

2020 | 2021 School Profile

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Non Scholae, Sed Vitae: Not for School, but for Life

# MISSION

Visitation School provides an excellent education within a Catholic environment permeated by Salesian Spirituality and the living tradition of the Visitation Sisters.

# SCHOOL

Visitation's Upper School (9-12) currently enrolls 307 students. Students come from the greater Twin Cities area and are of various religions, ethnicities and socio-economic backgrounds. The class of 2021 has 83 members, all of whom plan to attend a four-year college or university.

Our school was founded in St. Paul, Minnesota in 1873 by the Visitation Sisters of Holy Mary, who traveled up the Mississippi River from St. Louis, Missouri, to open a school for girls in the growing state of Minnesota. Now located in the St. Paul suburb of Mendota Heights, our school traces its roots to the Original American Visitation School, which opened in 1799 in Georgetown, and the Visitation Sisters' first monastery established in Annecy, France, in 1610. Today we occupy a beautiful, 65-acre, suburban campus that serves students in preschool through grade 12. Visitation has a co-ed Montessori preschool through grade 5. Our all-girls Middle and Upper Schools offer young women a rigorous college preparatory curriculum, renowned fine arts offerings, celebrated athletic programs and a nationally recognized robotics program.

# **VISITATION HONORS and AWARDS**

- In 2019, Visitation's robotics team competed at the FIRST Robotics World Championships, winning the prestigious Engineering Inspiration Award at the regional competition to earn their spot. The team finished 15th out of 70 teams at Worlds.
- Visitation's theater company earned 35 Spotlight Awards during their 2018-19 season from the prestigious Hennepin Theater Spotlight Education program, including outstanding achievement in overall production, outstanding technical crew, outstanding costume crew, and outstanding performances in both lead and featured roles.
- In 2018-2019, student-athletes made state appearances in swimming & diving, cross country, golf, hockey, Nordic skiing and softball. In 2019, the swim/dive team won their seventh consecutive MN Class A state championship.
- The Visitation mock trial team qualified for the state tournament in 2018, 2019 and 2020. Visitation students earned two top awards including All State Witness and All State Lawyer.
- Twelve students were honored for 28 works of art or writing at the 2019 Minnesota Scholastic Art Competition. Five students advanced to the National Scholastic Art Competition.

#### English (4 credits required)

Introduction to Literary Genres World Literature Literature and Composition of the US British Literature and Humanities AP Literature & Composition Social Justice Through Literature **Composition Skills** The Dystopian Vision, Great Nonfiction Myths, Legends and Folklore Social Studies (3 credits required) World History, AP European History

US History, AP US History US Gov/Econ and Global Issues AP US Government Crime and Justice\*\* Psychology, Sociology Women and Society, World Cultures

#### World Language (3 credits required)

Chinese I through AP French I through AP Spanish I through AP

# **COURSE OFFERINGS**

#### Mathematics (3 credits required)

Freshman Algebra Geometry, Honors Geometry Algebra II, Honors Algebra II Math Analysis, Honors Math Analysis Calculus, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC AP Statistics **Computer Graphics Computer Programming Topics** 

#### Science (3 credits required)

Physical Science, Honors Physical Science Biology, Honors Biology, AP Biology Chemistry, Honors Chemistry Physics, Honors Physics Anatomy and Physiology Genetics, Astronomy **AP Environmental Science** Introduction to Engineering

#### Physical Education (1 credit required)

## Health (.5 credit required)

#### Fine & Performing Arts (1 credit required)

Drawing, Honors Drawing Painting, Honors Painting Pottery, Honors Pottery Mixed Media, Printmaking Digital Art and Photography Classical Ballet, Theater Bel Canto, Honors Chamber Choir Concert Band, Honors Concert Band, Jazz Band\*\* Orchestra **Religion (4 credits required)** Intro to Sacred Scripture/Christology

The Paschal Mystery/Ecclesiology Ethical and Moral Issues/World Religions Salesian Leadership and Ministry

Honors and AP Level classes are noted as such on transcript.

\*\*Courses on transcript marked "@ STA" indicates classes taken at Saint Thomas Academy, a neighboring college preparatory military academy for bovs.

# **Advanced Placement**

Visitation offers 12 Advanced Placement courses. Admission to AP courses is competitive and requires department permission. Students may take only 3 AP courses per year unless granted special exception to take 4.

