• 10 student residences
• 135-acre campus
• 201 boarding students, 199 day students
• 1793 LA was founded in the beautiful town of Groton, Mass.
One of the oldest independent schools in the United States, Lawrence Academy, founded in 1793, is situated on 135 acres in picturesque Groton, Mass. Just 35 miles northwest of Boston, in the heart of New England, LA is home to 400 students, over half of whom live on campus in 10 student residences. Each day, our bustling community comes alive as our vibrant population of learners and educators delves into a rigorous academic curriculum, an award-winning arts program, championship athletics, and an expansive array of extracurricular offerings — each an important facet of a comprehensive college preparatory experience.

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Omnibus Lucet
“The Light Shines For All”

Lawrence Academy recognizes you for who you are and inspires you to take responsibility for who you want to become.
• 5:1 student-to-faculty ratio
• 266 academic course offerings
• 51% of students enrolled in Honors courses
• 13 students in an average-sized class
A Distinct Educational Experience

At Lawrence Academy, students learn with and from some of the most talented and diverse students and faculty in the world. With 80 faculty members and a 5:1 student-to-faculty ratio, students have trusting relationships and an open dialogue with mentoring faculty members who support self-discovery and risk-taking. In addition to the courses required for graduation, LA students are encouraged to expand their knowledge base and explore new areas of study with elective offerings, including classes in astronomy, forensics, ancient Greek history, the Assassination of JFK, animal behavior, and anatomy.
A Deeper Understanding

Lawrence Academy’s curriculum is designed to meet our students where they are — in terms of their breadth of knowledge and their depth of understanding — as well as provide the support they need to broaden and deepen their understanding of the world.

Framed by the belief that intelligence is not fixed, our courses take into account that learning is driven by our students’ interests; that knowledge and skills are learned when they are needed; and that meaning is derived through experience. Consequently, each course has the capacity to evolve in response to the students in the room and their engagement with particular facets of a subject.

Our curriculum also places the students at the center of the classroom experience by enabling them to collaborate with others as they mature into confident, self-aware problem-solvers who experience education as a means to realize their individual potential.
“I learned so much in my classes at LA. The lessons were inspiring. I found true connections between my teachers, the assignments, and myself.”

“I chose Lawrence because I saw so many opportunities for personal growth.”

“Being able to express yourself is among the greatest skills you can acquire while going through high school and into college.”
Guidance, Motivation, and Friendship

At the heart of Lawrence Academy’s student support structure is the advisor system. Formally, advisors monitor students’ welfare and academic progress; serve as the chief channel of communication between school and family; and approve course selections and travel plans. However, for many students, their advisor becomes a trusted friend, a guide through the challenges of daily life, and a motivator who applauds success while pushing students to meet their full potential. Students begin each school day by spending time with their advisor, either during a 15-minute small-group meeting on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, or by touching base and sitting together during the all-school assemblies held on Monday and Friday.

“Advisory has really helped me. Being in an advisor group has shown me how others approach different aspects of school, and it has helped broaden my view of what I can do at Lawrence. I get to learn about their lives and build relationships with others that will extend beyond Lawrence Academy.”
- 25 student-led clubs
- 6 hours of community service required per year
- 12 activities on an average weekend
- 6 to 8 outside speakers invited each year to educate and entertain
- 15% international students
Residential Rapport

Dorm life at LA teaches the value of cooperation, compromise, and self-reliance. Teachers provide care, structure, and supervision in LA’s dormitories, while student proctors provide peer leadership, creating an enjoyable experience that builds close relationships between students and faculty.

“It’s really cool to be able to live with your teachers and go into the dining hall for meals and see teachers eating with their students.”
“The purpose of art, in this case dance, is to help us STOP and look more closely at ourselves and the world in which we live.”
The Arts at LA

The arts are an integral part of the curriculum at Lawrence Academy, and the Arts Department invites students to discover and express what they feel and think about the world while teaching them the interpretive, technical, and expressive skills needed to create meaningful works of art.

LA offers varied and sequential programs on multiple levels in dance, music, theatre, and the visual arts that encourage young artists to find their own “voices” — their unique artistic and intellectual identities — and to use those voices and their own experiences to create original art. Students are encouraged to take risks; to become creative problem-solvers; to respond emotionally and thoughtfully to the work of other artists; and to develop the techniques necessary to communicate their ideas artistically.
“At first I didn’t understand why we had art requirements. I now realize how my art courses have opened my eyes to a more creative way of thinking.”

