

Boundless

2015 ANNUAL REPORT



Perspectives Charter Schools

DEAR FRIENDS

Academic rigor, peaceful resolution of conflicts, a creed of principles steeped in discipline, and a focused eye on college and life preparation. These strengths are instilled in Perspectives students as the key foundations for building ethical leaders. At Perspectives, boundaries are overcome and the pursuit of potential is tireless. From a small campus in Bronzeville to the campus of Cornell University. From the chalkboard to the board room. Our perspective is limitless, and our students...boundless.

At Perspectives Charter Schools, we deliver on our promise to graduate young people prepared for college and life through our A Disciplined Life® education model, which combines a rigorous college prep curriculum with social emotional learning through a set of ethical principles.

We are amazed at how A Disciplined Life takes root in the lives of our students, so much so that innovators and public officials are noticing this important work. It was an honor to share the A Disciplined Life education model in a *Chicago Ideas Week* lab in October and with Governor Bruce Rauner, who took a tour of the Auburn Gresham campus in May. Mayor Rahm Emanuel and other corporate and community leaders joined thousands of students at the peace march. Finally, we closed out the Spring by having our groundbreaking documentary *I Am For Peace* air on WTTW.

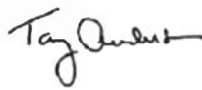
In addition, we made a significant financial investment, above and beyond our normal education costs. We spent time and talent reworking our classroom schedules to provide our students more elective course options, including fine arts, foreign language and science and technology courses; more Advanced Placement courses and college credit course options; and more personalized learning opportunities for students, using technology to meet individual learner needs. This retooling allows for sustained teacher planning time which will strengthen our culture and instructional strategies and practices. The schedule fully launched in the 2015/2016 school year.

Sustained smart practices, merged with innovative change will strengthen our A Disciplined Life education model, offering our students boundless opportunities in high school and beyond. Let's continue to work together to develop the next generation of ethical leaders who are prepared for college and life.

