



TEAK FELLOWSHIP  
20 years

GLANCING BACK  
FOCUSING FORWARD

SUPPORTING TEAK'S FUTURE



## OUR MISSION

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The TEAK Fellowship believes that motivation and potential, not economic circumstances, should determine a student's future. TEAK unlocks access to outstanding education and transformative experiences for exceptional NYC students, who use these opportunities to change their lives and the world around them.

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## WHO WE SERVE

2016 AVERAGE FAMILY INCOME: \$37,352

AVERAGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN A HOUSEHOLD: 4

2016 AVERAGE INCOME PER PERSON IN A HOUSEHOLD: \$9,016



“No matter where people start the game of life, the most important aspect is access. Access is what breaks down socio-economic boundaries. No one is born better than anyone else. TEAK levels the playing field.”

**Eric Wilson**  
*TEAK Fellow Class 8*  
*Wesleyan University*  
*Marathon Ventures Media Sales*

## FROM THE BEGINNING...

Twenty years ago, TEAK's successful approach became a model for addressing education inequality in NYC and nationwide. Through intensive after-school and summer classes, TEAK prepares talented middle school students from low-income families to thrive in the nation's most selective high schools and colleges. TEAK's comprehensive approach and strong support system ensures that students are leaders in their independent (day and boarding) high schools and go on to graduate from the nation's finest colleges, ready to pursue their professional goals, augment their families' financial situations, and make a difference in the world.

Since its founding in 1998, **250** exceptional students have completed this Fellowship, with another **300** TEAK students currently enrolled in middle school, high school, and college.

**TEAK transforms lives.** With more aspiring students applying to TEAK each year, who through education hope to overcome economic hardships and achieve their potential, **TEAK can and must do more.** Given its success, it is imperative that TEAK expand its reach and its impact so it does not leave behind the multitude of students dreaming to change the trajectory of their lives and communities around them.



By providing access to and high level support through college, TEAK opens the door to economic mobility for the brightest and most driven kids from low-income families.

## CORE VALUES

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Studies continue to demonstrate that the single most effective strategy to improve economic mobility and lift families out of poverty is a four-year college education. Yet, research has found “that most low-income high school seniors with the grades and test scores to thrive at one of the 250 most selective colleges do not attend one. They instead enroll at colleges with far fewer resources — and many never graduate. Meanwhile, the income gap between college graduates and everyone else has reached a record high.” (David Leonhardt, “The Least Economically Diverse Top College, Seeking to Change,” 2015)

### WE KNOW THAT COLLEGE IS THE ANSWER, AND THAT TEAK’S APPROACH WORKS.

By providing access to and high level support through college, TEAK opens the door to economic mobility for the brightest and most driven kids from low-income families. TEAK scholars earn admission to the most selective colleges, such as Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Wesleyan, and Williams, which can provide the most comprehensive financial aid. TEAK Fellows leave college with little to no debt, setting them on a more manageable path to financial stability. In addition, providing low-income students access to independent high school educations increase their ability to navigate and take full advantage of the opportunities open to them once they get to college. This trajectory paves the way to graduation, career success, and financial security for them and, as a result, their families.

TEAK students and families take a leap of faith and invest a great deal of time and effort in the ten-year TEAK Fellowship. In return, TEAK invests a great deal in each of them by providing a unique combination of **Scholarship, Leadership, Citizenship, and Fellowship.**



“At TEAK, my son is not the only one that has learned — we as parents have also learned to dream big and to see that with effort, everything is possible.”

**Rocío Huitzil**  
*TEAK Parent Class 15*



## SCHOLARSHIP

Each year, through a comprehensive admissions process TEAK selects 30 bright, highly motivated students from low-income families who are eager for opportunity and challenge. From day one, they pursue rigorous, enriching curricula taught by experienced public and private school teachers. In after-school, Saturday, and summer classes, TEAK Fellows develop the literacy, critical thinking and problem-solving skills needed to thrive in top independent day and boarding schools. They learn about themselves, what they love, and what they can achieve.

## LEADERSHIP

TEAK recognizes leadership potential in all who are enrolled in the TEAK Fellowship. Through the Leadership Course all Fellows are taught the skills and perspective to thoughtfully and purposely effect positive change in their communities. TEAK Fellows are leaders in class discussions, on stage, and on athletic fields. Eighty-six percent of students serve in leadership roles at their high schools, breaking additional barriers and charting new paths as they step into prominent roles. Their impact is as impressive as their accomplishments.

