



I am
G.R.E.A.T.

LAYC CAREER ACADEMY
Public Charter School





Dear Friends,

This has been a very fruitful year for the LAYC Career Academy community.

We are proud of our students. We are home to the Microsoft Excel Champion of the country and two DC Microsoft Champions. Two thirds of our students improved their reading and math skills by two or three grade levels in just one year and our GED pass rate was close to 90%.

We are proud of our staff, which included the DC Public Charter School Board Teacher of the Year.

We are proud of our community. After two years of implementing restorative practices and strengthening our internal communication, we were able to drop our expulsions and suspensions to zero for the first time ever.

We are proud of our partners who helped us to develop a new website, provided our students with internships, and donated time and money to strengthen our school.

As we look toward our next school year, we will build on this work and hope to see even more young people working in the IT and healthcare fields, attending college and finishing their high school education.

We thank you for your support as we continue to learn and grow.

Sincerely,

Nicole Hanrahan
Nicole Hanrahan
Co-Founder & Executive Director
LAYC Career Academy



LAYC Career Academy
Community Creed

I AM: I am a member of the LAYC Career Academy Community.

I am G.R.E.A.T!

GRACIOUS

I am humble and appreciative of the opportunities provided for success. I am willing to help others on their journey.

RESPECTFUL

I am empathetic to the personal struggles of all whom I encounter: myself, my peers, and my community.

EXCELLENT

I perform to the best of my ability at all times, motivated both in and out of the classroom.

AMBITIOUS

I constantly challenge myself to grow personally and professionally, despite what obstacles may arise.

TENACIOUS

I am committed to overcoming any obstacle in my path and determined to achieve high standards in all aspects of my life.

Career Academy Is Home To The 2019 Teacher Of The Year

In December 2019, Career Academy Information Technology Instructor, Abner Soto, was named teacher of the year by the DC Public Charter School Board. What made Mr. Soto stand out? His students noted his endless dedication and knowledge of information technology (IT). *“Mr. Soto knows everything about IT and there is nothing he would not do to help me learn.”* Students spoke about the hours Mr. Soto spent with them after school, during lunch, and during his planning period to help them master material and earn IT certifications. His fellow teachers spoke of his encouragement and positivity. He teaches special classes to colleagues and community members after school and sends a congratulatory email to the entire staff any time that a student passes an IT exam.

Abner Soto’s dedication and infectious spirit have earned him wide recognition. Besides being recognized as the 2019 Teacher of the Year by the Public Charter School Board, he was also named the Certiport Teacher of the Month in November, 2019. He received the 2013 D.C United (MLS) Community Star Award, the 2015 Hispanic Heritage Innovative Educator, and the 2016 OSSE Career & Technical Education Teacher of Year. We are proud that he calls Career Academy home.

Career Academy is the proud home of the 2019 DC Public Charter School Board Teacher of the Year, Abner Soto.



Career Academy student Bruce Beuzard IV was named the Microsoft Excel National Champion this year.

Career Academy Student Named Microsoft Excel National Champion

Before being named National Champion, Bruce and fellow student, Tatiana Contreras, were named the DC Champions for Microsoft Excel and Powerpoint, respectively. Both students then qualified to participate in the Microsoft National Championship by scoring higher than more than 350,000 students from all over the country on an eligible MOS Exam in the qualifying round. Bruce and Tatiana then joined 160 top ranking finalists in Orlando, Florida at the end of June to compete for the winning spots.

Bruce went on to earn first place for Excel at the Microsoft National Championship. He received a \$3,000 cash prize for his first place win and was invited to participate in the World Championship in New York. He graduated from Career Academy this fall and is now employed in IT at Amazon.

Want A Living Wage Job? A High School Diploma Is Not Enough

Helping high school graduates with low literacy earn the skills needed to access college or living wage job trainings programs is central to Career Academy's mission. According to the Brookings Institution, "Of young adults aged 18-24 in the District, 7,100 or 8.6 percent are disconnected, meaning they are low income (with income less than 200 [%] of the federal poverty line), neither in school nor working, and have less than an associate degree. These young people are at increased risk for poverty and unemployment." Sixty-six percent of opportunity youth in DC have a high school diploma.