With gratitude and respect,



Rhonda Hopps, CFA
Chief Executive Officer



Tony Anderson
Board Chairman



*Our perspective
is limitless,
and our students...
boundless.*

2015 ANNUAL REPORT



ABOVE THE NORM

Results at-a-glance

180

MINUTES

of Social Emotional Learning through the A Disciplined Life curriculum

22.5

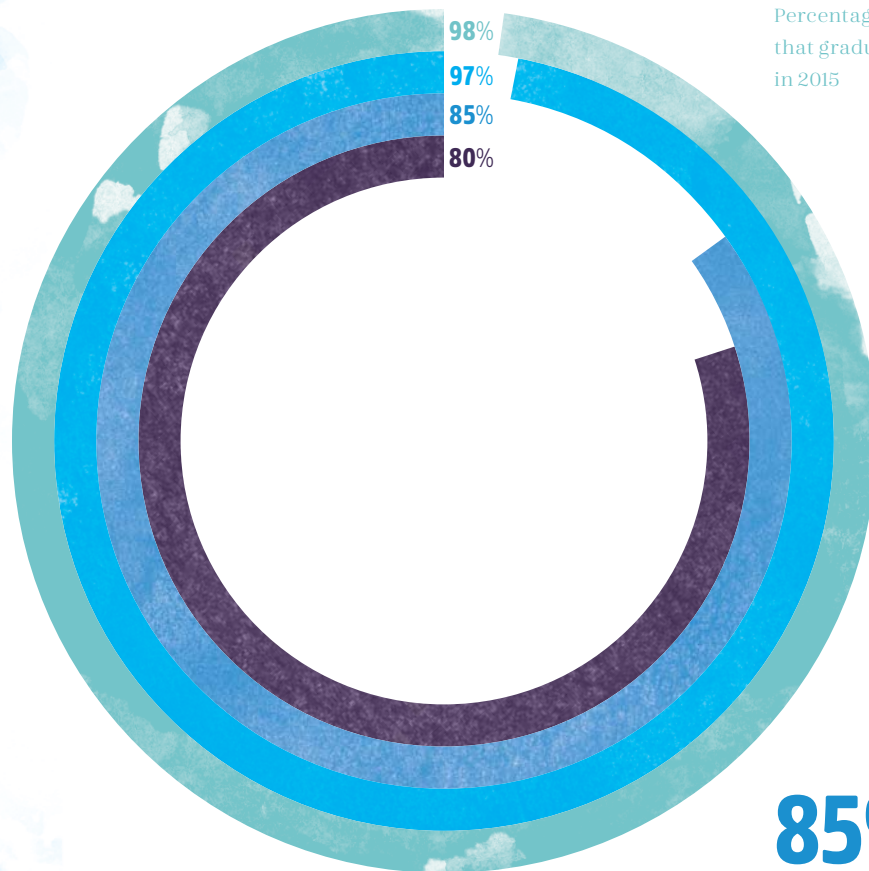
DAYS

over the course of a year more instructional time than traditional schools

9/10

STUDENTS

in after school academic and non academic programs



98%

SENIOR GRADUATION RATE

Percentage of seniors that graduated on time in 2015

97%

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE RATE

College acceptance rate of graduating seniors

85%

COLLEGE ATTENDANCE RATE

Students that enroll in college after graduation

80%

1ST GENERATION COLLEGE BOUND

Students who are first in their family to attend college

BEYOND OUR WALLS

A Disciplined Life and Chicago Ideas Week



During **Chicago Ideas Week**, Perspectives hosted an interactive and inspiring lab where participants learned about Perspectives and engaged with the A Disciplined Life (ADL) education model. At Perspectives Rodney D. Joslin Campus, the architects of the ADL education model – founders, students, educators and parents – introduce our brand of social emotional learning by demonstrating how the 26 principles are taught and experienced in classrooms at Perspectives and how they are applied in their own lives.

In a workshop setting, the participants in the sold-out lab engaged in critical conversations and personal reflection, like Perspectives students do every day. They also heard from a panel that included student leaders of the school's peace movement, which inspired the documentary film called "I Am For Peace."

"As a participant, I experienced the impact that social emotional learning can have in schools, homes, businesses and beyond," said Sandy Sterling an attendee of the lab. "A Chicago Ideas lab like this one inspires participants to practice the 26 principles of A Disciplined Life and raise their level of fulfillment and civic engagement to drive positive social change."

The goal of Chicago Ideas Week is to share big ideas and inspire with innovation. "We are proud to be selected to serve our city through hosting a comprehensive lab that informs and transforms," said Diana Shulla-Cose, Perspectives' founder and president. She continues, "A Disciplined Life is like a toolbox that teaches students and adults how to be their best selves, cultivate healthy relationships, make informed decisions and become ethical people."

UNITED FOR PEACE

Taking Lessons from the Classroom to the Streets

On June 5, nearly 3,000 Perspectives students, family members, staff, friends and community leaders participated in the “I Am For Peace” march—one of the largest student-led peace marches in Chicago’s history. Students and corporate and community leaders marched together to disrupt the violence endangering the lives of Chicago youth.

Perspectives students invited new friends from across Chicagoland and beyond to join the movement with us or in their own communities. Students and friends joined us from Evanston, IL; Brentwood, TN; Murfreesboro, TN; Suwanee, GA and many more places. Perspectives’ peace movement inspired other peace marches that took place in Ferguson, MO; Madison, WI; Minneapolis, MN; Miami, FL as well as Haiti and South Africa.

Despite the overwhelming images and stories of violence in Chicago, Perspectives students are overcoming the odds they face through the A Disciplined Life education model. At Perspectives, students are given the space to learn to be socially aware and academically prepared through the 26 principles of A Disciplined Life which helps students develop positive self-perception, healthy relationships, and tools for productivity.

The A Disciplined Life class encouraged students to create a movement and reflect on ways they can contribute to a more peaceful world.

Our students’ voices are being heard: the march was featured on dozens of news outlets including Fox32, ABC7, CBS2, WGNTV, Univision Chicago, WBEZ Morning Shift, and more. New friends and local leaders marched with us – Mayor Rahm Emanuel; Allstate CEO, Tom Wilson and many of his Allstate colleagues; Pastor James Meeks, Chairman of the Illinois Board of Education; 3rd Ward Alderman, Pat Dowell; the very special Matt McGill, WVON Radio Personality; FM Supreme, humanitarian rap artist; and many more stood for peace with our students.

