



MACAULAY
HONORS COLLEGE
ANNUAL REPORT 2017

macaulay is...

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LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

As a society, one of our most important responsibilities is to provide our youth with the best possible education.

I grew up in the Bronx and attended City College during the tumult of the 1960's. The education I received there ultimately launched my career in finance, and instilled in me a deep appreciation for the transformative power of education. So when former CUNY Chancellor Matt Goldstein invited me to help build an honors college for CUNY's highest achieving students, I welcomed the opportunity.

Over the past decade, I have been proud to support the college and see it grow into one of the nation's top honors programs. As Macaulay has expanded from an initial class of 208 to more than 2,000 exceptional students spread across eight campuses, our Foundation Board has grown to 17 dedicated members, including two of our own graduates.

With a shared commitment to excellence in public education, we embrace our mandate to ensure that future generations of Macaulay students have access to the best educational experiences and opportunities, both inside the classroom and beyond.

William E. Macaulay

Chair

Macaulay Honors College Foundation Board

THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION

On these pages, you'll meet students and alumni of Macaulay Honors College. Through their stories, you'll see how Macaulay's experiential, personalized, and academically rigorous model of education transforms lives.

How do we do it? By continually learning from our own experience and using what we learn to spark our own transformations.

In the 2016–2017 academic year, my first as dean, we have solidified our position as one of the nation's top honors colleges. We have:

- Grown our roster of passionate donors
- Attracted distinguished visiting professors
- Engaged alumni at higher levels than ever—including as donors
- Strengthened our programming, particularly in science and technology
- Enhanced student diversity

We're continuing to improve in these areas while adding a focus on academic programming and advisement—all supported by ambitious fundraising targets and a deeply committed foundation board.

Macaulay has never been better positioned to make an impact. I hope you'll join me in making it happen.



Mary C. Pearl, PhD
Dean



macaulay AT A GLANCE

IN 2016, MACAULAY EARNED THE
TOP RANKING
AMONG PUBLIC HONORS COLLEGES IN THE U.S.

6,272 APPLICANTS
FOR THE CLASS OF 2020

537 STUDENTS
IN THE CLASS OF 2020

70% OF STUDENTS
ARE NEW YORK CITY RESIDENTS

55% GRADUATED FROM
NEW YORK CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

18% ARE THE FIRST
IN THEIR FAMILIES TO ATTEND COLLEGE

54% SPEAK
MORE THAN ONE LANGUAGE



THE CITY IS OUR CLASSROOM

Experiential, academically rigorous learning is the foundation of a Macaulay education.

During the first two years, every student takes four core seminars. Students learn in the classroom and then apply their knowledge in practical ways that shape not only their lives but also the life of New York City.

- Arts in New York City engages students in deep analysis of works of performance and visual art.
- People of New York City applies the tools of social science research to the diverse people and neighborhoods of New York City's past, present, and future.
- Science Forward teaches students to think scientifically, featuring BioBlitz (pictured here), an intensive immersion into collecting & analyzing data on the urban ecosystem.
- Shaping the Future of New York City equips students to build a better city through critical examination of how public policy shapes urban development.

Macaulay attracts ambitious, high-achieving scholars whose potential is limited only by their opportunities.

Macaulay students win prestigious awards, such as:

- National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship
- Fulbright U.S. Student Program
- Rhodes Scholarship
- Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship
- Jeannette K. Watson Fellowship
- Jonas E. Salk Scholarship
- New York City Urban Fellows Program
- Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship
- Harry S. Truman Scholarship

OUR STUDENTS ARE SMART, TALENTED, CURIOUS, AND DRIVEN. OUR JOB IS SIMPLY TO CHALLENGE THEM TO ACHIEVE EVERYTHING THEY'RE CAPABLE OF ACHIEVING.

JOSEPH UGORETZ, PHD, CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER

40% of Macaulay's class of 2015 has gone on to top graduate and professional schools, such as:

- Bank Street College of Education
- Brooklyn Law School
- Caltech
- Harvard Law School
- Harvard Medical School
- Howard University College of Medicine
- Johns Hopkins School of Medicine
- MIT
- Oxford University
- Stanford Law School

CARING FOR THE WHOLE STUDENT

Macaulay supports students' physical, mental, and emotional health. Our wellness program offers individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, and mindfulness practice to address the stresses high-performing college students often face.

A SPRINGBOARD PROJECT IS A PLACE TO JUMP OFF FROM, A COMMENCEMENT RATHER THAN A CONCLUSION.

ELIZABETH REIS, PHD, PROFESSOR

REIMAGINING THE SENIOR THESIS

Rather than requiring seniors to demonstrate what they have learned in a final thesis or capstone project, Macaulay encourages seniors to create a springboard—an open-ended project that builds on knowledge acquired and opens possibilities for ongoing learning.

The springboard experience includes a year-long six-credit workshop that helps students prepare projects that:

- Ask questions, pose dilemmas, and propose specific research pathways toward continued learning
- Require independent research and writing
- Foster collaborative critique
- Unite disciplines rather than focusing on only one field of study

Springboard projects are presented publicly, at a national conference, to expand our students' academic networks and encourage two-way communication with a wide audience.



