

UPPER SCHOOL PROFILE 2023-2024

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CEEB Code: 051628

ENROLLMENT
Total enrollment: 830
Upper School enrollment: 333
Senior class: 85
Average class size: 13

THE MISSION OF THE BUCKLEY SCHOOL

The Buckley School is a dynamic, nurturing learning community committed to equity and inclusion. Our innovative teachers and challenging programs inspire creativity, courage, and collaboration. By promoting a balanced development of mind, body, and character, we encourage each student to find joy and meaning in life and make an impact in the world.

HISTORY

Founded in 1933 by Isabelle Buckley, The Buckley School is the oldest K-12, independent, co-ed day school in Los Angeles. Dr. Buckley developed the 4-Fold Plan of Education: equal emphasis on Academics, the Arts, Athletics, and Moral Education. These four pillars remain the foundation of our school and are continually updated to reflect current research in teaching, brain science, diversity, and a globalized world.

PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE:

ARCHITECT OF THE FUTURE

TRUE FRIEND

- Uplifts others
- Listens with intention
- Turns empathy into action
- Invests in community
- Considers their impact

CREATIVE THINKER

- Practices self-reflection
- Asks a better question
- Champions innovation
- Makes unexpected connections
- Understands the past and envisions tomorrow

RESILIENT EXPLORER

- Views challenges as opportunities
- Relishes experimentation, play, and curiosity
- Understands and respects the natural world
- Attends to health and wellness
- Rebounds with zeal

INCLUSIVE LEADER

- Knows when to observe, when to support, when to initiate
- Displays a strong work ethic
- Sees strength in difference
- Models honesty, humility, and accountability
- Advocates for justice

DYNAMIC STORYTELLER

- Communicates with clarity and purpose
- Finds joy in artistic expression
- Examines the human condition
- Engages the senses
- Discerns and promotes truth



CURRICULUM

The Buckley School maintains a rigorous college preparatory education grounded in collaboration, cultural competency, and character education. The school provides an intentionally small, supportive, and diverse learning environment.

Operating on a semester calendar, academic courses are yearlong. Students are expected to take a minimum of five academic courses and an additional sixth course each year.

Buckley is a member of One Schoolhouse, a consortium of independent schools through which students may enroll in online courses.

UPPER SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (GRADES 9-12)

ARTS - Two years (visual and/or performing)

COMMUNITY SERVICE - Participation in Service Learning

ENGLISH - Four years

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND INTERSECTIONS OF IDENTITY: LEADERSHIP, DIVERSITY, AND EQUITY

- Two semester-long courses in ninth grade

MATHEMATICS - One year of study beyond Algebra II

PHYSICAL EDUCATION - Every year through eleventh grade

SCIENCE - Three years (Biology, Chemistry and Physics are required)

SOCIAL SCIENCES - Three years

WORLD LANGUAGES - Through level III

ADVANCED PLACEMENT AND HONORS COURSES

The Buckley curriculum includes 24 AP courses in addition to 12 honors courses in English, math, science, computer science, and world languages. Enrollment in AP courses is restricted to those who qualify through grades, completion of prerequisite courses, and departmental approval. Buckley restricts student enrollment to no more than two weighted courses per year in grade nine, no more than three weighted courses in grade 10, four weighted courses in grade 11, and five in grade 12. In rare instances, students may receive approval to enroll in more than the restricted allotment of weighted courses in each grade level.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

AP Art History
AP Biology
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
AP Chemistry
AP Chinese Language & Culture
AP Computer Science A
AP Computer Science Principles
AP English Language & Composition
AP English Literature & Composition
AP Environmental Science
AP European History
AP French Language & Culture
AP Latin
AP Macroeconomics*
AP Microeconomics
AP Music Theory
AP Physics C: Mechanics, Electricity and Magnetism*
AP Psychology
AP Spanish Language & Culture
AP Statistics*
AP Studio Art: Drawing
AP Studio Art: 2D Design
AP Studio Art: 3D Design
AP U.S. Government & Politics
AP U.S. History

HONORS COURSES

Honors Algebra II
Honors Biology*
Honors Chemistry
Honors Chinese IV
Honors English II
Honors French IV
Honors Geometry
Honors Algorithms and Data Structures
Honors Latin IV
Honors Multivariable Calculus*
Honors Physics
Honors Pre-Calculus
Honors Spanish III
Honors Spanish IV

*Not offered 2023-2024

GRADING SCALE AND GRADE POINT AVERAGE

A traditional grading system is used. The grade point average includes only courses taken at Buckley. Grades in AP and honors courses are weighted one point. Letter grades range from A to F with pluses and minuses. GPAs are cumulative and are calculated on a weighted 4.0 scale. **The mean weighted GPA for the Class of 2024 is 3.98. The highest GPA in the class is 4.83.** The Buckley School does not rank its students. The GPA is not listed on the Buckley transcript.

