

International Community School Profile 2008-2009

International education producing a global perspective



The International Community School (ICS) is a public school born of community action in which parents and educators came together in 1997 to create and support a small, academically rigorous, secondary program with a strong international focus producing global awareness. Admission is available equally to all Lake Washington students through a blind lottery.

Dr. Chip Kimball, Superintendent

Cindy Duenas, Principal

Kathy Comeau, Academic Counselor

Lili Hughes, Office Manager

Six-year public school

Grades 7—12

Enrollment: 380; Placement by lottery

Senior Class Size: 51

Curricula

ICS has distinguished itself through an intensive sequential six-year study. Core classes, Art, Humanities, and International Studies, are interwoven throughout the curriculum yearly and developed to offer students integrated, thematic learning communities. Each part of the curricula builds upon mastery of previous teaching and each year students bring a strong foundation with them to their new studies. ICS promotes mastery through an intellectually dynamic learning environment where high achievement flourishes. The climate at ICS is one of high academic and behavior standards for all students. Round table discussions and project-based work cultivate a challenging and mindful education. *ICS maintains three goals: educating students by involving them in rigorous and integrated curricula; challenging students to become active participants in their education; empowering students to push the limits of their education by personalizing the internal structure of the school and the learning process.*

- Electives are available to students beginning in levels 4 and 5 (10th and 11th grades).
- Humanities and International Studies courses are required from level 1 (7th grade) — level 6 (12th grade).
- Students take a minimum of Spanish through level 4 (10th grade).
- Students take a minimum of two years of high school Math.
- Students are required to take one year of each Science: Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Earth Science
- Art is required through level 5 (11th grade).
- Beginning in level 4 (10th grade) all classes are Honors or AP.
- ICS operates on the quarter and semester system and all classes meet a minimum of four times per week.

Grading and Advanced Courses

Faculty

Of the 21 certified staff members, 95% have earned masters, specialists, or doctoral degrees.

A	90—100	4.0-3.7
B+	89—87%	3.6-3.3
B	86—83%	3.2-3.0
B-	82—80%	2.7-2.9
C+	79—77%	2.6-2.3
C	76—73%	2.2-2.0
C-	73—70%	1.9-1.7
NC	69-0%	

Class	Honors/AP/Level
Environmental Science	AP Level 6
Art History & Communication	Honors Level 4
Art in America	Honors Level 5
Studio Art	Honors Level 6
Studio Art 2-D & 3-D Port	Honors Level 6
Humanities: British Lit	Honors Level 4
Humanities: American Lit	Honors Level 5
Humanities: The Life Journey	Honors/AP Level 6
Int'l Studies: World/Amer Hist	Honors Level 4
Int'l Studies: Amer History	Honors Level 5
Int'l Studies: Comparative Gov't	Honors/AP Level 6

Class	Honors/AP/Level
Calculus AB	AP Level 6
Advanced Algebra	Honors Level 4
Math Analysis	Honors Level 5
Spanish	Honors Level 4
Spanish	AP Level 5
Chemistry	Honors Level 4
Biology	Honors Level 5
Biology	AP Level 5
Physics	Honors/AP Level 6
Bio Technology	College Credit Level 6
Chemistry	AP Level 6
Criminal Justice	College Credit Level 6
Psychology	Honors Level 6

Recent Test Scores and Graduation Requirements

ICS graduation requirements exceed those of Washington State; ICS students must:

- Pass the Washington Assessment of Student Learning and earn a Certificate of Mastery
- Demonstrate Proficiency in the Advanced Literacy Skill of Communication
- Successfully complete a culminating project
- Earn a passing grade in all required courses at ICS or a replacement accepted by the principal

SAT Reasoning Test 2007-08 for ICS test takers			
Percentile	Critical Reading	Math	Writing
75 th	720	700	720
50 th	640	650	660
25 th	580	580	600

Test - Takers	Critical Reading		Math		Writing	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
ICS 49	650	86	652	86	664	68
WA State 36,306	526	105	533	101	509	100
Total Group 1,518,859	502	112	515	116	494	110

Focus Week

Focus Week (FW) occurs each spring. It is designed to encourage students to explore concepts outside those covered in the classroom—those in the real world. Instructors develop curriculum and begin meeting with their small group by second semester. The outcome of this focused study is a week-long program for students and teachers. Programs range from marine biology aboard a research ship on Catalina Island or the Galapagos Islands, touring of the Gettysburg battlefields, visiting local art galleries or artist lofts, to studying auto mechanics. Whether the destination is Greece, Paris, or a local gourmet kitchen, the students and teachers are working together—to take their learning beyond the classroom walls.

Culminating Project

Each senior spends more than forty hours creating and accomplishing a Culminating Project which he or she will present to a panel of staff and students in the spring. This is an opportunity for each student to find a focus that is significant to them in which they will immerse themselves in their final year at ICS. It is through this project that the student will demonstrate their finest planning, management, and presentation skills. This is where they will show the true depth of their independent study. This is where one of the hallmarks of ICS students—strong leadership and grasp of knowledge—is demonstrated for the upcoming graduating classes.

