

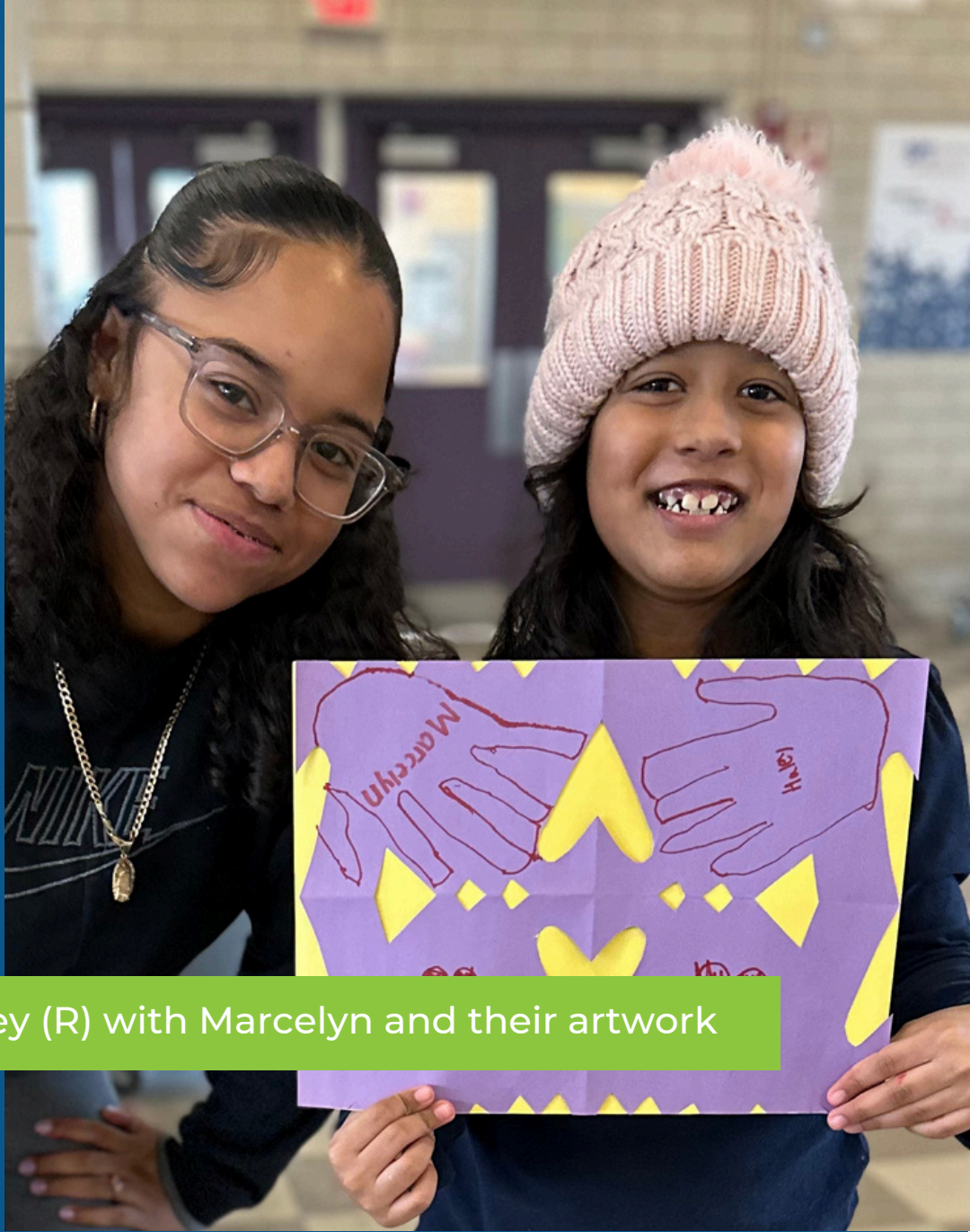


In April, Souleymane (grade 10, left) and Salimatou (grade 6) had an incredible experience at a Celtics open practice at the Auerbach Center

STARTING TUTORING STRONG

When **Haley (grade 3)** started EVkids Tutoring with her mentor **Marcelyn (MCPHS '27)** at Harbor Point, she was feeling a bit unsure about school: she wasn't a strong reader, and was having trouble making friends. However, Marcelyn quickly became both a friend and role model to Haley, the pair bonding over their shared background of being Dominican. They also bonded over art during free time at Tutoring, tracing their hands together to make a cute art poster!

