



Perspectives



2019 ANNUAL
REPORT

DEAR PERSPECTIVES FAMILY,

We are delighted to share our 2019 Perspectives Annual Report. The report highlights the impact our A Disciplined Life® education model has on our over 1,600 Chicago students in 5 schools for the 2018-19 school year.

This past year was one of achievement and evolution. Because of your support and the hard work of our teachers and staff, our students had significant accomplishments including: over 329 students graduated—97% of seniors—earning over \$10 million in college scholarship dollars, nearly 50% of juniors and seniors earned college credit or career credentials, and over 75% of our students participated in athletics or after school activities. In addition, our middle school students accelerated their learning through personalized learning platforms and experienced a wide variety of educational field trips – broadening their horizons. All of our students, through our experiential learning program, learned about various career opportunities, visited college campuses and marched in our annual Peace March. Students also participated in summer learning opportunities including a full day summer school program, global trips, and summer employment opportunities in partnership with After School Matters.

Your support enabled our Growth Initiatives to take flight. We are thrilled to report that our new Perspectives Leadership Campus opened this fall welcoming 840 students in 6th - 12th grades. In addition, our partnership with the former Young Women's Leadership Campus enabled us to establish a new Young Women's STEM Program at our Perspectives/IIT Math & Science Academy, welcoming students from both our campus and the former campus to its first ever cohort.

This year, we also said a bittersweet goodbye to our courageous, tenacious and pioneering Co-Founder, Kim Day. Kim's relentless commitment to our Chicago kids at Perspectives has been immeasurable. She will forever be part of the Perspectives family, and we wish her all the best in her future dreams and endeavors.

For over twenty years, our A Disciplined Life® education model has established a culture of trust, curiosity and achievement. Our bedrock tenets of academic rigor, social-emotional learning, and experiential opportunities cultivate agency and unique opportunities, guiding our students to lead productive and meaningful lives. Because of this holistic model, students are expanding their minds and evolving as ethical leaders, enrolled on college campuses and entering workforce development opportunities.

We remain extremely grateful to our strong supporters, partners, and champions that enable us to do this work. Your commitment is unwavering and your generous support helps Perspectives foster minds and hearts and cultivate agency in our students today and for years to come.



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EMPOWERED TO SHIFT THE NARRATIVE



GROWING UP ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF CHICAGO WAS DIFFICULT.

Our backyard was too small to ride the donated scooter my brothers and I shared. Our neighborhood was too violent to go anywhere. I was not allowed to stand on my grandma's back porch for more than a minute to watch the Independence Day fireworks, in case it collapsed. I also had to avoid the gaping hole in the floor of the furnace room. These were all problems that seemed small to me.

This block is the only place I remember my mother. My brother and I sat with grandma while my mom got ready in the bathroom. I remember my grandma dialing 911, my brother crying and my uncles trying to break down the door in the cramped hallway. The paramedics had to help. Mom died of a heart attack that day.

I was 6, and my dad handed my brother and me off to strangers every day before ultimately leaving us to figure things out for ourselves. We often went without meals. Dad was never around and mostly returned to put some food in the refrigerator, or leave change for public transportation.

GROWING UP ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF CHICAGO WAS DIFFICULT.

I landed at Perspectives when I was 12. Perspectives stabilized me and gave me a place to call home. I was 'seen' at Perspectives as a smart kid with grit.

Perspectives was different than other schools. We place a huge emphasis on something we call, **A Disciplined Life®**, a set of 26 principles we are expected to develop, apply and ultimately take with us beyond Perspectives. A Disciplined Life class is a venue for critical conversations that teach empathy, and shape our opinions – and response to stereotypes, racism and difference. It was here I learned to channel my frustration and anger about inequity and apply it, the way an activist would.

Perspectives stokes the intellectual in students through opportunities and partnerships. Today, I am able to shift my narrative because of the opportunities, small and big, that I have been given.

