

# THE COLLEGE COMPASS MAGAZINE

BY EAST COAST ADMISSIONS

09/2025

**NEW YORK UNIVERSITY  
THE MASTERS SCHOOL  
COLLEGIATE SCHOOL  
STUYVESANT HIGH SCHOOL**

ACADEMIC FOCUS  
ADMISSION TIPS  
HEALTH & WELLNESS





# EAST COAST ADMISSIONS

SEPTEMBER EDITION

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WHY COLLEGE PLANNING  
MATTERS NOW

# Newsletter

+++ Information +++ News +++ Information +++ News +++

## European languages are members of the same family.

...exists in a myth. For science, sport etc. that Europe was the same. The languages differ only in the vocabulary. Obviously directly at the end of the 19th century. At the same time, people wanted uniform grammar, pronunciation and more common words. But when languages evolved, the grammar of the resulting language was simpler and regular than that of the existing languages. The new language French was even simpler and regular than existing European languages. It was even simpler than Occidental. In fact, it was even Occidental. A new English is a simplified English, which is a simplified Cambridge English. The European languages are members of the same family. The separate existence is a myth. For science, sport etc. that Europe

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NEWSLETTER



## WHY COLLEGE PLANNING MATTERS NOW

As a new school year begins, seniors embark on one of the most significant chapters of their journey: college planning. With competitive admissions, rising costs, and the need to find the right fit, every decision matters.

This issue of College Compass is designed to guide you through the process from selecting schools and navigating financial aid to crafting a strong application.

College planning isn't just about getting in; it's about laying the foundation for future success.

# The Senior Year Advantage

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Senior year is more than the end of high school—it's the chance to shape your future. Colleges are paying close attention, and every grade, activity, and essay counts. It's also a time to lean on teachers, counselors, and mentors for guidance.

Beyond applications, senior year builds life skills like decision-making and independence. By staying focused and intentional, you can effectively showcase your achievements, pursue your passions, and take confident steps toward the future.





NEW YORK UNIVERSITY (NYU)



# SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT



# A Global Powerhouse in the Heart of Manhattan

Located in the heart of Manhattan, New York University is one of the world's most prestigious and dynamic institutions. Known for its global reach and innovative programs, NYU offers students the opportunity to learn and grow in the center of one of the most influential cities on earth.

## **Education Without Borders**

One of NYU's defining features is its global network. With campuses in Abu Dhabi and Shanghai and dozens of study-away sites, students gain a truly international perspective. Programs like Global Liberal Studies and interdisciplinary research offer opportunities that prepare students for leadership in today's interconnected world.

## **Where the City Becomes Your Campus**

Unlike traditional universities, NYU blends directly into the city. New York itself becomes the classroom, from Broadway theaters and Wall Street internships to cultural institutions like MoMA and the Met. With hundreds of student clubs and organizations, a thriving arts scene, and endless opportunities, campus life is both dynamic and deeply personal.



SCHOOL  
SPOTLIGHT

# The Masters School: A Tradition of Excellence Meets Modern Innovation



Located in Dobbs Ferry, New York, The Masters School combines a rich academic tradition with forward-thinking teaching methods. Known for its rigorous curriculum, small class sizes, and highly accomplished faculty, Master's empowers students to think critically and embrace lifelong learning.

## **The Power of the Harkness Table**

One of the school's defining features is its use of the Harkness teaching method, round-table discussions that encourage every student to share their voice. This approach builds confidence, collaboration, and analytical skills, preparing graduates for the demands of top universities.

## **A Community Beyond the Classroom**

Student life at Master's is vibrant and inclusive. With over 50 clubs, a strong commitment to community service, and a thriving arts and athletics program, students are encouraged to explore passions beyond academics. The school's emphasis on diversity and global awareness makes it a welcoming environment for students from around the world.



COLLEGIATE SCHOOL



COLLEGIATE SCHOOL

301

**SCHOOL  
SPOTLIGHT**

# COLLEGIATE SCHOOL

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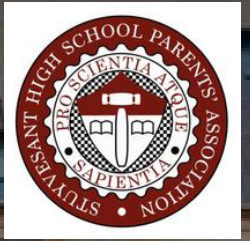
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STUYVESANT HIGH SCHOOL



SCHOOL  
SPOTLIGHT

# STUYVESANT HIGH SCHOOL



As one of New York City's most competitive specialized high schools, Stuyvesant High School has long stood as a beacon of academic excellence. Known for its rigorous admissions process and world-class education, Stuyvesant has produced generations of leaders in science, technology, politics, and the arts.

