

*Inspiring each other to discover our full selves and use our wisdom for good.*

## Who We Are

Founded in 1934, Rocky Hill Country Day School is an independent, coeducational, college preparatory day school with students in nursery through grade 12. Rocky Hill's expansive waterfront campus is located between Goddard State Park and Narragansett Bay, and the park, the campus, and the Bay are a part of our students' living classroom.

Graduating Class:

**35**

Average Class Size:

**12**

Upper School students:

**122**

N-12 students:

**267**

## Points of Pride

The **Upper School experience** at RHCD is rooted in:

- **Harkness:** At the heart of a RHCD education is communication and the open exploration of ideas and beliefs. Convening around the Harkness™ table allows every student a front row seat to develop appropriate listening skills, self-advocacy, face-to-face dialogue, and an appreciation for civil discourse.
- **Project-Based Learning:** PBL is an approach to education that centralizes student inquiry while addressing a real world problem with authentic work to address the project and is often conducted in collaboration with experts in the field of study.
- **Intensives:** The Upper School uses an intensive model to focus on fewer courses at any given time for deeper exploration of subject matter and skills. Students earn 5-6 credits per year while focusing on 2-3 courses at a time in a block schedule. With fewer courses during an academic term, these courses—that we call "intensives"—often meet for 90-105 minutes at a time.
- **Electives:** Simulating a college academic environment, extensive single-semester electives are offered across all disciplines beginning in Grade 10.
- **Seminar:** is a required for-credit course, facilitated by experts in the field, and dedicated to:
  - Social Emotional Learning
  - Equity and Belonging
  - Health and Wellness
  - 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Seminar has an additional focus on first-year transition and media literacy.

## The Mariner Way

- Belief in the value of the arts with a two-credit graduation requirement.
- Belief in the value of life lessons through team sports with a two-sport requirement per year for all students.
- Mindfulness practice.
- Four-season engagement with our waterfront campus on the Potowomut peninsula, where classes are just as likely to be outside under a tree, involve walks through Goddard State Park, and kayaking on the Greenwich River.

**Hack for Global Good:** a time-bound, real-world learning experience designed by RHCD students, and open to all high school students across Rhode Island and around the world. Now in its 4<sup>th</sup> year, the goal of this social good hackathon is to expand the group's collective imagination, network, access, and expertise in order to find new solutions to critical global problems. Teams collaborate alongside industry experts to design solutions that address a United Nations Sustainable Development Goal. The topic theme in 2022 was Education. In 2023, the theme is Health.

# Curriculum and Pedagogy

Rocky Hill Country Day's teaching and learning centers on deep inquiry to prepare students to tackle real world problems through a combination of Project-Based Learning (PBL), Harkness methodology, and research and student empowerment through curriculum, fostering opportunities for failure, adjustment and student growth. The RHCD curriculum infuses student-driven Harkness discussion techniques to learn and practice important skills as communicators, developing the value of listening and understanding different perspectives. Through inquiry in discussion, projects, research, labs and writing, students engage with their learning deeply and build readiness for both college and careers.

RHCD offers a curriculum which is flexible by design, allowing students to forge important connections between distinct fields of study. Our curriculum includes a wide selection of elective courses for students to explore interests, including a number of Advanced college-level courses, which have been designed to challenge students who are at the top of their field and replaced AP course offerings (discontinued after the 2020-2021 school year). Students graduating from RHCD are prepared not only for rigorous college courses, but also for internships, entrepreneurial work, and to positively impact the world around them.



Grading Scale (D- to Pass):

**A-F**

Credits to Graduate:

**22**

GPA is Reported on an Unweighted

**4.0 Scale**

Rocky Hill

**Does Not Rank**

## Academic Highlights

### Modern And Classical Languages

- Participation in national exams in French and Spanish, and National Honor Societies.
- Competition in regional Certamen, a Latin culture and language trivia contest.
- Student have the opportunity to sit for the DELF Junior (Diplôme d'Études en Langue Française), an internationally recognized diploma awarded by the French Ministry of Education.
- In upper-level language courses, students engage with people from the community outside of school where they can use the target language in a real world context.

### Science

- Students in Marine Biology and Environmental Science courses engage in real-world research and problem solving by collecting and analyzing data using ecological research skills to measure population density and biodiversity (eastern mudsnails, *Spartina alterniflora*, and ribbed mussels).
- In partnership with the University of Rhode Island, students in Environmental Science monitor invasive species (*Phragmites*) and protect threatened species (the diamondback terrapin).
- The Robotics Team competes in the national FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) TechChallenge.

### Fine And Performing Arts

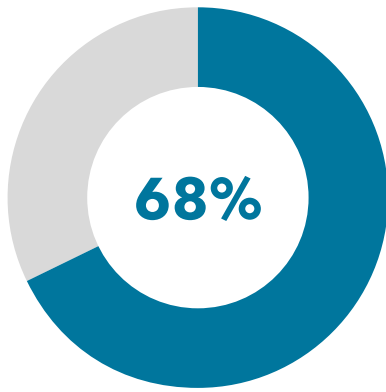
- Students were awarded two Gold Keys and six Silver Keys in the Rhode Island Scholastic Art Competition.
- Our fine arts teachers are professional artists who exhibit and sell their work nationally.

