



VILLA VICTORIA ACADEMY

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Preparing young women to be smart, strong, confident leaders since 1933.

Founded in 1933 by Sisters of the Religious Teachers Filippini, Villa Victoria Academy serves girls in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade, and is the oldest private catholic girls' school in New Jersey. VVA provides a comprehensive academic program in a faith-centered, family-like environment.

Campus

Villa Victoria academy is located in Mercer County, New Jersey, on a historic 44-acre campus near the Delaware River. Once known as the Fisk estate, the property was acquired by the Religious Sisters Fillippini in 1920 to be used as the Motherhouse and Novitiate for their American Province. The school opened in 1933 in the original mansion, which is used today as a convent and gathering place for special events. In addition to the main school building, facilities include:

- 1,000-seat Performing Arts Theatre
- State-of-the-Art 12,000 sq. ft. Athletic Center
- Art studios, science labs, and private chapel
- Lower School playground, tennis courts, and other playing fields

Villa Victoria Academy's mission, consistent with the vision of the Religious Teachers Filippini, is reflected in the goals that are established for each of its graduates:

- To think critically and adopt a global view
- To uphold the dignity of the individual
- To influence the world in a truly Christian manner
- To develop an appreciation of beauty and culture through the study of the fine arts
- To demonstrate compassion for others and cultivate meaningful, lifelong friendships

Accreditation

Villa Victoria Academy is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and is a member of the National Catholic Education Association, The Secondary School Admission Test Board, New Jersey Association of Independent Schools, and the Association of Delaware Valley Independent Schools.

Admissions

Families are encouraged to begin the application process by scheduling a campus tour or attending an open house, information session, or shadow day. Applications may be submitted at any time, but those applying for 9th grade in the fall are advised to do so by December for priority consideration. All applicants must submit official school transcripts, standardized test scores (if available), and teacher recommendations. Applicants to 9th grade are also required to take the SSAT exam. Completed applications are reviewed on a rolling basis, and eligible students are invited for an admissions interview. Application materials may be obtained through Admissions or downloaded at www.villavictoria.org.

Tuition and Financial Aid

2012-2013 Rates

Pre-K (Full Day, 5 Day): \$8,240 (part-time rates available)

Lower School (Kindergarten - Grade 6): \$10,250

Upper School (Grades 7-12): \$11,850

Villa Victoria is committed to assisting highly qualified students to make a VVA education possible. Several tuition payment options are available: one full payment in August (there is a small discount for choosing this option), two payments (August and December), or monthly payments, through the *FACTS Tuition Management System* (payments begin in May). Because financial aid is limited, families are strongly encouraged to apply in February for the following September. Aid is available to students in grades K-12 only, and parents must re-apply each year. VVA partners with *School and Student Services by NAIS* to determine financial need, and the application process can be completed online at sss.nais.org/parents. ***It is the policy of Villa Victoria Academy that no financial aid award equal the total amount of tuition charged for any grade level. Each family is required to financially contribute to their daughter's tuition in a meaningful way.***

Clubs and Activities

A variety of afterschool clubs and activities are available to students, including: Student Council, Yearbook Club, Inscape (Literary Magazine), Art Club, Stage Craft, Mock Trial, Community Service Club, Newspaper Club, Admissions Ambassadors, Junior Statesmen of America, Math Team, Music Ministry, Instrumental Ensemble, Vocal Ensemble, and A Cappella Ensemble.

Athletics

Villa Victoria Academy is a member of the Penn-Jersey Athletic Association and fields the following teams: Varsity Tennis, Varsity and Middle School Soccer and Softball, Varsity, Junior Varsity, and Middle School Basketball, Varsity Cross Country, and Varsity Track and Field.

Merit Scholarship Opportunities for Ninth Grade Applicants

The Archbishop Thomas Joseph Walsh Scholarship

Recipients of the Archbishop Thomas Joseph Walsh Scholarship must be nominated by their pastors. Recipients must be active parishioners, demonstrate leadership qualities and academic achievement. Partners in Catholic Education Scholarship nominees are not eligible for this scholarship.

