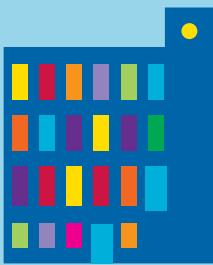


2015-2016

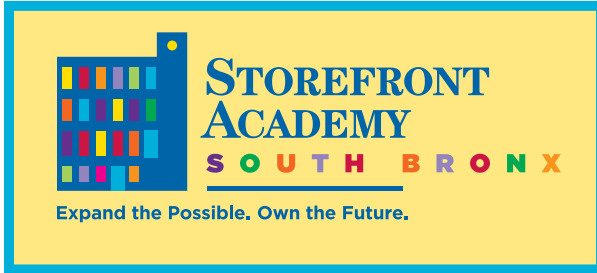
# YEARBOOK



STOREFRONT  
ACADEMY

S O U T H  
B R O N X

Expand the Possible.  
Own the Future.



Storefront Academy South Bronx is a public charter school committed to providing a comprehensive elementary education to children with varied academic strengths. Its work is grounded in the conviction that every child deserves the opportunity for an excellent education. Storefront Academy works in partnership with families and community members to prepare children academically, socially and emotionally for further education, empowering each child to reach his or her potential.

Dear Friends,

It has been an absolute honor to serve as the founding principal of Storefront Academy South Bronx. The South Bronx is my home and it is with great pride that I have dedicated myself to help mold an academic institution that prepares our children for lifelong success. Thank you for the opportunity to build community with all of our incredible students and families during our inaugural year. Our mission is simple: to instill a powerful sense of self in our students and give them the tools needed through a rigorous academic and strategically nurturing experience.

Our journey during this first year has been quite an adventure. From field trips to the Apollo Theatre to our monthly family bingo nights, our students, our families, and our staff have all grown so much. I have had the privilege to watch 100 kindergarteners and first graders transform into confident and extraordinary individuals with a joy for learning. We are very proud of what we have achieved in this first year and look forward to becoming a cornerstone in the Mott Haven community.

Every day, we have been fortunate to see the next generation of leaders understand the importance of respect, honesty, perseverance, and concern for others. Students have learned to be considerate, be prepared, take responsibility for their actions, and help those in need. Our students have pushed themselves to succeed despite difficulties and challenges.

Our faculty believes that in focusing on academic rigor paired with robust social and emotional supports, every child can succeed. We remain confident in our commitment to prepare students holistically to become critical thinkers, high-achievers and well-rounded individuals. Through all this, Storefront Academy South Bronx develops the whole child in all areas in fulfillment of our motto: **Expand the Possible. Own the Future.**

Sincerely,



Lisette Nieves  
Founding Principal





Top to Bottom, Left to Right:

Daslin, Elisee, Mileena, Prince, Mariam, Jonathan, Brian, Kyle, Celeste  
Derrick, Arianah, Alan, Ariana, Kourtney, Emmanuel, Damion, Andy  
Sophia, Sulay, Amari, Chyanne, Jolie, Jayden, Timothy

*It was all a dream as we unpacked our room in preparation for the first historical year of Storefront Academy South Bronx. We were so excited to fill the classroom with eager minds, smiling faces and open hearts and that is just what we received. Some were scared, some were brave, but after the first month, the trust and bond between teacher and student grew stronger.*

*As a class, we each grew making mistakes and learning over time. Kindergarten East persevered as we stumbled and tripped over sight words and numbers to now mastering addition and going further in reading. Kindergarten East has transitioned from the shy, unsure kindergarteners to proud and confident children who are expanding the possible and one day will own the future!*

*- Kathleen Readous & Evelisse Escobar, Co-Teachers*



Top to Bottom, Left to Right:

Amirah, Da'Zynae, Jeremiah, Lah'zae, Ikram, Amare', Fatoumata, Andrea, Adan, Anderlyn, Richard, Aaliyah, Ariella, Aniyah, Jonas, JanMarc, Chloe, Iris, Steven, Chad. Not Pictured: Analin, Terrific, Tyler

---

*Kindergarten West has become a community of learners who listen to each other, and share ideas and feelings. Our students have learned to embrace the core values of Storefront Academy South Bronx, and have fallen in love with the books, math manipulatives, and the musical instruments around them. We became a community through caring and sharing for each other.*

