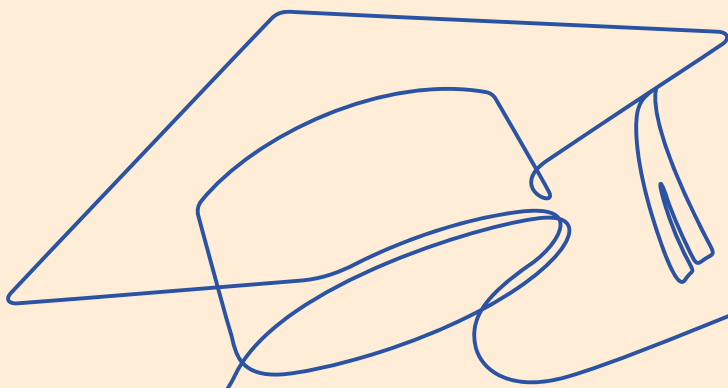


2025 ANNUAL REPORT



ACADEMY FOR
URBAN SCHOLARS
HIGH SCHOOL
**YOUNGSTOWN/
CANTON**

A LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

The year kicks off with an astronaut sharing stories of floating in space, sparking a wave of interest in STEM careers. A few months later, a world-renowned chef demonstrates molecular gastronomy, inspiring students to see chemistry in a delicious new light. The momentum builds as an award-winning filmmaker discusses storytelling and the creative process, leading to a surge in student-led film projects. Capping off the year, a successful entrepreneur reveals the secrets of building a business from the ground up, empowering students with the tools and confidence to chase their own ventures. This isn't just about hearing from experts; it's about seeing real-world possibilities and connecting classroom lessons to inspiring futures.

It's an honor to stand here tonight and share the incredible impact our Youngstown Campus had this year! We didn't just participate in Toys for Tots; we created a tidal wave of holiday cheer. We reached 441 families and distributed over 2,000 toys, bringing countless smiles to children's faces. Looking at the numbers, it's clear we made a significant difference for our older kids. The 10-17 age group received the most toys, followed by the 6-9, 0-3, and 4-5 age groups. These figures, while powerful, only tell part of the story. I know some of our records weren't perfect this year, but that's a challenge we're ready to tackle head-on.

In our community, a powerful partnership with the You Matter group is changing lives. They've been a beacon of support for our scholars, engaging them with weekly meetings centered on a single, vital message: "You matter." Through these consistent weekly sessions, or outings, the program fosters a safe and supportive environment where our young people can thrive. The meetings are designed to be more than just talks; they're a platform for growth. Scholars participate in enriching discussions and mentorship that tackle everything from academic and career readiness to crucial topics like mental health and violence prevention. The goal is to empower these students with the tools and confidence they need to succeed both in and out of the classroom.

This collaboration is building a community where every scholar feels valued and heard. By reinforcing the "You Matter" philosophy, we're not just helping students navigate challenges—we're inspiring them to become the next generation of confident, compassionate, and engaged leaders who will make a lasting positive impact on our community.

We serviced over 600 families at our annual Trunk or Treat last October. We aim to make that number even higher this year!



Sabrina Jones

B.S.

PREP ACADEMY, DIRECTOR

As the school year ends, I am grateful for the efforts of our scholars and staff. Every single metric demonstrates that this was a wildly successful and highly impactful year. Our scholars demonstrated tremendous growth in their End of Course Exams and their STARS reports. We have completely embraced workforce literacy in our school where we have industry recognized credentials embedded into the classroom. We have had over 100 industry recognized credentials earned this school year, and we look forward to growing our Career Technical Education program next year!

WORK ACADEMY, DIRECTOR

This year has been filled with growth, achievement, and memorable moments; all made possible because of your investment in our scholars, staff, and shared mission. Whether through generous donations, volunteer time, mentorship, or collaborative efforts, your contributions have had a lasting impact on the success of our students and the strength of our school culture.

Together, we've created an environment where scholars are challenged, supported, and inspired to reach their full potential. From academic milestones to extracurricular accomplishments, none of this would have been possible without your belief in our vision.

Thank you for helping us make the 2024-25 school year one to remember. I look forward to continuing this incredible journey with you in the coming years.

CANTON ACADEMY, DIRECTOR

2024-25 was a year of growth for the Canton campus. We were ecstatic to experience growth in the area of career tech options and choices. Our social emotional components were enjoyed by our students as they explored their individual life experiences as we prepare them to not only get in "the proverbial room", but to stay in the "room". 2025-26 promises to be an even more expanded year of growth as we meet the needs of our scholars. AUS endeavors to create change makers and citizens that positively affect their communities.



