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## ACCREDITATION

Network of Sacred Heart Schools

Association of Independent

Maryland Schools

Middle States Association of

Colleges and Secondary Schools

Maryland State Department of

Education

One Schoolhouse Consortium

**CEEB Code: 210252**

# PROFILE 2025-2026

## Mission Statement

Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart inspires young women to lead and serve, through lives of purpose that integrate faith, intellect, community, social action, and personal growth in an atmosphere of wise freedom.

## Philosophy & Goals

As a member of a worldwide network of Sacred Heart schools, Stone Ridge offers an education that is marked by a distinctive spirit. Central to its mission is the value Stone Ridge places on the development of the total person and, therefore, the school commits itself to building an environment characterized by seriousness of purpose, love of learning, creativity, beauty, and loving relationships. These elements are the basis for the five *Goals* of Sacred Heart schools. Stone Ridge, as a School of the Sacred Heart, commits itself to educate to:

**Goal I:** a personal and active faith in God

**Goal II:** a deep respect for intellectual values

**Goal III:** a social awareness which impels to action

**Goal IV:** the building of community as a Christian value

**Goal V:** personal growth in an atmosphere of wise freedom

## Location

Bethesda, Maryland within the Washington, DC metropolitan area

## School

Founded: **1923 in Washington, DC** Relocated: **1947 in Bethesda, Maryland**  
Catholic, independent, highly selective, college preparatory school for girls.

Pre-Kindergarten through Fourth Academic: **757 students**

Upper School: **385 students**

Fourth Academic Class: **93 students**

Average class size (First Academic through Fourth Academic): **14**

Upper School Student/Faculty Ratio: **7 / 1**

Graduates who attend four-year colleges or universities: **100%**

Upper School students who receive financial assistance: **33%**

Diversity representation among Upper School student body: **36%**

## Faculty

Upper School: **57**

Upper School faculty holding Master's degrees: **43**; Doctoral level: **12**

Average teaching experience per Upper School faculty member: **16 years**

Percentage of faculty who participate in professional development workshops and conferences: **100%**

# ACADEMIC PROGRAM OVERVIEW

## Graduation Requirements

To be awarded a Stone Ridge diploma, a student must complete the required program of study as outlined below, earning a minimum of twenty-five units. Of those units, twenty-two are earned in academic subjects; two are earned through satisfactory participation in Social Action according to the criteria of this program, and one is earned for physical education.

## Yearly Requirements

A student must earn six units per year: five-and-a-half academic units and a half unit in Social Action. It is a student's responsibility to confirm that her schedule includes this mandatory minimum of six units.

## Minimum Program of Study

<i>English</i>	<i>4 units</i>
<i>Visual and Performing Arts</i>	<i>2 units</i>
<i>World Languages</i>	<i>3 units</i>
<i>History and Social Studies</i>	<i>3 units</i>
<i>Mathematics</i>	<i>4 units</i>
<i>Physical Education</i>	<i>1 unit</i>
<i>Science</i>	<i>3 units</i>
<i>Social Action</i>	<i>2 units</i>
<i>Theology</i>	<i>2 units</i>
<i>Electives</i>	<i>2 units</i>

## Academic Honesty and Personal Integrity

Stone Ridge students are expected to answer honestly all college application questions and will notify the colleges within two weeks of changes in their records at any time during the college process. The student will report any relevant documented incidents or suspensions to the colleges directly.

## School Day/Schedule

The Stone Ridge schedule consists of eight periods that meet over the course of two days. Each school day is then comprised of four, eighty-minute periods where students are able to learn in an environment that better reflects the college classroom experience.

## Special Curriculum Features

**Social Action:** One full academic day, 10-12 times throughout the school year, is devoted to the Social Action program, making service a true part of the curriculum. Second, Third, and Fourth Academic students travel off campus for service at area hospitals, schools, nursing homes, day-care centers, and community agencies. Supervisors at the field sites complete written evaluations of the students' work. Thus, students accrue over 350 hours of service in completing their graduation requirements. In-person service was paused from March 2020 through May 2021 and was replaced by discussions with local community leaders. In-person service returned for 2021-2022 in a limited capacity and has resumed to full capacity for 2022-2023 and beyond.

**Theology Program:** Theology courses are as academically rigorous as other core courses and are a graduation requirement.

**World Language Program:** All world languages are taught solely in the target language and predominantly by native speakers. These courses are highly rigorous, and students are expected to use the target language in classroom and discussion settings.