"Watching her grow more confident in herself with her reading and math skills has been incredibly rewarding," says Marcelyn. "Our sessions are filled with laughter and learning, and it's amazing to see how much progress she's made, both academically and personally."



Haley (R) with Marcelyn and their artwork

WELCOME ANTHONY TO THE EVKIDS BOARD!

Born and raised in Harbor Point, Dorchester, Anthony began as a student in EVkids Tutoring in 2003. He was also an EVkids camper, and became a Senior Camp Counselor while a college student at UMass Boston. Anthony was the pilot student for EVkids College Success, which pairs EVkids graduates with mentors who provide continued guidance and support while they earn their degrees.

Anthony studied Sociology & Communications as an undergraduate, then earned his Master's Degree in School Counseling, also at UMass Boston, in 2021. He now helps youth discover their potential as a School Counselor at the John D. O'Bryant School of Math and Science, supporting students in grades 7, 8, and 9.

Anthony joins two other EVkids alums, **Tonya Pickett ('99)** and **Kenaya Washington ('99)**, on the Board, where they add a crucial perspective to the governing body of EVkids.



Anthony receives the Alumni Achievement Award and a hug from Program Director Lauren Ravello at the 2024 Expanding Horizons Gala

"[Anthony's] progression from a shy, soft-spoken camper to a confident and determined adult leader is a powerful example of how Camp can shape a person's character."

– **Lauren Ravello**, EVkids Program Director



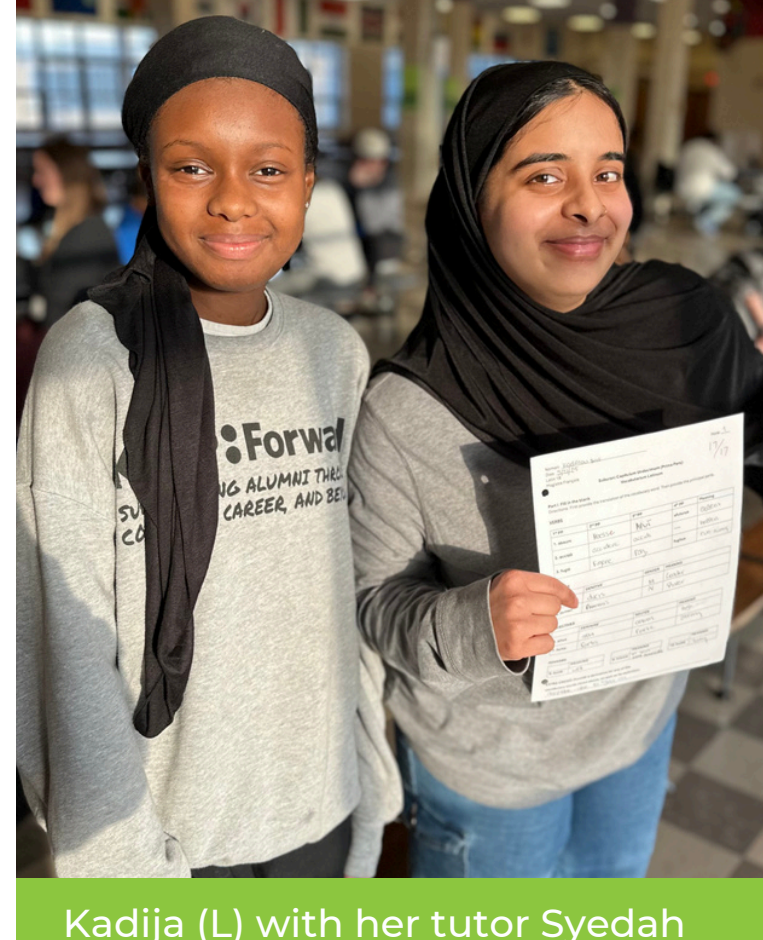
Jared (left) and Arthur were recognized with the "Fit & Focused" Award at the end of the Spring semester at the Harbor Point Tutoring site, Dorchester

SUPPORTING EMERGING LEADERSHIP

Jared (grade 12) has only been in Tutoring with EVkids for one year, but he jumped in with enthusiasm, even joining the **EVkids Youth Council**, where he had the privilege of introducing keynote speaker George "Chip" Greenidge, Jr. – Founding Executive Director of Greatest MINDS – at our yearly Community Celebration.

