

Fall 2018

Education *guide*



**Brandywine
Virtual Academy**



INTRODUCING
**ONLINE
STEM**

The Chester County Intermediate Unit's Brandywine Virtual Academy is excited to announce a new Online STEM program for high school students

Story on page 2

EDUCATION

CCIU's Brandywine Virtual Academy announces Online STEM program

When most people think of STEM education, they think it is only available for the academically elite. Career trends show that in today's learning environment, STEM is important for all students, which is why schools are being called to integrate more STEM opportunities into their curriculum and student offerings.

The Chester County Intermediate Unit's (CCIU) Brandywine Virtual Academy (BVA) has partnered with innovative leaders to provide a cross-curricular, synchronous Online STEM program for districts and 21st century learning opportunities for students.

The program is currently available for ninth-grade students and will

be extended to 10th-, 11th- and 12th-graders within the next few years.

BVA was created to give students the flexibility to learn online. It is managed and operated by the CCIU, but the credits align with the student's assigned school. When students graduate, they earn their diploma from their public or private school. BVA offers a wide range of computer-based courses that can be completed from a school-based classroom, computer lab, home or other location with internet access. The courses are developed and taught by Pennsylvania-certified teachers and the curriculum includes and assesses Pennsylvania state standards, therefore delivering the same high-quality

instruction found in neighborhood schools.

Chip Harper, BVA supervisor of online learning, noted, "To implement STEM online, we had to really change how we approach teaching online. Our ultimate goal is to break down the walls between the curriculum so students can see the connection to the content and to each other in solving real world problems."

BVA's Online STEM program offers a cross-curricular approach to learning and weaves science, technology, engineering and math through all core subjects. Students collaborate synchronously, either online or in person, with BVA teachers and with students from different counties in Pennsylvania



to tackle local, national and global challenges. Students also interact with STEM kits to play, experiment and create while exposing them to coding, robotics and digital printing skills.

Students will gain communication, collabora-

tion, critical thinking and creativity skills, all while being engaged in areas of STEM. The program also introduces them to STEM career-based electives, giving them the opportunity to realize their passion and find success in a future career.

"I continue to be excited about the work surrounding the formation of the BVA STEM Academy and the opportunities that it is creating for students," said Ryne Anthony, CCIU educational innovations specialist, who helped create BVA's online STEM program. "Mindsets, skills and experiences that come with STEM education need to be easily accessible to all students regardless of academic competencies, economic status and physical locations. BVA STEM Academy strives to provide a catered virtual STEM experience to all students."

More information about BVA's Online STEM program may be found at <https://www.cciu.org/BVA>.



VILLA MARIA ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL

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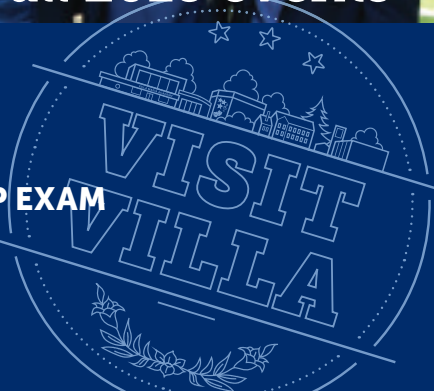
All ages welcome
October 14

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8th graders
October 21 and 27

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8th graders
November 8 or 9
December 13



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EDUCATION

Villa Maria seniors take deep dive into real world in Senior Capstone Project

A senior in high school doesn't expect to spend time with the FBI, but that's exactly what Samantha DiBona, VMA '18, got to do last May.

As part of Villa Maria Academy's innovative Senior Capstone Project, Samantha spent three days shadowing FBI special agents and officers at the Philadelphia Headquarters, learning about and participating in surveillance, behavioral analysis and investigative techniques.

"Being able to do hands-on work at the FBI and understand more about the way in which it is organized was absolutely fascinating," Samantha said. "This shadowing experience has been invaluable and has only reinforced my interest in the field."

