

FINANCIAL AID
OPPORTUNITY | LEADERSHIP | CHARACTER | COMMUNITY

FINANCIAL AID

Financial aid enables Greenwich Academy to be a vibrant, stimulating environment that gathers the best and brightest—regardless of socio-economic background—eager minds who are shaped by excellent teachers to explore and challenge themselves to pursue their passions.

What develops is a top-tier community of learners, powered by each other to constantly move forward —fueled by self-discovery and collaboration—and who reflect the broader 21st-century world in which they actively play a role.









PARTNERING TO FOSTER **KNOWLEDGE** THAT CHANGES THE **TRAJECTORY** OF **LIVES**

How do we tell the story of the domino-effect impact that the gift of a GA education brings?

With inspiring stories of alumnae who were given the opportunity to experience the benefits of attending GA and who are accomplishing amazing things in the world.

THE GATEWAY TO ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES

VICTORIA GAMERMAN '04

Boston University, simultaneous Bachelor's Degree and Master's Degree in Mathematics and Biostatistics 2007 University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Master's Degree in Biostatistics 2009, PhD in Biostatistics 2016

Associate Director of Biostatistics at Boehringer-Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Greenwich Academy was lucky to find Victoria during the summer of 1999 when she was a rising 7th grade student in public school. After taking part in the Greenwich Academy Talent Enrichment (GATE) summer program, she was accepted into GA and, in turn, harnessed everything the school had to offer. Her drive, perseverance, and ambition combined with academic acumen catapulted Victoria to the completion of her PhD in biostatistics from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. The daughter of immigrants from Russia, Victoria proved the American Dream is attainable if you work hard and are given a fair opportunity to succeed. She is currently the associate director of Biostatistics at Boehringer-Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc. in Ridgefield, Connecticut. As a team leader for the Health Informatics and Analytics team, she is uniquely positioned to foster efficient patient-oriented clinical development programs worldwide.

"At GA, with the small classes sizes, my teachers listened to what I had to say, understood where I was in my academic growth, and were able to help me find the balance between where I could be challenged (math) and where I needed further development. I was able to work and study hard in my classes and take many AP classes in STEM fields. I learned to manage my time, prioritize and explore other subjects by picking electives specific to my interests. This really helped me identify something I was good at and build it into something I was passionate about.

"With 100% certainty (which is hard for a statistician to say), I am confident that I would not have been able to attend GA without incredibly generous financial support. That support was something I thought of when I was working hard, because I wasn't just doing it for myself, but I was also working hard because there were many people around me who actually wanted me to be at Greenwich Academy and to succeed."



I had everything
I needed for school
—the laptop, the
books, the uniform,
the transportation—so
that I could focus on
getting the most out of
every day while at GA.
It changed my life.

Greenwich Academy Talent & Enrichment GATE Program

NEARLY THREE DECADES OF OUTREACH THAT CONTINUES TO IMPACT



PROVIDING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO YOUNG GIRLS IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

Established in 1989, GATE is a summer academic enrichment program for rising third through seventh grade girls that strives to bolster the scholastic success of its participants. Fully funded by GA, candidates for the GATE program are academically gifted girls from low income families primarily in the Southern Connecticut region who need a challenging educational experience to inspire and prepare them for their future. Over 50 girls participate in the program each summer, with GA faculty teaching them and 30 GA Upper Schooler students and young alumnae serving as volunteer counselors.



Carrying gratitude in your heart makes you a happier person on a daily basis."

A COMMUNITY TO LEAN ON IN TIMES OF NEED

LAURA HILL '95

Boston College, Bachelor's Degree 1999, Political Science Director at FocusPoint Private Capital Group, New York, Venture Capital & Private Equity

Laura was a "lifer" at GA—starting in PC and going all the way through graduation. During that time, she was co-captain of the tennis team, a member of student government, a peer leader, a Madrigal, co-editor of *Daedalus*, and the editor of *Greenleaf*. It is no wonder that this driven and hard-working woman has earned her place as an influential leader in her field as a venture capitalist. In addition, Laura helps other young women, giving them a hand up, counseling them to build businesses, and supporting and strengthening their climb up the ladder. Laura's desire to give back is rooted in her early days at Greenwich Academy when her family experienced some financial changes. As is the case with many GA families, they needed some assistance to get through a difficult time and found support through the school's financial aid program.

