

CITY CENTER FOR COLLABORATIVE LEARNING

CITY Center for Collaborative Learning - <http://CITYccl.org>

Mission

CITY Center for Collaborative Learning designs, implements, and advances exemplary practices in teaching and learning that transform the lives of young people and their educators.

Vision

A world in which every school can become a collaborative environment where the learner and teacher experiences are engaging and joyful, and all children are empowered to achieve their full potential.

About – Overview

CITY Center for Collaborative Learning is an education nonprofit dedicated to designing, implementing, and advancing exemplary practices in teaching and learning that transform the lives of young people and their educators. We offer research-based professional development experiences for teachers, educational leaders, community partners, schools, and district teams, including guided observations of demonstration learning environments, workshops, and coaching/consulting.

CITY Center for Collaborative Learning is a new entity, rising on the shoulders of three groundbreaking and high-achieving schools in Tucson, Arizona: City High School (grades 9-12) and the Paulo Freire Freedoms Schools (grades 6-8). These schools specialize in providing:

1. Environments where students are known as individuals, cared for, happy, and held to high academic expectations
2. Project-based learning that inspires students to think intensively and critically and delve deeply into content
3. Field experiences and internships creating opportunities to learn from local, regional and national experts and mentors

Key Programs

- Professional Development Programs <https://cityccl.org/professional-development/program/>
- Summer Institute on Professional Learning Communities
- Edcamp Tucson <https://cityccl.org/>
- CommunityShare Initiative <https://cityccl.org/community/communityshare/>
- Three secondary schools
 - City High School <http://cityhighschool.org>
 - Paulo Freire Freedom School-University <http://www.paulofreireschool.org/university/>
 - Paulo Freire Freedom School-Downtown <http://www.paulofreireschool.org/downtown/>

Organizational History – Highlights by Year

2016

- Paulo Freire Freedom School charters officially transfer to CITY Center for Collaborative Learning (CCCL)
- Chad Blair named Principal of Paulo Freire Freedom School-University

2015

- CCCL hosts Tucson's inaugural Edcamp event
- City High School nominated for TPAC Lumie award for arts education organization

- Brett Goble appointed Principal of City High School
- Carrie Brennan appointed Executive Director of CITY Center for Collaborative Learning
- Partnership with UA College of Architecture, Planning, and Landscape Architecture results in the SLUG Project, an urban green space to play, grow food, and study sustainability – located in the alley space between CCCL's 37 and 47 East Pennington Street buildings. Project a collaboration including City High School, Paulo Freire Freedom School-Downtown, UA CAPLA and UA Sustainable City Project. Funded with a UA GreenFund Grant, middle school grant, and in-kind donations from community partners such as Originate Natural Building Materials.
- City High School student is grand prize winner of Congressional Art Competition in McSally's district
- City High School student video receives first place award for Fund for Civility's End of Bullying PSA contest
- City High School wins best of drawing and a 'special recognition' awards at Joel D. Valdez Annual High School Art Invitational
- City High School recipient of 21st Century Community Learning Centers Award. Five-year grant will provide significant funding for extended day programming (afterschool, summer, school vacations, etc.), 2015-2020. This follows on City High School's first successful 21st CCLC grant from 2010-2015.
- Tucson Small School Project adopts new name: CITY Center for Collaborative Learning

2014

- JoAnn Groh named Principal of Paulo Freire Freedom School-Downtown
- Paulo Freire Freedom School-Downtown opens on Pennington Street campus; JoAnn Groh becomes principal for PFFS-Downtown; Santo Nicotera continues as principal of PFFS-University
- City High School receives first place award for Fund for Civility's End of Bullying PSA contest
- City High School wins best of drawing and best of mixed media awards at Joel D. Valdez Annual High School Art Invitational
- Façade renovation of 37 E. Pennington, Tucson, AZ 85701 with support of Downtown Tucson Partnership's façade renovation program

2013

- Tucson Small School Project purchases 2 downtown buildings from Peterson family: 37 & 47 E. Pennington St., Tucson, AZ

2011

- Students from City High School report on President Obama's visit following the shooting of US Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords and others in Tucson, AZ on January 8, 2011;
- Partnership created with Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona to develop Las Milpitas de Cottonwood Community Farm; Community Food Bank signs on as long-term subleasee.

2010

- Recipient of 21st Century Community Learning Center 5-year grant for City High School to expand extended day programming (afterschool, summer, etc.)

2009

- City High School receives \$10K AzTEA technology grant to enhance its project based learning curriculum with a special emphasis on multimedia projects and digital storytelling
- City High School 12th grader Andres Cano receives Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Millennial Scholar Award

2008

- City High School graduates first class of seniors who started the school as 9th graders

2007

- Major renovation of basement floor of 47 East Pennington St.; completed September 2007 for City High School expansion to 180 students
- Dr. Mary Jo Ghory named Chair of TSSP Board of Directors
- City High School graduates first group of 12th graders, total number of graduates is 11

2006

- PFFS graduates first group of 8th graders
- City High School becomes stewards of county-owned land along Santa Cruz River (previously known as Farmacy Garden; later becomes Las Milpitas); students and staff develop garden plots, plant trees

2005

- JoAnn Groh and Santo Nicotera open Paulo Freire Freedom School-University and serve as the school's co-directors
- Paulo Freire Freedom School-University moves into the Historic YWCA at 300 E. University Blvd

2004

- City High School opens with 85 students in grades 9 and 10; Co-founders Carrie Brennan, Brett Goble, Eve Rifkin on staff, along with additional instructional and administrative staff
- TSSP board approves Carrie Brennan as founding principal for City High School
- TSSP approved for 501(c) 3 status by IRS
- City High School and Voices Inc. host open house for the public with over 500 in attendance; honored with Cele Peterson in attendance; speakers included then-councilmember Raul Grijalva and county supervisor Richard Elias, among others