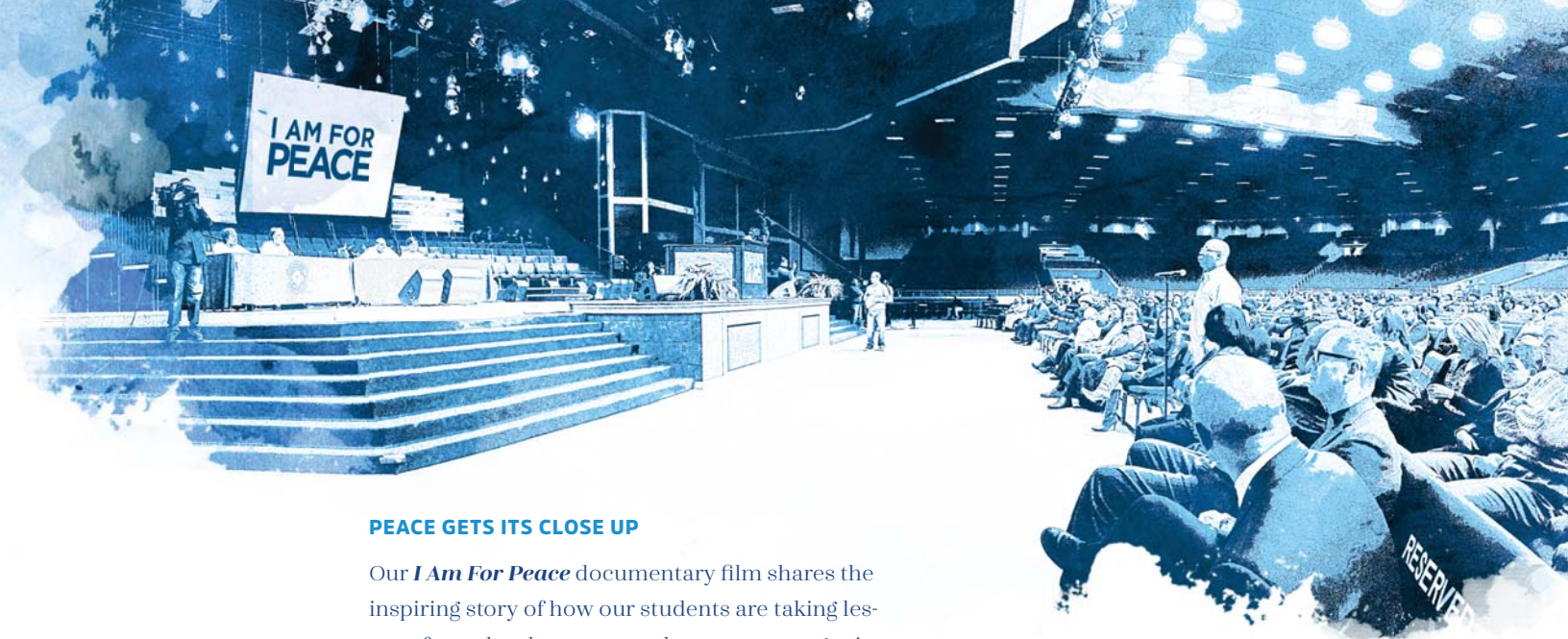
Thank you to our generous sponsors:

- David Storch; AAR CORP, Chairman and CEO
- Nestle Waters

The peace march is but one way to unite for a more peaceful city. Perspectives is in the business of seeking solutions. Students and educators spend time and energy identifying the role they play in being the answer – the way to a more peaceful city. Our common campus practices reflect this: A Disciplined Life class, Peace & Leadership Teams, Summer Peace Camps, International Peace Talks and an evolving relationship with the United States Institute for Peace.

The movement continues!
Join us!





PEACE GETS ITS CLOSE UP

Our *I Am For Peace* documentary film shares the inspiring story of how our students are taking lessons from the classroom to the streets to organize one of the largest student-led peace marches in Chicago's modern-day history and create a lasting movement for peace in our city and beyond.

