

URSULINE ACADEMY



HEAD OF HIGH SCHOOL (PRINCIPAL)

Ursuline Academy of New Orleans

www.uanola.org

New Orleans, LA

January 28, 2019

CATHOLIC RECRUITER ASSOCIATES

EXECUTIVE SEARCH • MANAGEMENT CONSULTING

MISSION STATEMENT

Ursuline Academy of New Orleans, founded in 1727 and sponsored by the Ursuline Sisters, is a Catholic school for girls offering a strong educational environment from early childhood through a college preparatory secondary program.

In a diverse community with an inspiring heritage, Ursuline Academy fosters spiritual formation, academic excellence and a lifelong commitment to *Serviam*: I will serve. The Academy values the uniqueness of each student, nurtures the whole person, develops leaders of confidence and compassion, and prepares them for life in a global society.



MOTTO

Serviam: "I will serve."

OUR PROMISE

To succeed in tomorrow's world, we believe girls must learn to think creatively, articulate their ideas confidently and compassionately, and solve problems collaboratively. Our girls will be ready.

Through high interactive experiences powered by STEM and the Arts – and a nurturing community diverse by design – we develop tomorrow's brightest independent thinkers, innovators, and community builders.

CORE VALUES

- Spiritual formation and faith development
- Respect for the uniqueness of the individual
- Development of the whole person
- Development of a nurturing community spirit
- Commitment to peacemaking
- *Serviam* as a lived reality
- Hallmark: Academic excellence
- Ideals: Courtesy, loyalty and courage

ABOUT THE SCHOOL

Overview

Ursuline Academy, located on an 11.5-acre historic campus in Uptown New Orleans, is a Toddler 1 through 12th grade Academy for girls serving nearly 625 students. Founded in 1727 by the Sisters of the Order of St. Ursula, the Academy enjoys the distinction of being both the oldest continuously operating school for girls and the oldest Catholic school in the United States. Convinced that the education of women was essential to the development of a civilized, spiritual and just society, the Ursuline Sisters influenced culture and learning in New Orleans by providing an exceptional education for its women.

Ursuline's nurturing community is diverse by design and fuels every girl's success. Students with different backgrounds, beliefs and talents feel part of a sisterhood at Ursuline. They learn from each other, celebrate each other and raise each other up. Here, girls gain a deeper understanding of themselves and how to be successful in a global society.

Starting in early childhood, our Reggio Emilia-inspired approach builds each girl's confidence, social-emotional resiliency and appreciation of others. Continuing throughout the Academy, our all-girls' environment empowers girls to challenge themselves, explore outside their comfort zones and expand what they are capable of achieving.

Ursuline's educational approach combines tradition and innovation and is validated by its dedication to the moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social growth of each student. As girls progress through Ursuline Academy, our highly interactive approach exposes them to increasingly complex concepts in STEM and the Arts that go beyond learning the material. We focus on STEM and the Arts as equal partners to power this 21st century learning. In fact, Ursuline Academy of New Orleans is the first all-girls school in Louisiana to implement a full K-12 engineering and computer science pathway program known as Project Lead The Way.

Ursuline also offers students the opportunity to grow outside of the classroom through participation in 11 varsity sports, which include numerous state championships. Ursuline's large variety of clubs and extracurricular activities are designed to satisfy the needs and interests of any girl, at any age, in the Academy. As part of our 1:1 program, each middle school student is issued an iPad and each high school student is issued a MacBook. Integrating this technology in the classroom helps engage students, offers powerful collaborative and in-class possibilities, and enhances 21st-century skills.



Overview (cont.)

Ursuline Academy maintains a dedicated faculty, whose members contribute positively to the Christian growth of students by their example of Christian living, personal care of students, rigorous attention to the style of their teaching, concern for moral values and conduct, and support and encouragement of a variety of school activities. Smaller class sizes, at every level, guarantee a personal connection with faculty, helps foster academic growth, and encourages students to explore topics with deeper understanding.



An Ursuline Academy education enables and challenges students to grow in their faith, serving both in the school community and also beyond our very borders. Ursuline's service programs provide enriching opportunities to integrate and expand the student's understanding of herself in relation to God, her community, and the world. Students are encouraged to deepen their spirituality, to lead in a diverse school community, and to develop a lifelong sisterhood. Through Ursuline Academy's five-year *Serviam* Formation Program, students are challenged to

explore the call to service and Christian discipleship. The program is part of the ongoing spiritual formation process whereby Ursuline provides enriching opportunities to integrate and expand the student's understanding of herself in relation to God, community, and the world. Each year, students focus on specific areas of service: 8th grade – elderly, 9th grade – children, education, and literacy, 10th grade - special needs individuals, 11th grade – hunger, poverty, and homelessness, and 12th grade – environmental ethics.

