



# THE GUNSTON SCHOOL | 2020-2021

P.O. Box 200 | 911 Gunston Road | Centreville, MD 21617 | Phone 410-758-0620 | Fax 410-758-0628 | [Gunston.org](http://Gunston.org)



## Our Mission:

The Gunston School offers an intellectually rigorous, highly personalized, and nurturing college preparatory educational experience. Valuing a healthy balance between mind and body, a strong sense of community, the creative process, and our connection to the Chesapeake Bay, Gunston strives to educate ethically and environmentally minded scholars, citizens, and leaders for our globalized society.

## Admission and Enrollment

Admission to Gunston is selective and based on an applicant's previous school records, standardized testing, teacher recommendations, and a personal interview. Total enrollment for the 2020-2021 academic year stands at 224 students.

## Location and History

Situated on 35-acres next to the Corsica River in Centreville, Maryland, the Gunston School was founded in 1911. Since its founding, the school has added numerous academic, communal, and athletic facilities in support of students' intellectual, social, and physical development.

## Distinctive Programs

### Chesapeake Bay Studies

Students complete a week-long experience each year, exploring the various components of life in and around the Chesapeake Bay including environmental studies, history, and social and cultural influences, incorporating field trips, analysis of primary sources, in-depth study of specific topics, discussion, journal writing, lab work, and computer analysis.

### Gunston Writing Experience

**Junior Symposium:** Students select an author of focus and spend the school year reading five of the author's works and researching the author's life. Students then devise an original thesis statement reflecting their synthesis of the author's works.

**Senior Paradigm Project:** Students complete a summative narrative of how their years at Gunston shaped their own "language of values." Students create their own value model by examining key moments of insight in the areas of experiences, people, and knowledge.

### Waterfront Sports Program

One-third of students participate in crew or sailing. In 2016, crew placed 3rd in Maryland State Championships, semifinalists in SRAA National and raced in the prestigious Head of the Charles in Boston, Mass. In 2017, crew placed 3rd in Maryland State Championships and semi finalists in SRAA National Championship in New Jersey.

### Near Space Balloon Launch

This project uses a helium-filled weather balloon to take cameras and scientific instruments to "near space," a region above the majority of the Earth's atmosphere that begins at 65,000 feet. Photos show the blackness of space and resemble photos taken from orbit. Gunston plans to launch balloons each year, with the goal of reaching higher altitudes and adding more scientific instrumentation to investigate properties of the stratosphere and ozone layer.

### Senior Internships

Seniors who meet established criteria have the opportunity to work in an area of interest to them in lieu of taking final examinations. The program lasts approximately two weeks.

### Chesapeake Watershed Semester

Using the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed as the foundation for an immersive, rigorous, and interdisciplinary curriculum, this program is a single-semester, place-based academic program for high school juniors and seniors. The program aims to cultivate reflective and confident students and leaders who can promote regional and global environmental sustainability through their understanding of scientific, social, cultural, and political systems.

### Technology Program

Gunston offers robust opportunities to learn coding and AP Computer Science, as well as how to develop

mobile apps. Additionally, Gunston's Robotics team competes nationally.

### The Arts

The pottery studio is a favorite among students, as well as our other extensive art programs such as digital and film photography, wood sculpture, music, drawing and painting, and more. The performing arts department, featuring the Gunston Players, puts on a well-attended large scale theater production every year.

### Distance Learning

Gunston has created and implemented a rigorous distance learning curriculum that was up and running within three days of school closures. Gunston was among very few schools who kept their grading system and held the same levels of high expectations as for in-person learning. We are able to switch seamlessly between distance, concurrent and in-person learning.

### Head of School

John A. Lewis IV • [jlewis@gunston.org](mailto:jlewis@gunston.org)

### Assistant Head of School

Christie B. Grabis • [cgrabis@gunston.org](mailto:cgrabis@gunston.org)

### Director of College Guidance

Kellee Webb • [kwebb@gunston.org](mailto:kwebb@gunston.org)

### Registrar

Kim Vess • [kvess@gunston.org](mailto:kvess@gunston.org)

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## Accreditation and Membership

- Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools
- Association of Independent Maryland and DC Schools
- National Association of Independent Schools
- The National Association for College Admission Counseling
- The College Board
- Potomac & Chesapeake Association of College Admission Counselors
- Maryland Green Schools
- Council for the Advancement and Support of Education



