



Special Advertising Section

ELGIN ACADEMY

Tradition ♦ Innovation ♦ Excellence



“I wouldn't have traded my high school experience for anything.” That is a rare compliment when you're talking about something as personal and important as high school. But that's the kind of response you receive from graduates of Elgin Academy. Toli Karas, a 2006 graduate who will soon be heading to Rush Medical School, says her Elgin Academy education more than prepared her for her undergraduate studies at Franklin and Marshall College. “My AP Science classes were invaluable preparation for my pre-med course load and I was ahead of the game in the classes that required essay writing as well.”

Preparing for College

As a leading preschool-through-grade 12 independent school, Elgin Academy has the flexibility to help students stretch and challenge themselves academically, socially, artistically and physically. For instance, beginning in preschool, the Academy places no limitations on what a student can, or is expected, to learn. “Each child's educational path is independently mapped and differentiated depending on their talents and interests,” says Dr. John Cooper, Head of School. “Our core curriculum focuses on developing the whole child. Elgin Academy is a community of learners and teachers who focus on nurturing the best in each student.”

In fact, Elgin Academy teachers are vital rungs in our students' ladders of success. In addition to traditional teaching methods, faculty members use small class sizes and project-based instruction that requires creative and innovative teaching techniques. The end result: a high-caliber, college preparatory curriculum. Seventy percent of Elgin Academy faculty hold master's degrees or doctorates and are true masters of their craft in each academic area. “Our teachers are passionate about student learning and are committed to ensuring that each student grasps the appropriate insight, knowledge and skills to be successful not only at Elgin Academy, but in life beyond college,” says Director of Admission Shannon Howell.

And Elgin Academy's quest for excellence doesn't stop at producing top-notch high school graduates – 100 percent of whom matriculate to top colleges and universities. It strives to produce graduates who will succeed at



all levels of higher education. “Elgin Academy is not an easy education,” explain parents Sabiha and Faheem Uraizee, “but it makes college seem less difficult. Our son was equally well prepared to handle the sciences and excel in writing when he arrived at Duke.”

The excellence with which Elgin Academy pursues these goals is evidenced in many areas, such as an average ACT score of 27 and perfect college acceptance rates. Some of the most prestigious colleges and universities in the United States and abroad will be welcoming Elgin Academy's class of 2010. Of this year's class of 29 graduates, 24 received approximately \$2 million in merit scholarship offers, an average of over \$83,000 per recipient.

Elgin Academy's tradition of excellence also reveals itself in less measurable ways. “One of the most striking aspects is the student's confidence level, whether he or she is a Kindergartener or a Senior,” Howell says. “They're not afraid to ask questions, not afraid of public speaking – which we start teaching as early as first grade. The Elgin Academy education helps students become intellectually engaged and confident about their place in the world.”



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— Shannon Howell
Director of Admission



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