TRINITY OFFERS A SUPERB EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS AND A WONDERFUL AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY FOR PARENTS. TRINITY FAMILIES ENJOY A WORLD OF LONG-LASTING FRIENDSHIPS, EXCITING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, AND A SUPPORTIVE AND DIVERSE GROUP OF LIKE-MINDED PARENTS WHO VALUE MORAL EXCELLENCE, HARD WORK, AND A RIGOROUS EDUCATION. THIS GUIDE IS DESIGNED TO GIVE PROSPECTIVE FAMILIES A SENSE OF THE COMMUNITY THAT THRIVES AT TRINITY SCHOOL.

TRINITY SCHOOL PARENTS’ ASSOCIATION

All parents and guardians of Trinity students are automatically members of the Parents’ Association (PA) and are encouraged to be active in this vital organization. The PA offers numerous ways in which you can be involved in and connected to the School. Be an active participant in PA meetings, help manage and run events, be a communicator to other parents as a class representative, or join a committee and support the School while working to explore new policies. Even if you can spare only a bit of your time, your contribution is important and valuable to the community.

The Parents’ Association represents and advances the views, interests, and perspectives of parents in the School community; facilitates the integration and education of parents in the expectations, activities, and procedures of the School; lends its support to activities and programs for students and faculty; advances the financial viability and public image of the School; and ensures the security, morality, and well-being of its members. Together we can achieve our common goals of supporting our children, the School, and the entire Trinity community.
COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS

While the heart of Trinity is the conversation between teacher and students, the conversation between the School and the parents is of equal importance. Trinity values the partnership with parents and seeks to establish the very best communication in support of our students. Below is a list of some of the many ways that Trinity seeks to establish, maintain, and strengthen its relationship with parents.

FOR PARENTS THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL:

TIGERNET
trinityschoolnyc.org
Trinity's Web site is the vibrant core of important information for parents.

CURRICULUM EVENINGS
During the first month of the school year all parents attend these evenings to hear detailed information about their child’s daily experience at school and to take advantage of the opportunity to meet the teachers and administrators in their child’s grade and division as well as the opportunity to meet other parents.

ANNUAL REPORT
The School’s financial statement provides a detailed look into the wide-ranging support Trinity receives from the community. It is available to all parents.

PODMISSUM
podcasts.trinityschoolnyc.org
Podmissum is the podcast series of Trinity. It features events and highlights speakers, from inside and outside Trinity, who make presentations at the School. The shows cover a wide range of topics, but all are related to ongoing educational programs as well as to the daily life of the Trinity School community.

TRINITY PER SAECULA
The magazine of Trinity School serves the entire community by covering the illustrious past, dynamic present, and exciting future of Trinity. It is sent to all parents in print and is available as an e-book and on Trinitatis, the publications app of the School.

SINE CHARTA
sinecharta.org
Trinity’s online magazine serves the entire community by covering stories that are time-sensitive as well as providing multi-media content that complements the print publication.

TRINITATIS
The publications app of Trinity School provides instant access to the annual report, Trinity Per Saecula, Trinity School Calendar, the Trinity Times, curriculum guides and parent handbooks from all three divisions, as well as other publications from throughout the School.

CALENDAR
Trinity’s printed calendar, with beautiful photographs of children throughout the School, is mailed to every family before the school year begins and lists the important dates throughout the academic year.

FACEBOOK
facebook.com/trinityschoolnyc
Social media is a great way to keep in touch with the daily news of Trinity School. The School’s Facebook page provides information and links to Lower School Chapel information, Middle School student events, Upper School Community Time speakers…and much more!

TWITTER
twitter.com/trinityschoolnyc
twitter.com/trinitytigers
For those who prefer their information in 140 characters or less, Trinity has two Twitter accounts. One for up-to-date information about the School and the other for fast access to Upper School athletics results.

INSTAGRAM
instagram.com/trinityschoolnyc
Trinity’s Instagram page features images created by students in all thirteen grades. Every week during the academic year, a different student shares her or his views of the School.

VIDEOS
vimeo.com/channels/trinityschoolnyc
Documentaries about visual and performing arts programs, profiles of alumni and faculty authors, features about alumni adventures, highlights of varsity athletics games, and much more! Trinity’s video channel is the place to go when you want to watch the latest news of the School.

