ANNUAL REPORT
YEAR AT A GLANCE

2023 - 2024

ESCOLA AMERICANA DO RIO DE JANEIRO



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PURPOSE, MISSION
VISION

OUR MISSION

TO BE GLOBALLY RECOGNIZED AS A LEADING INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL IN ACADEMICS, EXTRACURRICULARS AND CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

OUR PURPOSE

TO INSPIRE EACH CHILD TO PURSUE THEIR PASSIONS, STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE, AND ACHIEVE A FULFILLING LIFE

OUR VISION

TO PROVIDE AN EDUCATION WHICH INSPIRES CREATIVITY, CRITICAL THINKING, COLLABORATION, COMMUNICATION, AND CONFIDENCE TO LEAD AND EXCEL IN AN EVER-CHANGING GLOBAL COMMUNITY

STRATEGIC PLAN
2023 AND BEYOND

EARJ is off to a great start since late 2022 when multiple stakeholder groups came together to define our collective future. Their work resulted in the creation of the 2023 and beyond Strategic Plan 'Inspiring Your Personal Best' that has guided our continuous improvement efforts throughout the last year. The school's Strategic Plan sets the course for school improvement initiatives and keeps us clearly focused on reaching key institutional goals.

The Strategic Plan employs four strategic objectives that combine to ensure we continue to improve and deliver on our mission, vision, and purpose.

Over the past year, schoolwide teams worked collaboratively to achieve the key results in each of our four objectives. Highlights in Objective 1 included strengthening the IB Learner Profile within the curriculum across all programmes and solidifying student learning opportunities connected to local and global outreach through field trips and extracurricular action projects. Successful outcomes in Objective 2 focused on a roadmap strategy for identifying and supporting high achieving students. In Objective 3, we made significant strides forward in improving communication strategy and systems. Finally, EARJ teachers across all divisions completed successful proposals to support strengths-based development plans and shared professional practice in teaching.

The Strategic Plan will continue to guide our work throughout 2024-25 as we focus on transforming knowledge and insights into powerful systematic procedures that push forward school improvement efforts and institutionalize the positive changes already started.

OBJECTIVE 1

RICH IN LOCAL CULTURE, TRULY GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

All learners will understand and appreciate the similarities and differences between local and global perspectives, identities, cultures and languages. Global citizens, rooted in their local context.

OBJECTIVE 2

LEARNING STARTS WITH THE LEARNER

Recognize individual strengths and talents and design the leraning experience so that every learner realizes those strenghts to make an impact. This includes supporting stundents who need it, but it also includes pushing and supporting strong performers to perform to their fullest.

OBJECTIVE 3

LEARNING IS COLLABORATIVE

Exhibit a strong culture of collaboration. Learners will build their skills, over time, in how to work well with anyone from anywhere in any context.

OBJECTIVE 4

STRONG & SHARED APPROACHES TO LEARNING & TEACHING

Create a strong and clear foundation of teacher skills and share learning and teaching approaches across the whole community so that every team member can grow professionally in the best way for them and for the whole team.

MESSAGE FROM THE EARJ **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



On behalf of the EARJ Board of Directors, I am pleased to present our Annual Report for the 2023-2024 school year, a period marked by significant accomplishments.

The EARJ Board of Directors is entrusted with governing the school in compliance with Brazilian laws, our By-Laws, and established policies. Our primary objective is to plan strategically for EARJ's long-term sustainability while ensuring its financial and academic continuity. Daily operations and educational matters are managed by the Head of School and staff. Looking forward, the Board of Directors remains committed to strengthening the school's governance and securing its future success.

A noteworthy achievement this year was the authorization of the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) in November 2023. This milestone means that EARJ now offers the full IB Continuum, joining a select group of schools worldwide. This accomplishment aligns closely with our Strategic Plan and reflects our unwavering commitment to educational excellence.

Additionally, the Board of Directors initiated a collaboration with Flansburg Architects, a globally recognized, award-winning firm specializing in academic facilities, to redesign both campuses and address both short- and long-term needs.

This school year also marked the successful transition of leadership from Dr. Nigel J. Winnard to Dr. Steve Desroches as Head of School. Dr. Desroches worked closely with the Board of Directors, Dr. Winnard, and the School Leadership Team to ensure a seamless transition, which included careful planning with multiple meetings and community engagement.

In a school year filled with accomplishments, the demands on the Board of Directors were substantial. I extend my heartfelt thanks to each Board member for their dedicated volunteer service. We also express our deep appreciation to our past Head of School, Dr. Winnard, our Senior Leadership Team, faculty, staff, and the families who continue to place their trust in EARJ.

