

# KEYSTONE SCHOOL

119 E. CRAIG PLACE › SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78212

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- Accelerated PK3-12 Independent School
- Total Enrollment: 499 (37 seniors)
- 100% go to 4-year colleges
- Founded in 1948
- CEEB Code: 446158
- Accreditation: Independent Schools Association of the Southwest
- Recognized as The Most Challenging Private High School in the U.S. (2015) by *The Washington Post*

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## PROFILE 2018-2019

### OVERVIEW

Keystone School has been a haven for bright, motivated students since 1948. The mission of Keystone School is to offer an accelerated PK3-12 curriculum to provide motivated students with a nationally recognized, well-rounded educational experience in a supportive, inclusive environment that encourages academic excellence, ethical growth, community involvement, and responsible leadership. Through a strong academic curriculum, the school challenges students to develop diligence, independence, self-discipline, responsibility, and inquisitiveness. The educational culture of Keystone encourages students to pursue independent thought and research in a balanced environment. Working collaboratively, students continue to demonstrate to each other the value of acquiring knowledge, developing strong study habits, and mastering research skills.

### STUDENT BODY

- 130 students in grades 9-12.
- Student body drawn from 50 different zip codes in the greater San Antonio area and surrounding counties.
- Over 60% students of color, with multiple ethnicities, cultures, and religions represented.
- 15% of students in grades 6-12 receive financial aid.

### UPPER SCHOOL FACULTY AND TEACHING

- Typical class size — 16 to 18 students.
- Classes known for depth, rigor, and engagement.
- Faculty committed to student life, both in and out of classroom.
- 20 faculty, 75% with masters or Ph.D.
- Average teaching experience — over 20 years.

### ADMISSIONS AND FINANCIAL AID

- Selective, limited admissions process emphasizing motivation along with intellectual ability.
- Based on standardized test scores, ISEE scores, interviews, and recommendations from previous teachers.
- Admission offered to qualified students without regard to ethnic, racial, religious, or socioeconomic background.
- Financial aid offered to 100% of students with demonstrated financial need in grades 6-12.

### CULTURE, CONDUCT, AND ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Keystone's culture promotes self-discipline, individual responsibility, civility, mutual respect, and personal honor. Upper School students have one or more unstructured free periods during the day, which they have the privilege of using as they wish. The open campus policy allows them to come and go from campus during that time in order to develop the individual responsibility for personal choices and discipline that life requires. On a typical day, groups of students can be found throughout campus during these free periods studying together, collaborating, conversing, working silently alongside one another or simply enjoying a meal off campus. Keystone students are expected to display exemplary conduct, cooperativeness, and the highest standard of academic integrity at all times.

#### Disciplinary Reporting Policy:

When colleges inquire about disciplinary infractions and violations of academic honesty, Keystone School will report such instances occurring in grades 9-12 that resulted in suspension or expulsion. In keeping with Keystone's commitment to ethical growth and responsible leadership, it is our expectation that students will report honestly when asked about their disciplinary history on applications.

# ACADEMIC OVERVIEW

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students must earn at least 21 credits, including:

- 4.0 English
- 4.0 Social Sciences
- 3.0 Math
- 3.0 Science
- 2.0 Foreign Language
- 1.0 Arts or Humanities
- 1.0 Sports
- 0.5 Self and Community Topics/Wellness

All courses are honors unless designated AP.

AP course load: All students are required to take 4 AP courses (2 English and 2 History). The most challenging curriculum at Keystone will include 9 to 10 AP courses.

## GRADING SYSTEM AND CLASS RANKING

Keystone School **does not rank its students**. The GPA is computed as a numerical average (1-100) of all grades earned at Keystone, weighted by the number of AP courses completed beyond those required. When 5 APs are taken, 1% is added to overall GPA, + 0.5% for every additional AP thereafter. Transcripts reflect unweighted end of course grades.

