



**MOTHER MCAULEY LIBERAL ARTS
HIGH SCHOOL**
Chicago, Illinois

PRESIDENT
Start Date: July 2022
mothermcauley.org





MISSION

Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School is a Catholic educational community committed to providing a quality college-preparatory education for young women. In the tradition of the Sisters of Mercy and their foundress, Catherine McAuley, we prepare students to live in a complex, dynamic society by teaching them to think critically, communicate effectively, respond compassionately to the needs of their community and assume roles of Christian leadership. In partnership with parents, we empower young women to acknowledge their giftedness and to make decisions with a well-developed moral conscience. We foster an appreciation of the diversity of the global community and a quest for knowledge and excellence as lifelong goals.

OVERVIEW

Founded in 1846, Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School is an independent, all-girls Catholic day school serving students in grades 9-12. Steeped in rich history, academic excellence, and a deep commitment to the success of young women, the education at McAuley is designed to help students boost their confidence, grow personally, and find their voices as future leaders in a global society. Students graduate McAuley with the knowledge, skills, and compassion needed to thrive in their careers and personal life accompanied with unwavering ethics and strong Mercy values.

At McAuley, young women stand out from the crowd. They are forward-thinking, problem-solvers, unafraid to express their beliefs and prepared to lead with compassion in a fast-changing world.

Mother McAuley seeks a visionary, entrepreneurial, and accomplished leader to inspire and lead a high-performing team of committed educators and to champion a compelling vision for McAuley's future built on its legacy of excellence in independent, all-girls, Catholic education. The successful candidate will be a thought leader, community builder, and skilled communicator who visibly celebrates and models the Mission of a Mercy education.

The next President, effective July 2022, will be an experienced leader devoted to the school's Mission and programs. The President will report to the Board of Trustees and is expected to provide leadership across the student experience, including spiritual growth. McAuley is seeking an individual who is inspiring, relatable, accessible, and able to connect joyfully with students, faculty and staff, parents, alumnae, and the broader community; a thoughtful listener to the needs of the community; and a compelling storyteller able to share the school's long history and relate it to the present.

FAST FACTS

Founded: 1846 as St. Francis Xavier Academy for Females

1956 as Mother McAuley

Total students: 832

Students of color: 35%

Total faculty: 73

Faculty of color: 6%

Faculty with advanced degrees: 71%

Student/teacher ratio: 12:1

Financial aid budget: just under \$1.5M

Students receiving aid: 440

Endowment \$10M



SCHOOL HISTORY

In the early 1800s, inspired by her father's compassion for the poor, Catherine McAuley began the founding of a new religious congregation of women dedicated to service those in need in her home city of Dublin, Ireland. On September 8, 1830, McAuley and two of her associates entered the Convent of the Presentation Sisters to begin formal preparation for founding the Sisters of Mercy. Fifteen months later the trio pronounced vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, and to persevere until death in "the Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy." Thus the new community was founded on Dec. 12, 1831.

Catherine McAuley lived only ten years as a Sister of Mercy but in that time she established nine additional autonomous foundations in Ireland and England, and two branch houses near Dublin. When she died in 1841 there were 150 Sisters of Mercy. Shortly thereafter, small groups of sisters left Ireland at the invitation of bishops in Newfoundland, New Zealand, the United States, Argentina, and Australia.

In 1846 a group of Sisters of Mercy arrived in Chicago, led by Frances Warde, Catherine McAuley's closest friend. Within weeks they opened a "select school" that became St. Francis Xavier Academy for Females, the first school chartered in the city of Chicago. After several relocations to accommodate growth and demand, Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School and St. Xavier College (which is now a university) opened in the southside of Chicago in the fall of 1956 to serve secondary and post-secondary women students respectively. Today just over 830 young women and 111 faculty and staff members form the McAuley community.

