



TRANSITION  
PROGRAM

# NEXT STEPS

# NEXT STEPS *Presenters*



Ryan Zaccaro, Head of the Next Steps Transition Program

Hilary Smith, Director of Admissions and Enrollment

# NEXT STEPS Overview



## Who do we aim to serve?

- Students who may want or require additional preparation before pursuing a college education or other postsecondary educational program
- Students who want to develop a greater sense of independence for their next step in life

## How long is the program?

- Students can attend for one, two, three years  
*The length of the program can be determined by individual families based on their student's goal*
- The program follows the standard academic calendar

# NEXT STEPS *Overview*



## What are the skills that lead to greater independence?

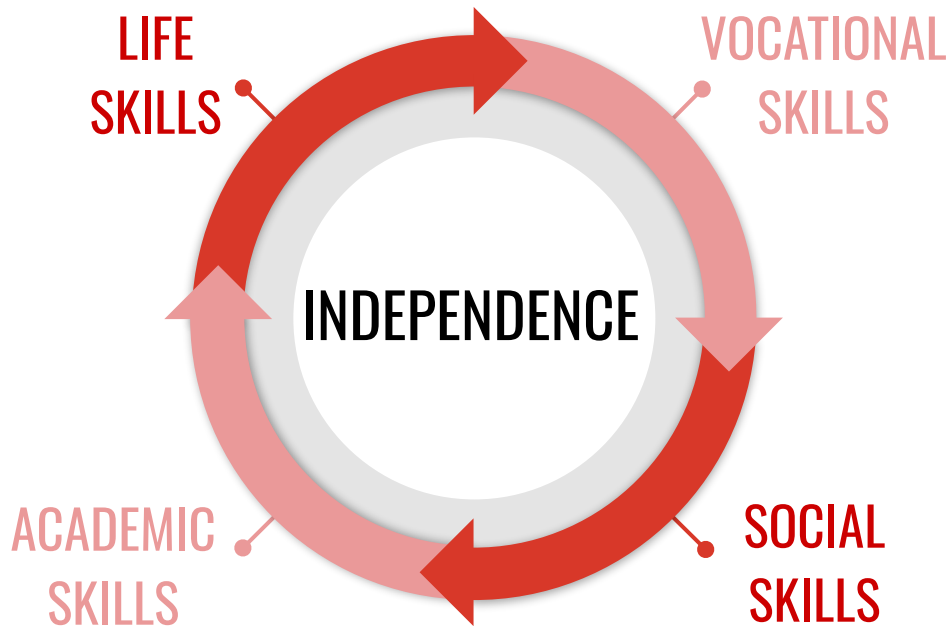
We work with each individual student and family to create goals within each of these realms

---

Student-interest driven

---

Individualized curriculum to meet students where they are and increase independence



# NEXT STEPS *Academics*



- Finance
- Literacy
- Technology
- Access to High School courses
- The arts
- The College of Mount Saint Vincent–Bridge Program



# NEXT STEPS Academics

## In arts classes, students:

- Participate in daily arts activities
  - Visual art, drama, music
- Build creativity and confidence
- Develop multiple modes of expression
- Increase their community engagement
- Participate in ArtBeat, an annual arts showcase
- Participate in IDEAL's extracurricular drama program



# NEXT STEPS *Academic Skills*



**College Courses** *in partnership with the* **College of Mount Saint Vincent**



Students have the opportunity to attend one in-person college course within CMSV's ability-inclusive Bridge Program.

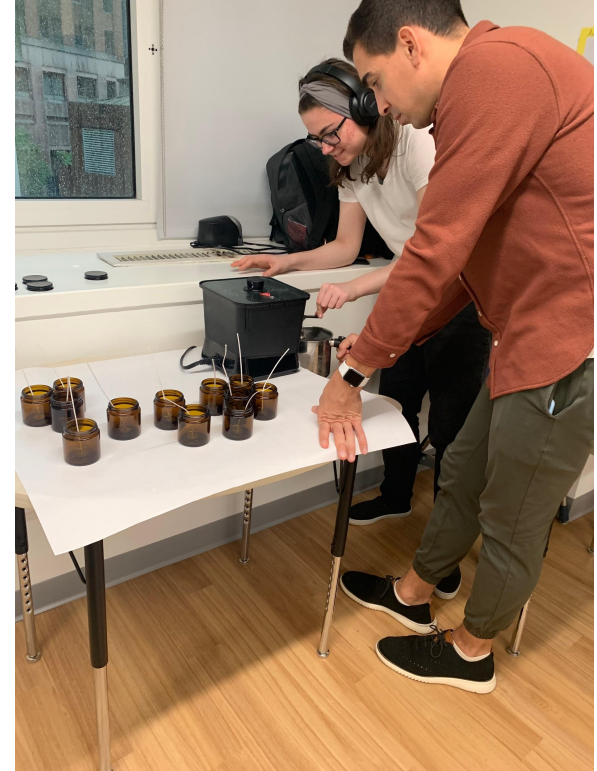
Students participating in this opportunity would be accompanied by other Next Steps students and a Next Steps instructor.

