



## THE BIRCH WATHEN LENOX SCHOOL

### THE SCHOOL

The Birch Wathen Lenox School (BWL) is a traditional, coeducational independent school which offers a rigorous college preparatory curriculum within an encouraging, responsive, and collaborative environment. The school was created in 1991 as a result of the consolidation of The Birch Wathen School, founded in 1921, and The Lenox School, founded in 1916. In 2017, BWL proudly celebrated its centennial.

### ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

- BWL cultivates the strengths of each student through close connections with faculty members and advisors. Within this strengths-based education, students learn the skills essential to becoming resourceful and independent citizens.
- Our students take at least six major courses every year. Required classes for each academic discipline are fulfilled in sequence through junior year, when students are allowed to choose between options including Honors, AP courses and elective courses such as Rhetoric and Media Analysis. Independent studies are also available with faculty mentorship.
- During the fourth academic quarter, non-AP courses do not meet, and seniors taking fewer than three AP courses are required to complete a Senior Project that takes them off-campus for an internship, employment, research, or service learning opportunity. With the help of a faculty advisor, students are expected to commit 20 hours per week to their project, which gives them access to a variety of internships in areas of their interest during the spring before graduation.
- Beginning March 2020, BWL conducted remote learning with a modified schedule due to COVID-19. Some extracurricular activities continued to convene online, but the BWL Athletics program was canceled. After a brief hybrid schedule in early 2021, BWL fully resumed in-person learning in May 2021, and the BWL Athletics program restarted in September 2021.

210 East 77th Street  
New York, NY 10075

Tel: (212) 861-0404  
Fax: (212) 879-3388  
www.bwl.org

**CEEB Code**  
333461

**Bill Kuhn**  
*Head of School*  
bkuhn@bwl.org

**Ben DiNardo**  
*Co-Director,  
Upper School*  
bdinardo@bwl.org

**Guillermo Salgado**  
*Co-Director,  
Upper School*  
gsalgado@bwl.org

**Momoho Takao**  
*Director,  
College Counseling*  
mtakao@bwl.org

**Tara Kalinisan**  
*Associate Director,  
College Counseling*  
tkalinisan@bwl.org

The Birch Wathen Lenox School is accredited by the New York State Association of Independent Schools, and is a member of the National Association of College Admissions Counselors.

#### BWL BY THE NUMBERS

<b>Enrollment</b>	
Senior class:	45
Upper School (9-12):	169
School (K-12):	324
Male:	55%
Female:	45%
Students of color:	34%
<b>Financial Aid</b>	
2023-2024:	\$6 million
Students receiving financial aid:	47%
<b>Upper School</b>	
Faculty:	33
Student-faculty ratio:	5:1
Average class size:	15

#### GRADE DISTRIBUTION: CLASS OF 2024

BWL does not rank students, compute a grade point average, or confer academic awards or prizes. A grade distribution for **junior year** courses in major academic areas is included below.

	A	B	C	D	F
<b>English</b>	24	12	2	4	0
<b>History/Social Science</b>	38	8	2	0	0
<b>Mathematics</b>	20	14	3	3	1
<b>Science</b>	37	12	6	1	1
<b>World Language</b>	33	3	1	0	0

#### ACADEMIC CALENDAR

**End of First Quarter:** Nov. 3, 2023    **End of Fall Semester:** Jan. 12, 2024    **Graduation:** May 23, 2024

## BWL CURRICULUM AT A GLANCE

The BWL curriculum is designed to produce positive learning outcomes in the following areas: knowledge and understanding, critical thinking and investigation, creativity and appreciation of aesthetics, personal and social growth, and development of values.

