



CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

A Marist Brothers High School 1958



2024-25 SCHOOL PROFILE

ADMINISTRATION

MR. THOMAS KRUCZEK
President

MR. DAVID PUGH
Principal

DR. JUAN VILA '97
Academic Dean

MR. PEDRO GARCIA-CASALS
Dean of Curriculum & Professional Development

MRS. CHRISTINA INSUA
Dean of Faculty

MR. ROBERT LINFORS '85
MR. CHRISTOPHER MCKEON
MR. ALEX TRUJILLO '96
Deans of Students

OUR MISSION

Brotherhood, Faith, and Scholarship define the Marist Brothers Catholic education at Christopher Columbus High School. By making Jesus Christ known and loved and creating an inspiring academic and extracurricular environment, we prepare young men for higher learning and a life-long commitment to leadership and service through Gospel and Marist values.

THE COLUMBUS COMMUNITY

As Marist educators, we foster three distinct traditions: the pursuit of academic excellence, the heritage of Catholic education and the unique spirit and mission of the Marist Brothers, which aims to nurture the growth of the whole student in heart, mind, and body.

As a progressive college preparatory high school, we offer curriculum pathways in Artistic Design & Production, Biomedical Science, Business & Entrepreneurship, Computer Science, Engineering, Law & Civic Engagement, Multimedia Journalism and Sports Management. A Columbus education comes with the seamless integration of cutting-edge technology in the learning process. This includes a two-to-one student Macbook and iPad program, virtual reality, interactive classroom displays, and other state of the art technology. Our facilities include state-of-the-art labs and studios for robotics & engineering, science, art, music recording & production, band rehearsal, and broadcast journalism. A digital-based library, tiered lecture hall, media center and various outdoor plazas are also found on our sprawling campus.

A member of the Florida High School Athletic Association and the Greater Miami Athletic Conference, Columbus is the only private school in the state of Florida to compete at the highest level, which means that our Explorers play in the most competitive districts and have the greatest amount of exposure to college coaches. Our outstanding athletic facilities include a fully equipped wellness and fitness center, a football/soccer field, a baseball complex, gymnasium, and state-of-the-art athletic training and conditioning areas.

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Marist Brothers:	11
Laypersons:	196
20+ years' Experience:	37
Advanced Degrees:	49%
Columbus Alumni:	38%

ACCREDITATION & AFFILIATIONS



ARCHDIOCESE of MIAMI



CALENDAR

Christopher Columbus is on a semester academic calendar on a modified block schedule school day with three 85-minute periods, a 45-minute traditional standard period, and a 15-minute homeroom every day.

DISCIPLINARY REPORTING POLICY

All students are expected to answer truthfully questions regarding disciplinary violations. When requested, Christopher Columbus will report to colleges any incidents in grades 9-12 that result in probation, suspension, or expulsion.

FACTS & FIGURES

Total School Enrollment: 1,740

U.S. Citizens: 99.5%
Non-U.S. Citizens: .5%

Racial & Ethnic Breakdown:

- African American: 4%
- Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander: 1%
- White: 95%
- Hispanic: 85%

17% of students receiving financial aid
33% of students receiving free or reduced lunch

Student-to-faculty ratio: 17:1

Average class size: 25

81 Active Clubs & 17 Honor Societies

PROGRAMS OF DISTINCTION

Miami Herald/el Nuevo Herald Silver Knight Award: Columbus has had 20 Silver Knight Award winners and 30 honorable mentions in the last 11 years.

Athletics: Ranked #2 on Niche's 2024 Best High Schools for Athletes in America; 2024 Floyd E. Lay Sunshine Cup All Sports Award Winner, representing the 'Best Boys Athletic Program in Florida' (won 7x in the last 15 years); Winner of the Miami Herald Major Sports Award representing the 'Best Boys Sports Program' in Miami Dade County for the last seven consecutive years. Basketball, Football, and Track & Field teams are current state champions.

CCNN Live: In 2024, CCNN Live won back-to-back Student Television Network National Championships (their 5th in 9 years), three NATAS National Emmys (for a total of 15), and 15 NATAS Regional Emmys (for a total of 96). They were also named the Sunshine State Standout Program for the state of Florida for the 6th time in a row.

Columbus Films: Recipient of 20 Regional and 2 National Emmys from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences' Student Production Awards in 4 years. Winner of the 'Audience Award' at FilmFate for a second time. 2024 Critics Choice Winner at the Short Cuts Film Awards.

Geography: Team won the Miami Dade Geography Bee in 2019, 2020, 2022, and 2023.

