



SCHOOL

# 2017 - 2018 SCHOOL PROFILE

FOR COLLEGES

Delaware Valley Friends School is a national leader educating bright students (grades 3-12) with reading, writing and other learning differences. Students receive a comprehensive, evidence-based, college prep curriculum, individualized instruction, cutting-edge assistive technologies, successful college placement, with an emphasis on self-advocacy within a community based on Quaker values. DVFS is an Apple Distinguished School and the only school program in PA, DE and NJ accredited by both IMSLEC and IDA - the leaders in multisensory structured language instruction.

Delaware Valley Friends School, established in 1986, is under the care of the Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends. The program attracts students from independent and public schools in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware. Admission is rolling, and we accept students mid-year.

## THE FRIENDS SCHOOL DIFFERENCE

In keeping with Quaker beliefs and values, the School fosters a desire to learn, a spirit of creativity, a strong sense of self-worth, and respect for the worth of others. We believe that each student comes to us with unique personal gifts. The Quaker approach to education celebrates the individual - encouraging students to maximize their potential to learn, build self-esteem, and come to appreciate their unique differences. These values ensure an environment that is simultaneously nurturing, supportive and academically challenging. Delaware Valley Friends School is a member of the Friends Council on Education, which includes 81 member schools, among the most respected group of day, boarding, general and specialized schools in the USA.

## STUDENT PROFILE

Delaware Valley Friends school welcomes college-bound students in grades 3 - 12 with learning challenges, particularly in reading (dyslexia), writing (dysgraphia), math (dyscalculia), memory (long-term and working), auditory processing, and processing speed. We also support students with ADHD, executive functioning challenges, and non-verbal learning disabilities.

## ADOLESCENT LITERACY PROGRAM

Our proprietary Adolescent Literacy Program is founded upon the principles of Orton-Gillingham instruction and provides a research-based multisensory, structured, systematic, phonics-based curricular approach that is both prescriptive and diagnostic, allowing lessons to be tailored to each unique child. Our program is the **only one** in the region accredited by both IMSLEC and IDA (the national leaders in multisensory structured language instruction) for teaching excellence, and we are the **only** school accredited to teach this method to our own teachers as well as those from other public and private schools. Teachers receive training in these methods to insure consistent approaches to language use and instruction across the entire curriculum.



*DVFS does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, or on the basis of national or ethnic origin, in admissions and financial programs, in the administration of its educational program or in employment policies.*

## LOWER SCHOOL (Grades 3-5)

Our Lower School Program emphasizes executive function support, a multisensory approach to math instruction, a flexible and dynamic Orton-Gillingham based reading program, expository writing instruction, and plenty of opportunities throughout the curriculum for creative, hands on problem solving and fun -- all of which develop the foundational skills skills required for success in our college preparatory curriculum the later grades.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL (Grades 6-8)

The Middle School Program at Delaware Valley Friends combines the highest standards in adolescent education with the best practices in teaching students with language-based learning differences. Middle school emphasizes skills-based learning, executive functioning and study skills. Students learn strategies and skills across the curriculum which they can apply to more rigorous content in high school.



## UPPER SCHOOL (Grades 9 - 12)

Delaware Valley Friends Upper School program offers a robust college preparatory curriculum within a learning environment specifically designed for students with language-based learning disabilities. Our small class sizes, innovative teaching techniques grounded in the Orton-Gillingham approach and latest LD research, and use of state-of-the-art technologies to help guide and support students through the challenging academic curriculum. Upper school students become strong self-advocates - able to both understand and articulate the tools and strategies that work best. DVFS graduates attend a variety of colleges, including four-year programs and top art and culinary schools.

