

THE ALTAMONT SCHOOL



**One of the nation's
premier college
preparatory schools
for students in
grades 5-12**

The Mission of The Altamont School is to improve the fabric of society by graduating compassionate, well-educated individuals capable of independent thinking and innovative ideas. To this end, the school attracts, nurtures, and challenges students whose commitment to truth, knowledge, and honor will prepare them not only for the most rigorous college programs, but also for productive lives.



Altamont is a place where it is cool to be smart.

A top runner might star in a play or a science whiz might tutor a younger peer in English; a once-shy student might hold a student government office.

At Altamont, arts are as important as athletics; students of different backgrounds and cultures share in the process of discovery; reading is revered; multiple language offerings include Latin, Spanish, French, Greek, and Mandarin Chinese; and upholding the Honor Code is a source of pride.





Academics

Altamont offers a challenging college preparatory curriculum. Every class is taught at the Honors level. Our curriculum includes numerous AP offerings, college-level mathematics, sciences, foreign languages, and a multitude of fine arts and elective courses. Faculty advisors meet with students individually on a regular basis and collectively on a daily basis.

To prepare students further for college academics, Altamont offers semester-long seminars for seniors in English and history. Seminars give students exposure to more specialized subject matter while providing experience with the semester-long course model found in most undergraduate programs.

For a complete list of course offerings and graduation requirements, please refer to the online curriculum guide at www.altamontschool.org/academics.

ONLY AT ALTAMONT

College Counseling

From the Northeast to the Southwest to overseas, Altamont graduates are doing great things. We are so proud of the many and varied schools Altamont students are admitted to and attend. An institution's selectivity, however, is not synonymous with success. Students must focus on finding the school that best fits them: their goals, strengths, and values. **Our college counselors work individually with students and their families all four years of high school to find that perfect fit and to develop a well-rounded academic and extra-curricular student profile.**



Cameron Gaede '84, Director of College Counseling

ALTAMONT'S COLLEGE COUNSELING PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

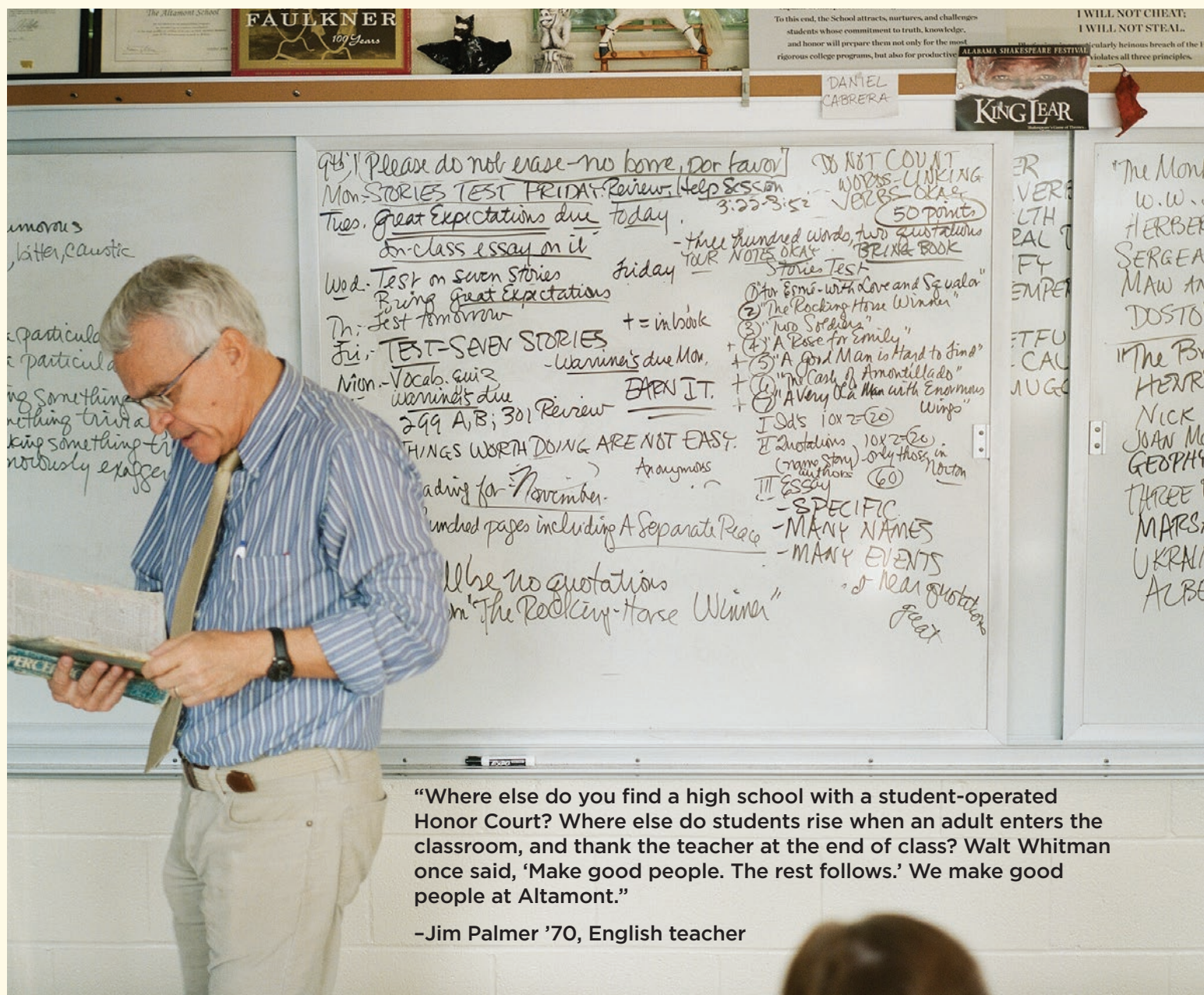
- Two full-time college counselors
- More than 65 college and university representatives visit Altamont every year
- A weeklong application workshop
- An admissions representative from a college or university comes to campus to hold a mock admissions committee meeting and discuss reading applications from the other side of the desk
- An optional Project Week trip to visit a wide array of colleges and universities
- School is open on Saturdays so that students can work on applications at a time other than during the school week
- Altamont is an ACT testing site

