



Princeton  
Internships in  
Civic  
Service

## **PICS 2010 Internship Description**

**Organization Name:** The East Harlem School

**Internship Location:** New York, NY

**Required Dates:** Yes If yes, internship must include the period: The month of July

**Housing Will Be Available to Intern:** No If yes, housing will be free:  or housing will cost the student:

### **Expected working schedule for this internship:**

Start Time:8:00am End Time:4:00pm  
Lunch break: 1 hour (duration) (specific time, if applicable)

**Additional Information**, if necessary: During the month of July when the intern is teaching, the hours are from 8:00-3:00, but there is some prep-work and grading that is usually done at home.

## **Organization Description**

The East Harlem School at Exodus House is an independent middle school committed to maintaining an intimate community of learners. With 130 students and an average class size of 16, our small school philosophy allows students to receive individual attention and opportunity to participate and engage within the classroom and beyond. No one is overlooked at The East Harlem School, and faculty and administration closely follow the long-term growth of every child over their years at the school.

Exodus House has played an important role in East Harlem for nearly 40 years. Founded in 1963 by Reverend Dr. Lynn and Mrs. Leola Hageman as a rehabilitation center for drug addiction, Exodus House has been a consistently solid part of the East Harlem community since its inception. Due to a concern for the welfare of the community's many at-risk children, Exodus House was converted in 1984 to an after school and summer program. Following in the Hagemans' footsteps, in the fall of 1993, the couple's sons, Hans and [Ivan Hageman](#), opened an independent intermediate year-

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round school featuring an 11-month school year and an extended school day (7:45AM – 5:00PM) on the Exodus House site to better address the needs of these children and their families.

### **Mission**

The East Harlem School educates middle school students (grades 5-8) from East Harlem who wish to rise to their academic potential. The East Harlem School values teaching children of color who exhibit a desire to learn, and an eagerness to embrace new challenges. The East Harlem School recruits children from families with low income and helps these students develop academic excellence, moral rectitude, courtesy, and an unshakeable commitment to their future and the fate of their community.

### **Need**

East Harlem is a community beset by poverty and its attendant ills of early high school withdrawal, violent crime, teen pregnancy, and drug abuse. The middle school-aged children of East Harlem (District 4), who are largely of Black and Latino descent, consistently score in the lowest percentile on state math and reading tests. Additionally, an ineffective and underfunded special education program in the public school system fails to meet the needs of many of the community's middle-achieving students. These factors create a concentration of risks that threaten the survival, let alone the opportunity to succeed, of the children in this community.

### **Solution**

The School serves students in grades 5–8 by addressing the needs of the whole child by promoting intellectual, moral, aesthetic, and kinesthetic development. Through a rigorous curriculum that stresses interdisciplinary learning, skill acquisition, focused exploration, and cooperative learning, The East Harlem School instills confidence, skill, discipline, and moral accountability in its students. With the completion of an East Harlem School education, students will be able to succeed in a variety of settings, while retaining the traditions and strengths of their own community.

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## **Internship Description**

The East Harlem School at Exodus House is seeking a summer intern to support the regular school program at the end of the school year and to teach during our five-week summer academic program. Teaching in the summer program at EHS consists of planning and implementing two sections of either math or humanities for students in grades 5-8. Classes are less than 10 students, making the teaching experience a unique one. The intern also develops elective classes according to his or her interests and helps run our summer sports program by participating in afternoon athletic programming. The teaching commitment spans from June 28 to August 30, and additional orientation sessions in June are mandatory. Interns should expect to spend some time in the evenings working on grading and lesson planning. In addition, the intern is expected to work in the school to support our regular school year program in June and August to complete the full ten-week internship program.

By working with the East Harlem School, the intern will form meaningful relationships with students from East Harlem as well as with other summer interns, who come from top colleges around the country. The intern will gain experience as a classroom teacher in a setting which is conducive to first-time teaching. Through an intensive orientation, the intern will learn how to lesson plan and how to create appropriate evaluations. They will also have the chance to chaperone field trips each Friday to locations throughout New York.

## **Intern Qualifications**

Candidates should have completed at least one year of college and have experience working with youth, especially in classroom settings. Candidates should also have a willingness to share their own interests with students. Interested candidates should demonstrate professionalism as well as an interest in urban education and a commitment to teaching a diverse group of learners. An ability to be flexible and to keep a positive attitude is also essential to having a successful experience at The East Harlem School.

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