Celebrating Five Years of Academic and Cultural Enrichment Programs for Talented, Urban Middle School Students.
Pingree community meets to plan “doing something bold” for the world at large and Pingree School.

Spring 2003
Two P@P “alums” enrolled at Pingree School, others enrolled at Noble & Greenough School, Central Catholic, Putney School, Presentation of Mary Academy, and Notre Dame Academy.

Summer 2004
Program grows to include 25 students in partnership with Community Day Charter School, Lawrence Family Development Charter School, The Seton Asian Center, Wetherbee School, Lawrence Boys and Girls Club and for the first time Bellesini Academy.

Fall 2006
Eight Prep@Pingree “alums” are enrolled at Pingree School, others enrolled at Central Catholic, Dublin Academy, Miss Hall’s School, Presentation of Mary Academy, St. John’s Prep, Notre Dame Academy, Nobles & Greenough School, St. Paul’s School, Governor’s Academy, Brooks, Lawrence High School, and Georgetown High School.

Fall 2001
Pingree community meets to plan “doing something bold” for the world at large and Pingree School.

Summer 2002
Pilot program for 12 Lawrence middle school students is launched in partnership with Community Day Charter School, Lawrence Family Development Charter School and The Seton Asian Center.

Summer 2003
Program grows to include 18 students in partnership with Community Day Charter School, Lawrence Family Development Charter School, The Seton Asian Center and for the first time, Lawrence Boys and Girls Club and Wetherbee School.

Summer 2004
Program grows to include 25 students in partnership with Community Day Charter School, Lawrence Family Development Charter School, The Seton Asian Center, Wetherbee School, Lawrence Boys and Girls Club and for the first time Bellesini Academy.

Summer 2006
5th consecutive summer program again includes 25 students in partnership with Community Day Charter School, Lawrence Family Development Charter School, Asian Center, Wetherbee School, Lawrence Boys and Girls Club, Bellesini Academy and for the first time adds engineering design and the history of Lawrence classes to the existing curriculum of math and English.

Spring 2007
P@P announces “strategic plan” for ’06 – ’10, 1st Prep@Pingree class enrolls in college.

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Six years ago, a Pingree School Trustee declared in a meeting of Pingree parents, faculty, administration and trustees that it was time “to do something bold” about Pingree’s lackluster performance in living its mission of building a diverse community. As a result, Prep@Pingree emerged as a win-win partnership between the city of Lawrence and Pingree School.

The fifth summer of Prep@Pingree, in all of its aspects, was our best to date. Twenty-five talented, hard-working, middle school students, from six Lawrence middle schools and youth centers, worked closely with inspiring and devoted faculty and staff. Pingree students, teachers, administrators, trustees and alumni developed meaningful, lasting connections with Prep@Pingree students through a curriculum that introduced engineering design and history of Lawrence classes to our existing math and English courses. Many loyal individuals and foundations with a deep commitment to ambitious, inner-city youth continued to support Prep@Pingree. We also welcomed several who supported Prep@Pingree for the first time, but hopefully not the last. We are grateful to have added their perspectives to our important work.

Once again it is time to think and act boldly. Five years of careful planning and calibration of Prep@Pingree have lead to greater opportunities for the students living in the communities we serve. With even more support from the Pingree community, many exciting conversations are taking place that will shape the next five years of Prep@Pingree. A vision to include deserving students from more cities has emerged. We plan to pursue more partnerships and establish more scholarships for Prep@Pingree students who gain admission to Pingree, as well as other independent and parochial secondary schools.

I invite you to participate in these conversations and hope to plan the next stages of Prep@Pingree together. Please do not hesitate to contact me with your thoughts.

Thank you, again, for making Prep@Pingree a priority in your lives.

Steven Filosa
Director, Prep@Pingree
“The fact that I came here made me feel more confident in my intelligence and made me think I could go to a better school. And I did.”

