

# st. croix preparatory ACADEMY

ACADEMICS  
CHARACTER  
LEADERSHIP



## Philosophy

St. Croix Preparatory Academy was founded on a classical model of education, grounded in the time-tested methodology of the Trivium. Our model focuses on providing students with lifelong learning tools while encouraging them to think independently. The Trivium corresponds to the student's cognitive development, and recognizes that critical learning skills must precede critical thinking skills: K-4 - Grammar (Knowledge), 5-8 - Logic (Understanding), 9-12 - Rhetoric (Communication). Upper School students focus on synthesis and evaluation across the curriculum.

## Environment

Set on 58 acres in the St. Croix River Valley, the learning environment at St. Croix Prep is centered on an integrated, rigorous, standards-based curriculum. One building houses grades K-12, enabling and encouraging interdisciplinary approaches to curriculum as well as cross-grade level opportunities for leadership and mentorship.

## Expectation

St. Croix Preparatory Academy purposefully sets high expectations for *all* students, staff and parents. St. Croix Prep students develop the skills necessary to be successful at all post-secondary institutions, including highly-selective schools. The school emphasizes character development through community service hours required for graduation. A St. Croix Prep student understands that a post-secondary education is expected.

## College Preparatory Curriculum

St. Croix Preparatory Academy Upper School offers 56 courses within a classical college preparatory curriculum. This curriculum combines formal classes, laboratory work and Socratic Seminars to draw out each student's inner curiosity and passion.

St. Croix Prep offers rigorous course options in all core content areas. Students study Spanish or Latin, using their skills at Hispanic community events and reading Virgil in its original Latin. Upper School students have the opportunity to enroll in 15 Honors and AP classes across grade levels.

Rooted in the St. Croix Prep mission of a rich, classically based education, Socratic Seminars feature collaborative, intellectual dialogue facilitated by open-ended questions. Students are challenged to think critically as they use primary sources to explore original texts, artwork and music. Upper School students participate in over 20 Socratic Seminars across content areas each year.

## Extracurricular Activities

St. Croix Prep offers numerous programs to encourage camaraderie, teamwork, leadership, sportsmanship, discipline and responsibility. Nearly 88% of our students participate in at least one extracurricular activity.

## Recognition Highlights

The Vocal Music program received a Superior/Gold rating at the Heritage Festival in Chicago, IL.

The SCPA High School Archery Team won the 2011 and 2012 MN state NASP Archery Championship and competed in four national archery tournaments.

Students in the National Art Honor Society were solicited and prepared artistic responses to George Crumb's Black Angels: Thirteen Images from the Dark Land in conjunction with the Miro Quartet's 40th Anniversary Tribute at the White Pine Festival.

Two students received the 2010 National Merit Scholarship Commended Students.

Two students took Second Place in the prestigious 2011 NASA Environmentally Responsible Aviation Competition, creating an environmentally-friendly airliner with reduced emissions, increased fuel efficiency and decreased noise.