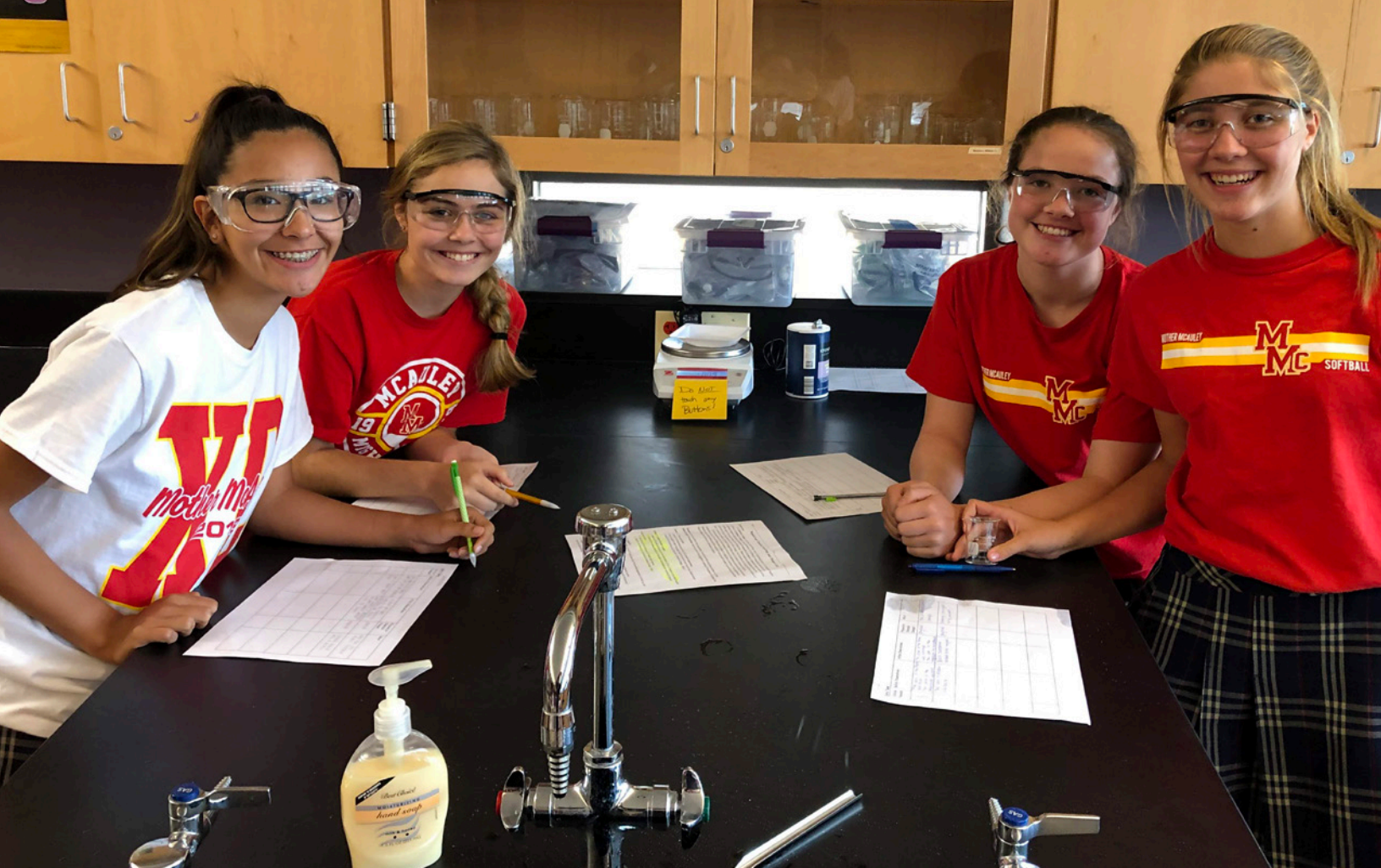


THE SCHOOL

For over 175 years, Mother McAuley has been offering students a well-rounded education that emphasizes not only rigorous academics but also dynamic curricular activities, global travel opportunities, and spiritual traditions rooted in history, empowering each student to step out of her comfort zone and discover her best self. In a supportive environment led by expert and compassionate faculty and staff, the school's programs provide the highest quality college and university preparation while fostering compassionate, socially responsible young women dedicated to the values of a Mercy education. It is here that girls cultivate the leadership and confidence skills needed to pursue a world of endless opportunities and where they develop strong voices for positive change.

