

A

BETTER

WAY

TO

LEARN



THE LEELANAU SCHOOL

COLLEGE PREP BOARDING + DAY SCHOOL





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TO
LEARN

**Our intention is
to always be
a place where:**

Students will be challenged, academically and socially, in order to discover their capacity to innovate and contribute.

Unique talents of each individual are woven into our fabric to benefit the community that is our school.

Personal expression is accomplished in the arts, music, writing, exploration and invention.

Kindness and service are true expressions of wisdom.

Our extraordinary natural environment allows students to explore nature, friendships and their whole self.

We stand by our students' side and not in their way.



Founded in 1929, The Leelanau School is an intentionally small co-ed boarding and day school serving domestic and international students in grades 9-12.

Leelanau's rich supportive environment is a haven for intelligent and creative students, and is particularly beneficial for students with ADHD.

The focus of our school program has always been based in experiential learning.

We offer students an educational experience with a commitment to:

- integrated learning support,**
- individualized attention,**
- small class size, and**
- whole-person wellness.**

Set on 42 wooded acres on the shores of Lake Michigan - Leelanau is a living classroom.



At Leelanau, we value the learning experience differently than many “traditional” settings. We offer an alternative to standardization, large classrooms, narrowing of the curriculum, and competitive assessment. For far too many students in other settings, schooling has become drudgery instead of joy. The notion of producing sameness in national graduates through standardized curriculum and scripted instruction results in dispassion and fails to launch innovators and problem solvers.



3:1
student to teacher
ratio



75%
of faculty have
advanced degrees



1929
our school
was founded

SCHOOL VALUES

AWARENESS

STEWARDSHIP

COURAGE

INTEGRITY

RESILIENCE

LEADERSHIP

INTERCONNECTEDNESS



100%
college acceptance



EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Experiential learning is a process through which students develop knowledge, skills, and values from direct experiences outside a traditional academic setting.

The process of learning through the reflection of doing.

Exploring and experiencing in order to find relevance, authentic engagement, and connection.

It is a cycle of learning with no beginning and no end.



To be successful at our school, students embrace the following:

OPENNESS

to trying new learning methods

CURIOSITY

a sense of belief in yourself

INTUITION

creative problem solving

CONNECTION

to nature

PLAYFULNESS

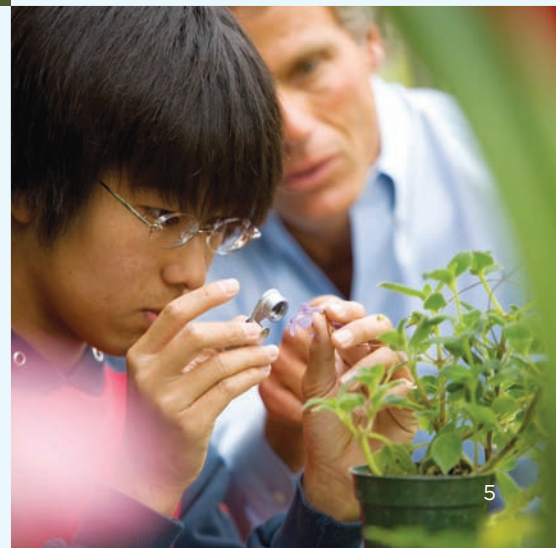
to have fun inside and outside the classroom

“

I would not be where I am today without Leelanau - it made a huge impact on my life.

”

Asaf Fulks, Class of 2000
Music Producer



ACADEMICS

Students are immersed in the learning experience and gain a much deeper understanding of content. Through experiential learning, students are able to analyze what they learn and apply their knowledge to new experiences.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Literature of the Ancients
Modern World Literature
American Protest Literature
The Search for Meaning
Honors Search for Meaning
Senior Seminar

HUMANITIES

Ancient History
Modern World Civilization
American History
American Government

SCIENCES

Biology 1 + 2
Chemistry
Environmental Science
Physics
Astronomy
Anatomy + Physiology

