



Summer Principals Academy

Teachers College, Columbia University

May, 2024

Dear SPA Students, Alumni, and Friends,

We are thrilled to present the May issue of the Summer Principals Academy (SPA) | New York City Newsletter. This edition is buzzing with excitement as we celebrate our recent graduates and warmly welcome the new cohort with their orientation highlights. Our newsletter continues to serve as a vital link within our Leadership Program, fostering a vibrant community spirit and showcasing the achievements that inspire us all. We invite you to share your own stories and milestones with us. Join us in applauding the accomplishments of our community and welcoming our new members.

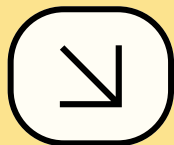
Best,

Dr. Colette Young (SPA Cohort 2021)

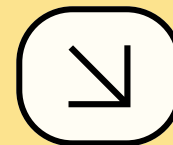
Assistant Director, Summer Principals Academy | New York



Upcoming Events



IN MAY



2024

**TUE
14**

TEACHERS COLLEGE CONVOCAION CELEBRATING COHORT 2022



Tickets Required

**THU
16**

PD: LEADERSHIP & DECISION MAKING

3:00 PM EST

Virtual

**THU
23**

NEW YORK MEET AND GREET

4:00 PM EST

Earls Beer Cheese, 1259 Park Ave, New York, NY 10029

**THU
30**

SPA INFO SESSION

4:00 PM EST

Virtual

[CLICK HERE TO
REGISTER ON EVENBRITE!](#)



Dr. Colette Young
Assistant Director | NYC
cy2288@tc.columbia.edu
212-870-8605

To request disability-related accommodations, contact OASID at oasid@tc.edu, or 212-678-3689, (646) 755-3144 video phone, as soon as possible.

SPA SPOTLIGHT

Computer Science at an Art School: This Teacher Combines Coding and Dance

Maha Hasen (SPA 2022 Cohort): Explore how Maha Hasen, a recent SPA grad from the 2022 cohort and assistant principal at Fordham High School for the Arts, innovatively integrates computer science with dance to inspire her students. Delve into her journey from math teacher to pioneering a computer science program that enhances female engagement in tech. Discover Maha's unique approach and impactful leadership in this month's feature! [\[Read More\]](#)



MAHA HASEN

By: Claudia Mendez

SPA ALUMNI FOCUS

Maha Hasen stands as a beacon of excellence in the field of computer science and education, with her accomplishments serving as a testament to her dedication and innovation. In 2023, Hasen was honored with the NYC Big Apple Award, recognizing her outstanding contributions to education and her unwavering

commitment to her students. She was a key leader in the development of a Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) department and a Computer Science curriculum within Fordham High School for the Arts. Her approach to teaching goes beyond the conventional, fostering an environment where

“CHOOSE TO BE HAPPY!
WHILE WORKING IN
EDUCATION IS A VERY
CHALLENGING JOB, IT IS SO
MUCH EASIER IF YOU
CONSISTENTLY MAKE THE
CHOICE TO BE HAPPY.”



curiosity and creativity thrive, shaping the minds of future leaders in technology.

Prior to this accolade, Hasen was already making waves in the computer science and education community, having been awarded the Cognizant Innovation in Computer Science Education Award in 2022. This recognition highlighted her groundbreaking work in increasing access to computer science access within her community. Some of her innovations include introducing an AP Computer Science Principles course at Fordham High School for the Arts, as well as a coding club. Her innovative spirit and tireless pursuit of excellence continue to inspire not only her peers but also aspiring computer scientists worldwide.

Maha's journey serves as a reminder of the transformative power of education and the profound impact one individual can have on shaping the future of an industry. Through her leadership and pioneering initiatives, she has not only elevated the standards of computer science education but has also paved the way for countless students to pursue their passion for technology. Her dedication to fostering a culture of innovation and inclusion sets a high bar for educators and underscores the importance of empowering the next generation of tech leaders with the skills and mindset needed to thrive in a rapidly evolving digital landscape.

To learn even more about the incredible work that Maha has done, as well as hearing from her how she is changing the game of teaching computer science, be sure to check out her Chalkbeat article [HERE](#).

JOB OPPORTUNITIES



Explore the latest job opportunities in education and leadership roles to advance your career.

[Educational leader to lead in school culture and discipline system Dayton, OH](#)

[Science/ Math Literacy Coach](#)

To apply for the position, send a letter of interest, resume, and a sample professional development session that you've planned for K-12 Educators to careers@agirilearn.com by Friday March 22, 2024. Contact Dr. Maria Akinyele at maria@agirilearn.com

The Summer Principals Academy (SPA) at Teachers College, Columbia University is a transformative graduate program that is committed to promoting equity and excellence in education and overcoming the gap in educational access and achievement between the most and least advantaged groups in this country



tc.edu/SPA