

Powered by
People





YOU belong here.

A school built around community

Founded as a coeducational institution in 1865, Cushing Academy is the oldest continuously coeducational boarding school in New England. From the beginning, Cushing has built a supportive community that empowers students in all aspects of their lives, creating a foundation for a lifetime of independence, learning, and the pursuit of excellence.



At Cushing Academy, there isn't a specific person that you should be. Rather, our goal is to help you become the best version of yourself. Because of that philosophy, our students are diverse. They are scholars *and* artists *and* athletes. They come from across the country and around the world. And each student brings their own unique hopes, dreams, talents, and ambitions.

Like you, we believe in the power of each person's potential. That's why our faculty and students can't wait to get to know **YOU**. As soon as you step on campus, you're greeted with warm smiles from future friends. We know that believing in one another is at the heart of forming a strong community.

Come to Cushing, and you'll quickly see what we mean.

Grades
9-12
+ Postgraduate

390
students from
28 states +
31 countries

30%
of our
students are
international

96%
of Cushing
students live
on campus

62
miles from
Boston

"I have grown so much

as a person at Cushing."

→ Austin Herrera

Junior from Orange, New Jersey

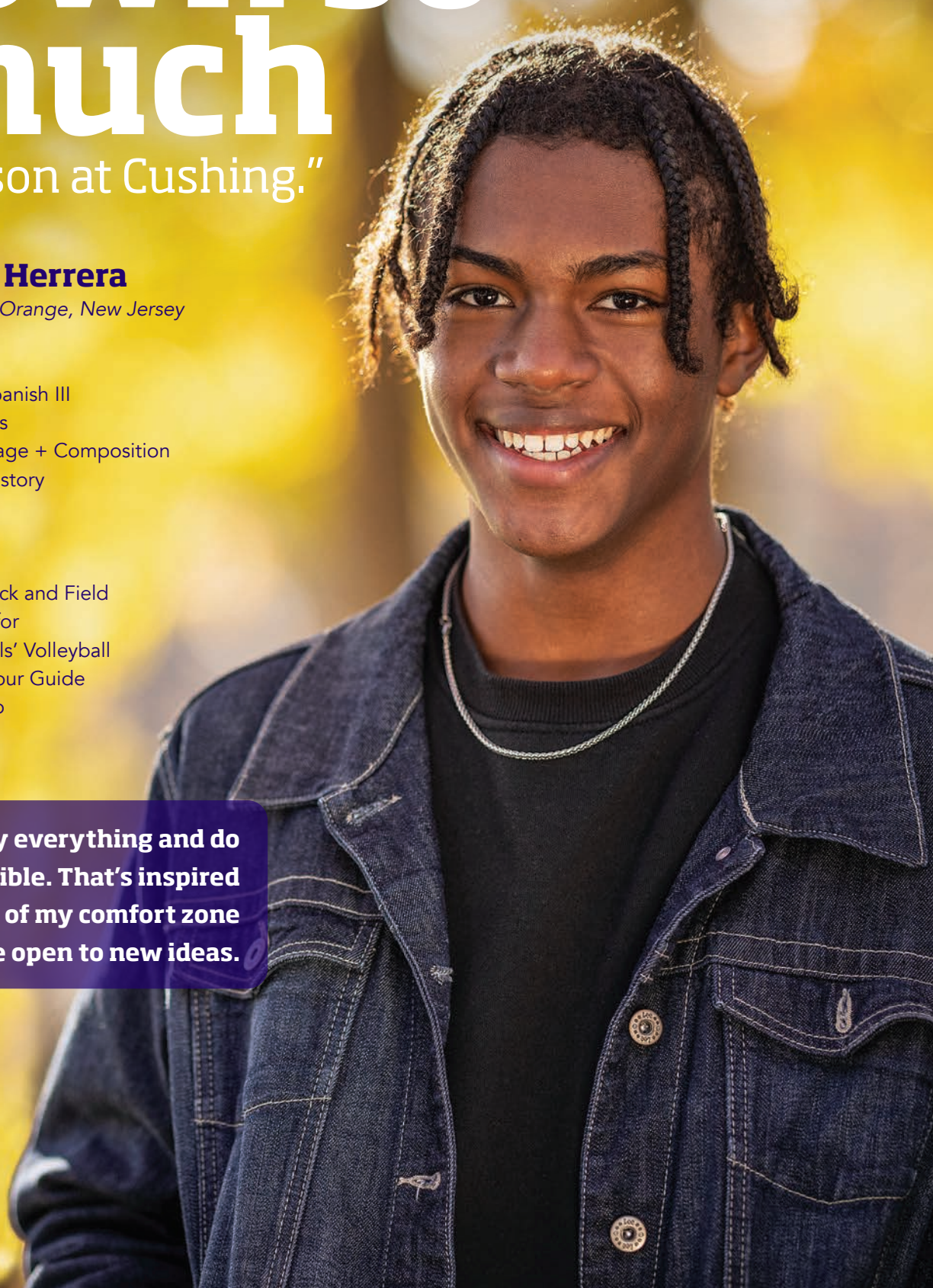
Classes

- › Honors Spanish III
- › Precalculus
- › AP Language + Composition
- › AP U.S. History
- › Physics

Activities

- › Varsity Track and Field
- › Manager for Varsity Girls' Volleyball
- › Student Tour Guide
- › TEDx Club

“ I want to try everything and do as much as possible. That's inspired me to step out of my comfort zone and be more open to new ideas.





Surrounding myself with friends

"Coming to Cushing has broadened my perspective. I've met people from all over the world and made a lot of good friends here. I enjoy talking with my friends about our different experiences and perspectives. The people with whom I've surrounded myself are an important part of my growth."

Academics that engage

"The teachers at Cushing are very supportive. They've helped me choose the right classes to challenge myself and have really shaped the way I look at writing. I like that there is a lot of discussion in classes, and I've grown a lot in my ability to analyze information and in my public speaking skills."



Transformative opportunities