### Independent Study

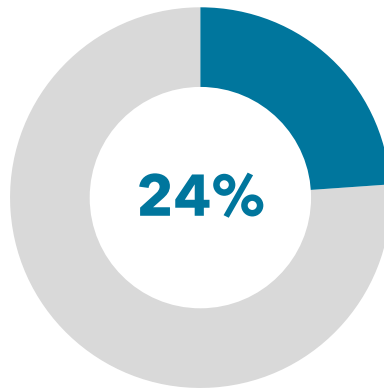
Students in recent years have completed year-long projects for academic credit in a variety of subjects. Some have been continuations of academic work once they've exhausted our curriculum in that discipline, some have been overjoyed to pursue a passion project, and others have looked for ways to examine possible career paths. Some recent independent studies include: Building Community During COVID-19, Chinese Politics, Fashion Design, Music Theory, Girls Leadership Collaborative, Interactions with the State: Patterns in Jewish History, Learning Preferences among Middle School Students, Linear Algebra, Modern Physics, and Multivariable Calculus.

### Humanities

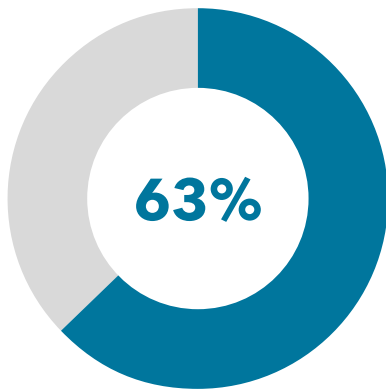
- The Ethics and Adv. Genetic Literacy classes collaborated in writing a multinational accord, considering the issues that relate to gene editing technology's impacts on social issues, healthcare equity, national and international regulation, agriculture and environment, and the marketplace. They then debated and sought consensus on a proposal for shared guidelines. This cross-disciplinary project engages student competencies of being an ethical citizen, globally-minded communicator, and critical thinker.
- In English 10, the Sharing Voices Project focuses on personal and family identity, empowering students' authentic voices and challenging them to gain a deeper appreciation of the immigrant and refugee experience. While reading a diverse selection of short prose, memoirs, essays, and poetry, students conduct personal interviews to learn about individuals who undertook the journey to come to the United States, and in reflecting on their selfhood, the students discover what it means to negotiate one's identity and claim a new sense of place.



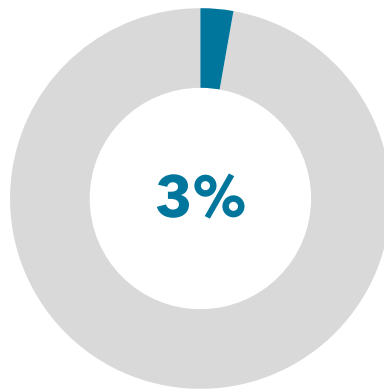
68%  
of students receive financial assistance



24%  
Domestic Students of Color



63%  
US Faculty with Advanced Degrees



3%  
International (F-1 visa holders)

## College-Level Courses

### MATH

- Adv. Calculus I
- Adv. Calculus II
- Adv. Statistics

### HUMANITIES

- Adv. Humanities 11
- Adv. Humanities 12
- Adv. Study of Polarized Politics

### SCIENCE

- Adv. Genetic Literacy in the 21st Century
- Adv. Topics in Chemistry: Atoms all Around Us
- Adv. Physics: Electricity & Magnetism
- Adv. Human Physiology

### LANGUAGES

- Adv. French
- Adv. Spanish

### ART

- Adv. Portfolio



**30**

Cities and Towns Our Students Call Home



**18**

Student-Run Clubs



**17**

Athletic Teams

The complete list of required and elective courses can be found here: [shorturl.at/fBDIU](http://shorturl.at/fBDIU)

## Accreditation and Memberships

### AFFILIATIONS

- New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Accredited
- National Association of Independent Schools, Member
- Association of Independent Schools in New England, Member
- National Association for College Admission Counseling, Member
- New England Association for College Admission Counseling, Member
- Association of College Counselors at Independent Schools, Member

Rocky Hill Country Day School, as a member of the National Association of College Admission Counseling, complies with all best practices articulated in NACAC's *Guide to Ethical Practice in College Admission*.