Seniors in Villa Maria's culminating learning activity research an "essential question" and test their findings in the field. Each girl chooses an area of personal interest and, under the guidance of a mentor, investigates her topic during the course of her senior year. In the spring, each student shadows at a job, runs a program for a nonprofit, conducts an experiment or completes a project. Program mentors, who include alumnae, faculty, parents and community leaders, help the girls make the connections between their research and careers, as they learn how professionals apply their knowledge and experience on a daily basis.

Samantha had prepared for her FBI experience by exploring her essential question: "What environmental



and genetic factors contribute to whether an individual will commit a violent crime?"

Villa Maria seniors investigate a wide array of fields and experiences during their Senior Capstone. Last year, students job shadowed in science, surgery, law, nursing, education, community service, veterinary medicine, fashion, physical therapy, finance, marketing and engineering, to name a few.

Capstone projects can often help students begin to see how their academic interests translate to real-world careers.

Sydney Belej, Christine Gabriele and Erin Zielinski spent time at Johnson & Johnson.

"Through my experience, I was able to learn about the ways in which chemical engineering can be used in the

medical field," Sydney said. "I also learned about the problem-solving techniques and science behind many everyday medicines. My experience helped me confirm that I aspire to be a chemical engineer and sparked an interest in the biological side of chemical engineering."

In addition to connecting students to potential careers, Villa Maria's Senior Capstone program builds communication skills, time management and, perhaps most importantly, confidence, as the girls challenge themselves to go outside of their comfort zones and interact with professionals in their chosen fields. The critical thinking, problem solving and real world experience help mold Villa Maria graduates into young women with a vision for the future.

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Wednesday, November 7
Wednesday, December 5

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Sunday, October 28
Saturday, November 17
Saturday, December 8

FALL OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, October 28

www.malvernprep.org/experience

484-595-1173 | 418 S. Warren Avenue Malvern, PA 19355



Malvern Preparatory School is an Augustinian School, Catholic and independent for boys in grades 6-12.

EDUCATION

Faith, friends and fun at Bishop Shanahan

Bishop Shanahan High School offers a new opportunity for middle school students! Three unique re-

treats, Ignite, will be held on Oct. 20, 2018; Feb. 9, 2019; and April 27, 2019, from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The Ignite retreats offer opportunities for middle school students to experience faith, friends and

fun through prayer, reflection, Reconciliation, Adoration, team games, relay races, sports and more. Ignite retreats offer a unique perspective; its tenets were developed by current BSHS students who will lead retreat activities as part of their role on the Peer Ministry Team.

“The Peer Ministry Team students recognized that it can be difficult for young people to live out their faith in an authentic and joyful way,” shared the Rev. John Donia, BSHS School Minister. “The goal in having a peer-ministered retreat is to help younger students to see how important the balance of faith, friends

and fun are in becoming a socially responsive, ethical individual.”

Julianna Jones, a BSHS senior and Peer Ministry Team member shared, “Through the Ignite retreats this year, the middle schoolers will come to a deeper understanding of their faith and why it is so vital to have in the world today. Various games, activities and group discussions will help make it an enjoyable and meaningful day for all participants. Students are invited to come with an open mind and leave with a refreshed soul and an ignited heart.”

“I could not be more excited for this upcoming re-

treat, especially the small group sessions in the classrooms,” remarked Patrick Elisii, another Peer Ministry Team member. “We are planning interactive activities to engage the students in discussions. I personally love these retreats because by teaching others, I am able to live my faith and understand it at a higher level.”

Students from local parish, public, private and homeschool settings are invited to make new friends and to see what BSHS means by “Seek The Things That Are Found Above!”

Learn more about Ignite and register today at shanahan.org/ignite.

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Lower School

GRADES 3-5

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Middle School

GRADES 6-8

Rediscovering excitement in learning



Upper School

GRADES 9-12

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See our video at www.dvfs.org/video

GRADES 3-12

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EDUCATION

Wayne Art Center announces fall 2018 classes

The Wayne Art Center is proud to announce new and exciting programs for the fall 2018 session.

