



HVA HIGH

SCHOOL PROFILE | 2025–26

CONTACT US

35 West 124th Street
New York, NY 10027

(646) 812-9200

college@harlemvillage.org

harlemvillage.org/hvah

CEEB Code: 333639

FACULTY & STAFF

Samuel Dolan

Associate Superintendent
and Principal of HVAH

David Quinn

Director of International
Baccalaureate

Emily LaFemina

College Counselor

Tiffany Thimba

College Counselor

Khadijah Sangare

College Partnerships

Yujerly (Yuyu) Paulino

Alumni Support

Jasmine Weekes

Alumni Support

OVERVIEW

Harlem Village Academies High (HVAH), founded in 2007, is an academically rigorous, tuition-free charter school located in Harlem, New York.

100% of HVAH students are full International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Candidates.



MISSION

Harlem Village Academies (HVA) prepares students to become intellectually sophisticated, wholesome in character, avid readers, fiercely independent thinkers, and compassionate individuals who graduate from college and make a meaningful contribution to society.

ADMISSIONS

HVA is an unscreened charter school, and students are admitted through an open lottery in grades PreK–6. The majority of our high school students matriculate from HVA middle schools. Most live in the surrounding neighborhood of Harlem and in the nearby South Bronx, while some commute from the remaining boroughs of New York City. **220** students are currently enrolled at HVAH.

DIVERSITY

84% of our student body qualify for free or reduced-price lunch.

39% of students come from families whose native language is not English. Some of the languages our students speak include Arabic, French, Spanish, Mandingo, Wolof, Soninke, Twi, and Fula.

71% of students identify as Black or African American.

27% of students identify as Hispanic or Latino.

2% of students identify as Multiracial.



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100% of HVAH Class of 2024 arrived to their post-secondary institutions in September, and **100%** were still enrolled in June 2025

100% of our juniors and seniors are full-IB Diploma candidates

“HVA has been successful at the most important work in public education today: providing students with rigorous and meaningful educational experiences while ensuring the comprehensive supports and structures necessary to enable high levels of achievement.”

— David Weiss, Head of U.S. Public Schools for the International Baccalaureate Organization

DISTINGUISHED CURRICULUM

HVA High is an IB World School, and the only high school in Harlem offering students the opportunity to earn the IB Diploma—the highest form of diploma available to high school students anywhere in the world.

Currently, **100%** of HVAH juniors and seniors are full-IB Diploma candidates. All underclassmen at HVAH are completing coursework to be full-IB Diploma candidates.

ACADEMIC RIGOR

HVAH students learn through exploration and are taught to challenge assumptions. They lead classroom discussions, practice public speaking, and participate in Socratic seminars. Through authentic assessments, students apply skills and knowledge acquired in the classroom to real-world problems, fostering a critical, independent, and creative approach to learning.

ADVISORY

Advisory is the cornerstone of student life at HVA High. Through grade-specific small groups, HVAH advisors provide the targeted academic and social-emotional support students need to excel academically and thrive emotionally. Peer Leaders pairs peer- and teacher-nominated 12th grade ambassadors with freshman advisories to support the transition to high school, post-secondary planning, and integration into our school community.

COLLEGE READINESS

HVAH places strong emphasis on college readiness. All students participate in a two-year college preparatory program in their junior and senior year. This program includes application support, college advising, and financial aid guidance. We have a dedicated team that supports alumni through their college journey via individual advising, campus visits, and group programming.

GRADING & RANK

- By policy, HVA does not assign students a class rank.
- Honors classes with grades of A through B- receive an added GPA weight of 0.5.
- IB classes with grades of A through B- receive an added GPA weight of 1.0.
- Weighted course grades are reflected only in the cumulative GPA, not in individual course grades.
- The highest possible weighted GPA for the Class of 2026 is 4.23.



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"The IB Diploma series at HVAH prepared me to be successful as I began my studies at Columbia. During my first year, I took courses which required critical thinking and the ability to break down complex, abstract concepts. I learned these skills throughout IB, which ultimately allowed for a better understanding of my college coursework."

