

# City School

**ADDRESS:** 635 Queens Quay W, Toronto, ON  
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**WEBSITE:** <http://www.cityschooltoronto.com>

**GRADE RANGE:** 11 to 12

## Interesting Feature

### 2011-2012 Features

Our school has a wide range of courses in both the Humanities and the Sciences. As well as a core academic program, we offer courses in Life Strategies, Film Studies, The Writer's Craft, Earth and Space Science, Body Fuel, Eco-Sci, Philosophy and Phys Ed. These courses are enriched by field trips, guest speakers and numerous activities which bring the various disciplines together.

City School is a semestered alternative high school that offers a full range of academic Grade 11 and Grade 12 courses. Its location by the water fits well with its focus on the environment and its designation as an eco-school. The program is ideal for creative, self-motivated young people who value community and collaborative learning. The informal atmosphere, diverse student population, innovative curriculum, inspired teaching, and small size make City an inviting alternative to mainstream high schools. Curriculum Leader: Ian Esquivel

### Location

City School is at the foot of Bathurst Street in one of the most beautiful settings in Toronto. Classrooms look out on Lake Ontario, the Toronto Islands and the downtown skyline. We share our building with the Waterfront School and the

Harbourfront Community Centre. This alliance provides us access to a modern, full-size gym, a games room and a cafe that provides fresh, nutritious food. The TTC provides frequent service to our location, whether from Union Station LRT or the Bathurst bus. Bicyclists can take the Martin Goodman Trail right to our door.





## More Information about City School

### City School History

City School was established in 1979 by a group of parents and teachers who believed that education could be improved with more experiential learning, greater student involvement in school affairs, and by providing more opportunity for young people to take responsibility for their learning. These principles are alive and well at City.

### Initiative + Planning + Action = Reality

Have a say in the running of your school. Our student council is not elected but open to all students to participate. We hold monthly general meetings where students, teachers and staff discuss concerns, raise ideas and share news. Students have input into the courses we offer. Our philosophy is *"If you find enough support, we'll help you make it happen."*

### City School Difference

We provide a rigorous academic program while helping our students learn to internalize their own motivation. We bring critical thinking, social issues and enrichment into the curriculum through guest speakers, special course units, field trips, organized events, seminars, artist-in-the-school programs and workshops.

### TASTE

Join our unique teachers and students teaching each other (TASTE) program held each semester. Share your skills and expertise and learn from others on topics beyond classroom subjects.

Workshops are created based on our students' interests and skills; past workshops include sushi making, massage, deejaying, sports, drumming, beading, film discussion and karate.

### Additional Features

For a list of all programs that are also offered visit <http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Findyour/Schools.aspx?schno=5570&schoolid=1289>

## **Student Life - Where You Belong**

City students enjoy a comfortable social atmosphere, many light filled classrooms, the opportunity to organize events with or without a student council, a peaceful, no-clique environment and an uplifting location where lake meets city meets sky.

Experience a comfort level among students and teachers, an openness where everyone feels valued and no one is left out, overlooked or forgotten. Share many of your classes with each other throughout much of the day.

## **What Sets Us Apart**

City's informal learning environment, one-of-kind courses, opportunities for independent learning and status as a Platinum-Level EcoSchool set us apart from most schools. Among alternative high schools we offer the greatest selection of courses across the Arts and Science spectrum. City has probably the greatest number of guitar players per capita of any school in the TDSB.

Join one of our clubs, including yearbook and our important student council. Enjoy the games room and gym downstairs at the Harbourfront Community Centre for luncheon sports. It's a great place to buy healthy and inexpensive hot lunches.

Attend one of our upcoming Information Sessions for September 2012-13 registration.

Wednesday, May 16 @ 6:30pm

Monday, June 4 @ 2:30pm



## Parent and Community Engagement

City students tutor at Waterfront Community School, which is in the same building, and help maintain a "renaturalized" Garden Project. We welcome various groups into the school and sometimes fundraise for them. These groups include the Toronto Disaster Relief Committee, SKETCH, the Queen Street/Queens Quay Arts Communities and Community Air. We often have guest speakers and welcome parents and other adults in the community to visit our school. We have hosted nurses and social workers from various universities and colleges.

We take advantage of our beautiful location on the water with views of Lake Ontario. We offer an environmental studies course where you learn about local wildlife through walks around our neighbourhood. Our annual trip to Toronto Island is convenient and we are minutes from the Toronto Music Garden created by Yo-Yo Mah, the world-famous cellist.



## TDSB - Better Schools. Brighter Futures

Imagine a TDSB where all schools share a common core set of characteristics. They are community-driven and focused on teaching and learning. Students and parents have a wide variety of opportunities and there are enough students in every school to increase program choices.

Imagine there is a clear focus on achieving student success and every student is engaged, has a voice, access to a caring adult and the opportunity to develop their full potential.

Here at the TDSB our focus is on student achievement, parent and community engagement and financial stability.



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