Buckley's grades are based on the following numerical scale:

A+ 4.33	96.5-100%
A 4.00	92.5-96.4%
A- 3.67	89.5-92.4%
B+ 3.33	86.5-89.4%
B 3.00	82.5-86.4%
B- 2.67	79.5-82.4%
C+ 2.33	76.5-79.4%
C 2.00	72.5-76.4%
C- 1.67	69.5-72.4%
D+ 1.33	66.5-69.4%
D 1.00	62.5-66.4%
D- 0.67	59.5-62.4%
F 0.00	00-59.4%

STANDARDIZED TEST SCORES

(CLASS OF 2024)

The school's goal is to decrease focus on standardized testing and reduce test anxiety by instructing students to wait until spring semester of their junior year to take official SAT and ACT exams. Our philosophy is that these exams, which are meant to be taken by second-semester juniors, should not be the focus of a student's education. Rather, the priority should be on engaging in the learning process and establishing an academic foundation that will serve students in college and beyond.

DISCIPLINARY REPORTING POLICY

The Buckley School will respond to direct inquiries from colleges or other academic institutions of any notable changes in a student's academic or personal status, including, but not limited to, a significant drop in grades, course changes, suspension, disciplinary probation, dismissal, and extended absences from school. When such information is requested, the student will be advised to address their transgression in a separate letter to the colleges or other academic institutions.

THE BUCKLEY SCHOOL'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19

The Buckley School commenced remote learning in March 2020 with the intention of returning to campus after a few weeks. However, in response to the progression of the COVID-19 pandemic and state and local safer-at-home orders, Buckley's Upper School remained closed through April 2021 when it reopened in a hybrid model.

In anticipation of a possible move to remote learning, Buckley began preparing in the weeks leading up to the campus closure. Buckley's information technology team collaborated closely with our faculty and our families to ensure a seamless transition to remote learning so that instruction for all courses could be conducted via Zoom. Our faculty rose to the occasion and many of our teachers used it as an opportunity to create innovative instructional methods, which continued to keep Buckley's students engaged and productive. Course offerings remained varied and robust with a full selection of honors and AP courses. Because disruptions were minimized as much as possible, Buckley continued to award letter grades. As was the case at schools across the country, sports and on-campus extra-curricular activities and events were suspended and off-campus opportunities were limited.

Buckley has been back in session, in person and on campus, fulltime since the Fall of 2021.

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES/ MATRICULATIONS FOR 2020–2023

Typically, 100% of Buckley's graduating seniors are accepted to 4-year colleges and universities. Graduates from the classes of 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023 were accepted by the following institutions and matriculated to those indicated.