PEACE ON THE ROAD

October 2014
- April 2015

The *I Am For Peace* documentary premiered in October to rave reviews in Pilsen and continued to be screened for the next seven months in over 30 venues across Chicago and beyond. The film opens and closes with a narrative by **Chicago native and R&B superstar, Jennifer Hudson** and also features **U.S. Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan**.

May 2015

The broadcast television debut of *I Am For Peace* was aired on Chicago's PBS WTTW11 in May 2015. Viewers were able to see why the **Chicago Sun-Times** describes the film as "an inspiring and empowering documentary," profiling how the A Disciplined Life education model prepares students to become the next generation of ethical leaders.

June 2015

I Am For Peace traveled to New Orleans as a featured session at the National Charter Schools Conference where thousands of educators from around the country had a chance to view the film. Student Peace Ambassadors continue to spread the message of peace by screening the film at schools, churches, businesses and other community organizations throughout Chicagoland and beyond.



STORIES OF SUCCESS

Looking Back at 2015

EDUCATING THE GOVERNOR

Governor Bruce Rauner Visits
Perspectives Leadership Academy

Governor Bruce Rauner visited Perspectives Leadership Academy as a part of National Charter Schools Week in May. He learned about A Disciplined Life and chose to study the principle "Listen Actively". The governor pledged to be a part of the *I Am for Peace* movement.

INSPIRING MINDS AND HEARTS

A Disciplined Life Benefit

CO-CHAIRS:

Rick Fezell

Vice Chairman, Central
Region Managing Partner,
Ernst & Young LLP

David Storch

Chairman and CEO, AAR
CORP

Students like Brittany Carroll will become the next generation of ethical leaders—thanks to the support of leaders like Fezell, Storch, Mayor Emanuel and all of the A Disciplined Life Benefit sponsors.

LIVING ADL

"Living A Disciplined Life means studying the 26 principles in and out of the classroom."



CHRISTOPHER BOSWELL

Teacher at Perspectives
Leadership Academy

GRAD CORNER

"Perspectives has changed me from a person who did not think twice about my future, to a person who thinks about college and my career everyday."



ANTONIQUE BROWN

Perspectives/IIT Math &
Science Academy '14

University of
Wisconsin-Madison
Major: Kinesiology

1997

Perspectives becomes one of the first five charter schools in Illinois

20

years ago A Disciplined Life was born

26

principles to educate students for college and prepare them for life

\$550K

raised to support our students

500

people attended the benefit



BRITTANY CARROLL

Perspectives Leadership
Academy '15

LEARNING THROUGH EXPERIENCE

Key Facts about the Perspectives Junior Internship Program

ANNUALLY:

300+

juniors are placed in an internship

200+

professionals mentor junior interns

12,000+

hours of time donated by mentors

CAREER

experiences range from aviation to accounting, legal to sports management, digital marketing to medical

JUNIORS

are introduced to a variety of professions during Annual Career Day Week

"It is so meaningful to watch the young men and women from Perspectives mature and develop during their five-week internship with us."



ASHLEY LEGGS

Campus recruiting coordinator
Ernst & Young LLP

"My internship was super interesting. It gave me a better understanding about how the stock market works. I want to become an investment banker in the future."

BRYCE MCCREE

Perspectives High School of Technology '16
Interned with Allstate
Focus areas: investment, stocks, and marketing

LAS VEGAS, NV

CHANGE AGENTS GOLF OUTING

Driving Educational Achievement

BY THE NUMBERS

23

of golfers

6

of teams

12

of corporations and businesses

\$150K

money raised

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Future MLB Hall of Famer
Joe Carter
World Series Hero

PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES WITH PARTNERSHIPS

Citi Community Development

ESSENTIAL COLLEGE PREP: FINANCIAL STUDY

Our evolving partnership with Citi is helping prepare students for college. They are teaching essential financial literacy workshops for Perspectives' juniors and seniors. "We want Perspectives' students to go to college informed and with their eyes wide open to the financial realities they may encounter," said George Wright, Midwest Region Director for Citi Community Development.

