"BKYSC HAS CHANGED MY LIFE. I WOULD NEVER HAVE BECOME THE PERSON, THE STUDENT, OR THE ATHLETE THAT I AM WITHOUT THIS PROGRAM."



Our Mission

To assist Brooklyn youth in their pursuit of college enrollment using basketball as the hook for academic engagement and character development. By combining intensive basketball skills development and rigorous academic support, BKYSC builds an enriching educational setting that empowers youth to fulfill their academic, physical, and personal potential.





Our History

BKYSC was founded in 2009 based on the premise that a dedication to team sports combined with rigorous academic support can yield powerful results that build leaders, student-athletes, and college graduates. The organization was designed to use athletics, specifically basketball, as a vehicle to engage Brooklyn youth in productive academic programs with an emphasis subject-based tutoring and college prep.

Engagement is fundamental to our basketball-centric approach and has proven to be a very powerful and effective way to involve young people in off-the-court learning experiences.

Students choose to participate at BKYSC. Motivated by their own aspirations, hard work becomes a direct result of authentic engagement. While we stress that basketball must be kept in perspective as a game meant to be fun, we also understand that by leveraging the power of basketball we build a learning environment where both students and staff are driven by passion. That dynamic leads to genuine learning experiences that result in long-term success.

We have seen our programs positively impact hundreds of student-athletes over the past seven years. Our program's culture empowers youth to see college not as a goal but as an expectation and the organization prides itself on maintaining our 100% college enrollment rate. By instilling values of hard work, leadership, tenacity, and dedication, BKYSC alumni are not only equipped with the academic qualifications for college enrollment but are also prepared to tackle the rigors and demands of college.

Our Challenge

Less than 60%

of Brooklyn students graduate from high school; **45%** of NYC public school students enroll in college

BKYSC has prepared my son for college, I cannot thank them enough...

By the ninth grade,

two-thirds of the achievement gap

between low-income and more affluent students can be attributed to unequal access to summer learning opportunities When my daughter starts school every fall, she picks up right where she left off, thanks to BKYSC...

Less than 20%

of 7th Graders in Brooklyn performed at or above grade level on statewide English Language Arts exams;

Less than 15%

performed at or above grade level on statewide Math exams

My son was struggling in school. Recently, his teacher complimented his vocabulary and improved math skills. Thank you, BKYSC.

Less than 20%

of low-income youth in NYC participate in afterschool programs At BKYSC my children got involved in robust and meaningful activities that expanded their horizons...

Our Approach



















The Hook

We believe that student learning is driven by personal engagement and individual connections – at BKYSC, we use basketball as a vehicle to engage and inspire excellence off-the-court. By leveraging the power of our students' interests, we are able to find a meaningful entry point to education that is driven by the students.

Inspire & Motivate

The unique approach to athletics and education inspires our youth to take an authentic interest in their academics – engagement in our program is genuine – our students choose to be here. Once students become motivated in their learning, the outcomes are limitless.

How Our Students Excel

At BKYSC, all participants are required to attend our mandatory academic programs as a prerequisite to participation in all athletic programs. We take an individualized approach to each and every student in the program and aim to provide support based on the individual needs of each participant.

The Outcome

As a result of positive engagement, academic support, and character development, BKYSC has a 100% college success rate with 154 students currently enrolled in college. Of those students, all 154 students have remained in college.

Our Programs

BKYSC offers a range of programs that welcome all youth, regardless of basketball ability, as long as they are willing and able to make the commitment to academics. While many of our student-athletes have realistic aspirations of playing basketball in college, a specific level of basketball ability is not a prerequisite for enrollment in our programs. Ages of active participants at BKYSC range from 10 to 18 years old. When students graduate the program, BKYSC remains a support system to actively support alumni to succeed in college and beyond!



...BKYSC challenged my children to become better people...



BKYSC Academy

The BKYSC Academy is the core after-school program at the Brooklyn Youth Sports Club. Consistent with our Mission, the program leverages students passion for basketball as a vehicle to engage participants in academic and other "off-thecourt" activities. The yearround Academy is designed to meet the academic needs of each individual participant by offering a wide spectrum of academic support in areas including literacy development, homework help, individual and group tutoring, SAT/ACT prep, and Regents Prep. The program also offers curriculum-based classes that use relevant and engaging subject matter to inspire students to think critically and to apply their learning to the real world.









Better Athlete Coalition

The Better Athlete Coalition (BAC) is a specialized program for committed student-athletes in the middle school. The BAC curriculum addresses multiple academic areas including literacy/reading skills, academic mindset/ approach, and, eventually, college awareness and prep. The program also stresses a commitment to developing personal character and integrity and focuses on empowering participants to make accountable decisions in the classroom, on the court, and in the community. Through a rigorous commitment to academic support, leadership development, and basketball training, the program succeeds in helping students prepare for high school and beyond.