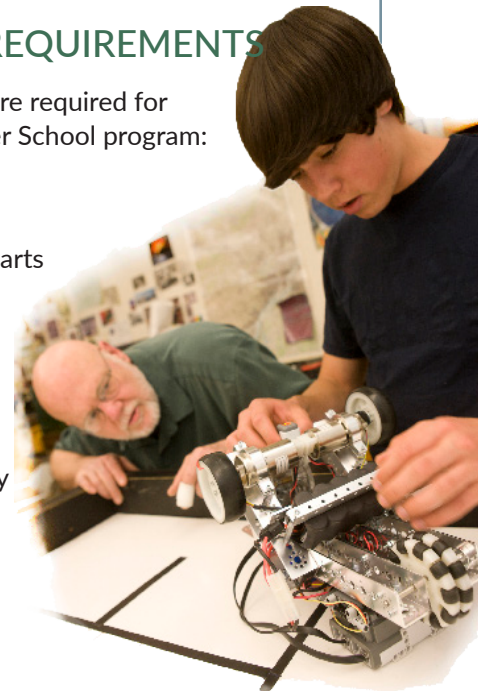
## CURRICULUM

Students follow a balanced curriculum encompassing English, Social Studies, Science, Mathematics, and the Arts. The inclusion of skills instruction across the curriculum stands out among our school's defining strengths and makes for a completely different learning experience than students receive when skills-building is addressed only in Language Arts classes or tutoring sessions.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The following courses are required for completion of the Upper School program:

- 4 years of English
- 3 years of language arts
- 4 years of social studies
- 3 years of mathematics
- 3 years of laboratory science
- 4 semesters of fine arts electives
- Health
- Community Service
- Senior Internship
- 1 ABE (Adventure Based Learning Experience) elective
- Physical Education (via Athletics; students may earn PE credits outside of DVFS)



## STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Following a Quaker model, students govern the school using an organized committee system and consensus-based decision making. Leadership opportunities in the various committees provide students with an opportunity to set procedures and policies, organize community and social events, and work collaboratively with peers and teachers to oversee student life at DVFS.



## OUR STUDENTS

### QUICK FACTS

- 29 students in grade 12
- 180 students, grades 3-12
- 66% male; 34% female
- Student:Faculty ratio 4:1
- 30% Students of color
- 64% Receive some form of tuition assistance
- DVFS serves students from 41 school districts

## SCHOOL YEAR

Three trimesters, September to June

**CEEB CODE: 390483**



## ABLE PROGRAM

(ADVENTURE BASED LEARNING EXPERIENCE)

Delaware Valley Friends' unique ABLE program takes our students out of the classroom and into the world to learn the critical skills of teamwork, self-sufficiency and leadership. ABLE has taken our students to Peru for mountain climbing and hiking adventures, to Florida and the Chesapeake for sailing, to Canada for canoeing, and most recently on a service trip to India. There are opportunities for local activities, such as backpacking, cross-country skiing or bicycling in New York and Maryland, and high ropes and rock climbing courses.

## SERVICE LEARNING

Students participate in and often design a number of community service projects – from food and clothing drives to volunteering with charitable organizations. These experiences foster empathy, respect for others, and a sense of community – all in keeping with the Quaker values and character of DVFS. Service learning is a required component in the curriculum.



## GRADING SYSTEM

A 93-100 (4.0)	A- 90-92 (3.67)	
B+ 87-89 (3.33)	B 83-86 (3.0)	B- 80-82 (2.67)
C+ 77-79 (2.33)	C 73-76 (2.0)	C- 70-72 (1.67)
D+ 67-69 (1.33)	D 63-66 (1.0)	D- 60-62 (0.67)

NC = below 60 (no credit)

To confer one unit of credit, a class meets 5 times per week for 2 semesters.

## GRADE POINT AVERAGE AND CLASS RANK

GPA is calculated on an unweighted 4.0 scale. DVFS does not rank students.

## STANDARDIZED ADMISSIONS TEST SCORES

DVFS does not record the results of SAT/ACT exams on transcripts.

*DVFS is a member of NACAC and complies with the NACAC Statement of Principles of Good Practice.*



**KIRK SMOTHERS**  
*Head of School*

**DAVID CALAMARO**  
*Associate Head of School;  
Academic Dean*

**HALLIE CIARLONE**  
*Director of College Counseling*  
610-640-4150 x2040  
hallie.ciarlone@dofs.org



# Delaware Valley Friends School students (2014-2017) have been accepted to these colleges and universities. (Indicates recently matriculated by DVFS graduates.)