	NINTH GRADE	TENTH GRADE	ELEVENTH GRADE	TWELFTH GRADE
ENGLISH	<b>Foundations of Literature</b>	<b>World Literature</b>	<b>American Literature</b>	<i>AP English Literature and Composition</i> <i>Rhetoric and Media Analysis</i>
			<i>Studies in Shakespeare/Short Stories and Creative Writing</i> <i>Contemporary Drama</i>	
HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCE	<b>World History I</b>	<b>World History II</b>	<b>U.S. History or AP U.S. History</b>	<i>AP European History*</i> <i>AP Comparative Government and Politics*</i> <i>AP Microeconomics*</i> <i>AP Macroeconomics*</i> <i>AP Psychology*</i>
			<i>AP Art History</i> <i>History of Financial Crises</i> <i>NYC: A Living History</i> <i>The World Since 1990</i> <i>*Online courses through Constellation Learning Institute; additional courses available</i>	
MATHEMATICS	Sequential study: <b>Algebra I</b> (if not completed prior to Ninth Grade) <b>Geometry</b> <b>Algebra II</b>		<i>Precalculus (Honors)</i>	<b>Personal Finance</b> <i>AP Calculus BC</i> <i>AP Calculus AB</i> <i>Calculus</i>
			<i>AP Statistics</i> <i>Precalculus</i> <i>Finite Mathematics</i>	
SCIENCE	<b>Biology</b>	<b>Chemistry</b>	<b>Physics</b>	<i>AP Biology</i> <i>AP Physics 2</i> <i>Advanced Topics in Computer Science (Post-AP)</i>
			<i>AP Computer Science A</i> <i>Forensic Science</i> <i>Human Anatomy and Physiology</i> <i>Roots of Scientific Inquiry</i>	
		<i>Introduction to Computer Science</i>		
WORLD LANGUAGE	Completion of three years in one language through at least level III: <b>French I, II, III, IV, V</b> <b>Japanese I, II, III, IV, V, AP Japanese Language</b> <b>Spanish I, II, III, IV, IV (Honors), V, AP Spanish Language</b>			
ART	<b>Studio Art 9/ Digital Photography</b>	<b>Studio Art 10 Art History</b>	<i>Studio Art 11</i>	<i>Studio Art 12 Photography 2</i>
			<i>Photography 1</i> <i>Performing Arts in NYC</i> <i>Audition Skills</i>	
	<i>A Cappella</i> <i>Instrumental</i>	<i>Music Production</i> <i>Rock Band</i>	<i>Theater I</i> <i>Vocal Ensemble</i>	

Required courses are in bold. Elective courses are in italics.

### Notes about AP curriculum:

- Students may take their first AP course (typically AP U.S. History or AP Computer Science) beginning junior year.
- Our most advanced students take a total of four or more AP courses.
- Seniors taking three or more AP courses are only required to take five major academic courses per semester.

## THE BWL CLASSES OF 2014–2023 HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED TO THESE COLLEGES AND MORE:

American University	Case Western Reserve University	Fordham University	Johns Hopkins University	University of Pennsylvania	Tulane University
Amherst College	Colby College	Franklin & Marshall College	Lehigh University	Princeton University	Vanderbilt University
Bard College	Colgate University	George Washington University	McGill University	Rice University	University of Vermont
Bates College	Columbia University	Georgetown University	University of Miami	University of Richmond	University of Virginia
Binghamton University	Cornell University	Hamilton College	University of Michigan	University of Rochester	Wake Forest University
Boston College	Dartmouth College	Harvey Mudd College	Middlebury College	Rochester Institute of Technology	Washington University in St. Louis
Boston University	Drexel University	Haverford College	New York University	Skidmore College	Webb Institute
Brandeis University	Duke University	Hobart & William Smith Colleges	University of North Carolina	University of St Andrews	Wesleyan University
Brown University	University of Edinburgh	Indiana University	Northeastern University	Syracuse University	Williams College
Bucknell University	Elon University		Olin College of Engineering	University of Texas	University of Wisconsin
UCLA	Emory University			Tufts University	Yale University
Carnegie Mellon University					

For a complete list of acceptances, please visit: [www.bwl.org/academic/college-counseling](http://www.bwl.org/academic/college-counseling)