Jared has already been an asset to the Youth Council, which he intends to continue with in the fall while he begins his studies at Bridgewater State University, with the goal of working toward a medical degree.

Over a busy senior year filled with activities and college applications, Jared was always able to turn to his mentor **Arthur (BC '28)**, sharing, "We're very similar individuals so it's easy to get along." Arthur especially enjoyed the less formal time that he and Jared spent commuting together after Tutoring, sharing: "Since we both take the T after class, it gives us 20 minutes to chat about whatever we want. Helping to reassure him about school and college through these talks has been memorable and enjoyable for me."



Kadija (L) with her tutor Syedah

BUILDING SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE

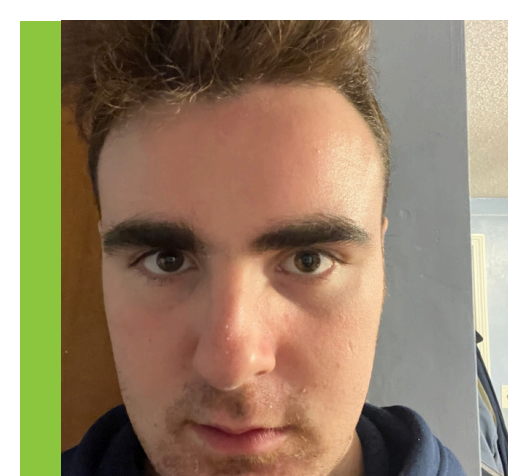
Kadija (grade 9) made great progress over four years working with her tutor **Zoe (BC '24)**. The Tutoring team was worried that the transition after Zoe's graduation would be tough, but new mentor **Syedah (MCPHS '27)** was proactive in getting to know Kadija this year, which allowed them to quickly form a close bond. Kadija shared, "We can hold a conversation, talk about our days, and enjoy our time together."

Syedah noticed that Kadija puts a lot of pressure on herself, and that her confidence didn't measure up to her skill level. She set a goal of building Kadija up by emphasizing her strengths and celebrating her wins. This Spring, Kadija surprised herself by successfully writing a five-paragraph essay, and Syedah was thrilled to see the improvement in her confidence!



Sophia (grade 6, left) and Margaret (BC '25) share a surprising moment at Tutoring at Mother Caroline Academy, Dorchester

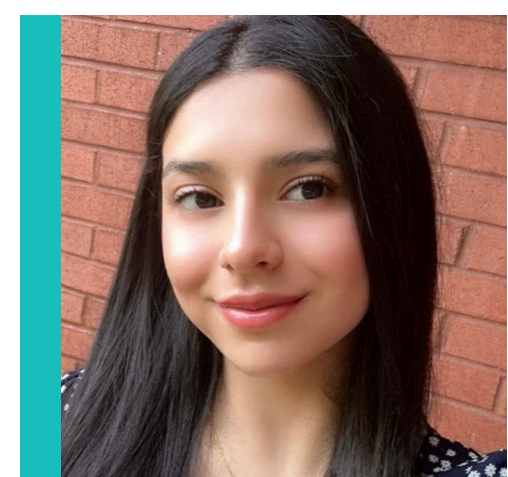
EVKIDS HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS



BRAD SIMONINI

Ruth Batson Academy

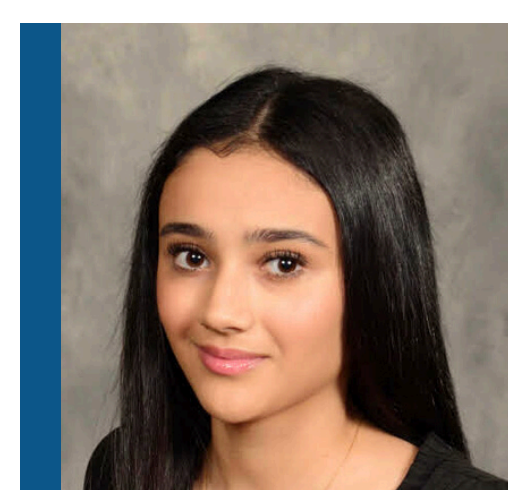
Current Tutor: Carly Prudente (BC '25)
Involved in EVkids: 2 years
Future plans: Major in Production & Design Theater at Dean College