Sincerely,

PATRICIA YATES PORTELLA
President - EARJ Board of Directors

BOARD OF DIRECTORS **COMPOSITION**



PATRICIA YATES PORTELLA

President

Class of 2022
Children in Classes of 2029 & 2033
Ex-officio member on all committees (Chair of the Governance and Strategic Planning Comittees)



RAUL PEREIRA TREJOS

Vice President

Class of 1982
Children in Classes of 2017 & 2020
Governance and Talent (Chair) Committees



JOSÉ CARLOS E. JUNIOR

Treasurer

Child in Class of 2032
Governance and Finance, Legal & Development (Chair) Committees



LEONIDAS BORIO FILHO

Secretary

Class of 1990
Children in Class of 2028 & 2031
Finance, Legal & Development and Strategic Planning (Chair) Committees



ALBERTO K. RIBEIRO

Board Member

Class of 1997
Children in Classes of 2032, 2033 & 2034
Governance and Strategic Planning Committees



ALESSANDRO LOMBARDI

Board Member

Children in Classes of 2032 & 2036
Finance, Legal & Development and Strategic Planning Committees



ARNALDO VIEGAS

Board Member

Children In Classes of 2012 & 2014
Finance, Legal & Development, Governance, Facilities & Security (Chair) Committees



FREDERICO JUNQUEIRA

Board Member

Children In Classes of 2032 & 2035
Finance, Legal & Development and Facilities & Security and Strategic Planning Committees



HEATHER AIVALIOTIS

Board Member

Child in Class of 2025
Strategic Planning and Talent Committees



MARIA CAROLINA WOLFF

Board Member

Class of 1996
Children In Classes of 2026 & 2028
Facilities & Security and Strategic Planning Committees



STEVEN ROYSTER

Board Member

Child in Class 2025
Facility & Security Committee

MESSAGE FROM THE NEW **HEAD OF SCHOOL**





From the first moment I stepped onto EARJ's campuses, I could tell this was a special place. The smiles, energy, and warm and welcoming community are a unique combination.
I feel truly blessed by the opportunity to work, learn, and interact every day with outstanding students, caring teachers, a team of professionals, parents, alumni, volunteers, and all who contribute to EARJ.

It is my pleasure to introduce EARJ's 2023-24 Annual Report. The purpose of the report is to highlight our successes and document progress made towards delivering on our mission to provide an education which inspires creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, communication, and the confidence to lead and excel in an ever-changing global community.

This publication provides an opportunity to highlight some of our student and staff accomplishments and share a snapshot of the current status of our wonderful school. It seeks to provide fair, reliable and objective information about school performance measures and ongoing efforts to attain quality in all aspects of our educational program. It provides an overview of our academic programs and results, an update on the financial health of our institution, and the variety of parent and school initiatives that are so important to sustaining a vibrant school community.

I look forward to the journey ahead.

DR. STEVE DESROCHES
Head of School

SCHOOL LEADERSHIP **TEAM COMPOSITION**

EARJ is served by a School Leadership Team (SLT) that brings together all areas of the school 's educational and logistical operations. Each member of the SLT is an experienced and highly qualified administrator who is a leader in their field.



DR. NIGEL J. WINNARD
Head of School
(2016 - 2024)