FOR PARENTS WITH LOWER SCHOOL CHILDREN:

Coffees with the principal
Lower School Family Handbook
Lower School Chapel
The Newsday
(an electronic weekly newsletter)
The Newsday Minute (a weekly video clip)
Parent/Teacher Conference Days
(once each semester)
Student Reports
FOR PARENTS WITH MIDDLE SCHOOL CHILDREN:
Weekly and monthly newsletters from the principal and the Parents’ Association
Coffees with the principal
Middle School Parent and Student Handbook and Course Guide
Grade-to-Grade Transition Meetings
Parent/Teacher meetings
Trimester Grade and Comment Reports
Progress Reports
Parent/Advisor Conference Days (once each semester)

FOR PARENTS WITH UPPER SCHOOL CHILDREN:
Weekly and monthly newsletters from the principal and the Parents’ Association
Coffees with the principal
Upper School Advising
Upper School Course Offerings
Upper School Student Handbooks
Grade Nine advisors meet with each set of parents in the fall or winter
Grade Ten through Twelve advisors meet with each set of parents in October
Student and parent annual conference with the grade dean

PARENT SOCIAL LIFE

PARENT COFFEES
The Parents’ Association plans and helps to organize off campus coffees at the homes of parent volunteers where parents can meet and chat after drop off and before work.

CLASS COCKTAIL PARTIES
An excellent way to meet the parents of the children in your child’s class, class cocktail parties are held for parents of students Kindergarten through Grade Eleven. These events are often held at Trinity.

GRADE TURF PARTIES
Meet parents from your child’s grade in Trinity’s backyard...the “turf” field on the roof of the new building. These relaxed events (all are potluck!) are a great way to meet parents from beyond your classroom and provides a fun social time for your child as well.

OPEN GYM
At least one of Trinity’s gyms is available on select Saturday mornings. There is no fee or sign up required to attend. Open gym is a very popular activity for students of all ages and a great way for parents to meet parents outside their child’s class or grade.

TRINITY AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

TRINITY AFTER SCHOOL
Trinity After School is a program for Kindergarten through Grade Six that offers a wide variety of classes for its students—sports, theater, music, arts, crafts, chess, homework and study help, and much more! The program runs Monday through Friday.

KIDS CLUB
Kids Club is a Grades Kindergarten through Six program that is available every day from dismissal until 5:45 P.M. Different from the After School program, Kids Club is less structured and offers a range of activities such as arts and crafts, sports, theater games, cooking, homework help, and more!

HOMEWORK CLUB
Homework Club is a quiet, teacher-supervised, study space for students in Grades Three through Six to complete homework after school. It is available Mondays-Thursdays from dismissal until 5:45 P.M.

STUDENT EVENTS FOR PARENTS
Trinity students have events during and after school days throughout the year. Parents are welcome to attend and enjoy being a part of the School community. Some of the events include:

All-School Chapels
Athletic Games
Homecoming
Winter Festival
Spring Choral Concert
Spring String Fling
Lower School Chapel
Lower School Concerts
Grade Four Evening of Art and Music
Grades Five and Six Musical
Middle School Art and Music Evening
Middle School Celebration of Light
Middle School Jazz Concerts
Middle School Winter Concert
Grades Seven and Eight Musical
Middle School Spring Concert
Upper School Fall Play
Upper School Fall Concert
Upper School Fall Musical
Upper School Jazz Concerts
Theater IV Performances
Upper School Winter Concert
Upper School Winter Play
Student-Faculty Concert
Upper School Cabaret
The Nicholas J.P. Kau Shakespeare Appreciation Society Performance
PARENTS’ ASSOCIATION EVENTS

WINTER FESTIVAL
The annual Winter Festival is a community-run school-wide event filled with fun shopping, great food, homemade treats, carnival games, and lots of entertainment. This annual event is held at Trinity in early December for family, friends, and the local community. Parent-run booths sell a variety of items including holiday gifts, donated or new merchandise, and food items. Activities include entertainment by members of the Trinity community and a carnival for younger children. Proceeds from this event help support financial aid and faculty enrichment.

SPRING BENEFIT
This is a wonderful evening during which Trinity parents, faculty, staff, and alumni can connect with friends and celebrate our community. Each year the PA is responsible for organizing the spring benefit, the major fund-raiser of the organization. In the past, events have included a cabaret-style evening, a classical concert, and auctions. The proceeds from this event support financial aid and faculty enrichment.

MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL
This event celebrates the rich cultural background of the Trinity community and offers special cultural displays, food from around the world and entertainment. The Multicultural Festival is free of charge and open to the entire Trinity community.

