Philadelphia Ring

EXPANDING HUMAN PERSPECTIVES AND WORLD HARMONY THROUGH EDUCATION

Interesting facts about Philadelphia

1. **History-** Philadelphia is rich in History. During the American Revolution it was a meeting place for the Founding Fathers of the United States, who signed the Declaration of Independence (1776) and the Constitution (1787) in the city.

2. **Nickname-** “Philly” or “The city of brotherly love”

3. **City of Firsts-** Home of first library (1731), first hospital (1751), first medical school (1765), first Capital (1777), first stock exchange (1790), first zoo (1874), and first business school (1881) in the USA.

4. **Education-** Many highly ranked surrounding universities and colleges make Philadelphia a top international study destination

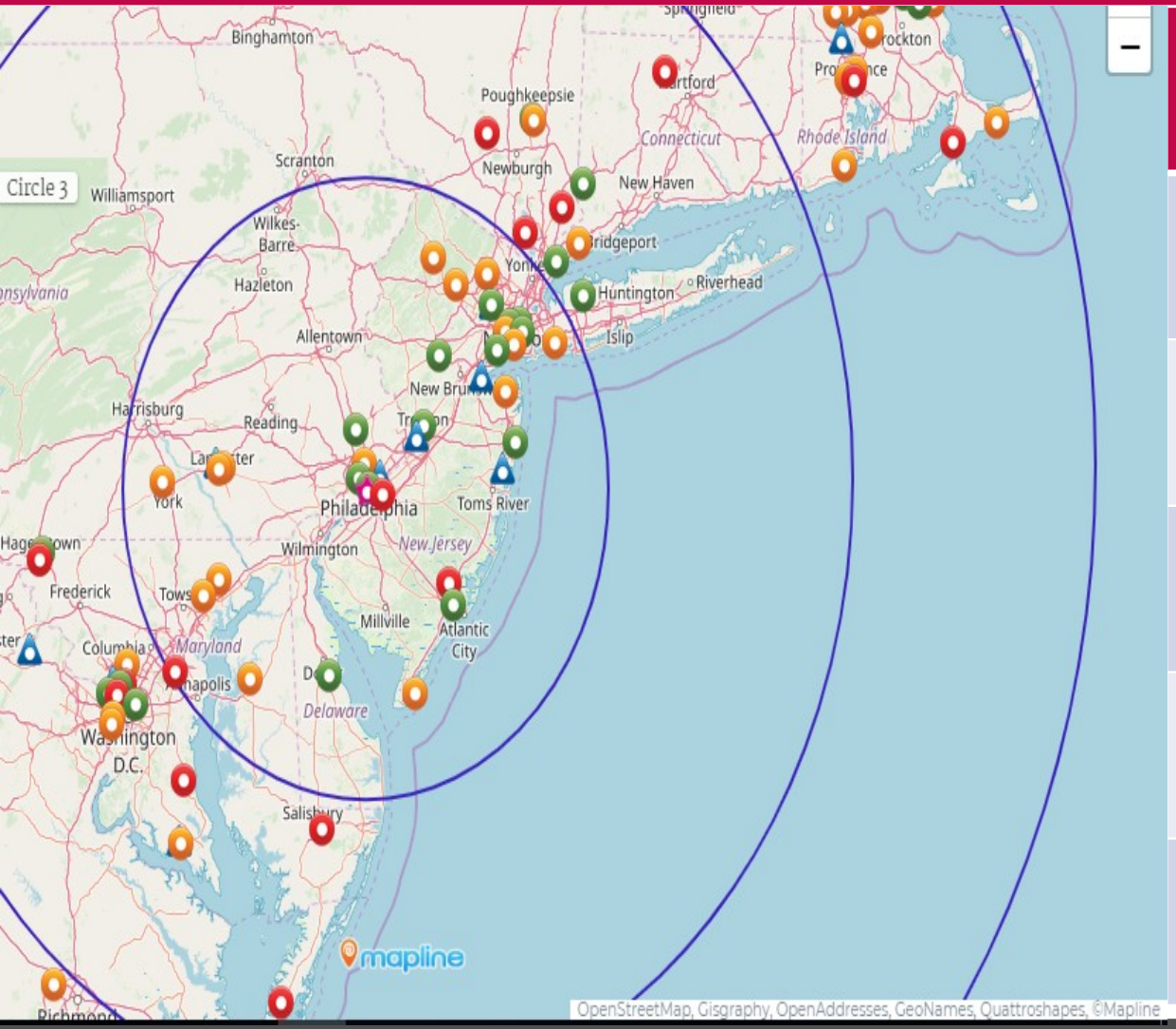
5. **Food-** Famous for the world renowned “Philly Cheese steak”, thinly sliced pieces of beefsteak and melted cheese in a long roll

6. **Economy**- With a gross domestic product of $388 billion, Philadelphia ranks ninth among world cities and fourth in the USA.

