

AMERICAN HERITAGE SCHOOL

KNOWLEDGE | INTEGRITY | COMPASSION



2019-2020 SCHOOL PROFILE

American Heritage School
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CEO & Founder

William R. Laurie, M.Ed.

President

Douglas R. Laurie, M.Ed., D.C.

Vice President

Leslie Laurie Wood, Ed.S.

High School Principal

Elise Blum, M.Ed.

GUIDANCE & COLLEGE PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Director of Guidance

Kelly Bennett, M.S. Ed.

Director of College Planning

Sharon Bikoundou, M.S.

College Advisors | Grades 11-12

Ludy Joseph, M.A., LMHC

Tammy Kowitz, M.H.S., LMHC

Orley Malloy, M.S., LMHC

Erik McLeod, M.Ed.

Kara Morreale, M.S.

Beth Taubman, M.S., CAS

Guidance Counselors | Grades 9-10

Vladimir Basta, M.S..

Jody Schiller, M.S.

Nelsy Villalobos, M.S., M.S.W.

Kelley Zavatsky, M.Ed.

Guidance Counselors | Grades 7-8

Robin Behar, M.S., LMHC

Tamara Stein, M.Ed.

CEEB & ACT School Code: 101422

Highlights of Recognitions

The students at American Heritage School are well-prepared to be leaders of the 21st century who possess knowledge, integrity, and compassion. Each year, students attend prestigious competitions and earn exceptional awards. Here are some of their recent achievements.

- **#1 high school in Florida** for highest number of **nationally recognized scholars** for 10th consecutive year; 1 in 4 students in the Class of 2020 is a nationally recognized scholar
 - 44 National Merit Scholar Semifinalists (highest number in Florida)
 - 40 National Merit Commended Scholars
 - 31 National Hispanic Scholars
- **#1 high school in Florida** with **11 Presidential Scholar** Candidates
- **\$94 million** in college scholarships offered to the Class of 2019
- **95%** passing rate on all Advanced Placement exams (58% passing rate in Florida; 64% passing rate globally); AP average test score: 4
- **#1 private school** in the **U.S.** in national **Math** competition
- **#1 high school in Florida** at state **Science Fair** competition
- **Finalists** at **Regional Robotics** competition; **Semifinalists** at **2019 Robotics World** championship
- **Top 5** team in the **U.S.** in **Model U.N.**
- **#1 Mock Trial and Moot Court** teams in **Florida**
- **Top 1%** in the nation in **Speech & Debate** competition
- **4 Student Production Awards for WAHS Broadcast** in Public Service Announcement, On-Camera Talent, and Photography from the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Suncoast Chapter
- **1st place** for *Patriot Post* newspaper and *Expressions literary art magazine*; **Gold with Special Distinction** for *Spotlight yearbook* from the National, American, and Florida Scholastic Press Associations
- **11 Cappie Award nominations** including Best Musical for *Chicago*
- **Superior ratings** for Thespians, Chorus, Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band, Orchestra, and Guitar
- **4 national medals** from the 2019 Scholastic Art and Writing Awards
- **FHSAA State Championships:** Girls Golf, Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer, Girls Basketball

Our School

American Heritage School is an independent, non-sectarian, co-educational day school for grades PK3 through 12 with approximately 2,800 students. The high school, grades 9-12, has a student population of 1,650 students. Our student to faculty ratio is 5:1. American Heritage School is a tuition-only school where, in an effort to make all families equal, we do not ask for or accept donations. We are managed by veteran educators, and we have no governing board. It is paramount that all our staff have a vested interest in American Heritage; therefore, faculty and staff children receive full tuition to our school.

College Prep Experience

American Heritage resembles a small college in size and design with facilities and labs similar to those on a college campus. Our school gives students a rigorous, traditional education in a forward-thinking, technologically advanced, well-rounded environment. Our elite students, 100% of whom are accepted into 4-year universities, are prepared to be leaders of the 21st century, who possess knowledge, integrity, and compassion. We strive to offer a challenging college preparatory curriculum and aim to develop critical thinking, problem solving, and lifelong learning. American Heritage offers financial aid, as well as academic and fine arts scholarships.

School Community

We believe that in addition to academics, arts, and athletics, students should develop a strong sense of social responsibility. We offer over 85 student clubs and activities, created and headed by students and each supervised by a faculty adviser. We celebrate diversity and welcome students of all religions, nationalities, ethnicities, and races. Our focus is to create a community of scholars who respect individual and group differences and who seek to become responsible citizens.

