



HORIZONS

A ONE-OF-A-KIND PROGRAM

**“HORIZONS GIVES YOU
A CHANCE TO MAKE A
DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD
AND IN THE COMMUNITY.”**

12TH GRADE STUDENT



MISS
HALL'S
SCHOOL

THURSDAYS

Thursdays mean Horizons at Miss Hall's School. It also means the entire school day changes: ninth grade students immerse themselves in on-campus workshops and projects that prepare them for future Horizons work, build leadership skills, and strengthen connections among them. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors spend the morning volunteering and interning around the Berkshire community or leading on-campus, independent projects that shape the world around them.



When we came to Miss Hall's, we joined a diverse community on a beautiful campus.

We also opted into a learning laboratory that empowers us to discover our passions, practice our voices, and have influence in the world.

Horizons is where the Miss Hall's commitment to engagement, service, and leadership comes to life.

Contributing boldly and creatively to the common good through the Horizons program might be the most life-changing part of our time at Miss Hall's.

It could become the best part of yours.

Horizons is our hands-on, real-world, service-learning and internship program.

Through weekly on- and off-campus internships, volunteer opportunities, and on-campus student-led projects, 100 percent of Miss Hall's students spend Thursdays developing leadership skills, exploring career interests, and making a difference in the communities around them. **The program takes place every Thursday from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., with additional time scheduled to reflect on and learn from our experiences.**

Horizons evolves sequentially: as students move from one year to the next, they build on skills learned earlier in their Horizons work.

9th Grade: Moving from the individual to the group: team-building, collaboration, and learning to grow and work together.

10th Grade: Looking beyond campus at landscapes both literal (the environment and sustainability) and socioeconomic (the community around us).

11th Grade: Identifying passions and studying nonprofits. Building the professional skills and intellectual understanding to have a real impact.

12th Grade: Internships at the intersection of individual passion and community need.

9TH

SERVING SELF & OTHERS

Every student is new to the School—and to each other, so ninth-grade Horizons emphasizes team building; diversity, equity, and inclusion; health and wellness; financial literacy; and media literacy. Through discussions, workshops, interdisciplinary learning, and projects such as Arty Party and the Greenhouse Business Project, we develop voice, vision, interpersonal skills, and gumption—all traits of a Miss Hall's student.



There's no way we could fit everything about Horizons into a few short pages. When you see this symbol, that means there's more to see, hear, and experience at [misshalls.org/horizons](https://www.misshalls.org/horizons).



ARTY PARTY

We start with product ideas—necklaces, terrariums, art, and more—and develop a business around them. We work together to make the items, develop sales plans, calculate costs, and then sell the finished products to the Berkshires community. We then decide where to donate our profits. We learn business skills, teamwork, and philanthropy—learning has never been so fun.

GREENHOUSE BUSINESS PROJECT

We learn how to propagate and nurture plants that will eventually be sold to the community in original, handmade pottery. We also raise vegetables to be donated to community gardens throughout the Berkshires. Profits go to the class fund and the Annual Fund for MHS.

INTERDISCIPLINARY LEARNING

Led by “Team 9” faculty and staff, we participate in experiential days and long-term projects, such as the Power of Poetry Project (a.k.a. POP!), that help us make connections, use our voice, and explore academics across disciplines.



See more photos and video from these projects at [misshalls.org/horizons](https://www.misshalls.org/horizons).

10TH

PLACE-BASED LEARNING

The sophomore year is when we connect with the world around us. We explore the landscape beyond the MHS campus, focusing on local environmental studies and farming, and we participate in workshops that emphasize the history, politics, and economics of the Berkshire region. We also step off-campus with class-wide service projects and small-group visits to Horizons sites. This hands-on activism paves the way for further exploration of nonprofit organizations in the junior year.

SOPHOMORE PROJECTS

On campus, we help prepare and grow vegetables in our campus garden. As a class, we unpack access community-wide, and support off-campus initiatives in the community that help specifically with food access. We learn about the Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) model while harvesting vegetables at local farms and gleaning food for area food shelves. We have brainstormed ways to improve sustainability on campus and have partnered with local environmental organizations to learn about community conservation efforts. We pitch in to help, too!

I was so excited to start work off campus. I was interested in working with children. Thanks to sophomore Horizons, I learned a great deal about who I am now and what I can do to volunteer in my community.

—10TH GRADE STUDENT

WELCOME TO BERKSHIRE COUNTY

Horizons takes us all over the county—internship sites are scattered throughout the cities and towns noted in grey on this map.