## CITIZENSHIP

TEAK students effect change through service. Each year, one TEAK cohort dedicates its entire summer to a full-time volunteer experience, teaching at-risk youth, providing meals to seniors, and supporting families who are homeless or face housing instability. And, throughout the Fellowship, each student will complete 100 additional volunteer hours — totaling 3,000 hours for each class — dedicated to improving and giving back to their school and local communities. These experiences change Fellows for the better, and in turn strengthen their communities. With the largest percentage of TEAK alumni working in education, public policy, and non-profit organizations (34%), TEAK students are having a direct impact on their communities.



“It was powerful to realize that we ourselves were not so fortunate, but we also have the capability to give back.”

**Angelica Cesario**  
TEAK Fellow Class 1  
Amherst College  
Columbia Law School  
Program Attorney for Lawline  
TEAK Board Member



## FELLOWSHIP

TEAK distinguishes itself from its peer organizations through its dedication to relationship-building and investment in growing each student as an individual. At the same time, they remain part of the larger Fellowship — a strong cohort of peers going through the TEAK experience together and helping to support one another along the way. Their sense of camaraderie is strengthened through group outings to Broadway shows, museum exhibitions and other cultural offerings. These students are also connected to an extensive network beyond TEAK: schools partners, alumni, mentors, internship hosts, and board members who work to support students and continue to open doors along their educational journey.

**THE UNIQUE COMBINATION OF SCHOLARSHIP, LEADERSHIP, CITIZENSHIP, AND FELLOWSHIP ENSURES THAT TEAK GRADUATES HAVE BOTH THE ACADEMIC AND SOCIAL CAPITAL TO ACHIEVE THEIR FULL POTENTIAL.**



“The TEAK Fellowship is a challenging academic curriculum, but it’s more than that. It’s a comprehensive program that provides exposure to culture activities, leadership development and other soft skills that help build your resume and are important to success.”

**Tarif Chowdhury**  
TEAK Fellow Class 3  
New York University  
Anesthesia Resident,  
NYP-Columbia University Medical Center



## RESULTS BEYOND MEASURE

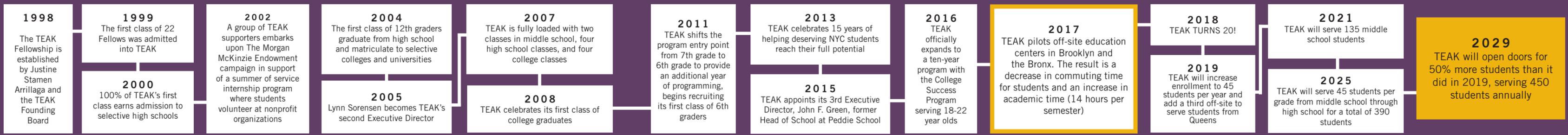
- 100% of TEAK Fellows and alumni have been accepted into top independent, public, and parochial high schools.
- 100% of TEAK college students and alumni have matriculated to 4-year colleges: 93% have entered highly competitive colleges, including 27% to the Ivy League.
- 84% of TEAK students will be the first in their families to graduate from college.

Last year, TEAK Fellows scored an average SAT score of 1460, over 400 points higher than the national average, and 550 points higher than students from the same socio-economic background. In a world of increasingly limited financial aid dollars, TEAK Fellows receive robust financial aid packages at their high schools and colleges, which make these amazing opportunities accessible for their families. With an average grant of \$48,000 a year for high school and \$65,000 a year for college, schools invest \$450,000 in each Fellow over 8 years.

TEAK invests approximately \$78,000 in each student, yielding an average of \$450,000 in scholarships over 8 years. The return on the financial investment nears 500%. The return on the human investments — students, families, and communities — is beyond measure.