McAuley celebrates diversity. In effort to strive toward equity, the school has enacted a comprehensive, multi-tiered plan to foster a community that honors the dignity of every individual. McAuley offers events and activities throughout the year to engage students, faculty, and staff in workshops, lectures, and celebrations around diversity, equity, and inclusivity.

Anchored in a rich Catholic tradition, Mother McAuley is focusing on a future that is as bold and pioneering as Catherine McAuley and the Sisters of Mercy.



Over recent years of thoughtfully charting its future, the school has launched the [FutureReady Campaign](#) for Mother McAuley that will support the commitment to be a premier school of choice for girls who will grow into confident, creative, and collaborative women in college and the workplace, in their families and communities. The Campaign will fund a transformative plan focused on three key initiatives: 1). Learning Community, 2). Health and Wellbeing, 3). Stewardships.

Mother McAuley is accredited by Cognia. The school also is recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education and is a member of the Mercy Education System of the Americas.

ACADEMICS

At the heart of Mother McAuley's academic curriculum lies six key interdisciplinary skills found throughout all disciplines — Science, Math, English, World Languages, Music, and the Visual Arts. With proven research that girls inherently learn differently than boys, the Mother McAuley academic program tailors instruction to girls' learning styles, including experiential learning opportunities, peer collaboration, personalized instructor feedback, and authentic assessments. Small class sizes allow for personalized attention and individualized academic paths for each student based on their talents and interests. As students progress through their journey at McAuley, they are empowered to take risks, building the self-confidence needed to set high expectations and pursue new interests.



The liberal arts education challenges students to explore complex issues, while learning to problem solve, speak articulately, and think broadly. McAuley offers 7 Honors Societies and 20 Advanced Placement classes as well as the esteemed Catherine McAuley Honors Scholars (CMHS) to recognize superior academic achievement, offer opportunities for academic and cultural enrichment, encourage further development of skills and talents, and reward high-scoring students for their endeavors. Students must be invited to membership and are eligible after their first semester freshman year through first semester junior year.

Young women at McAuley are set up to shatter statistics and advance in traditionally male dominated fields. According to the most recent U.S. Census, only a quarter of women make up the STEM field, but at McAuley 100% of students take four years of science through the innovative STEM classes throughout their entire high school experience. In 2020, College Board's Advanced Placement program awarded Mother McAuley with the AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award for its work toward equal gender representation, one of only 818 schools nationally recognized that year. McAuley is also one of the only all-girls' school in the country to become part of the Amazon Future Engineers Program, providing students special classes and Amazon resources, as well as the opportunity to earn a college scholarship and internship at Amazon.

Seniors enjoy an unparalleled experiential learning opportunity through a liberal arts preschool program, Little School. Through the program they learn critical child development concepts and master teaching skills that they immediately put into practice in the preschool classroom. In the process, students learn more about their talents and interests in the field of child development and education. Little School teaching alumnae have graduated to become teachers, special education teachers, speech and language pathologists, pediatric nurses, pediatric occupational or physical therapists, school counselors, and child psychologists.

COLLEGE MATRICULATION

Students from the Class of 2021 matriculated at the following universities and colleges, among others:

Alabama A&M University	Moraine Valley Community College	University of Chicago
Arizona State University	Morehead State University	University of Dayton
Augustana College	Morgan State University	University of Denver
Ball State University	Northern Illinois University	University of Illinois at Chicago
Beloit College	Oberlin College	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Bradley University	Ohio State University	University of Iowa
Carthage College	Parkland College	University of Kansas
Coastal Carolina University	Paul Mitchell the School-Chicago	University of Kentucky
College of Saint Benedict	Prairie View A&M University	University of Louisville
Colorado State University	Purdue University Northwest	University of Michigan
Columbia College Chicago	Purdue University	University of Mississippi
Cornell College	Richard J. Daley College	University of Missouri
Davenport University	Rutgers University-New Brunswick	University of San Diego
DePaul University	Saint Ambrose University	University of South Carolina
Duke University	Saint Louis University	University of Vermont
Duquesne University	Saint Mary's College	University of Washington
Elmhurst University	Saint Mary's University of Minnesota	University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
Ferris State University	Saint Norbert College	University of Wisconsin-Madison
Flagler College	Saint Xavier University	University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Florida Gulf Coast University	Savannah College of Art & Design – SCAD	University of Wisconsin-Stout
Florida State University	Southern Carolina State University	University of Wyoming
Fordham University	Southern Illinois University-Carbondale	Valparaiso University
Georgia State University	Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville	Western Illinois University
Grand Valley State University	Southern Utah University	Western Michigan University
Grinnell College	Spring Hill College	Xavier University of Louisiana
Hampton University	St. John's University	
Illinois Institute of Technology	Tennessee State University	
Illinois State University	Texas Southern University	
Illinois Wesleyan University	Texas Tech University	
Iowa State University	The University of Alabama	
Kennedy-King College	The University of Tampa	
Lewis University	The University of Tennessee	
Loras College	Triton College	
Loyola University Chicago		
Malcolm X College		
Manchester University		
Marquette University		
Miami University		
Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design		
Monmouth College		



THE ARTS

The Arts at McAuley are designed to help students foster creative thought and provides opportunities for self-expression and social interaction. Visual Arts help to develop creative and critical problem-solving skills and hone their talents. Offerings include drawing, ceramics, sculpture, painting, graphic design, animation, and journalism. The Performing Arts includes music and theatre and encourages artistic interpretation and communication skills. Students have the opportunity to participate in drama, play production, chorus, band, string and wind ensembles, and A Capella.

McAuley students enjoy state-of the art facilities and have been recognized at the national and state level as Scholastic Art Award winners, an Illinois High School Musical Theatre Award Finalist, members of the cast and crew of the All-State Show sponsored by the Illinois Theatre Association and as Best of Day Distinctions at the IHSA Music Solo and Ensemble Contest, among other distinctions.



ATHLETICS

Mother McAuley has earned 50+ conference titles, 19 state championships, and 2 national championships with unparalleled success throughout the state of Illinois and across the nation for decades. The school offers 12 different competitive athletic programs and has 80% of freshman students participate in at least one sport. Sports include basketball, bowling, cross country, golf, lacrosse, soccer, softball, swimming and diving, tennis, track, volleyball, and water polo.

SCHOOL LIFE

An incredible sense of community and pride is felt across McAuley campus as students connect, explore, play, and learn in a spiritual community that prepares them to enter a diverse and exciting world. With over 40 clubs and organizations offered, students have an abundance of opportunities to explore their passions, give back to the community, and make friends. 94% of students participate in a least one club or organization.

Learning is not confined to the classroom at McAuley. Travel opportunities abound with cross-curricular trips to places like Costa Rica, France, Ireland, Italy, and Spain. Students learn about art, science and world languages while being exposed to new places and people. They also have the option to travel to cities in the United States to enrich their appreciation of theatre, art, and service.

*"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened,
and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28*



FAITH

Sisters in faith, McAuley students are stewards of Mercy. Like foundress Catherine McAuley, the young women of McAuley live their faith through prayer, worship, and service.

Students of Mother McAuley High School have inherited a great tradition and a great challenge: to preserve the faith and make it grow, to have the courage to live by the Catholic values they believe in, and to take the initiative to be women of the 21st century -- educated women who will respond to the needs of others.

"Our center is God from whom all our actions should spring," according to founder Catherine McAuley.

With this belief, McAuley offers students a number of opportunities to follow in the footsteps of Catherine McAuley and examine their relationship with God, self, and others, through discussion, reflection, service, and prayer.



CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Chicago is the third most populous city in the United States. With more than 2.7 million residents, it is the largest city in both the state of Illinois and the Midwest region. The extended Chicago metropolitan area is home to nearly 10 million residents. Positioned along Lake Michigan, Chicago is known as an international hub for finance, commerce, industry, technology, telecommunications, and transportation.