DINYA BALATA

Ruth Batson Academy

Current Tutor: Maddie Wagner (BC '25)
Involved in EVkids: 6 years
Future plans: Majoring in Civic Engineering at Northeastern



HELEEN BALATA

Ruth Batson Academy

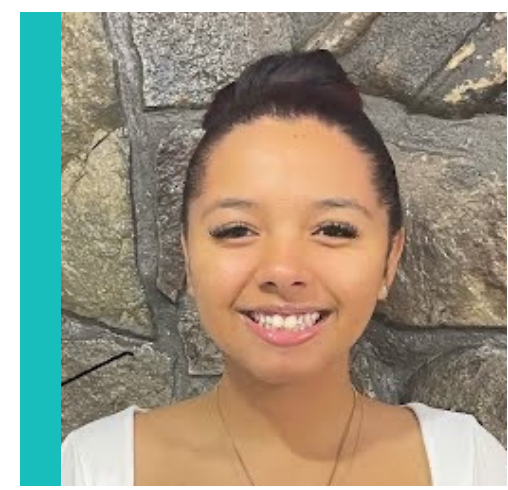
Current Tutor: Silvia Bastek (NEU '27)
Involved in EVkids: 6 years
Future plans: Majoring in Civic Engineering at Northeastern



JARED BILLINGSLEA

Boston College High School

Current Tutor: Arthur Chesshir (BC '28)
Involved in EVkids: 1 year
Future plans: Majoring in Medicine at Bridgewater State University

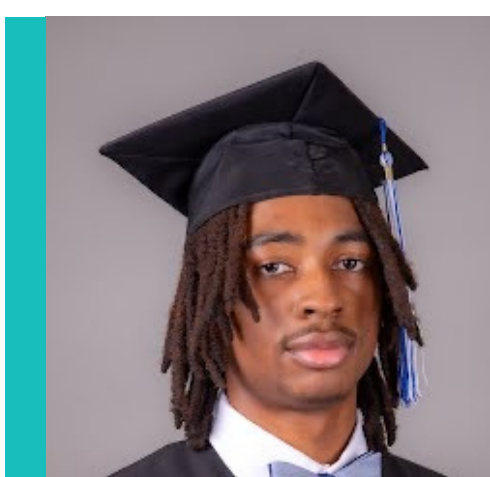


LAISHA BAEZ

Stoughton High School

Current Tutor: Taylor Saks (BC '25)
Involved in EVkids: 5 years
Future plans: Majoring in Criminal Justice, Massasoit Community College

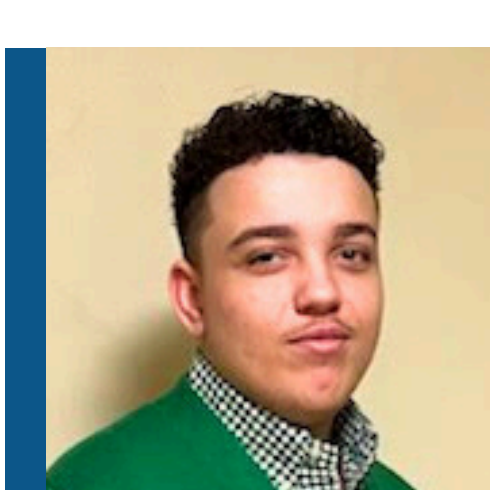
CELEBRATING THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2025!