Ethnic & International Diversity

Caucasian (non-Hispanic)	48%
Foreign Born	33%
Latin/Hispanic	23%
Black/African American	10%
Asian/Asian American	10%
Other	5%
Native American	4%

Accreditations and Memberships

Association of Independent Schools of Florida (AISF)
Middle States Association (MSA-CESS)
National Council for Private Schools Association (NCPSA)
Broward County Non-Public School Association
Accreditation International (Ai)
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools/AdvancED (SACS)
National Association of College Admissions Counseling (NACAC)
Southern Association of College Admissions Counseling (SACAC)
College Board

Weighting of Classes

Grade	College Prep	Honors	AP	
A+	97-100	4.67	5.67	6.67
A	93-96	4.33	5.33	6.33
A-	90-92	4	5	6
B+	87-89	3.67	4.67	5.67
B	83-86	3.33	4.33	5.33
B-	80-82	3	4	5
C+	77-79	2.67	3.67	4.67
C	73-76	2.33	3.33	4.33
C-	70-72	2	3	4
D+	67-69	1.67	2.67	3.67
D	63-66	1.33	2.33	3.33
D-	60-62	1	2	3
F	0-59	0	0	0
WP	withdrawn with passing grade			
WF	withdrawn with failing grade			

We do not report class rank of our students.

Faculty

The Upper School students are served by 365 instructors, counselors, and administrators, of whom 60% hold Masters or Doctoral degrees. In addition to having AP readers on our staff, our pre-professional courses are taught by prominent doctors, judges, attorneys, and engineers, who are currently practicing in their fields and dedicated to the students and their success. Faculty turnover is minimal. To foster educational best practices and a love of learning, all our teachers participate in professional development throughout the year. Parents and students respect our dedicated, professional, competent, and caring faculty.

Fine Arts

Our Fine Arts Department is recognized internationally. We welcome students with all abilities in the arts, and our low student to teacher ratio gives each student the chance to develop skills at his/her own pace. We believe a student should be well-rounded; we teach performance techniques and hands-on application, combined with theory, in all disciplines of study. We give all students various opportunities to display their talents, both on campus and throughout the region, country, and world. We are also proud to host, in our state of the art Fine Arts Building, the Junior Thespians District Festival and the High School Choral State Festival.

Athletics

American Heritage offers a complete competitive sports program for boys and girls, with teams in all major sports. We have a "no cut" policy that allows an opportunity for every student to participate on the Patriot team of his or her choice. Many of our coaches are former professional athletes. They provide high-quality instruction enabling students to further develop their skills and build good character, leadership, and respect for others.

Curriculum & Course Offerings

In addition to the standard college preparatory curriculum, we offer **28 Advanced Placement** and **135 Honors** courses.

English Department

Advanced Placement: English Language & Composition, English Literature & Composition

Honors: English I-IV, Newspaper, Yearbook, Literary Magazine, College Writing

College Preparatory: English I-IV, Journalism, Newspaper, Yearbook, Creative Writing, Literary Magazine, College Writing

Speech & Debate Honors Program: Introduction to Speech & Debate, Public Forum Speaking, Individual Events, Lincoln Douglas Debate, Congressional Debate

Mathematics Department

Advanced Placement: Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Statistics

High Honors: Multivariable Calculus and Differential Equations

Honors: Algebra I, II, Geometry, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Multivariable Calculus, Number Theory/Discrete Math

Competitive/Honors: Algebra II, Geometry, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Statistics

College Preparatory: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, College Algebra with Trig, Pre-Calculus, Analysis of Functions, Calculus, Advanced Topics in Algebra, Statistics

Science Department

Advanced Placement: Biology, Chemistry, Physics 1, Physics 2, Physics C: Mechanics, Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism, Environmental Science

Honors: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Research I-IV, Environmental Health, Marine Biology

College Preparatory: Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Environment, Marine Biology

Pre-Medical Honors Program: Medical Terminology, Embryology, Anatomy & Physiology, Pathology, Forensic Science, Organic Chemistry, Medical Internship (Requirements: advanced math and science, high reading comprehension, interview)

Pre-Engineering Honors Program: Introduction to Engineering Design, Principles of Engineering, Digital Electronics, Engineering Design and Development, Engineering Internship

Biomedical Engineering Honors Program: Biomedical Engineering Internship and courses offered in the Pre-Medical and Pre-Engineering programs

Social Studies Department

Advanced Placement: World History, American History, European History, Comparative Government and Politics, American Government, Macroeconomics, Psychology

Honors: Human Geography, World Geography, World History, American History, American Government, Economics, Sociology, Psychology

College Preparatory: World Geography, World History, American History, American Government, Economics, Sociology, Psychology

Pre-Law Honors Program: Business Law, Trial Advocacy, Constitutional Law, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Evidence, Homicide, Family Law, Juvenile Law, Tort Law, Law Internship (Requirements: high grades in English, interview)

Foreign Language Department

Advanced Placement: Spanish Language, Spanish Literature, French Language, Chinese Language

Honors: Spanish II-IV, French II-IV, Mandarin Chinese I-IV

College Preparatory: Spanish I, French I

Computer Department

Advanced Placement: Computer Science A, Computer Science Principles

Honors: Computer Science Essentials, Programming with Purpose, Intro to Coding, Coding with Java, Multimedia Production, Production/Broadcasting, Sports Broadcasting & Production, Broadcast & Graphics Media, Web Page Design, Virtual Animation, Broadcast Journalism Internship
College Preparatory: Introduction to Coding, Productivity Suite, Introduction to Multimedia, Layout Design, e-Commerce, 2D Animation, Studio Production, Film Production

