

Daniela Palacios

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EDUCATION

Columbia University, New York City, NY
Intended Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Political Science

Sept. 2022 – May. 2026

Science Park High School, Newark, NJ
GPA: 4.42/4.00; Class Rank: 4/193
Relevant Coursework: International Baccalaureate Program

Sept. 2018 – Jun. 2022

EXPERIENCE

Para KIDS! Books, *Founder and Executive Director*

Aug. 2020 – Present

- Built bilingual children's book company to promote cross-cultural communication among youth and their families
- Wrote bilingual children's book, "Sara's New Country and New Friend/ El nuevo país y la nueva amiga de Sara", hired illustrator
- Hosted +12 community bilingual readings and participated in +5 community vendor events with +90 people in attendance in collaboration with the Newark Public Library, the Newark Museum, ImVisible Newark, and Fibromyalgia Care Society.
- Featured in local Newark magazine and Chalkbeat
- **Awards:** 1st Place Pirates Pitch Competition - Seton Hall University (\$2,500 prize money), 2021 Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!) Saunders Scholars Semi-Finalist

New Ark Freedom School, *Contractor*

Jul. 2022 – Aug. 2022

- Engaged 3rd – 5th grade scholars in a 6-week Integrated Reading Curriculum, according to the [standards](#) developed by Children's Defense Fund (CDF) and Rutgers University-Newark
- Collaborate with staff to establish and maintain a supportive and structured environment for +10 scholars

LEADERSHIP & ACTIVITIES

Columbia Organization of Rising Entrepreneurs (CORE), *Operating Committee Leader*

Oct. 2022 – Present

- Selected to serve as an operating member responsible for working with a team to organize and build CORE's events, programming, and community
- Work closely with leaders in the startup community and deliver on meaningful projects as a team

2023 Online Intensive Program Scholar (Girls Who Invest)

Dec. 2022 – Present

- Girls Who Invest, in collaboration with the CFA Institute, Wall Street Prep, and Wharton Online, will provide unprecedented access to financial modeling training from February to August of 2023

Phi Gamma Nu (PGN), *Member*

Oct. 2022 – Present

- PGN is a nationally recognized business fraternity that prepares students for the transition from college to the business world. Founded on pillars of professionalism, philanthropy, and social engagement
- We work to foster a diverse community that invests in the professional and personal development of its members, who are driven individuals committed to one another's success

Butterfly Dreamz Inc., *Write to Lead & Brand Builder Intern*

Aug. 2021 – May. 2022

- Butterfly Dreamz Inc. is a non-profit dedicated to supporting girls and women of color in their leadership journeys
- Selected to publish in yearly leadership journal for +300 members in 2021 and 2022
 - Created leadership portfolio by interviewing Councilwoman LaMonica McIver (Central Ward)

Van Buren Branch, *Library Volunteer*

May. 2021 – Sep. 2021

- Evaluated and compiled list of +45 bilingual children's books, aided and stimulated +15 youth in weekly children's events, and served as Spanish translator for parents; 1.5 hours for 2 days per week

Jan. 2021 – Mar. 2022

PROGRAMS

HeadStart Fellowship, *Fellow*

Mar. 2022 – Present

- Chosen to participate in a selective career development fellowship program for underrepresented students with outstanding leadership and potential in business careers
- Completed customized course curriculum including regular seminars designed to build and advance the skills necessary for success in targeted industry jobs

Advocates for Children of New Jersey, *Newark Future Policymaker Advocacy Trainee*

Feb. 2022 – Jun. 2022

- Received on the ground training from experienced advocates and policymakers
- Collaborated with a team to create a presentation focused on student and teacher relationships in the Newark Public School district

Ironbound THRIVE Business Incubator, *Member*

Jun. 2020 – Jan. 2022

- Revised and enhanced business plan for Para KIDS! while collaborating with aspiring Newark teen entrepreneurs
 - **Award:** 2020 Summer Business Pitch Competition Winner, Certificate of Appreciation for Peer Mentor

AWARDS

- Chalkbeat Student Voices Fellow (published 2 personal essay articles about **Para KIDS!** and personal experience in the **IB program** through fellowship program)
- SOLVED Pitch Competition Winner
- Social Injustice Youth Pitch Contest Winner
- Our Voices Matter Youth Entrepreneur Contest Winner