

Welcome to Roman!

In the City where Independence was born, Roman has been a cornerstone of Secondary Education for over 130 years. Construction of The Roman Catholic High School of Philadelphia began in the summer of 1886 on the corner of Broad & Vine Streets. Many Civil War veterans labored over the next four years, crafting a building that would become the first, free diocesan high school in the nation. When it opened in 1890, Roman Catholic was almost immediately recognized as a unique and special place. Now, for well over a century, Roman Catholic High School has been providing a rigorous, engaging Catholic education for young men throughout the Delaware Valley. Located in the heart of Center City Philadelphia, Roman is a true regional high school, not a neighborhood school, but rather a school of neighborhoods. In this diverse environment, Roman provides a quality, college preparatory education to students with aspirations of unlocking their true potential and exploring the world around them. The numerous athletic programs and a wide range of



extra and co-curricular activities allow students to discover, expand, and grow into well-rounded young men. Roman students form a true brotherhood that is unrivaled. As they experience our history and prepare for their future, students develop a unique sense of pride as they prominently display the colors of Purple and Gold. Once a student becomes a part of this great legacy and tradition of excellence, he quickly comes to understand that Roman is the place where he can truly be himself.

- Roman is the oldest archdiocesan high school in the United States.
- Roman has a dedicated fine and performing arts building, The Howard Center for the Arts.
- Roman students represent over 175 elementary schools, coming from 90 different zip codes.
- Roman is located within walking distance of Independence Hall, Carpenter Hall, Reading Terminal Market, City Hall, the Barnes Foundation, Eastern State Penitentiary, The Franklin Institute, and much more!
- Roman athletes practice football, lacrosse, and rugby on River Field, located on the historic Benjamin Franklin Parkway.
- Roman Students participate in La Salle University's Transformational Scholars Program and Saint Francis University's Partnership for Excellence Program, earning transferable College credits during high school.
- Roman has educational partnerships with Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Philadelphia Museum of Art, The Kimmel Center, Play on Philly, and the Museum of the American Revolution.
- Roman has students traveling by bus, subway, trolley, train, regional rail, car, and Uber!
- World Languages are taught in a state-of-the-art language lab.

Cole Riehman-Murphy '24
Travels 11 miles from Glenside to Roman



“Roman Catholic students have endless opportunities to become involved. The extremely dedicated faculty and staff have pushed me to leave my comfort zone, develop new interests, and achieve a strong sense of independence. I feel I am well prepared for my college journey.”