In 2019-2020, 166 students were enrolled in AP courses: students took 333 exams and 86% of the scores were 3, 4 or 5.

## **Community Service**

Given Visitation's commitment to volunteerism, students devote a minimum of 34 hours to community service and also complete a two-week senior service project.

#### Accreditation

Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS)

# **Organizational Memberships**

NAIS, ACCIS, NACAC, MACAC, MAIS, College Board and National Coalition of Girls' Schools

# **Reporting Disciplinary Action**

Visitation School does not volunteer information to colleges about disciplinary actions best handled within the walls of our school. We will report egregious violations of our student code of conduct or of any threat to the safety of the community.

## Visitation School Grading Scale

Letter		Regular	Honors	АР
Grade	% Range	Grade Point	Grade Point	Grade Point
А	93-100	4	4.4	4.8
A-	90-92	3.7	4.1	4.4
B+	87-89	3.3	3.6	4
В	83-86	3	3.3	3.6
B-	80-82	2.7	3	3.2
C+	77-79	2.3	2.5	2.8
С	73-76	2	2.2	2.4
C-	70-72	1.7	1.9	2
D+	67-69	1.3	1.4	1.6
D	64-66	1	1.1	1.2
D-	60-63	0.7	0.8	0.8
F	0-59	0	0	0
I	0	0	0	0
Р	0	0	0	0

Visitation has a universal grade scale for all classes, awarding additional weight for Honors and Advanced Placement classes.

#### Grade Point Distribution: Class of 2021 (Six Semesters)

Because of the small size and strong performances of our graduating students, we do not provide class rank beyond the guartile measure. Even students in our fourth quartile perform well at competitive colleges.

Quartile 1: 4.27 - 4.09	Quartile 3: 3.86 - 3.57
Quartile 2: 4.08 - 3.87	Quartile 4: 3.56 - 2.50

# **IMPORTANT COVID-19 UPDATES**

# **SPRING SEMESTER 2020**

- Visitation transitioned to distance learning on March 23rd and completed the school year using distance learning. We did not give final exams in the spring, but otherwise, completed our planned spring semester.
- The Upper School had a mix of synchronous and asynchronous learning throughout the spring, with all classes meeting at least once a week over Google Meet.
- Students continued to earn letter grades for their work. Teachers gave assessments and maintained the rigor of our academic program as much as possible.

## FALL SEMESTER 2020

- Visitation started the school year with all students in the building for in-person learning every day. Using masks and social distancing, we have been able to deliver our college-prep curriculum through in-person instruction.
- A very small percentage of our students have chosen to do distance learning and they tune in daily through Zoom meetings. It is 100% synchronous for these students.
- The Upper School has maintained its typical daily schedule and the length of instruction has not changed.
- Visitation has plans in place to easily transition to a hybrid model that would be 100% synchronous and a distance learning model that would also be 100% synchronous.

# STANDARDIZED TESTING INFORMATION | CLASSES 2018 - 2020

A 67	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>		
ACT	28.1	27.5	27.7		
SAT					
	EBRW 630—720 M 620—730 C 1295	EBRW 730-770 M 670-780 C 1466	EBRW 610-710 M 570-690 C 1290		
ADVANCED PLACEMENT AWARDS					
AP Scholar	16	19	15		
With Honors	5	11	7		
With Distinction	16	11	7		
National AP Scholar	3	3	0		
NATIONAL MERIT					
Finalist	1	2	1		
Commended	6	2	2		

## 2016 - 2020 COLLEGE ADMISSIONS AND MATRICULATION

Colleges in **bold** are schools at which Visitation graduates are enrolled.

Luther College

Adelphi University American University Arizona State University Assumption University Auburn University Augsburg College Augustana College **Babson College** Bard College Bates College **Baylor University** Becker College Belmont Abbey College **Belmont University** Beloit College **Benedictine College** Bennington College **Bentley University** Bethany Lutheran College **Bethel University Boston College Boston University Bowdoin College** Bradley University Brown University Brvn Mawr College **Butler University** CA Lutheran University **Carleton College** Carroll University (WI) Carthage College Case Western Reserve **Catholic University of America** Centre College Champlain College **Chapman University** Clark University **Clemson University** Coe College Colby College Colgate University **College of Charleston** College of St. Benedict College of St. Scholastica **College of the Holy Cross** College of William & Mary **College of Wooster** Colorado College Colorado State University Columbia College, Chicago Concordia College, Moorhead Connecticut College Cornell College **Cornell University Creighton University** Denison University