Founded in 1930 as the first art center on the Main Line, the Wayne Art Center is dedicated to enriching our community through the arts. Course offerings include drawing & painting, photography, culinary, ceramics and jewelry making. Classes are offered six days a week and cater to a variety of interests and age levels, from beginning to advanced students.

Fall Art Classes for Adults

Classes for fall 2018 adult session include Fall Plein Air Painting, Drawing for All Levels, Cold Wax Painting Techniques, Abstract Painting, Traditional Painting, Jewelry for All Levels, Photography and Mixed Media.

New this season are Pop-

Up Workshops, a single-session workshop devoted to a special project each month. Cost is \$45 per person and a perfect way to spend an evening with a family member or friend.

For those who do not have time for a full 12-week session, we offer Three and Four Friday workshops, as well as weekend workshops.

Our "Art Express" Class is back by popular demand! This two-hour, six-week painting class is devoted to those who desire a shorter class time. Materials are included, so come as you are!

Fall Art Classes for Children

The Wayne Art Center is pleased to offer a full range of daytime and after-school classes for children in a diverse range of

art media, including drawing & painting, ceramics, jewelry, sewing and culinary arts.

Youth offerings include Two for Art! (an energetic and fun multimedia art class for children ages 2 to 4 with a parent, grandparent or caregiver), as well as a variety of preschool classes for children ages 3 to 5 to begin exploring art on their own. A class at the Wayne Art Center is the perfect introduction to a classroom setting or a creative supplement for an existing preschool program.

After school and on Saturdays, parents will find a range of options for children ages 5 and up, including pottery, jewelry, sewing and more.

For our teen artists, we offer small, focused classes that allow teens to develop skills in their area of interest at their own pace with the guidance of art-

ists and professionals in their field. Offerings include: Fashion/Sewing, Wheel Throwing, Digital Photography, and Drawing and Painting, to name a few.

Fall Culinary Classes

Join our adult culinary classes this fall, where chefs will create recipes from various cuisines.

Our popular celebrity chef demonstrations continue with the "Taste of the Town" series. We invite you to sit back and watch as chefs share their insider secrets.

Cooking for children will include stirring up some family friendly recipes in Young Chefs Club on Wednesdays and Fridays.

We will also continue our annual family workshops from Thanksgiving Savory Dinner Favorites, Thanksgiving Pies and Gingerbread House Workshop

and Holiday Cookie Tin.

We invite you to warm create delicious, fresh wholesome food with our chefs in the Wayne Art Center Kitchen!

Whatever your child's age or interest, you are sure to find a great fit at the Wayne Art Center.

For a full class schedule and registration, please visit wayneart.org.

Nancy Campbell, executive director of the Wayne Art Center, adds, "Each fall we look forward to bringing new and exciting programs to current students and new students alike. By diversifying our course offerings, we can ensure that we are keeping our students challenged in their discovery of the Arts. We also offer Weekend Workshops, as well as 'Three Friday' and 'Four Friday' Workshops for students who may be not able to commit to a full 12-week course.

Whether you are new to the arts or continuing your journey, we encourage the community to come see what the Wayne Art Center has to offer."

Founded in 1930 as the first art center on the Main Line, the Wayne Art Center is dedicated to enriching our community of all ages and abilities through the arts. Each year, more than 5,000 students enroll in over 500 classes and workshops taught by our certified and professional accredited faculty. Our exhibitions, lectures and wide array of educational programming attract over 30,000 visitors a year. The facility offers handicap accessibility, extensive parking, state-of-the-art facilities, fully sun lite studio spaces and seasonal blooming gardens with walking paths including a children's play garden and is located adjacent the Radnor Walking Trail.

