



NAZARETH ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL

Embracing Faith, Family and Education





The Nazareth Mission

Nazareth Academy High School is a Catholic, private, fully accredited college preparatory school for young women, sponsored by the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth. Nazareth challenges each student to attain her full potential spiritually, academically, and personally. While focusing on service to God and others, Nazareth provides a rigorous academic curriculum and varied extracurricular activities that provides an unrivaled comprehensive experience.

History and Tradition



Founded in Faith

Nazareth Academy High School began as a dream of the Foundress of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, Mother Mary Frances Siedliska, Blessed Mary of Jesus the Good Shepherd. She wanted to establish a convent in Philadelphia, and while on a train ride to visit Saint Katherine Drexel in 1893, she viewed the land near the Torresdale train station. Her vision was fulfilled on December 6, 1920, when the 23-acre estate was procured by the Congregation.

Four years later, the Sisters purchased the adjoining property, and a groundbreaking ceremony was conducted on April 24, 1927. This building would serve as a provincial home, a novitiate, and a high school. In the Fall of 1928, Nazareth Academy High School welcomed its first 10 students.

As curriculum expanded and enrollment grew over the decades, the school called for new and expanded facilities. Nazareth has created areas for academic and student activity usage, such as Music and Counseling Centers, the Innovation Center with three makerspaces and a new Student Dining Room. There has been an increase in the Honors programs and Advanced Placement courses offered made possible by the building expansion. In 2014, Nazareth Academy began accepting international students.

In 2017–2018, Nazareth hired its first president incorporating the president/principal leadership model, resulting in improved financial stability, academic success, and student life. The school continues to follow a college preparatory curriculum in a family atmosphere in which each person is valued and encouraged to grow. The intellectual, cultural, moral, and spiritual foundations of a Nazareth Academy High School education have inspired and empowered its graduates to live a life in service to God and others.

Rooted in Tradition

Throughout its history, Nazareth Academy has remained rooted in tradition. The unique traditions of the Nazareth Academy High School community set us apart from every other high school. Any student or graduate can fondly recall stories of her class and her celebrations. Among the time-honored customs, specific days are designated to pay tribute to each individual class.

The beloved Nazareth traditions are reminders that the school is rooted in the charism of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth: loving relationships, faithful listening, and recognizing God in the every day. The charism keeps Nazareth committed to creating communities of love and hope which celebrate the oneness of the human family and of the Nazareth Sisterhood.



Embracing Faith

At Nazareth, Catholic faith is the foundation of and the impetus for all that happens both within and beyond the walls of every classroom. The school community recognizes that each student is a unique gift from God, but all share the common task of bringing the love, mercy, and justice of God to the community, the nation, and the world.

Nazareth Academy High School educates the mind, inspire the Catholic faith, and build the character of the young women who walk the halls.



The Immaculate Conception Chapel

The Chapel, located at the top of the school's main staircase, is the heart of the Nazareth Academy campus. Beyond the beauty of its vibrant stained-glass windows and captivating ceiling imagery, there are many beloved school traditions connected to the Chapel. Here, students attend Mass, receive their class rings, are pinned into the Nazareth alumnae sisterhood, and celebrate their Baccalaureate Mass. In the Chapel, the Nazareth school community prays and celebrates their faith as a family.

Christian Service

The Nazareth community recognizes and responds to the needs of the human family, both locally and globally. This belief is enhanced through formal religious instruction and reinforced by service projects, bringing Nazareth to the community and the world.

Students at Nazareth are required to participate in the Christian Service program. This requirement is easily achieved as Nazareth students are given access to service opportunities both in and beyond the classroom. Nazareth Academy High School's reputation for service is legendary as students are charged with performing 20 hours of Christian service each year.





Embracing Family

Through academic rigor and a culture of togetherness, a sisterhood is formed among students that creates lifelong friendships. Following the teachings of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, students at Nazareth are committed to creating a community of love and acceptance for all they encounter.



Countless
laughs and memories

7,000+
alumnae

Over 300
friends and sisters

70+
teachers and mentors

8:1
student to faculty ratio

1
family





Embracing Education

Nazareth Academy High School's rigorous curriculum is deeply rooted in educational principles and prepares students for the finest colleges and universities.