Let me share just a few:

- ▶ Perspectives was the first place I had access to art materials. It was dreamlike, and unlocked the artist in me.
- ▶ Robotics was my anchor during high school. I fell in love with the process of design thinking there, and developed it more when I had a Career Shadow opportunity at AAR.
- ▶ I mentioned my interest in Japan to my teacher and within days I had a plan to learn Japanese. Today, I speak Japanese, and because of our partnership with EY, I interned at the Shedd Aquarium as a Japanese interpreter.

Last summer, I traveled to Africa with a group of students from Perspectives. Thanks to the Pritzker Pucker Family Foundation. I came home different, evolved forever. I never thought of myself as coming from a place of privilege—now I do. I saw poverty and injustice in Uganda that broke my heart and opened my mind. I am a global citizen now, and will always think of myself and my responsibility in the global context.

Opportunities like these change the mindset of students at Perspectives, giving us confidence and agency. This is one of the reasons I even thought to apply to Ivy League schools and attend one of the most prestigious universities from which to make an impact. Now, I am a freshman at Cornell University.

I am NOT the exception. Students at Perspectives are driven, smart, and ethical. Perspectives evolves us, and gives us a place to shift the narrative about the outcomes of black and brown youth from our city's South Side.

THIS IS WHAT EDUCATION SHOULD LOOK LIKE EVERYWHERE.



JONATHAN WELLS

Perspectives Class of 2019 | Freshman, Cornell University



PROGRAMMATIC EXPANSION

Our MSA campus announced the **YOUNG WOMEN'S STEM LEADERSHIP PROGRAM** at **Perspectives/ IIT Math & Science Academy**. This all-girls educational program develops students through the lens of **science, technology, engineering, math, and the ethical leadership skills** needed to create a more just world.

EXPERIENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

75%

of our students participated in an **after school program** or **athletic team**! A **record high** for our network.

ACADEMIC RIGOR

100%

of our graduating seniors were **accepted** into **college** or **trade school**.

\$10

MILLION

ALUMNI

The **Class of 2019** earned over \$10 Million in scholarships



SOCIAL EMOTIONAL AND ETHICAL LEARNING

Over **1,600 marchers** came out to advocate for a peaceful summer for our annual **I AM FOR PEACE MARCH** as the culmination project for our students ADL classes that are taught for **180 minutes per week**.

WE EMBRACE GROWTH 2018-19 HIGHLIGHTS

2018-19

HIGHLIGHTS

PERSPECTIVES/IIT MATH AND SCIENCE ACADEMY

2008

YEAR FOUNDED

517

FUTURE LEADERS

7-12

GRADES SERVED

BRONZEVILLE

NEIGHBORHOOD

**MSA Juniors and Seniors increased
their Dual Enrollment participation
by an extraordinary 25%!**

ABOUT MSA

Perspectives/IIT Math and Science Academy (MSA) prepares our students for success in college and in life by combining strong social emotional learning with a rigorous college preparatory curriculum and experiential learning opportunities that emphasize science, technology, engineering, art, and math.



2018-19

HIGHLIGHTS

PERSPECTIVES RODNEY D. JOSLIN CAMPUS

2003

YEAR FOUNDED

393

FUTURE LEADERS

6-12

GRADES SERVED

SOUTH LOOP

NEIGHBORHOOD

Joslin 8th graders had the highest spring to spring growth in math and reading in our entire network!

ABOUT JOSLIN

Rodney D. Joslin's vibrant, small-school learning environment allows students to build on their educational experience through internships and electives like art, fitness, humanities, and STEM courses as well as an accelerated pathway for high-achieving students.



2018-19

HIGHLIGHTS

PERSPECTIVES LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

2006

YEAR FOUNDED

302

FUTURE LEADERS

9-12

GRADES SERVED

AUBURN GRESHAM*

NEIGHBORHOOD

We are so proud of Marion Funches, Class of 2019 who received the Posse Scholarship and chose to attend Depauw University.

ABOUT PLA

Perspectives Leadership Academy (PLA) provides effective programs that develop our students into leaders of positive social change. PLA partners with professionals like EY to provide mentorship opportunities and the implementation of a strategic plan that infuses leadership development into all facets of the school.

