



St. Ursula Villa **PRINCIPAL** Search Prospectus

St. Ursula Villa is a premier, co-educational, independent Catholic school recognized for providing an outstanding education and instilling the Ursuline charism in students. Founded in 1910 and established at its current location in 1960, St. Ursula Villa is the only Ursuline school in the Cincinnati region serving early childhood through 8th grade.

St. Ursula Villa is seeking a **Principal** to serve as the educational leader for the Traditional Kindergarten through 8th Grade academic programs. The Principal, working with the President and Director of Early Childhood, is responsible for the Catholic faith-formation of students and their academic success. The successful candidate will be a proven instructional leader with a commitment to the Villa's mission. The Principal reports directly to the school's President and by extension the Board of Trustees and collaborates with the Ursulines of Cincinnati, the Ursuline Education Network, and the Cincinnati Archdiocesan Catholic Schools Office.

“St. Angela Merici advises, ‘Never cease to cultivate the vine that has been entrusted to you.’ I have experienced the dedication of the Board members, administrators, and teachers. They recognize and shoulder their responsibility to articulate and foster the Catholic and Ursuline mission of St. Ursula Villa.”

- Sister Margie Efke, OSU/St. Ursula Villa Board Trustee

Believe in the Villa Values

Our Mission

St. Ursula Villa is an independent Catholic school educating students from early childhood through eighth grade. Rooted in the Ursuline tradition, we cultivate excellence in a Christ-centered community through spiritual formation, academic growth, whole child development, and service to others.

Characteristics of an Ursuline Education

Our founding Sisters, the Ursulines of Cincinnati, started St. Ursula Villa based on the teachings of Saint Angela Merici.

St. Ursula Villa's Core Values

- Christ-centered spirit of St. Angela Merici
- Recognition of the dignity and gifts of all students
- Emphasis on the development of the whole person
- Academic excellence in all subjects
- Commitment to Christian service
- Emphasis on diversity within the school
- Personal care for the individual
- Spirit of optimism and openness
- Strong family spirit within the school



VILLA FAST FACTS & POINTS OF PRIDE



Outstanding programs for Toddler through Junior High boys & girls

22-acre historic Mt. Lookout campus



1:12 teacher student ratio,
16 years average faculty teaching experience

KDN-8th Spanish & French, 7th & 8th Latin



Small, ability-based 3rd-8th grade Math classes

Music, Art, Drama & other performance opportunities



Community service & outreach

Outdoor Education & STEM programs



35 Greater Cincinnati zip codes represented

65% Catholic, 35% other faith traditions



Cincinnati's only Independent Catholic elementary school in the Ursuline tradition

VILLA GRADUATES: THE CLASS OF 2023

\$575,132

value of merit scholarships offered

72%

graduates received merit scholarship offers

100%

acceptance rate into first-choice school

52%

graduates started in Villa preschool

Discover the Villa Values

Location

St. Ursula Villa is located in the Mt. Lookout neighborhood of Cincinnati, approximately 6 miles from downtown Cincinnati. The greater Cincinnati region encompasses over 50 unique neighborhoods in southwestern Ohio, northern Kentucky, and southeastern Indiana. Known as the Queen City, Cincinnati is home to Fortune 500 companies, nationally recognized hospitals, major colleges and universities, professional sports, and a vibrant arts community.

History

The Ursuline Sisters of Cincinnati trace their origin to the foundress, St. Angela Merici. She gathered a group of women who became leaders in the community and promoted Christian living in the home. The Ursulines spread throughout Europe and their chief work became education.

In 1910, at the invitation of Archbishop Henry K. Moeller, Mother Fidelis Coleman and a small group of Ursuline sisters arrived in Cincinnati to begin the task of educating the city's youth in the Ursuline tradition. That first year, 63 pupils enrolled at Saint Ursula Academy in Walnut Hills. The grade school was co-educational while the high school was for girls only. In the ensuing years, the Sisters established a reputation for academic excellence. In order to accommodate continued expansion, the Sisters bought the R.K. LeBlond estate in 1960, current location of St. Ursula Villa.

The 22-acre estate offers a unique setting and rich history. The campus has been updated over the years to accommodate increased enrollment and additional learning opportunities. The most recent capital campaign was completed in 2015-16 with a newly constructed junior high wing, updated main school classrooms, and the addition of early childhood classrooms to the historic Manor House.

Today, 440 children from preschool through eighth grade are enrolled at St. Ursula Villa. Exceptional teachers provide a challenging and supportive learning environment. Specialty classes include art, music, foreign language, physical education, STEM, outdoor education, and library. Support services include a speech pathologist, counselor, and learning and remedial specialists. St. Ursula Villa also offers after-school care and summer camp programs. The school leadership is committed to carrying out the mission and vision of the Ursuline Sisters and maintaining the Ursuline charism.