“Theatre allows you to step into the role of another person, which really helps you to understand and empathize with people around you.”
Alumni and the Arts

• Spencer Tompkins ’74 – Fine Arts Consultant and Collector, New York City
• Katherine Moore ’06 – Freelance Artist, Boston
• Nathan Brescia ’05 – Freelance Photographer, Boston
• Sheila Nugent ’85 – Director of Retail Consulting and Talent Acquisition, Nelson Street Partners, New York City
• Myles Kane ’97, Filmmaker, Brooklyn
• Piper Marshall ’03, Art Historian and Curator, New York City
• 100% of students participate in a sport or activity each afternoon
• 30 after-school activities, including theatre and dance
• 47% of students participate in theatre or dance productions
• 5 lessons taught in team sports: sportsmanship, teamwork, physical fitness, sacrifice, and leadership
Active Afternoons

Athletics are an extension of the educational process at Lawrence Academy. One hundred percent of students participate in a sport or activity each afternoon; in addition to team sports on the intramural, JV, and varsity levels, theatre, dance, the outdoors program, and stage crew are popular options and meet sports requirements.

LA fosters a competitive, skill-based athletic environment that encourages and allows our students to reach their athletic potential. Spartans sports teams compete in the 16-school Independent School League (ISL), the members of which share a common philosophy that highlights positive competition and sportsmanship.

No matter a student’s chosen sport or activity, Lawrence Academy offers opportunities for the individual and the team to set and meet high standards.
“It was more like a family than a team... We are all in it together, whether we win or lose.”

“This winter, I decided to play JV hockey, just to try it out. Lawrence offers many opportunities for you to go out of your comfort zone and really push yourself.”
“To love the game beyond the prize...”

Regardless of experience, ability or goals, there is a place for everyone within Lawrence Academy’s vibrant athletic program. LA offers a range of sports at several levels, giving students the opportunity to compete intensely in their favorite sport or try one that is totally new, under the supervision and leadership of coaches who will help them improve their skills.

Students who have already risen to an elite level in an individual sport not offered at Lawrence — for example, figure skating or horseback riding — may be given permission to pursue that sport as an “independent.”
• 100% of the student body participates
• 32 courses offered
• 65% will travel outside of the U.S.
• 2-week long Winterim sessions
Winterim: Immersive Education

For two weeks in March, the entire Lawrence Academy community shifts its focus from the regular academic routine to intensive courses collectively dedicated to experiential learning, known as Winterim. In small groups of 8 to 16, students and teachers immerse themselves in the world outside of the classroom.

Each year, about half of the LA population leaves campus to explore the people, art, or environs of an American or international location, while others choose to remain on campus to devote themselves to community service or a specific skill or project in the Greater Boston area.

Whether building a school for a village in the Dominican Republic, kayaking and snorkeling in the Caribbean, or volunteering at Head Start in Lowell, Mass., students pick their passions at home or abroad and push themselves to learn about, discover, and understand the world around them.
Extracurricular Breadth

Extracurricular activities are an essential part of the Lawrence Academy experience: They enable students to become active participants in the life of the school and to build relationships with fellow students and faculty and staff members.

“Being involved in community service was an eye-opening experience for me. We renovated a house for a family and saw their happy faces when we were done with the project — it was amazing!”

“The school newspaper is called the Spectrum here at LA. My freshman year, I was able to get involved right away writing for the paper, and by sophomore year, I was a co-editor.”
The college counselors at LA guide you through every step of the college application process. They break down the process into deadlines and keep track of your progress throughout your junior and senior years. Personally, my college counselor helped simplify the process and made applying to college significantly less stressful.”

**The Right Fit**

Your college counselor gets to know you as a person, as a student, and as a member of the Lawrence Academy community. Consistent with Lawrence’s student-centered educational philosophy, the College Counseling Office works to help each student identify colleges that fit his or her individual academic, extracurricular, and personal talents. At Lawrence Academy, we begin working with students during the fall term of their junior year. We counsel each student and his or her family in one-on-one sessions, meetings, group gatherings, and through written correspondence home.