I EXPERIENCED WHAT
mindfulness and meditation practice can do.

I FEEL MUCH MORE AT EASE WITH
approaching the wilderness i call adulthood,

AND LIFE AFTER GRADUATION.

MICHELLE SHEU, CLASS OF 2018

IN THE CLASSROOM
you are taught how
to be professional.

IN EXPERIENCES OUTSIDE
THE CLASSROOM,
you learn who you are
and what part you want
to play in the world.

JULIA D'ALESSIO (CLASS OF 2019)



LEARN, APPLY, REFLECT... REPEAT

Real-world application of classroom learning motivates students to really learn the content. It also develops practical abilities like problem-solving and risk-taking skills. Experiential education answers the age-old question, "Why do we have to know this stuff?"

A Macaulay education is experiential from the core introductory seminars to the Springboard project. Many students, like the one shown at left serving an AIDS patient in a Houston hospice, also participate in service-learning trips.

All Macaulay students are required to further expand their horizons through study abroad, internships, or research projects. Among students surveyed in 2017:

75% engaged in study abroad.

79% had at least one internship during their time at Macaulay.

51% had two or more internships.

SUPPORTING EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

These learning experiences are supported not by public monies but by the Macaulay Opportunities Funds. Thanks to these funds, Macaulay students—many of whom come from families of modest means and may have never left their borough in New York City—expand their worlds and come back to enrich our communities.

Opportunities Funds are entirely supported by donations from generous corporations and individuals like you.

To learn how you can contribute to Macaulay's life-changing Opportunities Funds, visit our website or call 212.729.2939.

INFINITE POSSIBILITIES

With the support of faculty and mentors, Macaulay students craft individualized programs of study that prepare them to meet their goals—whatever their unique calling in the world.

Besides the 450 majors offered at the eight home CUNY campuses, Macaulay students can also construct their own majors in the CUNY Baccalaureate for Unique and Interdisciplinary Studies program. Here are just a few majors of recent Macaulay graduates:

- The biology of movement
- International writing & communication and fiction writing
- Middle Eastern relations and global economy
- Story and game design, cognitive design and computers
- Sustainable urban community development
- Zoology and conservation

ONE-ON-ONE SUPPORT

All Macaulay students are matched with a professional advisor. The two meet before classes even start and continue regularly until graduation. These advisors guide students toward meaningful and useful learning opportunities. Our exceptionally low ratio of students to advisors ensures that each student stays on track, even when academic or personal challenges arise.

CAREER MENTORS

Macaulay matches committed alumni to work one-on-one with students who are pursuing similar careers. For example, Alex Bonilla, a student majoring in biomedical engineering, was paired with Sameen Farooq, an alum studying medicine at Wayne State. “I would not have been able to do it without Sameen’s guidance,” said Alex.

EXTRACURRICULARS

Student-led clubs connect Macaulay students into a cross-campus honors community exploring diverse interests. Some clubs focus on service, some focus on food, and some look for investment opportunities. But all of them provide leadership opportunities and a venue to grow, create, and learn from one another.



JOINING THE “HUMANS OF MACAULAY” TEAM
was a great way for me to

SHARE MY VISION.

the experience has helped me grow

AS A PHOTOGRAPHER.

ERIC LAU, CLASS OF 2017

ANY OPPORTUNITY I HAVE

to give back

AND SPEAK ON BEHALF OF MACAULAY,

i'm there.

PENNY PHILLIPS, CLASS OF 2010



AFTER MACAULAY

Macaulay alumni are becoming a force to be reckoned with, especially here in New York City.

- Penny Phillips was the youngest-ever vice-president of New York Life.
- Kat Mateo, class of 2011, sees her current position as a corporate litigator as a stepping stone to the U.S. Supreme Court.
- Sohail Mathur, class of 2010, is a consultant in strategic risk management for PwC.

Eighty percent of graduates establish their careers in New York City. As they do, they become ambassadors for the transformative power of a Macaulay education. Many—like Penny, Kat, and Sohail—are faithful donors and spokespersons.

PROFESSIONAL IMPACT

Macaulay graduates are shaping the future of New York City through work in the nonprofit, for-profit, and government sectors. They work for such diverse organizations as:

- BBC Worldwide Americas
- Bloomberg
- Boeing
- CitiGroup
- Ernst & Young
- Estee Lauder Companies
- General Electric
- Goldman Sachs
- Google
- J.P. Morgan Asset Management
- Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
- The Metropolitan Opera
- Montefiore Medical Center
- National Parks Service
- New York City Council
- NYC Department of Education
- US Department of State

OPERATING COSTS FOR MACAULAY HONORS COLLEGE

The consortial nature of Macaulay Honors College provides students with an undergraduate education jointly delivered by Macaulay and the eight partnering CUNY campuses: Baruch, Brooklyn, City, Hunter, John Jay, Lehman, Queens, and Staten Island.

The charts below provide an approximate value of the full costs of coursework and all supporting activities provided to the 2,160 Macaulay students enrolled during the 2017 academic year. Because Macaulay students enroll in classes across the CUNY system, the faculty costs have been modeled using estimates based on average salaries, course loads, and class sizes.

