ACADEMY
of the
SACRED HEART
GRAND COTEAU, LOUISIANA
Boarding
and
Country Day School
for Girls
Founded 1821
HISTORICAL NOTE

Throughout the world—in South America, in Japan, in Australia, in Egypt, in the Belgian Congo and other far-off lands as well as in the United States—the name "Academy of the Sacred Heart" has long been recognized as representing an educational system second to none—an education not only in the traditional, academic sense of the word, but also an education in "living," in culture, in self-discipline, in character, in personality and in faith.

The Society of the Sacred Heart was founded in France in 1800 by St. Madeleine Sophie Barat. Grand Coteau, which holds today the longest record of continuous existence among the 182 Sacred Heart convents throughout the world, was founded in 1821 by Blessed Philippine Duchesne, the first Religious of the Sacred Heart to be sent to this country by its foundress.

Located half way between Opelousas and Lafayette, just one mile off highway 190, the three hundred and fifty-acre campus is famous for its century-old Pine Alley, Oak Grove, and formal gardens, its gigantic azalea bushes and long rows of camellia trees.

Grand Coteau's most illustrious alumna is Aloysia Hardey who became a Religious of the Sacred Heart and founded all the earlier convents of the Order in the New England and central states as well as in the Antilles.

AIM AND SPIRIT OF "COTEAU"

The Academy of the Sacred Heart has one goal definitely in view — to train girls to take their place and hold their own as educated Catholic women in the world of today.

Like all other children of the Sacred Heart, the student at Coteau comes to know personally, through a growth in faith, the God of charity whose love has been revealed in Jesus Christ and in His Heart. The student learns to respond to this love by fidelity in giving herself wholly to every duty. She trains herself to be, in a spirit of charity, a witness to Him by a genuine and dynamic Christian life. She receives an education serious in its principles, strong in its studies and rich in a spirit of love and of life. The spirit at Coteau is essentially homelike and the bond between the Religious and their pupils is strong and lasting.

STUDIES

The studies are serious and strong. The children are followed up individually and the parents are kept in touch with their progress by means of reports sent home quarterly. The school is recognized by the Board of Education of the State of Louisiana, is a member of the Southern Association of Secondary Schools and is affiliated with the Catholic University of America.

Emphasis is laid on the classics, history, philosophy and literature. Mathematics, science and modern languages as well as the practical and fine arts are encouraged as means of preparing for life interests and duties.
THE ACADEMIC CURRICULUM

The curriculum meets the full college entrance requirements in this country and abroad. The testing program includes examinations of the oral and written types, the essay and objective types. Mental ability, achievement and aptitude tests are given to each child at registration. Her scholastic progress is carefully followed and checked every week by tests, conferences and other devices.

The requirements for the Academic Diploma are:

English
4 credits
History
4 credits
Latin
2 credits
French
2 credits
Mathematics
2 credits
Science
2 credits

The General Diploma will be given to those students who have been able to meet the state requirements for high school graduation. Each one must follow the Religion and English classes for four years. Electives are: Art Appreciation, Music Appreciation, Speech, Typing, General Mathematics and Business Mathematics.

THE PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT

In the Preparatory department firm foundations are laid in Christian Doctrine, grammar, reading, spelling and arithmetic. Every effort is made to develop the child's ability to express herself in writing, to read intelligently and widely according to her age, and to learn the elements of history and geography. French is taught in the four Preparatory classes (Fifth to Eighth grades). Classes are also offered in art, singing and sewing. Correct and fundamental principles in these branches are insisted upon from the very beginning.

In both departments, the Academic as well as the Preparatory, the enrollment is limited, so that small classes may afford a maximum of individual attention.

ATHLETICS

Extensive grounds and a large gymnasium offer every facility for many types of sport. A very complete athletic program is designed to promote physical health, athletic ability and good sportsmanship. Classes are taught by a fully accredited coach.

GUIDANCE

The whole character training program is considered the most important phase of education in schools of the Sacred Heart. Each child is studied and developed according to her own talents and abilities and is made to feel her personal responsibility for the opportunities which God has given her. Through group activities and personal guidance, individual capabilities and possibilities are studied with a view to their best development.
THE SCHOOL DAY

As the school is essentially for boarding students, it boasts the advantage of a well-balanced program of spiritual, intellectual, and social activities. The day begins with Holy Mass, breakfast, recreation. An hour’s supervised study precedes the first class period. Supervised recreation, study, and library periods are interspersed throughout the day. An activity period for club meetings or school projects is part of the daily schedule, as is also the sports period. The students have a necessary period of rest and relaxation before the evening meal which they enjoy together in true family spirit. Recreation and evening prayers complete the day.

For Preparatory day students and boarders alike, classes begin at 8:40 A.M. and end at 4:30 P.M. Their program also includes athletics, singing and activity periods. Classes in art and sewing which are given in the evening are reserved for the boarding students.

ACTIVITIES

Cultural lectures, musicales and literaires find place in extra-curricular activities. There are opportunities for joining the Glee Club, Mission Club, Art Club and other organizations. Those with a flair for writing are invited to lend their talent to the school newspaper which is a project of the students themselves. Literary contests and classes in literary criticism in which students submit their own work are held several times a year. Those with artistic ability are encouraged to exhibit their work in local art shows and in the end-of-year school exhibit. Students of music have their own recitals, and once a year they have the opportunity of playing before competent critics at a nearby university. Plays and other dramatic representations offer opportunities for the development of talent, poise, good taste and creative expression.

TRADITIONS OF THE SACRED HEART

Through various means the Religious exercise a Mother’s care for the spiritual life of each child. The highest ideals are placed before the child in devotion to the Sacred Heart and to Mater Adnabilis. Membership into three Sodalities is offered during the span of the school year, admission depending upon desire and merit. Ribbons of Merit are awarded for conduct, leadership and character according to the votes of the children, ratified by those of the Religious.

Every week each child personally receives a card indicating her record. At this formal Assembly, traditionally known as “Primes,” medals are also given for outstanding achievement and effort in the academic subjects as well as in courtesy and neatness.

Children of the Sacred Heart hold to their name. It is a family name. It stands for a tradition more than a century and a half old, a tradition which they themselves will hand on. Others know them, and they recognize each other, by a family likeness which is more than a name.
Wherever she finds a house of the Sacred Heart upon her road, the child of the Sacred Heart is at home, since all form but one great family. She will find Mothers there, and receive from them the truest interest and the strongest affection. She will also find that each house is a center where other children of the Sacred Heart work together to help each other in the pursuit of all that is good.