

ABOUT EYE TO EYE

Eye to Eye is the only national after-school mentoring program that pairs kids with learning disabilities (LD) and ADHD with college and high school students who have been similarly labeled. Using an arts-based curriculum, Eye to Eye helps these kids to value their own unique minds by building their self-esteem and giving them the skills to become self-advocates.



HOW WE DO IT

Eye to Eye creates a safe environment in which our highly-trained college and high school student mentors work with their mentees over the school year to complete art projects together. These projects are designed by professional artists who also have LD/ADHD and are specifically geared towards helping kids with LD/ADHD to develop their strengths, understand their weaknesses, manage their expectations, and most importantly, build their self-esteem.

Our mentors are not tutors but instead act as role models and provide a safe, fun, and empowering community for kids labeled with LD/ADHD. Every Eye to Eye mentor is trained by an Eye to Eye national staff member, given personal references, and background checked (if over the age of 18 years old).

OUR RESULTS

Experience with thousands of students with LD/ADHD tells us that the Eye to Eye model of mentoring relationships works. Independent academic research now confirms this as well. Research conducted by Harvard University Graduate School of Education and Columbia University Teachers College show the following about **mentees** who have gone through our program:

88% of students felt better about themselves.

93% reported that their mentor was the kind of student they wanted to be.

77% believed that their mentor helped them learn how to ask for the things they need in order to do well in school.

86% reported “Being a part of Eye to Eye got me to think about what I am good at”

And our mentees aren't the only ones to benefit. Research conducted with Eye to Eye **mentors** also reveals that:

84% felt that being part of Eye to Eye made them a better advocate for themselves as a student with a learning difference.

88% agreed or strongly agreed that Eye to Eye helped them to think about their own learning style and metacognitive skills.

99% reported that because they felt like part of a real community (often for the first time) that they were able to increase their self-confidence, self-esteem, and their ability to act as an advocate for themselves.

**WELL TRAINED, DEDICATED,
COLLEGE & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT
MENTORS WITH LD/ADHD**

**UNIQUE, ART-BASED CURRICULUM
WHERE THERE ARE NO RIGHT OR
WRONG ANSWERS**

**HELPS KIDS WITH LD/ADHD TO
ADVOCATE FOR THEMSELVES**

**KIDS WITH LD/ADHD LEARN TO
UNDERSTAND THEIR STRENGTHS
AND HOW TO BUILD UPON THEM**

**MENTORS INSPIRE STUDENTS TO
EXPECT MORE OF THEMSELVES**

**MENTEES BUILD ESSENTIAL SELF-
CONFIDENCE**

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

“

She fell in love with the first mentor she ever had. She had so much fun doing the different art projects and the thing that she came out with towards the end of that first year, she said, ‘Mom they have learning difficulties too and they figured out ways to work around it and I am too.’

”

*Brenda
Mentee mother from California*

“

You’re talking to a grown up that actually knows what you’re going through and it makes you feel like, ‘Oh I’m not the only one out there.’ It’s a fun place to learn art and how if you have a learning disability you should never give up and you’re not different from other people you can still do the same thing.

”

*Joey
Mentee from Wyoming*

“

Looking back at my elementary school years I had a lot of trouble and I knew that I learned differently than everybody else. I remember feeling like I was always behind and struggling to keep up with everybody and stay focused. I remember talking to my mentee one day and they said, ‘I just can’t sit still when I’m sitting on my desk.’ I told them, ‘Well when I’m sitting at my desk in class I play with silly putty in my hands underneath the desk and nobody knows but me. That’s what keeps me focused, that’s what keeps my hands busy.’ You learn things as you get older but if somebody had told me these things when I was their age my school years would’ve been a lot easier. I like to pass those things down every time I see them.

”

*Isaiah
Mentor from New York*

“

I don’t have a learning disability I don’t know what he goes through and it’s hard for him and I know it is. As the parent it always pulls at your heartstrings, you don’t want to see your kid struggle and he does and for him to like school and to like being here is a success for him and is a success for me. It brings tears to my eyes because it makes me know too that he’s not alone and that he can still succeed and he can do a lot.

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*Rae
Mentee mother from Georgia*

“

If any parent ever wanted to know if they should send their kid I would say send them, send your child. They will benefit from it, they will learn from it, and they will take home skills that can’t be taught from someone who doesn’t have the same situation.

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*Jonathan
Mentee parent from New Hampshire*