



College Connections



The Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program

It's been several decades since the U.S placed third in the world in the number of college-age students who earned science and engineering degrees. Today, we rank much lower. The reasons behind this difference range from global economic forces to the overall lack of engagement in science among our youngest students.



New York's independent colleges and universities are using innovative strategies to generate interest in the study of engineering, math, and science among K-12 students by offering enrichment and early academic credit programs, visiting schools, and hosting hands-on programs. The Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP) established in 1986 by the New York State Education Department is one such program that seeks, in partnership with private (independent) and public colleges and universities in the state, to increase the numbers of historically underrepresented students who are pursuing professional licensure and careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering or mathematics programs and who are either low-income or members of a minority group. CSTEP students have access to a wide variety of workshops, programs, and support services including enrichment programs, mentoring, academic and career counseling, internships and research opportunities

and standardized test preparation. In addition, they have the opportunity to work one-on-one with faculty and other students.

Since it was established, CSTEP has served nearly 90,000 students. The students in the program graduate from college at higher rates and pursue graduate programs and licensures at higher rates than their peers. Currently, there are 16 CSTEP programs located at New York State independent colleges and universities:

- **Barnard College**
- **Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute**
- **St. John's University** - <http://www.stjohns.edu/academics/centers/dsop/cstep>
- **St. Lawrence University** - <http://www.stlawu.edu/cstep/index.htm>
- **Cazenovia College** - <http://www.cazenovia.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=224>
- **Clarkson University** - <http://www.clarkson.edu/pipeline/programs/cstep.html>
- **Cornell University** - <http://www.omea.cornell.edu/cstepcpop/>
- **Fordham University** - http://www.fordham.edu/academics/special_programs/stepcstep/cstep/index.asp
- **Ithaca College** - <http://www.ithaca.edu/aes/cstepprogram/>

- **Hofstra University** - <http://www.hofstra.edu/Academics/Colleges/SOE/AHS/ceas/cstep/index.html>
- **Long Island University** - http://www.brooklyn.liu.edu/bbut02/community/STEP-CSTEP/CSTEP_Program.htm
- **Manhattanville College**
- **Mercy College**
- **Syracuse University** - <http://cqa.syr.edu/cstep/index.htm>
- **New York University** - http://nyu-op.org/cstep/getting_in/index.htm
- **Utica College** - <http://www.utica.edu/student/development/opportunity/cstep.cfm>

To view the entire list of all programs (at independent and at public colleges and universities), visit http://www.apacs.org/cstep_roster.asp.

CSTEP Eligibility

To be eligible for the CSTEP program, a student must be enrolled in an eligible academic program and demonstrate potential for success. Students must also be New York State residents and from an underrepresented minority (African-American, Hispanic/Latino, American Indian or Alaskan native) or be economically disadvantaged.

Sources: <http://www.highered.nysed.gov/kiap/colldev/CollegiateScienceandTechnologyEntryProgram.htm>

Programs in Architecture at Independent Colleges and Universities

Students interested in learning more about science, technology, engineering or mathematics have many different areas of study and colleges to choose from. In addition to the programs listed below, students may want to explore clcu's Academic Programs database, <http://www.nycolleges.org/programs.php>, containing information on admissions, financial aid, and more than 500 programs offered at New York's 100+ independent colleges and universities. To find where programs of study are offered, follow

these steps to search the online database:

- Step 1** – Select a degree-level (associate or bachelor's).
- Step 2** – Select an area of study.
- Step 3** – A list of programs will appear at the bottom of the screen. Click on the colleges to go to their campus profile and link directly to the college's Web site.

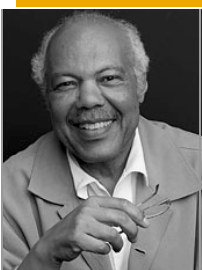
This list of colleges and universities below are those that offer a *bachelor's* degree program, minor, or major area of concentration in Architecture.