"With all the opportunities at Cushing, I want to try everything and do as much as possible. That's inspired me to step out of my comfort zone and be more open to new ideas. I've worked a lot on my public speaking and now am a student tour guide. Last year, I was part of a virtual panel talking to new students. It was really fun sharing my experience with all those people."

Parent Perspective

"Cushing is like a home away from home for Austin. The Cushing family helped him realize that he can be who he wants to be. He is strong, independent, and he knows what he wants." —**Ngina Thompson**



Powered by Place



Close to Boston

Our students appreciate convenient access to Boston's Logan International Airport, plus organized day trips to Boston and other New England attractions.



Unparalleled facilities in an **ideal location**

Everything students need to balance academics, athletics, arts, and social activities is right here.

Thanks to ongoing investment, Cushing continues our 150-year educational tradition on a 21st-century campus that blends historic architecture with state-of-the-art facilities for academics, arts, and athletics. In addition, Cushing is located in a picturesque small town in New England, where students can easily walk into town for ice cream or sushi.

This setting, combined with our dedicated faculty, motivates students to take full advantage of the opportunities at Cushing.

162

acre campus

More than
75%

of Cushing's dorm rooms are new or renovated since 2017, and the residential campus will be fully updated within the next five years.



“Coming to Cushing was the
best decision
I could
have made.”

→ **Lily Stone**

Senior from Westminster, Massachusetts

Classes

- › AP Psychology
- › AP Biology
- › AP Spanish Language
- › AP Literature + Composition
- › Honors Calculus
- › Private Lessons (Guitar)
- › Independent Study:
Decolonization + Anti-Racism

Activities

- › Co-Student Body President
- › Proctor
- › Captain of Varsity Girls' Soccer
- › Varsity Girls' Basketball
- › Varsity Girls' Lacrosse
- › TEDx Club



Excelling in the classroom

"I took Honors Calculus because I like to challenge myself. I appreciated getting extra help from my teacher to break down the difficult concepts, and I did well in that class. That boosted my confidence in math in general. This year I'm excited to take AP Psychology. I've always been interested in how the brain works and now I have a place to funnel that interest."



Winning in every season

"I'm proud to have balanced playing three varsity sports alongside my classes. The core values for my soccer team are effort and attitude. If someone is having a bad day, we help them find something positive to think about and refocus on what they can control. Being an athlete here means having a built-in friendship group, and your teammates always have your back."



