

Participation in the School in the Square Social Emotional Learning Oral History Project

At S2 High School we are institutionalizing a culture of youth-led participatory research. You can access our work [here](https://yparats2hs.commons.gc.cuny.edu/home/): <https://yparats2hs.commons.gc.cuny.edu/home/>

Through a new oral history project a team of S2 staff and teachers and S2 students and alumni and partners at City University of New York we are uplifting the experiences and expertise of young people at S2. Students will conduct interviews twice a year, over their first two years on varying topics based on interview subjects and scripts they collectively design. Taking lessons from S2 youth scholarship initiatives over the past five years, starting in ninth grade, every S2 high school student will be trained as a researcher equipped to take ownership of their own story and curate their experiences and those of their respective communities. Every ninth and tenth grader to pass through S2 will become an oral historian, analyze data produced by themselves and their peers, present findings on a research question using primary evidence collected by their class, and help develop an archive that will house testimonies of the school and the community it serves. Myriad opportunities for public-facing scholarship will be available to young people including authoring publications, traveling to academic conferences, and performing this work to local leaders and policymakers in New York City.

All information collected from the interviewed students, when presented to anyone but the project coordinator and the interviewed student, will be made anonymous unless the interviewee, interviewer, and the interviewee’s guardian grant their consent through this form.

Should you choose to become a youth research intern you will be listed as a co-author and serve as presenter whenever this work is publicized.

We have found that working on youth research projects—and being interviewed for youth research projects—can be transformative to how young people view themselves. Further, the participation of young people in the design of the project improves the quality of the research because you sixth graders are experts in your own experiences.

Know that the student and/or their family can withdraw their consent at any point and the materials they donated will be made private.

By signing this form, you are saying you are comfortable with your interview being entered into the Voices of the Heights: The Student-Led Community Oral History Archive at School in the Square.

_____ Full Name of Student

_____ Student Signature

_____ Date

_____ Full Name of Guardian

_____ Guardian Signature

_____ Date

Direct any questions to project coordinator Dr. Samuel Finesurrey: samuel.finesurrey@guttman.cuny.edu