Future Business Leaders of America: Columbus had two state champions in 2024 who won the FBLA's competition for Business Ethics.

Performing Arts: In 2023, the CCHS theater troupe scored all superiors at the Florida State Thespian Festival Competition in Tampa, FL and qualified for nationals. The Columbus Band competes yearly and is continuously placing at a top level in numerous national competitions. Students are also producing and recording original music in our brand new recording studio here on campus.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students must complete a minimum of 100 hours of community service during their four years of high school and earn **28.5** credits while maintaining at least a **2.0** unweighted grade point average (GPA) on a **4.0** scale.

GRADING SYSTEM & CLASS RANK

The courses taught at Christopher Columbus are weighted to reflect the difficulty of the course content. **Christopher Columbus High School does not rank for purposes of college admission.**

Range	Letter Grade	College Prep	Honors/Dual Enrollment	Advanced Placement	Florida*
97-100	A+	4.33	5.33	6.33	4
90-96	A	4	5	6	4
87-89	B+	3.33	4.33	5.33	3
80-86	B	3	4	5	3
77-79	C+	2.33	3.33	4.33	2
70-76	C	2	3	3	2
60-69	D	1	1	1	1
Less than 60	F	0	0	0	0

*The Florida GPA is used for reporting to the State of Florida in reference to graduation and Florida Bright Futures requirements.

ACADEMIC RECOGNITION

End of quarter academic honors fall into the following categories:

- **Principal's List:**
 - A+, A in every subject
- **First Honors:**
 - minimum GPA of 3.66 and no grade below a B+
- **Honors:**
 - minimum GPA between of 3.33 and no grade below a B

Graduation Requirements	
Subject Area	Credits
English	4
Math (including Algebra 1)	4
Science (minimum of 2 lab courses)	3
Social Studies	3
Theology	4
World Languages	2
Personal Fitness & Physical Education	1
Communications	1
Fine & Performing Arts	0.5
Personal & Family Finance	0.5
Critical Thinking & Study Skills	0.5
Electives	5
TOTAL CREDITS	28.5

CURRICULUM

Our school curriculum is designed to meet the needs, interests, and career goals of all our students. Indicating the rigor and pace of the course, all courses are designated as: **College Preparatory, Accelerated College Prep, Honors, and Advanced Placement**. We also offer **Dual Enrollment (DE)** courses through our partnership with **Barry University, Florida International University, Marymount University, New York Film Academy, and Miami-Dade College**. A student must maintain at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA and obtain teacher or departmental approval to enroll in an Honors, AP or DE course.

Course Type	Total Offered
Honors	113
Dual Enrollment	24
Advanced Placement	32

Our course curriculum framework is aligned with standards and guidelines set forth by the Florida Department of Education, the Archdiocese of Miami, the Marist Brothers, the national councils for each subject area, the College Board's AP Audit, and the respective universities awarding the DE credits.

Please consult the [Explorers Course Guide](#) for the complete listing of all our courses.

SPECIAL CURRICULAR FEATURES

Mas Family Program



The Mas Family Program is one of Florida's most prestigious and intellectually enriching academic programs, inviting highly motivated and academically gifted students based on GPA, class rigor, conduct, and teacher recommendations. This dynamic program offers two distinct tracks: **Mas Scholars** and **Mas Honors**. **Mas Scholars** embark on the **AP Capstone** curriculum in 10th grade, while **Mas Honors** students follow a specialized path designed to meet their academic aspirations.

Beyond the classroom, Mas Family Program students engage in a range of enriching activities, including business etiquette seminars, externships, and community service initiatives that are student-created and led.

Celebrating 20 years of excellence, the program also offers top-tier tutoring, nationwide college tours, and comprehensive guidance and counseling throughout all four years of high school. With its nationally recognized reputation, the Mas Family Program continues to challenge students to reach their full potential both academically and personally.

Externships

At Columbus, we compliment future career paths with Externships for current students. Similar to Internships, but generally shorter, Externships are experiential learning opportunities provided by school partnerships to give students practical experiences in their field of study or area of interest. The Externship Program, which works hand in hand to support the curriculum pathways, complements and further enhances the student's instructional process beyond the classroom experience.

Desmond Family Success Center

Guided by the Marist Brothers of the School, the Desmond Family Success Center serves as a cross-area initiative that meets the ever-growing needs of our diverse student body. Our mission is to cater to the whole student through all-inclusive wraparound services, which equip our students with the necessary skills, resources, and support to become young men of character in the classroom and the community.

