





Our 3-Pronged Approach

1. School

The AJLP provides an enriched classroom environment filled with stimulating materials. We implement a strong curriculum which focuses on literacy, numeracy, and communication—the tools necessary for success in kindergarten and beyond. We emphasize essential character skills such as self-esteem, perseverance, and grit, and we cultivate both social-emotional and physical development.

2. Home

The AJLP establishes a strong, consistent partnership with our families to reinforce parenting skills and extend learning at home. We require a signed contract that guarantees parents and teachers work together to enhance the educational experience. We arrange monthly parent workshops on topics such as reading, nutrition, and child development, and we have partnered with the Child First program of Bridgeport Hospital to provide families with additional professional resources.

3. Future

The AJLP seeks to increase parent understanding of the multiple kindergarten options that are available for their child, including public, private, magnet and charter schools. To date, our graduates have attended their local public school; won the lottery providing entrance to a charter or magnet; moved out of Bridgeport for other options; and attended The Unquowa School, a private, independent day school just over the line in Fairfield. We actively collaborate with Unquowa to help facilitate scholarships, and currently 4 of our graduates are in attendance there.



Alumna Portrait: Nerushka '16

The students at the Adam J. Lewis Preschool all have wonderful stories to tell. We have chosen just one to highlight below:

Nerushka's mother, Eliza, was just sixteen years old when her daughter was born. As a young single mother, Eliza began working with Bridgeport's Child First social services agency, who referred her to the Adam J. Lewis Preschool. In the fall of 2014, Nerushka entered the AJLP not speaking a word of English. Although she was shy and soft-spoken, her progress that first year was staggering, and by her second year, she was one of the strongest students in the class.

Throughout Nerushka's two years with the AJLP, Eliza made her daughter's education a priority. Eliza participated in every parent workshop, where she received the tools and encouragement she needed to support her daughter's learning. Recognizing Nerushka's talents and potential, as well as Eliza's determination and strong work ethic, the Preschool felt the family would be a wonderful match for The Unquowa School. Through Patty and Julie's efforts, Nerushka received a full scholarship and entered Unquowa's kindergarten class this fall.

After a smooth transition, Nerushka has flourished at The Unquowa School. According to her teacher, she is a top student and an enthusiastic learner, with the best handwriting in her class and a love for her new science and Mandarin courses. Eliza attributes her daughter's kindergarten success to the strong foundation she received at the AJLP, and regularly recommends the program to friends with young children.



Faculty Spotlight: Saba Pina

My name is Saba and I am a teacher at the Adam J. Lewis Preschool and a mother of four wonderful daughters. I love working with children, and 3-5 is a magical age. The children learn at exponential rates and are excited and fascinated by everything around them. Professionally, I have a master's degree in Education with a focus in Counseling Psychology.

There is so much about the Preschool that inspires me: the mission and teaching philosophy; the commitment to making a difference; the nurturing, child-centered space; the culture of collaboration. I love the multidimensional nature of the work, which allows me to tap into my counseling skill-set, pursue my passion for giving back, be creative—preschoolers are wonderfully forgiving—and be part of a community. It is a joy to share the classroom with my coworkers, who are endlessly supportive and talented in so many different ways.

I recognize how unique the Adam J. Lewis Preschool is. Our program allows the children to discover their own learning, while also providing a clear framework to support their academic growth. We have the support and value system in this school to honor each child as an individual—and that sets us apart. It is powerful to be a member of this community.

This work is immensely challenging, but deeply rewarding, and I love every moment.



AJLP By The Numbers

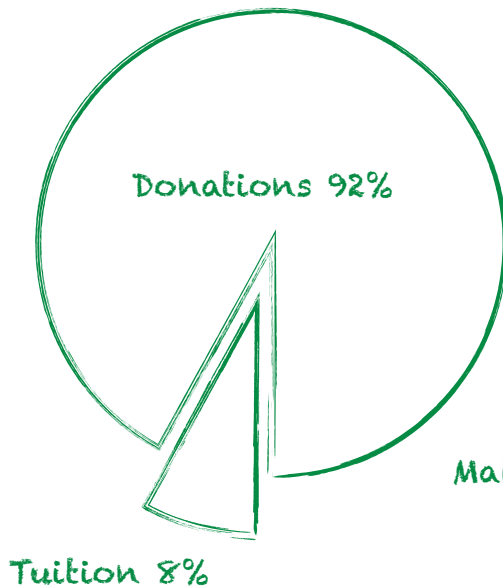
Enrollment:

2013:	12 students	0 waitlist
2014:	13 students	0 waitlist
2015:	16 students	2 waitlist
2016:	18 students	7 waitlist

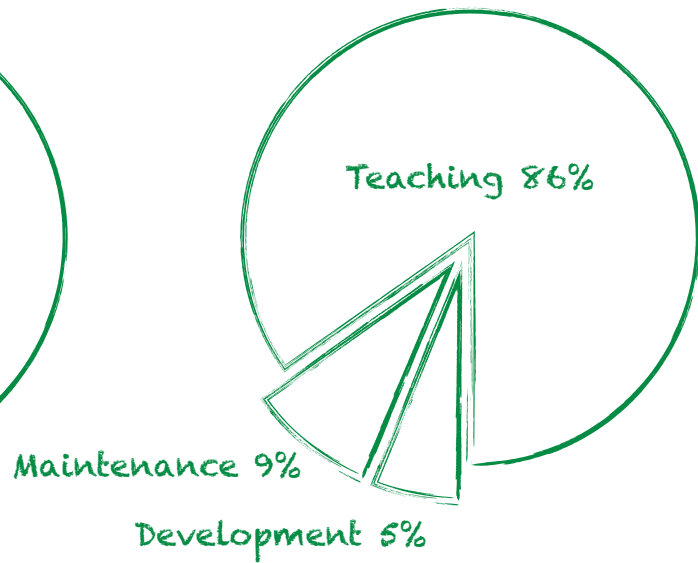
50% girls and 50% boys

2016 student/teacher ratio 4:1

Sources of funds:



Uses of funds:





Ways To Get Involved

1. Give Generously

To support our students and the mission of the Preschool, please make your check payable to "The Adam J. Lewis Preschool" and use the enclosed donation envelope, or send directly to The Adam J. Lewis Preschool, 246 Lenox Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06605. You may also make your gift online at www.adamjlewispreschool.org.

Many companies will match contributions made by an employee (and those of a spouse). Please inquire whether your employer has such a program and, if so, obtain the proper forms and forward to the Preschool. The donor receives credit for both the original gift and the amount of the match.

2. Come to Our Benefit

In spring 2017, join fellow supporters of the AJLP at "Hope Rising," our annual fundraising event. This fun-filled evening of philanthropy raises critical funds for the Preschool. Date and location are to be determined.

3. Read Aloud

On Friday afternoons throughout the year, we are joined by special guest readers for story time. Our students are very excited to welcome new friends and listen to the stories they share. Please let us know if you are interested in becoming a Respected Reader.

4. Take a School Tour

We welcome the opportunity to show you our program in action. To arrange a guided tour of the Preschool, please contact Julie Mombello at ajlpreschool@gmail.com or 203-333-2211.

5. Participate in Our Community Fun Walk

Please save the date for our second annual Fun Walk on June 3, 2017. Walk together with our students, families, and teachers to raise awareness of the importance of early childhood education. Held at beautiful St. Mary's by-the-Sea, and open to all in the community.

We would like to thank the donors listed on the following pages, whose generous gifts in fiscal year 2016 are supporting our students and the mission of the Adam J. Lewis Preschool.

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