MATHEMATICS

Algebra 1 + 2
Geometry + logic
Math Concepts
Trigonometry + Pre-calculus
Calculus

WORLD LANGUAGE

Spanish 1, 2, 3
Advanced Spanish

CREATIVE ARTS

Creative Writing
Advanced Creative Writing

VISUAL ARTS

Photography 1 + 2
Studio Art Exploration
Applied Design
Beginning + Advanced Pottery

PERFORMING ARTS

Beginning + Advanced Guitar
Performance Band
Physics of Sound
Music Theory
Rock and Roll
Drama



6
average class
size



LEARNING SKILLS CLASSES

We build upon our mission to ignite a passion for learning through academic engagement and the celebration of everyone's unique way of learning. We work to bridge each students' personal gaps to help them find success in our college preparatory curriculum. Students become partners in the discovery of their personal learning profile and fluent self-advocates in preparation for college and beyond.



42

wooded acres on
Lake Michigan



2,500+
alumni



75

minutes per
class



“

I do remember being happy almost from the first day. And then, challenged, feeling accepted, and something within myself arose and I knew that this was not just a boarding school, no, this was something quite extraordinary.

”

Leigh Wilmore, Class of 1965
Travel Agency Owner

ELECTED ACADEMICS

WINTER TERM

This immersive, five week, academic term gives students the opportunity to experience two engaging and exciting courses. This innovative term which allows for in-depth discovery, with only two classes each day, is project-based learning at its best and provides an environment where students can flourish.

CLASS SAMPLING

Domestic &
International Travel

Snow Sports

Lego Mindstorms - Robotics

Winter Ecology

Song Writing

Short Film Making

Math Support

Food Is Love

A Personal Look at WWII

Real-World Communication

Leelanau Revealed: Research
& Publishing

Instrument Exploration

Intro to Psychology

Global Citizenship in the
21st Century



4
years of study
available

50%
maximum financial
aid grant



“ Ever since I came to The Leelanau School, I have never felt so free to be myself, no judgment, but praise. Being around people who all have their own unique qualities really gives me inspiration. ”

Rosa, Class of 2020

FAMILY ADVISORY UNITS (FAU)

Faculty “parents” and mixed age “siblings” create a fun and caring “family” away from home. FAUs interact each day by sharing meals together, participating in activities, going on fun outings, and providing community service. This integrated support system is a long standing tradition and truly adds to the close-knit community that makes Leelanau so special.



8

people in your Family Advisory Unit (FAU)



32

sports and clubs

“

I learned how to take my life into my own hands.

”

Richard, Class of 2019



SPORTS

RECREATIONAL

- Soccer
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Pickleball
- Flag Football
- Kayaking
- Canoeing
- Skiing
- Snowboarding
- Skating
- Swimming
- Snowshoeing
- Horseback Riding
- Biking

COMPETITIVE

- Golf
- Tennis
- Cross Country

BOARDING SCHOOL LIFE

The definition of “parenting” includes guiding, monitoring and ensuring a child’s physical, cognitive, social, and emotional well being. The Leelanau School believes that we all work together as a team to “parent” the students in our care. We take this responsibility very seriously. Consistent communication, promotion of ethical behaviors, and transparency of actions are the foundations we build upon. We strive to work cooperatively with parents for our students’ best interests.

RESIDENTIAL LIFE FACULTY

We do not define a classroom by four walls. The term “school” on our campus encompasses every aspect of a student’s daily life.

Our Residential Life Faculty are integral in each students’ education. Their guidance, friendship, and presence help make Leelanau a home away from home. They also provide a key role in Leelanau’s Life-Skills Curriculum which gives students a distinct advantage in maturity.



“

These teachers loved me like a daughter. They built my confidence to succeed in life. They dedicated their lives to make ours better.

”

Tracey Fitzgerald, Class of 2000
Commercial Real Estate Executive



CLUBS

Community Music

Student Council

Honor Society

Greenhouse

Mentorship

Photography

Songwriting

Ceramics

Theater

Film

Fishing

Fitness

Yoga

Quiz Bowl

H.E.R.O.E.S.



