

KEYSTONE SCHOOL

119 E. CRAIG PLACE · SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78212
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- Accelerated PK3-12 Independent School
- Total Enrollment: 490 (27 seniors)
- 100% attend 4-year colleges
- Founded in 1948
- CEEB Code: 446158
- Accredited by the Independent Schools Association of the Southwest (ISAS) and a member of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)
- Recognized as The Most Challenging Private High School in the U.S. (2015) by the *Washington Post*

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PROFILE 2019-20

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

- 127 students in grades 9-12
- Student body drawn from 50 different zip codes in the greater San Antonio area and surrounding counties.
- More than 60% students of color, with multiple ethnicities, cultures, and religions represented.
- 10% of students in grades 6-12 receive tuition assistance.

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.
- 18 faculty, 70% with masters or Ph.D.
- Average teaching experience – nearly 20 years

ADMISSIONS AND TUITION ASSISTANCE

- Selective, limited admissions process emphasizing motivation along with intellectual ability.
- Based on previous academic performance, standardized test scores, interviews, and recommendations from previous teachers.
- Admission offered to qualified students without regard to ethnic, racial, religious, or socioeconomic background.
- Tuition assistance offered to 100% of students with demonstrated financial need in grades K-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
- 1.0 Sports
- 0.5 Self and Community / Wellness

All courses are honors unless designated AP.

AP course load: 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. Many courses that are not designated as AP are still considered among our most demanding.

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-

UPPER 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 Anatomy
 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
 2-D Design
 3-D Design
 Drawing
 Digital Media
 Computer Design
 Creative Writing
Rock Lab
Rock Band
Macroeconomics
Microeconomics
Practical Ethics
Theater Appreciation
Film Acting/Film Studies
Modern Acting
Period Acting and Stagecraft
Dramatic Literature
Modern Global Issues: China
Modern Global Issues: Latin America
Modern Global Issues: Europe
International Relations
America Divided: The Civil Wars of the 1960s
The Film and Literature of WWI

9th CORE

Self and Community/Wellness

- Courses in italics 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. 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 PROGRAM

- 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 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.

2019 AP EXAMINATION RESULTS

Total Exams	258
# of Students Taking Exams	90
# of AP Scholars	64
Scores of 3 or above	239 (93%)
Scores of 4 or above	184 (71%)

National AP Scholar: 11
AP Scholar with Distinction: 37
AP Scholar with Honor: 16

STANDARDIZED TESTING & GPA

SAT			
CLASS	2019	2018	2017
MEAN COMPOSITE	1400	1422	1358
MID 50%	1320-1490	1360-1490	1290-1410
MEAN EBRW	713	716	698
MEAN MATH	688	706	660

ACT				
CLASS	2019	2018	2017	2016
MEAN COMPOSITE	32	31	30	31
MID 50%	29-34	28-33	27-31	29-31

SAT SUBJECT TESTS - MEAN				
SECTION	2019	2018	2017	2016
BIOLOGY (M)	715	673	690	737
ENGLISH LITERATURE	703	618	697	703
MATH II	702	693	698	709
U.S. HISTORY	705	700	692	717
CHEMISTRY	703	695	727	635

NATIONAL MERIT PROGRAM				
CLASS	2020	2019	2018	2017
# OF STUDENTS	27	37	32	32
SEMIFINALISTS	1	7	5	2
COMMENDED	9	9	1	7
% RECOGNIZED	37%	43%	19%	28%
NAT'L HISPANIC SCHOLARS	3	5	6	6

MEAN GPA THROUGH END OF JUNIOR YEAR				
CLASS	2020	2019	2018	2017
MEAN GPA	93.5	92.5	90.6	90.1

UPPER SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Co-curricular opportunities include Student Council, National Honor Society, Foreign Language Club, Literary Magazine, Yearbook, Model UN, Academic WorldQuest, Science Bowl, and Quiz Bowl.
- The entire Upper School participates in annual Service Day, going out into the community to serve and learn about significant societal challenges at various organizations.
- As part of Self and Community/Wellness, 9th graders engage in on-going 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 9 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, the Washington, D.C area and Florida Wetlands.

SCIENCE AND MATH

- For nearly 30 years, at least one Keystone student has earned an invitation to compete at Intel International Science and Engineering Fair.
- Between 1-4 students will compete at Intel ISEF each year and have frequently won Grand Prizes. Since 1965, 160 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 10/12 tests, with some 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 Shakespeare to Sondheim.
- "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 "Play in a Day."
- Keystone's 2014 LitMag won 1st Place in the American Press Association's annual magazine competition, an Excellent rating 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.
- In 2017-18, LitMag earned an NCTE Excellent rating.
- Keystone students routinely compete in 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 Medal in the national Scholastic Writing Awards Program. In 2019, 3 Keystone students received a national Silver Medal.

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 2018-2019, 28 athletes were named to TAPPS 3A All-District teams, 17 athletes were named Academic All-State, and 4 athletes were named All-State Players.

COLLEGE MATRICULATION

Between 2014-19, Keystone graduates matriculated to the following colleges and universities. Schools in bold indicate at least one member of the Class of 2019 is attending. Numbers in parentheses designate the total number of graduates, if more than one, who matriculated to the college or university during those years.

American University (2)

Amherst College

Austin College

Barnard College

Bennington College

Boston University (3)

Brandeis University

Brigham Young University, Idaho

Bryn Mawr College

California Institute of Technology

Carleton College

Claremont McKenna College (2)

Clarkson University

Columbia University

Cornell University

Davidson College

De Anza College

Drexel University

Earlham College

Eckerd College

Elon University

Emerson College

Emory University (2)

Franklin University Switzerland

Furman University

Georgetown University (4)

Georgia Institute of Technology (2)

Hamilton College

Harvard College

Ithaca College

Johns Hopkins University (3)

Knox College

Lewis & Clark College (3)

Macalester College

Mills College

Montana State University, Bozeman

Mount Holyoke College

New York University (4)

Northeastern University (4)

Northwestern University

Occidental College (2)

Pomona College (2)

Pratt Institute

Reed College

Rice University (5)

Rochester Institute of Technology

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

Rutgers University-New Brunswick

Saint Louis University

Sarah Lawrence College

Seattle University

Smith College

Southern Methodist University (5)

Stanford University (3)

Syracuse University

Texas A&M University (6)

Texas A&M University, Galveston (2)

Texas Christian University (2)

Texas State University (2)

The George Washington University (2)

The University of Alabama

The University of Edinburgh

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (2)

The University of Texas, Austin (23)

The University of Texas, Dallas (10)

The University of Texas, San Antonio (3)

Trinity University (11)

Truman State University

Tufts University

United States Air Force Academy

University of California, Berkeley

University of California, Los Angeles (3)

University of Chicago

University of Colorado at Boulder

University of Florida

University of Houston (2)

University of Massachusetts, Amherst

University of Michigan

University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

University of North Texas

University of Notre Dame

University of Pennsylvania

University of Southern California (4)

University of Toronto (2)

University of Virginia

Ursinus College

Vanderbilt University (3)

Virginia Commonwealth University

Wagner College

Washington University in St. Louis (3)

Wesleyan University

Yale University (2)