*They have blossomed and are leaving kindergarten writing stories, reading books and doing math all on their own. They are ready for first grade to continue to flourish. We will remember this school year's journey forever in our hearts and minds.*

*Nereida Morales, Lead Teacher & Mercedes Escalante, Assistant Teacher*

# 1 South



Top to Bottom, Left to Right:

Brian, Robert, Daylobi, Sayid, Carolanne, Mohamed, Asiah  
Janiah, Evan, Natasha, Kaiden, Rubie, Gianni, Camila, Daniella, Alonzo  
Jorge, Timothy, Youssouf, Kayla, Jonavin, Not Pictured: Sianna

---

*First Grade South has truly made its impact on this school community. They have demonstrated concern for others and have shown perseverance in the toughest of situations. It is hard work, dedication, and friendship that has made us such a special class. If it weren't for our dedicated families, supportive administration, and wonderful school community, we would not be the vibrant, well rounded individuals that we are today. Most importantly, we have learned how to be caring friends and classmates. We are confident that our first graders have the tools and skills they will need to be successful in the second grade and beyond.*

*Stephanie Martinez, Lead Teacher & Keila Muñoz Mendez, Assistant Teacher*



Top to Bottom, Left to Right:

Ahmaree, Jalen, Suad, Elijah, Justine, Andrew, William, Kamari  
Serenity, Justin, Justin, Naomi, Ainhoa, Kyle, Xavier, Korey  
Aaron, Amaya, Ahmari, Nelson, Casey, Delante, Brandon

Not Pictured: Keymora, Lyrick, Nialah

---

*We remember the first time we laid eyes on our students. We saw so much potential in them. They were so innocent and shy, yet eager, willing and able to engage in all learning experiences. As we have watched them grow academically, socially, and physically, we are proud of the journey that we have taken. Through the achievements, milestones and struggles, we have evolved into a hardworking, intelligent, and loving class. Many think that teaching is just about giving students knowledge, but it is much more than that. Teaching is about allowing students to explore and construct their own knowledge and develop a love for learning. We are proud to see how much our students love to learn and have taken ownership of their education. It makes teaching beyond rewarding.*

*Fatima Davis & Janine Luke, Co-Teachers*

# Music



*As a music educator, it is my job to expose students to new ideas and concepts while creating experiences relevant to their backgrounds and experiences. However, the students of Storefront Academy South Bronx aren't the only ones who gained a vast amount of knowledge in music class this year. I had no idea that starting a music program could teach me so much! Our students should be proud of the knowledge and skills they've developed this year. They are able to name instruments in a jazz ensemble, aurally identify different dynamics, listen to different genres and make inferences, as well as demonstrate highly developed singing skills. I look forward to the years ahead as the music program grows and develops.*

*Dorothy Jacobs, Music Teacher*





## *Faculty & Staff*

### ***Administration***

Lisette Nieves, Founding Principal

Kellie Tice, Assistant Principal

Keeli Davis, Instructional Coach

### ***Social-Emotional Support & Academic Intervention***

LaVonne Smith, Dean of Students & School Culture

Melissa Peralta, Social Worker

David Lopez, Academic Intervention & Extended Day Coordinator

### ***Operations***

Natasha Gushin, Director of Operations

Mercedes Ruiz-Santos, Operations Associate

Nassor Isom, Operations Associate

Christopher Cooper, Communications Associate

Julio Castro, Facilities Associate

Ana Torres, Night Custodian

### ***Storefront Academy Leadership***

Elisa Istueta, Executive Director

Alex Castro, Chief Operating Officer

Kirkley Strand, Chief Development Officer

## *Board of Trustees*

Richard Bayles  
Angela Bergeson  
Ray Cameron  
Jason Duchin

Carlos Flynn  
Eileen Niedzwiecki  
Michael Officer

Wendy Reynoso  
Carrie Sealy  
Jonathan Stearns  
Dan Sternberg







# STOREFRONT ACADEMY

S O U T H B R O N X

Expand the Possible. Own the Future.

**Storefront Academy South Bronx**

416 Willis Avenue

Bronx, NY 10454

(646) 476-1400

[www.storefrontacademy.org](http://www.storefrontacademy.org)