At Perspectives, financial literacy is crucial for student's life after high school. Financial barriers play a key role in a student's decision to drop out of college, which is why providing our students with financial literacy transition classes is important prior to their college career.

About Citi: Citi Community Development (CCD) is leading Citi's commitment to achieve economic empowerment and growth for underserved individuals, families and communities.

Lundbeck, Inc.

OPENING DOORS THROUGH STEM

For the past four years, Lundbeck has developed an integral partnership with Perspectives/IIT Math and Science Academy (MSA). Our partnership has evolved because of Lundbeck's sincere passion for education and their teamwork in creating new learning opportunities for our students, specifically in the STEM pipeline.

Each year, Lundbeck offers two internships for students to gain hands-on experience in STEM careers and awards two students with the Lundbeck STEM College Scholarship. The company also generously sponsored the refurbishment of the school's chemistry lab and established a new tradition of providing much appreciated book bags and supplies for all MSA students during the first week of school.

About Lundbeck: Lundbeck is an international pharmaceutical company that focuses on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education.

AT PERSPECTIVES,

*boundaries
are overcome
and the pursuit
of potential
is tireless.*



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Chicago Bears

FINANCIALS

Statement of Financial Position

ASSETS	YEAR ENDED JUNE 30 2015
Cash	\$2,327,727
Cash held for debt services	\$75,000
Investments	\$47,355
Pledges/other accounts receivable, prepaid expenses & deposits	\$1,765,543
Total current assets	\$4,215,625
Property & equipment, net & long term pledges receivable	\$7,477,821
Total Assets	\$11,693,446

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Accounts payable, accrued salaries & related liabilities	\$2,727,916
Capital lease obligations/deferred rent, incentives & revenue liability	\$1,492,194
Notes payable	\$2,338,496
Bond payable	\$4,300,000
Total Liabilities	\$10,858,606

Total Net Assets	\$834,840
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$11,693,446

Statement of Activities

REVENUES	YEAR ENDED JUNE 30 2015
City & State	\$26,031,660
Federal	\$3,290,037
Philanthropy	\$1,952,092
Other	\$391,783
Total	\$31,665,572

EXPENSES

Direct Student Services	\$29,370,084
Management & General	\$1,832,972
Fundraising	\$911,088
Total	\$32,114,144

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(\$448,572)
Net Assets, beginning of year	\$1,283,412
Net Assets, end of year	\$834,840

Source: Fiscal Year
2015 Audited Financial
Statements

CAMPUSES

PERSPECTIVES RODNEY D. JOSLIN CAMPUS

1930 South Archer Avenue
Chicago, IL 60616
312 | 225-7400

PERSPECTIVES MIDDLE ACADEMY

8131 South May Street
Chicago, IL 60620
773 | 358-6100

PERSPECTIVES LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

8131 South May Street
Chicago, IL 60620
773 | 358-6100

PERSPECTIVES HIGH SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY

8131 South May Street
Chicago, IL 60620
773 | 358-6100

PERSPECTIVES/IIT MATH & SCIENCE ACADEMY

3663 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago, IL 60653
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For more information or to learn more about our schools, please visit pcsedu.org or call 312.604.2200.

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Mike Clune

Renita Dixon

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THE FUNCTION OF EDUCATION IS TO
*teach one to think
intensively and
to think critically.
Intelligence plus
character - that
is the goal of
true education.*

— MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.



26 Principles of A Disciplined Life

SELF-PERCEPTION

Accept only quality work
from yourself

Take responsibility for your actions

Seek wisdom

Be open-minded

Think critically and be inquisitive

Love who you are

Demonstrate honesty
and integrity

Be generous

Be a life-long learner

Live a healthy lifestyle

RELATIONSHIPS

Communicate
effectively

Challenge each other
intellectually

Show gratitude

Solve conflicts peacefully

Respect differences

Be positive and supportive

Show compassion

PRODUCTIVITY

Demonstrate a strong
work ethic

Use your time wisely

Listen actively

Be punctual and
prepared

Be organized

Be reflective

Be reliable

Take initiative

Demonstrate perseverance



**Perspectives
Charter Schools**

Educating for College
Preparing for Life

Living a Disciplined Life®