



# OAK KNOLL

SCHOOL OF THE HOLY CHILD

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## ***Mission Statement***

Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child, Judeo-Christian in heritage, Roman Catholic in teaching and worship, is an independent school for boys and girls in kindergarten through grade 6 and young women in grades 7 through 12. The Oak Knoll community commits to the education and growth of the whole child, as articulated by the founder of the Society of the Holy Child Jesus, Cornelia Connelly. The school fosters a faith commitment that engenders a joyous personal relationship with God in addressing the challenges of the world. In a learning climate that is based on trust and reverence for the dignity and uniqueness of each person, Oak Knoll provides an intellectually challenging and creative program of study that fosters excellence in every aspect of school life and prepares our graduates to meet “the wants of the age.” Welcoming a diverse student body, our learning community develops mature students who think critically, embrace knowledge, respond with moral and ethical integrity, and make responsible choices that enrich their own lives and contribute to the lives of others.

## ***Our School***

Founded in 1924 by the Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus, Oak Knoll is a Catholic, independent day school. The school is part of a network of 28 Holy Child schools in the United States, Europe, and Africa, which are guided by the educational philosophy of Cornelia Connelly (1809-1879), who developed an educational system based on trust and reverence for the dignity of each person.

Since 1846, Holy Child schools have promoted academic excellence and stressed social responsibility by providing an environment for developing critical thinking, problem solving, and decision-making skills needed in a changing world.

Oak Knoll’s Upper School (grades 7-12) enrolls 325 girls in its college preparatory program. The school is located on a suburban campus in the northeastern New Jersey city of Summit. Excellent public transportation and the school’s van service make the school accessible to students from more than 65 surrounding communities. The Summit community values education and Oak Knoll is proud to be amongst its strong academic institutions. Oak Knoll is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, the Holy Child Network of Schools, and the New Jersey Department of Education. Oak Knoll is a member of ACCIS, MSA, NACAC, NAIS, NAPSG, NCEA, NCGS, NJAIS, and The Cum Laude Society, and is also an affiliate member of the Online School for Girls/One Schoolhouse.

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Class of 2019: 65 students; average grade point is 3.709 at the end of the junior year.

Graduates: 100 percent of graduates enter four-year colleges or universities.

Faculty: Faculty and administrators number 58; 45 hold graduate degrees.

Diploma Requirements: 4 years English and theology; 3 years foreign language (consecutive), history (including one year of United States history and two years of world history), laboratory science, mathematics, and physical education; and 2 years of health. A two-year cycle of quarter-year courses in the creative arts, as well as computer science and robotics courses, are required in grades 9 and 10. Sixteen additional credits in core academic course are necessary to meet the requirements.

Class of 2018 Mean Test Scores:

Evidence-Based Reading and Writing 653; Math 649

English 32.1; Math 29.1; Reading 31.9; Science 29.5; Composite 30.1

*We believe that . . .  
An open mind leads to a lifetime of learning.*



# Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child

## Academic Information

**Academic Schedule/Grade Point Average/Rank:** Oak Knoll operates on a semester system. The grade point average is cumulative from freshman year and is computed at the end of each semester. All academic courses, including junior and senior arts electives, are factored into the cumulative GPA. Theology courses are considered full academic courses. Some courses, such as 9th and 10th grade arts, computer applications, driver’s education, concert choir, physical education, and health, are not included in this calculation. Honors and Advanced Placement (AP) courses receive extra “weight” in the computation of the GPA; see chart below for weighting scale. Only grades received at Oak Knoll are included in the GPA. Students in grades 9, 10, and 11 take final examinations in some courses, which account for 15 percent of the final grade. The highest GPA achieved in the past five years is 4.51. Oak Knoll does not rank students. On average, the Class of 2018 took 4 AP and 7 Honors courses throughout their high school career.

GRADE EARNED	NUMBER FACTORED INTO GRADE POINT AVERAGE		
	College Preparatory	Honors	Advanced Placement
A+ (98-100)	4.33	4.67	5.00
A (94-97)	4.00	4.33	4.67
A- (90-93)	3.67	4.00	4.33
B+ (88-89)	3.33	3.67	4.00
B (84-87)	3.00	3.33	3.67
B- (80-83)	2.67	3.00	3.33
C+ (78-79)	2.33	2.67	3.00
C (74-77)	2.00	2.33	2.67
C- (70-73)	1.67	2.00	2.33
D (65-69)	1.00	1.33	1.67
F (Below 65)	0	0	0

**National Merit Scholarship Program Achievements for the Classes of 2014 – 2018:**

- National Merit Scholarship Program Finalists: 1
- National Merit Scholarship Program Commended Students: 29
- National Achievement Scholarship Program Finalists: 2
- National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholars: 5
- Percentage of students recognized: 11