## 2011-2017 COLLEGE MATRICULATION

- |                                  |                                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Brown University (12)            | Stanford University (2)           |
| Columbia University (10)         | Wellesley College (2)             |
| Wesleyan University (8)          | Allegheny College                 |
| Williams College (8)             | Boston College                    |
| Cornell University (6)           | Brandeis University               |
| Amherst College (5)              | Bucknell University               |
| Claremont McKenna College (5)    | College of Saint Rose             |
| Haverford College (5)            | CUNY Macaulay Honors College      |
| Princeton University (5)         | Dartmouth College                 |
| University of Pennsylvania (5)   | Davidson College                  |
| Yale University (5)              | Dickinson College                 |
| Bowdoin College (4)              | Fordham University                |
| Franklin & Marshall College (4)  | Georgetown University             |
| Middlebury College (4)           | Gettysburg College                |
| Swarthmore College (4)           | Goucher College                   |
| Barnard College (3)              | Hamilton College                  |
| Colgate University (3)           | Johns Hopkins University          |
| Lehigh University (3)            | Kenyon College                    |
| Union College (3)                | Oberlin College                   |
| Babson College (2)               | Rochester Institute of Technology |
| Carnegie Mellon University (2)   | Stony Brook University            |
| Emory University (2)             | SUNY New Paltz                    |
| George Washington University (2) | University of Rochester           |
| Harvard University (2)           | Vassar College                    |
| Lafayette College (2)            | Wheaton College                   |





Cornell University

“It has been my great pleasure to work with TEAK students. Over the last 9 years as the director for student opportunity programs, I have worked with several TEAK students in my programs. I am consistently impressed with their level of professionalism, preparation, and commitment to their degree and the campus community. As we graduate TEAK scholars, they stay connected and work to give back as alumni. I continue to work with our colleagues at the TEAK Fellowship because I know the students TEAK prepares are committed and ready to engage in their education and our community.”

**William “Woodg” Horning, MPS ’10**  
*Associate Director,  
Office of Academic Diversity Initiatives  
Director, Student Opportunity Programs  
Vice President, HEOP Professional  
Organization Cornell University*



CHOATE  
ROSEMARY HALL

“As a career admissions officer at three reputable boarding schools including Peddie, Hotchkiss, and Choate Rosemary Hall, I have come to know TEAK and TEAK Fellows well. TEAK Fellows are always among the best-prepared students in our applicant pool and the most successful students and generous citizens in our community.”

**Dana Brown**  
*Senior Associate Director of  
Admission and Director of  
Multicultural Recruitment  
Choate Rosemary Hall*



## THE BEST DAY. THE WORST DAY.

TEAK’s success is due in no small part to its commitment to excellence and agility and innovation in meeting that high bar each and every year. As a result, TEAK has remained at the forefront of the college access and success landscape over its 20-year history.

Every year, TEAK welcomes 30 additional students into the Fellowship, opening doors to outstanding educational opportunities and transforming their lives. Yet, with approximately 300 students applying to these 30 spots, it is also turning away more than 250 students. We must respond to the growth of applications and we must do more, for more.

Our plan is clear, deliberate, and aspirational - TEAK will enroll **15 additional students (an increase of 50%)** each year to create **cohorts of 45 Fellows**. In 10 years TEAK will educate and support **150 additional Fellows** in the program than today. In 20 years, over **1,000 TEAK Fellows** will have graduated from college and will be working to change their lives and the world around them.

After 20 years of proven success, TEAK is poised to expand its ongoing and profound impact on students, families and communities without sacrificing the quality of instruction, relationships, and results.

### THIS THOUGHTFUL EXPANSION WILL REQUIRE GROWTH IN FOUR AREAS:



### RECRUIT MORE EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS

TEAK knows that there are still exponentially more exceptional students from under resourced communities than there are programs to serve them. To identify these exceptional students, TEAK must strengthen and expand its recruitment efforts by adding qualified admissions personnel. As the cost of living drives low-income families further away from our offices in Manhattan, TEAK must also travel deeper into the outer boroughs to build relationships with counselors and yield the most motivated students to join us. It is the best and only way to ensure a cohort of 45 students each year with the same potential as previous cohorts.



### EDUCATE MORE MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

TEAK knows that to place its 45 students per cohort, however exceptional, into selective high schools and, more importantly, to prepare them for success there requires a first-rate Middle School program. To ensure that each cohort receives the same high quality academic instruction and individualized support as previous cohorts, TEAK will add a part-time high school placement officer, a full-time classroom teacher and maintain its enviable student-teacher ratios. TEAK will also rent a third classroom site for Queens students for after-school weekday classes, providing them with the same shorter commutes and additional class time as students from Brooklyn and the Bronx.