Adelphi University	CSU Long Beach	King's College London	San Jose State University	University of Kansas
Alaska Pacific University	CSU Los Angeles ^	Lawrence Technological University	Santa Barbara City College *°	University of Kentucky
American Musical & Dramatic Academy *	CSU Monterey Bay	Lawrence University	Santa Clara University	University of La Verne
American University ^*	CSU Northridge*	Lehigh University	Santa Monica College ^*°	University of Maryland - College Park
The American University of Paris °	CSU Sacramento	Lewis & Clark College +	Sarah Lawrence College *	University of Maryland - Baltimore County
Amherst College ^°	CSU San Bernardino	LIM College	Savannah College of Art & Design	University of Massachusetts Amherst
Arizona State University	CSU San Marcos	Los Angeles Valley College *	School of the Art Institute of Chicago	University of Massachusetts Boston
Art Center College of Design +	CSU Stanislaus	Louisiana State University	Scripps College +°	University of Miami +°
Babson College +	Dakota State University	Loyola Marymount University +^*°	Seattle University	University of Michigan +^*°
Bard College	Dalhousie University	Loyola University Chicago	Skidmore College	University of Minnesota
Bard College Berlin	Dartmouth College *	Loyola University New Orleans °	Smith College°	University of Mississippi
Barnard College ^*°	Denison University	Macalester College	Southern Methodist University ^*°	University of Missouri
Bates College	DePaul University	Marist College	Spelman College	University of Nevada
Baylor University	Dickinson College	Marymount Manhattan College	Stanford University +^*	University of New Hampshire
Belmont University	Drew University	Massachusetts Institute of Technology *	Stevens Institute of Technology +	University of Northern Colorado
Bennington College ^	Drexel University °	McGill University ^	Stonehill College ^	University of Oklahoma
Berklee College of Music	Duke University *	Menlo College	Suffolk University	University of Oregon°
Boston College	Durham University	Miami University	SUNY at Purchase College	University of Pennsylvania *
Boston University +*°	Eastern Michigan University	Michigan State University	Swarthmore College +	University of Pittsburgh *
Bowie State University	Eckerd College	Middlebury College	Syracuse University +^*°	University of Puget Sound
Bradley University	El Camino College +	Montana State University	Temple University	University of Redlands
Brandeis University +	Elon University ^	Mount Holyoke College	Texas A&M University	University of Rhode Island
Briarcliff University	Embry Riddle Aeronautical University ^	Muhlenberg College	Texas Christian University ^°	University of Rochester
Brigham Young University	Emerson College +*	The New School-All Divisions +*	Thomas Jefferson University *	University of San Diego *
Brown University °	Emory University ^	New York University +^*°	Trinity College°	University of San Francisco
Brunel University London	EU Business School - Barcelona	NYU Shanghai *	Trinity College Dublin	University of South Carolina
Bryn Mawr College	Fairfield University *	Northeastern University +^*°	Tufts University *	University of South Florida
Bucknell University	Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising *	Northern Arizona University	Tulane University +^*°	University of Southern California +^*°
Butler University	Fashion Institute of Technology	Northwestern University	United States Naval Academy *	University of St. Andrews ^°
California College of the Arts	Fisher College	Oberlin College ^	University College Dublin^	The University of Tampa
California Institute of the Arts	Florida State University	Occidental College ^*	UC Berkeley *°	The University of Texas at Dallas
California Lutheran University ^	Fordham University°	The Ohio State University	UC Davis *°	The University of Texas at Austin °
Cal Poly Humboldt	Franklin University	Oregon State University	UC Irvine *°	University of Toronto
California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo ^*°	George Mason University	Otis College of Art & Design	UC Los Angeles +^°	University of Utah ^
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona °	The George Washington University	Oxford College of Emory University	UC Merced	University of Vermont
Carleton College +*	Georgia Institute of Technology	Pace University	UC Riverside ^*°	University of Virginia
Carnegie Mellon University	Georgetown University *°	Pennsylvania State University ^	UC San Diego +^	University of Washington +
Case Western Reserve University +	Gettysburg College	Pepperdine University +°	UC Santa Barbara ^*°	University of Wisconsin-Madison +^°
Chapman University *°	Gonzaga University	Pitzer College +	UC Santa Cruz +^*	Vanderbilt University +^*°
Claremont McKenna College	Grinnell College +	Pomona College +°	University of Alabama °	Vassar College *°
Clark University	Hamilton College	Pratt Institute °	University of Arizona	Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University
Clemson University	Harvard University +°	Princeton University	University of British Columbia	Washington State University
Coe College	Harvey Mudd College	Purdue University ^	University of Chicago ^*	Washington University in St. Louis +^°
Colby College °	Haverford College	Queen's University	University of Cincinnati	Wentworth Institute of Technology *
Colgate University +*	Hawaii Pacific University ^	Quinnipiac University	University of Colorado, Boulder +^	Wesleyan University ^*
College of the Holy Cross	High Point University	Reed College +^	University of Colorado, Colorado Springs	Westminster University
Colorado College +^	Howard University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute ^	University of Connecticut	Wheaton College (MA)
Colorado State University (Fort Collins)	Hult International Business School	Rhode Island School of Design *	University of Delaware	College of William and Mary ^
Columbia College Chicago	IE University +	Rhodes College	University of Denver	Whitman College°
Columbia University *	Illinois Institute of Technology	Rice University °	University of Edinburgh	Whittier College
Connecticut College	Indiana State University	Richmond, The American International University in London °	University of Florida	Willamette University *
Cornell University +°	Indiana University Bloomington *	Rider University	University of Glasgow	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
CSU Channel Islands	Indiana University-Purdue U Indianapolis *	Ringling College of Art & Design	University of Hartford	Yale University ^°
CSU Chico	Ithaca College °	Rochester Institute of Technology ^	University of Hawaii at Manoa *	
CSU East Bay	John Cabot University	Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology	University of Houston	
CSU Fresno	Johns Hopkins University	Rutgers University (New Brunswick)	University of Illinois at Chicago	+ Class of 2020 matriculated
CSU Fullerton	Kalamazoo College	Saint Louis University, Madrid +	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign *	^ Class of 2021 matriculated
	Kenyon College *	San Diego State University °	University of Iowa	* Class of 2022 matriculated
		San Francisco State University °		° Class of 2023 matriculated

ACCREDITATION

Buckley is accredited by the Western Association of Schools & Colleges and the California Association of Independent Schools.

MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

A Better Chance, Inc.; Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools; California Interscholastic Federation; Council for Spiritual and Ethical Education; Independent Alliance for Minority Affairs; National Association for College Admission Counseling; National Association of Independent Schools; National Association of Secondary School Principals; One Schoolhouse; The College Board; Western Association for College Admission Counseling.

Buckley abides by NACAC's Guide to Ethical Practice in College Admission.



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