At the LAYC Career Academy, 89% of high school graduates who enter our school do not read at a level high enough to complete credit bearing college classes or a training program that leads to a living wage. In fact, one in three high school graduates reads and performs math at an elementary school level. These literacy and numeracy levels do not allow young people succeed in college or high quality training programs. This forces young people to pay for remedial education from a community college or a for-profit institution and accrue high levels of debt. Career Academy is one of the only schools in the city to offer free remedial courses. Through our programs, more than 60% of students improve their math and reading skills by two or three grade levels in one year.

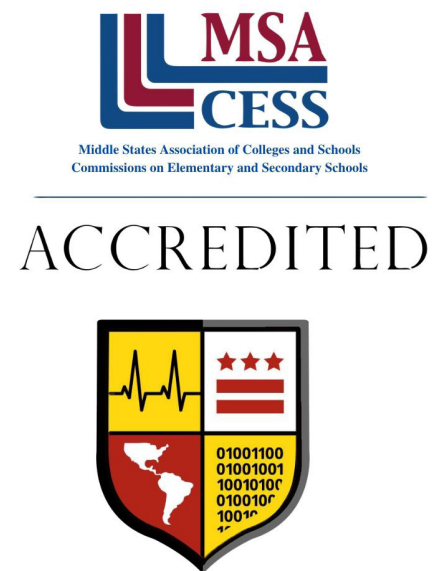
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It's Official! Accreditation From The Middle States Association

In May 2019, Career Academy officially became an accredited school after more than two years of work. Career Academy's Middle States Association site visit chair, Christina Roy, summed up why she thought the school deserved accreditation. *"From the moment we entered the school, we saw and heard that this is a special place. It is a small school, but it is one that was so frequently described as 'home' by students and 'family' by staff. In fact, the staff was commonly mentioned as the best part about LAYCCA for their caring, their support, and their ability to procure resources to serve the students.... We are also impressed by the uniformity with which the students, the board, and the staff with whom we spoke support the mission of LAYC Career Academy."*



School Culture Matters: Zero Expulsions And Suspensions

Over the last two school years, Career Academy has implemented restorative practices in order to create a more peaceful and equitable school climate. According to the International Institute for Restorative Practices, *"restorative practices is an emerging social science that studies how to strengthen relationships between individuals as well as social connections within communities."* Career Academy students and staff frequently participated in community circles where all participants answer a question or prompt to build community or process an event while sitting in a circle. The school also used conferences where two or more people work through a conflict by discussing the harm that happened and the parties can make it right. This year, our efforts created measurable positive outcomes. Career Academy did not expel or suspend any students during the school year; instead, the school focused on building community and addressing harm.