Honor Code

Truth. Knowledge. Honor.

The Altamont environment is one of respect and encouragement.

The Honor Code is essential to the fulfillment of our mission and applies to all aspects of school life. The tenets of the code are simple, to not lie, cheat, or steal. They allow students to establish sound moral and ethical standards that will serve them well for the rest of their lives.



"Where else do you find a high school with a student-operated Honor Court? Where else do students rise when an adult enters the classroom, and thank the teacher at the end of class? Walt Whitman once said, 'Make good people. The rest follows.' We make good people at Altamont."

-Jim Palmer '70, English teacher

ONLY AT ALTAMONT



Project Week

For one week in October, Altamont's doors swing open and the world becomes our classroom.

A staple of the Altamont curriculum since the late '90s, Project Week allows students to learn through experience. These dynamic journeys range in subject matter and cost so that every student can enjoy unique educational opportunities. Project Week offerings have included the following:

- **5th grade:** Camp McDowell, Nauvoo, Alabama
- **6th grade:** Space Camp, Huntsville, Alabama
- **7th grade:** Camp High Rocks, Brevard, North Carolina
- **8th grade:** Washington, D.C.
- **9th grade:** Leadership Disney, Orlando, Florida
- **10th-12th grades (student's choice):** Recent trips have included community service in Birmingham; tours of colleges and universities in the Northeast; and trips to the Mississippi Delta, Chicago, Sweden, Rome, Texas, Savannah, Hawaii, Yosemite, San Francisco, France, the Grand Canyon, and many more!

Leadership

At Altamont, we believe that all students have the ability to lead. The C. Kyser Miree Ethical Leadership Center helps students find their unique expression of leadership and empowers them to discover the strength and beauty of service through The Four Pillars of the Miree Center.

Service Corps

Service Corps is Altamont's hub for community service. Service Corps participants step out into the community with open hearts and open minds to assist people and causes in need of help.

Heritage Panel

Heritage Panel teaches tolerance and acceptance through discourse. Panelists bring personal stories into the classroom as the springboard for dialogue about values and beliefs.

Global Initiatives

Through lectures, films, and focus groups, Altamont students are exposed to cultural and global issues in our own backyard and around the world. **Friends of the World** is a Middle School arm of Miree with a focus on global and environmental awareness.

