



PRESS RELEASE

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**Dr. Elaine Ruiz Lopez
Congratulates 2014 Graduates
Bronx, NY June 24, 2014**

Dr. Elaine Ruiz Lopez congratulates an exceptional group of young scholars on their great achievement as the International Leadership Charter High School (ILCHS) celebrates Cohort V Graduation on Friday, June 27, 2014. Our highlighted speakers will be Cid Wilson, *Commissioner Appointee of President Barack Obama National Museum of the American Latino Commission* and Rev. Dr. Alfonso Wyatt, Founder of Strategic Destiny and author of "*Mentoring from the Inside Out*". Our Valedictorian is Leoscar Roman who will be attending SUNY Binghamton and the Salutatorian is Dinesia Hart attending Quinnipiac University in the fall; our graduates received an average of 8 college acceptances each. We are extremely proud of our 62 Graduates their hard work combined with ILCHS College Preparatory program produced a 98% graduation rate.

ILCHS, the first public charter high school in the Bronx, opened its doors on September 11th, 2006 to serve eighty-eight ninth-grade students. Within three years, ILCHS was recognized as:

- The 2nd best performing charter school in New York City;
- The 6th best performing New York City public school; and
- A school landing in the top 1% of schools in New York City receiving an 'A' rating on the NYC Department of Education Progress Report.

Only a year later, the first graduating class at ILCHS saw 95% of students graduate, many of whom proudly went on to be the first in their family to attend college. This accomplishment has continued each year, culminating in the *US News & World Report* naming for two consecutive years ILCHS as one of the "Best High Schools of 2014 & 2013."

This success continues to be possible due to the commitment of the ILCHS family not only to its own upward trajectory, but also to that of the community it serves.

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