CLASS OF 2024 DATA

Class Size **420** **\$27M+** in Scholarships* **80,198** Total Service Hours Completed

*This number does not include the Florida Bright Futures Scholarships awarded.

GPA	Middle 50%
Unweighted	3.05 - 3.63
Weighted	3.39 - 4.62

In compliance with the Principles of Good Practice of the National Association of College Admissions Counseling, mean scores are not reported.

SAT	Middle 50%
Total	1020 - 1270
EBRW	530 - 640
Math	500 - 640

ACT	Middle 50%
Composite	18 - 26
English	17 - 26
Reading	18 - 31
Math	17 - 26
Science	18 - 26

The test ranges for middle 50% of the Class of 2024 for whom scores were reported.

AWARDS & TESTING

College Board National Recognition Programs (Class of 2021-24)

National Hispanic Scholars **402** **32** Commended Students **6** National Merit Finalists

2024 Advanced Placement Scores Summary

Exams **1,984** **695** Test Takers **88%** Pass Rate



The Pat Call & Irene Culmo
**CENTER for COLLEGE
and CAREER GUIDANCE**

Mrs. Iris Martinez, Director
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Mrs. Heather de la Osa, College Counselor/NCAA Coordinator
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Mrs. Colleen Anderson, Director of Externships & Internships
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THE DESMOND FAMILY
Success Center

Ms. Beatriz Vinson, Learning Specialist/Director
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Ms. Denise Ramirez, Accommodations Coordinator
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Ms. Stephanie Fernandez, Learning Specialist
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Mrs. Sylvie Galvez-Cuesta, Mas Family Program Director
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Mrs. Arlene Clute, Administrative Assistant
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SCHOOL COUNSELING

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Mrs. Debra Martinez, Junior Counselor A-K
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Mr. Jason Hill '03, Sophomore Counselor L-Z/NCAA Liaison
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Mr. Jacob Grant, Freshman Counselor A-K
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Dr. E. Carter Burrus '62, Freshman Counselor L-Z
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ACADEMIC PROGRAMS & SERVICE LEADERSHIP

Ms. Lourdes Rayneri, Test Coordinator
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Br. Albert Rivera, Director of Service Learning
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COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