Prepare with the Villa Values

“St. Ursula Villa graduates consistently excel in high school, college, and career. They can be found as leaders in business, law, medicine, education and non-profit programs. The academic, spiritual, and moral grounding from the Villa provides our students with the framework for leading fulfilling, valuable lives.”

- Jill Moormann, Teacher/Director of Junior High Programs

The Villa Values of Education, Faith, and Community are evident every school day at St. Ursula Villa where emphasis on academic excellence and whole child development truly shape the lives of our children – the leaders of tomorrow. Our Portrait of a Graduate defines the outcome of a St. Ursula Villa education. The four defining characteristics of a St. Ursula Villa graduate are: lifelong learner, confident and engaged individual, compassionate citizen, and respectful advocate. These characteristics are promoted in each student.

Education



- Teachers and parents partner to foster a dynamic academic experience where each child reaches their fullest potential.
- Dedicated teachers identify individual learning styles, provide challenge and support, nurture spiritual and emotional growth, and educate the whole child.
- Small classes and individualized instruction foster students' growth into responsible, respectful, academically prepared young adults.
- Foreign language instruction beginning in kindergarten.
- Specialty classes in art, music, library, physical education, STEM, and outdoor education.
- Extracurricular activities, athletics, and clubs that promote learning beyond the classroom.

Faith



- St. Ursula Villa is Cincinnati's only independent Catholic school in the Ursuline tradition serving early childhood through eighth grade.
- The characteristics of an Ursuline education form the Villa's core values and are integrated into the school culture.
- We welcome families from all faith backgrounds across the greater Cincinnati region.
- Weekly masses are celebrated in the Main School. The Manor House Chapel offers a peaceful space for students, staff, and families to gather in prayer. Student-led liturgies and prayer services provide opportunities for leadership as well as individual spiritual growth.
- Students prepare for and receive sacraments of Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation.
- Other faith celebrations include: May Crowning, Pet Blessing, Stations of the Cross, and Advent Prayer Service.

Community



- Extraordinary family-centered school community.
- Often described as a “family of families,” parents, students, and teachers form strong connections through school activities, sporting events, and social functions.
- School-wide community service projects and class-based activities develop a sense of volunteerism and giving to others.
- A foundation for a lifetime of academic success, friendships, and community.
- Active Villa Parents Organization and Boosters Organization engage parent volunteers to support school events and extra-curricular activities.

Further **the Villa Values**

The Villa Principal must be Passionate about Learning, Serving, and Leading.

Expectations & Responsibilities

Catholic and Ursuline Identity

The Principal, in collaboration with the Director of Mission Integration and President, will ensure that the Catholic values and Ursuline identity are reflected in the Traditional Kindergarten through 8th Grade programs and policies, realized through the work of the teachers and staff, and communicated with internal and external stakeholders.

Academic Excellence

The Principal must be dedicated to academic excellence across all disciplines. The Principal will develop and implement policies and programs to meet the educational needs of all Traditional Kindergarten through 8th Grade students. Maintaining an excellent academic program will include recruiting, supporting, and retaining exceptional teachers and staff.

Whole Child Development

Emphasis on the development of the whole person is a core value of St. Ursula Villa. The Principal will be responsible for implementation of the life skills program and student discipline policy. The Principal will oversee all non-athletic, extracurricular clubs and activities of Kindergarten through 8th Grade students.

Communication and Community Engagement

The Principal will develop a strong partnership and foster collaboration among the parents, teachers, and administration. As leader of the main school building, the Principal will be readily available and highly visible to the community.

Strategic Growth

St. Ursula Villa completed a year-long process to update the school's strategic plan and chart a course for the future. Led by the Board of Trustees and the school administration, the planning process engaged the entire St. Ursula Villa community to examine strengths, opportunities, challenges, and solutions. The Principal, in collaboration with the Director of Early Childhood and President, will be responsible for the implementation of the academic goals.





Candidate Qualifications & Skills

The **Principal** is to serve as the educational leader for the Traditional Kindergarten through 8th Grade academic programs. The ideal candidate will demonstrate the following:

- A Roman Catholic committed to the mission, vision, and values of St. Ursula Villa
- Deep knowledge of elementary level programs with emphasis on traditional Catholic instruction
- Strong background in the areas of curricula selection and academic program evaluation
- Ability to encourage and elevate student academic achievement and whole child development
- Accomplished in faculty development and cultivation of a positive learning environment
- Solid communication and interpersonal skills with ability to relate to all members of the school community
- A leader who models exemplary character and values collaboration and insight of others
- Have or be eligible for principal licensure by the Ohio Department of Education
- Able to complete all requirements of the Decree on Child Protection for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati

Interested and qualified candidates are invited to send cover letter and resume to principalsearch@stursulavilla.org. To ensure full consideration, applications must be received by March 16, 2023.