



# 2023

ANNUAL REPORT

**We aspire to ensure that all recently arrived adolescent immigrant students who are multilingual learners have access to an equitable education that prepares them for college, career, and beyond.**

Internationals Network works at the intersection of multilingual learner education and education reform, addressing issues of educational equity by transforming public educational opportunities available for adolescents who have recently arrived to U.S. schools and are emergent speakers of English. We work to implement innovations in deep learning, opening opportunities for a population of young people who have been systematically excluded, overlooked and underserved in public education settings. Though focused on this population of students, we seek to influence broader research, policy and practice in the field of education and advance innovation and equitable opportunities for students more broadly.

Learn more by visiting our website: [internationalsnetwork.org](http://internationalsnetwork.org)

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Dear Valued Community Members,

I am filled with heartfelt gratitude when reflecting on the progress we've made in championing educational equity for the multilingual learner students we serve. Since I assumed the role of Executive Director of Internationals Network in March of 2023, I have had the opportunity to connect with our educators and partners across the country to learn about their current context and the impact of our work. I have also witnessed the return of our in-person network events, where our educators have the opportunity to learn from each other in person and share what is working from across our schools. Leading an organization that positions our practitioners as experts, paves the way to success for numerous multilingual learners, and makes a positive impact in communities across the U.S. fills me with great pride.

Over the past year, we experienced an influx of newcomer youth across the U.S., and our network's schools provided support to a significant number of those students. Responding to calls of assistance for schools beyond our network, we created two valuable resources where our educators share their expertise: "6 Steps to Supporting Newcomer Students" and "Newcomer Welcome Kit: For School Leaders by School Leaders." These documents are designed to equip leaders nationwide with tools, resources, and best practices to support newcomer students. We are excited to continue expanding our offerings to a broader community of school leaders in the future. We have also continued the publication of our Learning Brief series. In these briefs we share Internationals Network's successes, learning, and recommendations from across our network of public secondary schools. Our second series focuses on project-based learning, highlighting the power of this instructional approach for adolescents who are adjusting to U.S. schools while learning English. To access these publications and the newcomer resources, please visit our website.

We are filled with excitement for the possibilities that lie ahead in 2024. Having completed our strategic planning process, changes are underway in how we operate as an organization to have an even greater impact on serving multilingual learners across the country. Furthermore, this year marks the celebration of the organization's 20th anniversary. We look forward to showcasing stories, collaborations, and successes from our network's history. None of our achievements would have been possible without the collective efforts of individuals, who make up our community. And for that, we are deeply grateful.

Your support is crucial to our mission. Please consider donating to help us expand our reach and provide more resources to multilingual learners across the country. Every contribution, big or small, makes a difference.

Sincerely,  
Lara Evangelista  
Executive Director

SUPPORT OUR WORK

Over 50 alumni have returned  
to work in one of our network schools!



**Zarah Vinola**

Social Studies teacher, UFT Chapter  
Leader at IHS at LaGuardia  
Community College  
**Graduated from:** IHS at LaGuardia  
Community College  
**Native country:** Philippines



**Alex Sorto**

Media Newcomer Assistant  
at Oakland IHS  
**Graduated from:** San Francisco IHS  
**Native country:** Honduras



**Gerard Gomez**

Assistant Principal  
Pan American IHS at Monroe  
**Graduated from:** Manhattan IHS  
**Native country:** Dominican Republic

HEAR FROM GERARD



**Leydi Lora**

Guidance Counselor  
at Crotona IHS  
**Graduated from:** Bronx IHS  
**Native country:** Dominican Republic

HEAR FROM LEYDI

# 31

We have over 30 schools & academies in our network.

# 12

We partnered with a total of 12 school districts across the U.S.

# 9,560+

We served over 9,500 multilingual learners across the U.S.

# 125

Our students come from 125 countries.

# 99

Across our network schools, students speak 99 different languages.

# 50+

We have over 50 alumni who have returned to work in one of our network schools across the U.S.!

# 80%

Based on our preliminary findings, students across our network schools graduate from high school at an average of 80% in 4 years.





## TEACHER FEATURE!



International Academy  
at Van Nuys HS, CA

**Arlan Cashier**  
ELD Teacher

*"At the Internationals Academy at Van Nuys High School we hold our students to high standards and we accept them as they are because they are whole as they are."*



## TEACHER FEATURE!



Crotona International  
High School Bronx, NYC

**Charnjit Kaur**  
Science Teacher

*"When we embrace our students with full hearts and open arms, it gives us so much satisfaction as we see them assimilating and embracing American Culture and yet preserving their own cultural values."*



## TEACHER FEATURE!



International High School  
at Langley Park, MD

**Tierra Jackson**  
School Counselor

*"Many of our students face so many challenges, I am grateful not only for them sharing their stories but allowing me to help them create and meet their goals in education."*





Internationals Network helps schools and districts better serve immigrant and refugee multilingual learners. We coach teachers, leaders, and school staff, and provide access to an invaluable network of support and learning.