"Every community needs reserves for when tough times fall upon others. Knowing we were able to stay at the Academy was one of the greatest joys for my sisters and me. We were so grateful! Knowing we didn't have to worry about tuition freed up space in our minds and in our hearts to learn and live more joyfully each day.

"Over the course of my career, I have worked for some of the most senior executives at several very public businesses. I have gotten to spend much of the last five years back in Palo Alto and San Francisco venture capital fundraising from many of the people and organizations that are shaping the future of technology. Both in my roles at the Council on Foreign Relations, and also today at FocusPoint, I continue to meet some of the most forward looking thinkers who are using technology to improve lives in and outside of the United States. I've often had moments at these firms where I've had to pinch myself thinking how lucky I was to be in a place to be learning from such successful minds and personalities. But being present with so many CEOs and senior executives required a lot of courage. There was never any time to be afraid. And I am 100% sure this lack of fear comes from the infrastructure and support we received throughout the community at Greenwich Academy. The school always encouraged us to push our limits, and taught us that if you fail, you pick yourself up, and try again. So I have always gone for it—in every aspect of my life."

Empowered Women. Leaders of the Future.

PAYING EDUCATION FORWARD

NICOLE GRAHAM-VICTOR '94

Union College, Bachelor's Degree 1998, Psychology and Africana Studies Manhattanville College, Master's in Elementary Education and Teaching, 2000 Teachers College of Columbia University, Klingenstein Fellow, Master's of Education, Leadership and Administration, 2007 Director of Admission and Outplacement, The Children's School

Nicole was connected to GA through her local community center which provided information about private schools. She says her parents loved Greenwich Academy right away; her mother in particular appreciated GA's focus on the mission of educating strong, independent girls and young women. During her time at GA, Nicole was a dancer, sang in the chorus, played two junior varsity sports, was a peer leader, a contributing member of Greenwich Academy Press, and a member of the Community Service Club and the Cultural Awareness Club. She ultimately pursued a career in education administration with the intent of giving back. After seven years at the New Canaan Country School, Nicole is now the Director of Admission and Outplacement at The Children's School in Atlanta, Georgia where she lives with her husband and two sons.

"I entered GA a shy, introverted girl and left a much more confident and self-aware young woman. My evolution was slow and others saw strengths in me that I did not. My mom taught me to look at GA as an opportunity for education—both academically and socially. GA was a window into the world in which we live today—a world where having opportunity is just as important as making connections.

"I returned to GA in 1998 to be a teaching intern, which was a springboard to my career in independent school education. In addition, I taught for five years with REACH Prep which allowed me to, again, give back, and work with and prepare the next generation of children of color looking to join independent school communities. In my current role as a director of admission, I think I have a unique perspective into what parents are seeking when they desire the type of education and opportunities independent schools provide, and I often call upon my own experiences during the admissions process. Economic diversity is truly essential to the educational experiences of all families—not just the families who are on the receiving side."



"I spent seven years at GA, and I am forever changed. It's that simple."



REJOICING IN DANCE AND CULTURE.

MICKELA MALLOZZI '00

New York University, Bachelor's Degree 2005, Music and Italian

Two-time Emmy® Award-winning host and producer of the travel television and web series, *Bare Feet*

Always passionate about music and dance, Mickela was drawn to Greenwich Academy's robust performing arts opportunities very early on. A member of GA's Dance Corp and the A Capella group and Blue Notes at Brunswick, Mickela has since harnessed this love of dance, the arts, and culture into the popular television travel series *Bare Feet* which earned her two Emmy Awards. A professional dancer and trained musician, Mickela decided to start a journey around the world, taking her camera with her to follow dance in the lives of everyday people. From re-discovering her family's heritage in southern Italy to dancing tango on the main stage in Buenos Aires, the series covers Mickela's adventures as she experiences the world, "one dance at a time." The show promotes and celebrates travel and cultural acceptance.

"I had an incredible artistic outlet at GA, choreographing with like-minded girls, teaching me leadership skills in directing pieces, and of course I built a diverse bond with the upper school girls in the program that I otherwise might not have had. I am still in touch with many of the Dance Corps alumnae that I performed with and choreographed with—the Dance Corps rehearsals, classes, and performances are some of my fondest memories at GA, and those experiences obviously had a profound impact on my current career.



