



Dear (MS)2 Alumni,

It was great to meet some of you who attended the (MS)2 All Class Reunion in Atlanta, GA earlier this month. Thank you for continuing to support our scholars and each other!

In summer 2023 (MS)2 welcomed 108 students, including 38 new incoming first-year scholars, to the campus of Phillips Academy in Andover, MA. Over the course of the 5-week residential program, (MS)2 scholars engaged in rigorous coursework, learned to live independently in an intentionally diverse learning community, made new friends, and explored new New England.

Here are a few of the summer highlights:

- **Orientation** - This summer began with a series of All School Meetings which focused on building an inclusive and supportive community, tours of the campus and athletic facilities, and dorm activities, for all 500+ students participating in one of the Andover Summer programs.
- **(MS)2 Community Building** - (MS)2 faculty and students engaged in team building activities during orientation and throughout the program to

foster a sense of belonging and connection.

- **Classes** - Following orientation, (MS)2 scholars settled into their regular class schedule. All scholars were enrolled in math and science. First and second year scholars took English, while third-year scholars participated in a college counseling course. All scholars attended mandatory study halls five nights a week to complete homework or get extra help from teaching assistants.
- **Guest Speakers** - Each Wednesday scholars gathered with high school students from the Andover Summer Session to hear from guest speakers Deo Mwano', Meredith Chin, Dr. Gina Coleman, and 1995 (MS)2 alum Jesus Beltran.
- **Connection Groups** - Following these community meetings, scholars engaged in facilitated reflection, discussion, and exploration of topics related to identity, background, life experience, and how these play into one's experience here on campus.
- **College Visits** – On Wednesdays third-year (MS)2 scholars visited local colleges and universities, including the University of Massachusetts at Lowell, Northeastern University, Trinity College, Yale, Brown, and Boston College.
- **Weekend Fun** – Andover Summer sponsored off-campus activities that (MS)2 students participated in with no out-of-pocket expense, including Canobie Lake Amusement Park, whale watching, Water Country Water Park, Richardson Ice Cream and Mini-golf, Hampton Beach, Merrimack outlets, the Loop, Salem, MA and Boston.

- **Cultural Sharing** – A highlight of the summer was the annual student-led showcase of dance, song, and skits. [Click here to watch a recording of the performance.](#)
- **(MS)2 Class of 2023 Graduation** - Congratulations to the 35 third-year scholars who celebrated their program completion with their friends and family. [Click here to watch a recording of the ceremony.](#)

It is hard to believe but next month we will begin recruiting the incoming cohort of first-year scholars for summer 2024. **The online application will open on October 1 and is due on January 15.** Prospective 9th grade applicants will be able to access the online application at [www.andover.edu/ms2](http://www.andover.edu/ms2). If you'd like to host an information session this fall at your high school alma mater or local high school, please contact us at [ms2@andover.edu](mailto:ms2@andover.edu).

In the meantime, we'd love to hear from you. Please click here to [Connect with \(MS\)2](#) and let us know how!

Cheers,  
Eliot B. Sykes, PhD, LICSW (he/him)  
Director of (MS)2



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