*Our Auburn Gresham campus has moved to 8522 S. Lafayette. Keep reading to learn more!



2018-19

HIGHLIGHTS

PERSPECTIVES HIGH SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY

2006

YEAR FOUNDED

308

FUTURE LEADERS

9-12

GRADES SERVED

AUBURN GRESHAM*

NEIGHBORHOOD

**Congratulations to the Class 2022 who
had the strongest PSAT performance
in our network!**

ABOUT TECH

Perspectives High School of Technology (TECH) integrates the use of technology throughout our rigorous and relevant college preparatory curriculum. Through social-emotional learning, and experiential opportunities, we provide students with a competitive advantage in college and beyond.

*Our Auburn Gresham campus has moved to 8522 S. Lafayette.
Keep reading to learn more!



2018-19

HIGHLIGHTS

PERSPECTIVES MIDDLE ACADEMY

2006

YEAR FOUNDED

135

FUTURE LEADERS

6-8

GRADES SERVED

AUBURN GRESHAM*

NEIGHBORHOOD

PMA hosted their first annual series of workshops titled- Etiquette for Success: Young, Black & Professional. Several African-American volunteers from various fields talked to our scholars about entrepreneurship, careers, college, health, relationships, dining/business etiquette and more.

About PMA

Perspectives Middle Academy (PMA) teaches through personalized learning, combining tailored classroom instruction with an online curriculum called Summit, which allows students to work at their own pace, track their work and receive personalized instruction.

*Our Auburn Gresham campus has moved to 8522 S. Lafayette.
Keep reading to learn more!





WE DID IT!

BECAUSE OF THE SUPPORT of many deeply committed friends, Perspectives was able to purchase and redesign the former historic SoftSheen Carson building located right off of 85th and the Dan Ryan Expressway and open **PERSPECTIVES LEADERSHIP CAMPUS** housing three of our schools. We welcomed **over 800 students** (nearly 200 additional students) into our sustainable, accessible, and state of the art school facility. **We are so thankful to you.**

To learn about additional giving opportunities for Phase 2 of our campus redesign, please contact External Affairs at ea@pcsedu.org.





HE SAID YES TO PERSPECTIVES

OVER 20 YEARS AGO, our founders hired teachers, enrolled students and prepared to open their very first Perspectives campus when they got a call from City Hall. School officials let Kim and Diana know that their approved school site fell through, and they needed to identify a new site within 12 weeks.

Like relentless founders do, they set out to find a new school home and miraculously they met the late **Shelly Baskin**, a South Loop developer who said “Yes” to Perspectives. He identified an old warehouse and had it converted into a school house for the first day of school.

Fast forward to today, Shelly’s beloved wife, **Judy Wise** and their children learning about our new campus vision, once again said “Yes” to supporting our new school home, and gave Perspectives an unprecedented gift of **\$1,000,000** to build a state of the art track at our brand new campus!

Shelly had the capacity and the heart - and this combination made Perspectives possible. What one man can do. **Thank you, Shelly for standing beside us so many years ago** and to the **The Baskin Family Foundation** who stand beside us today.

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REVENUES

74.9% CITY & STATE
14% PHILANTHROPY
5.6% FEDERAL
5.5% OTHER



EXPENSES

89.4% DIRECT STUDENT SERVICES
6.6% GENERAL ADMINISTRATION
4% FUNDRAISING

DON'T MISS OUT!

SAVE THE DATE

2020 A Disciplined Life® Gala

WHEN

MAY 7, 2020

6-9PM

WHERE

RITZ-CARLTON

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26 PRINCIPLES OF A Disciplined Life®

We study the 26 Principles of A Disciplined Life®

POSITIVE 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 lifelong learner
Live a healthy lifestyle

HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

Communicate effectively
Challenge each other intellectually
Show gratitude
Solve conflicts peacefully
Respect differences
Be positive and supportive
Show compassion

TOOLS FOR 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