EMILIA FERREIRA
Business Manager



CRISTINA CONFORTO
Director of Advancement & Admissions



CARLOS EDUARDO PINHO
Director of Educational Technology



CLAUDIA VENTURA
Brazilian Director



CLAUDIA ARAYA
Athletics & Activities Director



CODY ALTON
Director of Student Support Services



INÊS CORREIA
Director of Human Resources & Strategy



KIRSTIN WHITE
Barra Campus
Lower School Principal



SCOTT LITTLE
Barra Campus
Upper School Principal



DOREEN GARRIGAN
Gávea Campus
Lower School Principal



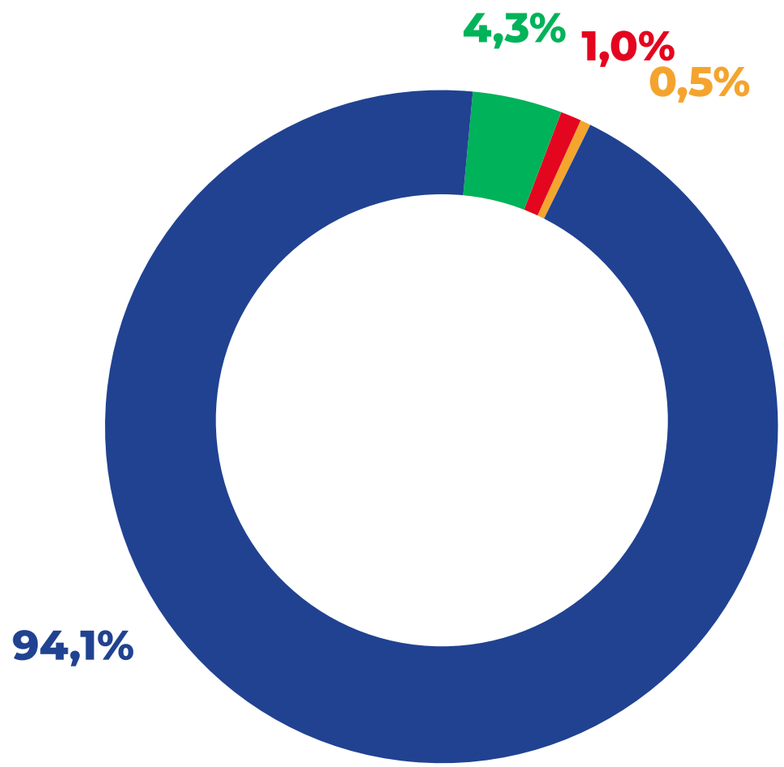
STEVEN SPANNRING
Gávea Campus
Upper School Principal

FINANCE

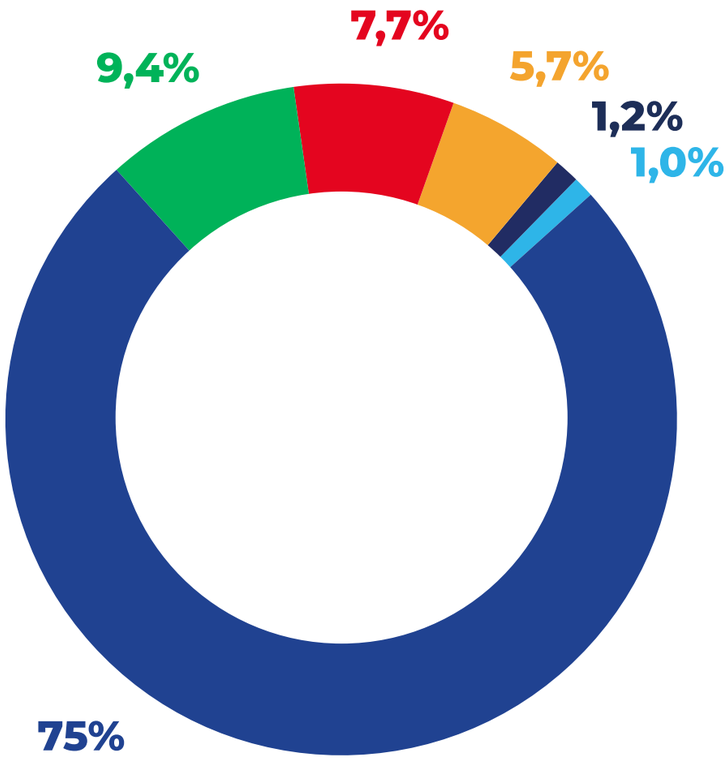
EARJ is a private, non-profit institution dedicated to reinvesting 100% of its revenue into the education of our students. The financial data presented in this report covers the school's fiscal year from July 2022 through August 2023. We are pleased to report that, as in previous years, our external financial audit for this period was completed without reservations.

This year, the Board of Directors once again achieved a well-balanced budget, ensuring the school has sufficient resources to meet its financial obligations, enhance our curriculum, invest in highly qualified faculty and staff, and support professional development programs. Additionally, we have continued to advance the improvement and development of facilities across both our campuses.

INCOME



EXPENSES



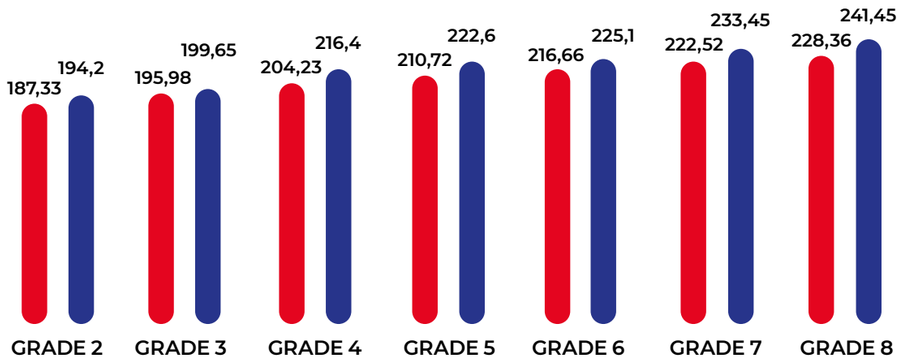
STUDENT LEARNING
MAP GROWTH

Each year, we utilize a variety of assessment tools provided by the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) to evaluate our students' progress in Reading, Language Usage, Math, and Science. These assessments, known as MAP Growth assessments, provide valuable insights that help teachers tailor instruction to meet both individual and class needs.