2003

- Tucson Small School Project (TSSP) leases the historic Cele Peterson building downtown at 47 E. Pennington St. and move high school planning offices to this location; afterschool program Voices Inc. moves in as subleasee and partner
- City High School goes live with website and enrollment initiative; hosts open house at board member Ann Modica's home as part of official launch
- Co-founder Carrie Brennan resigns teaching position and moves to full-time position for City High School planning year
- TSSP board of directors hold first annual retreat; decide on school's name: City High School
- Ted Ranney voted in as chair of TSSP board of directors

2002

- TSSP is awarded a major 3-year charter school start-up grant from the US Dept of Education (approx \$500K over 3 years)
- TSSP Incorporates as an Arizona nonprofit corporation. Founding nonprofit board begins to meet monthly

2001

- Tucson Small School Project (TSSP) co-founded by Carrie Brennan, Brett Goble and Eve Rifkin

Boilerplate

CITY Center for Collaborative Learning is an education nonprofit dedicated to designing, implementing, and advancing innovations in teaching and learning that transform the lives of young people and their educators. CITY Center offers research-based professional development experiences for teachers, school leaders, community partners, and districts, including guided observations of demonstration learning environments, workshops, coaching, and consulting. CITY Center leads three innovative small schools in Tucson, Arizona. For more information visit CITYccl.org. School links: paulofreireschool.org, cityhighschool.org.

CITY HIGH SCHOOL



City High School - <http://cityhighschool.org>

Mission

City High School strives to be a community of learners in which all members use their minds well and care about one another. We engage with challenging academics and the unique resources of our city and region in order to become active citizens and responsible stewards of our world.

School Goals

1. Personalization

Students are known well and have opportunities to direct their own learning. Adults in the school community provide individual support and partner with families to ensure academic and social success for all students.

2. Challenging Academic Curriculum

Students engage in learning experiences that require them to practice and improve critical thinking and study habits. Students publicly demonstrate mastery of content knowledge and academic skills. The academic program prepares students for college, career, and life-long learning.

3. Community Connections

Students and staff engage with Tucson, the greater Southwest, and the border region in order to become active and responsible citizens. This is accomplished through place-based learning, service learning, senior internships, and participation in community-based organizations.

4. Student Leadership

Students develop the skills and confidence to take responsibility for their actions and initiate efforts to improve the school and community. Students have multiple opportunities to participate in school-wide initiatives and decisions.

5. Diversity

City High School brings together and retains students and staff from the many neighborhoods and populations of greater Tucson. The curriculum reflects the varied cultural traditions of southern Arizona. City High School is a community where members recognize and respect diverse identities and points of view.

6. Institutional Advancement

City High School is a financially robust and effectively managed institution. People, facilities, funding, time and attention are allocated based on the collection and analysis of critical data and in a manner that supports growth and innovation.

Programs Highlights

- Senior Internships <http://cityhighschool.org/community/internships/>
- College Readiness <http://cityhighschool.org/college/>
- Las Milpitas de Cottonwood Community Farm <http://cityhighschool.org/community/urban-farm/>
- Pennington Street Block Party, each April <http://cityhighschool.org/community/blockparty/>
- Community Partnerships <http://cityhighschool.org/community/links/>
- Voices Afterschool Program <http://cityhighschool.org/student-life/extended-day/>

City High School Boiler Plate

City High School, founded in 2004, is a public charter school in downtown Tucson, Arizona, with a focus on civic engagement and college readiness. City High School engages students with challenging academics and the community resources of Greater Tucson to become active citizens and responsible stewards of the world. City High School has 180 students. For more information visit <http://cityhighschool.org>.

City High School and the Paulo Freire Freedom Schools are under the umbrella of the education nonprofit CITY Center for Collaborative Learning. For more information visit <http://CITYccl.org/>.



PAULO FREIRE FREEDOM SCHOOL

Paulo Freire Freedom School - www.paulofreireschool.org/

Mission

To promote powerful, transformative teaching and learning within appropriately structured learning environments dedicated to the integral development of individuals and communities for a more just and sustainable world.”

About - Overview

The Paulo Freire Freedom Schools (at both the University and Downtown locations) provide early adolescents with an innovative educational program that ensures they are prepared for the 21st Century. Our students are deeply engaged in learning about issues that are real and relevant and that directly impact their lives and the community they live in. As small schools, we are able to know each of our students well as individuals and celebrate who they are and what they can contribute. We design learning that will support their specific learning needs, push them to continue to grow and highlight their unique gifts and talents. It is our mission to ‘promote powerful, transformative teaching and learning within appropriately structured learning environments dedicated to the integral development of individuals and communities for a more just and sustainable world’.

Program Highlights

- Intersession <http://www.paulofreireschool.org/downtown/intersession/> and <http://www.paulofreireschool.org/university/intersession/>
- Friday Expeditions <http://www.paulofreireschool.org/university/friday-expeditions/>

Boiler Plate

The Paulo Freire Freedom Schools, with University and Downtown locations, provide early adolescents in grades 6-8 with an innovative educational program that ensures they are prepared for the 21st Century. Students are deeply engaged in learning about issues that are real and relevant and that directly impact their lives and the community they live in. The schools are small so that all students are known as individuals and celebrated for who they are and what they can contribute. Both schools are demonstration sites/lab schools within [CITY Center for Collaborative Learning](#) in Tucson. For more information visit <http://paulofreireschool.org>.

City High School and the Paulo Freire Freedom Schools are under the umbrella of the education nonprofit CITY Center for Collaborative Learning. For more information visit <http://CITYccl.org/>.

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