In addition, the Parents’ Association coordinates lectures and meetings that support parents’ needs:

GENERAL PARENTS’ ASSOCIATION MEETINGS
The PA holds general meetings five times per year at which key administrators, faculty, or staff speak to parents on topics important to Trinity families. The talks are usually followed by a question and answer period.

PARENTS’ ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEETINGS
The many PA committees schedule meetings throughout the year. Faculty and administrators involved in those committee areas often speak at or attend these meetings. Most committees are open to all parents.

PARENTS’ ASSOCIATION COORDINATED MEETINGS WITH DIVISIONAL PRINCIPALS
Over the course of the year, the PA coordinates several meetings between the divisional principals and grade or class representatives as well as committee co-chairs with children in that division.

PARENT TALK™ MEETINGS
Each year, the PA hosts at least one NYC Parents in Action-facilitated parent meeting in our library for Grades One through Eleven.

PARENTS’ ASSOCIATION DIVERSITY COMMITTEE
The diversity committee hosts meetings throughout the year that often include speakers and workshops.

FILMS, GUEST LECTURERS, AND OTHER PARENT SPECIAL EVENTS
Throughout the year the Parents’ Association and Trinity sponsor a variety of events on topics of interest to the School community. These events range from screenings of films with discussions with the filmmaker, to scholarly presentations about learning and education. As part of Trinity’s commitment to extending the classroom to include the world in which we live, these events are designed to stimulate parents, students, and teachers to engage in thoughtful discussions about current events, new research, and complex issues.

Recent special events include:
Social media panel discussion with CNN’s CHRIS CUOMO, ANDREW FITZGERALD, a member of the News and Journalism Partnerships team at Twitter, JORDAN GOLDMAN, the founder and CEO of Unigo, ED O’KEEFE, the editor-in-chief of NowThis News, and VICTORIA ROGERS, who performs outreach on behalf of Kickstarter, working with creators and the institutions that support their work.

The Selling of Innocents film screening and lecture with filmmaker RUCHIRA GUPTA

Chasing Ice film screening and question and answer with filmmaker JEFF ORLOWSKI

I Am Not A Racist...Am I?, documentary film, film screening, and conversation with THE CALHOUN SCHOOL AND POINT MADE FILMS

Lecture and conversation with WILLIAM DERESIEWICZ, author of Excellent Sheep: The Miseducation of the American Elite

Lecture and conversation with JACKSON KATZ, PhD, pioneer in the fields of gender education and media literacy.
Lecture and conversation with ERNEST GREEN, one of the Little Rock Nine

Lecture and conversation with DR. ELENA LISTER, adult, adolescent, and child psychologist, author of I Will Remember You, a guidebook for teens about grief

Lecture and conversation with DR. ANSWORTH A. ALLEN, MD, head team orthopedist for New York Knicks, on sports safety

American Promise film screening and panel discussion with filmmakers JOE BREWSTER and MICHELLE STEPHENSON

Lecture and conversation with ROSALIND WISEMAN, author of Queen Bees & Wannabes and Queen Bee Moms & Kingpin Dads

Girl Rising film screening and conversation with executive producer, HOLLY GORDON

Sandy and Our City: Moving Forward, a panel discussion hosted by LESTER HOLT of NBC; featuring DIAHANN BILLINGS-BURFORD, Prep for Prep Contingent VI, chief service officer, NYC Service, City of New York; JOHN SEXTON, president, New York University; KATRINA VANDEN HEUVEL, ’77, editor and publisher of the Nation

MissRepresentation film screening and panel moderated by KATIE COURIC featuring ROSALIND WISEMAN, educator and author of Queen Bees & Wannabes and Queen Bee Moms & Kingpin Dads; REGINA KULIK SCULLY, executive producer of MissRepresentation; and BARBARA J. BERG, historian, writer, activist, and teacher who was featured in the film

LIST OF PA COMMITTEES

The Parents’ Association maintains an extensive and active group of committees that serve a wide range of needs at Trinity. All committees are open to every parent at the School, and parents are encouraged to attend any committee meeting that interests them. All are welcome.

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES FOR EACH GRADE

ATHLETICS COMMITTEE coordinates parent support for student athletic teams, organizing special activities and helping with sports awards ceremonies. The committee helps with special athletic events as requested by the School’s athletic director.

AUCTIONS COMMITTEE coordinates the auctions for the annual Winter Festival and the annual spring benefit.