12,000+

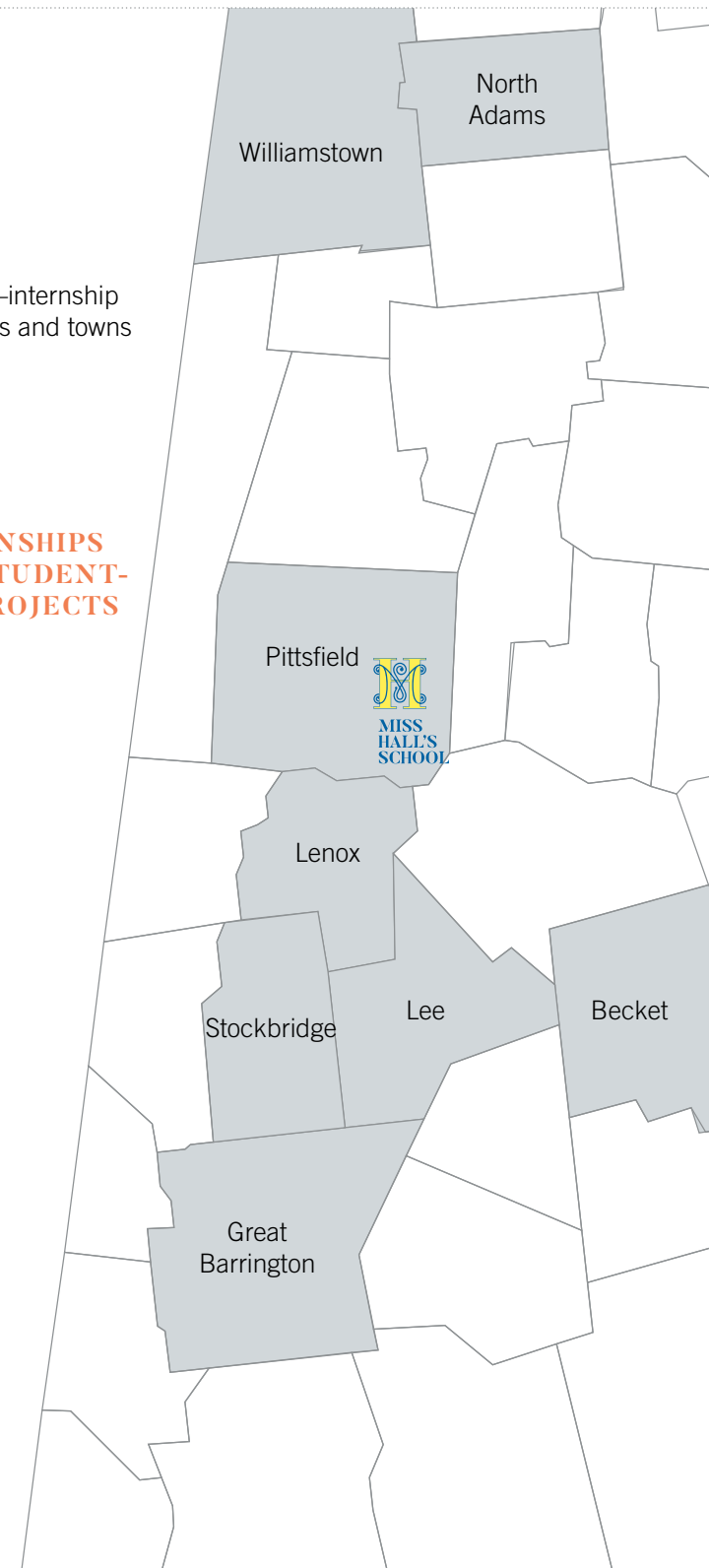
VOLUNTEER HOURS GIVEN TO THE BERKSHIRES COMMUNITY EACH YEAR

75

INTERNSHIPS AND STUDENT-LED PROJECTS

SOME OF OUR INTERNSHIP SITES INCLUDE:

Government offices, legal firms, museums, physical therapists, publishers, engineering firms, financial companies, farms, spas and health centers, schools, retirement communities, theaters, hospitals and medical sites, environmental agencies, civic organizations, television studios, social services, cultural organizations, historic sites, and more. There are also opportunities for remote internships worldwide.



See a complete listing of internship sites at misshalls.org/horizons.

YOU: PRACTICING YOUR VOICE

A number of pioneering student-directed initiatives have emerged as on-campus Horizons projects, through which students work in teams to advocate for issues they care about most.



Read amazing work by girls from around the world at girlsrighttheworld.org.