Area of Study: Architecture/Environmental Design
Program: Architecture

- **Barnard College**
- **Columbia University**
- **Cooper Union, The**
- **Cornell University**
- **Fordham University**
- **Hobart and William Smith Colleges**
- **Ithaca College**
- **New School, The / Parsons The New School for Design**
- **New York Institute of Technology (NYIT) / Manhattan Campus**
- **New York Institute of Technology (NYIT) / Old Westbury Campus**
- **Pratt Institute**
- **Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute**
- **Syracuse University**

African Americans in Architecture

There are many African Americans who have left a mark on American architecture. Architect **Paul Williams** (1894-1980) was renowned for designing major buildings such as the Los Angeles International Airport and over two thousand homes in Southern California, some of the most beautiful homes in Hollywood today. **Max Bond, Jr.** (1935-2009) was



an African American architect who designed countless office buildings, libraries and university research facilities in the heart of New York City. With his firm, Davis Brody Bond Aedas, Bond helped to develop and complete plans

for the September 11 Memorial Museum. Some of his other projects included the [Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change](#) in Atlanta, which includes Dr. King's tomb; the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in Harlem; and the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute in Alabama. Bond

served on the New York City Planning Commission from 1980 to 1986. He was chairman of the architecture division at the Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture and Planning from 1980 to 1984 and dean of the School of Architecture and Environmental Studies at City College from 1985 to 1992. Through his work and as an educator, Bond inspired a generation of aspiring minority architects.

Norma Merrick Sklarek (1928-) was the first black woman to become a licensed architect in the United States. She was also the first black woman honored by Fellowship in American Institute of Architects. Her many projects include Terminal One for Los Angeles International Airport, San Bernardino City Hall in San Bernardino, California and the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo.



According to Web site Friends of Marshall Purnell, despite the contributions made by these individuals and many others, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that of the 100,000 architects licensed in the United States, only 1.5 percent are African American. Thirty years ago, the percentage of African

American architects was roughly the same, demonstrating that architecture continues to be a profession that lacks diversity.

There are a variety of means to help encourage more minority students to consider architecture as a profession, including:

- The annual Gensler African American Internship & Scholarship recognizes emerging talent among African American college students enrolled in an architecture program. The award offers an internship opportunity with the global design and architecture firm Gensler and also includes a scholarship in the recipient's final year of design study. For more information visit <http://www.gensler.com/#aboutus/careers/internships>.
- The American Institute of Architects Minority Disadvantaged Scholarship awards \$500 - \$3,000 to minority students enrolled in architecture programs. For more information, visit: <http://www.e-architect.com/institute/scholar.htm>.

Sources: http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/19/arts/design/19bond.html?_r=1; http://www.greatbuildings.com/architects/Norma_Sklarek.html; <http://www.marshallpurnell.org/meet-marshall-purnell-architect.html>

National GEAR UP Day

Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) is a federal grant program that awards grants to states or to local partnerships consisting of at least one college or university, at least one low-income middle school and one high school, and a minimum of two other partners (such as community organizations or businesses). Each GEAR UP partnership provides services to a cohort of students at eligible schools, beginning no later than grade 7, and follows these students through high school. Services may include academic preparation, tutoring and mentoring, admissions and financial aid awareness activities for students and parents, college visits, career awareness, and professional development for staff.

The GEAR UP program was signed into law in 1998, and began serving its first student cohorts in 1999.

To mark the 10th anniversary of this federal grant program, September 18, 2009, was designated as National GEAR UP Day, and sites around the country and in New York State marked the day with a variety of events.

NYGEAR UP students in New York State wrote to their U.S. senators and representatives about their GEAR UP experiences, received GEAR UP planners in which to keep track of their assignments, and commemorated the day with slide shows or presentations about GEAR UP activities. In Yonkers, a "call to action" was issued to teachers and administrators in all of the NYGEAR UP partner schools by Nona Donovan, NYGEAR UP Program Director, and Fern Eisgrub, Executive Director of Curriculum Instruction, who urged them to engage students

in college awareness activities. Syracuse University NYGEAR UP students at Henninger High School heard Stephanie Miner, now Syracuse's first female mayor, speak on the importance of perseverance in the pursuit of a dream. Members of the St. John's University GEAR UP community received New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg's proclamation in honor of the day, and middle school students in the program sent an oversized thank-you card to U.S. Senator Charles Schumer.

Over the past decade, GEAR UP has enriched the lives of many students. Today, GEAR UP serves more than 2 million children in 49 states, the District of Columbia, and 3 U.S. territories, among them nearly 18,000 young people in New York State.

Source: "National GEAR UP Day," http://www.hesc.com/content.nsf/NYGEARUP/NYGEAR_UP_National_Day.

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CICU is a statewide association representing 100+ independent (private, not-for-profit) colleges and universities in NYS. Its Outreach Programs has offered free admissions, financial aid and access resources for 25+ years.

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