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bshs

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**Eighth Grade Scholarship Test:
October 27, 2018 | 8 AM - 12 PM**

**Fall Open House:
November 11, 2018 | 12 PM - 3 PM**

**Seventh Grade Visitation Day:
March 20, 2019**

**Spring Open House:
April 4, 2019 | 7 PM - 9 PM**

**Seventh Grade Practice Test:
April 6, 2019 | 8 AM - 12 PM**

**610.343.6206 shanahan.org
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**PEOPLE OF GOD;
PEOPLE FOR OTHERS**

EDUCATION

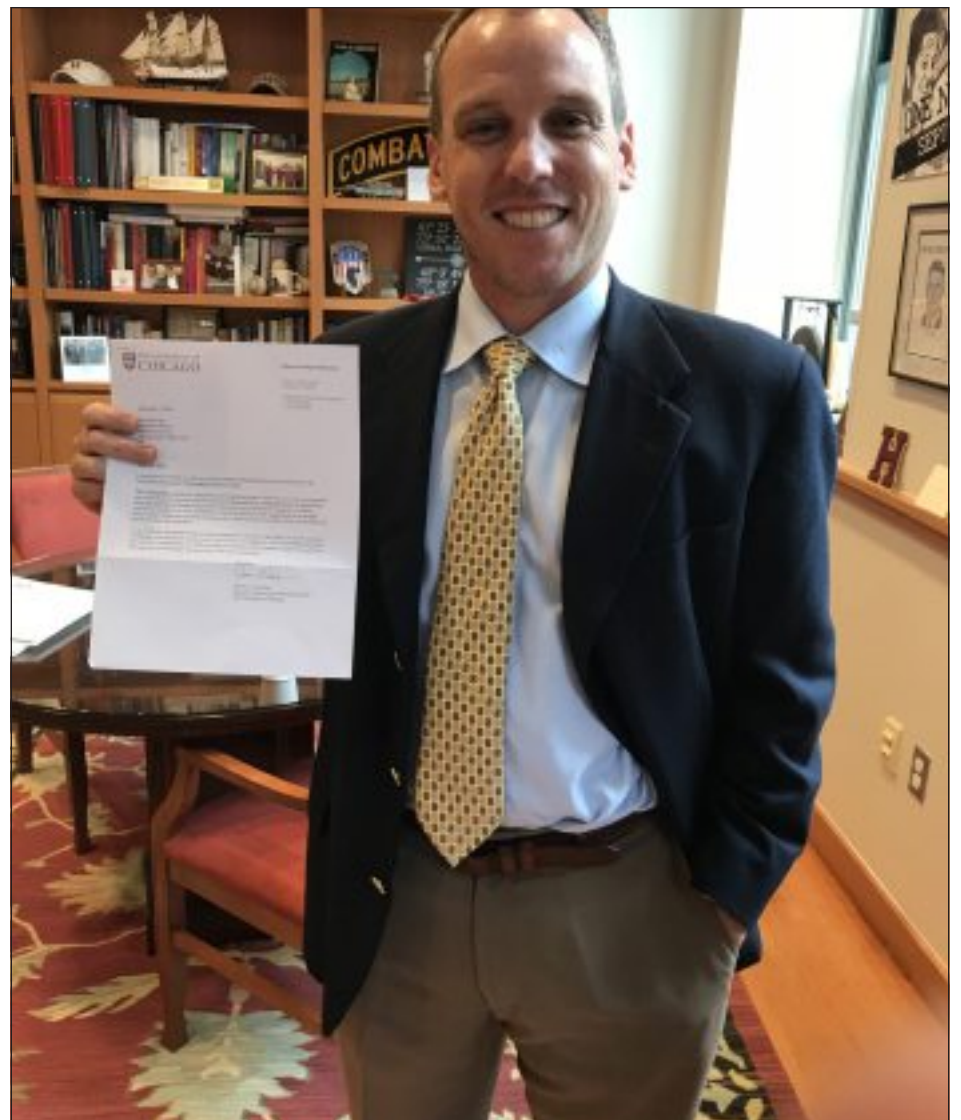
Haverford School teacher earns University of Chicago Outstanding Educator Award

The University of Chicago selected The Haverford School's Upper School English teacher and soccer coach Dan Keefe for the Outstanding Educator Award.

He was nominated by University of Chicago student Michael Baumholtz '18.