Student-Centered Learning

The educational process is student-centered and not limited by the walls of the classroom. The curriculum, including both core courses and electives, with 16 Advanced Placement and 23 Honors courses, demonstrates that there are many roads to success as Nazareth students strive to empower discovery of their unique talents and ambitions. Nazareth provides a well-rounded education that leaves its students extremely well-prepared for college and the world that awaits them.

Average Class Size: 15 Students

With an 8:1 student to faculty ratio, Nazareth's small class sizes and faculty involvement create an atmosphere of personal, individualized attention for every student. The close relationship and rapport that develop between students and faculty encourage learning that allows students to develop critical thinking skills, strong written and oral communication skills, creativity, collaboration, and self-confidence.

STREAM Initiative

At Nazareth Academy, Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics (STEAM) elevate student-centered teaching and learning to new heights with STREAM: STEAM + Religion. The STREAM program includes a focus on faith to cultivate a foundation for moral and ethical problem-solving.

Nazareth Academy High School's STREAM program fosters a culture of innovation in young women while integrating Catholic identity into every aspect of the curriculum. Beyond the classroom, students are exposed to clubs and activities that complement this program — including rocketry and robotics. It is important to note that STREAM education is not a new curriculum, but a philosophical framework for delivering excellence in Catholic education for the 21st century learner.

Dual Enrollment

Nazareth Academy has partnered with the adjacent Holy Family University, a fellow sponsored ministry of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth. This vibrant partnership makes the transition to higher education easier for students. Juniors and seniors are eligible to enroll in general education courses at Holy Family University, receiving both high school and college credit.

Just steps outside of its doors, Nazareth students can experience college with full use of Holy Family's multi-media center, gym and other facilities without ever leaving the campus. This partnership enables eligible Nazareth Academy High School students to take college credit courses for less than one-third of the cost during their high school years.

Academic Enrichment

Ensuring the success of each student is at the forefront of Nazareth Academy's mission. The Academic Enrichment Center furthers this mission by providing students with mild learning differences the support they need through specialized instruction in learning strategies, math, and reading. While accommodations such as extended time on assessments and preferential seating are provided based on learning needs, the curriculum is not modified. The program fosters an environment where every student can achieve academic excellence.

As part of the schedule, students attend classes held in the Academic Enrichment Center that emphasize learning strategies, with a focus on math and/or reading. These classes, for credit, are provided for at least one full academic year, during one daily block. During this time, the student aims for greater self-knowledge and more effective ways of successfully navigating her specific learning challenges to achieve a higher level of success.





College Prep Scheduling

Nazareth follows College Prep Scheduling, a modified block scheduling model. Most courses are held for 80 minutes (full block), but a few courses are 40 minutes (half block) in length. The longer class time allows not only for differentiation, but it also creates more laboratory work in science classes, more creative production in art classes, more debate in social studies classes, and more writing and discussion in English classes.



College Prep Scheduling mirrors to a great extent the academic year at a college with classes running by semester rather than the academic year. Additionally, through this scheduling model, students maximize their opportunity to pursue electives, with most Nazareth juniors and seniors carrying a roster of eight courses each year. College Prep Scheduling has proven to well-prepare students for readiness and success at the college level.

Freshman Courses

- Algebra 1 or Honors Algebra 2
- Biology or Honors Biology
- English 1 or Honors English 1
- Freshman Experience (Art 1, Foundations of STEM, Music Appreciation, Theater Arts, Counseling and Study Skills)
- Theology 1
- World Civilizations or Honors World Civilizations
- World Language (French, Italian, Latin, Spanish)



Empowering Young Women

Something for Every Student

Through the co-curricular and extracurricular programs at Nazareth, young women engage in hands-on, interactive experiences that allow them to both explore and enhance their talents. Nazareth offers a variety of clubs and activities that keep students well-rounded and involved. With more than 40 clubs and activities to choose from, there are countless opportunities for students to explore and develop leadership skills.

