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Nichols School

COLLEGE PROFILE 2019-2020

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School and Community

- Founded in 1892, Nichols School is the only coeducational, non-sectarian, independent day school in the city of Buffalo. At Nichols School, students are encouraged every day not only to be accepting of challenge, but excited by it. Through caring guidance and support, they are inspired to face academic, athletic, creative and social growth with confidence, determination and joy. The ease with which our students approach new learning opportunities and experiences becomes a mark of their characters, and is an asset that continues to open doors for them throughout their lives.
- Our students come from a diverse range of ethnic, religious and racial backgrounds and represent over 45 different villages and cities in Western New York and Southern Ontario.
- Of the 525 students, 380 are enrolled in the Upper School. The class of 2020 includes 96 students: 49 boys and 47 girls. Average class size is 14 students and the student/teacher ratio is 8:1. Financial aid is awarded and 30% of students received \$2 million in 2018-19. Students of color represent 26% of enrollment.
- 77% of teaching faculty hold an advanced degree, including 11% with doctorates. Faculty average 19 years of teaching experience and 13% are Nichols graduates.
- Nichols School is accredited by the New York State Department of Education and the New York State Association of Independent Schools. Memberships are also held in the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), the New York State Association of Independent Schools (NYSAIS), and the Education Collaborative of Western New York (a consortium of private high schools in Western New York). Administration and faculty hold memberships and are active in various local, state and national professional organizations.
- Nichols School subscribes to the Statement of Principles of Good Practice of the National Association of College Admission Counseling (NACAC). The school is also a member of The College Board and the Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools (ACCIS).

SAT (25th - 75th%)

Class	Size	EBRW <small>[Evidence Based Reading and Writing]</small>	Math
2019	104	560-690	520-690
2018	104	580-690	570-710
2017	93	590-680	570-690
2016	94	530-690	540-690
2015	94	520-660	540-680

2015 - 2019 ACT (25th - 75th%) 22-31

Grading

- GPA is not reported on the transcript. Nichols can provide a weighted or unweighted GPA upon request.
- All courses are rigorous and college-preparatory in nature. Highest honors, honors and commendations are awarded to students.

AP Examinations

- In 2019, 211 students (50% of the Upper School) sat for 433 examinations in 22 subjects.
- 75% of exams received a score of 3 or higher.
- Access to AP courses is by faculty recommendation. However, students not in designated AP courses who wish to take AP exams are allowed to do so.

Curriculum and Program

- To receive a Nichols diploma, students must earn a minimum of 24 units (1 unit = 1 full year) for graduation. In addition to a minimum of 19 core courses, students must also complete 2 units of PE/Athletics and 3 units of Electives. Full course descriptions can be found in the Upper School Academic section of the School's website.
- At Nichols, we treat our athletic program as an extension of our education program. Students are taught to take the principles of dedication, determination, integrity, sportsmanship and collaboration taught on the fields, courts and ice with them into the classroom and beyond. More than 90% of graduating seniors earn at least one varsity letter, and approximately one-quarter of our graduates continue to play their sport(s) at a collegiate level.
- The words "Cum Laude" come from the Latin phrase meaning "with high praise." In 1918, Nichols School was the thirteenth school in the country to be admitted into the membership of the Cum Laude Society.
- The Senior Thesis is a capstone academic experience involving extensive research in an academic field or in the arts. Seniors develop their thesis topics throughout the year and, after receiving faculty approval, embark on a period of research and writing. In addition to a Senior Thesis paper, all students are required to give an oral defense of their thesis before a faculty panel.
- All students are encouraged to participate in our long-standing, robust, international exchange programs. Opportunities to host students, as well as study abroad for two, three-week terms, are available. Programs include: Lycée St. Joseph in Le Havre, France; Instituto Jovellanos in Gijon, Spain; and at the Central University of Science and Technology in Wuhan, China.
- Seniors interested in conducting college-level scientific or humanities research at one of the region's medical or academic research facilities may apply to become a Nichols Research Scholar. The research is monitored by a specialist in the field and a Nichols faculty member.

Course Offerings

ENGLISH (4 UNITS)

Foundations of Literature*
British and Postcolonial Literature*
American Literature
AP English Literature & Composition
English VI
Topics in Literature and Criticism I*
Topics in Literature and Criticism II*

HISTORY (3 UNITS)

Ancient World History*
Entrepreneurial Studies
Service and Social Justice
Modern World History
Modern American Landscapes
U.S. History
AP Economics
AP Government & Politics
AP Psychology
AP U.S. History
AP Modern European History
AP Modern World History

MATHEMATICS (3 UNITS)

Algebra I
Algebra II*
Geometry*
Integrated Geometry & Algebra I
Integrated Geometry & Algebra II
Integrated Algebra II & Trigonometry
Intro to Computer Programming
AP Statistics
AP Computer Science