Ursuline graduates are confident young women with habits of mind and heart that endure. The Class of 2018 is currently attending a diverse portfolio of colleges from Rhodes College to Vanderbilt University, from LSU and Tulane to The Catholic University. With 85 graduates, our girls earned nearly ten million dollars in scholarships. More than 5,000 young women have matriculated from Ursuline Academy at its present location on State Street. In the words of many alumnae, these graduates are “prepared for anything,” including college, careers, leadership opportunities, and service to the church and their respective communities.

The Academy is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), AdvancED - a division of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), approved by the State Department of Education of Louisiana, recognized as a member of the Ursuline Education Network (UEN), the National Honor Society of Secondary Schools, the National Catholic Educational Association, National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) and the National Coalition of Girls Schools (NCGS).

POSITION DESCRIPTION

HEAD OF HIGH SCHOOL

Ursuline Academy of New Orleans seeks a Head of High School leader who conveys the same characteristics as that of the Academy itself: empowering, nurturing, creative, challenging, innovative, spiritual, and welcoming. The successful candidate will be an experienced educational leader devoted to the school's mission, vision, and program. The Head of High School will have the distinct honor of not only leading the high school division of the oldest Catholic school in the nation, but carrying forth the mission of Academy foundress, St. Angela Merici.

St. Angela Merici founded the Order of St. Ursula, in Brescia, Italy, in 1535. In her life, she reached out in service and love to rich and poor alike. In her writings, she developed a philosophy of personal formation, a commitment to justice, and a promotion of self-discipline through encouragement rather than compulsion in an atmosphere of unity, mutual love, and respect.

As the oldest Catholic school in the nation, Ursuline Academy values her Catholic identity. The Head of High School has many responsibilities to ensure that the Catholic character of the Academy is developed and nurtured. The Head of High School guides Campus Ministry efforts, such as liturgies and services, and will assist faculty and staff in integrating the mission in all aspects of the division. The Head of High School will develop a warm and nurturing environment consistent with both Catholic and Ursuline charisms – recruiting faculty and staff who are compatible with this same mission.

Knowledge and Skills Required

The Head of High School has the primary responsibility for achieving the mission of Ursuline Academy by maintaining and developing a supportive Academy that is dedicated to strong academic achievement and ample programming that helps girls find the confidence to challenge themselves beyond academics – enabling them to explore who they want to be. In addition, the Head of High School, along with the President, is a facilitator of the community of faith and shares the responsibility for the integration of faith and culture within Ursuline Academy.

The Academy desires the Head of High School to:

- Be a practicing Catholic
- Hold an advanced degree in Education
- Have a minimum of five years' experience in education administration

The Head of High School should be a servant leader who is purposeful in providing an atmosphere of professional collaboration, growth, and achievement. This leader must not only be a great listener, but an effective communicator for students, staff, and parents. Ursuline Academy's Head of School must be an innovative leader with a progressive understanding of women's education.

Position Description (cont.)

Opportunities and Challenges

In order to continue to empower 21st century learning, the Academy is aware that it must continue to keep up with our rapidly changing world. In keeping with our brand promise of developing tomorrow's brightest independent thinkers, innovators, and community builders – we must remain in the forefront of educational innovation.

We welcome a new Head of High School at the most opportune time as the Academy continues to advance strongly in both STEM and the Arts, looks for improvement in global experiences for our students, and carries forth the findings of a most recent internal brand audit. As a result of the branding efforts, a new vision has been clearly communicated to faculty and staff and must be monitored and implemented daily by Academy leadership. These results should act as a guide for all future communications – both written and verbal.

Ursuline Academy's brand strategy seeks to:

- Elevate our academic reputation
- Convey a private school philosophy anchored in Catholic values
- Embrace diversity broadly and show its benefits
- Convey the strengths of an all-girls environment
- Lead with recent innovations instead of history

Other

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| Reports To | ○ | President, Ursuline Academy |
| Effective Date | ○ | July 2, 2019 |
| Application Deadline | ○ | April 15, 2019 <i>Note: We reserve the right to shorten the deadline for applications if we have sufficient interest. Please apply early to insure your background will be considered.</i> |
| How to Apply | ○ | Interested and qualified applicants are asked to submit a letter of interest, resume and salary requirements to: Arlene McSweeney, Ed.D. Senior Vice President Catholic Recruiter Associates Arlene@CatholicRecruiter.com <i>Only those selected for an interview with the search committee will be contacted.</i> |

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EXECUTIVE SEARCH • MANAGEMENT CONSULTING

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