O'Hare International is the second busiest airport in the world. One of the city's strengths is that it has one of the world's largest and most diversified economies. It's also one of the most visited cities in the country.

Chicago is a highly livable city. The city is home to some of the nation's top universities, including the University of Chicago, Northwestern University, University of Illinois at Chicago, Loyola University, DePaul University, and the School at the Art Institute of Chicago. The city hosts sporting teams in each of the major professional leagues and has a vibrant arts community that includes The Art Institute of Chicago, Steppenwolf Theatre, the Goodman Theater, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and the Joffrey Ballet. Chicago is also well known as a center for live music, especially the blues, and for the long-running Second City comedy club. With its diversity of neighborhoods, plethora of restaurants and cultural opportunities, Chicago is an excellent place to live and work.



OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

As a premier, high performing all-girls' Catholic school with an outstanding history of distinction and service to the local community, Mother McAuley is the largest all-girls' high school in the Chicago area. So much of the uniqueness of Mother McAuley rests in the word 'Community.' The faculty and staff, students, parents, alumnae, and members of the Board embrace the relationships, partnerships, and friendships that are formed by being a member of the McAuley community. The description of a McAuley girl as "anything but typical; she doesn't just fit in, she stands out" is exemplified over and over in the commitment to excellence in all aspects of the school's operations. The next President needs to be mindful of the challenge to distinguish the school in this very competitive Catholic educational market. The Board seeks a leader who will respect and honor the past while envisioning new possibilities for fulfilling the powerful McAuley mission.

In particular, the following opportunities and challenges will be important for the next President to address:

- Continue to build a diverse faculty, staff and board to better reflect the student body;
- Sustain and enhance the innovative academic environment to continue to prepare our young women for the future to excel in a global community
- Increase annual funding for scholarships, tuition assistance, and capital projects;
- Enhance sense of community, unity and belonging for all members of the McAuley family;
- Raise the profile of McAuley and the value proposition to the greater Chicagoland community.



DESIRED QUALITIES AND QUALIFICATIONS

The school operates in the President/Principal Leadership Model. In this increasingly popular leadership structure, the Principal reports to the President and is responsible for day-to-day academic operations, which frees up the President to be the outward facing “institution builder” — the vision-setter, the fundraiser, friend raiser, and public champion of the school’s powerful Catholic values. As such, the Board seeks a dynamic and mission-driven leader who will champion the school’s unique qualities and affirm the excellent work of the faculty and staff.

To qualify, you will need to be a practicing Catholic with a proven track record of success and passion for mission. The Board welcomes candidates from other Catholic or independent schools as well as accomplished executives from other mission-critical career venues such as higher education; nonprofit foundations, associations, charities, and the like; or the corporate, civic, and professional services arenas. While knowledge of education and school operations is preferred, other qualities and experiences will also be greatly valued, especially visionary, entrepreneurial leadership and the ability to inspire and lead a high-performing team, while creating demand for the extraordinary gifts of a Mother McAuley education.

Specific desired characteristics include:

- A dynamic, charismatic, mission based and faith filled leader who will care for and inspire the school community;
- An Innovative, strategic thinker who will chart the course for McAuley girls with a compelling vision for the future;
- A transparent, collaborative and authentic leader who will empower the faculty and staff;
- An unabashed advocate for single gender education and the significant impact it can have on young women;
- Commitment to Institutional Advancement and sustainable stewardship.



TO APPLY

Interested and qualified candidates are invited to contact the consultants in confidence. Candidates will ultimately need to submit the following materials as separate PDF documents:

- A cover letter expressing their interest in this particular position;
- A statement of educational or leadership philosophy;
- A current résumé;
- A list of five professional references with name, relationship, phone number, and email address of each (references will not be contacted without the candidate's permission) to:

Barbara Daush

Search Consultant

barbara.daush@carneysandoe.com

Karen Neitzel

Search Consultant

karen.neitzel@carneysandoe.com