Inspiring Students' Hearts and Minds

The goal at Nazareth Academy is to inspire students' hearts and minds. The faculty and staff understand the importance of creating a culture of learning, while at the same time creating a level of confidence that motivates young women to pursue the education and experiences necessary to achieve their dreams. The environment at Nazareth Academy High School is rich in Catholic values and mission, and the curriculum and school atmosphere empower students to be creative, think critically, voice their opinions, and develop into the future leaders of society.

The Arts at Nazareth

Whether it is learning a musical instrument, playing in ensembles, singing in the chorus, performing in plays, or discovering beauty in art, there is plenty of opportunity for creative expression at Nazareth Academy.

As each student is challenged to reach her full potential academically, spiritually, and personally, students especially dedicated to the arts may opt to major in music or art through Nazareth Academy's Performing and Fine Arts programs. Students are exposed to an in-depth study of the Fine Arts and receive academic credit for these courses. Nazareth educators invest their extensive talents, expertise, passion, and knowledge to enrich their students' creative abilities while supporting each student as she learns to hone her interests and skills.



Music

Music at Nazareth is an integral part of the school. All genres of music are mastered from symphonic works for orchestra and chamber music for a variety of ensembles, to the worlds of pop and jazz. At Nazareth, every student's individual musical interest is an option, and she will be challenged to reach her full potential in that field.

Nazareth music students have traveled all over the world, including Germany, Austria, and Ireland. Students have performed at many prestigious venues, including the Vatican for the Beatification of the Martyred Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, the North American Music Festival, Carnegie Hall in New York, as well as at various musical events both internationally and in the United States.

Visual Arts

Studying the visual arts at Nazareth, students gain an understanding of and appreciation for the various aesthetic and disciplinary elements involved in the production of art. The goal is to provide a basis from which the student will maintain a life-long appreciation of the visual arts. The visual arts at Nazareth — photography, ceramics, painting, design, mosaics, and much more — allow students to explore creative processes, and developing their talent while gaining new perspectives of the world.

Theater Arts

Nazareth has a long-established and vibrant theatrical tradition, nurturing the talents of its creative and passionate students. Students involved in theater at Nazareth emerge as young women with emotional intelligence who can process, articulate, and implement a creative vision. The theater program offers students diverse opportunities to develop creative skills in all aspects of performance and production that will enhance their lives both at Nazareth and beyond.

Athletics at Nazareth

The athletics program at Nazareth Academy High School is a vital part of the school community. Athletics are an extension of the classroom. Nazareth student-athletes learn about commitment, dedication, hard work, discipline, and teamwork through participation in sports; they represent the Nazareth community with great pride.

Just as teachers, moderators, and counselors do during the school day, after the dismissal bell sounds, all coaches at Nazareth oversee the development of their program from the junior varsity to the varsity level. Nazareth coaches lead with dedication, expertise, and compassion, while inspiring their student-athletes to be confident and competitive young women.

Nazareth Academy High School is a member of the Pennsylvania Inter-Scholastic Athletic Association (PIAA). Beginning in the 2023–2024 school year, Nazareth will compete in the Philadelphia Catholic League (PCL) and District 1 of the PIAA. Nazareth athletes compete at the highest level, challenging them to strive for league, district, state, and national recognition.

Fall Sports

Cheerleading
Cross Country
Golf
Soccer
Tennis
Volleyball

Winter Sports

Cheerleading
Basketball
Indoor Track
Swimming

Spring Sports

Softball
Lacrosse
Track and Field





Nazareth Graduates



100% college
acceptance rate

Attending **54**
different colleges and
universities

Earned over

\$47.4 M

in scholarships and grants

- *nearly* -

\$470 K

per student

Attending colleges and
universities across **15**
different states

14 full tuition
scholarships awarded

Preparing Nazareth Students

School Counseling

The School Counseling Department at Nazareth Academy High School is dedicated to working with students the minute they arrive on campus. From their first week as freshmen until graduation, the School Counseling Department is here to support students academically, socially, emotionally, and in career and post-secondary endeavors. With four full-time counselors, supplemented with services from CORA, Nazareth Academy provides all students access to support throughout their four years of high school.

College Counseling

The College Counseling program supports students as they develop the knowledge and awareness to determine the educational path that is best for their future. College counselors work closely together regarding each student's course selection and activities, focusing on the college application and financial aid process.

