We are Breakthrough New Haven!

We represent many years of teaching and learning.

We are motivated, creative, honest, and inspired.

We cooperate, think, play, and experience.

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Mission
Breakthrough New Haven is a tuition free, year-round program of education and advocacy for high potential public and parochial middle school students with limited economic and educational opportunities. The program also serves as a unique workshop in education by providing experiences for college undergraduates and high school students interested in teaching. Breakthrough stresses academic excellence, leadership, and community empowerment through a two-year middle school program and a four-year alumni component.

Middle School Program
At the beginning of the seventh grade year, each student and family commits to two school years and two summer sessions of enrichment classes and activities. Classes are small and all learning and teaching is experiential, engaging, innovative, and creative. Our academic program is rigorous and skills-based, and our enrichment activities and events expose students to exciting new experiences and perspectives.

History of Success
Breakthrough New Haven is a member of The Breakthrough Collaborative, a national non-profit organization that increases educational opportunity for high potential, low income middle school students and inspires outstanding college and high school students to pursue careers in education. This “Students Teaching Students” model clearly works. Nationwide, 82% of Breakthrough student alumni are accepted to rigorous college preparatory high school programs, and 72% of Breakthrough teachers go on to pursue professional careers in education. Breakthrough is consistently featured as a Top Ten Internship by The Princeton Review and was named the recipient of The Klingenstein Center’s Annual Leadership Award in 2006.

Alumni Program
After completing two full years in the middle school program, students enter the four-year alumni program. The alumni program provides tangible paths to college through workshops on college applications and admissions, individualized college counseling, financial support for educational endeavors, interesting and varied summer opportunities, and exciting trips to nearby colleges and universities. Breakthrough New Haven students are dynamic, animated, motivated, and intelligent, and we help them realize their dreams and achieve success.

A Workshop in Education
Our after school and summer teachers are all high school students and college undergraduates committed to public service and education. We train, mentor, support and encourage our teachers while challenging them to design curricula, teach classes, plan projects and events, evaluate students, communicate with families and reflect on their practice, all while modeling energy, spirit, and citizenship.

Vision
At The Breakthrough Collaborative, we envision a day when all children will have equal access to excellent educational opportunities and enthusiastic teachers committed to students’ educational success.