

LILLIE DEVEREAUX BLAKE
SCHOOL



The Lillie D. Blake Elementary School

PS 6

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Principal: Lauren Fontana

Assistant Principals: Amy Santucci & Jane Galasso

Proud of our Past and Present, Looking Forward to the Future!

It all began in 1894, when PS 6 opened its doors to the UES community. Katherine Devereaux Blake was the school's first leader; her mother, Lillie Devereaux Blake, is our namesake. Through the powerful words of these 2 women, both spoken and written, much was accomplished – including securing women's right to vote, and gaining women's entrance to the bar and civil service. Both women exemplify what still remains an integral part of what makes PS 6 a special place – the idea that everyone's voice matters, and through hard work and collaboration we can accomplish great things.

Early in December we welcomed Dr. Theresa Canada, a professor of Education and Educational Psychology at Western Connecticut State University, and the author of *Desegregation of New York City Schools: A Story of the Silk Stocking Sisters*. Dr. Canada was one of 7 African American students to enter PS 6 as part of an initiative to desegregate schools. The legacy of the Katherine and Lillie D. Blake lived on during that time period, when equality of education for all was at the forefront.

We continue to take pride in our educational excellence, and this year we were honored to be the recipient of the National Blue Ribbon Award. Principal Lauren Fontana and Literacy Coach Barbara Rosenblum attended the annual award ceremony in Washington DC and received a beautiful plaque and flag to signify our exemplary status. This award represents the dedication and commitment of our entire community.

On November 2nd of this year, our kindergarten students celebrated their first published piece of writing by marching throughout the school holding their writing high in the air. The halls were filled with teachers, parents, and students from all grades cheering them on and congratulating them on a job well done. It is our hope, that these students will become the adults who know their voices matter, and through hard work and collaboration, they too can accomplish great things!

We welcome you to visit us to learn more about our rich history, as well as to see how we work towards the future!