The university wrote in a letter: "Each year, we invite entering first-year students to nominate an educator who has influ-

enced them, challenged them, or helped them along the path toward intellectual growth. We receive letters back from hundreds of students, inspired by teachers who have changed the course of their lives, who taught them to re-imagine texts, to delve deeper into problem-solving, and to think beyond the borders of the classroom in the pursuit of their own education."



The University of Chicago selected Upper School English teacher and soccer coach Dan Keefe for the Outstanding Educator Award.

EDUCATION

Notre Dame announces grant for STEM symposium

Dr. Judith A. Dwyer, president of the Academy of Notre Dame de Namur, recently announced that the Academy has received a \$50,000 matching grant from The Edward E. Ford Foundation.

The grant supports the development and implementation of an international STEM symposium in coordination with Notre Dame's Center for Global Leadership.

International Sisters in STEM Symposium 2020: Transcending Borders will bring together international high school teams from the Academy's seven sister schools worldwide.

"The symposium will educate, empower and inspire young women to solve issues that transcend borders by using cross-cultural exploration of the fields of science, technology, engineering and math-

ematics," explained Dwyer. "Students will work with their peers in multinational teams within one of the following tracks: Design Thinking and Entrepreneurship, Robotics and Coding, Environmental Sciences and Medical Sciences."

The symposium will include classroom collaborations, subject matter experts, guest professors from area universities, a keynote speaker and STEM-foc-

used field trips. Student capstone presentations will be made to panelists representing leading Philadelphia-area educational institutions and corporations.

A special professional development track for visiting and Notre Dame faculty will run parallel to the student teams.

The week-long program will be hosted on Notre Dame's Villanova campus in the summer of 2020 and will showcase the Academy's new, 30,000-square-foot Center for STEM Education, scheduled for completion in 2019.

"The lack of women leaders in STEM is

well-documented," said Dwyer. "Notre Dame has taken strategic steps to establish a rigorous STEM-based curriculum that demonstrates the connectedness of STEM with all fields of learning, especially the arts, as we emphasize the ability of STEM designs and products to heal and enhance the quality of life throughout the world. We are grateful to The Edward E. Ford Foundation for its support of this effort."

The Academy's Center for Global Leadership sister schools are Michael Ham Memorial College Buenos Aires, Argentina; The Study Montreal, Can-

ada; Zhuhai Girls' Middle School Zhuhai, China; Notre Dame Seishin Junior and Senior High School Hiroshima, Japan; San Silvestre School Lima, Peru; CHIJ St. Nicolas School Singapore; and Sacred Heart High School for Girls Taipei, Taiwan.

Notre Dame invites interested parents to learn more about the Academy at Experience ND Day, which will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 24. Experience ND Day offers parents the opportunity to tour campus and observe classes in session. Visit ndapa.org for more information.



Notre Dame has been awarded a \$50,000 matching grant for an international STEM symposium that will bring together high school students from the Academy's seven sister schools worldwide in 2020.



2018-2019 Admissions Calendar

High School Entrance Exams October 13 & 21

Middle School Entrance Exam October 21

Experience ND Day October 24



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NOVEMBER 1 | 6 PM

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EDUCATION GUIDE

Immaculata provides creative ways to earn higher ed degree

Flexible formats, scholarships, partnership programs available

Immaculata University is helping students make up, catch up or get ahead by earning three credits in four weeks during the winter session that runs from Dec. 17 through Jan. 11.

Take advantage of these convenient online undergraduate courses that are offered at a discount of \$300 per credit. Registration is now open for the winter session. Email immaculata.edu/winter2 to register or for more information.

In addition to the opportune winter sessions, Immaculata is helping students afford a college education by reducing tuition on its most popular associate degree programs to \$250 per credit. Students can earn an associate degree in Immaculata's new program in education or in business administration, communication or information systems. Business administration and information systems are available completely online. High school students who wish to pursue a law degree can now earn an accelerated bachelor's degree from Immaculata in three years and continue for a juris doctorate degree from Widener University Delaware Law School in three years, saving students time and money.