Partners in Catholic Education Scholarship

One student from each Catholic elementary school is eligible for the Partners in Catholic Education Scholarship. Recipients must be nominated by their elementary school principals. Recipients must demonstrate leadership qualities, academic achievement and good school citizenship.

Sr. Elizabeth Parente Scholarship for Outstanding Young Musicians

Recipients will be selected by the Scholarship Committee. Auditions are required to be considered for music scholarships. Auditions are held by appointment and may be arranged through Admissions.

Mother Ninetta Ionata Academic Scholarship

Selection is based on academic achievement, SSAT scores, teacher recommendations, interview, and leadership qualities.

Dr. Paul Francis Zito Scholarship

Selection is based on service to school and community, teacher recommendations, and interview.

Academic Program

Lower School (Pre-K through grade 6)

In the Lower School, subjects such as reading, mathematics, science, social studies, and the arts form the core of a holistic curriculum. Traditional instruction is balanced by a hands-on approach to learning, and small class sizes allow teachers to differentiate instruction to meet students' individual needs and learning styles. A combination of cooperative and independent learning experiences also helps to foster confidence and collaboration in the classroom. Enrichment opportunities include an integrated STEM program in which girls develop their creative problem solving skills by working collaboratively on science and math-based projects.

Upper School (Grade 7 through grade 12)

The Upper School program is designed to allow students to explore their individual talents and interests while studying a strong college-preparatory curriculum. VVA follows a traditional scheduling model and class sizes are kept small, with an average 8:1 student to teacher ratio. A variety of honors and advanced placement courses are offered in both the sciences and the humanities. Upper School students are also encouraged to pursue leadership opportunities that will help them meet the personal and professional challenges they will face in a changing world. VVA alumnae are exceptionally prepared to excel in college, and 100% of graduates pursue higher education.

Course Offerings

To meet students' needs and abilities, major courses in the Upper School are offered on three levels: College Preparatory, Honors, and Advanced Placement. Grades are scaled toward the particular level.

High School Graduation Requirements

- 4 years (or each year of attendance) of Religion
- 4 years of English
- 4 years of Health and Physical Education
- 3 years of Mathematics
- 3 years of Laboratory Science
- 3 years of World Language
- 2 years of United States History
- 1 year of World Cultures
- 2 years of Fine Arts
- 1 semester of Computer Technology
- 1 semester of Chorus per year of attendance
- 18 hours of community service per year of attendance

28 credits are required for graduation

Advanced Placement Courses

Villa Victoria Academy offers the following AP courses. Each AP course has a prerequisite, and students are permitted to enroll in no more than three AP courses concurrently without administrative approval. Advanced Placement Exams are administered in May according to the College Board schedule.

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| AP Art | AP English Literature and Language |
| AP Biology | AP European History |
| AP Calculus | AP French |
| AP Chemistry | AP Physics |
| AP Spanish | AP U.S. History |

College Placement

(100% college enrollment rate for new graduates)

The two-year average combined SAT score (verbal, math, writing) is 1830. 100% of 2012 graduates enrolled at 4-year institutions following graduation, and were awarded a total of \$2.6 million in scholarships. Since 2005, Villa Victoria has graduated 20 National Merit Commended Scholars and one National Merit Finalist.

Recent College Acceptances

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| Alvernia University | Rider University |
| Arcadia University | Rutgers University |
| Berklee College of Music | Seton Hall University |
| Boston College | St. John's University |
| Case Western Reserve University | St. Joseph University |
| Cornell University | Stevenson University |
| Drexel University | The Catholic University of America |
| Duquesne University | Syracuse University |
| Fordham University | Towson University |
| Johns Hopkins University | University of Pennsylvania |
| Loyola University of Maryland | University of Delaware |
| McGill University | University of Rochester |
| Monmouth University | Villanova University |
| Northeastern University | |