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# 2013-14 School Profile

#### **School Mission**

North Cross School is an independent, coeducational, college-preparatory day school that serves children from age three through twelfth grade. In all of its programs, North Cross School strives to promote in its students scholarship and a love of learning; character and a sense of personal integrity and responsibility; and a commitment to the good of the community and all within it. Although we prepare our students to enter the finest colleges and universities in the country, we understand that such preparation is of greatest use when it provides for our students the personal and intellectual skills to lead full and meaningful lives. In all respects, North Cross School endeavors to be true to its motto: *Veritas Vincit* — *Truth Triumphs*.

## **Student Body**

North Cross School is committed to attracting and retaining students who show intellectual curiosity and who reflect varied social, economic, religious, ethnic, and racial backgrounds. Our student body reflects the diversity of the greater Roanoke metropolitan region. In the academic year 2013-14, the North Cross School student body is comprised of 482 students, with 157 students in the upper school and a senior class of 39.

#### **Accreditation and Associations**

North Cross School is accredited by the Virginia Association of Independent Schools and is a member of the National Association of Independent Schools, the National Association for College Admission Counseling, and the Potomac and Chesapeake Association for College Admission Counseling.

#### **Cum Laude Society**

North Cross School is a member of the Cum Laude Society, an international honor society comprised of 378 independent schools, including a small number of select public secondary schools. There are 15 chapters in Virginia. North Cross School inducts up to 20 percent of the senior class each spring.

#### **Honor Code**

The Code — I Will Not Lie; I Will Not Cheat; I Will Not Steal — was crafted by students and is administered by a student/faculty honor council. North Cross School does not report honor or disciplinary violations that occur prior to the senior year. Students, if asked

on college applications, are expected to self-report honor or disciplinary violations that have occurred at any time during their high school career.

#### **Advanced Placement**

In 2013–14, the following Advanced Placement courses are available at North Cross School: Calculus AB and BC, Chemistry, Comparative Government and Politics, English Language and Composition, French Language and Culture, Human Geography, Latin, Physics B, Spanish Language, Spanish Literature and Culture, Statistics, Studio Art 2-D Design, United States History, and World History. Enrollment in AP courses is limited to three per year and subject to departmental recommendation. Students enrolled in an AP course are required to take the AP exam, and in May, 2013, 69 students sat for 156 AP exams. Twenty North Cross School students were named AP Scholars in 2013.

## **Community Service**

North Cross School commits two school days each year to service in the Roanoke Valley. Students are required to participate.

## **DeHart Project**

For over four decades, students have been required to complete a senior project that includes a research paper of at least ten pages and a fifteen minute presentation to the entire upper school community. The fall and winter terms require students to establish an original topic, begin and complete research, and write a first and final draft of their paper. The presentations are given in the winter and spring terms. All elements of this project, including the paper, presentation, and audio-visual component, are graded by a faculty committee. A graduation requirement, "DeHart Project" appears on the transcript, but no academic credit is given. Grades are posted on the final transcript.

### **Global Studies Program**

The Global Studies Program is entering its second year in 2013-14. Participants take advanced courses, including several required AP courses, participate in travel abroad, service learning, and intensive study of at least one world language. Much of the work for Global Studies takes place outside the regular school day and participants agree to take on additional reading, attend area cultural events and lectures, and participate in seminar style

discussions. There will be a small number of 2014 graduates who earn a Global Studies Diploma and more program-specific information will accompany the transcript of a student preparing for the Global Studies Diploma.

## Course of Study

North Cross School is on a trimester calendar. Full-year courses are worth three credits and one-term courses are worth one credit. Students must have 66 credits to graduate. The school day is seven periods long, and the normal course load is six courses per year.

# **Graduation requirements**

In order to graduate from North Cross School, students must take the following courses in the upper school: four years of English, three years of math through at least Algebra II, three years of science including Physics, Chemistry, and Biology, three years of social studies including World History, United States History, and United States Government, two years of the same world language

through at least the third level of Spanish, French, or Latin, one year of fine arts, Ninth Grade Seminar, the tenth grade liberal arts sequence of Art History, Rhetoric, and History of the Twentieth Century, or AP World History, and successful completion of the DeHart Project.

# **Grading Scale**

Beginning in the academic year, 2013-14, the North Cross School grading scale changed from an A+=97-100, A=94-96, and A-=90-93 (and so on through the D range) to the following:

<b>A+</b> 97–100	<b>B+</b> 87–89	<b>C+</b> 77–79	<b>D+</b> 67–69	<b>F</b> 0–59
<b>A</b> 93–96	<b>B</b> 83–86	<b>C</b> 73–76	<b>D</b> 63–66	
<b>A-</b> 90–92	<b>B-</b> 80–82	<b>C-</b> 70–72	<b>D-</b> 60–62	

## SAT and ACT Distribution for the Class of 2013

SAT I CR & M (middle 50%)

980-1270 (35 of 35 students took the SAT)

ACT (middle 50%)

22-27 (28 of 35 students took the ACT)

## College and University Matriculations for the Classes of 2009-2013

Amherst College Harvard University Appalachian State University Haverford College Auburn University High Point University Bridgewater College Iowa State University **Brown University** James Madison University Bryn Mawr College Johns Hopkins University **Bucknell University** Liberty University Chabot College Longwood University

Massachusetts Institute of Technology Christopher Newport University

Cleveland State University Michigan State University College of Charleston Northwestern University Columbia University Oberlin College

Concord University Ohio State University Davidson College Old Dominion University

Drexel University Pratt Institute Elon University Presbyterian College

Emory & Henry College Radford University

Ferrum College Randolph-Macon College Richard Bland College Flagler College Roanoke College

Franklin and Marshall College

Furman University Savannah College of Art and Design George Mason University Sewanee, University of the South

Georgetown University Shenandoah University

Glenville State College St. Mary's College of Maryland

Guilford College Stanford University Hamilton College Stetson University

Hampden-Sydney College SUNY-Fashion Institute of Technology Sweet Briar College

The College of William and Mary

University of Georgia

University of Hawaii at Manoa

University of Kentucky

University of North Carolina at Asheville

University of North Carolina

at Greensboro

University of Mary Washington

University of Mississippi University of Pennsylvania University of Richmond University of South Carolina University of Virginia

University of Washington at Seattle University of West Georgia

University of Wisconsin

Virginia Commonwealth University

Virginia Military Institute

Virginia Tech

Washington and Lee University

Washington University West Virginia University Wheeling Jesuit University Winston-Salem State University

Wofford College