Nazareth graduates are admitted to a wide range of academic institutions, including Ivy League and smaller liberal arts-focused colleges, that are always best suited to her strengths, aspirations, and goals for the future. Applying to colleges can be an overwhelming task, but with the help of college counselors, Nazareth students select the school that is the best fit for their specific goals, interests, and talents.

Nazareth Academy Surpasses the National Average for Student to Counselor Ratio

The national average student to counselor ratio for
the 2020-2021 school year was...

415:1

The American School Counselor Association (ASCA)
recommends a student to counselor ratio of...

250:1

**Nazareth Academy High School
has a student to counselor ratio of...**

79:1

The Nazareth Network

With over 7,000 alumnae, the Nazareth Sisterhood is as strong as ever. As a sisterhood that embraces faith, family and education, Nazareth prepares students to continue to incorporate these values into their lives and careers beyond their time at Nazareth.

Through events like Career Day, virtual career panels, and alumnae mentorship opportunities, Nazareth students learn from and network with the best and brightest leaders — their very own Nazareth sisters. Students leave prepared for college and beyond, and leave with a network of talented, driven women — a sisterhood that truly lasts a lifetime.



“Nazareth Academy provided me with an excellent foundation in writing and critical thinking. These skills not only helped me succeed in college and law school, but they have also been instrumental to my work as a practicing attorney.”

— Amy Berger Barca '04, Counsel at Post & Schell, P.C.



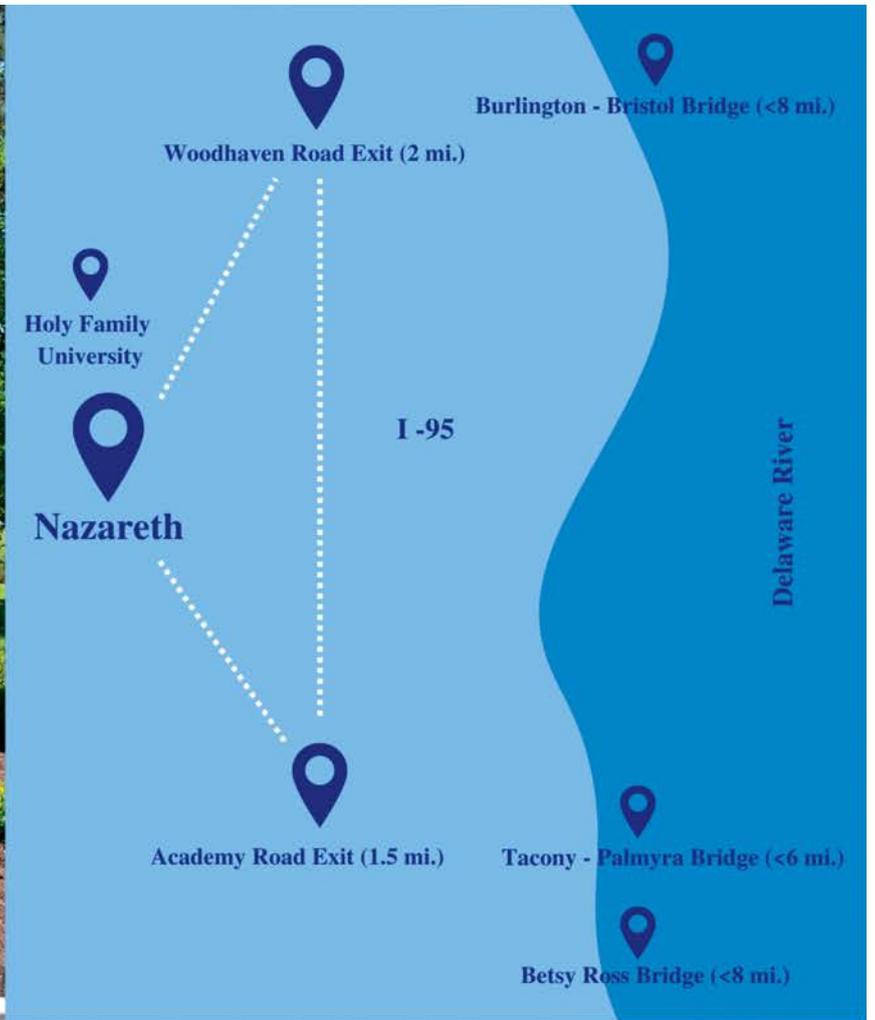
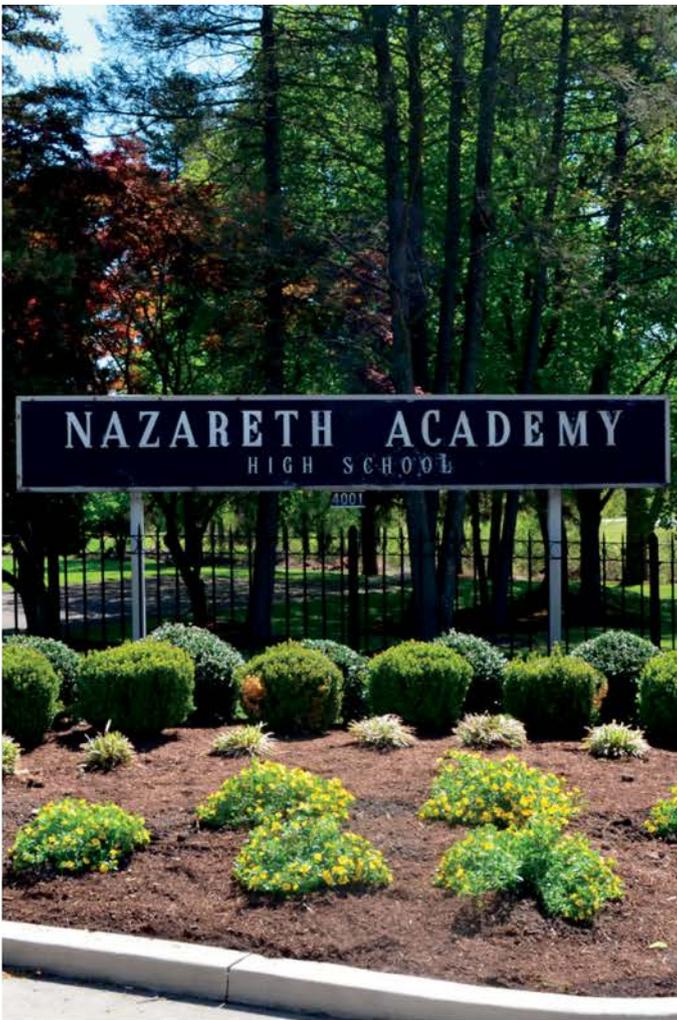
“I am grateful for the safe space Nazareth Academy created for me to constantly try new things!”