– HVA Alum Class of 2022,
Columbia University Class of 2026

CLUBS

African Student Union
Book Club
Debate Team
Fashion Club
Harlem Village Herald
HVA Peer Leaders
Muslim Student Association
National Honor Society
Polyglot Club
Safe Space
Student Senate
The Unfiltered Scribes
Weightlifting Club
Yoga Club

SPORTS

Basketball (JV & Varsity)
Cheerleading
Track & Field
Volleyball

CURRENT COURSE OFFERINGS

History

Global History 1 Honors
U.S. History & Economics Honors
IB History of the Americas HL Y1
IB History of the Americas HL Y2

English

English 1 Honors
English 2 Honors
IB English Language & Literature HL Y1
IB English Language & Literature HL Y2

Math

Algebra 1 Honors
Algebra 2 Honors
IB Math Analysis SL Y1
IB Math Analysis SL/HL Y2

Electives

Academic Writing
Research Methods
IB Business and Management SL Y1
IB Business and Management SL Y2
IB Theory of Knowledge Y1
IB Theory of Knowledge Y2

Science

Life Science: Biology Honors
Physical Setting:
Chemistry Honors
IB Biology SL/HL Y1
IB Biology SL/HL Y2
IB Chemistry SL Y1

Language

Spanish 1 Honors
Spanish 2 Honors
IB Spanish SL/HL Y1
IB Spanish SL/HL Y2

Arts

Art–Future City
Pre-IB Visual Art
IB Film SL Y1
IB Film SL Y2
IB Visual Arts SL/HL Y1
IB Visual Arts SL/HL Y2

Physical Education

Health
Physical Education

"The IB program definitely helped me adjust to the academic rigor at the University of Chicago. In subjects like English and Biology, I found that I had already learned much of the material through my IB courses. IB also taught me effective exam preparation strategies. Even now, I still approach each exam with the same focus and intensity I used when studying for my IB exams."

– HVA Alum Class of 2024, University of Chicago Class of 2028



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75% of graduates attend selective colleges

76% are first-generation college students

In the Classes of 2023, 2024 and 2025, we have:

16 QuestBridge Match Scholars

1 Gates Recipient

1 Posse Scholar

1 Earl Woods Scholar

COLLEGE MATRICULATIONS

In addition to New York SUNY and CUNY schools, below are some of the schools where HVAH students have matriculated over the last three years (2023–25). Bold indicates more than one matriculation.

American University (DC)

Babson College (MA)

Barnard College (NY)

Bentley University (MA)

Boston College (MA)

Bowdoin College (ME)

Bucknell University (PA)

Carnegie Mellon University (PA)

Columbia University (NY)

College of the Holy Cross (MA)

Cornell University (NY)

Dartmouth College (NH)

Davidson College (NC)

Emory University (GA)

Franklin & Marshall College (PA)

Georgetown University (DC)

Gettysburg College (PA)

Goucher College (MD)

Hampton University (VA)

Hampshire College (MA)

Haverford College (PA)

Hobart & William Smith College (NY)

Howard University (DC)

Ithaca College (NY)

Lafayette College (PA)

Marist College (NY)

Middlebury College (VT)

Morgan State University (MD)

Muhlenberg College (PA)

New York University (NY)

Norfolk State University (VA)

Northeastern University (MA)

Northwestern University (IL)

Rice University (TX)

Rutgers University (NJ)

Siena College (NY)

Skidmore College (NY)

Stanford University (CA)

Syracuse University (NY)

Trinity College (CT)

Tulane University (LA)

Tufts University (MA)

Union College (NY)

University of Chicago (IL)

University of Michigan (MI)

University of Pennsylvania (PA)

University of Richmond (VA)

University of Rochester (NY)

University of Southern California (CA)

University of Virginia (VA)

Washington University in St. Louis (MO)

Wesleyan University (CT)

Yale University (CT)