DePauw University DeSales University Dickinson College Drake University Drexel University Duke University Eckerd College Elmhurst College Elon University Emerson College Emory University Fairfield University Finlandia University Florida Atlantic University Florida Gulf Coast University Florida Southern College Fordham University Franciscan Univ. of Steubenville Furman University George Washington University **Georgetown University** Gettysburg College Gonzaga University Grinnell College Gustavus Adolphus College Hamilton College Hamline University Haverford College Hawaii Pacific University High Point University Hillsdale College Hobart and William Smith Colleges Hofstra University Howard University Illinois Wesleyan University Indiana University, Bloomington **Inver Hills Community College** Iowa State University Ithaca College John Carroll University Juniata College Kalamazoo College Kenvon College Kings College London Knox College LaSalle University Lake Forest College Lawrence University Lewis & Clark College Lewis University LIM College Loyola Marymount University Loyola University, Chicago Loyola University, Maryland Loyola University, New Orleans

DePaul University

Macalester College Marian University Marist College **Marquette University** McGill University Metropolitan CC- Kansas City Miami University. Ohio Michigan Tech. University Millikin University Milwaukee Institute of Art Minneapolis Coll of Art & Design Minnesota State University, Mankato Montana State University. Bozeman Mount St. Mary's University, MD The New School (Parsons Coll of Design) New York University, Shanghai North Dakota State University Northeastern University Northern Michigan University Northwestern College Northwestern University Nova Southeastern University Oberlin College Occidental College The Ohio State University Ohio Wesleyan University Pace University, New York City Pennsylvania State University Pepperdine University Princeton University **Providence College** Purdue University Queen Mary University London Reed College Quinnipiac University **Regis University** Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute **Rhodes** College **Ripon College** Rochester Institute of Technology **Rockhurst University** Rose-Hulman Institute of Tech. Roval Holloway London **Rutgers University** Salve Regina University San Diego State University San Francisco State University Santa Clara University Sarah Lawrence College Savannah College of Art and Design Scripps College Seattle University Seton Hall University Skidmore College South Dakota State University

Spelman College St. Anselm College St. Catherine University St. Cloud State University St. Edward's University St. Joseph's University St. Louis University St. Mary's College St. Mary's College of CA St. Mary's University of MN St. Michael's College St. Norbert College St. Olaf College **Stanford University** Stevenson University Stonehill College Syracuse University Temple University Texas A& M University **Texas Christian University** Trinity College (CT) Trinity University (TX) **Tufts University** Union College **United States Naval Academy** University of Alabama University of Arkansas University of California, Berkeley University of California, Davis University of California, Irvine University of California, Los Angeles University of California, Riverside University of California, San Diego University of California, Santa Barbara University of California, Santa Cruz University of Chicago University of Cincinnati University of Colorado, Boulder University of Colorado, Denver University of Connecticut University of Dallas University of Dayton University of Denver University of Illinois University of Iowa University of Kansas University of Maine University of Mary University of Maryland University of Massachusetts, Amherst University of Massachusetts, Boston University of Miami University of Michigan University of Minnesota, Duluth University of Minnesota. Morris

Southern Methodist University

University of Minnesota, Rochester University of Minnesota, Twin Cities University of Missouri University of Montana University of Nebraska, Lincoln University of New Hampshire University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill University of North Carolina, Charlotte University of North Dakota University of Northern Iowa University of Northwestern University of Notre Dame University of Oregon University of Portland University of Puget Sound University of San Diego University of San Francisco University of South Dakota University of South Florida University of Southern California University of Southern Maine University of St. Thomas University of Tampa University of Tennessee University of Texas, Austin University of Utah University of Vermont University of Virginia University of Washington University of Winnipeg University of WI, Eau Claire University of WI, La Crosse University of WI. Madison University of WI, Milwaukee University of WI, River Falls University of WI, Stevens Point University of WI, Stout University of WI, Superior Vanderbilt University Vassar College Villanova University Virginia Polytechnic Institute Viterbo University Wartburg College Washington University in St. Louis Wesleyan University Whitman College Willamette University Williams College Winona State University Wittenberg University Worchester Polytechnic Institute Xavier University Yale University