Director of Research & Innovation Marguerite Lukes facilitating a workshop at the Fall PD Conference



550+

We served 550+ school staff across our network.

93%

Educators who attended our workshops felt they were relevant to their work with MLLs.

More than

3,800

We provided 550+ network educators with 3,800+ hours of professional development.



Educators in a workshop at the Fall PD Conference

*This year's professional development programs were a resounding success, as evidenced by overwhelmingly positive feedback. Participants valued the opportunities for meaningful collaboration with colleagues across various content areas, praising the facilitative approach that fostered a professional, engaging, and supportive environment. The balance between individual and group activities, combined with practical application and constructive feedback, not only enhanced learning but also demonstrated our commitment to fostering a dynamic and responsive educational community.*



Strong school leadership is key to making the Internationals model a reality. Internationals works intensively with new and existing leaders, both at the teacher level as well as the administrator level, through frequent meetings, professional development, and our annual leadership retreat.



Internationals Network APs

## LEADERSHIP RETREAT

From April 27-29 2023, Internationals Network gathered its network school leaders in Oakland, CA. Attendees had the opportunity to visit a Bay Area school to learn from some of their best practices and see first-hand students' learning. The three day retreat engaged school administrators in workshops and dialogue, the sharing of best practices, concrete networking opportunities, and the facilitation of strategic planning for the upcoming school year. Leaders left feeling connected, supported and energized.

## ASPIRING LEADERS

The Aspiring School Leaders professional development initiative began in 2022 to provide aspiring school leaders within the Internationals Network with fundamental knowledge and tools in leading an Internationals Network school. Out of nine participants four went on to become assistant principals.

*"This series for Aspiring School Leaders has helped me prepare for the SBL examinations and has supported all of us in developing our leadership skills focusing our attention to improve the quality of education for our students: I greatly appreciated this mentorship!"*

— Ernesto Tabajonda, ICHS Master Teacher and Math Department Chair



National Leadership Retreat 2023 attendees



Internationals Network is a leading voice promoting educational equity for multilingual learners (MLLs) within the public education system. Internationals actively shares expertise nationally to advocate for policies and practices that ensure MLLs have access to quality education.

## DEEPER LEARNING EQUITY FELLOWS

*The Deeper Learning Equity Fellowship is an enriching program that blends various interactive and educational methods to enhance deep learning leadership in the public school sector. This comprehensive program involves a dynamic mix of face-to-face and online dialogues, insightful school visits, and engaging conversations with senior education and community leaders. Additionally, the fellowship includes the development of independent or collaborative capstone projects by the Fellows. These diverse components equip participants with essential perspectives and tools for effective leadership in deep learning. The fellowship is a collaboration with Big Picture Learning, and thus far, it has successfully completed six cohorts. This program is pivotal in fostering leadership skills and promoting equitable deep learning practices in education.*

# 5+

Internationals Network participated in over five conferences including: [Deeper Learning](#), [NABE](#), [CABE](#), & [Hispanic Federation](#). We are also part of the [National Newcomer Network](#) to promote educational equity for MLLs.

## LEARNING BRIEFS

*Learning Briefs share Internationals Network's successes, learning and recommendations from across our network of public secondary schools. The launch of this new publication series focused on college access for multilingual learners. Find them at: <https://www.internationalsnetwork.org/about/#publications>*

1. Immigrants, English Learners and Post-Secondary Pathways: Framing the issue

READ BRIEF

2. Postsecondary opportunity for immigrant high school students: Promoting equity through schoolwide structures, programs, and culture

READ BRIEF

WATCH PANEL

3. Opening Doors to College: Immigrant Students' High School Experiences of College Access

READ BRIEF

## FEATURED PRESS & REPORTS

- [Humanizing education for immigrant and refugee youth: 20 strategies for the classroom and beyond](#)
- [Newcomer Education in California](#)
- [Perceptions from Newcomer Multilingual Adolescents: Predictors and Experiences of Sense of Belonging in High School](#)

Congratulations!

"Be the reason someone smiles today."  
— Chih Jou

2023 GRAD

*A native of Taiwan & a proud graduate of Flushing International High School in NYC.*

Congratulations!

"Be your #1 cheerleader!"  
— Yohanna

2023 GRAD

*A native of Cameroon & a proud graduate of the International Academy at Cardozo Education Campus in DC.*

Congratulations!