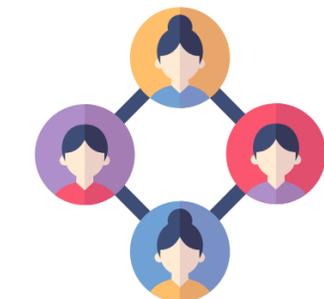


**15** : **1**  
Students : Teacher



### PREPARE MORE STUDENTS FOR HIGH SCHOOL SUCCESS AND COLLEGE PLACEMENT

TEAK knows that to ensure that high school students perform at their potential and are also prepared for the demanding college placement process requires TEAK staff to provide a combination of ongoing support/guidance and transformational summer experiences. To maintain that combination, TEAK will add a full-time dean who will maintain relationships with a cohort of students and visit them in their high schools and a part-time college placement officer who can help students navigate the increasingly complex placement process. TEAK will strengthen its partnerships with organizations and companies that provide our students with Summer of Service opportunities and high school internships.



### PREPARE MORE STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE SUCCESS, GRADUATION AND CAREERS

TEAK knows that preparing college students for success, graduation, and careers requires TEAK staff to provide targeted course advising, ongoing communication and support as well as the job skills, training, and networking opportunities necessary to become competitive applicants and compete successfully in the tomorrow’s work force. To do so, TEAK will capitalize on the number of mentors and internship hosts who wish to work with our students but cannot be accommodated and increase partnerships with volunteers and internship sites bringing new individual and corporate partners into the fold.



# IT IS TIME TO DO MORE. JOIN US TODAY.

Funding the increase in capacity for each TEAK program will position the organization to not only grow, but also to thrive in a competitive market that is constantly seeking leaders. TEAK has provided and will continue to provide those leaders.



**\$100,000**

Cost to support one new student for 10 years.



**\$50,000**

Internships for students at non-profits, research, and public service organizations.



**\$25,000**

Pre-college summer enrichment programs in writing, technology, and science.



**\$10,000**

Cultural experiences such as theatre, museums, and field trips.



**\$5,000**

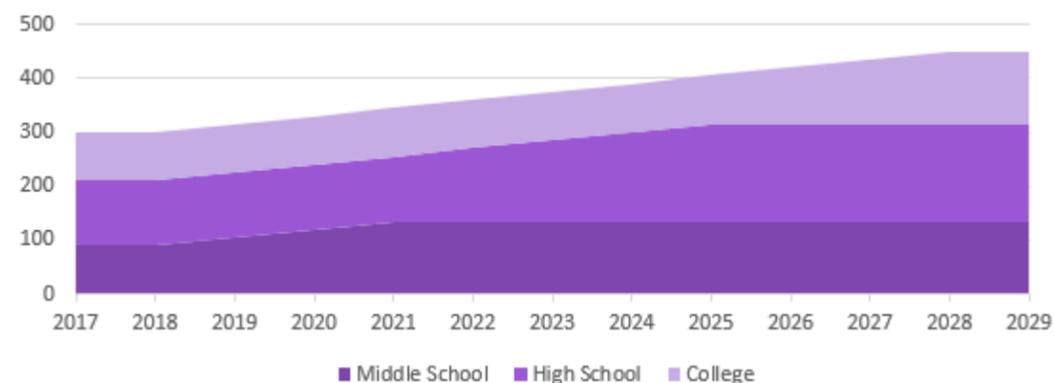
College trips to visit schools and tour accepted schools.

## THE FUTURE

To set the stage for the next chapter of TEAK's history, with the full support of the Board of Directors, TEAK is now seeking extraordinary support from its community to invest in a **multi-million dollar initiative**.

TEAK's methodical growth plan allows the organization to enhance its staff and programming with each larger class ultimately launching more bright, talented, deserving students on the path to success.

TEAK is ready to make a remarkably accomplished program even more remarkable while it thoughtfully works to change the trajectory of additional students' lives. TEAK Fellows are leaders who set high expectations, and meet them both inside the classroom and out. They are motivated students who deserve the best education but are unable to access it solely because of their families' economic circumstances. The need is great, and it is a need that TEAK must continue to address.



## ANY AMOUNT HELPS SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS

For more information, please contact:

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For more information, visit [www.teakfellowship.org/teak-at-20](http://www.teakfellowship.org/teak-at-20)

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**TEAK FELLOWSHIP**  
20 years

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