Dr. Corey A. Yoakam
Ed.D, M.Ed, M.S



Ms. Aderonia Foreback
M.Ed, M.S.



Samuel Muhammad
M.Ed. - Director

STAFF



AUSY GOVERNING BOARD

Lewis Macklin Board President
Lynette Frost Board Member
Demaine Kitchen Board Member
Maurice Williams Board Member
Eugene Norris II Board Member

NCUS MANAGEMENT TEAM

Dr. John Gregory CEO/President
Dr. Pam Gregory Chief Financial Officer
Perry Gregory Senior Vice President
Roger Fox Senior Vice President Finance
Kenny Hampton President African American Male
Wellness Agency
Kristen Muenster Vice President NCUS TEC
Kourtney Rix Vice President Administrative Services
Sabrina Jones Superintendent of the Academy for Urban
Scholars Columbus and Youngstown
Danielle Noble Director of Operations

WORK ACADEMY LEADERSHIP

Aderonia Foreback, M.Ed. M.S. - Director
Angela Falzetta, M.Ed. M.S. - Intervention Specialist
Vivian Morgan, B.S. - General Education Teacher
Brittany Rogers - Academic Advisor
Liz Lehman- Title 1
Mark Rheins - CTE Coordinator
Chris Whitfield - Dean of Culture
Lafay Walden II, B.A., M.A. - Engagement Coach
Daisha Primes - Engagement Coach
Reighn Lowery - Engagement Coach

PREP ACADEMY LEADERSHIP

Dr. Corey A. Yoakam Director
Lakela Williams- Dean of Culture
Brittany Rogers- Academic Advisor
Roberta Wilson- Intervention Specialist
Liz Lehman- Title 1
Monica Perkins- ELA
Mathew Griffith- Math
Zach Christian- STEM
Ashley Didomenico- Science
Greg Gustovich- Social Studies
Derrick Stedrick- Engagement Coach
Mika Pomales- Female Mentoring Specialist
Jonathan Jackson Male Mentoring Specialist
Nanyale Martin- Student Support Services

CANTON PREP ACADEMY LEADERSHIP

Samuel Muhammad M.Ed. - Director
Taylor Miller, MS-Intervention Specialist
John Crawford, MS- Dean of Students
Shamyr Johnson, BA- General Education Instructor
Chiquassia Degraffenried, BA- Engagement Coach

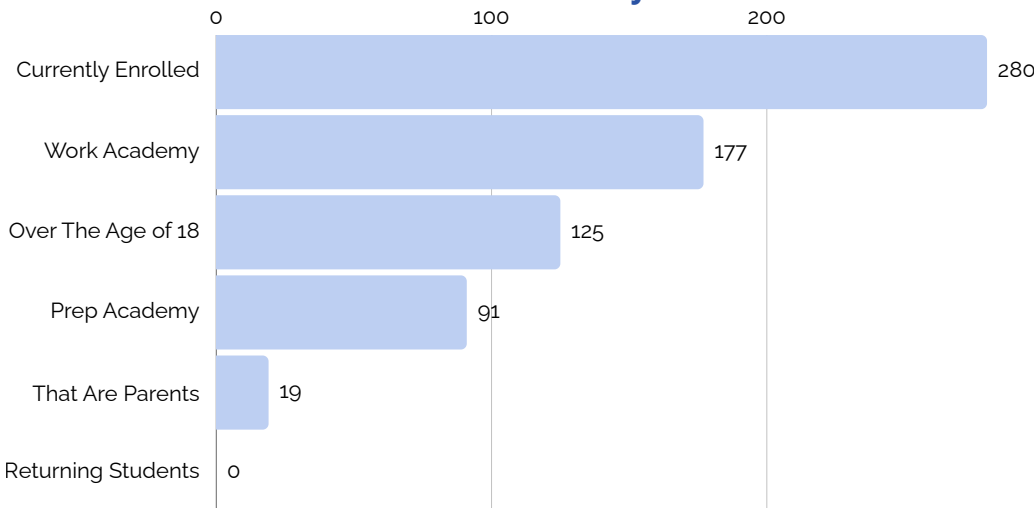
HOW WE MEASURE SUCCESS

AUSY and AUS Canton are committed to assisting our students to obtain jobs, get to and through college and the workforce. Guiding students to achieve their dreams is only possible if we monitor our progress. Data helps us understand our impact, what is working, and what needs to be enhanced. Our data team meets frequently to examine our program. The school's leadership team meets often to examine the data. We use seven essential questions to provide a measure for our progress, keep us focused as we have grown, and most importantly, help us keep the promise we make to your students, their families, and our community.