# NEXT STEPS *Life Skills*



## Independent Living Skills:

- Culinary Arts
- Independent Living
- Hobby Building
- Travel Skills
- Career Skills
- Mindfulness



# NEXT STEPS *Social Skills*



- First Fridays social events
  - Monthly social events with alumni and transition-aged students from other local programs
- Inclusive arts courses, extracurriculars, dances, and clubs with IDEAL students



# NEXT STEPS *Internships*

**Every student is placed in an internship**



Year One	Year Two	Year Three	One year of college readiness
<p>Semester One</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Build internship skills</li></ul> <p>Semester Two</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Internal internship</li></ul>	<p>Semester One</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Internal or external internship</li></ul> <p>Semester Two</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• External Internship</li></ul>	<p>Semester One</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• External Internship</li></ul> <p>Semester Two</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• External Internship</li></ul>	<p>Semester One</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Internal or External Internship</li></ul> <p>Semester Two</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• External Internship</li></ul>

**A growing list of external internships, including:**



New York  
Public  
Library



# NEXT STEPS *School Store*

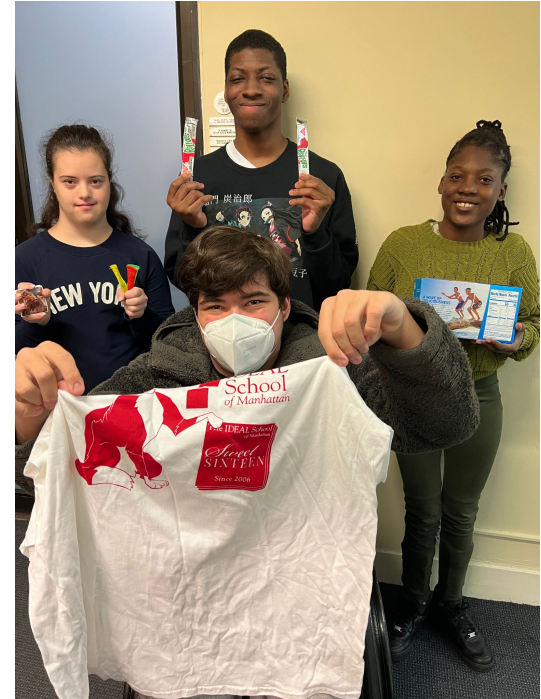


## Student-run business where students work as:

- Cashiers
- Inventory managers
- Sales associates

## Students are all involved in:

- Planning, purchasing, and pricing items
- Developing marketing skills
- Reviewing the store budget and monitoring profits



# NEXT STEPS *Candle-Making Business*



## Student-run business where students:

- Choose fragrances and name them
- Follow the steps to make candles
- Design the labels
- Sell to our community and monitor sales



# NEXT STEPS *Vocational Skills*



## Vocational Skills and Internships:

- Interest assessment
- Resume review
- Interview preparation
- Job coaching
- Student-run business
- Volunteering and internships



# NEXT STEPS *Schedule*



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Electives	Electives	Literacy	Electives	Electives
Literacy	Internship	Culinary Arts	Literacy	Literacy
Hobby Building		Finance	Culinary Arts	Candle-making
Culinary Arts		Career Skills	Finance	School Store
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
Ind. Living	Finance	Technology	Mindfulness	Finance
School Store	Career Skills	PE	PE	Travel Skills
Group OT	Group Speech	Group Speech	Pioneer Period	Ind. Living

# NEXT STEPS *Parent Programming*



- The Next Steps Speaker Series--Presentations on topics related to services and opportunities for young adults with disabilities
  - Introduction to Adult Services
  - Maximizing Benefits and Services
  - A to Z of the Special Education Case
  - OPWDD Housing
  - Transition Checklist
- Parent coffees
  - This is an opportunity scheduled several times throughout the year where parents can connect and share resources with one another



The  
IDEAL  
School  
*of Manhattan*

**NEXT STEPS  
SPEAKER  
SERIES  
2022-23**

# NEXT STEPS *Related Services*



## Therapies

- Students take speech therapy, occupational therapy, counseling, and physical therapy, as needed
- Include small groups for students to work alongside peers
- Are incorporated into the schedule
- Are led by a New York state licensed speech-language pathologists and occupational therapists
- Focus on building life skills and independence
- Focus on individualized goals and overarching themes

# NEXT STEPS *Facts*



***Small*** student-teacher ratio

## INCLUDED IN TUITION

**Chromebooks Field Trips**  
**Lunch SAT Prep Books**  
**School Supplies Theater**  
**College Counseling Music**  
**Clubs One Schoolhouse**

## Accreditations & Memberships

- New York State Association of Independent Schools (NYSAIS)
- National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)
- Independent Schools Admissions Association of Greater NY (ISAAGNY)
- Registered with the College Board

**8** Upper School therapists,  
all with advanced degrees

# NEXT STEPS *Admission*



## ✓ Step 1: Inquire

### Step 2: Submit an application

- Application part 1
- Application part 2 (For students with IEPs)
- School Report Release Form
- ISAAGNY Teacher Recommendations

### Step 3: Schedule a parent tour and interview

### Step 4: Schedule a child interview and class visit

### Step 5: Submit financial documentation *(for FA or Amended Tuition Payment Plan applicants only)*

**[admissions@theidealschool.org](mailto:admissions@theidealschool.org)**