"From my own personal experience as a student on financial aid, I worked so hard to become a member of the GA community that the drive to prove myself was even stronger. I never took for granted the fact that I was able to come to such an exceptional environment of learning and creativity. Financial aid creates diversity in a school, but it

also creates opportunity for everyone involved: appreciation of socio-economic backgrounds on both sides, cross-cultural

exchanges, and the understanding that potential does

not discriminate."

...WITH BARE FEET

"I am
grateful
that GA
made that
investment
in me."



GA INSTILLS CONFIDENCE FOR WOMEN TO BE CONTRIBUTORS TO THE CONVERSATION

NITA PADAVIL '08

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Bachelor's Degree 2012, Biology and Graphic Design Magna Cum Laude University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine, Doctor of Medicine 2016

With a mom who's a nurse and a dad who's a medical tech, it is no surprise Nita Padavil was drawn to the field of medicine. Nita began her GA experience as a middle school student and very quickly found her footing in so many of the school's arenas throughout her time here. Working on the staff of *Greenleaf* and singing in the Brunswick/GA A Capella group, Nita balanced her love of the arts and sciences. Recently earning her MD, Nita is a first year psychiatry resident at Northwestern Memorial in Chicago. Ultimately, she plans to focus on psychiatry for women, children, and adolescents.

"My GA education set me up to succeed. GA's culture is one that encourages you to be interested in a variety of things, that exposes you not only to standard academics, but also to the arts and to athletics in a meaningful way, helping you find your particular niche of interests. This multidisciplinary involvement helped me learn very early how to balance a variety of interests and obligations.

"I entered RPI ready to excel, and despite it being a male-dominated environment, I never once felt intimidated or intellectually less than because of my gender. I came with confidence in my abilities, never doubting for a second that my voice deserved to be part of the conversation, that I had something to contribute."

Financial aid creates a diverse environment that provides everyone in the community the opportunity to learn—with individuals who hail from different backgrounds and with different perspectives.

MAKING HER MARK AS A CITIZEN OF THE WORLD

MONICA RODRIGUEZ '08

Bates College, Bachelor's Degree 2012, Chinese Language and Culture Boston College Law School, JD 2015 Family Law Division Clerk at Stamford Superior Court, Connecticut Judicial Branch

Monica's parents applied her to Greenwich Academy because they knew the key to their daughter's success would be an education filled with opportunity. Monica quickly became a part of the community, joined SCORE (Students of Color Organized to Represent Equality) and was selected by the admission office as an ambassador—making Monica one of the first faces prospective families saw as they toured the school. She credits GA for not only providing her tuition, but for also supporting the "extras" like cultural trips and diversity conferences along with her laptop and books so that she received the full Greenwich Academy experience—just like her peers. Now a family law attorney, Monica is committed to giving back to the community in a significant way.

"At Greenwich Academy, I always felt an expectation to 'Make Your Mark' and to make the world a better place. In choosing to become a lawyer, I have recognized that these altruistic ideals I have grew in me while at GA, and have called me to help those in need; particularly in matrimonial and immigration law.

"In addition, thanks to my experiences at GA, I have also become very active in my college's leadership and financial aid plan, becoming one of the first Latinas on the Bates Fund Executive Committee."



"GA provided me with the ingredients necessary to be the best person I could be—both as an academic and as a citizen of the world."



A Greenwich Academy education is a commitment to excellence.
Outstanding students, teachers, and facilities are made possible
when we come together and make this investment
that has a lifetime return. Thank you.



GREENWICH ACADEMY MISSION STATEMENT

Greenwich Academy is an independent college-preparatory day school for girls and young women that seeks to foster excellence. Its mission is to provide a challenging, comprehensive educational experience grounded in a rigorous liberal arts curriculum within an inclusive, diverse community. The school's objective is to develop girls and young women of exceptional character and achievement who demonstrate independence, resilience, courage, integrity and compassion. We strive, above all to honor our motto, "Toward the Building of Character."

For more information about ways you can impact the lives of GA girls, contact:
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GREENWICH ACADEMY

Toward the Building of Character

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