## **Where Excellence Meets Opportunity**

Stuyvesant offers a curriculum that rivals elite private schools, with advanced courses in mathematics, science, and the humanities. The school's reputation in STEM is unmatched, and many students go on to top universities like MIT, Harvard, and Columbia.

## **A Dynamic Student Experience**

While academics shine, Stuyvesant students also thrive outside the classroom. With over 150 clubs, award-winning publications, championship sports teams, and nationally recognized performing arts programs, students are encouraged to pursue diverse passions and build lifelong connections.



ACADEMIC FOCUS

ACADEMIC  
FOCUS

# ACADEMIC FOCUS

## STEM ON THE RISE

In recent years, high school seniors across the East Coast have been leaning toward STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) fields. From coding boot camps to robotics clubs, the push toward technology and engineering is shaping students' futures in powerful ways.

Part of this trend comes from the world seniors see around them every day. Smartphones, artificial intelligence, climate change solutions, and even space exploration all highlight how deeply STEM shapes modern life. Many seniors no longer view STEM as just "hard math and science" they see it as the key to solving problems that matter to their generation.



# ACADEMIC FOCUS

Parents and educators encourage this momentum too, as they recognize the strong job market for STEM graduates. From renewable energy engineers to app developers, the career possibilities seem almost endless.

But the decision to pursue STEM isn't just about economics it's also about passion, persistence, and whether a student thrives in environments where curiosity and creativity collide.



ADMISSION TIPS



**ADMISSION  
TIPS**

# ADMISSION TIPS



## Cracking the Application Timeline A Senior's Roadmap

Every senior faces the same challenge when it comes to applications: the personal essay. It feels like so much is riding on a few hundred words, and in a way, it is. Your essay is the one space in the application that admissions officers look to for a glimpse of the person behind the grades, test scores, and recommendation letters. It's your chance to say, "This is who I am, and here's why it matters." Unlike transcripts or test scores, this part of your application is entirely in your control. It's the space where your personality, experiences, and perspective can shine through in ways numbers never could.

# ADMISSION TIPS

## FINDING YOUR VOICE

The most memorable essays aren't the ones stuffed with big words or perfect grammar—they're the ones that sound like the student who wrote them. When admissions officers read your essay, they should feel like they're sitting across from you, listening to your story. That's why finding your voice is key. Maybe your voice is reflective, pulling meaning out of small moments, or maybe it's lighthearted, weaving humor into your experiences. Either way, it should be unmistakably yours. A polished but authentic voice not only makes your essay stand out, it also makes it resonate long after the reader moves on to the next application.



TRENDING NOW



TRENDING  
NOW



# TRENDING NOW

## THE TEST-OPTIONAL ERA – WHAT IT MEANS FOR SENIORS

For decades, SAT and ACT scores were seen as the ultimate measure of a student's potential, but that's changing fast. With many East Coast colleges adopting test-optional policies, seniors now face a new reality: they can choose whether to submit scores or let their grades, essays, and extracurriculars do the talking. For some, this shift feels liberating, offering a chance to shine without the pressure of standardized testing.



FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIPS

**FINANCIAL AID &  
SCHOLARSHIP**



# FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIPS

For many seniors, the biggest question after getting accepted is how to afford it. Filling out the FAFSA is the first step to unlocking federal grants, loans, and work-study, while the CSS Profile and private scholarships can provide even more support. With so many options available, the key is starting early, staying organized, and applying widely because financial aid and scholarships can turn college from a heavy burden into an achievable goal.



GETTING AHEAD BEFORE COLLEGE

# CAREER & INTERNSHIP FOCUS

# CAREER & INTERNSHIP FOCUS

## GETTING AHEAD BEFORE COLLEGE

For today's seniors, planning for the future doesn't stop at choosing a major it's also about building real world experience early. Many East Coast colleges now offer internship programs, career centers, and partnerships with local businesses that help students connect classroom learning with hands-on opportunities. Even before college begins, seniors can prepare by exploring summer internships, volunteer work, or part-time jobs that build transferable skills.

# CAREER & INTERNSHIP FOCUS

Seniors can also get a head start while still in high school. Summer internships, shadowing professionals, or volunteering with organizations not only sharpen skills but also demonstrate initiative on college applications. These early experiences help students discover what excites them or what doesn't long before graduation day. By the time they step onto campus, seniors who've explored internships already have a clearer sense of direction, stronger résumés, and a head start in building the connections that matter in today's job market.