## Program:

The Gunston School endorses a student-centered philosophy that encourages achievement and personal growth by emphasizing the balanced development of the whole student—intellectually, morally, culturally, and physically. The academic requirements for graduation include a minimum of 24 credits across the following content areas:

- **English:** (4 credits)
- **Foreign Language:** 3 credits in Spanish or 2 credits in Spanish and 2 credits in a second World Language via a school-approved online learning provider.
- **History:** (3 credits) including courses in United States History and American Government.
- **Math:** (3 credits) including courses in Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II.
- **Science:** (3 credits) in laboratory science including courses in Biology, Chemistry, and Wellness.
- **Computer Science:** (.25 credit)
- **Art & Music:** (2 credits) .5 credit per year
- **Athletics:** (2 credits) students must participate in two seasons of athletics per year
- **Chesapeake Bay Studies:** (1 credit) students earn .25 credit each year
- **Community Service:** 15 hours for incoming seniors, 30 hours for incoming juniors, 45 hours for incoming freshmen and sophomores.

Courses taken through an approved, accredited program are listed on the student's Gunston transcript.

**Distinctions:** "High Honors" is earned with an average of 93 or higher. "Honors" is earned with an average of 90 or higher.

**Disciplinary Reporting:** As an institutional member of the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC), Gunston will disclose disciplinary infractions resulting in suspension or dismissal to colleges and universities to which the student applied.

## Advanced Placement Course Offerings:

Art	European History
Biology	Physics
Calculus AB & BC	Spanish Language
Chemistry	Statistics
Comparative Government	Studio Art
Computer Science	US Government
English Literature	US History
Environmental Science	

## Honors Course Offerings:

Algebra I & II	Physics
Biology	Post-Modern Lit.
British Literature	Pre-Calculus
Chemistry	Spanish II, III, IV, V
English 10, II	
Geometry	
Literature	

## Grading Scale

Grade Range	Point
A	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	88-89
B	83-87
B-	80-82
C+	78-79
C	73-77
C-	70-72
D+	68-69
D	63-67
D-	60-62
F	0-59

A student's GPA is calculated from academic coursework and does not include fine arts/performing arts courses or athletics. Gunston does not weight honors or AP courses. Due to small class size and the selective nature of admissions, Gunston does not rank students.

# Colleges and Universities accepting Gunston students in recent years.

## **Adelphi University**

Agnes Scott College  
The University of Alabama  
Albright College  
Alderson Broaddus University  
Allegheny College  
American University  
**Anne Arundel Community College**  
**Appalachian State University**  
Arcadia University  
Arizona State University-Tempe  
**The University of Arizona**  
Auburn University  
Australian National University  
Baldwin Wallace University  
Bard College  
Becker College  
**Belmont University**  
**Bennington College**  
Binghamton University  
**Boston University**  
Brandeis University  
Bridgewater College  
**Bryant University**  
California College of the Arts  
**University of California-Davis**  
**University of California-Irvine**  
**University of California, San Diego**  
**University of California-Santa Barbara**  
University of California-Santa Cruz  
**Catholic University of America**  
**Central Michigan University**  
Centre College  
**Champlain College**  
**College of Charleston**  
**Chesapeake College**  
**Christopher Newport University**  
University of Cincinnati-Main Campus  
The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina  
Clark University  
Clemson University  
Cleveland State University  
Coastal Carolina University  
University of Colorado Boulder  
University of Colorado Colorado Springs  
Colorado State University-Fort Collins  
Columbia College Chicago  
**University of Connecticut**  
Curry College  
**Davidson College**  
Davis & Elkins College  
**University of Delaware**  
**Denison University**  
**University of Denver**  
Dickinson College  
Drew University  
**Drexel University**  
**East Carolina University**  
Eckerd College  
Elmira College  
**Elon University**