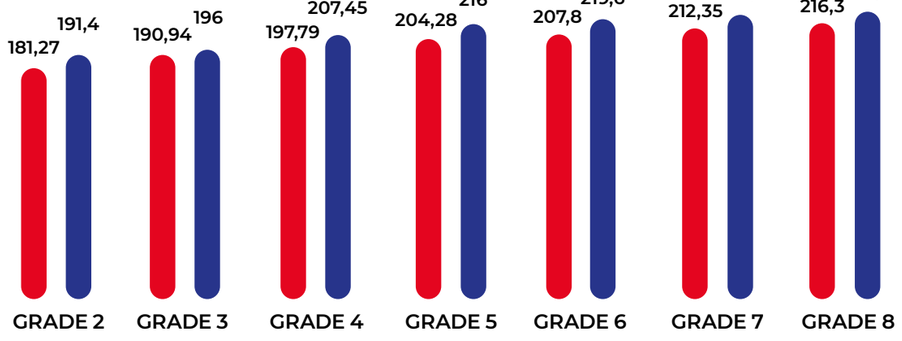
Additionally, they offer comparative data over time and against other international benchmarks.

MAP Growth - campuses combined numbers per grade level in Math, Science, Reading and Language, EARJ vs International Schools.

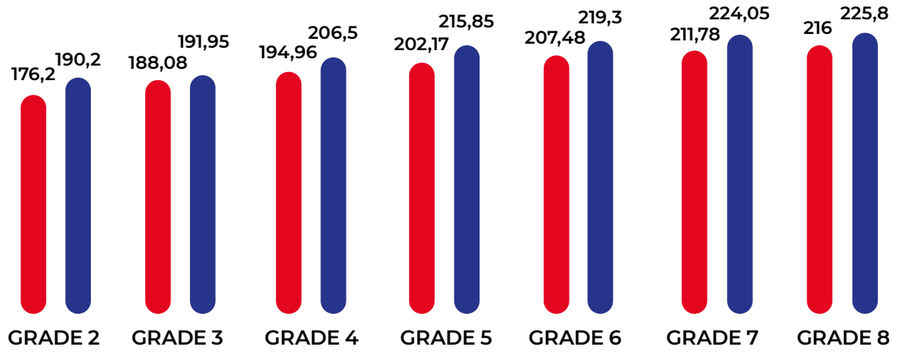
MATHEMATHICS



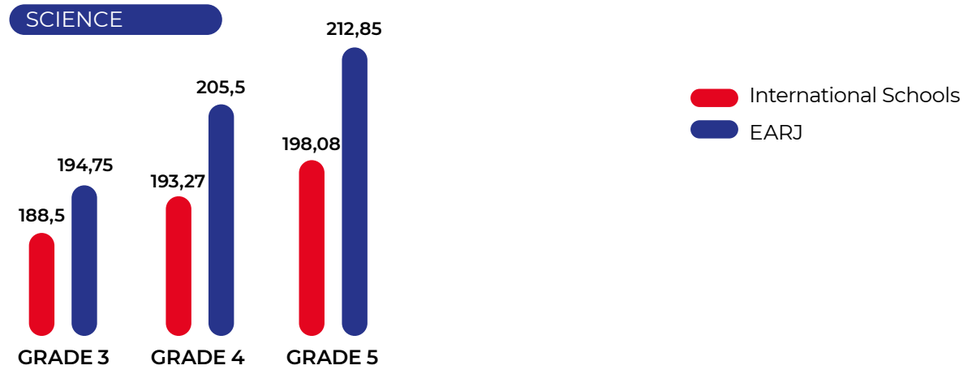
LANGUAGE



READING



SCIENCE





STUDENT LEARNING
THE IB CONTINUUM

This year EARJ completed the final stage in a years-long journey to become a fully authorized IB Continuum World school, offering the PYP and MYP to complement the IB Diploma which has been in place at the school since 1982. With the successful authorization of the Middle Years Programme (MYP) on both campuses, the vision for a full continuum IB education, set forth by the Board of Directors in 2019, was realized. This milestone is a fantastic testament to the commitment, preparation and dedication of our entire team of educators. We are very proud of the EARJ community's commitment to the IB philosophy and look forward to the continued success of our programmes for years to come.