LEADING VOICE IN AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

**SUCCESS  
SPOTLIGHT**

# SUCCESS SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Eddie S.  
Glaude Jr



Dr. Eddie Glaude Jr., a prominent scholar in African American Studies, serves as the James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor of African American Studies at Princeton University.

Dr. Glaude's academic journey began at Bowdoin College in Maine, where he contributed significantly to the growth of their Africana Studies program. In 2002, he joined Princeton University, where he has since become a leading voice in the field.



## LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

His scholarship focuses on the intersections of race, democracy, and social justice, and he has authored several influential works, including *Democracy in Black: How Race Still Enslaves the American Soul*. Dr. Glaude has served as the president of the American Academy of Religion, the largest professional organization of scholars of religion in the world. He is also a member of the Board of Trustees at Morehouse College, reflecting his commitment to the advancement of Black higher education.



## COLLEGE LIFE HACKS



**COLLEGE  
LIFE HACK**

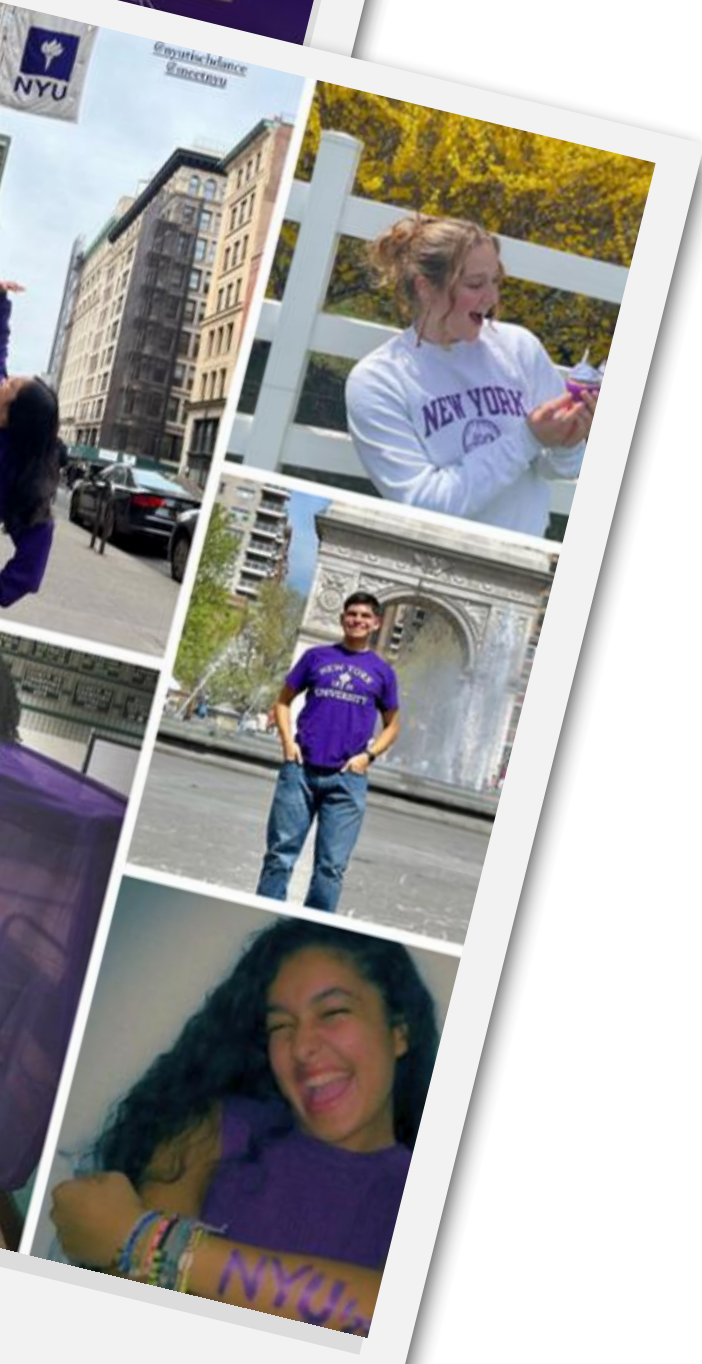


## MAKING THE TRANSITION SMOOTH

Stepping onto a college campus for the first time can feel exciting and overwhelming all at once. For seniors preparing to make that leap, a few smart strategies can make the transition much easier. Something as simple as learning how to manage time effectively can prevent the stress that often comes with balancing classes, extracurriculars, and social life. Packing wisely also makes a difference bringing only what you need and organizing your dorm space can turn a small room into a comfortable home away from home.

