

College Compass



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Yeshiva of Flatbush Joel Braverman High School • Al and Sonny Gindi Campus

Congratulations to our 2017 Seniors on their acceptances to:

Adelphi University	New York City College of Technology
Babson College	New York University
Barnard College	Northeastern University
Baruch College (Honors, Dean's Scholars)	Pace University
Bentley University	Pennsylvania State University
Binghamton University	Princeton University
Boston University	Queens College
Brandeis University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Brooklyn College (Scholars) City College	Rhodes College
College of Staten Island	Rutgers University
Drew University	Sarah Lawrence College
Drexel University	St. Johns University
Emerson College	Stony Brook University
Fashion Institute of Technology	Suffolk University
Fordham University	SUNY at Albany
Grinnel College	SUNY Broome Community College
Guttman Community College	SUNY at Buffalo State College
Hofstra University	SUNY Geneseo
Hunter College (Scholars)	SUNY Old Westbury
Indiana University at Bloomington	Syracuse University
John Jay College	The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science & Art
Johns Hopkins University	The New School
Kingsborough Community College	Eugene Lang College * Parsons School of Design
Lehman College	Touro College
LIM College	Tulane University
Long Island University	University at Buffalo The State
Macaulay Honors College at: -Baruch College	University of New York
-Brooklyn College	University of Connecticut
-City College	University of Hartford
-Hunter College	University of Maryland
Marymount Manhattan College	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Muhlenberg College	University of Michigan
	University of Pennsylvania
	Yeshiva University (Honors)

A Note from College Guidance

Welcome to the spring 2017 edition of College Compass.

We have so much to be proud of in this issue, particularly the successes of our Seniors who earned admission to over 68 different colleges and universities! We wish them the best of luck as they make the transition to college and Israel next year and know that they are well prepared to succeed in this next phase of their lives.

As the Seniors wrap up their application season, our Juniors have jumped into meetings with their College Guidance Counselors and a series of college workshops designed to help them navigate through the sea of great schools out there in order to find their best fit college. We look forward to guiding all of you through this exciting journey!

We wish you a happy and healthy Pesach and hope that you enjoy the well-deserved break.

At a Glance: Class of 2017

164 seniors
so far have been...
admitted to 68 different colleges and universities in
America and Israel
and were...
awarded over 1 million dollars in merit
scholarships!
and...
30 Flatbush students will be spending a gap year in Israel

Why Should YOU Visit a College Campus?

What is the best way to decide on a college? Without a doubt, the answer is: visiting! Actually setting foot on a college campus is the most telling and accurate way to learn if it is the right place for you.

Many juniors have already begun taking tours and attending info sessions at their prospective colleges. Junior Aida Hasson recently visited one of the schools she is considering and the experience was immediately valuable. She explained how “it was so helpful to hear about the school from the perspective of current students who were giving the tour and to speak to the head of admissions during the info session. The admissions info session really helped me be less stressed about the whole process.”

Junior Ricky Levy also visited several schools and believes it was important because he “could not get the same experience by just researching the schools online.”

The spring of junior year is the ideal time to visit as students explore what unique opportunities each college offers and refine their prospective college list. In order to schedule a college visit, check out the undergraduate admissions website; there will be info on how to register for a tour and info session. If the school offers interviews, speak to your college guidance counselor regarding scheduling one.

- Take a campus tour
- If available, schedule an interview (in advance!)
- Attend an information session
- Get contact information of admissions officers you meet with
- Visit the Hillel/Chabad
- Stay overnight if you can
- Sit in on a class
- Eat in the cafeteria
- Make a list of questions to ask a current student:
 - Why did they choose this college?
 - What are the classes like?
 - What is life like on the weekends?
 - What do they do for fun?

In the News: SAT Updates

Last year, the College Board came out with a new and updated SAT. When it comes to admissions, some colleges prefer to convert scores from the new SAT back to what they would have been on the old SAT. To do this, they use a concordance chart. You can check out the concordance chart for yourself, [here](#).