Miree Leadership

Middle School students apply to the **LEAD** program and collaboratively develop Middle School initiatives within the Altamont community. LEAD projects include Middle School dances, service projects, and all-school assemblies. Upper School Miree Leaders create and implement **Miree Projects** based on individual interests that serve a need in the greater Birmingham community. Additionally, Miree Leaders complete over 80 hours of community service, attend 12 cultural events, and successfully defend their leadership experiences in order to earn the **Miree Commendation** on the Altamont diploma.



Katherine Berdy '91, Director, The C. Kyser Miree Ethical Leadership Center



Altamont's outstanding art facilities include the Cabaniss-Kaul Center for the Arts with advanced lighting, audio-visual equipment, and acoustical elements, as well as theatre-style seating for 500 guests; the Pharo Art Studio, which offers natural light and enough space for students to refine their skills in 3-D design, sculpture, multimedia, and kiln firing; the cutting edge Lacey-Day Photography Studio; and the Margaret Gresham Livingston Gallery, a new permanent gallery for displaying student art work and hosting community exhibits.



The Arts

Altamont enjoys a long tradition of excellence in the arts built on quality instruction, variety of offerings, and students' freedom to explore interests. The arts are vital to the core education of each student as the skills developed in an enriched arts curriculum can be applied to learning in all subjects.

Altamont holds many fine arts events on campus every year, including multiple theatrical productions; choral, orchestral, and jazz band concerts; and photography and art exhibitions.

Fine arts offerings include:

Art, 2-D Design, 3-D Design, Choir, Creative Writing, Jazz Band, Music Ensemble, Wind Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, Music History/Theory, Music Technology and Composition, Photography, Advanced Photography, Video and Theatrical Production, Studio Photography, Documentary Photography, Nature Photography, Video Production and Sound Recording, Drama, Acting, Musical Theatre, and Technical Theatre.



Athletics

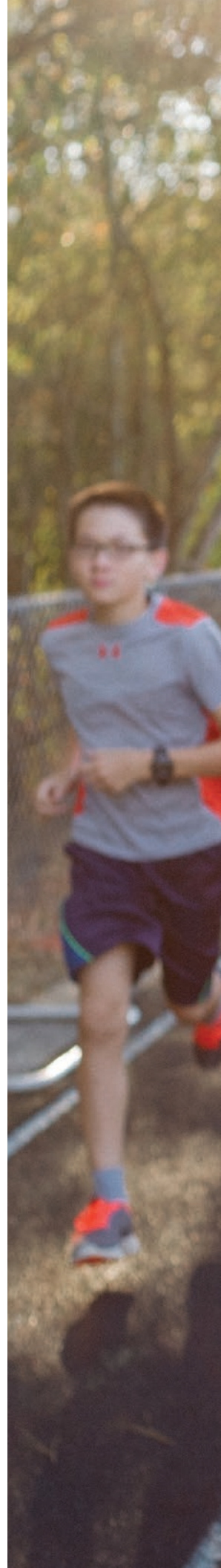
More than half of Altamont's student body compete on one or more athletic teams. Altamont is a 2A member of the Alabama High School Athletic Association and the recipient of multiple All Sports Trophies for Best Small School Athletic Program.

In the past ten years, Altamont has won state titles in Soccer, Tennis, Indoor Track, Track and Field, and numerous individual titles. Altamont has competed in the state championships in Basketball and Volleyball, and has individual athletes competing in the Olympic trials.

Fall Sports: Volleyball, Cross Country

Winter Sports: Basketball, Bowling, Indoor Track, Swimming

Spring Sports: Baseball, Softball, Golf, Soccer, Tennis, Track and Field







Thomas Goldsmith '94, Director of Admissions



Admission

Altamont seeks highly motivated students who crave greater breadth and challenge in all areas of school life. Prospective parents and students can experience life at Altamont by attending an open house, touring campus, scheduling a student shadow day, or attending an exhibit, concert, play, or athletic event.

HOW TO APPLY TO ALTAMONT:

Visit Altamont's website at www.altamontschool.org/admissions to apply online and for a checklist of all required admission materials. Tuition, scholarship, and financial aid information can also be found here.

Please contact Thomas Goldsmith, Director of Admissions, at tgoldsmith@altamontschool.org or 205-445-1232 if you have any questions about Altamont, the application process, or if you would like to schedule a visit. We hope to see you on campus soon!





THE ALTAMONT SCHOOL

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The Altamont School admits students of any race, color, creed, gender, or national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, gender, national or ethnic origin, or any other characteristic protected under federal, state, or local law in the administration of its educational policies, admissions practices, employment practices, or other school-administered programs.