## Colleges and Universities to which 2010-12 Graduates were Accepted

- ◆ Abilene Christian University
- ◆ Art Institute International
- ◆ Augsburg College
- ◆ Aurora University
- ◆ Baldwin Wallace College
- ◆ Baylor University
- ◆ Bradley University
- ◆ Bemidji State University
- ◆ Bethel University\*
- ◆ Boston University\*
- ◆ Bucknell University
- ◆ Buena Vista University
- ◆ Cazenovia College
- ◆ Century College
- ◆ Colgate University
- ◆ College of Visual Arts
- ◆ College of William and Mary
- ◆ Columbia University-Chicago
- ◆ Connecticut College
- ◆ Cornell College
- ◆ Creighton University
- ◆ Dana College
- ◆ Davidson College
- ◆ Denison University
- ◆ DePaul University
- ◆ Embry Riddle Aeronautical University\*
- ◆ Emerson College
- ◆ Georgia Institute of Technology
- ◆ Gonzaga University
- ◆ Gustavus Adolphus College
- ◆ Hamilton College
- ◆ Hamline University
- ◆ Hillsdale College
- ◆ Hobart & William Smith College
- ◆ Hope College
- ◆ Institute of Production and Recording
- ◆ Inver Hills Community College
- ◆ Kettering University
- ◆ Knox College
- ◆ Lasell College
- ◆ Lawrence University
- ◆ Lewis and Clark College
- ◆ Linwood University
- ◆ Mankato State University\*
- ◆ Marist College\*
- ◆ Marquette University
- ◆ Minneapolis Technical Community College
- ◆ Mount Holyoke College
- ◆ Muhlenberg College
- ◆ North Dakota State University
- ◆ Northland College
- ◆ Northern Michigan University
- ◆ Northwestern College - St. Paul
- ◆ Pace University
- ◆ Pacific University
- ◆ Rhode Island College
- ◆ Richard Stockton College
- ◆ Rochester Institute of Technology
- ◆ Salisbury University
- ◆ Seattle Pacific University\*
- ◆ Seton Hill University
- ◆ Smith College
- ◆ Southwest Minnesota State University\*
- ◆ St. Andrews University
- ◆ St. Catherine University
- ◆ St. Olaf College
- ◆ St. Thomas University\*
- ◆ SUNY - Purchase College
- ◆ Sweet Briar College
- ◆ Taylor University\*
- ◆ University of Akron
- ◆ University of Colorado - Denver\*
- ◆ University of Iowa
- ◆ University of Kansas
- ◆ University of Michigan
- ◆ University of Minnesota - Duluth
- ◆ University of Minnesota - Mankato
- ◆ University of Minnesota - Moorehead
- ◆ University of Minnesota - Twin Cities\*
- ◆ University of Mississippi
- ◆ University of Missouri - Columbia\*
- ◆ University of North Dakota
- ◆ University of Southern Maine
- ◆ University of Toledo
- ◆ University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire
- ◆ University of Wisconsin - Madison
- ◆ University of Wisconsin - River Falls
- ◆ University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point
- ◆ University of Wisconsin - Stout\*
- ◆ Vassar College
- ◆ Vermillion Community College
- ◆ Westmont College
- ◆ Wheaton College
- ◆ Wilmington College
- ◆ Winona State University

(\* 2010-12 Students Attend)

### Competitive Athletics

- ◆ Archery
- ◆ Baseball
- ◆ Basketball
- ◆ Cross Country
- ◆ Football
- ◆ Golf
- ◆ Lacrosse
- ◆ Soccer
- ◆ Softball
- ◆ Volleyball

### Academic and Activities Programs

- ◆ Debate
- ◆ Extracurricular Band
- ◆ National Art Honor Society
- ◆ National Honor Society
- ◆ National Junior Classical League
- ◆ Pom Squad
- ◆ School Newspaper
- ◆ Ski Club
- ◆ Spanish Club
- ◆ Speech
- ◆ Student Government
- ◆ Theatre
- ◆ Vocal Music
- ◆ Yearbook

## SCPA Graduate Snapshot

- ♦ 96% graduation rate
- ♦ 95% of graduates attend post-secondary schools
- ♦ ACT Composite Score: 25.2 (State Average 22.8)

## Graduation Requirements of 2012 Graduating Class

While the State of Minnesota requires students to take 21.5 credits per year to graduate, St. Croix Preparatory Academy requires its students to take 24.5 credits to graduate.

COURSE	Required by				
	STATE OF MN	PRIVATE HS	PUBLIC HS	UNIVERSITY	ST. CROIX PREP
English	4	4	4	4	4
Mathematics	3	3	3	3 or 4	3
Social Studies	3.5	4	4	2 to 4	4
Science	3	3	3	3 to 4	3
World Languages	Local Decision	3	0	2 to 4	2
Arts	1	3	1	1	2
Health/PE	Local Decision	.5 and 2.5	.5 and 1	Elective	1
Career & Tech Ed	Local Decision	0	0	0	0
Electives	7	0	6.5	2	5.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24.5</b>

## College Counseling

St. Croix Preparatory Academy offers college counseling services to ensure students receive the guidance necessary in planning, preparing, applying and attending diverse colleges and universities. All grade levels participate in comprehensive, college and career curriculum and use Naviance to explore, record and plan for post-secondary enrollment.