This year, the SAT will be offered in August for the first time, and Yeshivah of Flatbush will be a test center. This is a great opportunity to utilize the summer to study, and take the SAT before the school year even begins - make sure to take advantage!

Why College? YOFHS Teachers Weigh in

We know that attending college is an important goal and pursuit. In the USA, it has even become a multi billion dollar industry. For this edition of College Compass, we thought it valuable to ask our teachers, “Why is college important and necessary?”

College will be the place to find one’s own voice while learning how to listen to the voices of others, especially those with differing points of view. The ability to listen well, think critically and respect the points of view of others is critical to success in all areas of life. Opportunities to learn how to think critically, explore unexpected paths and have time to reflect are essential to developing not only a good career but a rich and meaningful life.

English teacher Mr. Hoftstetter notes: “In a word: Options. While a college degree opens doors to employment, so much of its value comes before you ever get that degree. College gives you opportunities to explore multiple fields and engage in a variety of activities so you can figure out what direction to steer your life. And outside of class and student life, there are connections you make with professors, internships and networking with people and companies in your chosen field, creating opportunities for career advancement. Although success is possible without college, it definitely makes it much easier and more attainable. It opens doors, and helps you figure out which ones to walk through.”

Ap Economics teacher, Dr. Saad Lessler, shares, “College is insurance. We would never think of foregoing health insurance. Why? Because you never know what can happen. It’s best to be prepared. College is like an insurance policy against being out in the cold when business sours. Without a college degree, you compete with a large number of people who, like you, are trying to eke out a living. With a college degree, you compete with a smaller pool of people - that gives you an advantage. I grew up in a traditional home. My father never had the opportunity to go to high school. In Syria, he had to work to support his siblings when he was orphaned at a young age. He and his siblings had to fight to survive. And though he was very traditional, he encouraged my sisters and me, as well as my brother, to get a college degree because he understood the value that a college education conferred.”

English teacher and SGO Advisor, Ms. Marcus, reminds students that “College is a place where we learn to make the tough life decisions as we try to figure out what we actually want to do with our lives. As such, one must always balance the cost and value of the education you receive. It is a time of discovery and every college will unlock that amazing door as long as you go for it.”

SAVE THE DATE!

Junior College Night

Dedicated by the Chera and Sutton Families

May 10th

7:15 PM

14 Iyar 5777

Sophomore College Night

May 23rd

7:00 PM

27 Iyar 5777

Your College Prep To-Do List: A Year-by-Year Review

9th grade

- Everything counts!
- Challenge yourself:
 - Participate in academic clubs
 - Research subjects that interest you outside the classroom
- Work hard in school
- Read!
- Register with Pathfinder to find your passion
- Get involved in the school community - join clubs, commissions, and sports that you enjoy

10th grade

- Build on 9th grade +
- Take PSAT and PACT seriously to see which standardized test works best with your learning and testing style
- Choose electives for junior year thoughtfully
- Attend Sophomore College Night on May 23, 2017
- Continue to work with Pathfinders to secure internship opportunities

11th grade

- Build on 9th & 10th grades +
- SAT or ACT exams
- Identify key deadlines!
- Find a meaningful summer activity
- Form list of possible colleges
- JUNIOR COLLEGE NIGHT on May 10th!
- Visit campuses
- Begin thinking about essay topics
- Ask for recommendations
- Create a resume
- Pay attention to Junior College Seminars run by College Guidance in your classes

12th grade

- Build on 9th, 10th, & 11th grades +
- With your CG counselor:
 - Finalize your list of schools
 - Decide if you want to apply Early Decision or Early Action
 - Prepare applications for admission and financial aid
- And on your own:
 - Follow up with recommenders
 - Visit campuses
 - Keep performing to your fullest!
 - Deposit on May 1 to the college of your choice

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