

UPPER SCHOOL SELF-GUIDED TOUR



Bliss Hall is what can be called the “hub” of Lakeside School. In addition to housing the administrative offices, Bliss is the home of the History and Language departments. On the third floor is the College Counseling Center, a place where all students have access to resources for the college application process. The basement houses the student computer lab nicknamed the Grotto.

History: Built in 1930, Bliss was named after Lakeside’s first headmaster, Charles Bliss. The top floor was (many years ago) used as a rifle range, more recently as the graphics and painting studio. The photography program, which once occupied a large part of the basement, has moved, along with graphics and painting, to the new arts building. The building was extensively renovated in 2010-11.

Allen-Gates, built in 1987, is set up so that all the teachers’ offices are located in the center (the Core) and classrooms occupy the coveted window spaces. The chemistry, physics, and biology classes are located on the first floor, while the second floor is occupied mainly by math classrooms. The building was donated by Bill Gates ’73 and Paul Allen ’71 who asked that the lecture hall be named in memory of their close friend, Kent Evans ’73, who died in a climbing accident during his junior year. Allen-Gates is currently undergoing an update that will add more classrooms and another chemistry lab. This is scheduled to be completed in February 2012.

The **library** is staffed daily from 7:45 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Some facts about our library: we have 26,000 volumes, 125 magazine subscriptions, five local and national newspapers, internet access, tape recorders, CD players, digital cameras, camcorders, video collections and video editing equipment. Part of the lower floor is a silent study area, where students can work without the distraction of excess noise. There is also a classroom where some sections meet for multimedia presentations or discussions. The office of the Summer School Director is located here. In addition there is a large room available for group study or to just hang out. On the second floor, students who wish to discuss their work quietly with others may do so. There is a pleasure-reading section near the entry with recent acquisitions; parents may check out books on their students’ accounts.

Red Square, a focal point of the campus, used to be the driveway and circle for the school buses and carpools. It was paved over with brick when the library was completed in 1978.

McKay Chapel is the home of Lakeside’s music programs. Chorale, Vocal Ensemble, Orchestra, Jazz Band, Drama and Stage Band classes are held in the main chamber. McKay hosts many concerts and art showcases as well as conferences, club meetings, talent shows, and formal gatherings. The lower level of McKay consists of soundproof practice rooms and five pianos.

History: Built in 1950, McKay was used for weekly required prayer services and assemblies during that era. The pews were removed in the early 1970’s when the expanded, newly co-ed school needed more flexible space.

The tombstone on the north side of the Chapel was donated in 1971 by the last all-male class at Lakeside – it represents the burial of male chauvinism at Lakeside. A tree was planted next to the tombstone by the Class of 1972, Lakeside’s first co-ed class, to represent the birth of the new Lakeside and “the flowering of coeducation.” This area, formerly known as the “Senior Circle” and the “Smoking Circle,” was dug up during construction and re-landscaped. The Class of 2000 gave as their class gift the circle of sitting rocks to create a visual reminder of the senior circle that was.

On the upper level of **Pigott Family Arts Center**, which opened in 1998, is the Drawing and Painting space where each student has his or her own easel and the opportunity to paint and draw live models in addition to composed “still life” caches. One floor down is our state-of-the-art photography studio, where students taking photography are free to come in and work on their photos in the lab at any time of the day. Around the corner from the photography labs are the Numidian (school yearbook) and Tatler (school newspaper) workrooms and the home of the Digital Media Arts class, which includes a recording studio. Finally, the basement of Pigott Arts Center is the location of the wonderful ceramics studio and sculpture workshop.

History: The Arts Center is an extensive addition and remodel of McAllister Hall, originally built in 1948 as a recreation house for boarding students and later adapted for other uses: dorm, lower school, faculty housing and math/science center, where it was the site of Lakeside’s first computer.

St. Nicholas Hall was named after the school for girls that merged with Lakeside’s boys’ program in 1971. Once a week the entire school gathers in the auditorium for assembly period, the one time in the week when the entire student body comes together to discuss school-wide issues, to hear important announcements, to listen to outside speakers, and to see student performances. St. Nicholas also houses the drama program, the counseling office and the outdoor program.