## Service Hours for Graduation

As an emphasis upon Character, all students are required to perform 50 hours of service in order to fulfill their graduation requirements.

## Educational Travel

St. Croix Prep believes in the value of educational travel. Educational travel opportunities are offered to all Upper School students beginning in 9th grade. Juniors and Seniors are encouraged to participate in a summer trip to Rome and Florence Italy.

## High School Core and Elective Courses

### ENGLISH

Ancient Literature and Composition  
Honors Ancient Literature and Composition  
Modern World Literature and Composition  
Honors American Literature and Composition  
American Literature and Composition  
Honors World Literature and Composition  
AP Literature\*\*

### MATHEMATICS

Algebra I and II  
Geometry  
Pre-Calculus & Trigonometry  
AP Calculus AB\*  
AP Calculus BC\*  
Computer Science\*  
AP Statistics\*  
CIS Modeling  
Multivariable Calculus  
Accelerated Geometry/  
Algebra II  
Accelerated Algebra II/  
Pre-Calculus

### SOCIAL SCIENCES

Ancient History  
World History  
AP World History\*  
U.S. History  
AP Micro Economics\*  
AP Macro Economics\*  
Political Science  
AP Human Geography\*\*  
AP U.S. History\*\*  
AP Government and Politics\*\*  
U.S. Government and Economics.

### SCIENCE

Science Survey  
Biology  
AP Biology\*  
Chemistry  
AP Chemistry\*  
Anatomy and Physiology  
Neuroscience and Biotechnology  
AP Physics B\*

### WORLD LANGUAGES

Latin 1,5, 2 and 3  
Latin Literature  
Spanish 1: Beginning Spanish  
Spanish 2: Intermediate Spanish  
Spanish 3: Advanced Spanish Grammar  
Spanish 4: Advanced Spanish Grammar and Introduction to Spanish Literature  
Spanish Literature

### FINE ARTS

Studio Courses  
Animation  
Ceramics  
Adv. Ceramics  
Drawing & Painting  
Graphic Design  
Mixed Media Design & Book Arts  
Digital Photography  
Adv. Photography  
Ensembles  
Beginning Band  
Chamber Strings

Chamber Choir  
Concert Band  
Concert Choir  
Men's Ensemble  
Music Theory & Recording Orchestra  
Women's Ensemble  
Theater  
Intro to Theater  
Advanced Acting

### ELECTIVES

Journalism  
Creative Writing  
Critical Thinking  
Team Sports of the World  
Astronomy, Composition 1  
Engineering  
Psychology  
Sociology  
Film on History

\* offered beginning Fall of 2011-2012  
\*\* offered beginning Fall of 2012-2013

# St. Croix Preparatory Academy

## History

Opening its doors in September, 2004, St. Croix Preparatory Academy is the fastest growing school in the state of Minnesota. It is the first public charter school in the eastern suburbs of Minneapolis/St. Paul specifically dedicated to offering a demanding classical, liberal arts curriculum with an additional emphasis on development of each student's personal character and leadership qualities. The school provides a learning opportunity that until now has only been available at select private schools.

## Rapid and Continuous Student Growth

2004 opened with 200 students grades K-7  
(waiting list of 169)

2005 enrolled 252 students in grades K-8  
(waiting list of 279)

2006 enrolled 342 students in grades K-9  
(waiting list of 306)

2007 enrolled 444 students in grades K-10  
(waiting list of 425)

2008 enrolled 735 Students in grades K-11  
(waiting list of 492)

2009 enrolled 882 students in grades K-12  
(waiting list of 523)

2010 enrolled 958 students in grades K-12  
(waiting list of 721)

2011 enrolled 1015 students in grades K-12  
(waiting list of 654)

Executive Director .....Jon Gutierrez  
Upper School Director.....Karen Klinzing  
College Counselor...Mary Ellen Sparrow

## St. Croix Preparatory Academy

4260 Stagecoach Trail N  
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[www.stcroixprep.org](http://www.stcroixprep.org)  
School District 4120

## School Mission

St. Croix Preparatory Academy will develop each student's academic potential, personal character, and leadership qualities through an academically rigorous and content-rich educational program grounded in the classical tradition.