Data Structures & Topics
Differential Calculus
Precalculus
Honors Differential & Integral Calculus
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
Multivariable Calculus

MODERN & CLASSICAL LANGUAGES (3 UNITS IN ONE LANGUAGE)

Mandarin I, II*, III*, IV* & V
AP Chinese Language
French I, II*, III*, & IV/V*
Advanced French V
AP French V: Current Events
Latin I, II*, III*, IV & V
AP Latin: Caesar & Virgil
Spanish I, II*, III*, IV* & V*
AP Spanish Language
Cultures of the Spanish-Speaking World

SCIENCE (3 UNITS)

Physics I*
Chemistry*
Biology
AP Biology
AP Physics C
AP Chemistry
AP Environmental Science
Anatomy & Physiology
Engineering I & II
Organic Chemistry
Research Scholars

FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS (3 UNITS)

Freshman Survey of the Arts
-see website for full list
Sophomore Foundation of Arts Electives
-see website for full list
Junior & Senior Arts Electives
Intro to Acting Technique
Advanced Acting
Photography
Filmmaking & Video Production I
Filmmaking & Video Production II & Screenwriting
Songwriting
Advanced Photography
AP Studio Art
Drawing & Painting (Intro & Advanced)
The Art of Craft
Contemporary Dance I
A Study & Practice in Creativity
All Grades – Orchestra, Chorus, After School Dance

***Course offers both Regular and Honors or Advanced levels.**

Nichols Graduates 2016-2019

College Destinations

University of Alabama	D'Youville College	Muhlenberg College	SUNY Alfred State College
Alfred University	Elmira College	Nazareth College	SUNY Brockport
American University	Elon University	University of New England	SUNY at Buffalo
Amherst College	Erie Community College	University of New Hampshire	SUNY Buffalo State College
University of Arizona	Fairfield University	New York University	SUNY Geneseo
Assumption College	Fashion Institute of Technology	Niagara Community College	SUNY Oswego
Babson College	Florida Gulf Coast University	Niagara University	SUNY Potsdam
Baruch College of CUNY	Florida State University	UNC – Chapel Hill	Syracuse University
Bentley University	Fordham University	Northeastern University	Temple University
Boston College	Franklin and Marshall College	Norwich University	University of Tennessee
Boston University	Franklin Pierce University	Notre Dame	Texas Christian University
Bowling Green State University	Furman University	Oberlin College	University of Texas, Austin
Brown University	George Washington University	Ohio State University	University of Toronto
Bucknell University	Georgetown University	Ontario College of Art & Design	Trinity College
Butler University	Gettysburg College	University of Ottawa	Union College
UC Davis	Hamilton College	Pace University	United States Naval Academy
UC Los Angeles	Harvard University	Parsons The New School	University of Utah
UC San Diego	Haverford College	Pennsylvania State University	Utica College
Canisius College	High Point University	University of Pittsburgh	Vanderbilt University
Carnegie Mellon University	Hilbert College	University of Pittsburgh at Bradford	Vassar College
Case Western Reserve University	Hobart & William Smith Colleges	Pratt Institute	University of Vermont
Champlain College	College of the Holy Cross	Prescott College	Villanova University
College of Charleston	Ithaca College	Princeton University	University of Virginia
University of Chicago	John Carroll University	Providence College	Virginia Military Institute
Clarion University of Pennsylvania	Johns Hopkins University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	Wake Forest University
Clarkson University	Johnson & Wales	University of Rhode Island	Washington and Lee University
Clemson University	Johnson C. Smith University	University of Richmond	Washington College
Coastal Carolina University	Kenyon College	Roanoke College	Wellesley College
Colgate University	Loyola University Chicago	Rochester Institute of Technology	Wentworth Institute of Technology
College for Creative Studies	Loyola University Maryland	University of Rochester	Westminster College
University of Colorado at Boulder	Macalester College	Rollins College	Wheaton College IL
Colorado College	Manhattan College	San Diego State University	Williams College
Columbia University	Marist College	University of San Francisco	University of Wisconsin, Madison
Connecticut College	Marquette University	Sarah Lawrence University	College of Wooster
Cooper Union	University of Maryland	School of Art Institute of Chicago	Xavier University
Cornell College	MA College of Art and Design	Skidmore College	Yale University
Cornell University	MA Institute of Technology	Smith College	
Coventry University	McGill University	University of Southern California	
Daemen College	McMaster University	University of St. Andrews	
Dartmouth College	Mercyhurst University	St. Anselm College	
Davidson College	Miami Dade College	St. John Fisher College	
Denison University	Miami University - Oxford	St. John's University - Queens	
University of Denver	Michigan State University	St. Joseph's University	
Drexel University	University of Michigan	St. Lawrence University	
Duquesne University	Middlebury College	Stanford University	