

# ing 2018-2019 School Profile

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Sterling Classical School was established in 2008 as a Christian, college preparatory, independent school founded on the classical, advanced academic model. Sterling Classical School provides a format that inspires each student on the educational tract through a classical academic rigor that comes vibrantly to life through the myriad of hands-on experiences, the engagement in extracurricular activities, and the pursuit of Christ-like character. The entire curricular format from Kindergarten through twelfth grade is designed to produce a well-rounded graduate with a love of learning who finds themselves fully prepared for the journey to either a collegiate destination or alternative God directed pursuit.

### **Admission Requirement**

The admission process is designed not to be exclusive but to be inclusive of families who strongly desire a classical, Christian, college-preparatory education with an emphasis on character development. Selection is based on academic evaluation, personal family interview, admission questionnaires and the potential for a student to perform with excellence at Sterling.

## School CEEB (SAT/ACT code): 444098

## Memberships

Association of Classical Christian Schools, Society of Classical Learners, Leander Chamber of Commerce, Texas Colloquium, National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC), Texas Association for College Admission Counseling (TACAC), and Texas Christian Athletic League (T-CAI).



#### Accreditation

Sterling Classical School is fully accredited by The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI), and accreditation division of AdvancedED.

#### Sonya Dixon

Head of Pre-School/School of Grammar Co-Founder sdixon@sterlingclassicalschool.com

#### Terry McKinney

Head of School of Logic and Rhetoric Co-Founder tmckinney@sterlingclassicalschool.com

# Jill Wittekiend

Dean of Students and Faculty jwittekiend@sterlingclassicalschool.com

#### Kate Kelly Registrar registrar@sterlingclassicalschool.com

**Faculty**The student/faculty ratio is 8:1

## School of Rhetoric Overview

The primary objective is teaching motivated students to articulate clearly and persuasively the knowledge they acquire in the various disciplines. The Sterling humanities sequence consists of the chronological study of western literature and history from Antiquity to modern European and American literature. Emphasis is placed on primary documents, research, close reading, critical writing, and historical analysis.

In Literature, History, and Rhetoric classes, major theme writing assignments play a critical role in developing a student's ability to learn through individual research, drafting, and revision. This compliments the Socratic method infused across the classes where emphasis is placed on collaboration, problem solving, speaking skills and student ownership of their learning.

#### **Senior Thesis**

This is the final piece of the classical education tapestry and a graduation requirement for all Sterling students. The thesis is an opportunity for the graduate to demonstrate in summation the refined skills learned in the School of Rhetoric. Rhetoric is defined as the art of effective communication. The student will give an engaging, detailed oral presentation based on extensive research covering a student-identified controversial topic. The student will present with demonstrated ability of critical thinking skills, dynamic presentation style and defense of their topic during questioning from the senior panel. Through the senior thesis students learn to persuasively express value judgments and through the senior thesis they learn and apply project management, academic research, analysis, and public skills.

## Service Portfolio

Sterling graduates will be required to present a service portfolio that will document a total of 80 service hours accumulated over the 9th-12th grade years. This portfolio will include specific records of hours as they are achieved, pictures and personal testimony.

# Ranking/GPA

Sterling Classical School does not rank its students except for the top two students in order to designate Valedictorian and Salutatorian. Due to selective admission, class rank is insignificant in predicting college success. The grade point average is computed on an un-weighted 4-point scale.

Curriculum more closely resembles the IB than AP program. Sterling classes meet and exceed the AP requirements allowing students preparation for AP exams as they choose while still covering the more in-depth study required by Sterling's defined curriculum. The alignment with the IB program manifests itself in several elements including the Theory of Knowledge that develops a coherent approach to learning that unifies the academic disciplines focusing on critical thinking, student's inquiry into the nature of knowing and deepening their understanding of knowledge.

## **Graduation Requirements**

Minimum Graduation Requirements – 27 credits		S
English/Humanities – 4 History/Humanities – 4 Mathematics – 4 Laboratory Science – 4 Foreign Language – 3** Latin – 1 Fine Arts – 1 Elective – 2	Sport/Physical Ed – 2 Logic – 1 Economics5 Government5 Senior Thesis Soldiers for Service Portfolio **If the 3 credits of Foreign Language are in Latin, then the student does not have to have an additional credit of Latin.	tl tl fi p

#### Non-Discrimination Policy

Sterling Classical School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational, admission, financial aid or employment policies, or any other programs administered by the school.

National Merit Competition Commended Scholars (2013-2017)

## Clubs

All clubs and organizations serve to fulfill the mission of the school and include: House/Student Government, Speech and Debate Team, Photography, Yearbook, Engineering and National Honor Society. Several of these organizations and clubs maintain a significant focus on outreach and service in and around the community.

## Athletics

Member of Texas Christian Athletic Association where high school athletes have the opportunity to compete competitively in over 11 sports with schools across Texas.

#### Sterling Conservatory of the Arts and Sciences

The Sterling Conservatory provides students a platform in which to explore, learn, strengthen, grow and inspire future pursuits in the dynamic S.T.E.A.M. fields of study and industries. Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math (S.T.E.A.M.) continue to serve as anchors for competitive and relevant careers. Within this conservatory, students have access to advanced art, computer science, culinary, music, forensic and field science and entrepreneurship classes.

## Class of 2018 8 students graduated in May 2018. 2017-2018 ACT composite Class of 2019

8 current graduate candidates.

Students Tested Mean 3

# 2017-2018 SAT summary - 5 students tested

SECTION	MIDDLE 50%
Critical Reading	570-730
Math	470-700
Writing	510-580
TOTAL	1590-2010

#### 2015-2018 College Acceptances and Matriculation

28

90% attended a four-year university. Azusa Pacific University Baylor Colorado Christian University Concordia University Texas Johns Hopkins University Kansas State University Mary Hardin-Baylor Parsons the New School for Design Purdue University

Stephen F. Austin University Southwestern University Texas A&M University Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi Texas State University The Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising The Savanah College of Art and Design



The School of the Art Institute of Chicago
The Pratt Institute
The University of Kansas
The University of Oklahoma
The University of Texas, Austin
The University of Texas, San Antonio
The University of Texas, Tyler
The University of Texas, Arlington