



PREPARE

to succeed





On the calendar

August
North
Cross
Scho

OPENING DAY:

Convocation seats the new class of seniors in front of their fellow students for the first time. With the same bells used to begin classes in 1944, Ms. Lemon then literally rings in the new year.



ARE YOU READY TO EXPERIENCE THE MAGIC OF NORTH CROSS?

We are excited you are exploring North Cross! You will find here not just a school but a world of educational experiences awaiting your child; we are a vibrant learning community. Indeed, if you ask our parents, our students, and our faculty what they love most about North Cross, they will likely tell you that it is the strong sense of community here. What is it about our community that sets us apart?

1. We know that our students thrive in an academic environment where they feel known, seen, and valued. North Cross's long tradition of centering faculty-student relationships remains at the heart of the learning process here.

2. We believe in our mission. By emphasizing leadership, honor, and academic scholarship, our students develop the habits of heart and mind to become leaders in local and global communities, persons of intellectual and moral courage, and scholars in the service of others.

3. Our school spirit is irreplaceable: we call it Raider Pride. Our students cheer each other on and support each other across school divisions



▲ **ARMISTEAD LEMON '95** has been the Head of School at North Cross since 2022. She is the ninth Head of School, and notably the first woman and our first alumna to serve in the position. She came to us from Harpeth Hall in Nashville, where she was the Director of the Upper School. Ms. Lemon earned her B.A. in English Literature from Washington and Lee University and her M.A. in English Literature from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. She and her husband, Calvin, share two sons: Henry '32 and James '34.

at academic programs, arts offerings, and athletic events. Come to our school on any given day and you will experience the joy and pride in community firsthand.

At North Cross, our students form lifelong friendships while reaching their highest academic potential. Abundant curiosity and a sense of wonder are celebrated and nurtured here. Our families feel supported by our faculty and staff through a strong educational partnership unique to independent schools. Our alumni are accomplished lifelong learners and leaders who credit North Cross with the foundation for their success.

We invite you to visit North Cross's campus and learn more about our thriving academic community and the many opportunities awaiting you here.

Warm regards,

ARMISTEAD LEMON '95
HEAD OF SCHOOL

September



HONORABLE MENTION:
The North Cross School Honor Code is as simple as it is powerful. "I will not lie. I will not cheat. I will not steal." All students—even the three-year-olds—sign the pledge.



A BUDDING FRIENDSHIP:
As a school that has students from age 3 through their senior year, our community is tight. Each fall, our senior class is paired with members of the Junior Kindergarten class as "buddies." More on this special relationship later in the year.

THINK BIGGER.

Keep going...

TELL US ABOUT IT

A good writer is a scholar who is able to think of big ideas and translate them in a way that is sensible, intriguing, and persuasive. All of our teachers, even the math teachers, expect students to be thoughtful communicators and orators—to bring ideas to life. Classmates might disagree with your conclusion but through the exercise of discussion and defense of ideas you will gain a deeper understanding of concepts and maybe even change a few minds. The benefit: fearless participation in the world around you.

A TEAM EFFORT

The Upper School curriculum features a well-seasoned faculty with one per every eight students. The average class size is 14. You may choose specialized academic paths to follow: Global Studies, STEM, Fine Arts (or all three!); or, take the road less traveled, and partner with a teacher for an independent study.*

A BETTER STANDARD

Though the AP curriculum is prescribed by the College Board, how it is taught at North Cross is anything but standardized. Stop by AP World History one morning and you may hear a student rapping about Marie Antoinette, or, hear the heated arguments in a mock trial of Alexander the Great. Beyond the coursework, these classes get students out of their comfort zone and into unfamiliar territory, literally. Global Studies Scholars are encouraged to travel to other countries and present a reflection of their experiences to their peers for credit toward a Global Studies diploma.

Advanced Placement Offerings

Biology	French Language and Culture
Calculus AB	Human Geography
Calculus BC	Latin
Chemistry	Physics 1
Comparative Government and Politics	Spanish Language and Culture
Computer Science A	Spanish Literature and Culture
Computer Science Principles	Statistics
Drawing	Studio Art 2-D Design
English Language and Composition	United States History
English Literature and Composition	World History: Modern
European History	

91% of our Upper School faculty hold advanced degrees.