IB CONTINUUM
CONTINUUM DE L'IB
CONTINUO DEL IB

Primary Years Programme

Middle Years Programme

Diploma Programme





STUDENT LEARNING
INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE
CLASS OF 2024 DIPLOMA RESULTS

40
DIPLOMAS AWARDED

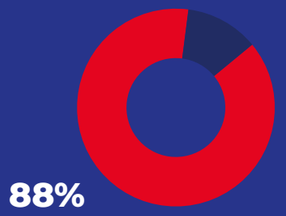
35
BILINGUAL DIPLOMAS

30.2
DP GLOBAL AVERAGE

32.9
AVERAGE POINTS

5.1
AVERAGE PER SUBJECT

43
HIGHEST POINTS



88%
DIPLOMAS PASS



67%
SUBJECTS > GLOB AV



STUDENT LEARNING **COLLEGE PLACEMENTS**

EARJ CLASS OF 2024
USA ACCEPTANCES

American University
Arizona State University
Barnard College, Columbia University
Barry University
Bentley University
Boston University
Brigham Young University
California State University, Long Beach
Clemson University
College of Charleston
Colorado State University, Fort Collins
Drexel University
Elon University
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Emerson College
Florida Institute of Technology
Florida International University
Florida Polytechnic University
Florida State University
Fordham University
Georgetown University
Hult International Business School
Indiana University Bloomington
Iowa State University
James Madison University
Kent State University
Loyola Marymount University
Loyola University Chicago
Loyola University New Orleans
Lynn University
Marymount Manhattan College
Michigan State University
New York University
Northeastern University
Northwestern University
Nova Southeastern University
Ohio University
Pennsylvania State University
Purdue University, West Lafayette
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rollins College
Rutgers University
Saint Joseph's University
San Diego State University
San Francisco State University
Sarah Lawrence College
Savannah College of Art and Design
Seattle University
Stony Brook University
Suffolk University
Syracuse University
Temple University
The George Washington University
The New School
Thomas Jefferson University
Tulane University
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Merced
University of California, Riverside
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of California, Santa Cruz
University of Chicago
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Denver
University of Florida
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
University of Illinois Chicago
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
University of Miami
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
University of Notre Dame
University of Pittsburgh
University of San Diego
University of San Francisco
University of South Florida
University of Tampa
University of Texas at Austin
University of Utah
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin–Madison
Utah State University
Virginia Tech
Washington State University





STUDENT LEARNING
COLLEGE PLACEMENTS

EARJ CLASS OF 2024
GLOBAL ACCEPTANCES

AUSTRALIA
University of Sydney

BRAZIL
Centro Universitário Belas Artes SP
Escola Superior de Propaganda e Marketing
Fundação Getulio Vargas
IBMEC
IDOMED
Instituto D'Or de Pesquisa e Ensino
Istituto Europeo di Design in Sao Paulo
PUC-RJ
Unifeso
Universidade Anhembi Morumbi
Universidade Católica de Petrópolis
Universidade do Grande Rio
Universidade Estácio de Sá
UERJ
UFRJ
UFRN
UFF
Universidade Veiga de Almeida

CANADA
Carleton University
Lakehead University
McMaster University
Queens University
Simon Fraser University
Trent University
University of Alberta
University of British Columbia
University of Calgary
University of Guelph
University of Toronto
University of Victoria
University of Windsor
Western University Ontario
York University

EIRE
Trinity College Dublin
University College Dublin

FRANCE
American University of Paris
ESCP Business School
ESMOD International
IFA Paris

ITALY
Bocconi University
John Cabot University
Libera Università Internazionale degli Studi Sociali
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

PORTUGAL
Universidade do Porto

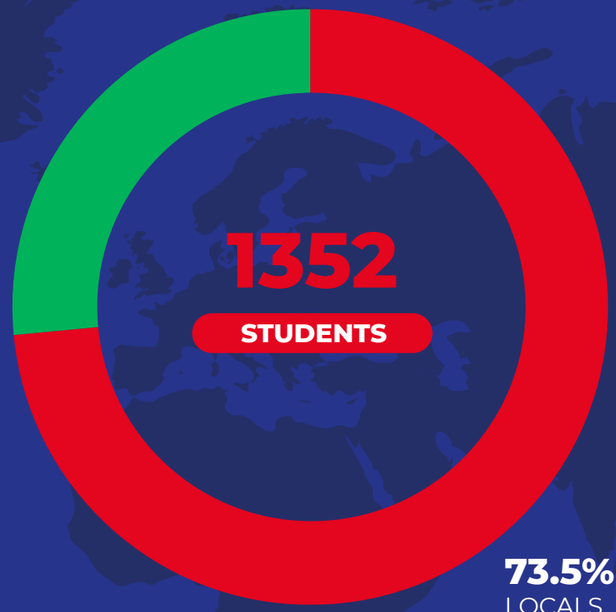
SPAIN
Abat Oliba CEU University
EU Business School Barcelona
IE University (Madrid)
Saint Louis University Madrid
Universidad CEU San Pablo
Universidad Europea de Valencia
University of Navarra