Helping others succeed

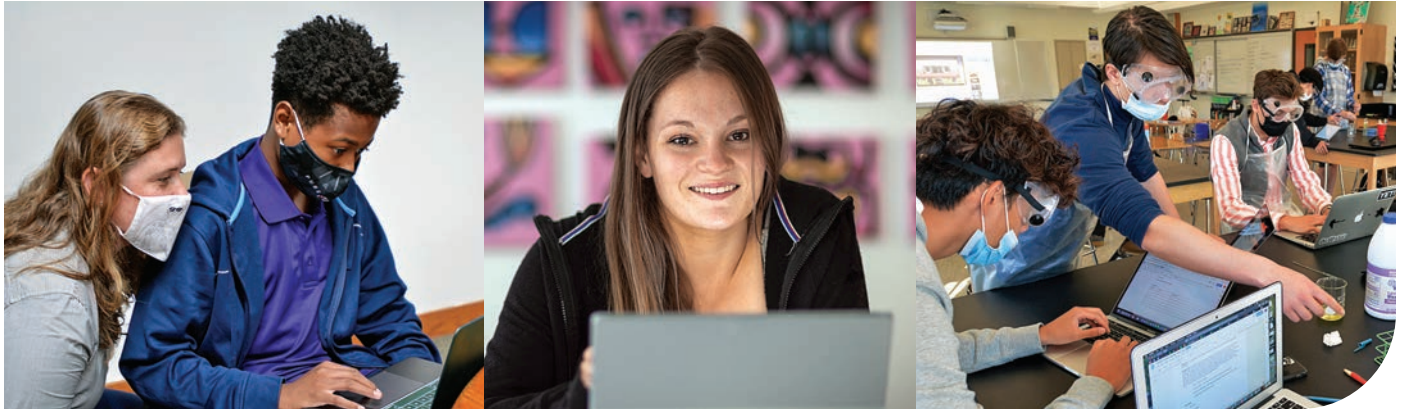
"The TEDx Club helps students develop presentations. We give feedback to speakers about their body language, where to pause for dramatic effect, and what will help their stories be effective. When the event happens, it feels good knowing that people are happy with their speeches and I helped them get there."



Parent Perspectives

"Cushing gave Lily the opportunity to step into leadership roles, and the academic rigor is second to none." —**Christiaan Stone**

"My favorite part about Cushing is how invested every adult on the campus is in the well-being and growth of the students. It's been an amazing experience." —**Angel Stone**



Powered by Collaboration

Everything about Cushing is student-centered

In small classes, Cushing faculty focus on getting to know you as an individual. Advisors help you customize your academic path, choosing from a wide range of options that include foundational courses, plus honors and Advanced Placement classes. Our faculty are experts in finding the balance of challenge and support to maximize each student's growth. We pride ourselves on inspiring students to build the skills and confidence to step into a world in which we are learning all the time.

Academic Support

All Cushing faculty track student progress closely and encourage students to seek extra help as needed during study hours. About 15 percent of Cushing students are enrolled in our Academic Support program, which has served neurodiverse learners successfully for 45 years. These students meet regularly with Academic Support faculty either individually or in small groups. Our six full-time specialists help students capitalize on their strengths and acquire the strategies and self-sufficiency to pursue their goals now and in the future.

Average
class size
12

120
classes to
choose from

36
honors and
AP courses

English as a Second Language

In classes with 10 or fewer students, our dedicated ESL program enhances fluency and builds the research and writing skills required for success in the U.S. educational system. Our summer program offers another opportunity to improve ESL skills.



Inspiring students

"Cushing faculty work intentionally to create classroom spaces where every student feels that what they have to say is valuable. We help students experience success and then leverage that foundation to expand learning. Because faculty interact with students in so many ways—as teachers, coaches, dorm parents, and advisors—we can encourage them to stretch themselves and start to make their own paths."