On the calendar:

October



JOIN THE CLUB:

Opportunities abound for our students outside the classroom walls. Many will travel to other countries, take part in summer internships, or participate in a wide variety of school clubs. From playing the guitar to saving the environment, from reading to local youth to organizing a blood drive, there are plenty of avenues to express your passion or discover a new one.



“The new science labs have offered us fun and interesting opportunities to experiment and learn more about STEM.”

▲ New state-of-the-art labs at North Cross expose students like **ALEX HAMMOND '23** to a variety of STEM fields and demonstrate the inter-relatedness of science, technology, engineering and math. The labs also promotes creativity and design thinking skills through real-world, hands-on learning—such as this experiment to investigate the effects of liquid nitrogen on paper and ink.

TAKE IT



“At North Cross, my art teacher has taught me many more drawing skills, such as using perspective and shading. The school also has the best dorm for international students.”

▲ **DENZEL MARUFU '23** hails from Zimbabwe and attended North Cross for 2 years. A talented artist, he even gifted Head of School Armistead Lemon '95 with a hand-drawn portrait of her. Denzel was also the goalie for our varsity soccer team and acted as an unofficial mentor for several other international student-athletes.

FROM ME.

Students and alumni speak their minds.

"There are different ways you can express yourself, whether it's academically or socially. I think that the wide variety available here **allows every student to be ambitious** in everything that they do."

MAKAYLA BIBBY '20 ON STAGE AT THE ANNUAL MUSES AT BAY STUDENT TALENT SHOWCASE



"The teachers really loved us."

It was a very nurturing community of teachers who let us experiment with expression. I conceived the ambition to become a writer here at North Cross."

LIZA MUNDY '78, NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR



"I had a teacher who gave up his free period to teach me organic chemistry."

I left with a sense of breadth and knowledge that prepared me to do well in my career and shaped me into the person I am today."

DR. WILL DICHEL '96, 2015 MACARTHUR GENIUS GRANT RECIPIENT (PICTURED WITH RETIRED CHEMISTRY TEACHER "DOC" MAYCOCK)



Scan to watch

See the magic of North Cross through the eyes of students, parents, and teachers.

"In school you develop the knowledge, skills, character, and values that will impact how you work with others and make life decisions. North Cross made sure that I had the **direction and confidence to challenge myself** and pursue the opportunities my time there afforded me."

TYLER CAVENESS '10, NATIONAL D-III RUNNING BACK OF THE YEAR 2009, HARVARD UNIVERSITY CLASS OF 2014, NORTH CROSS BOARD MEMBER, PARENT OF 2 NORTH CROSS STUDENTS



On the calendar:

November



TRY IT, NOT TRY OUT:

Game on: Athletics provide not only a healthy outlet but also a space to develop collaboration and leadership skills—with 11 sports over 3 seasons to choose from. Lead by example: Varsity captains speak at an assembly to their elementary peers about fairness, attitude, and sportsmanship.



SPEAK UP:

Find a subject you are curious to explore. Research it and understand it deeply. Write the paper that lays the groundwork for a 20-minute presentation to the entire Upper School. The senior DeHart Project neatly concludes the research, writing, and presentation training that are the hallmarks of a North Cross education.



LIBRARY

Over 15,000 volumes and 12 online databases, 20-station computer lab, and a full-time resource librarian. An adjacent Learning Center offers tutoring and support for students with language-based learning differences by Orton-Gillingham-trained instructors.



ATHLETICS

Thirty-three teams; a 62,000 square-foot athletic facility with Cybex strength training equipment; free-weight room; indoor track; 6-lane, 25-yard, heated indoor pool; 3 basketball/volleyball courts; 2 racquetball courts; squash court; 3-court practice gym; hardwood court game gym; cardio room with treadmills, elliptical trainers, Stairmasters and cycles; 6 tennis courts; 2 Bermuda grass playing fields; 2 practice fields; and a ballpark with covered dugouts and batting cage.