In celebration of Immaculata's 100 anniversary, a Centennial Schol-

arship has been created to recognize academic excellence in high school students and to provide access to affordable education. Eligible students may qualify for a \$14,000 scholarship per year. This scholarship makes tuition at Immaculata comparable to current in-state public university rates.

"It's very simple, we want all students to have access to affordable education," states Barbara Lettiere '72, president of Immaculata. "By offering these flexible and affordable programs and scholarship opportunities, Immaculata is continuing to lead the way for students to earn a college degree."

For more information on any of these programs, please call the admissions department or email admissionsdept@immaculata.edu.

Immaculata is a Catholic, coeducational institution of higher learning. Established by the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM), Immaculata has been providing a quality education to students since 1920. The University offers academic programs at the associate, baccalaureate, master's and doctoral levels. Additionally, Immaculata offers 23 NCAA Division III varsity sports to student-athletes.

EDUCATION

Episcopal launches new computer science & engineering department

Beginning this year, students at The Episcopal Academy have access to expanded course content offered by the school's new computer science & engineering academic department.

The school has offered courses in computer science and technology for decades. Through a new dedicated academic department, Episcopal plans to offer an even more robust curriculum for students in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade.

"Many assume that computer science coursework only teaches skills, like coding and robotics," shared Matt Memmo, Upper School teacher and newly named department chair. "While hands-on skills are valuable in themselves, the true cornerstones of computer science include computational thinking, the engineering design process, digital literacy and digital citizenship. These lessons transcend technology and provide a basis for designing innovative solutions that can be applied across disciplines."

Creating this department was a true community effort. In May 2017, a multidisciplinary group of 23 staff and faculty created the Computer Science Study Group to examine Episcopal's current computer science offerings and assess how to further strengthen their programs. Over the next seven months, the group visited cutting-edge schools, universities and technology firms; spoke with leading thinkers in computer science; shared articles and studies; and surveyed



parents, students, faculty and alumni.

The findings were significant. Professors and CEOs alike expressed the need for job applicants with a foundation in computational thinking and problem solving. Several reports found that at least 65 percent of the careers that today's children will fill have not yet been invented. The group also found a sharp gender divide, as women make up only 18 percent of computer science majors in the United States, despite the fact that computer science degrees result in some of the highest-paying careers.

"Our technology coaches and faculty were already offering engaging coursework and programs, and student interest has been steadily growing each year," explained Head of School Dr. T.J. Locke. "By creating a dedicated academic department, we acknowledge what our research revealed. We need to expand and strengthen our offerings to prepare our students for tomorrow's world."

Students can expect to see new course offerings on a regular ba-

sis. This year, the Upper School's additional AP Computer Science courses and new courses, Principles of Engineering and Principles of Computer Science and CS Engineering, join the existing Introduction to Programming and Digital Video Production electives. The Middle School added engineering-focused electives and expanded coursework in digital literacy and citizenship. The Lower School offers age-appropriate lessons in foundational core competencies and will continue to grow its coding and engineering programs.

"We are looking forward to working with all students, even those who may not be especially interested in pursuing AP-level coursework," explained Memmo. "By developing a strand of classes, such as app development and robotics, extracurricular opportunities like drones and 3-D modeling, and competitions like hackathons and cybersecurity contests, we hope to attract even more students into the computer and engineering fields."



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EDUCATION

Sacred Heart Academy joins global service effort

On Saturday, Sept. 15, the Sacred Heart Academy Bryn Mawr (SHA) community completed 460 hours of local service.

SHA joined other Sacred Heart Network schools around the country and world in a Global Service Day to celebrate the bicentennial of Sacred Heart education in the United States. Globally, the day began with the Sacred Heart Schools in Australia and New Zealand, and waves of service continued throughout Japan, Italy, Scotland, Argentina, Peru, Mexico and the 24 other Sacred Heart schools in the United States and Canada.

In 1818, St. Rose Philippine Duchesne opened the Academy of the Sacred Heart in St. Charles, Mo. Still open today, this school marks the first school in the Society of the Sacred Heart outside of France.