Varsity Assist

Varsity Assist is a partnership program between BKYSC and Brooklyn high schools that provides academic support and tutoring to studentathletes who participate on their high school teams. The program, which takes place in the partner school's facilities, was piloted in 2013 and has expanded to four partner schools in 2016. Most Varsity Assist participants also enroll in other BKYSC programs including the Summer Academy and College Assist. Every single dollar spent by BKYSC on this program goes directly to salaries for academic support staff.

College Assist

The ultimate measure of BKYSC's impact is our ability to assist students in their pursuit of college enrollment. Fundamental to program values is the expectation that 100% of our participants graduate high school and enroll in college. BKYSC's College Assist program is designed to address four key areas of need in the college enrollment process: 1) SAT/ACT aptitude test preparation 2) Development of college essays and personal statements 3) Crafting and submitting applications and 4) Enhancing college exposure and access. Our approach through these four components has proven to be effective - since 2012, BKYSC has graduated over 150 youth to college with a 100% acceptance and enrollment rate.

Our Impact

In 2016...

BKYSC increased ENROLLMENT from 200 to 250 participants

provided
10,000
hours of
ACADEMIC
SUPPORT
PROGRAMS

provided
10,000
hours of
BASKETBALL
TRAINING
ACTIVITIES

provided
2,500
Hours of
COLLEGE
PREP and
GUIDANCE

COLLEGE PLACEMENTS – 2012-2017

Garden City CC

Adelphi University **Allegheny College** ASA College(2) **Baptist College Bates College** вмсс **Brandeis College Bridgeport University** Brooklyn College (3) **Buffalo State Canisius College Central Connecticut** University **Chapman University** Cincinnati Christian University City College of New York Clinton CC Cloud County CC (2) Cobbleskill CC Colby CC College of Staten Island Dean College **Dodge City CC Dowling College** Erie CC (2) Finger Lakes CC (2) Florida Gulf Coast University

Fulton Montgomery CC (5)

Garrett College Genesee CC (4) George Washington University Globe Institute **Grambling State** University **Haverford College Hobart College Hofstra University** Holy Cross University Hostos CC (3) Howard University John Jay (2) Juniata College Kings College Kingsborough CC Kirkwood CC Lawson State College Lycoming College McCook County CC Mendocino CC Mercy College Middlebury College Mohawk Valley CC (6) Molloy College Monroe College (2) Montrose Christian

Morehouse College (2) Morgan State University (2) Nassau CC Navarro CC Niagara CC (2) New Jersey Institute of Technology Occidental College Onondaga CC Palm Beach CC **Penn State University** Pensacola CC **Post University** Queens College (2) Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute **Rutgers-Newark** University San Antonio CC Seton Hall University St. Francis College (3) St. Johns University St. Josephs University St. Thomas Aquinas Sullivan CC (2) SUNY Binghamton (2) **SUNY Brockport** SUNY Delhi (3) SUNY Potsdam (5)

SUNY Geneseo SUNY New Paltz Syracuse University **Tennessee State** University Texas A & M International University (2) **Texas State University** Tompkins Cortland CC (3) Trinity Valley CC **Tufts College** University of Albany (3) **University of Connecticut** University of Massachusetts University of Buffalo University of Maine University of Maryland-**Baltimore County** University of Rochester University of South Carolina University of Tennessee-Martin USC Salkehatchie CC Vanderbilt University Western Oklahoma CC (3) West Virginia University

Wheeling Jesuit University

...BKYSC has
cultivated his love
of sports and his
curiosity to learn...

We've been to other basketball programs, none had the focus on academics like BKYSC

BY THE NUMBERS

100% of our seniors graduate from high school

100% enroll in college programs

Over 150 college enrollees in our first 5 graduating classes

Over \$1.5 M in academic and athletic scholarships awarded to BKYSC graduates to schools including Vanderbilt, Howard, Middlebury, Morehouse, Bates, St. Johns, Occidental, Syracuse, UConn, South Carolina, Queens College, Brooklyn College, Brandeis, George Washington, Rochester, and UMass!

Currently there are 250 BKYSC MEMBERS ranging from 5th grade to Seniors in high school

ENROLLED MIDDLE SCHOOL MEMBERS

in quality high schools including York Prep, Fessenden, Kimball Union Academy, Salisbury, Brooks, Northfield Mount Hermon, Trevor Day, Berkeley Carroll, Poly Prep



Manasseh Small joined the Brooklyn Youth
Sports Club in the beginning of 8th grade. He
was an enthusiastic energetic thirteen-year-old
kid with a great love for basketball. But middle
school is a confusing time for most kids. Do I
continue to work hard at school? Do I continue
to follow my passions? Manasseh saw many
of his peers starting to struggle in school or
choosing to hang out with friends instead of
playing ball. In some instances, he saw his
friends start to gravitate towards girls, drugs,
gangs and some of the other distractions and
challenges that face Brooklyn youth.