Mayerlyn Castillo, 2005 Prep@Pingree Student

“Prep@Pingree brings out the best in students because the students and faculty not only work together in the classroom, but they also play together on the ropes course or fall into the Ipswich River together during the canoe trip. All inhibitions are tossed aside and an environment of learning is fostered and nurtured for all involved.”

Vuyelwa Maqubela, Pingree Director of Diversity and Prep@Pingree English Teacher

...He talks excitedly about what Holly O’Donohue ’03 taught him during the summer in her math class: “reverse-foiling,” also known as factoring quadratics — a common stumbling block for many high school freshman. “It’s cool because it’s different from what they teach us at school,” he said. “It’s challenging, but fun.”

Alexander Cueto ’10, Community Day Charter School

“I liked meeting new people that are at my level or higher. I actually got to talk to people who value education like I do.”

Ricky Gonzalez, 2006 Prep@Pingree Student

“Pingree benefits from having Prep@Pingree on campus but also when people go home and tell their family and friends about their opportunities...it gives hope.”

Tunde Ayinde, Pingree Faculty
These ambitious, talented, hard-working Prep@Pingree students have exploded the stereotypes about “victims” living in inner-city Lawrence who are destined to a life of poverty, violence and crime. I believe Pingree is an even better school when it draws its student population from all of the surrounding communities. Because of Prep@Pingree, I’ve learned how important it is to serve something other than myself.

Matthew Soursourian, ’04, Brown University ’08, Student-Teacher, Prep@Pingree

“For many, they’ve been the first in their family to attend a private school. This year we will see the first class of Prep@Pingree matriculate to college, another first for many of the families. The correlation between a college degree and economic success is well documented.”

Steven Filosa, Director, Prep@Pingree

“I think it’s good that I’m here because it shows Pingree’s interest in providing the same opportunities to minorities as everyone else.”

Kaisy Rosario ’08, Prep@Pingree Student
Once enrolled, at no cost to them, students are provided everything they need to participate in the program — round-trip transportation from Lawrence, meals, and all school supplies. The summer session begins with a brunch at Pingree for Prep@Pingree families. As part of the program orientation, participants spend two days at Project Adventure engaged in team building activities. The program concludes with a graduation ceremony, followed by a final day trip.

During the five-week summer session, Prep@Pingree students spend their time engaged in rigorous academic work and extracurricular activities. They spend four hours each day in the classroom followed by two hours of interactive activities utilizing Pingree facilities (swimming pool, playing fields, computer laboratories, etc.). On Fridays, students take day trips within greater Boston and Essex County, including a canoe trip down the Ipswich River, exploration at Boston’s Museum of Science and a whale watch out of Gloucester harbor.

Upon graduation, program participants are invited to continue their academic support work, receive secondary school placement counseling and attend other activities throughout their eighth grade year.
How Can I Help?

Prep@Pingree enrolls 25 students each year at a cost of roughly $2,500 per student. The operating budget for the program is approximately $50,000 per year. Funds are needed to support the students and staff. To sponsor a Lawrence middle school student to attend the Prep@Pingree summer program costs $2,500. To fully sponsor a Prep@Pingree graduate to attend Pingree School costs $27,000 per year.

There are many ways to give to Prep@Pingree. Gifts of any size are greatly appreciated.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your contributions may be used to support:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Scholarships for Prep@Pingree alumni to attend Pingree School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scholarships for Lawrence middle school students to attend Prep@Pingree</td>
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<td>Stipends for Pingree School students and faculty to work at Prep@Pingree</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prep@Pingree field trips</td>
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<td>Transportation, meals, learning materials</td>
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For more information please contact Steven Filosa, Director, Prep@Pingree (978) 468-4415 x 265.

The mission of Prep@Pingree is to provide an ongoing academic and cultural enrichment program for talented, urban, middle school students. Through an intensive five-week summer program and supplemental year round support, Prep@Pingree prepares admitted students for independent, parochial, and public high schools. Prep@Pingree balances rigorous academics with co-curricular experiences.
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