7. **Sports-** The city has all four major USA sports: Philadelphia Phillies (Major League Baseball), Philadelphia Eagles (National Football League), Philadelphia Flyers (National Hockey League), and the Philadelphia 76ers (National Basketball Association).

8. **People-** Sixth most populous city in the United States

Location, Location, Location



Schools:	
Cathedral Prep (PA)	La Salle (PA)
Elk County (PA)	Lansdale Catholic (PA)
Erie First Christian Academy (PA)	Villa Maria (PA)
Lancaster Country Day (PA)	Vincentian High (PA)
Lancaster Catholic (PA)	York (PA)

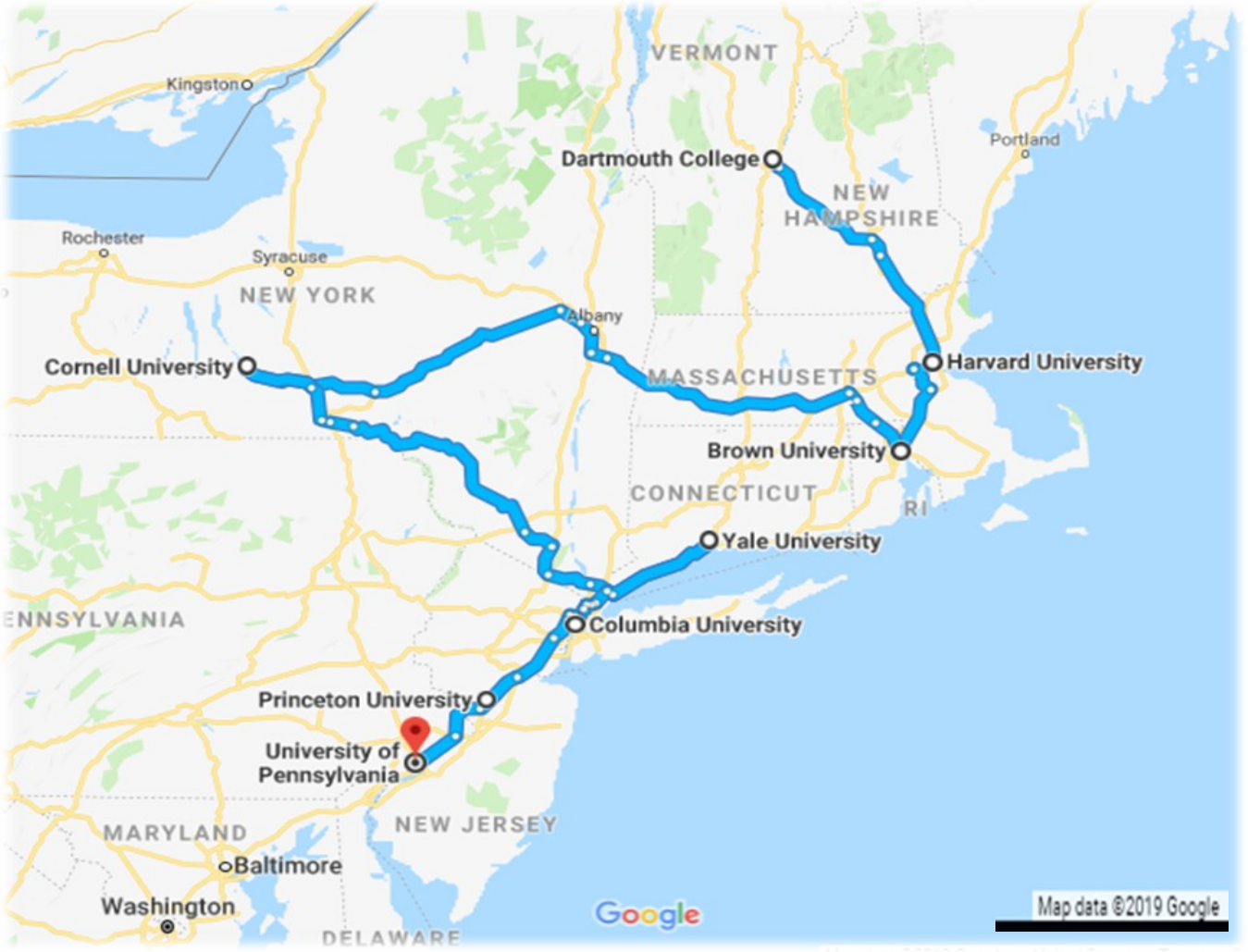
Nearby Attractions

Nearby Attractions:

- Washington DC (1hr 30 min train)
- New York City (1hr 20min train)
- Boston (1hr 25min flight)
- Pittsburgh (1hr 10min flight)
- Orlando, Florida (2hr 20min flight)
- Baltimore, Maryland (1hr train)

THE International Study Destination

The Philadelphia Ring is located close to ALL the Ivy League Universities



THE International Study Destination

Nationally Top Ranked Universities in the state of Pennsylvania (Rank) (Founded):

- University of Pennsylvania (#8) (1740)
- Carnegie Mellon University (#25) (1900)
- Villanova (#49) (1842)
- Lehigh University (#53) (1865)
- Penn State (#59) (1855)
- University of Pittsburgh (#70) (1787)
- Drexel University (#102) (1891)

THE International Study Destination

The Philadelphia Ring is ideally located close to numerous other Top 100 Universities(Rank) (Location):

- Johns Hopkins (#10) (Baltimore)
- Georgetown (#22) (DC)
- NYU (#30) (NYC)
- Rutgers (#56) (NJ)
- George Washington (#63) (DC)
- Fordham University (#70) (NYC)
- Stevens Institute of Tech. (#70) (NJ)
- American University (#78) (DC)

Location, Location, Location

- Educational atmosphere/hub
- Prestigious high schools
- Great location for college visits
- Over 8 area International Airports
- Trains connect entire northeast corridor
- Vicinity to big cities = strong economy
- More internship opportunities
- Diverse population

Stephen van Niekerk

Program Manager- Development

- *BA Social Sciences (UP), BSocsci Hons Psych (UP), MA Couns Psych (UP)*
- Born in South Africa
- High school teacher for 3 years
- Stephen consulted to schools, colleges and organizations as a Counseling Psychologist before relocating to the USA in November 2015.
- Stephen started as a Support Services Coordinator for the Cambridge Network in the New York & New Jersey region where he used his psychological expertise to help students realize and develop their potential.

Student Support in the Philadelphia Ring

Who?	• **Local Staff Member** • **Passionate about International Education** • **Each partner school has a dedicated Student Development Manager (SDM)**
What?	• **Supports students with academic, cultural, emotional & residential challenges** • **Monthly student check-in's** • **Builds relationships with host families**

Rodolfo Vidal

Student Development Manager

Education

- Bachelor of Arts in Sociology

School

- LaSalle College High School (LSCHS), Wyndmoor, PA

Background

- Guidance Counselor in a charter school for 10 years
- Employed by The Cambridge Network since 2015
- Studied abroad, in Australia

Katrina Fu

Family Education Advisor

- Studied in the United States for two years of high school and all of college
- Based in Guangzhou, China
- Passionate about supporting international students in their adjustment to American schools and culture
- Has worked for Cambridge Network for 4 years

Homestay in the Philadelphia Ring

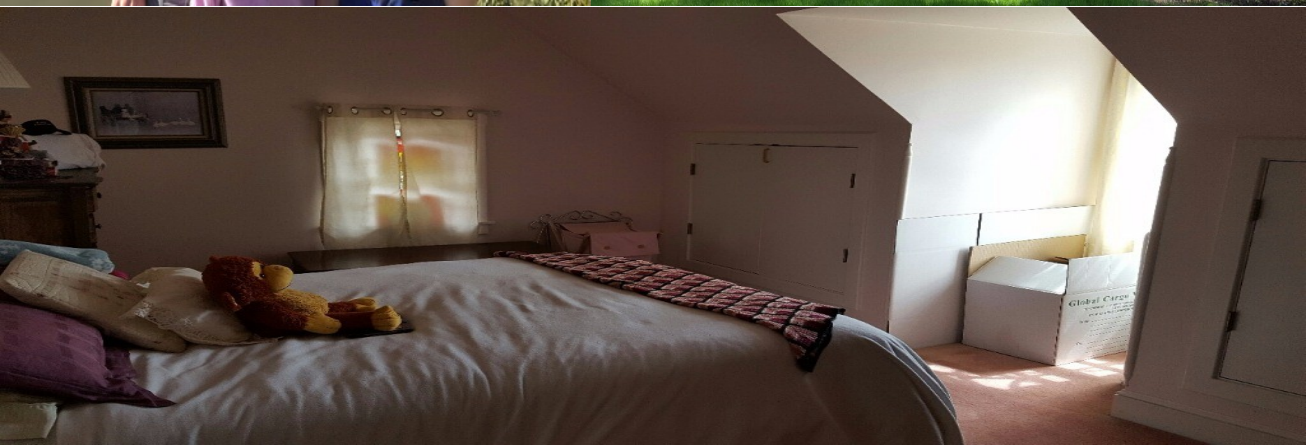
Students enjoying two different seasons outside with their host families