THE NETHERLANDS
Eindhoven University of Technology
HU University of Applied Sciences
University of Groningen
University of Twente
Utrecht University

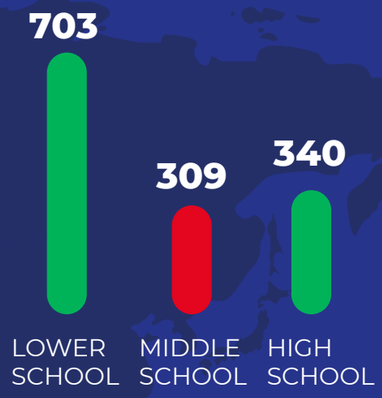
UNITED KINGDOM
Arts University Bournemouth
Brunel University London
City, University London
ESCP Business School
Heriot-Watt University
Imperial College London
Istituto Marangoni London
King's College London
Kingston University London
Lancaster University
London Metropolitan University
Loughborough University
Middlesex University
Newcastle University
Queen Mary University of London
Regent's University London
Royal Holloway, University of London
SOAS University of London
University College London
University of Kent
University of Bath
University of Birmingham
University of Bristol
University of Leeds
University of Liverpool
University of Manchester
University of Sheffield
University of the Arts London
University of Westminster

EARJ
COMMUNITY

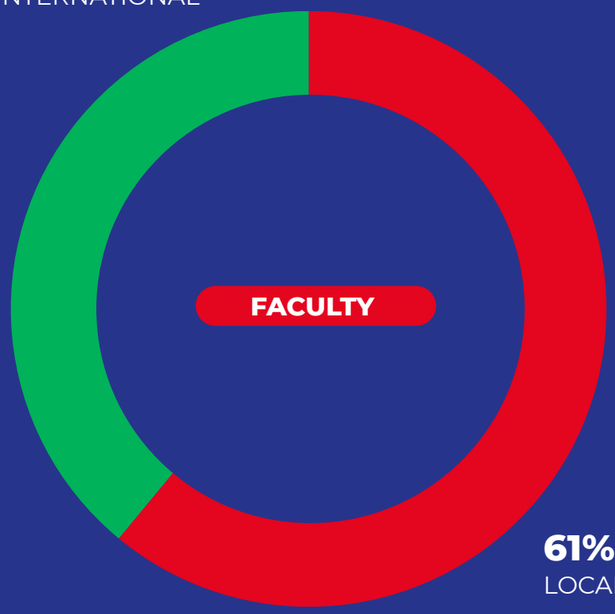
26.5%
INTERNATIONAL



73.5%
LOCALS



39%
INTERNATIONAL



61%
LOCALS

- ANGOLA
- ARGENTINA
- AUSTRALIA
- AUSTRIA
- BELGIUM
- BOLIVIA
- BRAZIL
- CANADA
- CHILE
- CHINA
- COLOMBIA
- COSTA RICA
- CROATIA
- CZECH REPUBLIC
- DENMARK
- ECUADOR
- EGYPT
- ESTONIA
- FRANCE
- GERMANY
- GREECE
- HUNGARY
- INDIA
- INDONESIA
- ITALY
- IVORY COAST
- JAPAN
- KOREA
- MEXICO
- MOZAMBIQUE
- NAMIBIA
- NEW ZEALAND
- NORWAY
- PANAMA
- PERU
- PHILIPPINES
- POLAND
- PORTUGAL
- QATAR
- RUSSIA
- SINGAPORE
- SOUTH AFRICA
- SPAIN
- SWITZERLAND
- THAILAND
- THE NETHERLANDS
- UNITED KINGDOM
- UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
- URUGUAY
- VENEZUELA

49%
FACULTY HAVE
ADVANCE DEGREES

STUDENT / FACULTY RATIO
7.67
STUDENT PER
TEACHER

50 STUDENT
NATIONALITIES

ATHLETICS AND **ACTIVITIES**

Athletics and Activities are an essential part of the EARJ student experience. These allow students to explore their interests, discover new passions, develop their talents and find their unique paths. These provide opportunities for students to develop character and life skills.

In 2023-2024, our teams continued to embrace and show what the Panther spirit is. It was a year of nail-biting victories, moments of great excitement with record-breaking performances in local, national and international competitions. With dedication and hard work, our Panthers have shown us that anything is possible.

EARJ PANTHERS

WELCOME TO THE HOME OF THE **PANTHERS**!