**Seal of Biliteracy:** This award recognizes a student's high level of proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in one or more languages other than English. To demonstrate this proficiency, students must complete four consecutive years of high school language study as well as earn a score of four or five on the AP exam. Stone Ridge follows requirements set by the State of Maryland.

**Global Studies Certificate Program:** The Global Studies Certificate offers students an interdisciplinary approach to exploring the institutions, communities, processes and perspectives that shape our world. Students will complete four years of language study and four years of history/social studies, as well as additional approved Global Studies courses. They will participate in an intercultural experience in each of their last three years, community engagement, a summer job shadow and culminate with participation in the Global Studies Summit in the second semester of the 4th Academic Year.

**STEM Certificate Program:** The Stone Ridge STEM Certificate program recognizes those students who have completed three core sciences courses (Physics, Chemistry and Biology) plus at least two Advanced Placement or Honors courses in a STEM subject area. Students must demonstrate further interest in science by having completed a research-based internship experience in a STEM field, and participate and lead groups in science related school competitions such as Science Bowl and Physics Olympics. In addition, upperclassmen work with younger students as science peer tutors. At the end of their senior year, students are required to produce and present a portfolio of their STEM related experiences.

**Sacred Heart Network Exchange:** Stone Ridge students have the unique opportunity to participate in academic and cultural exchanges for four to six weeks at Sacred Heart schools throughout the world. The Network Exchange program allows students to independently explore a new culture, experience education from an international perspective, and perfect their language skills. Students are expected to maintain their course of study while on Exchange. Students have most recently participated in exchanges at Sacred Heart schools in England, Scotland, France, Spain, Colombia, Japan, Austria, and Australia.

## HONORS AND AP PLACEMENT POLICY

- Each student is reviewed carefully before enrollment in an Advanced Placement (AP) or Honors level class.
- No AP/Honors courses are offered freshman year.
- Honors courses are offered in the sophomore year in math, science, and English.
- AP courses are rarely allowed sophomore year, and typically only for advanced language, math, or art.
- AP/Honors courses are offered in full, schedules permitting, in junior and senior year.
- Stone Ridge recommends a maximum of three AP or Honors level courses a year.
- AP/Honors courses are given the same .5 weight in GPA.

All AP level students are expected to take the AP exam in May 2025.

## HIGHEST LEVEL OF COURSES OFFERED

AP Computer Science A	AP Calculus AB
AP Computer Science Principles	AP Calculus BC
AP English Language	Honors Multivariable Calculus
AP English Literature	AP Statistics
AP French Language & Culture	AP Chemistry
Honors French Literature	AP Environmental Science
AP Spanish Language & Culture	AP Physics C
AP Spanish Literature & Culture	Honors Biology
Honors Spanish Seminar	Honors Molecular Biology & Biochemistry
AP Latin	AP 2-D Art: Drawing
AP Psychology	AP 2-D Art: Photography
AP U.S. Government	AP 3-D Art: Ceramics
AP U.S. History	Honors Ensembles
AP Art History	
AP African American Studies	

(AP Biology no longer offered)

## WEIGHTED GRADE DISTRIBUTION

GPA is based on a 4.3 scale. AP and Honors are considered on par; courses receive a .5 weight. Cumulative grade averages are derived from final grades in all subjects.

Letter Grade	Numerical Equivalent
A+	97-100 (4.3)
A	93-96 (4.0)
A-	90-92 (3.7)
B+	87-89 (3.3)
B	83-86 (3.0)
B-	80-82 (2.7)
C+	77-79 (2.3)
C	73-76 (2.0)
C-	70-72 (1.7)
D	65-69 (1.0)
F	64 or below (0)

Stone Ridge does NOT rank students.

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Results from 2025 exams

- Number of exams taken: 378
- AP exams with 3+ score: 81%

### AP Scores of 3 or higher

	Percentage
Chemistry	100
Computer Science Principles	88
Calculus AB	88
English Language	100
English Literature	97
French Language	100
Psychology	94
Spanish Language	100
Spanish Literature	88
US History	98

