

The Ninth Street School  
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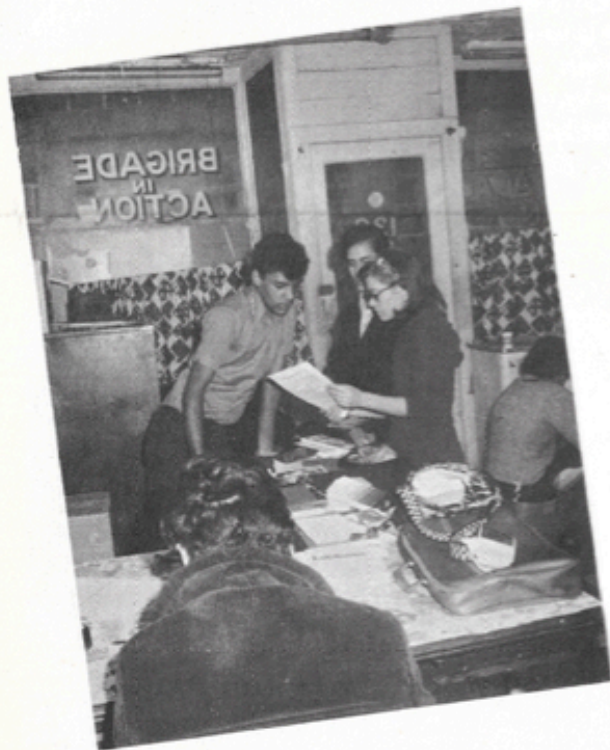
School is a heartless gamble with young people's lives. Our young people are looking for a new way of life, and finding only a way to survive.

fred



Layout and Design by Ramon Rojas

# THE NINTH STREET SCHOOL



## BROCHURE

The Ninth Street School is a bi-lingual community school located in the predominantly Puerto Rican community of New York's Lower East Side. Begun in September of 1971, it was planned and is now run by students and teachers who live in this community.

The school accepts students of Junior and Senior High School age who, for whatever reason, have left the traditional school system, and those who because of present difficulties are potential dropouts. There is no tuition.

All students work out their own program of studies, in consultation with the teachers. Reading, writing and math are emphasized for students who need to achieve standard levels in these areas. Beyond this, curriculum is developed according to the needs and interests of each student. Learning takes place in many ways: through classes, discussions, films, tapes, videotapes and the use of other resources. Students may do individual projects, and older students may participate in a variety of apprenticeships within the community.

The real core of the Ninth Street School is the relationship between students, teachers, parents and community. These which extend beyond the area of the school, make it possible for real learning and growth to take place. To ensure the development of such an environment of personal communication and support, a maximum of 30 students will be accepted.



john

To teach and learn  
through experiencing others  
To recognize and cultivate  
natural abilities and the desire  
to think for ourselves  
To realize my potentials  
and admit my inadequacies  
To question, doubt and challenge —  
and by so doing develop in ourselves  
The skills of social, political,  
and cultural criticism.



The Ninth Street School is not like a school. It's more like a family of adults and teenagers working together to make the world easier to cope with, to learn, to participate, to help others in our community. I feel I learn more things in this family than I did at school or in the streets. They don't push you to do anything; you have to hustle yourself.

juan carlos



Running parallel to our struggle for self-identity and solidarity, is our struggle to acquire the basic skills necessary for survival in this society. Whether it be the written word or the "numbers game," we relate to it. Be it the moving part or the electron fluctuation, we explore the far-reaching consequences and our responsibilities.

gil



On the one hand you get a wanting of learning, a form of self-discipline and responsibility and a warm feeling of openness and closeness toward each other. On the other hand, there's the struggle of getting that want and interest out, the forming of your discipline, and for me especially, not letting freedom get to your head.



Tomorrow, a day in our lives  
A new birth, a sad death, a welfare check.  
Tomorrow, a day that is new, a day  
That is old. New surprises, and jealousies.  
Tomorrow, bring your love, bring war.  
You have to prepare for all the things to live,  
love and feel for others. Be yourself.

ivan

juan carlos

One of the most painful things about the school is that there's never enough time for the things we want to do. The most exciting things right now, I think, are the Writing Workshop, exploring museums and art galleries, writing our own books, making tapes, coming alive to our social and political reality. But we're just beginning; there's so much more to get into. .

kathy

