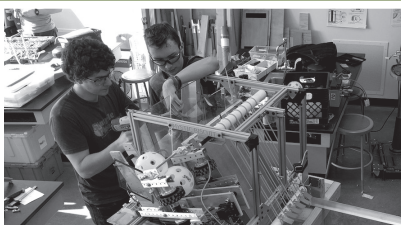


CASCADES ACADEMY

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS PROFILE 2022-2023



OUR MISSION

Cascades Academy is an engaged, vibrant community that weaves challenging academics with experiential learning to inspire socially responsible individuals ready for a diverse and changing world.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION

We seek to create a safe, nurturing community where we honor our unique selves, embrace the diverse perspectives and backgrounds of others, and promote social responsibility both within the school and beyond.

ACCREDITATION

Cascades Academy is accredited by the Northwest Association of Independent Schools (NWAIS) and AdvancED.

SCHOOL HISTORY

Cascades Academy is an independent PK-12 day school. The school opened in September 2003 to address the need for an independent college preparatory school in Central Oregon. Enrollment has grown from an initial 61 students to its current student population of 236. The Upper School has a total of 59 students in grades 9-12. Due to the small size of the classes, Cascades Academy does not rank its students.

CURRICULUM

Cascades Academy balances a challenging college preparatory curriculum with meaningful experiences outside of the classroom, including required professional internships, service learning, fine arts classes, travel (both domestically and internationally), and outdoor education. Both the fall and spring trimesters are approached in a place-based thematic format, with each culminating in an extended traveling program to the studied region. By exploring the curriculum through an integrated studies approach, upper school students make strong connections between the topics studied and the related environments and cultures.

The upper school program offers a schedule that not only allows for class trips outside of the school, but also provides students with opportunities for internships in the local community. The goal of the Cascades Academy upper school program is to successfully prepare students for the years ahead of them, both in college and beyond. Cascades Academy strives to create lifelong learners, critical, independent thinkers, and socially conscious individuals.

The Cascades Academy upper school program does not offer Advanced Placement courses; however, some of our students do take AP exams and score at the top nationally.

HEAD OF SCHOOL: Julie Amberg

UPPER SCHOOL HEAD: Lauren Kelley

UPPER SCHOOL ENROLLMENT: 59



CASCADES ACADEMY | Independent School PK-12

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LET'S CONNECT  

HIGHLIGHTS:

MASTERY PROJECT

Every 11th grade student participates in an eight-month (October – May) internship with a local organization in order to learn new skills or trades from experts in the community. Students choose the internship based on personal or professional interest and work an average of two hours each week with their organization. By the end of the year, students summarize their experiences through a culminating paper and presentation to the school community. Recent Mastery Projects included internships with companies and organizations in the following areas: journalism, healthcare, baking and culinary skills, program design, architecture, forestry, and law. Cascades Academy graduates frequently describe the Mastery Project as the program where they learned the most about a specific subject or skill as well as themselves.

LEGACY PROJECT

During their senior year, students complete the Legacy Project – a service-oriented project that leaves a tangible benefit to the school community. Students work as a class to create their project, detail a timeline of the different tasks to be completed, choose mentors to help them through the process, draw up a business plan if fundraising or sales are involved, and design a culminating presentation that clearly displays the process of this project.

TRAVELING SCHOOL

Each year the Cascades Academy Upper School travels to places directly related to different subject areas in their curriculum in order to learn experientially. Trips around the Pacific Northwest serve to teach students about our local region, including topics related to the social sciences, literature, writing, art, and science. Trips further away, such as Central America support not only these subjects but also complement the Spanish language program. Community connections and service learning are also prominent parts of this program.

HONORS PROJECT PROGRAM

The Honors Project is a program which provides any student in the Cascades Academy Upper School the chance to increase their academic challenge by creating a project based on a topic of interest. The topic chosen is directly related to a core course and mentored by the teacher of that course. When the Honors Project is successfully completed, the student receives an honors designation on their grade report and transcript.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

Throughout the four years at Cascades Academy, students participate in a number of service activities, both short-term and long-term. In ninth grade, students identify a community challenge, spend the year researching the needs and obstacles, and eventually nominate an organization to receive a donation. Through the ethos of giving back to the communities that welcome our school, the outreach program is also an important part of each traveling school experience. Finally, through the Cascades Academy experiential learning model, community outreach is integrated into the academic curriculum to deepen the learning and understanding of different subject areas.

GRADUATION AND GRADING

Cascades Academy is a member of the Mastery Transcript Consortium.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

12 credits*	English
12 credits	Social Studies
12 credits	Science
12 credits	Math
9 credits	World Language
3 credits	Mastery Project
2 credits	Legacy Project
2.5 credits	Electives
1.5 credits	Fine Arts
.5 credits	Health
2 credits	Fitness

* 3 Credits = Full Year Course

GRADING

A	93-100%
A-	90-92%
B+	87-89%
B	83-86%
B-	80-82%
C+	77-79%
C	73-76%
C-	70-72%
D+	67-69%
D	63-66%
D-	60-62%
F	Below 60%

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

Since our first graduating class of 2005, Cascades Academy has had 67 graduates; 100% were accepted to college. Alumni of Cascades Academy have been accepted at:

Albertson College
American University
Bard College
Benedictine College
Boise State University
Boston College
Boston University
California Polytechnic State University
Carroll College
Case Western University
Central Washington University
Clark University
Clarkson University
Colby-Sawyer College
Colorado College
Colorado School of Mines
Colorado State University
Cornish School of Art
DePaul University
Drexel University
Eckerd College
Elon University
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Emerson College
The Evergreen State College
George Fox University
Grinnell College
Humboldt State University
College of Idaho
John Cabot University
Kenyon College
Lewis & Clark College
Linfield College
Loyola Marymount University
Lynchburg College
McDaniel University
Menlo College
Middlebury College
Montana State University
Naropa University
Northern Arizona University
Oberlin College and Conservancy
Occidental College
The Ohio State University
Oregon Institute of Technology
Oregon State University
Oregon State University - Cascades
Oregon State University - Honors College
Pace University

Pacific Northwest College of Art
Pacific University
Portland State University
Purdue University
Quest University
Reed College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Santa Clara University
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Seattle Pacific University
Seattle University
Southern Oregon State
Swarthmore College
University, St. John's College
St. Mary's College of California
Trinity College (Dublin)
Trinity University
University of Arizona
University of California Davis
University of California San Diego
University of California Santa Barbara
University of California Santa Cruz
University of Cincinnati
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Denver
University of Hawaii-Manoa
University of Idaho
University of Michigan
University of Montana
University of Oregon
University of Oregon-Robert D. Clark Honors College
University of Portland
University of Puget Sound
University of Redlands
University of Rochester and Conservancy
University of San Diego
University of San Francisco
University of Texas-Austin
University of Utah
University of Vermont
University of Victoria, B.C.
University of Washington - Honors Program
University of Wyoming
Washington State University
Westminster College
Whitman College
Willamette University
Whitworth College