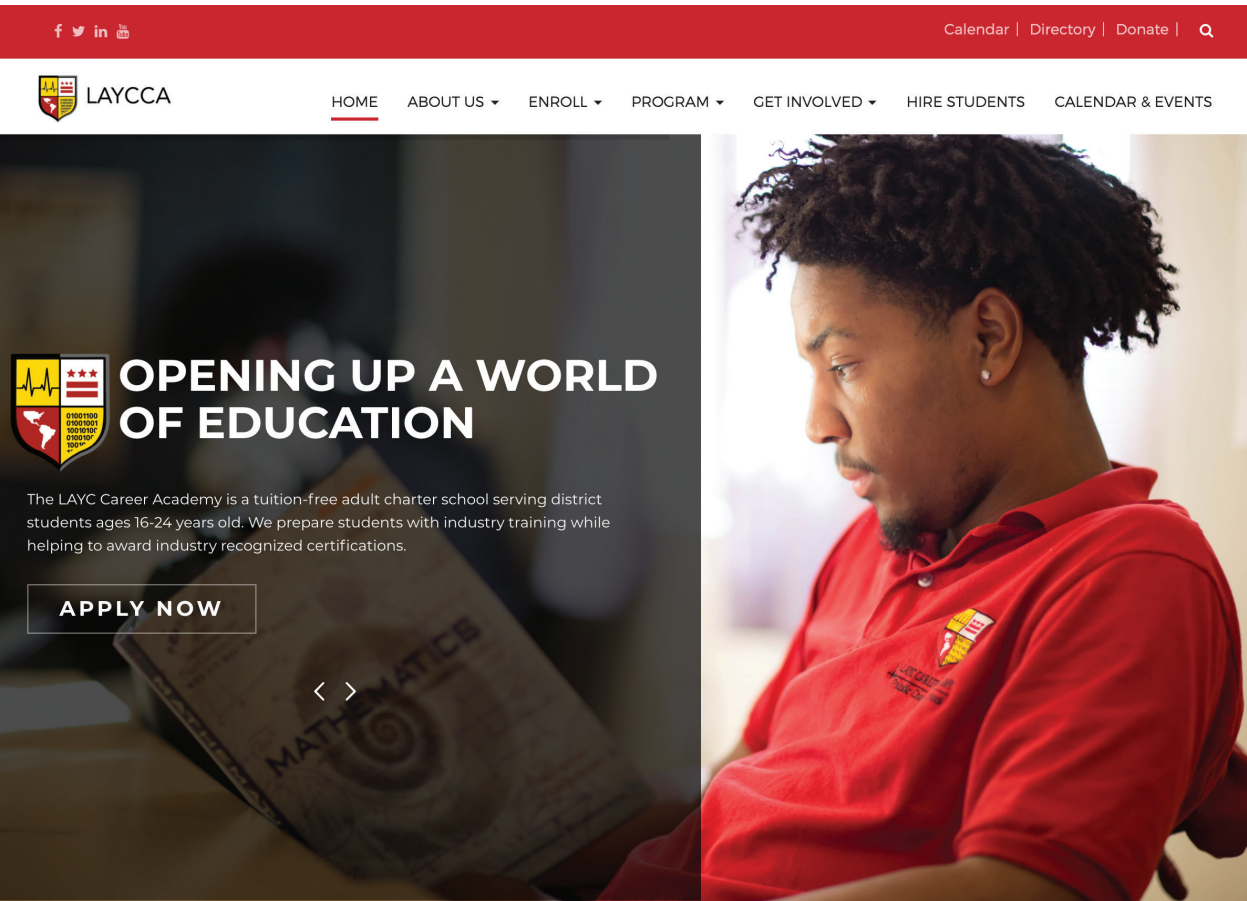


"Restorative practices is an emerging social science that studies how to strengthen relationships between individuals as well as social connections within communities."



Volunteer Spotlight: Bixal

With pro-bono assistance from Bixal, a local communications firm, Career Academy launched a brand new website. Students, parents, potential funders, and employers can visit the new site at: www.laycca.org to learn about school services and opportunities to hire students.



Welcome to **LAYC Career Academy**

We envision a future in which all youth in the District of Columbia will launch a career with opportunities for advancement, and become engaged members of the community.