GRADING SCALE		
97-100 A+	93-96 A	90-92 A-
87-89 B+	83-86 B	80-82 B-
77-79 C+	73-76 C	70-72 C-
67-69 D+	63-66 D	60-62 D-

## HIGH SCHOOL COURSE OFFERINGS

### ENGLISH:

English 9  
British Literature  
AP English Language & Composition  
AP English Literature & Composition

### SOCIAL SCIENCE/HISTORY:

World History  
AP European History  
AP United States History  
Political Science and Civics

### MATHEMATICS:

Algebra I  
Geometry  
Algebra II  
Precalculus  
AP Calculus BC  
AP Statistics

### SCIENCE:

Biology I  
Chemistry I  
Physics I  
Anatomy and Physiology  
Advanced Mammalian Dissection  
AP Environmental Science  
AP Computer Science A  
AP Biology  
AP Chemistry  
AP Physics C

### FOREIGN LANGUAGES:

French I - III  
AP French Language & Culture  
Spanish I - III  
AP Spanish Language  
AP Spanish Literature & Culture

### FINE ARTS AND HUMANITIES:

Art 9  
Studio Art I-III  
Digital Media  
Computer Design 9  
The Image I  
Creative Writing  
Economics  
*Theater Appreciation*  
*Film Acting/Film Studies*  
*Modern Acting*  
*Period Acting and Stagecraft Dramatic Literature*  
*Modern Global Issues: China*  
*Modern Global Issues: Latin America*  
*International Relations*  
*America Divided: The Civil Wars of the 1960's*  
*The Film and Literature of WWI*

### 9TH CORE:

*Self and Community/Wellness*

- Courses in italics are routinely offered, but are not available every year.
- All courses taught at Keystone are academic, except sports, and are graded.
- Mini-courses to national parks last 4-5 days and require extensive hiking. Though students earn no credit, they receive a grade based upon participation and mastery of ecological and geological information about the parks. This grade is excluded from the GPA calculation.
- The school year includes 2 semesters. The day is divided into seven 50-minute academic periods with classes meeting 5 times a week.
- Course load is capped at 6 per semester in 9th-11th. The senior year is limited to 5 courses, with rare exceptions.

## AP RESULTS

- More than 1/4 of Keystone graduates are named National AP scholars each year. To earn this prestigious award, a student must earn a score of a 4 or higher on 8 or more AP exams.
- Students often sit for the U.S. Government, World History, and Economics AP exams even though the AP course option is not offered. Exam scores for these tests typically range between 3s and 5s.

## 2018 AP EXAMINATION RESULTS

Total Exams	273
# of Students Taking Exams	94
# of AP Scholars	66 (70%)
Scores of 3 or above	253 (93%)
Scores of 4 or above	199 (73%)

*National AP Scholar: 9*  
*AP Scholar with Distinction: 35*  
*AP Scholar with Honor: 19*

# STANDARDIZED TESTING & GPA

SAT		
CLASS	2018	2017
MEAN COMPOSITE	1440	1359
MID 50%	1360-1490	1290-1410
EBRW	720	698
MATH	690	660

ACT				
CLASS	2018	2017	2016	2015
MEAN COMPOSITE	31	30	31	31
MID 50%	28-33	27-31	29-31	30-33

SAT SUBJECT TESTS - MEAN				
SECTION	2018	2017	2016	2015
BIOLOGY (M)	673	690	737	671
ENGLISH LITERATURE	618	697	703	692
MATH II	693	698	709	668
U.S. HISTORY	700	692	717	691

NATIONAL MERIT PROGRAM				
CLASS	2019	2018	2017	2016
# OF STUDENTS	37	32	32	31
SEMIFINALISTS	7	5	2	8
COMMENDED	9	1	7	9
% RECOGNIZED	43%	19%	28%	55%
NAT'L HISPANIC SCHOLARS	5	6	6	5

MEAN GPA THROUGH END OF JUNIOR YEAR			
CLASS	2019	2018	2017
MEAN GPA	92.5	90.6	90.1

# UPPER SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

## CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Co-curricular opportunities include Student Council, National Honor Society, Foreign Language Club, Students for Environmental Action and Service, Literary Magazine, Yearbook, Astronomy Club, Travel Society, Model UN, Academic WorldQuest, Science Bowl, and Quiz Bowl.
- The entire Upper School participates in the annual Service Day, going out into the community to serve and learn about significant societal challenges at various organizations.
- As part of the Self and Community/Wellness course, all freshmen engage in ongoing volunteer work. A commitment to community volunteering is encouraged through various student-run clubs and organizations.
- In 2016, a Keystone team won 1st place at the National Academic WorldQuest Competition. Keystone teams placed 2nd in the world in Academic WorldQuest competitions in 2015, 2014 and 2012. Keystone teams have won the regional competition 8 years in a row.

## OUTDOOR EDUCATION

- Students participate in outdoor education trips from 5th grade through 12th grade. Upper School trips include Olympic National Park, Yosemite National Park, and the deserts and mountains of West Texas.