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

RIO DE JANEIRO INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS LEAGUE

GOLD

U13 & U15 Girls Basketball, U13 & U19 Boys Basketball, U13 & U15 Girls Soccer, U19 Boys Soccer, 15 & U19 Boys Volleyball,

SILVER

U19 Girls Basketball, U15 Boys Basketball, U19 Girls Soccer, U15 Boys Soccer, U13 Boys Futsal, U15 Girls Futsal

BRONZE

U13 Boys Soccer

LITTLE 10

GOLD

JV Girls Soccer, JV Cheerleading and JV Coed Softball

SILVER

JV Girls Basketball, JV Girls Volleyball, JV Girls Futsal, JV Boys Soccer, JV Boys Volleyball

BIG 8

GOLD

Varsity Boys Basketball and Varsity Girls Volleyball

SILVER

Varsity Girls Soccer and Varsity Cheerleading

BRONZE

Varsity Coed Softball, Varsity Girls Futsal, Varsity Girls Basketball, Varsity Boys Volleyball and Varsity Boys Soccer

FINAL FOUR

GOLD

Boy Basketball

BRONZE

Cheerleading and Boys Soccer

USA CUP

GOLD

U10 Coed Soccer

BRONZE

U13 Boys Soccer

ATHLETICS AND **ACTIVITIES**

MIDDLE SCHOOL KNOWLEDGE BOWL

1ST
PLACE

MATHCOUNTS

1ST
PLACE
Target Rounds:
R. Uchida

2ND
PLACE
Mixed Team competition

CANGARU MATH COMPETITION

70
STUDENTS AWARDED

11 **GOLD**
23 **SILVER**
15 **BRONZE**
23 **MERIT**

MUN

BRAMUN:

Secretary General - V. Zamudio
EARJ Senior plus two chairs: S.Iturri and A. O'Donnell



ALUMNI

The Alumni Community of the Escola Americana do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, often finds itself drawn back to the unique and vibrant campus that once shaped their school years. With its distinctive black panther mascot symbolizing strength and unity, the school's alumni are a testament to a tight-knit and supportive network.

Former students frequently return to the campus, not only to reconnect with friends and beloved teachers but also to immerse themselves in the dynamic environment that continues to foster academic and personal growth. This strong sense of belonging and nostalgia creates a welcoming atmosphere for alumni from both near and far, who cherish the opportunity to revisit the place that played a significant role in their development.

Beyond mere reunions, the EARJ alumni community is deeply committed to giving back. Alumni actively engage in various initiatives that benefit current students, sharing their insights and experiences in areas such as professional development and higher education. This ongoing involvement reflects the school's dedication to nurturing a lifelong connection between its graduates and the institution. Through these interactions, alumni contribute to the rich legacy of the school, ensuring that the spirit of the black panther —resilient, empowering, and connected— continues to inspire future generations.

Over the past year, EARJ welcomed more than 14 families to our campus and hosted over 6 alumni conferences and speeches.



A YEAR IN THE **LIFE OF EARJ**



AUGUST

Orientation Day
195 new students were welcomed to EARJ.



OCTOBER

Halloween was an unforgettable event. The entire school community came together and the school was transformed into a spooky wonderland, adorned with decorations and activities that perfectly captured the Halloween spirit. From the haunted house to the costume parade, everyone enjoyed a day filled with fun, laughter, and a few friendly frights.



DECEMBER

As the first semester ended, our school celebrated with the annual Holiday Shows and Upper School Arts Festival. Lower School students impressed with festive performances, while Upper School students showcased their artistic talents, bringing our community together to kick off the holiday season.



MARCH

We proudly celebrated EARJ's 87th anniversary, honoring nearly nine decades of quality education, community, and inspiration. As we reflect on our history and values, we celebrate the achievements of our students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Here's to many more years of learning and success!

MAY

The Gávea campus hosted the 2024 edition of International Day. Our community's diversity was celebrated with cuisine from 27 countries, the traditional Parade of the Nations, music, activities, and a raffle supporting causes supported by the PTA.





MAY

83 seniors from the Class of 2024 received their diplomas during the Graduation Ceremony.

2023

SEPTEMBER

To celebrate Brazilian Independence Day, EARJ organized activities that connected students to Brazilian history and culture, including pau-brasil tree planting and educational lectures.



NOVEMBER

Our school's Thanksgiving lunch was a heartwarming event that brought our community together to share gratitude and enjoy a delicious meal.



NOVEMBER

EARJ was officially authorized as an International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Programme (MYP) school, marking us as an IB World Continuum School. We celebrate this milestone and look forward to continuing our journey of educational excellence.

FEBRUARY

Our Panthers dressed up, sang, danced, and celebrated Carnival, Brazil's biggest popular festival. Through this, they were able to learn about Brazilian history and culture in a fun and engaging way.