SCIENCE

Newly renovated, fully equipped physics, biology, chemistry, and computer labs. Robotics Team and Coding Team. An all-new Design Lab to house our STEM Certificate program and Robotics curriculum.



ARTS

Two art studios, art gallery, small printing press, silkscreen, monoprint, block printing, five potter's wheels, kiln, extruder, slab roller, pug mill. Digital drawing board and variety of styluses, scanner, laser and ink-jet printers, 3-D printer, graphic design computer lab with Adobe Creative Cloud Suite. Band room, chorus room, 300-seat theatre/auditorium, multiple instruments, and music library with over 500 selections.

“The highlight of living here is getting to know many people from around the world and being exposed to different perspectives on life, and on the other hand, getting to know Roanoke and the ‘American’ way of living.”

Austrian MORITZ MITTENDORFER '24 and his fellow boarding students enjoy returning after school to the downtown dorm and hang out until dinner, playing table tennis, gaming, getting an early start on homework, or just relaxing.



GIVE ME SPACE.



◀ DORM

Within a ten-minute bus ride to campus, the immaculately restored historic **Boxley Building (pictured left)** is centrally located in the heart of downtown Roanoke, nestled among the Blue Ridge mountains. Three-person suites have a common area and an en-suite bathroom. Floors are organized by gender and each has its own resident advisor. Dinners and weekend meals are taken at the dorm while students take breakfast in the dining hall on campus. A residential director organizes orientation and weekend activities.

LOCATION

The best of city life coupled with a stunning rural setting makes Roanoke a unique experience for visitors and students alike. The Roanoke Valley (located 250 miles southwest of Washington, D.C., and 196 miles north of Charlotte, North Carolina) hosts many festivals, cultural events, and entertainment opportunities, all within a short distance from our campus. These features coupled with its proximity to the Appalachian Trail make it a city with something for everyone.

CAMPUS

Our most recent capital campaign, The Legacy Campaign, transformed our campus and matched the facilities to the excellent instruction that happens inside. With an all-new library, completely renovated upper school (including a new Design Lab, fully equipped science labs, and flexible classrooms), student commons, and an expanded theatre and backstage, the campus became more pedestrian- and student-focused, giving our community plenty of spaces in which to exchange ideas and enjoy time together.

On the calendar:

January



ACT OUT:

There are two major school performances put on each year by our Middle and Upper School students, a theatrical production in the winter, and a musical in the spring. Everyone is encouraged to participate, and many do, from football players to Chorale members, from seasoned theatre nerds to first-timers, and everything in between.

February



GATHER AROUND:

Symposium is a full day when the outside community comes in to teach our students about what they do. You might learn a new dance move, how to hammer a metal bowl, the key to a good presidential speech, or what meteors can tell us about space. Throughout the year, you'll hear from experts in their fields through our CrossCurrents Speaker and Dialogue Series. Ever have lunch with a best-selling author? Join us.

YOU GOT THIS.



“Being a student athlete at North Cross has been a great experience. Our baseball team is small so we have to work together, encourage each other, and maximize each player’s abilities. I try to lead by example and put in extra work outside of practice. It is also really cool when our teachers and students of all ages come watch our games, especially when we won the conference championship. We are a big family here at North Cross.”

▲ ASHTON SHANNON '24

27
State
Championships

175
Conference
Titles



“I think the most significant thing I learned from North Cross athletics was resiliency. Coming from an area where field hockey isn’t very popular, you have to utilize every resource you can to compete at the next level, even if it means practicing on the back of a basketball court! I was also incredibly lucky to be surrounded by a team full of my best friends that supported my individual goals to pursue a collegiate career in field hockey and showed me that teamwork is essential to success in anything that you do.”

▼ AVERY STURM '15 graduated from her D-I field hockey years playing at Miami University in Ohio and now works in marketing for E.J. & Gallo Wineries.

