

INTEGRATENYC4ME



Background:

After reading NY State housed the most segregated schools in the nation, former ESL teacher Sarah Camiscoli and six emerging leaders from the South Bronx founded IntegrateNYC4Me- a student-led organization that builds community and civic leadership between students from segregated schools across all five boroughs to design solutions for integration.

The Work:

IntegrateNYC4Me is a student-led effort that facilitates dialogue and partnership between students attending racially and socioeconomically isolated schools across New York City (and, now in cities, across the US), equipping them with the information and tools they need to effect structural change. IntegrateNYC4me connects these young leaders with local, state, and national legislators, schools, advocacy networks, and community-based organizations to transform law, policy, practice, and dialogue in the integration movement. Co-founded by a teacher in the Bronx and six students from her high school advisory class, the growing IntegrateNYC4Me movement now spans the city. IntegrateNYC4Me students speak about integration holistically, advocating for policy changes through a framework developed by the student leaders through two years of dialogue and research. The "5Rs" framework for racial integration and equity has transformed into five student lead action committees:

- 1) Race and Enrollment
- 2) Relationships
- 3) Restorative Justice
- 4) Resource Allocation
- 5) Representation of Staff

Sarah (the co-founder) and the student leadership council work to share this framework with local, state, and federal legislatures with a commitment to build democratically elected committees of students within the city, state, and national departments of education so that every young person can co-create, inform, and sustain school integration. IntegrateNYC4me prioritizes modeling the integration it advocates for in working to invite, support, and elevate the leadership of African American, Latino, Arab, low-income, court-involved, immigrant, and homeless youth on it's centralized student leadership body. As such, the IntegrateNYC4me students have been developing a variety of transformative projects and efforts, and are actively engaging with decision makers at a variety of levels. Some examples include:

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Supplemental Materials

Transforming Opportunities for Civic Dialogue

2016 IntegrateNYC4me Youth Council on School Integration speaks to BRIC TV "How Can We Break the Pattern of Segregation?"

Link: <http://www.wnyc.org/story/class-divide-breaking-pattern-school-segregation/>

Expanding Civic Engagement

2017 Youth Council on School Integration organizes the first student-led demonstration for school integration in NYC since 1964 with City Council and local advocacy groups

Link: <https://demonstration4integration.splashthat.com/>

Deepening Dialogue on Race, Education, & Equity

2017 Youth Council on School Integration organizes a youth-led conference to discuss the complexity of school integration and to design new solutions for change

Link <https://areweintegrated.splashthat.com/>

Elevating Unheard Voices, Creating New Listening

2016 The founding students of IntegrateNYC4me were featured on Huffington Post to reflect on their Intra-District "Yellow Bus School Exchange" Project

Link: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/integratenyc4me-new-york-school-segregation_us_5759d5d5e4b00f97fba7c164

Cultivating a National Movement of Young Leaders

In August 2017 student leaders will train students from across the United States in their model of community building and civic engagement

Link: <https://integrateusvirtuallsummerinstit.splashthat.com/>