Alabama State University
 Albion College
 American Medical Academy
 American University
 Anderson University South Carolina
 Appalachian State University
 Arcadia University
 Arizona State University
 Auburn University
 Babson College
 Barry University
 Baylor University
 Belmont Abbey College
 Belmont University
 Beloit College
 Benedict College
 Benedictine University
 Bentley University
 Berklee College of Music
 Berry College
 Bethany College
 Bethune-Cookman University
 Boston College
 Boston University
 Brandeis University
 Brigham Young University
 Broward College
 Brown University
 Bryant University
 California Lutheran University
 Campbell University
 Campbellsville University
 Carnegie Mellon University
 Case Western Reserve University
 Castleton University
 Catawba College
 Charleston Southern University
 Christopher Newport University
 Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina
 Clark University
 Clemson University
 Coastal Carolina University
 Colby College
 College of Charleston
 College of the Holy Cross
 Colorado State University
 Columbia College Chicago
 Columbia University
 Concordia University Chicago
 Connecticut College
 Cornell University
 Cornish College of the Arts
 Creighton University
 Dallas Baptist University
 DePaul University
 Drake University
 Drexel University
 Duke University
 Duquesne University
 EADA Business School Barcelona
 Earlham College
 East Carolina University
 Eastern Nazarene College
 Eastern University
 Eckerd College
 Ecole Hoteliere de Lausanne
 Edgewood College
 Edward Waters College
 Elon University
 Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
 Emerson College
 Emmanuel College
 Emory University
 Fairleigh Dickinson University
 FAU Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College
 Fisher College
 Flagler College
 Florida A&M University
 Florida Atlantic University
 Florida Gulf Coast University
 Florida Institute of Technology
 Florida International University
 Florida Keys Community College
 Florida Memorial University
 Florida Polytechnic University
 Florida Southern College
 Florida State University
 Fordham University
 Franklin Olin College of Engineering
 Franklin University Switzerland
 Full Sail University
 George Mason University
 George T. Baker Aviation Technical College
 George Washington University
 Georgetown University
 Georgia Institute of Technology
 Georgia Southern University
 Georgia State University
 Georgian Court University
 Goucher College
 Guilford College
 Hawai'i Pacific University
 Heidelberg University
 High Point University
 Hillsborough Community College
 Hobart and William Smith Colleges
 Hofstra University
 Hood College
 Huntington University
 IE University
 Illinois Institute of Technology
 Indiana Institute of Technology
 Indiana University Bloomington
 Ithaca College
 Jackson State University
 Jacksonville University
 James Madison University
 Kansas State University
 Keiser University
 Kennesaw State University
 Kenyon College
 Keystone College
 Lake Erie College
 Lawrence Technological University
 Lehigh University
 Lewis & Clark College
 Long Island University
 Loughborough University
 Louisiana State University
 Louisiana Tech University
 Loyola University Chicago
 Loyola University Maryland
 Loyola University New Orleans
 Lynn University
 Maine Maritime Academy
 Malone University
 Manhattan College
 Marist College
 Marquette University
 Marshall University
 Marymount University
 Marywood University
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology
 Massachusetts Maritime Academy
 McMaster University
 Mercer University
 Merrimack College
 Miami University
 Miami-Dade College
 Michigan State University
 Mississippi State University
 Montreat College
 Morehouse College
 Morgan State University
 New College of Florida
 New Jersey Institute of Technology
 New York University
 Newberry College
 Nichols College
 North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University
 North Carolina Central University
 North Carolina State University
 North Greenville University
 Northeastern University
 Northern Vermont University
 Northwestern University
 Notre Dame College
 Nova Southeastern University
 Ohio Northern University
 Ohio Wesleyan University
 Oklahoma City University
 Oklahoma State University
 Ottawa University, Ottawa
 Pace University
 Palm Beach Atlantic University
 Pennsylvania State University
 Pepperdine University
 Pfeiffer University
 Post University
 Princeton University
 Providence College
 Purdue University
 Purdue University Fort Wayne
 Queens University of Charlotte
 Quinnipiac University
 Regis College
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
 Rhodes College
 Rice University
 Rochester Institute of Technology
 Rockford University
 Rollins College
 Rutgers University
 Saint Anselm College
 Saint Joseph's University
 Saint Leo University
 Saint Louis University Madrid
 Saint Vincent College
 San Diego State University
 Santa Fe College
 Savannah College of Art and Design
 Seton Hall University
 South Carolina State University
 Southeastern University
 Southern Methodist University
 Southern Virginia University
 Springfield College
 Springfield College
 St. Vincent's College
 St. John's University
 St. Thomas Aquinas College
 St. Thomas University
 Stanford University
 Stetson University
 Stony Brook University
 Suffolk University
 SUNY Brockport
 SUNY Maritime College
 Syracuse University
 Tallahassee Community College
 Temple University
 Texas A&M University
 Texas Christian University
 Texas Tech University
 The Catholic University of America
 The Honors College at Miami Dade College
 The New School
 The Ohio State University
 The University of Memphis
 The University of Texas at Austin
 Thomas More College
 Trinity College
 Tufts University
 Tulane University
 United States Naval Academy
 Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
 Universidad del Norte
 Universidad Europea
 University College London
 University of Alabama
 University of Alabama at Birmingham
 University of Arizona
 University of California
 University of Central Florida
 University of Colorado
 University of Connecticut
 University of Dayton
 University of Delaware
 University of Florida
 University of Georgia
 University of Hawaii Manoa
 University of Houston
 University of Illinois
 University of Kentucky
 University of Maryland
 University of Massachusetts
 University of Miami
 University of Michigan
 University of Mississippi
 University of Nebraska Lincoln
 University of Nevada
 University of New Hampshire
 University of New Haven
 University of New Orleans
 University of North Carolina
 University of North Florida
 University of Notre Dame
 University of Oklahoma
 University of Oregon
 University of Pennsylvania
 University of Pittsburgh
 University of Richmond
 University of Rochester
 University of Saint Joseph
 University of San Francisco
 University of Scranton
 University of South Carolina
 University of South Florida
 University of Southern Mississippi
 University of St Andrews
 University of Tampa
 University of Tennessee
 University of Toronto
 University of Tulsa
 University of Utah
 University of Virginia
 University of West Florida
 University of Wisconsin
 University of Wyoming
 Valdosta State University
 Valencia College
 Vanderbilt University
 Vassar College
 Villanova University
 Virginia Commonwealth University
 Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
 Wabash College
 Wagner College
 Wake Forest University
 Washington and Jefferson College
 Washington College
 Washington University in St. Louis
 Wentworth Institute of Technology
 West Virginia State University
 Western Carolina University
 Westminster College
 Wingate University
 Winthrop University
 Xavier University

CLASS OF 2023 - 2024