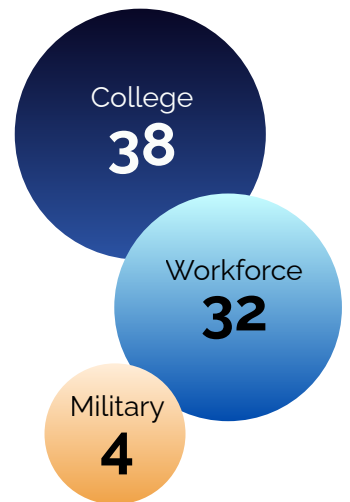


Essential Measurements

Student Body



Post-Secondary Total Graduates: 89



Education Increases

Reading **42%**
Math **31%**

Retention of Staff 2024-25

10

Industry Credentials Total: 199

For AUS Columbus (AUSC) and AUS Youngstown (AUSY)

| Hospitality & Tourism | Information Technology | Manufacturing | Healthcare |
|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------|------------|
| 139 | 3 | 3 | 9 |

Returning 2024-25

63

Staff Retention

5

Graduates to College

15

Graduates to Workforce

30

Diversity Demographics

For AUS Columbus (AUSC) and AUS Youngstown (AUSY)

African American

AUSC **72.2%**
AUSY

White

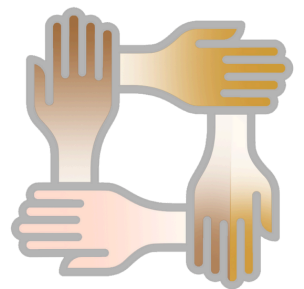
AUSC **9.6%**
AUSY

Hispanic

AUSC **9.4%**
AUSY

Multiracial

AUSC **8.8%**
AUSY



STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

BASKETBALL

The basketball program had a very impressive season during the 2024-2025 school year. Most impressively, the basketball team demonstrated a 3.11 GPA showing their dedication extends beyond the hardwood, and in the classroom

