



2025 REPORT CARD

SEPTEMBER 2024 - AUGUST 2025

BUILDING ON A LEGACY

This year, Higher Achievement celebrated a significant milestone: 50 years of expanding access to opportunities for middle school students.

We are both proud to be part of this organizational legacy and excited for what's to come next in Richmond.

With your partnership, we are working to expand the number of scholars we serve, pilot new supports for the transition to high school, and launch an endowment that will bolster sustainability and ensure our continued work for years to come.

Thank you for being part of this mission.

The rigorous academic enrichment, caring adult mentors, and comprehensive preparation for high school that Higher Achievement offers are made possible through the power of this community.

I have learned confidence is key and empowers you to express your thoughts, needs, and boundaries clearly and assertively. I have gained confidence by taking people's words into consideration, by trusting myself, and valuing my own thoughts and feelings. This has increased my self-esteem, my communication, and performance.

- ZYNIA

HIGHER ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLAR

EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES

Field trips, electives, and workshops sparked new interests and career pathways for scholars in 2025.



LOVE OUT LOUD

Our scholars' talents were on full display at our Love Out Loud showcase, from powerful poems to creative works of art.



SCHOOL VISITS

As part of our effort to expose scholars to opportunities in high school, college, and career, scholars visited Cristo Rey High School, the University of Richmond, and Longwood University.



CHESAPEAKE BAY EXPERIENCES

Thanks to the support of the Chesapeake Bay Trust, scholars learned about the importance of caring for the health of the Chesapeake Bay watershed through two meaningful experiences.

In the spring, scholars spent an afternoon learning about water quality at the James River, facilitated by Blue Sky Fund. This summer, scholars explored wetlands, underwater grass beds, and oyster reefs at Tangier Island.



COMMUNITY EXPOSURE

Scholars attended the Virginia Repertory Theatre's performance of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," had a hands-on day of learning at the Science Museum of Virginia, went bowling, and visited the Virginia Aquarium in Norfolk, VA.





PREPARING TO LAUNCH

Preparation for high school, college, and career is at the cornerstone of Higher Achievement's programming. Trips, retreats, and weekly mentoring expanded horizons and supported scholars' ambitions for the future.



ESSAY AND INTERVIEW PREP

8th graders spent an afternoon in mock interviews and timed essay trials with volunteers from EY to prepare for the high school application process.



COLLEGE VISITS

Scholars had the opportunity to tour Longwood University and the University of Richmond to learn about campus life, majors and career paths, financial aid, and more.



HIGH SCHOOL READINESS ACADEMY

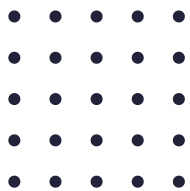
7th-grade scholars spent a week preparing for their 8th-grade year and beyond. Scholars learned practical skills for essay writing and interviewing that equipped them for the high school application process in the fall.



GREEN APPLES GRADUATION CEREMONY

Each year, Higher Achievement selects one 8th-grade scholar to receive our Maureen Holla Award. This year's Maureen Holla award winner, Kennedy, wrote a beautiful Green Apples reflection piece entitled "Birds Must Fly Away"—a coming-of-age reflection on friendship, growing up, and embracing your true self. Kennedy dedicated the work to Higher Achievement:

"A program that not only helped me academically, but also taught me positivity, respect, empathy, and confidence, and so much more. Skills that I will need in everyday life."



2025 BY THE NUMBERS

PROGRAM OUTCOMES



ACADEMIC GAINS

75% IN ELA **67%** IN MATH

Percentage of Higher Achievement scholars who maintained an A or B or improved a letter grade.



SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING

86% CONFIDENCE IN SELF-EFFICACY SKILLS **90%** SENSE OF BELONGING AT HIGHER ACHIEVEMENT

Percentage of scholars with favorable responses in self-assessment surveys



HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT

94%

Percentage of scholars accepted to one of the schools/programs they applied to

DEMOGRAPHICS

120

SCHOLARS SUPPORTED across 3 centers at Boushall, Dogwood, and Henderson Middle Schools

30

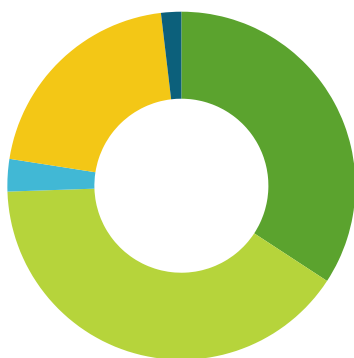
VOLUNTEER MENTORS supporting scholars' personal and academic goals

SCHOLARS RACE/ETHNICITY



Black (68%) Latinx (1%) Multiethnic (5%) White (3%)
Other/Prefer not to say (22%)

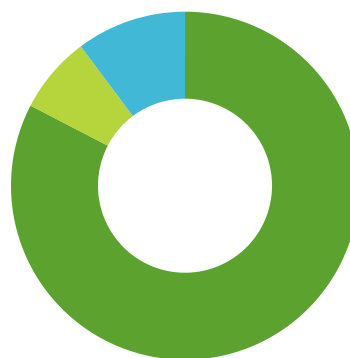
FINANCIALS



FY25 REVENUE

Foundations \$389,167
Government \$457,745
Individuals \$34,223
Corporate \$234,904
In Kind \$21,344

Total FY25 Revenue
\$1,137,383



FY25 EXPENSES

Salaries and Benefits \$827,540
Program Services \$71,791
Other \$102,388

Total FY25 Expenses
\$1,001,719



HIGHER ACHIEVEMENT
RICHMOND

100 Everett St. #4 Richmond, VA 23224
(804) 566-7705
higherachievement.org



Where talent meets opportunity.

Thank you for helping us expand opportunities to all middle school students.