“

An unexpected upside of boarding school is that our son has developed a level of independence and maturity in dealing with social situations that I feel is far beyond those of his peers who attended the local schools. He is comfortable taking on leadership roles, working well with both his fellow students and teachers, and has greater social awareness and presence when dealing with others.

”

Parent of Student, Class of 2019



ADMISSIONS

The search for a new learning environment is a path well traveled. Let us help you simplify the route and define a roadmap to follow for success.

We are transforming education one student at a time.

Students discover and develop their strengths as both students and citizens with the guidance of engaged faculty committed to cultivating a school where students know and embrace themselves as learners - no matter how they learn.

APPLYING

Complete the online application to get the process started.

leelanau.org/admissions/apply-now/

Upon review by the Admissions Committee, we schedule an interview and visit. We look forward to learning more about you.

During the interview, you and your family will experience life at The Leelanau School. Spend a typical school day with us and shadow a student who shares some of your interests.

Don't hesitate to ask for help with any step.

Please contact our Admissions Office at:

admissions@leelanau.org

231.334.5826





FINANCIAL AID

We believe every student deserves a chance to reach their potential. That is why we strive to make Leelanau affordable to any family who feels it is the right fit for their child.

To make the needs-based financial aid application process easier for families, we have partnered with SSS - School & Student Services, a third party online system, to calculate family need.

Eligible families may receive a maximum financial aid grant of 50%. Our goal is to help close the gap between the cost of the school and what a family can afford.



INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

We accept international students from countries all across the globe. Cultural diversity has always been celebrated at our school.

Everyone is welcome on our shore.





A MESSAGE FROM ROB HANSEN

HEAD OF SCHOOL

I am honored to serve you and your children as the Head of School. I understand the sacrifices you make to enable your children to attend Leelanau.

Your children are entitled to the very best methods of instruction, the attention of talented faculty, and a compassionate and responsive staff.

Your child will be challenged with a rigorous and engaging curriculum, encouraged to let curiosity lead learning, and experience a rich residential life with the opportunity to express themselves in a safe and supportive environment.



WE CONSIDER OUR CAMPUS AN

ACTIVE LIVING LEARNING LABORATORY

WHERE STUDENTS CONTINUALLY ARE LEARNING

ABOUT THEMSELVES,

ABOUT THE LIVES OF THOSE AROUND THEM,

AND ABOUT THEIR OWN LEARNING CAPABILITIES.

RECENT COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

Albion College | Alma College
American Academy of Dramatic Arts | Bridgewater | Brown | Carthage College | College for Creative Studies | Colorado Mountain College | Colorado State University | Cornell College | Champlain College | Curry College | Dean College | De Paul University | Dominican University of California | Drew University | Drexel University | Eastern Illinois University | Elon University | Elmhurst College | Green Mountain College | Kalamazoo College | Kenyon College | Lake Superior State University | Lewis and Clark College | Lynn University, MA College Pharmacy Science | Michigan Technological University | Montana State University | Naropa University | Mitchell College | Northern Michigan University | Northland College | Northwestern Michigan College | Ohio State University | Penn State University | Prescott College | Purdue University | Ringling College of Art and Design | Rochester Institute of Technology | San Francisco Music Conservatory | Santa Fe University of Art & Design | Savannah College of Art and Design | Sierra Nevada College | Southern Illinois University | The New School - Eugene Lang | The Art Institute of Chicago | University of Arizona | University of California | University of Cincinnati | University of Illinois | University of Indianapolis | University of Minnesota | University of Vermont | University of Wisconsin | Warren Wilson College | Wayne State University | Western Michigan University | Wheelock College | Woodbury University |



We help find the best fit for each student.

We are proud of our 100% college acceptance rate.

Each year our students gain acceptance into highly regarded colleges and universities, but more importantly they gain acceptance into the right colleges and universities - where they will find success.





THE LEELANAU SCHOOL

Glen Arbor MI USA

231.334.5826

leelanau.org