History: St. Nicholas School was originally located on Capitol Hill on 10th Avenue East. After Lakeside and St. Nicholas merged, the original St. Nicholas building served as Lakeside's Middle School from 1972 through 1981 and was then occupied by Cornish College of the Arts for a time. Lakeside moved from that building to a Seattle Public School building two blocks south of here, which was abandoned when Haller Lake Elementary closed down in the 1970's. That building was demolished in 1999 and its site is the current 5-acre campus of the Middle School.

Moore Hall is where most of the English classes are held. It was originally a dormitory when Lakeside was a boarding school, and as a result most of the English classes offer a warm, old-fashioned, and closely knit environment. The top floor houses the school's Business Office.

The Wright Community Center (WCC), built in 1998, is named after Howard S. Wright '45. It serves as the central gathering place for students and faculty during their free time and meal times. The facility is open from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. to accommodate students' before- and after-school needs. Students can get waffles in the morning, healthy lunches, and cookies in the late afternoon after sports practices. The WCC is also the location for our campus dances and a place where clubs can meet. Lakeside has a variety of clubs that give students the opportunity to devote time to activities other than sports or academics. Examples are: Science Olympiad, GLOW (Gay, Lesbian, or Whatever), Chess, BSU (Black Student Union), Knowledge Bowl, LAPS (Lakeside Asian Pacific-Islander Students) and Diacritical Political (political debate).

History: The Refectory, housed next to the WCC, was once the dining room for seated meals. No student could leave the table until the entire group was excused by a faculty member. The old kitchen now contains the offices for our Global Programs department. **The Fireplace Room**, where many Parents Association meetings are held, is also located here.

The Parents Association is a very important part of the school, and we have our own building! Our parents and guardians provide tremendous support to the life of the community with their time, energy, and financial contributions. Lakeside School runs the largest annual rummage sale in the state, and it is housed, directed, and coordinated from this site.

History: The PA building was once the infirmary, complete with an 8-bed ward. The nurse's office was where Vonnie Breidenstein, our Volunteer Coordinator, now works. Judy Bauer was the school nurse from 1963 to 1966. One of the school's cooks lived in the lower level. In the 1970s and 1980s the upstairs became a faculty apartment, weight room, ceramics studio and the Business Office. In 1986 the current Rummage Depot was completed, expanding the basement apartment into the current glassware area, kitchen and receiving/sorting area. In 1998 the Business Office moved to its current location on the 3rd floor of Moore and the rest of the upstairs became the PA office.

The **Ackerley Athletics Center** finished a major renovation a number of years ago. There are new pole vault pits both inside and outside, a refinished basketball court, new bleachers and a refurbished Fieldhouse. As you can see in the trophy case, Lakeside students excel in sports as well as in academics. The athletics center includes girls' and boys' locker rooms, a sports medicine room, the PE department faculty offices, a PE classroom, a top-notch weight room, and a cardiovascular workout space.

History: The gym was built along with the other original buildings and was completed in 1931. The Fieldhouse was built in 1978 to allow the PE program to continue during Seattle's rainy winter months. It encloses a huge indoor practice space with a curtain that can be lowered in the middle to allow two practices to go on simultaneously. The weight room was put together by athletic trainer Harry Swetnam; on his death in 1993, it was dedicated and named in his memory (Harry's Place).

The brick wall on the outside of the Fieldhouse was conceived by Lakeside Latin teacher Ken Van Dyke and continued as a tradition due to the dedication of Bill Holt '79. When the building was completed, the first wall of bricks went up under Bill's supervision; he has returned every spring since to help graduating seniors complete and mount their bricks to commemorate their year.

Parsons Field serves as the location for many sports practices including track, cross country, lacrosse, soccer, and football.

The Quad, just east of the field, serves as the location for many school gatherings like BBQs, sports picnics, and our May Day celebration. The trees along the walkway from Bliss to the athletics center were planted in 1976. The campus is very lush compared to when it was first built. The tallest trees along Parsons Field were planted right after the first buildings were built in 1931.

Fix Hall is the location of the office of Admissions and Financial Aid and the Communications Department. A conference room is on the lower level.

History: Built in 1952, Fix was originally the library. When Lakeside merged with St. Nicholas in 1971, it proved to be too small to continue as the library, and was used for classes and meetings for a time.