With our **Centennial** (and the bulk of the events related to it) nearing completion, we’re looking back not just on this year, but on the last 100. What we—and other people—are seeing is the **continued strength of a C&C education**.

The in-depth looks at the programs, people, and history included in our **Archives Exhibit** (along with the conversations that took place at Jefferson Market Public Library during its May 14-22 run), memories shared at our **Alumni Reunion** (attended by more than 100 class members from the 1930s to 2000s), and the republication of *I Learn From Children* all reinforced the relevance of a City and Country education in the 21st Century.

**NYSAIS** (New York State Association of Independent Schools) also reaffirmed the value of a City and Country education by granting C&C a **ten-year accreditation** with a very positive review.

The spirit of giving, which has always helped our School thrive, remained strong at C&C this year.

- **100% of Faculty and Staff** gave to the **Annual Fund** before the end of the first week of school! Our **Centennial Celebration**—our most-attended gala to date—saw an all-time high for **Fund-an-Item**, which raised $400,000 (as a comparison, last year’s Fund-an-Item raised $75,000!).

- **Community Outreach** continued to support those in need, from working with parents and students to create blankets for **Project Linus**, to working with XIs to pack **85 Thanksgivings in a Bag**, to overseeing the cutting and **delivery of Spring Fair cakes to Daisy’s Pantry** with the XIIIIs. Our annual **Family Service Day** was a success—in just a few hours the C&C community came together around multiple hands-on service projects to serve eight organizations.

Our children, as usual, made the most of a unique year to craft unique experiences.

- New to C&C this year was a **Debate Club**, with more than **50 students in the Xs and up** participating.

- The **100th day of our 100th year** was celebrated with 100-themed art and block builds, a singalong assembly, and an historic 100 item **Scavenger Hunt** created and managed by our XIIIIs.

C&C continues as a leader in progressive education:

- From **Britain to Brazil**, C&C was in the news. The hook may have been the Centennial, but each of the stories looked at the school from different angles. C&C Alum **Reggie Nadelson ’58** filed a report with **BBC Radio 4** on the lasting impression the school had on her. *The Economist* and *Gazeta do Povo* both looked at the influence of Caroline Pratt’s unit blocks. *The Villager* covered the impact Greenwich Village has had on C&C—and vice-versa.

- **Researchers**, as well, are looking at C&C’s role in progressive education with different lenses. **University of Amsterdam** education researcher **Jeroen Staring’s** recent publication, “Caroline Pratt’s political, toy manufacturing, and educational life, 1896-1921” in the *History of Education Review* explores how Pratt’s feminist, socialist, and trade unionist ideals, transformed into educational aims, formed the core of her educational work. And **FORUM**, the **British education journal** reflected on the parallel evolution found in some of Caroline Pratt’s contemporaries in England.

- **Block Workshops** continue to share a key element of C&C’s program. New faculty and staff work with blocks at orientation workshops, outside faculty visit the School for our **Block Connection** workshops, and all **IIIIs parents** are invited to experiment with blocks to understand how their own children use these important learning tools day-to-day.

New this year, educators from **El Museo del Barrio** joined teachers at C&C for a two-part block workshop which continued as a larger event at the museum, where educators from El Museo invited teachers and lawmakers city-wide to discuss, rethink, and build with blocks, the concept of the **museum as classroom** and **New York City as barrio**.
A key component of City and Country's mission that keeps us in the forefront of progressive education is our extensive professional development program.

As research for our NYSAIS work, 57 teachers and staff visited 30 different schools for Professional Development Day on February 4. During the year, 36 teachers and staff attended over 85 conferences or workshops.

Our teachers and staff lead a number of presentations and workshops this year, spreading the word about our teaching and program. Amongst those workshops, teachers presented their summer curriculum development grant projects to fellow teachers, and six teachers presented workshops at the PEN (Progressive Educators’ Network) Conference in October. Among the presentations were Ruth Conroy’s (VsR) “VIIIs Garden Curriculum,” Jordis Rosberg (Research Librarian) and Jessica Vander Salm’s (XIsJ) “The Portrait Project,” and Jane Clarke (Director of the Lower School) and William Harrison’s (IllsW) “The Process of Play: Laying the Foundation for Deeply Meaningful Learning.”

City and Country continues to foster a strong community, building and reinforcing connections within and across constituents.

C&C sponsored many informational meetings throughout the year. In addition to the regularly scheduled beginning and end-of-year Parent Group meetings, there were 19 Coffee and Conversations, 11 meetings on relevant topics such as Safety, Homework, Emerging Independence, etc, five Family Math events, and three meetings specifically focused on transition for the IVs, VIIIs, and Xs.

Strong parent-to-parent connections were made during the High School Parent Panel, which featured parents of XIIIs and grads speaking with XIs and XIIs parents, and our annual Meet the Grads event brought recent grads back to C&C to talk with students and parents about their experiences in High School. Click on the links above, and watch both events by using the password: C&C.

The Parents Association sponsored a number of activities and events this year, including two informative outside speakers: Bruce Feiler, author of The Secrets of Happy Families, and Catherine Steiner Adair, who talked about her research for The Big Disconnect: Protecting Childhood and Family Relationships in the Digital Age. Click on the link above, and watch Bruce’s presentation by using the password: C&C.

Our Parent Diversity Group sponsored important events for the community, including a new activity this year: book group discussions. Perhaps the most inspiring PA/Diversity event this year was C&C parent Eric Etheridge’s presentation on the Freedom Riders, which was followed by a discussion with two Freedom Riders who spent six weeks in jail in 1961 for their peaceful protesting to desegregate buses and bus stations.

The Sustainability Committee helped make our community greener this year: All paper cups in the school are now compostable. And the Committee planted a garden next to the Library. The garden produced the delicious “C&C Roof-to-Table Salad” on the last day of School.

At the close of our first century, we look forward to a promising future, not only for the School, but for all of its students and graduates.

C&C’s first ever Symposium, “The Power of Progressive Education: Can Creative Thinking be Taught?” was attended by a standing-room-only crowd of over 400 people. The Symposium explored the relevance of a progressive education in relation to innovation, entrepreneurship, and the skills needed in today’s business world.


Our XIIIs Class of 2013 have already begun their promising futures. These 23 students will head to a wide range of high schools: Bard, Berkeley Carroll, Brooklyn Tech, Browning, Calhoun, Friends Seminary, Grace Church, LaGuardia, LREI, Oakwood Friends, Packer Collegiate, Rudolf Steiner, Saint Ann's, Solebury, Trevor, and Trinity.