Why we teach

"My colleagues and I often hear from young alumni who find themselves well prepared to take advantage of an opportunity and connect that readiness to the education they received at Cushing. They reach out to tell us about working with a professor or choosing a career path that reminds them of life lessons they gained here. It's affirming to know that the work we are doing in the present translates into the future."

Lessons for life

"I teach an English seminar that is popular among seniors titled *Recognizing the Call*. We explore how protagonists in coming-of-age novels discover their passions and what they do with that newfound awareness. The seminar resonates with students because it shows how literature is a vehicle for reflecting on and making sense of their own lives."

Incubating community leaders

"Being a boarding school gives us many opportunities to build a cycle of empowerment and help students magnify their own impact. Faculty guide students to a deeper understanding of how their actions shape communal spaces—from being a constructive voice in class discussions, to being empathetic with a roommate, to motivating others as a teammate."





“Every
student is
valued
here.”

Raja Bala ←

Director of Academic Affairs

English Teacher

Varsity Girls' Basketball Coach

“ It's affirming to know that the work we are doing in the present translates into the future.

Learning takes place
everywhere
on our campus



**Advisors make
a meaningful impact**

“Cushing advisors want each student to feel known and seen. We work to balance a sense of autonomy and support so that students learn that the choices they make matter. My favorite moments are seeing students make everyday choices that stretch their comfort zone and lead to growth experiences.”

—**Dr. Jennifer Willis**

*Director of Teaching and Learning
Varsity Girls’ Field Hockey Coach
JV Girls’ Basketball Coach*

**Succeeding in class
and on the field**

“The culture at Cushing attracts great student-athletes. Our coaches pride themselves on offering excellent instruction in each sport and in being role models for leading healthy lives. As a result, our students come into an atmosphere of success—both in terms of academics and athletics. Our student-athletes learn a lot about time management, what it takes to achieve their goals, and how to work as part of a team. All of these are vital skills for any future endeavors.”

—**Paul Pearl**

*Advancement Officer
Varsity Boys’ Hockey Coach
Varsity Baseball Coach*



Engaging in a diverse community

"Cushing students love being here and embracing new experiences. Every student brings a unique perspective to campus. By fully engaging in our community, students learn how to express themselves, develop self-awareness, and have meaningful conversations. Our campus activities offer many opportunities to incorporate these lessons into daily life."

—Edward Buggie

*Director of Inclusion and Community Life
Dance Instructor*



Making real-world connections

"My goal in the classroom is to help students personally relate to the content. For research projects, my chemistry students investigate where polymers show up in everyday life, how preservatives are used in food science, and how radioisotopes identify disease. For any topic, we talk about why it's interesting, why it matters, and how it's relevant. That makes it fun for students."

—Meredith Mikell

*Science Department Head
Varsity Cross Country Coach
Varsity Track and Field Coach*



Powered by Confidence

The perfect place to
**develop
your
art**

Cushing is known for its impressive arts program. Our distinguished faculty create a dynamic, welcoming space for you to cultivate your talents, problem-solving skills, and self-expression. Whether a dedicated artist or discovering a new inspiration, Cushing students radiate with pride when their creative vision and dedication to craft come together in a unique work of art that resonates with others.





Visual arts

Cushing Academy is home to one of the nation's most highly respected secondary school programs in visual arts. Offerings include a gallery space and arts magazine, plus 18 classes that include architectural design, ceramics, drawing, fused glass, metalsmithing, painting, and photography. In 2021, 46 visual artists from Cushing were honored by the national Scholastic Art & Writing Awards.

Studios for drawing, painting, pottery, photography, and metalsmithing—along with the Maude Bowen Carter Gallery—are located in the 12,800-square-foot Emily Fisher Landau Center for the Visual Arts.



Performing arts

Cushing students enjoy 25 performing arts events each year and can choose from 21 classes that include acting, chamber music, chorus, dance, filmmaking, jazz ensemble, and more than a dozen options for private instruction in voice, instrumental music, and dance.

Studios and performance spaces for theater, dance, and music are located in an 11,520-square-foot performing arts center built in 2006 as part of the Joseph R. Curry Academic Center. Cowell Chapel offers a large performance venue in our historic Main Building.