It takes a special kid to commit to his dreams, to take the difficult path. It takes a special program to support a kid through these changes and give him the tools to succeed.

Born and raised in Bed-Stuy, Brooklyn, Manasseh attended MS 113 in Fort Greene. He grew up playing basketball in local parks and on local travel teams and by the time he was 7th grade, he had become a pretty good player.

In the fall of 2013, Manasseh enrolled in the inaugural cohort of a new pilot program at BKYSC called the Better Athlete Coalition (BAC). BAC is designed to provide a unique learning experience for motivated student-athletes in the middle school that prepares them for the rigors of high school and the responsibilities of being an accomplished student, athlete, and leader. The BAC academic curriculum focuses on comprehensive literacy and the program stresses a commitment to developing personal character and integrity. Students graduate from BAC with an improved vocabulary and communication skills as well as an ability to apply their learning to the real world.

In that inaugural BAC cohort, Manasseh was very receptive to both the academic curriculum and the basketball training and was emerging as both a great student and a great player.

ACCOMPLISMENTS

- ★ 2016-17 National Honor Society
- ★ Commendation Award winner
- ★ 3.6 GPA
- ★ Tri-County Independent League State Champion 2014-15
- ★ 2x Cross Country Champion

He was recruited by many independent and boarding schools, and ultimately decided to attend the Phelps School, an independent prep school in Pennsylvania.

Every summer, Manasseh returns from school to participate in the BKYSC Summer Academy, where he spends his six week summer break in the classroom and in the gym. For the past four summers, he has made the choice to spend his summer productively by taking advantage of daily tutoring, SAT prep, basketball training, and more. As a rising senior, Manasseh will be back at it again this summer working hard at BKYSC!

His hard work is paying off - Manasseh boasts a 3.6 GPA and was named a member of the 2016-17 National Honor Society. He is a state champion in basketball, a 2-time Cross Country champion, and a Commendation Award winner.

Like Manasseh, almost all of BKYSC's studentathletes come to our program because they
love playing basketball. Like Manasseh, they
have a passion for something. This is where
BKYSC comes in. Using basketball as a vehicle
to engage youth in our academic, college prep,
and leadership programs is key to our success.
It is what we do. By leveraging our kid's passion
for basketball we are able to strike a powerful
entry point to youth development that builds
future leaders and college graduates. When
kids are motivated, they can accomplish
anything. Just like Manasseh.

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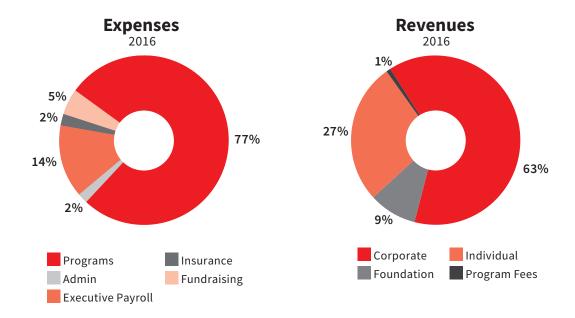
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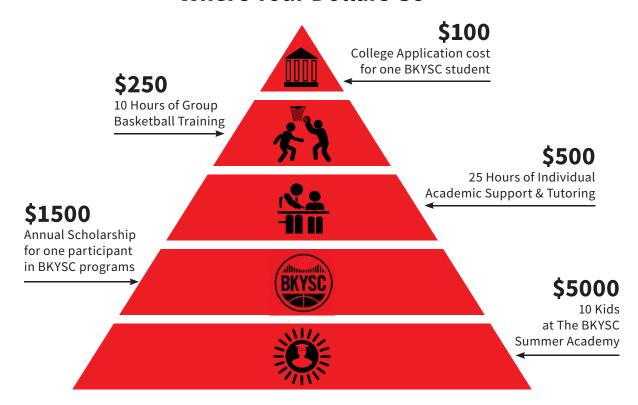
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\$25,000

2010

2011

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A very special THANK YOU to Damon Lawrence, Anton Marchand, Rob Weitzer, MS 113, Bishop Loughlin HS, George Westinghouse HS, BBHC Teams, and our dedicated tutoring staff, coaches, and volunteers

"THANK YOU! SO MANY KIDS WILL BE GRATEFUL TO HAVE BKYSC IN THEIR LIVES JUST LIKE I AM."



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