



Danbury Grassroots Academy

EDUCATION • CHARACTER • TENNIS • HEALTH

Improving the lives of promising, select students in Danbury by emphasizing education, character, tennis, and health.

Since 2006, we have served 55-60 at-risk, select students annually, aged 8-18. Our rigorous academic support system and health program builds strong, confident students who are successful on the court, in the classroom, and in life.



Staying focused

The primary goals of the program are to help our students reach their full academic potential, build life skills, and create a path to success. Students attend every afternoon for three and a half hours of academic enrichment. Each student receives individualized assistance in reading and math skills, and learns how to manage their time effectively.

DGA supports the learning our students are doing in their classrooms. We also help them focus on post-secondary educational and career goals, providing preparation for the SAT and support throughout the college admissions process.



100%

high school
graduation rate

100%

of DGA students
improve reading
levels

“My student benefits from the wonderful work DGA does. They become more confident in class, participate more—especially in math and reading—and want to be their best.”

- 6TH GRADE TEACHER

HOMEWORK HELP

Students work with tutors to complete their daily homework assignments, projects, and papers.

READING

Students read out loud for a minimum of 30-45 minutes each day with their tutors.

MATH

Staff and tutors support in-class learning using flashcards, Khan Academy practice, and personalized drills.

Staying engaged

SAMPLING OF DAILY ENRICHMENT WORKSHOPS

- SAT and college prep
- Writing and grammar
- Math practice
- Coding, programming, and robotics
- Drug and substance abuse prevention
- Yoga

ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

DGA offers a variety of enrichment opportunities to support our students' success at school and in their lives. Our diverse offerings range from dance and yoga to coding and robotics. Students also go on hikes and visit local farms.

Our students visit college campuses, and throughout the year they have the opportunity to experience the Museum of Modern Art, the Peabody Museum, the Ridgefield Playhouse, the Aldrich Museum, New Pond Farm, CT Science Center, the US Open, The Palace Theater in Danbury, Bronx Botanical Garden, and the ACT Theater in Ridgefield.



2018 COMMUNITY ASSET
AWARD FOR SUBSTANCE
ABUSE PREVENTION

6-8

annual field trips

17+

in-office enrichment
workshops hosted





Staying connected

Crucial to the success of our students is our ability to closely collaborate with their parents, teachers, and schools. We know that success doesn't happen all at once, but rather is the result of consistent hard work and constant incremental improvement.

Our staff stay closely connected with each student to help them fulfill the requirements of their classes, including homework, tests, and papers. We review our students' progress reports and are in frequent contact with their parents and teachers. Our goal is always to help students keep improving so that they can achieve their full potential.

" Collaboration is their biggest strength. From working with parents, students and the community and even coming to parent meetings and conferences, the DGA staff are the best team we have worked with in the Danbury community. "

- MIDDLE SCHOOL COUNSELOR

- Sign off on homework planners daily
- Collect quarterly progress reports and report cards
- Check online grades biweekly
- Attend annual parent-teacher conferences with all participants' parents/guardians



2012 NEW ENGLAND
PROGRAM OF THE YEAR

Staying committed

MENTORSHIP

We have over forty active year-round volunteer tutors and mentors comprised of National Honor Society students from local high schools, former teachers, WCSU students, and local residents. Our tutors dedicate themselves to helping our students reach their full potential.

40+

active year-
round tutors and
mentors

Staff and tutors stay in frequent contact with parents and teachers, and work with students one-on-one to develop individualized learning plans. Every day, students receive help with their homework, math, and reading from their mentors and with volunteers. Students form strong bonds with their tutors and over time, come to view them not only as academic helpers but sources of emotional help as well.

"DGA is composed of positive role models who are dedicated to helping students reach their maximum learning potential."

- 6TH GRADE TEACHER





**2019 USTA FOUNDATION
NATIONAL PROGRAM
OF THE YEAR**

40+

participants have
gone on to play
varsity tennis

8

DGA students
participated in
the state open

Staying strong

TENNIS, ATHLETICS, AND HEALTH.

In addition to being an excellent form of exercise, tennis is a sport that demands patience, determination, and the ability to improve through continual practice, traits which not only contribute to better tennis players but to better people.

- Year-round tennis opportunities
- Healthy snacks and lunch served every day
- 1 mile / 5K race in August
- 7-8 week summer tennis program
- Hands-on cooking and nutritional lessons for both students and parents

Excelling on the court and in the classroom requires many of the same skills. The focus and drive DGA students acquire on the tennis court makes them better, stronger students. By stressing the importance of health and nutrition, we build focused and dedicated scholar athletes.



Danbury Grassroots: quantifying success

100%

*high school
graduation rate*

50+

*honor roll
students*

100%

*of students improve
reading levels*

All of our students have gone on to college or to begin careers after high school.

We are proud that our students have been accepted into prestigious universities including:

*Cornell University
Boston College
University of Massachusetts
Fairfield University
Vassar College
Syracuse University
Manhattan College
University of Pittsburgh*

*West. Conn. State University
Lasell College
Quinnipiac College
University of Connecticut
Earlham College
Colby College
New England College
... and more*



Staying involved

DONATE

Help us sustain our mission to support the youth of Danbury by making a tax-deductible donation to DGA.

danburygrassrootsacademy.org/contribute

VOLUNTEER

We welcome volunteers to support students as they progress through our programs. Please call our office or email:

info@danburygrassrootsacademy.org

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(203) 797-0500

danburygrassrootsacademy.org
info@danburygrassrootsacademy.org

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