Current students, faculty,



staff, administration, parents, families, alumnae and friends served with over 20 partner organizations. Some of the over 150 volunteers planted new gardens at Mother's Home in Darby, baked treats for residents at the Gift of Life Family House, deco-

rated cards for veterans through Keystone Military Families and sorted food donations at SHARE Philadelphia.

In addition to the events planned by the school, people were invited to plan their own service event for the day. This initiative allowed a greater reach of service, including personal projects with the American Red Cross and the Rachel Way Food Pantry.

The day offered the opportunity to bring different groups of people together in the spirit of the five goals of the Network of Sacred Heart Schools.

SHA Bryn Mawr is part of something larger!

Learn more at the Upper School Open House on Oct. 20 or at the K-12 Open House on Oct. 23.

www.SHAbrynmaur.org



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**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23 | 9-11:00 AM
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480 S. Bryn Mawr Avenue, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

EDUCATION

The benefits of being a bilingual child

Knowing how to speak another language can pay huge dividends.

According to the organization iLanguages, 43 percent of the world's population is bilingual. Bilingual people usually acquire a first language as a mother tongue, and then they develop a second language either simultaneously or later in life. Hispanics, French Canadians, residents of French-speaking countries in Africa, and immigrants who arrive in another country to live comprise the largest segments of bilinguals. Multilinguals, or people who speak three or more languages, are much less common than bilinguals.

The benefits of being bilingual include being able

to converse easily with extended members of the family who live overseas or with natives when traveling abroad. However, the advantages are even greater than that. The online foreign language immersion provider FluentU states that recent research indicates being bilingual helps a person's life in many ways. Here are some advantages of bilingualism.

▪ **Cognitive benefits:** Data published by Cerebrum, which provides information about neuroscience, states the bilingual brain can have better attention and task-switching capacities than the monolingual brain. Bilingual children as young as seven months may be better equipped to adjust

to environmental changes, and bilingual seniors may experience less cognitive decline than monolingual ones.

▪ **Educational advantage:** Being able to concentrate, multitask and focus better may provide an advantage at school. A recent Millennium Cohort Study, an ongoing longitudinal cohort study headquartered at the Naval Health Research Center, found that even if children are educated in their second language initially and lag behind other children, they soon catch up and outperform their peers by age 7.

▪ **Cultural opportunities:** Being able to speak another language means multilingual children and adults are

able to interact with different people abroad, as well as understand the nuances of a different culture. Seeing a country the way the natives experience it and being able to speak like a local can have social and financial advantages.

▪ **Career opportunities:** Speaking a second language will provide benefits in the business world, which is increasingly globalizing. Even knowing a few words or phrases in a foreign language can foster stronger relationships when working overseas. This helps build rapport and is a skill set that can set an individual apart from another candidate. Knowing another language may provide a pathway to different



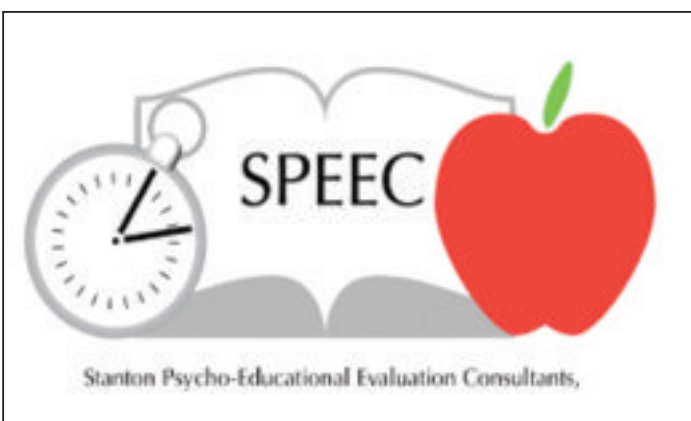
PHOTO COURTESY OF METROCREATIVE

career opportunities.

Being bilingual has a distinct set of advantages. Children can be encouraged to learn a new language and

keep those skills sharp into adulthood.

Article courtesy of MetroCreative



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