Flourishing as an artist

"The arts program is a major reason why I chose Cushing. I've always loved to make art, and I like to try different styles. Art classes here meet almost every day, and you can also choose art as an afternoon activity. Having so much time in the studio and working so consistently has definitely improved my technique."

Living with your friends

"The best part of living in a dorm is being so close to your friends. Everyone wants to hang out with one another here, so if they see someone new, they start a conversation to get to know you. There are a lot of fun events on campus. I especially like the dances and the haunted house that seniors produce at Halloween."



Support leads to success

"Working with my teacher in the Learning Center keeps my work from piling up. We talk a lot about how to organize and prioritize my assignments. The classroom teachers here also are very understanding and it's easy to ask for help, even outside of class. Having that academic support makes me feel less stressed and more confident."



Parent Perspective

"Cushing gets the best out of students by helping them to believe in their own ability to achieve. The teachers really get to know your child and provide thoughtful feedback." —**Kiernan Bell**



↓

Miranda Fraser

Sophomore from Paget, Bermuda

Classes

- › Literature + Composition II
- › Roots of the Modern World
- › Geometry
- › Connections
- › Integrated Science
- › Photography
- › Academic Support

Activities

- › JV Girls' Lacrosse
- › JV Girls' Volleyball
- › Pride Club
- › Winter Musical

**"Having
confidence
makes everything easier."**

**Powered by
Commitment**



40%
of senior varsity
athletes go on to
play collegiate
athletics

Hone your
**competitive
edge**

50
Cushing athletes
have been drafted
or gone pro

24
NEPSAC
Championships
in the past
17 years

Cushing coaches care about you as an athlete, as a student, and as a person. They also know what it takes to help young athletes achieve their goals. Coaching here is built on relationships and trust to help students discover their own intrinsic motivation to challenge themselves and nurture the values of integrity, teamwork, and excellence. We offer multiple levels of competition in each sport so that highly competitive athletes find the expert coaching they seek, while novices are also welcomed to the field. At every level, Cushing students draw strength from the camaraderie of being on a team and feeling the whole school cheer them on.



Choose from 36 teams across 13 sports

Fall

- › Cross Country
- › Field Hockey
- › Soccer
- › Volleyball

Spring

- › Baseball
- › Golf
- › Lacrosse
- › Softball
- › Tennis
- › Track and Field

Winter

- › Basketball
- › Ice Hockey
- › Ski Team



Facilities

- › The Watkins Field House, built in 2016, is a 30,000-square-foot athletic facility that houses two courts for basketball and volleyball, plus a fitness studio and training center.
- › The Theodore L. Iorio Arena, renovated in 2017, has ice throughout the entire academic year for hockey, figure skating, and recreational skating. The facility also includes locker rooms and cardio fitness studios.
- › Quimby Field, renovated in 2017, features high-tech synthetic turf with lights for evening games and community events.
- › Six natural grass fields, six tennis courts, a ropes course, and a cross-country course.



“At Cushing, the whole school
**feels like a
family.”**

→ **Derek Xiang**

Senior from Shanghai, China

Classes

- › AP Physics C
- › AP Language + Composition
- › Independent Study: Linear Algebra
- › Advanced Engineering
- › Biology II: Anatomy + Physiology
- › U.S. History
- › Latin III

Activities

- › Varsity Cross Country
- › Varsity Track and Field
- › JV Boys' Basketball
- › President of Math Club
- › Founder of Cooking Club





Parent Perspective

“Since coming to Cushing, our son has improved his independent thinking, organizational skills, and communication. If students want to do something, the school gives them good support to achieve their goals.”—**Yanmin Jin**



Adventures in arts and athletics

“It’s easy to try new things here. I’ve taken a metalsmithing class where I made jewelry for family and friends. It’s especially nice to give a present when you’ve put something of yourself into the work. Cushing also was the first place where I’ve been part of sports competitions. It’s a great feeling to hear people cheer for me when I’m running.”

Smooth transitions

“When I first came to Cushing, it was nice to have a class with non-native speakers to work on my reading, speaking, and writing skills. The ESL students bonded and learned from one another’s mistakes. Everyone is so warm here that it’s easy to make friends everywhere on campus.”