**Advanced Placement Scores and Policy:**

ADVANCED PLACEMENT SCORES 2014-2018				
SUBJECT	5	4	3	TOTAL EXAMS
Biology	5	23	80	167
Calculus AB	43	9	0	52
Calculus BC	19	2	0	21
Chemistry	6	13	28	68
Computer Science A	7	4	4	19
Computer Science Principles*	3	6	27	45
English Language	37	70	77	206
English Literature	15	62	91	231
European History	7	18	33	98
French Language	2	4	7	21
Latin	1	5	2	8
Physics C: Mechanics	2	7	7	16
Spanish Language	4	15	14	35
United States History	18	53	43	161
World History	16	50	68	161

Due to some very small class sections, we provide five-year data to ensure student confidentiality. Given the intensity of AP courses, all students are asked to apply for admission into AP classes. To uphold the integrity of the AP exam, as well as the school’s demanding selection process, all AP students must sit for exams. This year, one hundred-thirty seven (**137**) students sat for advanced placement exams with an overall pass rate of **78** percent. In 2018, Oak Knoll had **31** AP Scholars, **10** AP Scholars with Honor, **18** AP Scholars with Distinction, and one National AP Scholar.

\*Offered in 2016-17 for the first time; includes only two years of data.



## *Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child*

### *Colleges attended by graduates in the Classes of 2014-2018:*

American University  
Amherst College (2)  
Bard College  
Barnard College  
Boston College (13)  
Boston University (2)  
Bowdoin College (2)  
Bucknell University (6)  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Clemson University (2)  
Colby College  
Colgate University (9)  
College of the Holy Cross (20)  
Columbia University (2)  
Connecticut College (2)  
Cornell University (3)  
Davidson College (3)  
Denison University  
Dickinson College (3)  
Drexel University (2)  
Duke University (5)  
Elon University (3)  
Emerson College (2)  
Emory University (2)  
Fairfield University (2)  
Fordham University (11)  
George Washington University (4)  
Georgetown University (12)  
Gettysburg College  
Hamilton College  
Harvard University (3)  
High Point University  
Howard University  
Indiana University, Bloomington  
Ithaca College  
Johns Hopkins University  
Kean University  
Kenyon College  
Lafayette College (7)  
Lehigh University (7)  
Loyola University, Chicago  
Loyola University, Maryland (8)  
Marist College  
Marquette University  
New York University (7)  
Northeastern University (2)  
Northwestern University  
Old Dominion University  
Olin College of Engineering  
Pennsylvania State University, University Park (2)  
Princeton University (4)  
Providence College (6)  
Quinnipiac University  
Reed College  
Saint Joseph's University, Pennsylvania (3)  
Salve Regina University  
Santa Clara University  
Skidmore College (4)  
Southern Methodist University (3)  
Stanford University (4)  
Stetson University  
Stevens Institute of Technology  
Syracuse University (2)  
Texas Christian University  
Trinity College (2)  
Tulane University (4)  
United States Military Academy  
University of Alabama  
University of California, Berkeley  
University of California, Los Angeles  
University of Colorado, Boulder  
University of Delaware (2)  
University of Edinburgh (2)  
University of Georgia  
University of Maryland, College Park  
University of Miami (2)  
University of Michigan (6)  
University of Mississippi  
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
University of Notre Dame (19)  
University of Pennsylvania (3)  
University of Richmond (5)  
University of San Diego  
University of Southern California (3)  
University of St. Andrews (2)  
University of Texas, Austin  
University of Vermont  
University of Virginia (3)  
Vanderbilt University (5)  
Vassar College (2)  
Villanova University (19)  
Virginia Military Institute  
Virginia Tech (2)  
Wake Forest University (7)  
Washington and Lee University (2)  
Washington University, St. Louis (2)  
Williams College  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
Yale University (4)

*Note: Number of students beyond one currently attending indicated in parentheses.*