"Advice that I would give to young people that want to succeed is:  
Be yourself and have fun all the time."  
— Alonso

2023 GRAD

*A native of El Salvador & a proud graduate of the Internationals Academy at Richmond High School in CA.*



## Foundations

- + Carnegie Corporation of New York
- + New York Community Trust
- + Stuart Foundation
- + The Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation
- + Tiger Foundation
- + Wallace Foundation
- + William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
- + W. Clement & Jessie V. Stone Foundation

## District School & Academy Partners

- + Alexandria City Public Schools
- + Buffalo Public Schools
- + District of Columbia Public Schools
- + Los Angeles Unified School District
- + New York City Department of Education
- + Oakland Unified School District
- + Passaic Public Schools
- + Prince George's County Public Schools
- + San Francisco Unified School District
- + West Contra Costa Unified School District

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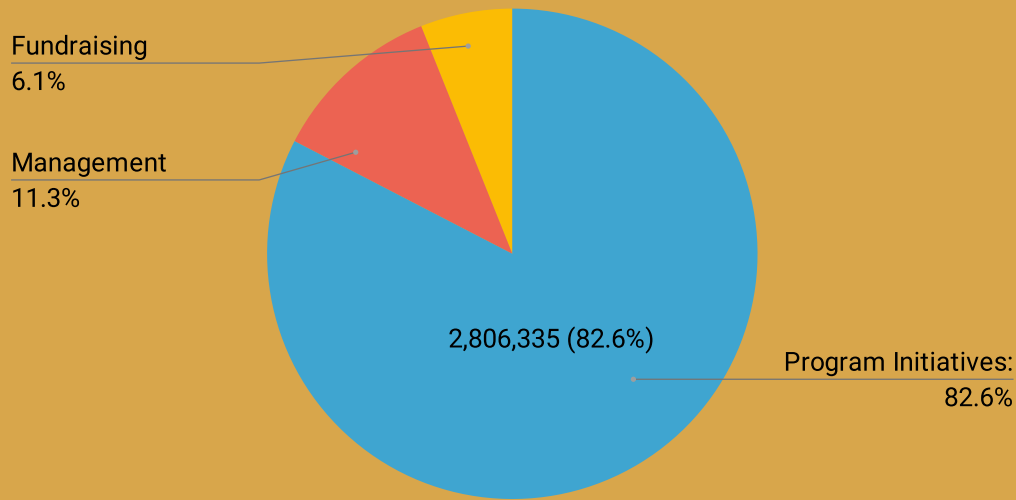
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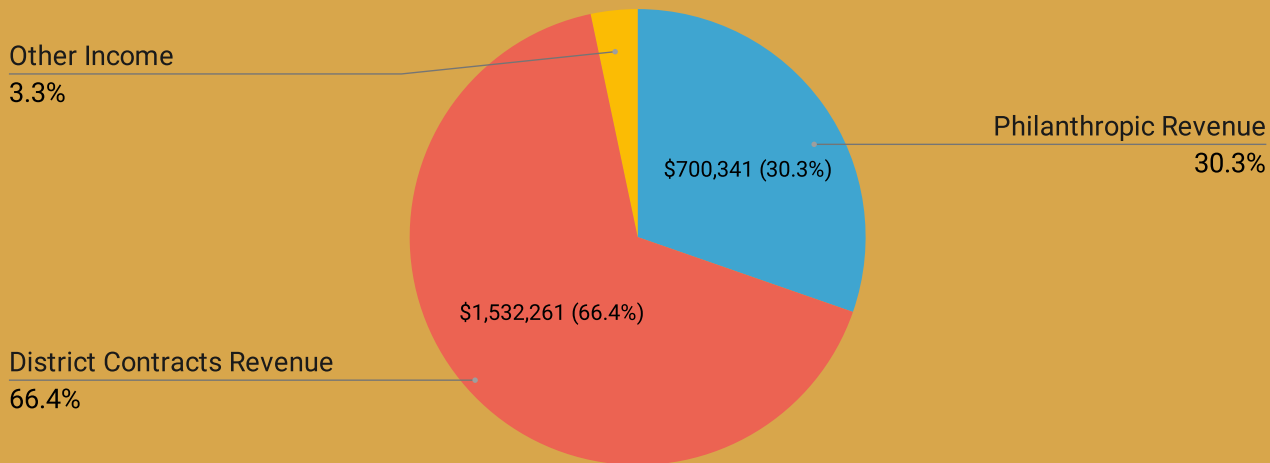
+ Dr. Reva Jaffe-Walter  
Associate Professor, Educational Leadership Montclair  
State University

## ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES



Program Initiatives .....	\$2,806,335.00
- School Support	
- New School Development	
- Professional Development	
- Policy and Advocacy	
Management .....	\$385,147.00
Fundraising .....	\$206,055.00
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Total .....	\$3,397,537.00

## REVENUE & INCOME



Philanthropic Revenue .....	\$700,341.00
District Contracts Revenue .....	\$1,532,261.00
Other Income .....	\$76,496.00
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Total .....	\$2,309,098.00



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