HIGH SCHOOL.
REIMAGINED.
Bard Academy at Simon’s Rock is the nation’s first two-year high school for boarding and day students. Located on the campus of Bard College at Simon’s Rock, the first and most innovative early college in the United States, Bard Academy shares faculty, facilities, and resources with the College. Our students experience a collegiate approach to learning from day one, embracing academic life with enthusiasm, curiosity, and creativity. For Bard Academy students, college begins after the 10th grade.
A student-centered culture gives classmates the freedom to encourage, support, and learn from one another.
We welcome your big ideas, encourage your curiosity, and respect your intellect.

**Sound good? That’s how you know you’re a Rocker.** You are bright, curious, and highly motivated. You have questions, and you’re excited to look for answers. You are passionate about learning new things and diving deeply into new realms of discovery. You have dreams and ideas about life and the world around you.

Since 1966, Simon’s Rock has welcomed intellectually curious young people who are ready for an academic challenge. Here, we expect you to be curious and to enjoy the process of learning.
Faculty members are experts in their fields who share their students’ love of learning. They explore their subject matter with enthusiasm and teach students to do the same.
WHY HIGH SCHOOL IN TWO YEARS?
At Bard Academy, we believe the traditional American high school isn’t for everyone. For too many students, the junior and senior years are less about learning and more about preparing for standardized tests and taking courses just because they look good on a college résumé. Like our partners in the successful Bard High School Early Colleges in New York, Newark, Cleveland, Baltimore, and New Orleans, Bard Academy provides an enriching high school experience while creating a seamless transition into college life and work, right when you are most ready for it.

A focus on intellectual exploration and deep learning gives students a foundation for success.

OUR VISION OF A BETTER HIGH SCHOOL
At Bard Academy, your high school teachers are your future college professors. Ninety-five percent of our full-time professors have PhDs or the highest academic credential in their fields. Small class sizes make it possible for professors to provide young scholars with clear road maps for growth. Bard Academy students enter an in-depth program of mathematics and sciences, social sciences, English, world languages, and the visual and performing arts. Seminar-style classes encourage sharing, debate, and a lively exchange of ideas. Writing is at the heart of a Bard Academy education: our curriculum teaches clear writing as a means to exploring and arriving at new ideas.

www.simons-rock.edu/academy
OUR CAMPUS
Acres of fields and trails make Simon’s Rock a beautiful
place to study and learn. The Daniel Arts Center, a state-of-
the-art facility on campus, is a cultural resource for students
and the surrounding community, hosting internationally
renowned artists and performers year-round. At the Fisher
Science Center, you’ll find research labs, a greenhouse,
and community gardens. Swim, rock climb, and play at
the Kilpatrick Athletic Center, or take the school shuttle to
downtown Great Barrington, named “Best Small Town” by
Smithsonian magazine for its food, arts, and culture. You and
your family will enjoy exploring the Berkshires, famous for its
ski slopes, hiking trails, museums, and shops. New York and
Boston are less than three hours away.

AFTER THE ACADEMY: THE EARLY COLLEGE
Simon’s Rock is the first and only educational institution
in the United States carrying students from the beginning
of high school to the completion of a bachelor’s degree in
six years rather than the usual eight. Immediately following
the 10th grade, you’ll enter Bard College at Simon’s Rock
as a first-year student and begin your college career in a
community of peers—students your age who share an intense
appetite for learning. The Princeton Review rates academics
at Simon’s Rock higher than those at Harvard and Princeton.
Our alumni are Fulbright Fellows, Rhodes Scholars, and
MacArthur Genius Grant recipients. They are innovators
and game changers making their mark in finance, the arts,
literature, politics, academia, and science, often while still
in their 20s.
At Bard Academy, we welcome and encourage a broad range of perspectives. You’ll learn how to disagree while maintaining a spirit of collaboration and camaraderie—and discover the value of considering unexpected and new ideas.
WHAT PARENTS SHOULD KNOW
If your child is looking for a challenging, engaging experience, Bard Academy could be the right answer. The Academy shares the College’s philosophy, faculty, and facilities. Our students live in a residence hall with dedicated, caring staff. Each student is assigned a faculty advisor, and students in the College serve as academic tutors and mentors. We want our students to succeed, and we offer the personalized support and guidance that make genuine learning possible.

FINANCIAL AID
At Bard Academy, most of our students—about 80%—receive financial aid. (Students are also eligible for federal financial aid once they enter the College.) Our admission counselors are committed to helping families understand the enrollment process and their options for financial aid at Bard Academy.

Applications for admission and financial aid are due January 15 and February 1 respectively. (Please be advised that space and funding may be limited after these deadlines have passed. Applications will be considered accordingly.) Please see our website for more details about applying.

www.simons-rock.edu/academy
What comes after Bard Academy? Early college. Simon’s Rock takes students from the 9th grade to the completion of a bachelor’s degree in only six years.

Ready to find out more? Contact us at 800-235-7186 or simons-rock.edu/academy/visit to plan your visit.

Personal attention and support make Bard Academy a community where everyone counts.
Office of Admission
Bard Academy at Simon’s Rock
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Great Barrington, MA 01230-9986