Join in:

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Cross-Country
- Field Hockey
- Football
- Golf
- Lacrosse
- Soccer
- Strength Training
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Track & Field
- Volleyball

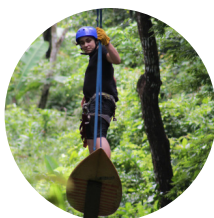
The small class sizes at North Cross not only benefit the education our students receive, but the amount of playing time on the field. Our mascot: the Raider. Our colors: red and black. The goal: a commitment to something bigger than yourself, the discipline to do your best, collaboration with your coach and your teammates, management of your time to balance your commitments—and, excel in all of them. These are the skills that you will master. These are the skills that will benefit you well beyond your years at North Cross.

North Cross School is a charter member of both the Blue Ridge Conference (BRC) for our girls’ teams and the Virginia Independent Conference (VIC) for our boys’ teams at the JV and varsity levels. North Cross School competes as part of the Virginia Independent School Athletic Association (VISAA). In 2022- 23, we won four VISAA State Championships (Boys Football, Boys Tennis, Boys Track & Field, and Boys Lacrosse), as well as seven Conference Championships (Boys Soccer, Football, Girls Tennis, Boys Tennis, Baseball, Boys Cross Country, and Boys Track & Field).



On the calendar:

March



SEE THE WORLD:

During spring break and summer break, students have opportunities to travel abroad with our faculty. Most recent, groups of students went to Costa Rica and France, where they experienced the sights, tastes, and sounds of the countries. Other trip destinations have included Italy, Greece, and Peru.

April



LIVE IT UP:

The Upper School Student Council Association makes sure no Raider is left behind. Each year they stage two Pep Rallies, one before Homecoming and another before spring conference playoffs. Every division of the school is involved, even faculty, in games of friendly competition. An annual Powderpuff Football game, the beloved Faculty/ Student Cup, and Bowling Night all add the “life” to student life.

MAKE IT HAPPEN.

Join in:

American Red Cross Club
Book Club
Chess Club
Coding Club
DEI Club
Environmental Club
Guitar Club
Math Club
Model United Nations
Reading to Kids Program
Robotics Club
Save The Next Girl Chapter
Ski Club
Speech & Debate Club
Student Council Association
Tutoring Club
Willis Hall Herald (student newspaper)
Yearbook/Media Club

In a small community, the individual shines. New students frequently comment on how easy it is to make friends here. Some students in the Upper School have been here their whole academic life. North Cross is their second home, their extended family. The care and empathy students receive from their teachers and peers translates into a confidence and willingness to explore the unknown. It also makes them pretty nice to be around.

Each year, you'll give 12.5 hours of your time to community service. Many of our students exceed that requirement. They may spend time at a local homeless shelter sorting items for their thrift store or chopping vegetables for the next meal. They will organize a fund drive for Hurricane victims. Or, they'll pick up a hammer for the latest Habitat for Humanity project. Maybe it will be a weekly trip to a community youth center where they help tutor and mentor children there. Whatever shape it takes, North Cross students learn early on the value of what our community gives them and are compelled to pay it forward.



▲ During summers, Upper School students can take part in the Malcolm K. Douglas **SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**. Partnerships with area businesses and organizations give students a window into the working world and help them explore interests in a professional setting. They can choose from an existing program, or create their own. Above: **DAVIS ALCORN '19** works in the lab at Novozymes during his internship with 4 other North Cross students.



A global perspective.

◀ **HALEY VU '23** A student from Vietnam, Haley is passionate about many different things, including food, fashion, and charity work. Her interest in exploring different cultures is what piqued her interest in studying abroad in the United States. Haley has been able to try many new and different foods, which is one of her primary hobbies. She also has an online store where she sells women's clothes and accessories. In addition, Haley loves doing charity work that includes giving gifts such as stuffed animals to sick children which she funds with earnings from her web-based business. "Although [picking out and wrapping the gifts] takes a lot of time and effort before the volunteer days come, when I personally hand over the gifts to the children, I feel extremely happy and relieved."



Rising to the occasion.