# COLLEGE LIFE HACKS

Another overlooked hack is learning how to budget early. College comes with hidden expenses, from late-night food runs to printing costs, and seniors who start tracking their spending now will thank themselves later. Finally, making connections whether with professors, advisors, or peers can open doors and make the campus feel less intimidating. These small, practical hacks may seem simple, but together, they can transform the college experience from chaotic to manageable.





HEALTH & WELLNESS



**HEALTH &  
WELLNESS**



# HEALTH & WELLNESS

As exciting as senior year and the college transition can be, it also comes with stress application deadlines, big decisions, and the pressure of stepping into a new chapter. For many students, learning to prioritize mental health is just as important as keeping up with academics. Stress management strategies like journaling, mindfulness, or even short daily walks can create a sense of calm during hectic times. Once in college, balance becomes even more important.



EXTRACURRICULAR IN FOCUS

EXTRACURRICULAR  
IN FOCUS

# EXTRACURRICULAR IN FOCUS

For seniors, grades and test scores may open the door to college, but extracurriculars often help define who steps through it. Activities outside the classroom whether it's joining a sports team, leading a club, volunteering, or playing in the school band show admissions officers the passions and leadership qualities that shape a student's character. On campus, these same activities become the spaces where friendships are built, skills are sharpened, and students discover sides of themselves they never knew.





RESOURCE OF THE MONTH

NYU  
上海



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RESOURCE OF  
THE MONTH



## **COLLEGEVINE – YOUR COLLEGE PLANNING GUIDE**

When it comes to navigating applications, essays, and admissions chances, seniors often feel lost in a maze of information. CollegeVine helps clear that path. The platform offers a free college admissions calculator, essay review services, and step-by-step guidance tailored to each student's profile. Seniors can explore schools, see where they stand competitively, and get honest feedback on how to strengthen their applications.

A young man with dark hair and glasses, wearing a green jacket, is sitting at a wooden table in a library. He is looking down at a laptop screen, which is open in front of him. A black water bottle is on the table next to the laptop. In the background, there are tall bookshelves filled with books. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a modern educational environment.

# TECHNOLOGY IN EDUCATION



## HOW INNOVATION IS SHAPING THE COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

Senior year is more than the end of high school—it's the chance to shape your future. Colleges are paying close attention, and every grade, activity, and essay counts. It's also a time to lean on teachers, counselors, and mentors for guidance.

Beyond applications, senior year builds life skills like decision-making and independence. By staying focused and intentional, you can effectively showcase your achievements, pursue your passions, and take confident steps toward the future.



STUDENT VOICES

**STUDENT  
VOICE**



## STUDENT VOICE

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## FACULTY & STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Jonathan Haidt serves as the Thomas Cooley Professor of Ethical Leadership at the NYU Stern School of Business, where he has been a faculty member since 2011. Dr. Haidt holds a Ph.D. in Social Psychology from the University of Pennsylvania. His academic journey has been marked by a deep commitment to understanding the moral and psychological foundations of human behavior. Beyond his academic work, Dr. Haidt is a frequent public speaker and commentator. He is also the author of several influential books that bridge psychology, ethics, and cultural studies. His research and writings have shaped conversations on morality, politics, and the challenges of modern society.

# LEADERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Dr. Haidt has co-founded several organizations dedicated to advancing ethical leadership and constructive dialogue. One of the most prominent is Heterodox Academy, a nonprofit organization committed to increasing viewpoint diversity and mutual understanding within universities, thereby strengthening the intellectual climate for students and faculty alike. He also co-founded Ethical Systems, a collaborative initiative that applies insights from moral and social psychology to the world of business, helping organizations cultivate stronger ethical cultures and long-term trust. Beyond these ventures, Dr. Haidt has played an active role in advising initiatives that promote civic discourse, reduce polarization, and encourage respectful engagement across differences. Through this work, he has significantly shaped environments that prioritize ethical conduct, open inquiry, and intellectual diversity in both academic and professional contexts.



## BEHIND THE SCENES: THE ADMISSION SECRETS



## BEHIND THE SCENES: ADMISSIONS SECRETS



# BEHIND THE SCENES: ADMISSIONS SECRETS

The admissions process can feel like a mystery to seniors applications go in, decisions come out, and what happens in between often seems hidden. In reality, admissions officers look far beyond numbers. They read essays closely to understand a student's voice, consider recommendation letters to see character, and weigh extracurriculars for passion and commitment. Sometimes, even small details like showing genuine interest in a college through campus visits or thoughtful emails can tip the scales.



GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

A photograph of four young adults walking from left to right on a paved path. From left to right: a woman with long dark hair wearing a tan jacket and brown pants; a woman with dark hair in a ponytail wearing a light blue sweater; a man with short dark hair wearing a dark coat and a red scarf; and a woman with long dark hair wearing a black leather jacket and black pants. They are all looking towards the right. The background shows a cloudy sky, trees, and parked cars.

**GLOBAL  
PERSPECTIVE**

# GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE



Studying abroad can seem expensive, but with early planning and the right resources, it's more affordable than most seniors think. Many East Coast colleges offer scholarships for global programs, and national awards like Gilman and Fulbright help cover costs. By researching options, creating a budget, and exploring exchange partnerships, seniors can make their dream of a global education financially possible.

Even small grants and community-based scholarships can add up to make a big difference.



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT : BUILDING CONNECTIONS

**COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT :  
BUILDING CONNECTIONS**

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: BUILDING CONNECTION

College isn't just about classes and exams it's also about the impact students make beyond campus walls. Across East Coast colleges, seniors are finding that volunteering, service projects, and community partnerships are powerful ways to grow while giving back. From mentoring local high school students to joining environmental clean-up drives or partnering with nonprofits, these experiences teach real-world lessons that can't be found in textbooks. They help students build leadership skills, discover passions, and create meaningful connections that last long after graduation.



## UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES



## UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

# UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

NYU offers seniors a variety of ways to explore campus life and admissions from virtual info sessions and program-specific workshops to in-person tours in the heart of New York City. These events give students a closer look at academics, culture, and opportunities, helping them picture themselves at one of the East Coast's most vibrant universities.

For seniors, it's more than an introduction to NYU it's a chance to ask questions, meet current students, and start imagining what their college journey could look like.



UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

**YOUR QUESTIONS  
ANSWERED**



# Q & A

## QUESTION

What if I don't get into my first choice college?

## ANSWER

It's a fear many seniors share, but not getting into your top choice isn't the end of your college dreams.

Think of it as a detour, not a dead end. Many students thrive at schools they never initially considered, discovering new opportunities, mentors, and paths they hadn't imagined.



THE FUTURE EDUCATION

THE FUTURE  
EDUCATION



# THE FUTURE EDUCATION

Education on the East Coast and across the world is changing faster than ever. From the rise of AI-powered learning tools to the growing demand for flexible, hybrid classrooms, high school seniors entering college today will experience a very different academic world than the one their parents knew. Colleges are investing in career-focused programs that prepare students for jobs that don't even exist yet, while also emphasizing creativity, problem-solving, and adaptability.



## STUDENT ADVOCATE & CAMPUS ACTIVISM

A background photograph of a diverse group of students at a campus protest. In the foreground, a young woman with dark hair tied back, wearing a purple t-shirt, is laughing joyfully with her mouth wide open. Behind her, other students, also in purple shirts, are visible, some with their arms raised. A blue and white megaphone is positioned in the lower-left foreground, pointing towards the center. At the bottom of the image, there is a large, stylized banner with orange and yellow sections. Overlaid on the bottom left of the banner is a purple speech bubble containing the text 'STUDENT ADVOCATE & CAMPUS ACTIVISM'.

**STUDENT  
ADVOCATE &  
CAMPUS ACTIVISM**

# STUDENT ADVOCATE & CAMPUS ACTIVISM



Across East Coast colleges, students are stepping up and using their voices to spark real change. From movements for greater diversity and inclusion to campaigns focused on climate action and mental health resources, seniors entering college will find campuses alive with causes that matter.

Being part of these movements isn't just about protest it's about building leadership skills, creating dialogue, and shaping a better community for everyone. For many students, advocacy becomes one of the most meaningful parts of their college experience.



# SUSTAINABILITY IN EDUCATION



# SUSTAINABILITY IN EDUCATION

East Coast colleges are going green, and students are leading the way. From solar-powered dorms to zero waste dining halls, schools are finding creative ways to cut their carbon footprints while giving students a chance to be part of the movement.

For seniors, this means college isn't just a place to study it's also a place to practice environmental responsibility. Whether it's joining a sustainability club, participating in campus clean-up drives, or studying environmental science, students can directly contribute to shaping a greener future.



# SUSTAINABILITY IN EDUCATION

Whether it's joining a sustainability club, participating in campus clean up drives, conducting climate research, or advocating for policy changes through student government, there are countless ways to get involved. Some even take on leadership roles in eco-initiatives, helping to implement green practices across campus.

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