Student Support Services

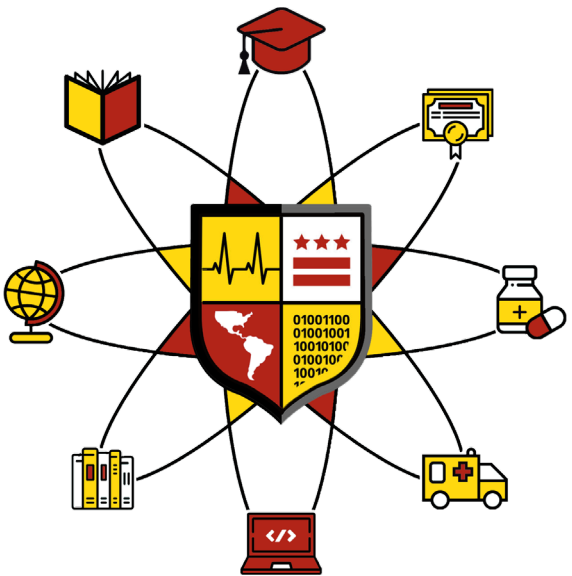
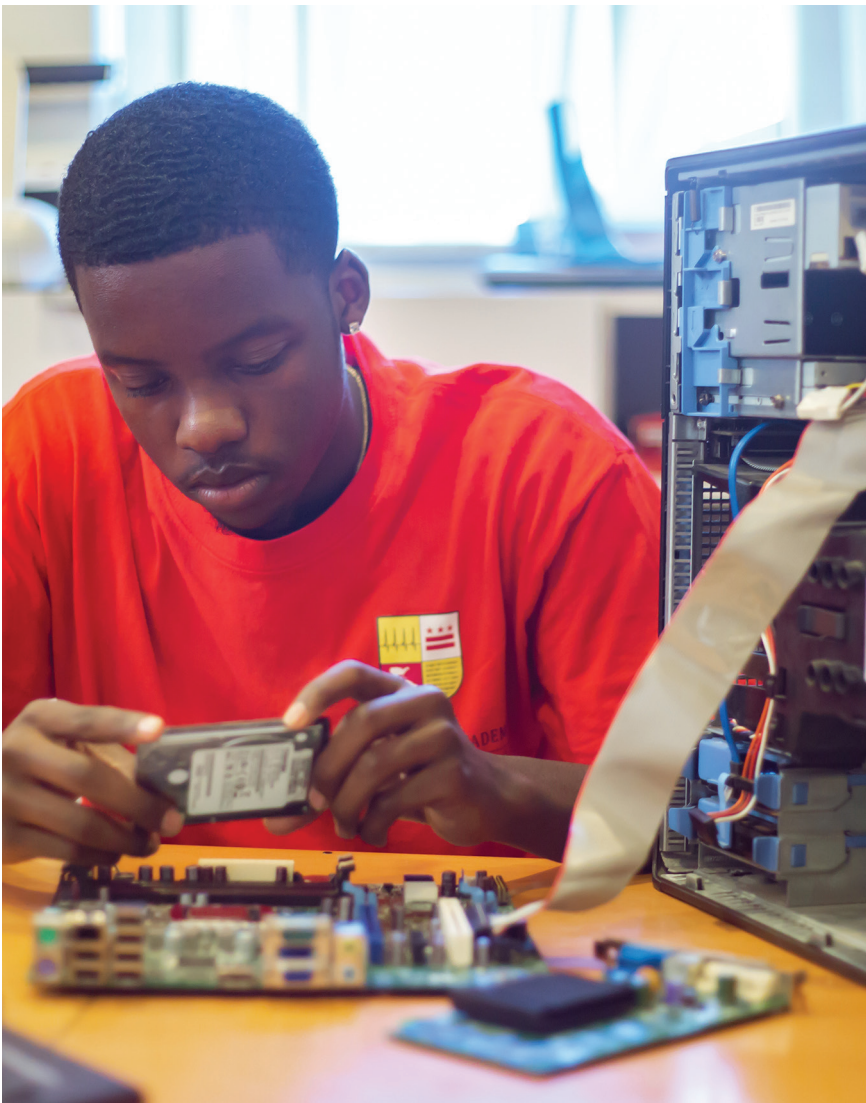