## **Embry-Riddle Aeronautical**

**University-Daytona Beach**  
**Emory University**  
Endicott College  
**Fairfield University**  
Fairleigh Dickinson University-Metropolitan Campus  
Ferrum College  
**Flagler College-St Augustine**  
**Florida Institute of Technology**  
**Fordham University**  
**Fort Lewis College**  
Franklin and Marshall College  
**Frostburg State University**  
Furman University  
**George Mason University**  
**George Washington University**  
Georgia Southern University  
Gettysburg College  
**Goucher College**  
**Guilford College**  
**Hampden-Sydney College**  
University of Hartford  
**High Point University**  
Hillsdale College  
**Hobart William Smith Colleges**  
Hofstra University  
Hollins University  
College of the Holy Cross  
Hood College  
Hult International Business School - San Francisco  
Hussian College Los Angeles- In Studio  
University of Illinois at Urbana  
-Champaign  
Immaculata University  
Indiana University-Bloomington  
Iowa State University  
**Ithaca College**  
Jacksonville University  
James Madison University  
Jefferson (Philadelphia University + Thomas Jefferson University)  
CUNY John Jay College of Criminal Justice  
**Johnson & Wales University, Providence**  
**Juniata College**  
University of Kansas  
Kutztown University of Pennsylvania  
Lafayette College  
Lesley University  
Liberty University  
Lock Haven University  
Longwood University  
Louisiana State University  
**Loyola University Maryland**  
LUISS Guido Carli University  
Lynn University  
Maine Maritime Academy  
University of Maine  
Manhattan College  
Marietta College  
**Marist College**

## **University of Mary Washington**

**University of Maryland-Baltimore County**  
**University of Maryland-College Park**  
Marymount University  
**Massachusetts Maritime Academy**  
**University of Massachusetts-Amherst**  
McDaniel College  
Meredith College  
Messiah College  
Miami University-Oxford  
University of Miami  
Michigan State University  
Milwaukee School of Engineering  
Misericordia University  
**University of Mississippi**  
Montana State University  
University of Montana  
**University of North Carolina at Asheville**  
**University of North Carolina at Charlotte**  
**University of North Carolina Wilmington**  
University of North Carolina School of the Arts  
North Carolina State University at Raleigh  
Northeastern University  
**University of Northern Colorado**  
Norwich University  
Notre Dame of Maryland University  
Ohio University-Main Campus  
Ohio Wesleyan University  
Oklahoma State University-Main Campus  
**Old Dominion University**  
Pace University-New York  
**Palm Beach Atlantic University**  
Pennsylvania College of Technology  
**Pennsylvania State University-Main Campus**  
**Pennsylvania State University-Penn State Worthington Scranton**  
University of Pittsburgh-Pittsburgh Campus  
**Point Park University**  
**Pratt Institute**  
Purdue University-Main Campus  
Quinnipiac University  
**Randolph-Macon College**  
**Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute**  
Richmond, The American International University in London  
University of Richmond  
**Roanoke College**  
**Rochester Institute of Technology**  
**University of Rochester**  
Roger Williams University  
Rollins College  
Rutgers University-New Brunswick  
Saint Joseph's University  
Saint Mary's College of California  
**Saint Vincent College**  
**Salisbury University**

## Savannah College of Art and Design

Shenandoah University  
**Skidmore College**  
University of South Carolina-Columbia  
Southern Methodist University  
St. Bonaventure University  
St. John's College  
St. John's University  
St Lawrence University  
**St Mary's College of Maryland**  
**Stevens Institute of Technology**  
Stevenson University  
Stony Brook University, State University of New York  
Suffolk University  
**University at Albany, SUNY**  
**Susquehanna University**  
**Syracuse University**  
**University of Tampa**  
**Temple University**  
The University of Tennessee-Chattanooga  
**The University of Tennessee-Knoxville**  
**The New School**  
**The Ohio State University**  
**Towson University**  
**Tulane University of Louisiana**  
**University of Tulsa**  
Union College - Schenectady  
**Universiteit van Amsterdam**  
**University at Buffalo, State University of New York**  
**University of Lynchburg**  
University of Oregon  
University of Sydney  
Ursinus College  
University of Vermont  
Villanova University  
**Virginia Commonwealth University**  
**Virginia Military Institute**  
**Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University**  
Virginia Wesleyan University  
**University of Virginia-Main Campus**  
**Wagner College**  
**Wake Forest University**  
Washington and Lee University  
**Washington College**  
**University of Washington, Seattle**  
Weber State University  
Wells College  
Wentworth Institute of Technology  
Wesley College  
West Virginia University  
Wheaton College - Massachusetts  
Widener University  
**William and Mary**  
**Wilson College**  
Wofford College  
The College of Wooster  
**Worcester Polytechnic Institute**  
University of Wyoming  
York College of Pennsylvania