— Lin Jia Chen '17, Associate Product Manager at Google



“Nazareth Academy provided me with an inspirational environment to learn and grow, both academically and personally, during those formative years. The self-confidence I gained at Nazareth was a strong base to grow my professional career and reach the success I have today.”

— Erin Mannix '01, Chief Accounting Officer at Unisys Corporation



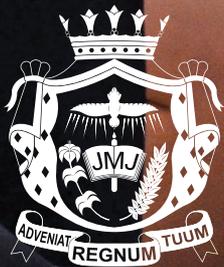
Location, Location, Location

The best way to get to know Nazareth Academy High School is to visit the campus and experience the warm and welcoming community for yourself. Nazareth Academy, located in beautiful Northeast Philadelphia, shares a suburban-like campus with Holy Family University. Nestled on an expansive 30-acre plot, the campus is surrounded by nature, providing a beautiful setting for a peaceful, and positive learning environment.

Nazareth Academy is conveniently located less than 2.5 miles from both the I-95 Academy Road and Woodhaven Road exits. With both the Burlington-Bristol and Betsy Ross Bridges less than eight miles away, Nazareth students come from Bucks, Montgomery, and Philadelphia Counties in PA and Gloucester and Burlington Counties in NJ.

The student body is made up of students from all around, near and far. Nazareth welcomes students from more than 35 zip codes throughout the city and the suburbs. From Philadelphia to Bucks County to Moorestown, New Jersey, the diversity of student hometowns makes Nazareth Academy home to all.





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