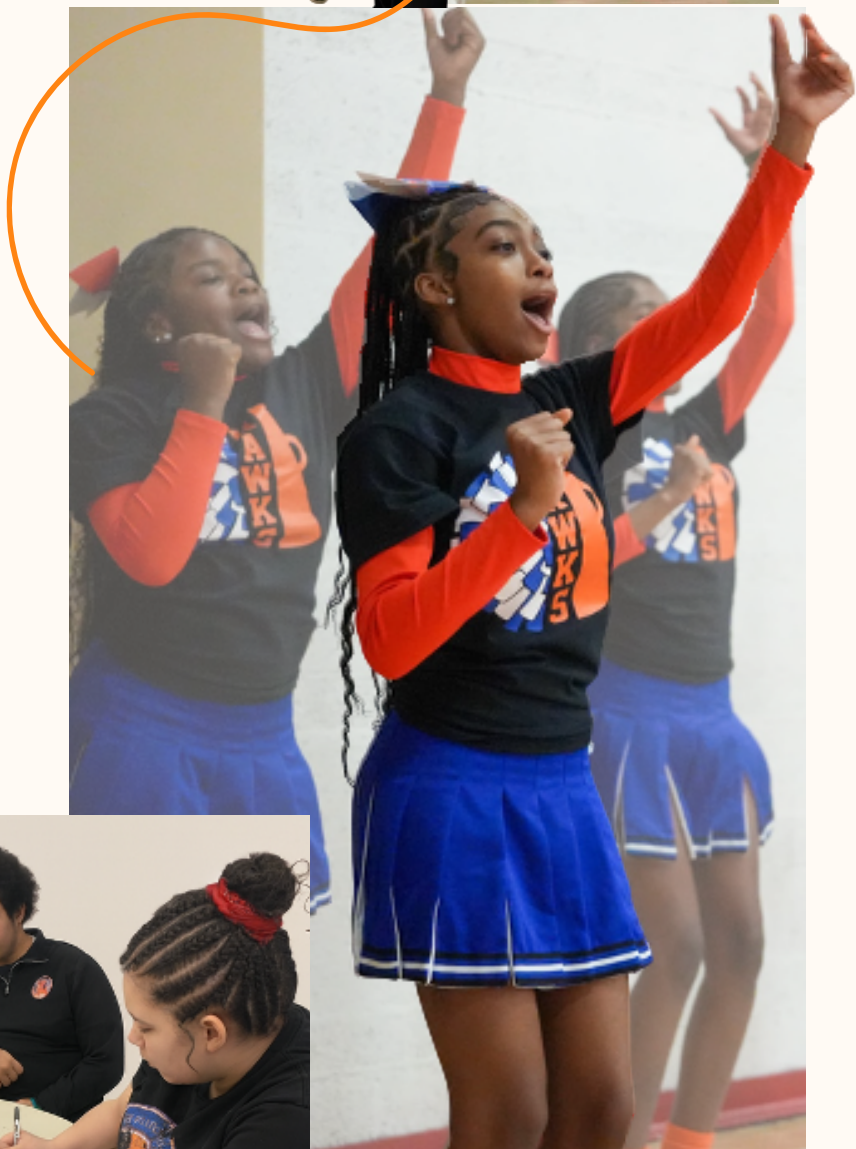


CROSS COUNTRY TRACK

Our Hawks flew on the track this past season as they battled the elements and their opponents. The track squad had a GPA of 3.02.

CHEER

When after every single game the cheer squad gets rave reviews from the opposing school, you know you have something special. Our Hawk Squad had a GPA of 3.06 this season proving they can lead in cheer and as a scholar!



ART CLUB

Hawk artists demonstrated their creativity after school by drawing and painting alongside our dedicated teaching staff. Each week the scholars focused on a project that allowed them to not only express themselves but explore the possibilities of art education and interaction.



STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

Scholars are able to receive hands-on experience and training through NCUS Tech while attending our work academy. Here you see a scholar learning to use the Robotic Arm located in our manufacturing classroom.

Positive scholar-teacher interactions are key to student success. As seen in this moment of collaboration, when educators take time to connect with students individually, they foster trust, boost engagement, and create a supportive learning environment. These daily connections help students feel seen, valued, and motivated to reach their full potential—both in and beyond the classroom.

Mentors offer students more than academic support—they serve as relatable role models who help guide personal and social development. These relationships are especially impactful for young women and men navigating school and life challenges. When students feel seen, heard, and supported by mentors who understand their experiences, they are more likely to thrive—in the classroom and beyond.



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

In our community, a powerful partnership with the You Matter group is changing lives. They've been a beacon of support for our scholars, engaging them with weekly meetings centered on a single, vital message: "You matter." Through these consistent weekly sessions, or outings, the program fosters a safe and supportive environment where our young people can thrive. The meetings are designed to be more than just talks; they're a platform for growth. Scholars participate in enriching discussions and mentorship that tackle everything from academic and career readiness to crucial topics like mental health and violence prevention. The goal is to empower these students with the tools and confidence they need to succeed both in and out of the classroom. This collaboration is building a community where every scholar feels valued and heard. By reinforcing the "You Matter" philosophy, we're not just helping students navigate challenges—we're inspiring them to become the next generation of confident, compassionate, and engaged leaders who will make a lasting positive impact on our community.



**"I am always the first one in the building because I can't wait to come to school!"
- Zuriel N.**

TOYS FOR TOTS

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STEM EXPLORATION

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**“The teachers
are the best!”**
- Jaionna G.

GRADUATION

The Academy for Urban Scholars High School class of 2025 celebrated a landmark achievement with graduations marked by excitement and a sense of a future full of possibilities. A graduating class of 120 scholars is a significant milestone, representing a community's collective effort in nurturing the next generation. This particular class was recognized for its resilience, having navigated unique challenges during their high school years.

The ceremony itself was a blend of emotional farewells and hopeful forward-looking speeches. Graduates, their families, and school faculty shared in the pride of academic accomplishments and personal growth. As the caps were tossed in the air, the moment symbolized not just the end of an era but the beginning of new journeys, whether they be in higher education, the workforce, or other endeavors. The celebration of a combined total between Youngstown and Canton with 120 graduates underscored the community's success in preparing its young people to become the future leaders, creators, and changemakers.



**“This school is so much fun!
I learn so much!” - Sam M.**





Buckeye Community Hope Foundation (BCHF) relies on multiple sources of data to evaluate the community school's performance including academic performance on national normed tests and academic scores published by the Department of Education & Workforce on the Local Report Card. In addition, BCHF conducts multiple onsite visits to the school throughout the year to ensure compliance with all Rule and Law, as well as the sponsorship contract. Performance results for the school will be available for the 2024-2025 school year on the BCHF website (www.bchf.org) after November 30.



"Life Works When You Work"

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