Cooking up connections

“I’m grateful for all the people I’ve met at Cushing. Since coming here, I’ve become more open and talkative. I even started a new club to celebrate cooking from different cultures. We cooked Chinese, Japanese, American, Greek, and other types of food. I also wrote some blogs and posted photos of dishes that we shared.”

Passion + resources = opportunities

“Teachers here want students to learn as much as they can. I’m currently taking Linear Algebra as an independent study class. I like seeing how this topic is relevant to daily life and overlaps with my other classes. It particularly helps me balance chemistry equations.”

Powered by Penguins



Mountain Day

For nearly a century, Cushing has cherished this beloved tradition. Each fall, classes are cancelled for a day as the whole school—including students and faculty—piles into buses and heads to nearby Mount Monadnock for a quintessential New England experience. American poet Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote about this mountain. Henry David Thoreau did too. After climbing 3,166 feet to the summit, you are rewarded with a spectacular view of six states. Everyone assembles for a group photo at the summit and then hikes back down for a celebratory picnic.





Lifelong friendships start here

Cushing students enjoy learning and living together on a campus that is vibrant with joyful activity. Whether laughing together in a dorm, striving together on the playing field, or collaborating in a classroom, students forge strong bonds as they share life's moments. School spirit is strong, and our students love to turn out and root for one another at games, performances, and other events. Even after graduation, our alumni continue to stay close. Whether on campus or separated by time and distance, Cushing Penguins will always be there with words of encouragement or to simply celebrate you.

Weekends are filled with fun

With almost all Cushing students living on campus, weekends are always lively. In addition to athletic games and arts performances, students enjoy dances, weekend trips, and campus traditions like the Holiday Stroll, where students decorate and present their dorms during a festive evening of food and song. In addition, community weekends engage the whole student body in dynamic activities around a theme, such as the Dorm Olympics or STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math).



59
Afternoon activities,
from community
service to dance and
mountain biking

Dozens
of student-led clubs
and organizations,
from Debate Club to
Film Club and CA
SuperFans

Building toward your college journey

College planning at Cushing is very individualized. Students begin getting to know our three full-time advisors as early as freshman year when these faculty present to small groups through the ninth-grade Connections class. In addition, students often pop into our college counseling office, which is intentionally designed to be a welcoming place to do work and grab a snack.

Throughout your time at Cushing, these advisors are a resource for making informed decisions about academics and activities, exploring colleges, and even considering career paths. We help you build awareness of personal strengths and goals and take ownership of the process of identifying the right fit for the next step in your education. Cushing students take pride in articulating their own vision for their futures.



125+
colleges come to
campus annually
just to meet with
Cushing students

Connections Class

Throughout freshman and sophomore years, students meet in small groups to discuss strategies for healthy living, building positive relationships, and making the most of their time at Cushing. This foundation gives students a strong sense of self for navigating their futures.





A sampling of college matriculation 2017-2021

**Schools marked with an asterisk indicate multiple matriculations in the past five years.*

Art Center College of Design
 Babson College*
 Bard College*
 Bentley University*
 Berklee College of Music
 Boston College*
 Boston University*
 Bowdoin College*
 Brandeis University*
 Brown University
 Bryn Mawr College
 Bucknell University*
 Carnegie Mellon University*
 Champlain College*
 Clark University*
 Colgate University
 College of the Holy Cross*
 Connecticut College*
 Cornell University*
 Dartmouth College
 DePaul University*
 Dickinson College
 Drew University*
 Fairfield University
 Fashion Institute of Design +
 Merchandising, San Francisco
 Fashion Institute of Technology
 Franklin and Marshall College
 George Mason University*
 Grinnell College
 Hamilton College
 Harvard University

Hobart William Smith Colleges*
 Hofstra University*
 Ithaca College
 Lehigh University*
 McGill University, Canada
 Middlebury College*
 Mount Holyoke College*
 New York University*
 Northeastern University*
 Oberlin College
 Pratt Institute
 Providence College*
 Purdue University*
 Rice University
 Rochester Institute of Technology*
 Rutgers University*
 Savannah College of Art + Design (SCAD)*
 School of the Art Institute of Chicago*
 School of Visual Arts*