DIVERSITY COMMITTEE assists the School in providing multicultural educational activities and promoting full participation among parents, including creating and working with affinity groups, and arranging presentations by students, discussion groups, and special lectures.

FACULTY & STAFF APPRECIATION COMMITTEE works with the School administration to organize faculty and staff appreciation activities.

FOOD COMMITTEE brings parents and food service staff together to collect feedback and make constructive changes to the dining experience for all who are served at Trinity.

HEALTH AND PARENTING EDUCATION COMMITTEE collaborates with the School and parents to provide information regarding health and parenting issues.

MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL COMMITTEE coordinates and supervises this school-wide event that celebrates the cultural diversity of the Trinity community.

NEW PARENT LIAISON works with current Trinity families to welcome parents who are new to the School community.

PARENTS IN ACTION LIAISON is a not-for-profit organization that facilitates parent discussion groups and sponsors lectures on parenting topics. The Trinity representative serves as liaison to this group and helps class reps to arrange evening discussion groups for parents.

PERFORMING ARTS COMMITTEE supports Trinity’s performing arts by selling tickets to shows, publicizing events, and promoting audience attendance. The committee helps with costumes, sets, refreshments, and programs.

SAFETY PATROL COMMITTEE is responsible for scheduling and coordinating Trinity’s parent safety patrol system.

COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE assists in organizing and supporting school and division-wide community service projects during the year.

TEXTBOOK EXCHANGE COMMITTEE works with the Middle and Upper Schools at the end of the school year to organize, publicize, and conduct a used book buy-back event.

TRINITY SPIRIT GEAR coordinates the sales of Trinity School logo merchandise at various times during the school year.

USED UNIFORM EXCHANGE COMMITTEE conducts the sale of gently used K-4 uniforms in the spring and fall.
**SCHOOL SUPPORT**

**ADMISSIONS SUPPORT** helps with tours, open houses, diversity evening presentations, school fair representation, and other activities in support of applicant parents on behalf of the Lower School Admissions Office from early September through mid-October and the Upper School Admissions Office throughout the school year.

**PARENT AFFINITY GROUPS**

The PA Diversity Committee’s mission is to support Trinity School’s efforts in promoting empathy, inclusiveness, and respect. By exploring our differences with each other and helping our children to do the same, we learn what ties us together as human beings. We strive to create a safe haven for voicing our diverse perspectives, and we reject discrimination, intolerance, and bias of any kind.

We acknowledge that the definition of diversity is in constant flux. Currently, diversity within our community is represented by a range of the following identities: culture, ethnicity, physical attributes (including size, accent, and disabilities), learning styles, family structure, gender, national origin, race, age, religion, sexual orientation, and socio-economics.

It is through an awareness of these differences that we strive to raise children to be truly accepting. Furthermore, in order to participate in a highly competitive world, in which diversity is the rule rather than the exception, our children will be better equipped as global citizens if we all (parents, students, and faculty) work together to celebrate each other’s differences with empathy and respect.

As a means for inclusion, and to support an increasingly diverse community, Trinity School recognizes the importance of and supports the creation of parent “affinity” groups. The National Association of Independent Schools defines the term affinity group as a bringing together of people who have something important in common, e.g. race, gender, profession, or special interests. The overarching mission for parent affinity groups at Trinity is to provide a safe space for all participants to identify salient issues and common concerns through dialogue, as well as to support individual voices in bringing about affirmation, fellowship, and connection (networking) thus strengthening each member’s sense of belonging within the larger Trinity community.

Affinity groups already have a significant presence within the Trinity School student community. The Upper School supports students in the Asian Awareness Club, Black Affairs Club, Gay-Straight Alliance, Jewish Affairs Club, Middle Eastern Affairs Club, and South Asian Society. Also, informally, groups of parents have been gathering around common geographic location, religious identity, family structure, and racial identity.

**CURRENT PARENT AFFINITY GROUPS INCLUDE:**

- Asian Affinity Group
- African American Affinity Group
- Buddhist Affinity Group
- Christian Affinity Group
- European Affinity Group
- Gay and Lesbian Affinity Groups
- Jewish Family Affinity Group
- Latino Affinity Group
- Mindfulness Affinity Group
- Multi-Racial Affinity Group
- Muslim Family Affinity Group
- Parents of Children with Food Allergies Affinity Group
- Parents of Children with Learning Differences Affinity Group
- Single Parent Affinity Group
- South-Asian Affinity Group