# *Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child*

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## *Key Facts*

- Prior to the 2018-19 school year, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade English courses at all levels were offered as semester-long themed courses. Starting in the 2018-19 school year, these themed courses will now be full year-long, and that change has been reflected on our transcript to show “English Literature” for all 12<sup>th</sup> grade students.
- We no longer offer level II Foreign Language courses at the Honors level.
- In addition to Advanced Placement courses offered in our curriculum, through our affiliation with Online School for Girls/One Schoolhouse, students have also recently taken AP Environmental Science, AP Human Geography, and AP Macroeconomics.
- In order to help “foster a faith commitment that engenders a joyous personal response to God in the challenges of the world,” Oak Knoll requires that all students study theology, including four years in the Upper School. Theology is a full academic course, meeting as often as all other academic courses.
- The Senior Capstone Project was introduced in spring 2010. The capstone project challenges seniors to demonstrate their passion for discovery beyond the limits of the curriculum by independently exploring an area of interest—academic, creative, career, or service-oriented—and gaining real life work experience. Students work in collaboration with a professor, specialist, or manager in an internship position. By engaging in a meaningful “capstone” to their education at Oak Knoll, seniors set reasonable goals, manage time wisely, and demonstrate initiative. Seniors are required to work a minimum of 60 hours on the project, but many exceed the requirement. The project culminates in June with an oral presentation during which the seniors share their experiences with their peers, faculty, and members of the junior class.
- Guided by a basic philosophy that, “It is essential to our development as a society that we embrace the artist’s creations because the arts serve to make our lives more complete,” Oak Knoll requires that its students take four fine arts courses. Many students further their commitment to the arts by taking elective courses in their junior and senior years. Each year, approximately 100 students participate in the choral program and approximately one-third of each senior class chooses to take art, dance, music, or photography courses in addition to a full course load. Our arts spaces include a choral music room, a fine arts studio, a photography studio with a darkroom and digital editing software, and a dance studio.
- Because Oak Knoll believes that, “Each person is called to work for principles of justice, peace, and compassion in every facet of life,” community service and leadership are stressed at every level and in every grade. For instance, service opportunities, such as Bridges runs (which deliver bagged lunches and other necessities to those in need) and weekly tutoring with students from inner-city areas, engage Oak Knoll community members. Each year, the school as a whole participates in a full-day outreach program—our annual Service Day.
- Recent renovations to our grounds include a beautiful and serene new prayer garden open at all times for all community members, as well as new turf fields at both our Summit campus and our Chatham athletic facilities.



*At Oak Knoll, integrity matters.*

## COURSES OFFERED TO THE CLASS OF 2019

### English \*

English 9/10  
English 10/11/12 Honors  
AP English Language  
AP English Literature

English 11 focuses on American Literature and English 12 follows a curriculum of further studies in British and world literature. Within these themes, students take semester-long courses following the topics listed below. **Prior to the 2018-19 school year, these semester courses were listed on the transcript. From 2018-19 on, English Language (11) and English Literature (12) will be listed on the transcript instead.**

Alienation, Dislocation, and Otherness  
American Losers  
American Madness in Literature  
Americans on the Move  
British Heroes and Legends  
Contemporary American Literature  
Crafting Creative Non-Fiction  
Evil in Literature: The Dark Side of the Soul  
Literature of Fantasy  
Modern World Literature: Tellers of Tales  
Natural World in Literature  
Nineteenth Century British Women: Respectability and Romance  
The Puritan Legacy  
Shakespeare: Tragedy, History, and Comedy  
Transcendental Literature  
Women in Literature

### Humanities

Humanities Honors

### Computer Science \*

Computer Concepts & Digital Media  
Introduction to Programming and Robotics  
Computer Science Principles Honors  
AP Computer Science Principles  
AP Computer Science A

### Foreign Language \*

French I/II/III/IV  
French III/IV/V Honors\*\*  
Latin I/II/III/IV  
Latin III/IV/V Honors\*\*  
Spanish I/II/III/IV  
Spanish III/IV/V Honors\*\*  
AP French  
AP Latin  
AP Spanish  
Italian I/II Honors (one course)  
Linguistics Honors

**\*\*Please note we no longer offer level II Honors language courses.**

### History \*

World History I/II  
World History II Honors  
AP World History  
Survey of U.S. History  
Survey of U.S. History Honors  
AP U.S. History  
AP European History  
Social Psychology Honors

### Mathematics \*

Algebra I  
Geometry  
Geometry Honors  
Algebra II  
Algebra II/Trigonometry Honors  
Functions/Trigonometry  
Pre-Calculus  
Pre-Calculus Honors  
Calculus Honors  
AP Calculus AB  
AP Calculus BC  
Statistics & Operations Research  
AP Statistics  
Engineering Science Honors

### Science \*

Physics  
Physics Honors  
Chemistry  
Chemistry Honors  
Biology  
Biology Honors  
AP Chemistry  
Marine Science/Anatomy and Physiology Honors (semester courses)  
AP Biology  
AP Environmental Science  
AP Physics C: Mechanics

### Theology \*

Theology 9/10  
Theology 11: (semester courses)  
Foundations of the Moral Life  
Morality for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century  
Theology 12: (semester courses)  
Catholic Identity  
Call to Justice

### Creative Arts

Creative Arts Distribution—  
In 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade, students choose four classes from:  
Calligraphy, Computer Graphics, Dance I and II, Darkroom Photo, Foundation Drawing, Intro to Photo, Music Theatre Appreciation, Operantics and Theater Production  
Junior and Senior Electives:  
Advanced Vocal Performance Honors  
Art Major I/II  
Art Portfolio Honors  
Ballet/Contemporary Conditioning I/II (semester courses)  
Digital Photography I/II – semester courses  
Modern Dance/Contemporary Conditioning I/II (semester courses)  
Photography Portfolio Honors

**\*Courses are listed in grade order**