Skidmore College*
 Smith College
 St. Lawrence University*
 Stanford University
 The New School
 Trinity College*
 Tufts University*
 Tulane University of Louisiana
 Union College*
 University of California, Berkeley*
 University of California, Los Angeles*
 University of Southern California*
 University of the Pacific
 University of Vermont*
 University of Wisconsin, Madison*
 Vanderbilt University
 Virginia Tech*
 Wellesley College
 Wheaton College*

“ **The college counselors at Cushing have helped me tremendously. My counselor helped me transition from the first set of schools that I identified to a final list that really matched my goals.**

—Grace McGovern, Senior

“People

really shape your experiences
in a place.”

—Manisah Islam '20



Building relationships

“I think about my Cushing teachers often—even teachers I didn’t have in class, but who took time out of their day to build relationships with me. Having been around so many adult mentors at Cushing helps me form meaningful connections now. I recently worked for a company building technologies to help people in remote areas of Bangladesh access basic health care. Currently, I’m working through a Teach for America fellowship to tutor and mentor a local student. I’m majoring in economics, with a minor in cognitive science, because I’m interested in using economics to make communities more sustainable. I look forward to continuing to meet new people and be exposed to new experiences and ideas.”

—Manisah Islam '20
UCLA '24





Lifelong framework

“Cushing gave me a lifelong framework for learning and for working with people, both of which are important elements in life. The Cushing faculty really helped me learn how to look at a complex question and break it down into steps. I also learned a lot about leadership at Cushing. I was a team captain in several sports. That’s where I recognized that even though I wasn’t the best player on the team, I could make an important contribution by supporting the people around me. That lesson really stuck with me. In my job now, I like to say to my team: How can you be the best person you can be and do the best work possible? And how can I support you in doing that?”

—**Jack Casady '15**
Boston University '19

Marketing manager at Putnam Investments



Right place

“Cushing was the right place for me, and I loved it. I was challenged academically and athletically; I grew as a person and a hockey player tremendously.”

—**Meghan Duggan '06**
USA Women’s Olympic Hockey Team
2018 Gold medalist and team captain
2014 Silver medalist and team captain
2010 Silver medalist



Life lessons

“The life lessons that I learned at Cushing, I carry with me and use every day. Integrity, creativity, respect, discipline. I’m eternally grateful to Cushing Academy for giving me the drive that has led me to where I am today.”

—**John Cena '95**
WWE wrestling champion
Actor



“Cushing really lives its
mission
of existing
for students.”

Coming to Cushing Academy is a complete student experience.

School spirit is palpable on our campus because students love being here. And why wouldn't they?

Everything students need to thrive is right here: They are surrounded by top-notch educators who are dedicated to helping them grow. They have access to state-of-the-art facilities for athletics and the arts. And they become part of a welcoming community where every student feels known and seen.

Our faculty are at Cushing Academy because they want to make a difference in students' lives. These caring adults inspire and mentor students in small classes, as advisors, through athletics and arts, in dorm life, and in every campus activity. In the context of this dynamic community, students are motivated to take healthy risks—and this is where growth happens. Success builds on itself as students find the confidence to embrace new challenges inside and outside the classroom.

At Cushing Academy, all of our decisions are made with an eye for what students need in the present moment and to prepare for their futures. We are continuously responding

to student interests and examining how students learn so that our curriculum is meaningful and impactful in a constantly changing world. Our campus life has structure to support students while also offering a sense of independence. As a result, parents often tell me how impressed they are by the maturity that they see emerge when their children come to Cushing.

As the parent of four Cushing students myself, I've also seen the power of Cushing Academy. Ours is a school where each individual student finds their people, their purpose, and their passions. That is what it means to “exist for students.” That is what it means to be Cushing Academy.

We look forward to welcoming **YOU** to our campus.

Randy R. Bertin, Ed.D.
Head of School



Discover the
power
of Cushing Academy
for yourself.

Cushing Academy exists for students and develops curious, creative, and confident learners and leaders.

To visit our campus virtually or in person, contact us at admissions@cushing.org or (978) 827-7300.

CUSHING ACADEMY

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