUDENTS REALIZE
LIFE-SUSTAINING CAREERS

140+

INDUSTRY PARTNERS



EXPOSING STUDENTS TO A WIDE
RANGE OF DIVERSE CAREER PATHS



**180 VOLUNTEERS
DONATED 1,505
HOURS WHILE
REPRESENTING
144 INDUSTRY
PARTNERS AND
19 COLLEGE
PARTNERS.**

**SCHOLARSHIP
DOLLAR'S
AWARDED**



\$36,000

2021-22 HIGHLIGHTS

The 2021-22 school year brought a cautious return to in-person programming as COVID-19 restrictions eased. We were thrilled to introduce students to many different out-of-classroom experiences this year and bring back signature events like PAI's Interview Expo and our Annual Gala.

PROGRAMS



- **Philly Tech Gateway**, PAI's first ever after school program, launched in Spring of 2022 teaching valuable tech skills to students in West Philadelphia.
- PAI expanded its reach by beginning to work with 1st thru 8th grade teachers through our **Network for Schoolwide Success** program.
- 7 of our 13 **9th Grade Success Network** schools met their On-Track Goals and 4 others came within 2 percentage points of their target.
- 165 students in PAI's **Tourism & Hospitality Management** program earned industry certifications including, NOCTI, SafeServ, and Certified Guest Services Professional designations.

RETURN OF EVENTS



- We relaunched our signature **Interview Expo** with a refreshed format allowing for more focused interaction with students. Over 5 sessions, 150 students attended, and interacted with 21 business partners through mock interviews and skills development workshops.
- PAI organized and sponsored **freshmen career panels** in 7 schools featuring diverse professionals from a wide range of industries.
- Our **Annual Gala** returned after a 2-year absence. Hosted at Rivers Casino, we honored Independence Blue Cross alongside "Our Teachers, Our Heroes" to recognize educators and their steadfast dedication to our students.

PARTNERS



- WSFS Bank, Stanley Black & Decker, S&P Global, PacifiCorp, and Penn Treaty Special Services District (PTSSD) joined PAI as new partners.
- Regional colleges opened their doors to PAI students for tours including Drexel University, Temple University, Moore College of Art & Design, Chestnut Hill College, Cheyney University, and more.
- PAI's **Pre-Apprenticeship** programs at Mastbaum High School were generously supported by PECO.
- PAI partnered with Coded by Kids who provided skilled instructors & curriculum for our Philly Tech Gateway program.



CAREER PANELS

PAI CONDUCTED 7 CAREER PANELS FEATURING A DIVERSE SET OF SPEAKERS AND INDUSTRIES



STAFF

PAI GREW FROM 14 TO 20 DEDICATED EMPLOYEES.



SITE VISITS

MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS ENJOYED A MEMORABLE VISIT TO A LOCAL URBAN FARM

OUR IMPACT

Ms. Judith Dunn of Sayre High School is a proud member of PAI's 9th Grade Success Network. She explains the impact the "Grades Monitoring Tool" introduced through coaching by PAI and designed to help freshmen stay "on-track" has had on her classes.

"I love it, to be honest. Not only does it tell me what grades are weighing down a student, but it also shows you if we're all having the same problem with the same few students, and who has a relationship with him or her. We then work together as a team to try and make sure they do what they need to do to go on to 10th grade."



Ms. Dunn in her classroom during a 9GSN Team Meeting



"You can learn so much in the classroom, but it's also good to see them get out of their day-to-day environment and see the farm-to-table experience."

- Rene Melendez, PAI's Senior Hospitality Specialist on a trip to Fox Chase Farms with 40 Tourism & Hospitality Students.



"My goal is to major in computer science & land a career as a web developer. This program is helping me reach my goals."

- Tewahido - Senior on Philly Tech Gateway

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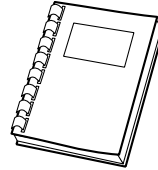
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WAYS YOU CAN HELP



\$30

Provides a week's worth of snacks for students in PAI's Philly Tech Gateway after-school program.



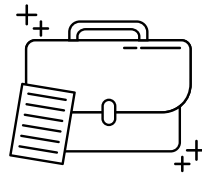
\$50

Cost for 5 students to receive an Interview Skills binder with tips on pre-interview prep and bonus material on what to expect in the workplace.



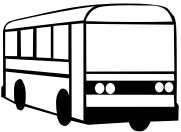
\$100

Buys professional clothing needed to attend job interviews for two students.



\$250

Sponsors a Career Panel allowing up to 100 students to hear directly from industry experts and gain awareness of various career opportunities.



\$500

Provides transportation and lunch for 30 students to participate in a day-long Job Shadowing Experience.



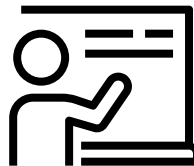
\$750

Allows up to 30 students to gain hands-on experience at an off-site Master Class led by industry partners



\$2,500

Covers the cost of a Senior Showcase, where graduating Pre-Apprentices display their projects and celebrate their futures.



\$5,000

Provides 60 Teachers and School Leaders from 13 Schools with an opportunity to collaborate, learn, and share at our 9th Grade Success Network's Community of Practice.

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