Thank You To Our Partners

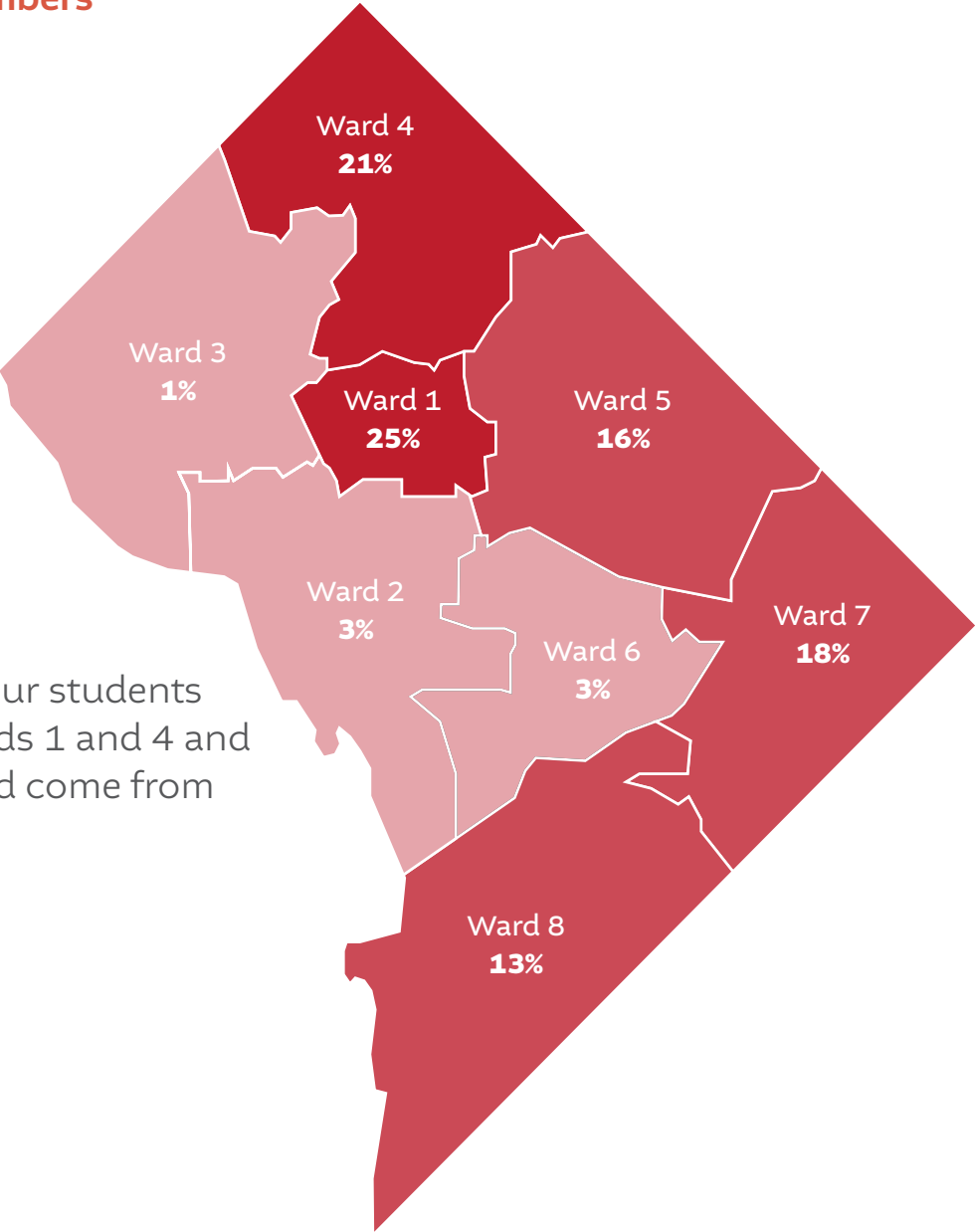
- A+ Medical Company, Inc.
- American University
- Baker McKenzie
- Bixal Exchange
- Capital One
- Community of Hope
- EAB
- Latin American Youth Center
- Mayer Brown
- Restorative DC
- The Urban Institute

Thank You To Our Funders

- DC Office of the State Superintendent of Education
- Greater Washington Community Foundation
- International Youth Foundation
- Richard E. & Nancy P. Marriott Foundation
- Sunrise Foundation
- Tiger Woods Foundation

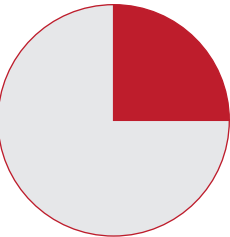


Our Year in Numbers

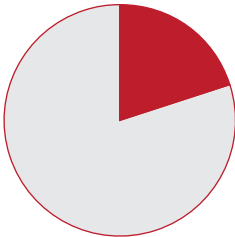


Almost half of our students come from Wards 1 and 4 and almost one-third come from Wards 7 and 8.