Community

ICS is located in Kirkland, a small vibrant suburb of Seattle that offers small city intimacy alongside urban diversity and culture. ICS also draws students from Redmond, Sammamish, and Woodinville (known as “The Eastside”). Families grow in close proximity to local legends such as Microsoft, Starbucks, Boeing, etc. This area tends to draw residents who hold advanced degrees and participate in professional and artistic activities. Outdoor life is highly prized and our students participate in a variety of locally sponsored and privately funded sports.

Honors and Awards

U.S. News & World Report ranked ICS #17 of 100 Gold Medal Schools (Dec. 5, 2007)

No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School (2007)

Numerous Math Awards Including: Chapter Mathcounts 1st place team (2003) and 2nd place team (2004); Washington State Math Championship 8th place team (2004); Math is Cool 1st place team 7th grade division (2003)

All 8th grade ICS students participate in History Day Junior Division, resulting in the following honors:

- Best Team Overall Performance (2003); 4th place, Junior Division for writing and performing a play about the court of Henry VIII (2002)
- Best Historical Research Paper in Junior Division: 11th place (national level) for a paper on the Lowell Mill Girls (2002)
- Seven ICS students participated earning the following honors: 3rd place team for a documentary on Pres. Johnson and the Tonkin Gulf Incident; one student placed in the top 15 for her individual performance on the obscenity trial of Allen Ginsberg, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, and the poem, “Howl” (2003)
- History Channel award of a \$5,000 prize to two students for their writing on and enactment of the colonization of the Congo (2003)

Many ICS students elect to participate in History Day as 9th—12 graders resulting in the following honors:

- History Day Senior Division: An ICS freshman placed 12th in the nation for her solo performance on censorship in the USSR (2005)

Chess— tied for 2nd team place in Washington State Junior High School Chess (2003)

Chess— 1st place team in Kingco League (2004); 13th place team in Washington State (2004)

Chess— 4th place team in Kingco League; 11th place team in Washington State (2007)

Future Business Leaders of America—seven students competed in Nationals—6th place team in the nation in Global Business (2008)

FIRST Robotics Tech Challenge (with Redmond High School): Inspire Award (2008), Innovate Award (2008)

ICS’s Music Ensemble (both band and orchestra instruments) consistently achieve Superior and Excellent scores at various regional and district music events. Individual ICS musicians achieve top scores in local, regional, and even state competitions. More than 13% of ICS students participate in the Music Ensemble; more than 16% of ICS students participate in Music Ensemble and Choir.

ICS Students Have Been Accepted to the Following Colleges and Universities

Allegheny College
American University
Arizona State University
Azusa Pacific University
Bellevue Community College
Beloit College
Biola University
Boston University
Bowdoin College
Brooks Institute of Photography
Brown University
Bryn Mawr College
Bucknell University
California College of the Arts
California Institute of Technology
California Polytechnic State University
California State University San Marcos
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve
Cascadia Community College
Central Washington University
Chicago School of the Art Institute
Columbia University, New York
Cornish College of the Arts
Dartmouth College
Dickinson College
Dominican University of California
Duke University
Earlham College
Evergreen State College
Florida Institute of Technology
Franklin College Switzerland
Georgetown University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Gonzaga University
Harvard University
Harvey Mudd

Haverford College
Humboldt State University
Johns Hopkins University
Lake Washington Technical College
Loyola Marymount
Lewis and Clark University
Linfield College
Loyola Marymount University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Mary Washington College
Morningside College
New Mexico Tech
New York University
Northwestern University
Occidental College
Pacific Lutheran University
Pacific University
Parsons New School of Design
Pitzer College
Pomona College
Princeton University
Rhodes College
St. Andrews of Scotland
St. Lawrence University
St. Mary’s College
St. Olaf College
San Francisco State University
Santa Clara University
School of Museum of Fine Arts
Scripps
Seattle Pacific University
Seattle University
Skidmore College
Soka University
South Seattle College
Stanford University
Swarthmore College

Trinity College
University of Arizona
University of British Columbia
Univ. of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of California, L A
Univ. of California, San Diego
Univ. of California, Santa Clara
Univ. of California, Santa Cruz
University of Chicago
University of Denver
University of Montana
Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
University of Oregon
University of Pacific
University of Pennsylvania
University of Portland
University of Puget Sound
University of Redlands
University of San Francisco
Univ. of Southern California
University of Virginia
University of Washington
Vanderbilt University
Vassar College
Washington University, St. Louis
Washington State University
Wellesley College
Wesleyan College
Western Washington University
West Point Academy
Westminster College
Wheaton College
Whitman College
Whitworth University
Willamette University
Whittier College