Fine Arts Department

Visual Art: Intro to Visual Concepts, Drawing I, II, Figure Drawing I, II, Painting I, II, Ceramics I-III, IV*, Sculpture I, II, Studio Art, Studio Art 2D Design AP, Photography I-III, IV*, V*, Computer Graphics, Graphic Design, Architectural Design I-IV, V*, VI*, Art Composition*, Art Portfolio*

Theatre: Intro to Drama, Acting I-III, IV*-VII*, Technical Theatre I-IV, Stagecraft for the Theatre, Stage Management, Stage Makeup I-III, Playwriting*, Publicity for Theatre, Scenic Art for Theatre, Scenic Design, Sound Design, Movement/Voice for Actors*, Film as Literature, Music Theatre Technique, Play Script Analysis*, Lighting Design

Music: Mixed Chorus*, Women's Chorus*, A Capella Chorus*, Guitar I-IV, V*-VIII*, Piano Keyboard*, Orchestra*, Music Technology I, II, Music Theory*, Music Theory AP

Band: Band*, Percussion Ensemble*

Dance: Dance Techniques I-III, IV*-VI*, Dance Company*

* Honors sections also available

Students must meet prerequisites to enroll in Honors and AP courses.

Graduation Requirements

American Heritage has two (2) semesters per year, and credits are granted at the end of each semester. In addition, all students are required to complete 120 hours of community service. All classes are 49 minutes long and meet five (5) times each week. To graduate, a student must have earned a total of 24 credits (Carnegie units). The graduation requirements are as follows:

English	4 credits
Math	4 credits (one year beyond Algebra II)
Science	3 credits including Biology, Chemistry, or Physics (4 recommended)
Social Studies	3 credits including World History, American History, Economics, American Government (4 recommended)
Foreign Language	2 credits (in grades 9-12) (3 recommended)
Fine Arts	0.5 credit
Physical Education	0.5 credit
Additional courses	7 credits of student's choice
TOTAL	24 credits

Nationally Recognized Scholars

Class of 2020 - Total students: 373

National Merit Scholar Semifinalists	44
National Merit Commended Scholars	40
National Hispanic Scholars	31
Presidential Scholar Candidates (Class of 2019)	11

AP Scholar Awards

	2019	2018
AP Scholars	109	76
AP Scholars with Honors	52	48
AP Scholars with Distinction	209	190
National AP Scholars	102	86

AP Test Scores

Average AP Exam score: 4

Passing Rate: 95% with scores of 3 or higher

American Heritage Passing Rate	95%
Florida Passing Rate	58%
Global Passing Rate	64%

ACT Score Distribution

Top 5%	36
Top 10%	36
Top 20%	35
Top 30%	35
Median	34

SAT Score Distribution

RANKING	EBRW - Evidence Based Reading & Writing	M - Math
Top 5%	790	800
Top 10%	785	800
Top 20%	770	790
Top 30%	760	780
Median	680	690

SAT Subject Test Scores

SUBJECT	MEAN
Biology-Ecology	685
Biology-Molecular	745
Chemistry	727
English Literature	674
Math Level I	650
Math Level II	740
Physics	733
Spanish	686
U.S. History	667
World History	681

116,125.03

Hours of community service completed by the Class of 2019

5

Pre-Professional Programs - Pre-Med, Pre-Law, Pre-Engineering, Biomedical Engineering, Computer Science -taught daily by medical doctors, attorneys, judges, engineers, computer scientists.

105

Nationally Recognized Scholars in the Class of 2020 #1 high school in Florida

College Acceptances

100% of American Heritage graduates were accepted to four-year colleges and attend a wide variety of selective colleges and universities. In the past three years, 65% of our students have matriculated to some of these out-of-state schools.

American University
Amherst College
Boston College
Boston Conservatory at Berklee
Boston University
Bowdoin College
Brown University
California Institute of Technology
Carnegie Mellon
Case Western Reserve
Colgate University
Columbia University
Cornell University
Dartmouth College
Duke University
Emory University
George Washington University
Georgetown University
Georgia Institute of Technology

Harvard University
Harvey Mudd College
Johns Hopkins University
Juilliard School
King's College (London)
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Middlebury College
New York University
Northeastern University
Northwestern University
Princeton University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rhode Island School of Design
Rice University
Savannah College of Art & Design
Stanford University
Swarthmore College
Syracuse University
Tufts University

Tulane University
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Los Angeles
University of Chicago
University of Michigan
University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
University of Notre Dame
University of Oxford in England
University of Pennsylvania
University of Southern California
University of St. Andrews in Scotland
University of Texas at Austin
University of Virginia
Vanderbilt University
Vassar College
Washington University in St. Louis
Wellesley College
Williams College
Yale University