

Friends Select School Partners with Drexel University for Summer Entrepreneurship Course

By Casey Ann Beck

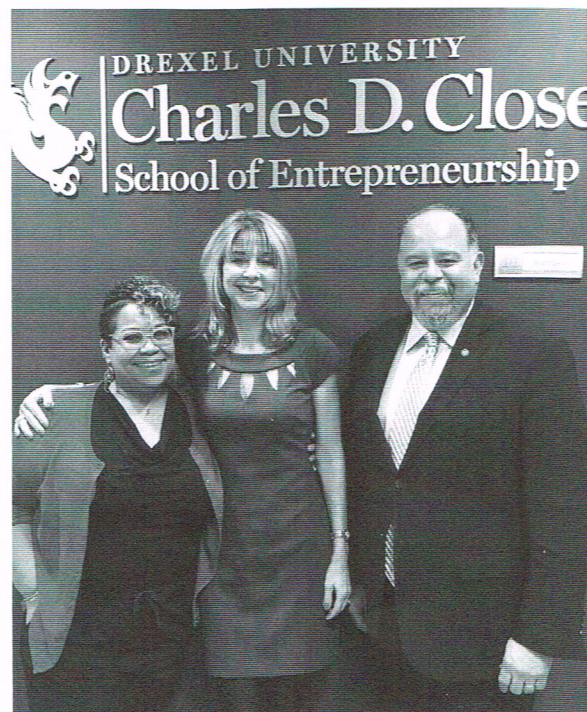
In partnership with Drexel University's Close School of Business, Friends Select School will offer *Nature, Grittiness, Grit, and Entrepreneurship in The City* as part of its flagship SummerSessions course offerings, July 9 to 20.

Rising 10th through 12th graders can enroll in this immersive urban experience, with explorations of Philadelphia's unique and unsung landmarks. Three-hour classes will take place largely off campus, and the varied journeys will expose students to both fabricated and natural beauty, as well as challenging social problems. Students will be joined by inspiring local social entrepreneurs making a positive impact on the city's neighborhoods. By course's end, students will gain an awareness of Philadelphia's many strengths and—perhaps—an urge to get involved in a cause that speaks to their personal passion.

In the summer of 2017, officials from Friends Select and Drexel convened to lay the groundwork for Friends Select's summer entrepreneurship course. Desiree Harmon, Middle School Dean and SummerSessions Director at Friends Select, met with Drexel's Close School of Entrepreneurship founding Dean and Silverman Family Professor of Entrepreneurial Leadership Donna De Carolis, Ph.D.; Damian Salas, Assistant

Teaching Professor and Assistant Dean of Drexel's Entrepreneurship Programs; and Scott Quitel, the Close School's Director of Social Entrepreneurship, and founder of Land Health Institute—a local nonprofit whose mission is to “Put Nature Back,” through exploration, environmental education, and community-based land revitalization. Quitel will further enrich the course with his expertise and instruction, and will incorporate material from the courses he teaches at Drexel.

Harmon encourages high school students from both private and public schools in Philadelphia to consider enrolling in the course. “The *Nature, Grittiness, Grit, and Entrepreneurship In The City* summer course offers high school students an intensive two weeks of college-level material and instruction, taught by a Drexel professor,” she says. “It is a wonderful addition to our SummerSessions rotation and an extension of how Friends Select uses the city as its classroom throughout the academic year. It is a really genuine and unique experience that cannot be found anywhere else in Philadelphia.”



(From left) Desiree Harmon, Donna De Carolis, and Damian Salas, along with Scott Quitel (not pictured), created a unique summer curricular experience for Philadelphia's high school students.

For more information about Friends Select School and its SummerSessions programming, including course listings and descriptions, enrollment costs, and the online application, visit www.friends-select.org/summersessions, or contact Desiree Harmon at desireeh@friends-select.org

Greenfield School Participates in National School Walkout March 14

Greenfield students participated in the National School Walkout on Wednesday, March 14. Along with principal, teachers and parents, students in grades 5 to 8 walked out of the school at 10 am and gathered in the schoolyard, where they remained standing for 17 minutes to demonstrate solidarity with the victims of the recent school shooting in Parkland, Florida, and others, and to support gun control. Encouraging these young people to make their voices heard, Principal Dan Lazar spoke about the tragedies and the need to ensure that no school shooting ever happens again.

—Bonnie Eisenfeld

