



BESANT HILL SCHOOL OF HAPPY VALLEY

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OUR MISSION

The mission of Besant Hill School is the development of each individual's intellectual and artistic abilities. Through awakening the spirit of inquiry, we encourage each student to pursue integrity and excellence. Our non-competitive community builds honesty, respect, compassion, and responsibility. Our goal is to develop a lifelong habit of learning as embodied in our school's motto, *Aun Aprendo—I am still learning.*

SCHOOL PROFILE 2018-19

OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Besant Hill School of Happy Valley is a private, coeducational college preparatory boarding and day high school (grades 9-12, PG) located 85 miles northwest of Los Angeles, California. Our small student body, beautiful location, and dedicated faculty create a unique learning environment for each student to explore his or her passions within a supportive and diverse community.

Besant Hill School of Happy Valley, formerly known as Happy Valley School, was established in 1946 on the principles of education envisioned by our illustrious founders, including Aldous Huxley, Rosalind Rajagopal, J. Krishnamurti, Dr. Guido Ferrando, and Dr. Annie Besant. Our educational philosophy is drawn from the vision of our founders, who believed that the environment which encourages the fullest development of student potential is one that affords the opportunity to explore creative as well as intellectual abilities.

Our new World as Our Classroom experience brings Besant Hill to the world and the world to Besant Hill and eliminates the disconnect between high school and the global community that students will enter after graduation. Students experience ePortfolio practice, hands-on learning outside of the classroom, and development of real world skills, preparing each student to be a successful citizen of the world.

BY THE NUMBERS

100 BOARDING &
DAY STUDENTS



40% INTERNATIONAL • 60% DOMESTIC • 22 COUNTRIES • 10 STATES • 85% BOARDING • 15% DAY



SPECIAL PROGRAMS

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

With nearly 30 offerings in music, performing arts, visual arts and digital arts, the arts at Besant Hill involve the whole person and affect the whole community.

SUSTAINABILITY

With an eight-acre farm and locally sourced food in the dining hall, student participation in energy saving competitions, trips to annual environmental conferences, ecological literacy is an integral part of the educational process.

ESL

While improving their written, verbal, and comprehension skills, English language learners form strong peer networks and increase their self-confidence.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Sequential and developmental, emphasizing community, team-work, self-challenge, and respect for the environment.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Actively engaging learners in progressive education models, students have the opportunity to travel regionally, nationally, and internationally.

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

A comprehensive program that meets students at their academic level, taking into consideration their individual learning style. Students learn strategies they can apply in all of their classes to achieve academic success.

SENIOR CAPSTONE

Each spring, seniors work with a member of the faculty and in partnership with a professional mentor in his or her chosen field of exploration to create a two-week individualized project or internship.

SUMMER INSTITUTE

Five weeks of dynamic programming in which students interact with peers from all around the world while mastering study skills, life lessons, and gain an appreciation for California. We offer a variety of courses in English as a Second Language, SAT Prep, and a hands-on STEM Program. The day is structured for academic courses in the morning, afternoon art classes, and multiple off-campus excursions.

GRADES AND RANKING

Besant Hill School complies with the UC system A-G graduation requirements. Besant Hill School holds high expectations, therefore, we do not rank our students. Our classes are graded on a standard letter scale of A through F, with pluses and minuses attached to grades A through D. Grades are not weighted in the calculation of a student's GPA. Students do not receive credit for grades D or lower.

CLASS OF 2018 PROFILE

CLASS SIZE	21
MEAN GPA	3.6
SAT ERW	600
SAT M	630

ADVANCED PLACEMENT AND HONORS COURSE OFFERINGS (UC APPROVED)

SUBJECT : ADVANCED PLACEMENT

ENGLISH	LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION
HISTORY	US HISTORY, HUMAN GEOGRAPHY
MATH	CALCULUS, STATISTICS
SCIENCE	BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY, ECONOMICS (MACRO & MICRO), ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE, PHYSICS C
LANGUAGE	FRENCH, SPANISH

HONORS

ENGLISH II, ENGLISH III
WORLD HISTORY, US HISTORY

Students are often offered a variety of non-traditional class options such as independent studies to further interest in a particular area of study, or they may become a teaching assistant in our beginning level courses after they have progressed to a mastery level. Students wishing to explore advanced placement classes not offered at Besant Hill School may do so online with administration approval.



PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE

OUR GRADUATES WILL:

- Think critically and synthesize knowledge
- Honor their individual strengths and be resilient
- Engage in their creative and artistic passions
- Model global citizenship
- Embody the ideals of environmental activism

Within a framework of Universal Design, teachers employ multiple best practices in the classroom including the Socratic Method, Mastery Teaching, and Cooperative Learning. We value and encourage creativity and a creative mindset in all classes, teaching how to think, not what to think. Academic classes, including art and physical education, are all valued equally in the pursuit of educating the whole person.



MATRICULATIONS 2013-2018 *indicates multiple matriculations

American University	Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising, Los Angeles	Purdue University*
The American University of Paris	Foothill College	University of Redlands*
Antioch College	Green Mountain College	Reed College*
The University of Arizona*	Hamilton College	Regis University*
Baldwin Wallace University	Hendrix College*	Rochester Institute of Technology
Bard College	University of Illinois at Chicago*	Rutgers University
Belmont University	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Saint Mary's College of California*
Beloit College	Humboldt State University	San Diego State University*
Berklee College of Music*	Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis	University of San Diego
Brandeis University*	Irvine Valley College	San Francisco Art Institute
Brigham Young University	John Cabot University	University of San Francisco*
Brooks Institute of Photography	Johnson & Wales University - Denver	San Jose State University*
California College of the Arts	Johnson & Wales University - Providence	Santa Barbara City College*
California Institute of the Arts	Kendall College	Santa Monica College*
California Lutheran University	Kent State University	Sarah Lawrence College*
California State Polytechnic University Pomona*	Lafayette College*	Savannah College of Art and Design
California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo*	Lewis & Clark College*	School of the Art Institute of Chicago
California State University, Channel Islands*	Les Roches International School of Hotel Management	School of Visual Arts
University of California, Berkeley	University of Madrid	Stanford University
University of California, Davis*	Marlboro College	Stony Brook University
University of California, Irvine*	Marquette University	SUNY Plattsburgh
University of California, Los Angeles*	Marymount California University	Syracuse University*
University of California, San Diego*	Michigan State University	Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi
University of California, Santa Barbara*	Mills College*	The American Musical and Dramatic Academy
University of California, Santa Cruz*	The Naropa University	The New School*
Claremont McKenna College	University of Nevada, Las Vegas*	Trinity College
University of Colorado at Boulder*	New York Film Academy	University of Surrey
University of Colorado at Denver	New York University*	The University of Warwick
Columbia College Chicago	Northeastern University*	Ventura College*
Dean College	Pennsylvania State University*	University of Washington*
University of Denver	University of Pittsburgh	Watkins College of Art
Eckerd College		Whittier College*
		University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point





THE WORLD AS OUR CLASSROOM

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VISIT US!

See what makes our small boarding school community so unique by visiting our website and/or arranging a campus tour. Appointments are available year-round.

MAKING AN APPOINTMENT

To make your appointment, please contact our Admissions Office at 805-646-4343 or email ADMISSIONS@BESANTHILL.ORG

ONLINE INQUIRIES & APPLICATIONS

Simple and secure online forms are always available on our website!
WWW.BESANTHILL.ORG/ADMISSIONS



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