▲ In a whole-school initiative each year, students spend an entire day assembling approximately 10,000 balanced and nutritious meals for the nonprofit organization Rise Against Hunger. The food packaged by the students is then distributed to individuals in need across the globe. The experience provides a fun, educational way for the North Cross community to literally lend a hand to people facing hunger worldwide.

“Creativity is a

A WILD MIND

and a disciplined eye.”

DOROTHY PARKER



25%

of our Upper School students, on average, are enrolled in a studio arts class each year.

81%

of visual arts students saw at least 2 or more benefits from participating in fine arts, including self-awareness, improved observation skills, imagination, and—bonus!—friendship.



▲ The **SYMPHONIC BAND** and **CHORALE** members both have achieved All-District and All-State recognition consistently over the past several years.



A well-rounded education prepares knowledgeable, empathetic, and balanced individuals for a lifetime. Start with basic skills, add in thoughtful debate, and you’ll begin to form your own opinions, tastes, and ideas. Don’t keep them to yourself.

The arts program encompasses performance and media in order to enhance a student’s awareness and expression of their diverse experiences. Introductory art students are mixed with intermediate and advanced peers. The teacher circulates between students, thoughtfully guiding and instructing, making sure each creative voice learns to sing while finding inspiration in others. Graphic Design, Journalism, and Yearbook is just next door, and downstairs the Chorale and Symphonic Band have their rehearsal spaces.

Love the spotlight, or, just to control the spotlight? The school stages two full-scale performances each year: a theatrical production in the winter and a musical in the spring.

On the calendar:

May



SHOW OFF:

Every spring, the annual Student Art Show takes over the Logan Art Gallery and beyond to celebrate and display work from art students in the Middle and Upper Schools. It includes an exhibition of AP Studio Art portfolios and pieces by seniors in the Fine Arts Distinction Program.



“It’s just so special that I got to share this school with my father...we were able to have similar experiences and get to share stories with each other.”

▼ **TANNER VOGEL '22** is a Legacy at North Cross, where she and her father George Vogel '93 both attended school kindergarten through twelfth grade. As an alum, George had the unique opportunity to present his eldest daughter with her diploma during Commencement exercises. Tanner attends Eckerd College in Florida and is a member of their sailing team. She was the first diving competitor at North Cross, ultimately qualifying for the state meet. Her sister, Eliza, entered North Cross as a Junior Kindergarten 3 student and will graduate in 2026.



ONLY YOUR OWN

But, not really...

A journey of a thousand miles may begin with one step, but there are plenty of tiny bridges that help get our students from their first Convocation to Commencement Day. These bridges are the ongoing support and dedication they receive from our faculty, administration, friends, parents, and alumni—support that lasts well after they have their diplomas in hand.

Our full-time College Counselor knows our students well, and not just as potential college applicants, but as the unique young adults they have become. You'll regularly see her at athletic events, pep rallies, and performances, always rooting the loudest. The process of finding the right fit for a student's next educational journey is not one she takes lightly. She meets with families one-on-one, video chatting with our international families. Throughout the fall, we'll host many college and university representatives on campus so

students have firsthand access to admission officials representing colleges of choice.

Ultimately, we send our graduates off into the world as people of character with endless curiosity and a steadfast tenacity. They are prepared for success.

Recent College Acceptances:

American University
Berklee College of Music
Boston College
Boston University
Centre College
Clemson University
Colgate University
Davidson College
Hampden-Sydney College
Haverford College
Howard University
James Madison University
Johns Hopkins University
Middlebury College
New York University
Parsons School of Design | The New School
Rhodes College
Roanoke College
Savannah College of Art and Design
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Sewanee: The University of the South
The College of William and Mary
United States Naval Academy
University of Michigan
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill
University of Pennsylvania
University of Virginia
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Military Institute
Virginia Tech
Washington and Lee University

On the calendar:

May



BITTERSWEET:

Remember those buddies we mentioned earlier? Many alums will say their fondest memory of senior year is the Fat Pencil Ceremony. Seniors who have been at the school for 12+ consecutive years share memories on stage recounting their time at the school. Each Junior Kindergarten buddy sends their "lifer" off with a red Fat Pencil (and a hug) to remind our newest alumni of how far they've come since their first days as a Raider.