# College and University Acceptances & Matriculations 2018-2022

Matriculations are shown in bold

Albright College  
Alfred University  
**Allegheny College**  
**American University**  
**Amherst College**  
**Arizona State University**  
Assumption College  
**Babson College**  
Bard College  
Barry University  
Belmont University  
**Bentley University**  
**Berklee College of Music**  
Binghamton University  
Birmingham Southern College  
**Boston College**  
**Boston University**  
**Brandeis University**  
Bridgewater State University  
**Brown University**  
**Brown University/RISD Joint Program**  
**Bryant University**  
**Bryn Mawr College**  
Bucknell University  
Canisius College  
Cazenovia College  
**CCRI**  
Chapman University  
**Clark University**  
Clarkson University  
Clemson University  
Coastal Carolina Univ  
**College of Charleston**  
College of the Atlantic  
College of the Holy Cross  
College of William & Mary  
Colorado State Univ  
**Columbia College Chicago**  
**Connecticut College**  
**Cornell University**  
Curry College  
**Dean College**  
Denison University  
Depaul University  
Depauw University  
**Drew University**  
**Drexel University**  
**Earlham College**  
Eckerd College  
**Elon University**  
Emerson College  
Emmanuel College (MA)  
Endicott College  
**ESCP Business School, France**  
**Fairfield University**  
Fisher College  
Flagler College-St Augustine  
Florida Atlantic University  
**Florida Gulf Coast University**  
**Florida Polytechnic Univ**  
**Florida Southern College**  
Florida State University  
Fordham University  
**Franklin & Marshall College**  
Franklin Pierce University  
George Mason University  
**Georgia Institute of Technology**  
Gettysburg College  
**Goucher College**  
Green Mountain College  
Hamilton College  
Hobart and William Smith Colleges  
Hofstra University  
Ithaca College  
Jacksonville University

Johnson & Wales University-North Miami  
**Johnson & Wales University-Providence**  
**Keene State College**  
Kenyon College  
Lafayette College  
**Lake Forest College**  
Lasell College  
Lesley University  
Lewis & Clark College  
**Louisiana State University**  
Loyola Marymount University  
Lynn University  
Macalester College  
Manhattan College  
Marist College  
Marymount Manhattan College  
**Mass Maritime Academy**  
**Massachusetts College of Art and Design**  
**MCPHS**  
**Merrimack College**  
Miami University (Ohio)  
Michigan State University  
**Middlebury College**  
Mitchell College  
Montclair State University  
Mount Holyoke College  
New England College  
**New York University**  
Nichols College  
Northeastern University  
Northern Vermont University--Johnson  
Northwestern University  
Norwich University  
Nova Southeastern University  
**Oberlin College**  
Ohio State University  
Pace University  
**Pennsylvania State University**  
**Pepperdine University**  
**Pitzer College**  
Plymouth State University  
Pratt Institute  
**Providence College**  
Purchase College (SUNY)  
Purdue University  
Quinnipiac University  
Reed College  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
**Rhode Island College**  
**Rhode Island School of Design**  
**Ringling College of Art and Design**  
**Rivier University**  
**Rochester Inst of Technology**  
**Roger Williams University**  
**Rollins College**  
Rutgers University  
Ryerson University (Canada)  
Saint Anselm College  
Saint Leo University  
Saint Louis University  
Salve Regina University  
Sarah Lawrence College  
Savannah College of Art and Design  
**School of the Art Institute of Chicago**  
**School of Visual Arts**  
Seton Hall University  
Siena College  
Simmons College  
**Skidmore College**  
Smith College  
**Southern Methodist University**  
Spelman College  
**St. John's College (MD)**  
**Stanford University**  
**Stonehill College**

Stony Brook University (SUNY)  
**Suffolk University**  
SUNY Albany  
SUNY Maritime College  
SUNY-Geneseo  
SUNY-Oneonta  
**SUNY-Oswego**  
Susquehanna University  
**Syracuse University**  
**Temple University**  
**The American University of Paris**  
**The George Washington University**  
**The New School**  
**The Ohio State University**  
The University of Arizona  
The University of Scranton  
**The University of Tampa**  
**Trinity College**  
**Tufts University**  
UC Davis  
UC Irvine  
**UC San Diego**  
**UC Santa Barbara**  
Union College  
Unity College  
**University of Alabama**  
**University of Buffalo (SUNY)**  
University of Central Florida  
University of Colorado Boulder  
University of Connecticut  
University of Denver  
University of Hartford  
University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign  
University of Maine at Farmington  
University of Maine-Orono  
University of Maryland-Baltimore County  
University of Massachusetts-Amherst  
University of Miami  
**University of Montana**  
University of New Hampshire  
University of New Haven  
University of North Carolina at Charlotte  
University of Ottawa (Canada)  
University of Pittsburgh  
University of Portland  
University of Puget Sound  
**University of Rhode Island**  
**University of Rochester**  
**University of San Diego**  
University of South Carolina  
University of South Florida  
**University of Southern California**  
University of Tampa  
University of the Pacific  
**University of Toronto (Canada)**  
University of Vermont  
**University of Virginia**  
University of Washington  
University of Waterloo (Canada)  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Ursinus College  
**Vassar College**  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
Washington & Jefferson College  
**Washington University in St. Louis**  
Wellesley College  
**Wentworth Institute of Technology**  
Western Colorado University  
Western New England University  
**Wheaton College (MA)**  
**Willamette University**  
Wofford College  
**Worcester Polytechnic Institute**  
Xavier University  
York University (Canada)