Adelphi University  
 The University of Alabama  
**Albright College**  
 Alfred University  
 Allegheny College  
**American University**  
 Arcadia University  
 Automotive Training Center  
**Bard College**  
 Bloomsburg University  
 Borough of Manhattan  
 Community College  
**Bryn Athyn College**  
**Cabrini College**  
 California University of PA  
**Catholic University of America**  
 Champlain College  
**College of Charleston**  
**Chestnut Hill College**  
 Cheyney University  
**Clark University**  
 Clarkson University  
 Clemson University  
 Cleveland Institute of Art  
 Coastal Carolina University  
 Colby-Sawyer College  
**Columbia College Chicago**  
 Columbus College of Art & Design  
**Community College  
 of Philadelphia**  
 The Culinary Institute of America  
 Curry College  
 University of Dallas  
**Dean College**  
**Delaware College of Art & Design**  
**Delaware County Community  
 College**  
**Delaware Valley University**  
**University of Delaware**  
 University of Denver  
**DeSales University**  
 Dickinson College  
**Drexel University**  
**Earlham College**  
**East Stroudsburg University**

Eckerd College  
**Elizabethtown College**  
 Embry-Riddle Aeronautical  
 University  
 Fairleigh Dickinson University  
**Fiorello H. LaGuardia  
 Community College**  
**Flagler College**  
 Florida Atlantic University  
 Florida Southern College  
**Franklin and Marshall College**  
 Franklin University Switzerland  
 Furman University  
 Gannon University  
**Goucher College**  
**Hampshire College**  
**Hampton University**  
 Harcum College  
 University of Hartford  
**High Point University**  
 Hofstra University  
**Immaculata University**  
 Indiana University at Bloomington  
 Indiana University of Pennsylvania  
 Iona College  
**Ithaca College**  
**Jean Madeline Aveda Institute**  
**Johnson and Wales University**  
**Juniata College**  
**Kean University**  
 King's College  
 Kutztown University  
 La Salle University  
**Landmark College**  
 Lebanon Valley College  
 Lesley University  
 Lincoln University  
 Lock Haven University  
 Louisiana State University  
**Loyola University Maryland**  
 Loyola University New Orleans  
 Lycoming College  
 Lynchburg College  
**Lynn University**  
 University of Maine

Marist College  
 University of Maryland  
**Maryland Institute College of Art**  
 Massachusetts College of  
 Art & Design  
**McDaniel College**  
 Mercyhurst College North East  
 Messiah College  
**Millersville University**  
**Misericordia University**  
 Mitchell College  
**Monmouth University**  
**Montgomery County  
 Community College**  
 Moore College of Art & Design  
 Moravian College  
 Morehead State University  
 Morgan State University  
 Mount Aloysius College  
 Mount Ida College  
 Mount Saint Mary's University  
**Muhlenberg College**  
 Neumann University  
 University of New Orleans  
**Otterbein University**  
**Pace University**  
**Paris Junior College**  
 Pennsylvania Academy  
 of the Fine Arts  
**Pennsylvania College of  
 Technology**  
**Pennsylvania State University**  
**Philadelphia University**  
 University of Pittsburgh  
 Purdue University  
 Randolph College  
 University of Richmond  
**Rider University**  
**Ringling College of Art & Design**  
 Roanoke College  
 Robert Morris University  
 Rochester Institute of Technology  
**Roger Williams University**  
 Rollins College  
**Rosemont College**

Rowan University  
 Saint Joseph's University  
 Saint Leo University  
 Santa Fe University of Art & Design  
**Savannah College of Art & Design**  
 School of Visual Arts  
 University of the Sciences  
**The University of Scranton**  
 Seton Hall University  
 Seton Hill University  
**Shippensburg University**  
 Southwestern University  
 Spelman College  
 Springfield College  
 St. Mary's College of Maryland  
 Stevenson University  
 Stockton University  
 Susquehanna University  
**Syracuse University**  
 The University of Tampa  
**Temple University**  
**The Restaurant School,  
 Walnut Hill College**  
 Towson University  
 Trinity College  
**The University of the Arts**  
 Ursinus College  
 Virginia Commonwealth University  
 Virginia Tech  
 Wagner College  
 Warren Wilson College  
 Washington and Jefferson College  
**Washington College**  
 Wentworth Institute of Technology  
 Wesley College  
**West Chester University**  
 West Virginia Wesleyan College  
**Whittier College**  
 Widener University  
 Wilmington College  
 Wofford College  
 Xavier University  
**York College of Pennsylvania**



**dvfs.org**

UNLOCKING THE POWER TO LEARN®

610.640.4150

19 E. Central Avenue, Paoli, PA 19301

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@DVFSchool

@DVFSCollege