PREPARE YOURSELF.



North Cross was built on the belief that every child should have the support and cultivating environment that helps them reach their full potential. We've spent the last several decades creating spaces where knowledge inspires new questions, students become masters, yet individuals find a collective self inside a community who values difference and strives to find common ground.

Consider joining generations of families who have made North Cross the place where they prepared themselves for life, and for success.

Financial Assistance

Our tuition discount program, Tailored Tuition, is an option for which any family currently applying to North Cross or enrolled at the school can apply. Families concerned about affording the full tuition rate at North Cross School should consider this program. The discount takes into account each family's unique income and expense portfolio and adjusts tuition accordingly.

North Cross also offers merit-based scholarship programs for students who show exceptional leadership and academic accomplishment. For more information, visit the "How to Apply" page on our website: northcross.org.



Scan to inquire

A member of our Admissions team will be in touch when we receive your information.

2,000+

alumni form a global network of Raiders. Our graduates represent a wide range of expertise and interests—and, locations. Students have connected with them through campus speaking engagements and internship opportunities, forging new paths with familiar faces.

North Cross School At-A-Glance:

FOUNDED: 1944

STUDENT BODY: 588

Upper School: 204

Middle School: 108

Lower School: 276

COUNTRIES REPRESENTED BY STUDENTS:

Austria, China, Ethiopia, Germany, Israel, Italy, Nigeria, South Africa, Spain, United States, Vietnam, and Zimbabwe

STUDENT TO FACULTY RATIO: 8:1

AVERAGE CLASS SIZE: 14

NUMBER OF AP CLASSES: 21

(see p. 2 for a complete list)

CAMPUSES: 77 acres in Roanoke, Virginia with a down-town dormitory; Two campuses for North Cross Shanghai (grades 8-12): the Jing'an campus (grades 11-12) and the Baoshan campus (grades 8-10).

ACCREDITATION: North Cross is accredited by the Virginia Association of Independent Schools.

North Cross School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, gender, sexual orientation, or any other legally protected status in the administration of its educational, admission, financial aid or employment policies, or any other programs administered by the School.

Upper School Courses:

AP English Literature and Composition

English Literature

AP English Language

American Literature

British Literature

Thematic Literature

World Literature

—

AP French Language and Culture

AP Latin

AP Spanish Language and Culture

AP Spanish Literature and Culture

French 1-5

Latin 1-5

Spanish 1-6

Chinese 1

—

Advanced Graphic Design

Advanced Studio Art

AP Studio Art 2-D

Musical Theatre

Graphic Design

Intermediate Graphic Design

Introduction to Studio Art

Portfolio (Studio Art)

Symphonic Band

Chorale

—

AP Biology

AP Chemistry

AP Computer Science A

AP Computer Science Principles

AP Physics

Biology

Conceptual Chemistry/Chemistry/Honors

Chemistry

Conceptual Physics

Introduction to Computer Science

Engineering

Geoscience

Astronomy

Forensic Science

Aerospace Sciences

Physics

—

Algebra I

Algebra II

AP Calculus AB

AP Calculus BC

AP Statistics

Calculus

College Algebra and Trigonometry

Geometry

PreCalculus

—

AP Comparative Government and Politics

AP European History

AP Human Geography

AP U.S. History

AP World History: Modern

Modern World History

Introduction to Global Studies

U.S. Government

U.S. History

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Mission Statement

North Cross School is an independent, nonsectarian, college-preparatory school located in Roanoke, Virginia that serves children from early childhood (age 3) through twelfth grade. North Cross provides a rigorous academic curriculum, competitive with the best college-preparatory schools in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

While we explicitly recognize the importance of intellectual development and academic achievement, we also strive to promote personal integrity, empathy, and responsibility to self and community. Through this, our graduates will act as leaders in the local and global communities, persons of intellectual and moral courage, and scholars in the service of others.

Are you ready for more?