1 in 4
were homeless
or in foster care



1 in 5
were students
with disabilities



1 in 10
were parenting
or pregnant



Gender



Race/Ethnicity



Age



About **2/3** of students improved 2-3 grade levels in math or reading.



88% of students passed a GED subject test.



95% of our graduates were working or in school within 6 months.



2/3 of GED students who took all 4 subject tests earned the GED.



Our 129 students earned **154** IT certifications.



Career Academy set ambitious goals this year and we are pleased to report that we met them all.



Note: Per our charter, tiers for goal attainment were determined following the DCPCSB 2017-18 business rules.

Financial Statements

LAYC Career Academy is pleased to report that it had a clean audit in 2019. The auditors issued an unmodified opinion and discovered no instance of fraud and identified no material weaknesses in internal controls. The school experienced a loss during fiscal year 2019, primarily because it experienced a decrease in enrollment. However, enrollment rose in fiscal year 2020 and the school projects a modest surplus for 2020. Overall, the school benefits from a strong balance sheet and financial support from generous donors, which allows Career Academy to be financially secure and to continue to serve students with excellence.

Statement of Financial Position

Assets	2019	2018
Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,388,625	\$1,283,313
Grant receivables	28,897	152,741
Other receivables	1,283	1,717
Prepaid expenses	10,622	44,791
Furniture and equipment, net	32,087	74,700
Security deposit	44,792	89,792
Total Assets	\$1,506,306	\$1,647,054

Liabilities & Net Assets		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$121,930	\$125,059
Due to LAYC, net	8,027	22,218
Total Liabilities	\$129,957	\$147,277
Without donor restrictions	\$1,351,349	\$1,499,777
With donor restrictions	\$25,000	-
Total Net Assets	\$1,376,349	\$1,499,777

Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$1,506,306	\$1,647,054
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Statement of Activities

Net Assets without Donor Restriction	2019	2018
Per Pupil Allocation	\$2,242,432	\$2,500,125
DC Facilities Allowance	420,927	434,211
School Lunch	16,310	12,889
Federal Grants	130,248	408,461
Grants and Contributions	61,686	36,437
In-Kind Contributions	166,427	191,203
Other	25,321	9,618
Total Revenue and Support	\$3,063,351	\$3,592,944

Expenses		
Program Services	\$2,822,174	\$3,115,900
Supporting Services		
General & Administrative	373,989	524,291
Fundraising	15,616	17,523
Total Supporting Services	\$389,605	\$541,814
Total Expenses	\$3,211,779	\$3,657,714
Change in Net Assets	(148,428)	(64,770)

Net Assets with Donor Restriction		
Grants and Contributions	25,000	-
Change in Net Assets with Donor Restriction	25,000	-
Change in Net Assets	(123,428)	(64,770)
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	1,499,777	1,564,547
Net Assets, End of Year	\$1,376,349	\$1,499,777



LAYC Career Academy Board of Directors

Elizabeth Burrell, *Chair*

School Administration and Counseling (retired)

Kate Brannon, *Treasurer*

Director of Finance, George Washington University Graduate School of Education
& Human Development

Lori Kaplan, *Vice Chair*

President & CEO, Latin American Youth Center (retired)

Linda Moore, *Secretary*

Founder, Elsie Whitlow Stokes Community Freedom Public Charter School (retired)

Emmanuel Caudillo

Senior Advisor, White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics

Ana Hageage

Program Director, National Fund for Workforce Solutions

Juan Carlos Pereira

Principal Investment Officer, International Finance Corporation

Lesly Zelayandia-Lopez, Student Board Member

Student, Trinity University

Justin Lofton, Student Board Member

Student, LAYC Career Academy

laycca.org