MHS MAKES

Launching in fall 2019, MHS Makes is a blog that celebrates and disseminates student-produced academic and extracurricular work, as well as original multimedia stories by Miss Hall's students about topics of interest to the greater MHS community and beyond.

STARTING UP @ MHS

Your chance to become an entrepreneur! Students are paired with mentors to give young women a chance to write a business plan, develop prototypes, present their innovations, and iterate, laying the groundwork for starting their own ventures.

"I enjoy having the ability to practice my leadership skills and showcase my abilities NOW!"
—Candidate for Starting Up @ MHS 2018–19

GIRLS RIGHT THE WORLD

An online literary journal advocating for young, female-identified writers and artists around the globe by publishing exceptional poetry, prose, short stories, lyric essays, and visual art.

"We believe in the power of young women, sisterhood, and creativity through writing. I really enjoy the discussions that we have about people's work and getting to read the work and perspectives of young women from all over the world, but most of all I love that I am participating in a project that provides young women with a platform and truly makes a difference in people's lives." —Student Founder

MIRA'S ALLIANCE FOR PHILANTHROPIC SUSTAINABILITY (MAPS)

A girl-driven, internationally focused organization that educates and fundraises within the Miss Hall's community, promoting sustainable philanthropy around the world.

"Through MAPS I use my voice, and my opinions are always respected." —MAPS student



PROJECT G.I.R.L.

Student-led digital storytelling that demonstrates "Gumption In Real Life," audio narratives on topics of particular interest to teenage girls.

"We believe in the power of voice. One story at a time, we are sharing the voices of teenage girls across the world."
—Project G.I.R.L. Student



See the digital stories put together by our students at bit.ly/project-girl.

11TH

SERVICE TO COMMUNITY

Building on site work in the sophomore year, juniors continue volunteering at nonprofits around western Massachusetts. As we develop career interests, we also assume more responsibility and take more initiative at our sites.

As our appreciation and understanding of nonprofit structures grow, we create our own mock nonprofit—applying not only what we've learned about the world's needs, but also how to start addressing those needs. In the second half of the year, we develop professional application materials that we use to apply for senior-year internships—and to bolster our college applications.



Hear more from students about their Horizons experience at misshalls.org/horizons.



I love that Miss Hall's School teaches us more than just academics. It teaches us to go to college aware of problems in the world and ready to make a change for the better.

—11TH GRADE STUDENT



12TH

PROFESSIONAL INTERNSHIPS & PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

The culmination of the Horizons program is a year-long professional internship that is tailored to our interests and passions. For some, the internship continues previous volunteering efforts; for others, it is a bold new step.

Whether at a for-profit business, nonprofit organization, or government entity, we engage in both strategic and tactical elements of our work. At the end of the year, we share our experiences in community presentations. These serve not only as pitches to younger students about internships they might consider, but also as a professional moment for us to practice the analyzing and public-speaking skills we've developed at MHS.

Senior projects also require us to make substantive contributions to our sites, the community, and our own learning. In many cases, this work is added to our portfolios for college and beyond.

SAMPLE SENIOR PROJECTS

SPREADING THE WORD

Presenting at the #LEADLIKEAGIRL Conference, sharing insights with, "Building Confidence and Promoting Body Positivity."

DESIGN BUILD

Interning at a local engineering office and participating in a High School Bridge Competition as part of National Engineers Week 2019

Visiting the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art, I was always intrigued by how visitors interact with the installations in the galleries. I always thought to myself, I want to work in the arts someday. Now I am.

—12TH GRADE STUDENT



CUATRO POR VENEZUELA

Partnering with local medical offices to collect supplies — baby formula, diapers, food — for families affected by the humanitarian crisis in Venezuela.

RAISING AWARENESS

Researching threats to the regional watershed and sharing practical steps and actions to mitigate environmental threats.

HISTORY ALL AROUND

Assisting in creating an exhibit exploring local neighborhoods and showcasing the city's history, diversity, and rich community spirit.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Delving into the economics of carbon pricing and providing an overview of economic solutions to global warming.

LEAD NOW SO YOU CAN LEAD LATER

Horizons is learning in action; It's leadership skills honed through practice; It's deep, authentic connections to community.



It's not just about the resume; it's about real experience and building confidence now so I can lead now AND in my future.

—11TH GRADE STUDENT





There's no better way to learn more about this one-of-a-kind program—and all of the leadership opportunities at Miss Hall's—than to come to the Berkshires and experience for yourself the campus, the classes, and the people. Stop by misshalls.org to schedule your visit today.



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