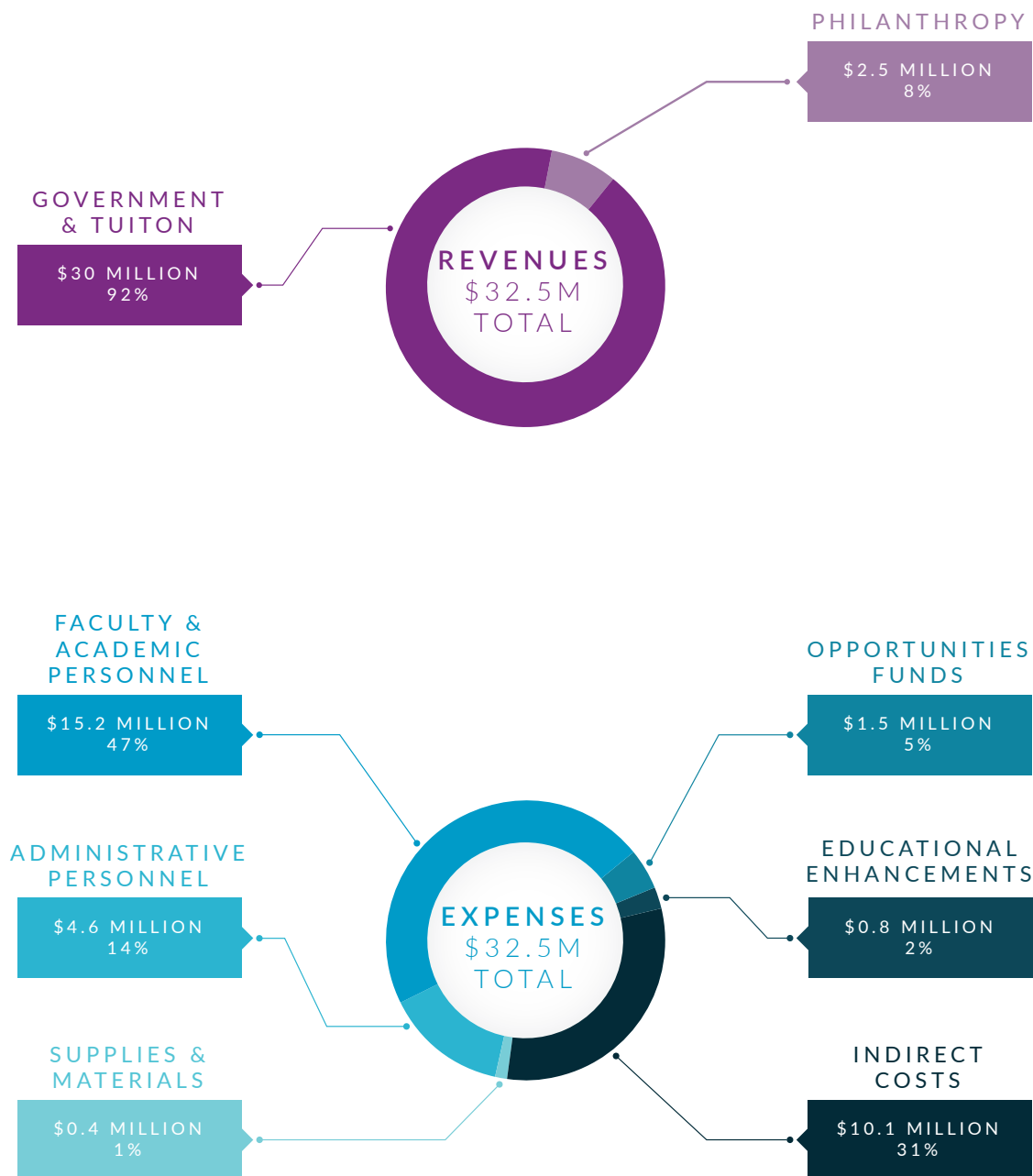




Photo: Wendy You, City College '18

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As of December 31, 2017

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P – Parent of a Macaulay student, followed by year of graduation

**deceased*



ABOUT MACAULAY HONORS COLLEGE

Ranked as one of the top ten honors colleges in the nation, Macaulay provides exceptional students with a rigorous education drawing on the vast academic resources of the nation's largest urban university and the rich cultural diversity of New York City. Our students represent the top 4% of the 13,000+ incoming freshmen on eight CUNY campuses: Baruch, Brooklyn, City, Hunter, John Jay, Lehman, and Queens Colleges, and the College of Staten Island.

With close guidance from a team of dedicated advisors, Macaulay students can design a highly personalized academic program that allows them to access classes in more than 350 majors across the CUNY system. In addition to maintaining a high GPA, all Macaulay students must either study abroad, participate in an approved internship, or conduct independent research. To support these activities, Macaulay provides its students with exclusive access to dedicated travel and fellowship funds underwritten entirely by private philanthropy. In addition, Macaulay students who are residents of New York State receive a full-tuition merit scholarship.

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35 W. 67TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10023
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