## SCIENCE AND MATH

- For nearly 30 years, at least one Keystone student has earned an invitation to compete at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair. Keystone students typically comprise at least half of the South Texas delegation of finalists going to Intel ISEF.
- Between 2-4 students will compete at the Intel ISEF each year. For the past five years, Keystone students have won Grand Prizes at Intel ISEF. Since 1965, 159 students from Keystone School have participated in this prestigious event.
- In recent years, students have attended summer science fair expos in Slovakia, Tunisia, Peru, Austria, Hungary, Chile and Mexico.
- In a typical year, about 30 students will prepare for and take the AMC 10 and AMC 12 tests, with several scoring in the top 1-3% nationally and going on to take the AIME exam.

## THE ARTS

- The Upper School Theatre program puts on two major productions each year, ranging from Chekhov to Lorca.
- "Stone Soul," an open performance evening that occurs four times a year and is entirely student run, is a time for students to share special talents and raise funds for the Literary Magazine.
- Each year, the Creative Writing and Acting classes collaborate to write, produce and perform 4 original plays in a single day, in what has become known as the "Seven Hour Play Project."
- Keystone's 2014 LitMag won 1st Place in the American Press Association's annual magazine competition, an Excellent ranking by the National Council of Teachers of English, and a silver medal from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA). In 2015-2016, LitMag received a gold medal from the CSPA.
- Keystone students routinely win writing competitions and have their work published in a variety of publications, including *Young Pegasus*, *GREYstone* and *Cicada*.
- In 2015, two Keystone students received the prestigious Gold Key award in the national Scholastic Writing Awards Program. In 2016, an 8th grader received a Silver Key.

## ATHLETICS

- Sports offered are (boys) soccer\*, baseball, basketball; and tennis; (girls) volleyball, basketball, softball and tennis. \*Soccer try-outs are open to both boys and girls.
- In 2017-2018, 32 athletes were named to TAPPS 3A All-District teams, 14 athletes were named Academic All-State, and 10 athletes were named All-State Players.

# COLLEGE MATRICULATION

Between 2013-2017, Keystone students matriculated to the following colleges and universities. Schools in bold indicate at least one member of the Class of 2017 is attending. Numbers in parentheses designate the total number of students, if more than one, who matriculated to the college or university during those years.

## **University of Alabama (2)**

American University

Amherst College

## **Austin College**

Barnard College (2)

## **Bennington College**

## **Boston University (3)**

Brandeis University

Brigham Young University

Bryn Mawr College

California Institute of Technology

University of California, Berkeley

University of California, Los Angeles (2)

Carleton College

University of Chicago (2)

Claremont McKenna College (2)

Clarkson University

University of Colorado at Boulder (2)

Columbia University

## **Cornell University**

## **Davidson College**

De Anza College

Drexel University

Earlham College

Eckerd College

## **Elon University**

Emory University (2)

## **University of Florida**

Fordham University

Franklin University Switzerland

Furman University

## **The George Washington University**

## **Georgetown University (3)**

Georgia Institute of Technology (2)

Harvard University (2)

Hendrix College

University of Houston

Ithaca College

Johns Hopkins University (3)

Lewis & Clark College (3)

Marist College

University of Massachusetts, Amherst

University of Michigan

## **Mills College**

University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

Montana State University, Bozeman

## **New York University (4)**

University of North Texas

## **Northeastern University (2)**

## **Northwestern University**

## **University of Notre Dame**

## **Occidental College (2)**

University of Pennsylvania (2)

University of Pittsburgh

Pomona College (2)

## **Pratt Institute**

Princeton University

Quinnipiac University

Reed College

Rhode Island School of Design

Rice University

Rochester Institute of Technology

## **Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology (2)**

Rutgers University-New Brunswick

Saint Louis University

Savannah College of Art and Design

Seattle University

Smith College

## **University of Southern California (4)**

## **Southern Methodist University (3)**

Southwestern University

Stanford University (3)

Syracuse University

## **Texas A&M University (7)**

Texas A&M University, Galveston

## **Texas Christian University (2)**

Texas State University (2)

## **The University of Texas, Austin (22)**

University of Texas, Dallas (8)

## **The University of Texas, San Antonio (4)**

University of Toronto (2)

## **Trinity University (9)**

Truman State University

Tufts University

Tulane University

University of Edinburgh

Ursinus College

Vanderbilt University (4)

Virginia Commonwealth University

## **Wagner College**

## **Washington University in St. Louis (3)**

Wesleyan University

Williams College

Yale University (2)