## STANDARDIZED TESTING AND HONORS

### From all 2025 Test-Takers

#### SAT Test Scores

Evidence-based Reading and Writing: 671  
Math: 638

#### ACT Test Scores (Mean)

Composite: 27.8  
English: 28.7  
Math: 25.2  
Reading: 30.5  
Science: 27.4

### Honors for the Class of 2026

#### National Merit Scholarship Program

5 National Merit Commended Scholars

#### College Board National Recognition Programs

8 Students

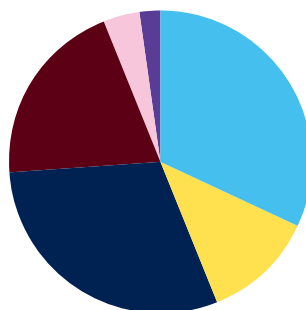
#### The Cum Laude Society

19 Members inducted from the Class of 2026

## COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES AND MATRICULATIONS

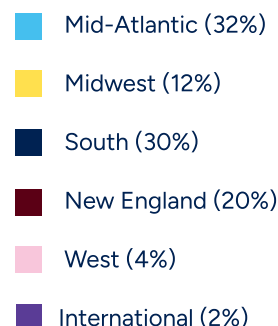
Below is a 3-year sampling of college acceptances for Stone Ridge students. Names in **bold** are schools attended by members of the Class of 2025.

American University  
 Amherst College  
**Auburn University**  
 Barnard College  
 Bates College  
 Belmont University  
 Binghamton University  
**Bocconi University**  
**Boston College (5)**  
 Boston University  
 Bowdoin College  
**Bucknell University (2)**  
 Case Western Reserve University  
**Catholic University of America (2)**  
 Chapman University  
 Clemson University  
 Colby College  
**Colgate University**  
 College of Charleston  
**College of the Holy Cross (3)**  
 Connecticut College  
 Cornell University  
 Dartmouth College  
**Davidson College**  
**Denison University (2)**  
 DePaul University  
 Dickinson College  
 Drexel University  
**Duke University (2)**  
 Eastman School of Music  
 Elon University  
 Emerson College  
 Emory University  
**Fairfield University (5)**  
**Fordham University**  
 Franklin and Marshall College  
 Furman University  
**George Washington University (2)**  
**Georgetown University (2)**  
 Georgia Tech  
 Gettysburg College  
 Hampton University  
**Harvard University**  
 Haverford College  
**Howard University**  
**Indiana University**  
**James Madison University**  
 Johns Hopkins University  
 Kenyon College  
 Lehigh University  
**Loyola Marymount University**  
 Loyola University Chicago  
 Loyola University Maryland  
 Loyola University New Orleans  
 Macalester College



Marist College  
 Maryland Institute College of Art  
**Massachusetts Institute of Technology**  
 McGill University  
 Miami University  
 Michigan State University  
 Middlebury College  
**Morgan State University**  
 Mount Holyoke College  
**Mount St. Mary's University**  
 Muhlenberg College  
 New York University  
 North Carolina State University  
**Northeastern University**  
**Northwestern University (2)**  
 Oberlin College  
 Occidental College  
 Ohio State University  
 Pennsylvania State University  
 Pepperdine University  
 Pratt Institute  
 Princeton University  
 Providence College  
 Purdue University  
 Sacred Heart University  
 Santa Clara University  
 Smith College  
**Southern Methodist University (3)**  
**Spelman College (3)**  
 St. John's University  
**Syracuse University**  
 Texas A&M University  
 Texas Christian University  
 Towson University  
 Tufts University  
**Tulane University (5)**  
 Union College  
 University College London  
 University of Arizona  
 University of California, Los Angeles  
 University of California, San Diego  
 University of California, Santa Barbara  
 University of Chicago  
 University of Colorado

### Regional Distribution of Matriculated Students from the Class of 2025



University of Connecticut  
 University of Delaware  
**University of Denver**  
**University of Florida**  
**University of Georgia**  
 University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign  
**University of Kentucky**  
**University of Maryland, Baltimore County**  
**University of Maryland, College Park (2)**  
 University of Massachusetts  
 University of Miami  
**University of Michigan (2)**  
 University of Mississippi  
**University of Navarra**  
**University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (2)**  
**University of Notre Dame (2)**  
 University of Oxford  
 University of Pennsylvania  
 University of Pittsburgh  
**University of Richmond**  
 University of Rochester  
 University of San Diego  
**University of South Carolina**  
 University of Southern California  
 University of St Andrews  
 University of Tennessee  
 University of Texas, Austin  
 University of Toronto  
**University of Utah**  
 University of Vermont  
**University of Virginia (6)**  
 University of Washington  
**University of Wisconsin**  
 University of Wyoming  
**Vanderbilt University**  
 Villanova University  
**Virginia Tech**  
**Wake Forest University (3)**  
**Washington & Lee University**  
 Washington University in St. Louis  
**Wellesley College**  
 Williams College  
 Xavier University  
**Xavier University of Louisiana**