APRIL

Our community raised cancer awareness through the 19th EARJ S.O.S. Walkathon, which set a new record with over R$125,000 donated to INCA's pediatric wing, supported by over 20 sponsors. This edition was dedicated to Ms. Neise Abreu.

2024

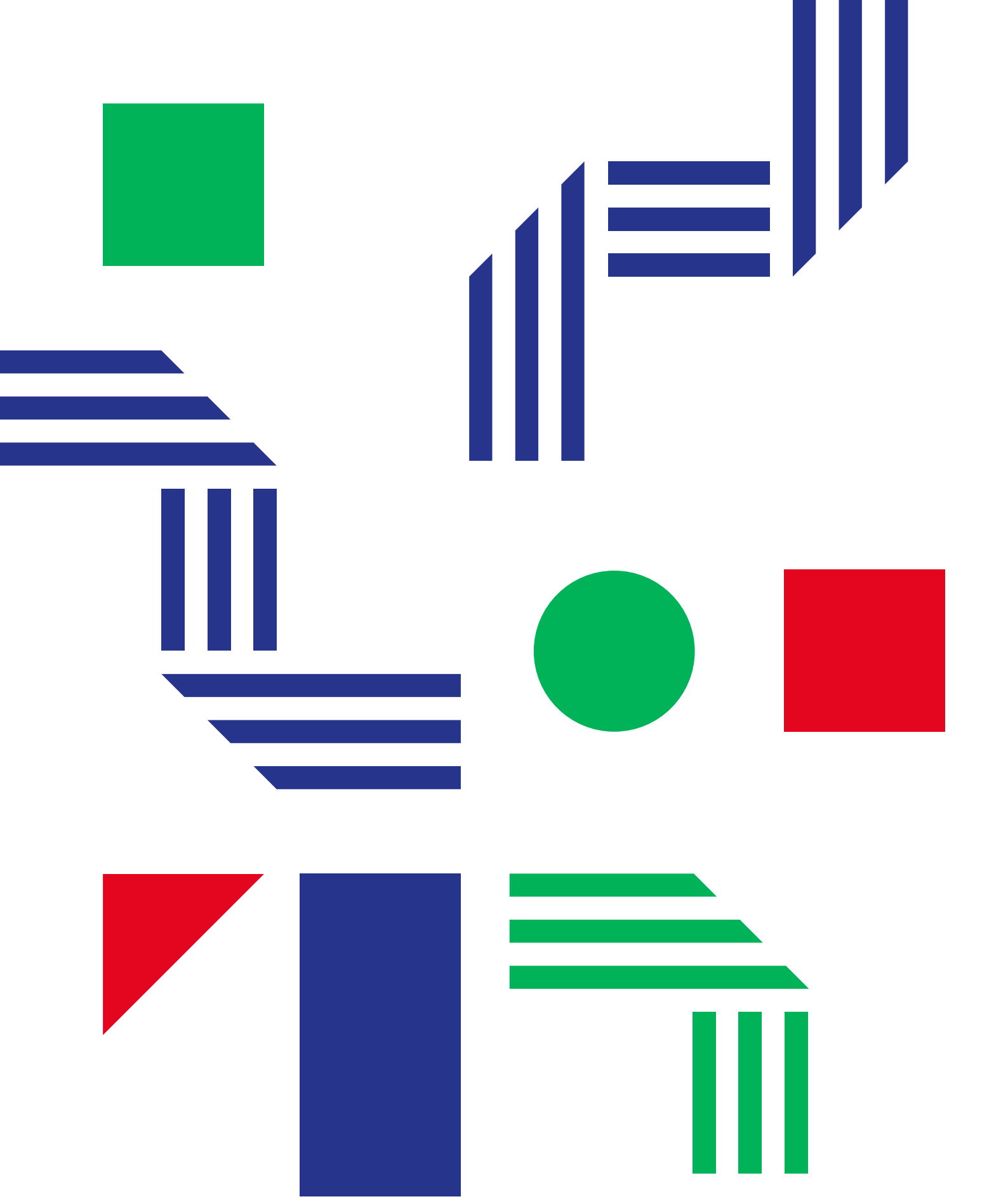
JUNE

The Promotion Ceremonies celebrated the achievements of our 5th and 8th grade students, marking their transition to Middle and High School. Exceptional students were recognized for their academic excellence.





FIND
YOUR
PATH



ESCOLA AMERICANA DO RIO DE JANEIRO

BARRA DA TIJUCA
Rua Colbert Coelho, 155
Barra da Tijuca - CEP 22793-313
(55 21) 3747 2000
admissions.barra@earj.com.br

GÁVEA
Estrada da Gávea, 132
Gávea - CEP 22451-263
(55 21) 2125 9000
admissions.gavea@earj.com.br

FIND YOUR PATH

earj.com.br