ELIJAH ROLAND

Neighborhood House Charter

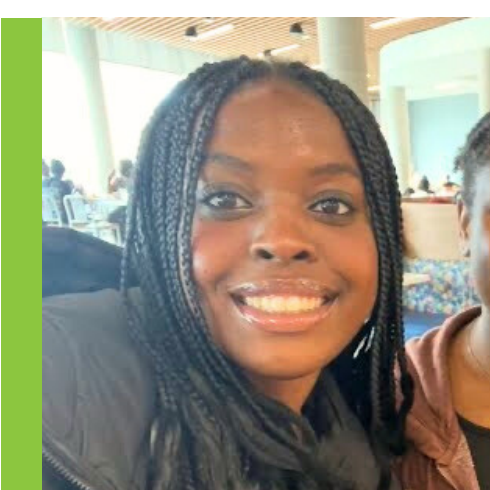
Current Tutor: Jeremy Marino (NEU '27)
Involved in EVkids: 4 years
Future plans: Majoring in Mechanical Engineering at UMass Lowell



JACOB WIGGINS

John D. O'Bryant School

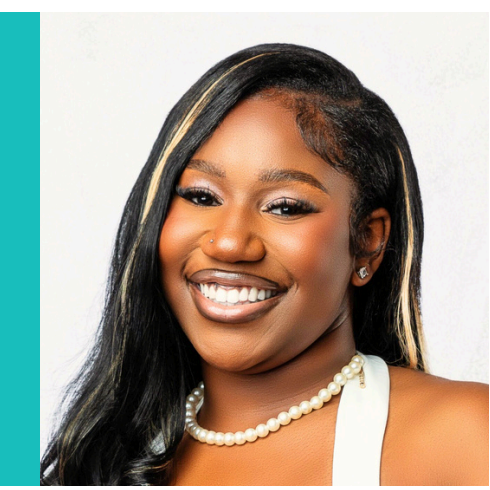
Current Tutor: Ellis Bannard
Involved in EVkids: 2 years
Future plans: Training to become an electrician



KENDELL JOSEPH

Fontbonne Academy

Current Tutor: Doan Chu (UMB '26)
Involved in EVkids: 6 years
Future plans: Majoring in Business & Marketing at St. John University



NYANNA LEE

Bedford High School

Current Tutor: Anna Eisaman (BC '27)
Involved in EVkids: 5 years
Future plans: Majoring in Nursing at UConn

EVKIDS COLLEGE SENIORS



JARYAH REESE

UMass Boston

Involved in EVkids: 5.5 years
Major: Criminal Justice
Future goal: My ultimate goal is to work for forensic laboratory operations specifically for crime scenes.



KAIN KABA

Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Involved in EVkids: 12 years
Major: Medical & Molecular Biology
Future goal: To work in biotech and help advance healthcare.



SWAHIBU KABA

Southern New Hampshire University

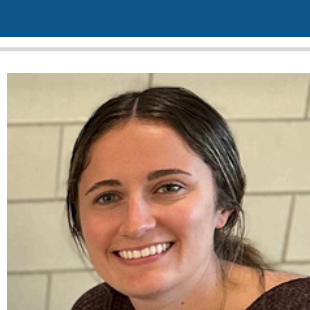
Involved in EVkids: 12 years
Major: Marketing & Social Media
Future goal: Building a social media brand and breaking into social media marketing.

GRADUATING TUTORS SHARE MEMORABLE EVKIDS MOMENTS:

Congratulations to our 26 dedicated university volunteer tutors who are graduating from college!

Their commitment to supporting their EVkids matches while balancing their own academic pursuits has greatly contributed to our shared vision of empowering Boston students.

EVkids' tutors are students from Boston College, Boston University, Harvard, MCPHS, Northeastern, Tufts, and UMass Boston.



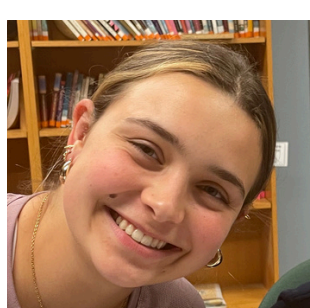
"My student has been getting accepted into college, and it's been incredibly exciting to watch him go through this process."

– **Carly** (BC)



"The most memorable moment from Tutoring this spring is when my mentee told me that the best part of her day was seeing me."

– **Sophie** (BC)



"Seeing my mentee after winter break was such a happy reunion! She gave me a big hug, and we were both very happy to be together again."

– **Cassidy** (BC)



"A memorable moment for me has been watching my mentee grow... she has grown so much. Seeing her confidence grow has been incredibly rewarding."

– **Tarini** (Northeastern)