

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New York's First British School to Open Its Doors this September Filling Educational Void for Many Residents and Expats in The City

The British International School of New York Now Accepting Applications for 100 Spots for Its Inaugural Class of 4-7 Year-Olds

NEW YORK, 15 March 2006 –New York will soon have its first English National Curriculum school. The British International School of New York (BIS/NY) will open its doors on the 14th of September in a new facility overlooking the East River at 23rd Street in Manhattan. Applications are now being accepted for the 100 spots available for Reception to Year 3 (4-7-Year-Olds), and older students on a case-by-case basis.

Co-founders Elizabeth Perelstein and Andrea Greystoke, two professional educators from New York and London, respectively, were inspired to found the new school after learning that the British curriculum was not offered in a city as international as New York. "Until now, if parents here wanted their children to follow the esteemed English National Curriculum, they had no option," noted co-founder Elizabeth Perelstein. "BIS/NY will combine the English National Curriculum with the teaching philosophy of the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program (IBPYP). We are excited by the prospect of providing a well-researched, dynamic, new educational alternative for discerning New Yorkers and the many expatriates who find themselves working in the Big Apple."

The co-founders have appointed David Morse, 46, as the first Headmaster of BIS/NY. Mr. Morse has over 20 years working in the British education system and particular familiarity in running schools abroad. Most recently he was Headmaster of Clevedon House Preparatory School & Day Care Nursery in Ilkley, Yorkshire and before that Deputy Headmaster of Jeddah Prep and Grammar School in Saudi Arabia. At both schools he increased the pupil roll significantly. A graduate of Durham University in Natural Sciences, he obtained his teaching qualification in Earth Sciences from the University of Bath. He is currently writing a thesis on "The Management of Change in Schools" for his master's degree in education. He is married with two school age children of his own.

Anthony Millard, Chairman of BIS New York's Board, and in his own right a distinguished British educationalist, commented, "We have been fortunate to secure the services of such an experienced and strong school leader to take on the role of founding Headmaster. David Morse's intellect, character and energy will prove a winning combination. BIS/NY's students will indeed have the benefit of a British education today to prepare them for an international world tomorrow."

Founding Headmaster David Morse will direct the development of The English National Curriculum and IBPYP teaching philosophy at BIS/NY. The British Curriculum uniquely mandates a formalized, individualized program for each student to encourage each one to fulfill his or her potential. "The individualized approach and BIS/NY's staff-to-pupil ratio of 1-9 will allow our students to master traditional disciplines quickly and in depth. This individualization combined with the inquiry-based philosophy of the IBPYP will make BIS/NY very appealing to British expats and internationally minded families living in New York," said Andrea Greystoke, co-founder of BIS/NY and founder and Headmistress of London's highly regarded Abercorn School.

Conveniently located in Waterside Plaza, the school has large classrooms filled with natural light that offer extraordinary river views. It is located on a quiet and safe cul-de-sac for student drop-off and pick-up, as well as parking for parents. Additionally, students will have exclusive access to a bright gymnasium, swimming pool, two playgrounds, as well as a restaurant that will cater the school lunches served in a large multi-purpose room.

Ms. Perelstein, President of School Choice International (SCI), a national educational consulting firm, first perceived the need for this approach when many of her client families declined work assignments because the city could not provide continuity for their children's home country curriculum. She set out to find a British educator who shared her vision of a English National Curriculum School combined with the internationally respected teaching approach of the International Baccalaureate (IB). She found just such a person in Andrea Greystoke, the Headmistress of the Abercorn School in London.

Andrea Greystoke started the Abercorn School in London in 1987 with only 45 students. It now has over 400 students on four central London campuses and is rated by *The Times of London* as one of the top schools in the UK. American born, educated at Radcliffe College, the first female teacher at the prestigious St. Paul's School in London, Ms. Greystoke, who is married to a Brit and has six grown children, knew all about transatlantic educational adjustment. The partnership with Ms. Perelstein was formed.

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Last Printed On: 3/15/2006 3:14:00 PM
As of Last Complete Printing
Number of Pages: 2
Number of Words: 805 (approx.)
Number of Characters: 4,591 (approx.)