Homestay in the Philadelphia Ring

Twins, Leo and Bill, running a half marathon with their host mom.

Mother son dance at the high school.
Host mom with her son and two students.

Philadelphia Ring Host Families



Paul Family

- Paul lives with his wife Julie and their two kids Erik and Annaliese in a five bedroom, three and a half bathroom house
- Paul and Julie both have advanced degrees and work from home with very flexible schedules
- Paul and Julie have both lived with host families and traveled abroad through exchange programs
- They are experienced hosts that have hosted successfully for Cambridge for 2 years

Philadelphia Ring Host Families

Mark's Family

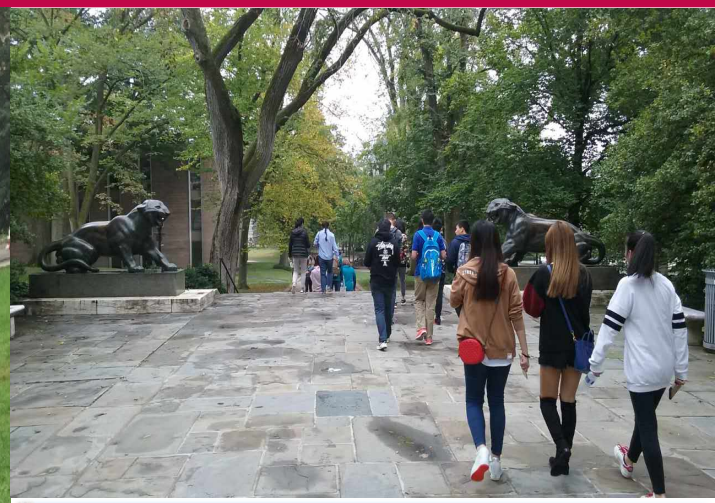
- Mark lives with his wife Raquel in a 5 bedroom, 3 and a half bathroom home. Their two children are grown now and live away from home.
- Mark and Raquel both have advanced degrees and Mark works from home with flexible hours.
- Mark is originally from Russia and Raquel is from Brazil. They understand what it is like to move to a new country and become acclimated.
- They are experienced hosts that have hosted 3 high school students from China so far.

Cultural Exchange Activities

2017/18 Activities:

Hershey Park – Amusement Park visit with students

Cultural Exchange Activities



2017 Activities:

College tour of Princeton University

Lancaster, PA

- Popular vacation destination
- Home to Franklin & Marshall College, a selective liberal arts college, the city of Lancaster has a rich history.
- Capital of the US for a day during the Revolutionary War, Lancaster was also home to celebrated anti-slavery leaders in the years leading up to the US Civil War.
- Philadelphia, just 50 minutes away by train, is one of America's most historically significant cities.
- An equally short trip south would bring students to the city of Baltimore, Maryland. Baltimore has a highly popular Inner Harbor and many charming downtown districts. The city is home to the National Aquarium, Johns Hopkins University, the Baltimore Museum of Art, the Walters Art Gallery and two major league sports teams

Lancaster Country Day School – 114SC

- **Location:** Lancaster, Pennsylvania
- **School Type:** Private, Co-ed
- **Student Body Size:** 218
- **# of International Students:** 11
- **Average Class Size:** 12
- **Residential Type:** Cambridge Homestay
- **18-19 Tuition:** $58,000
- **Overall Niche Grade:** A+

- **STEM**
- **“Double Up” options**
- **AP courses**

- **International Model UN**
- **Several clubs & societies**
- **School officials visit China annually**

- **Global Programs**
- **Independent study/projects**
- **College trips**

Lancaster Catholic High School – 132LC

- **Location:** Lancaster, Pennsylvania
- **School Type:** Private, Co-ed
- **Student Body Size:** 621
- **# of International Students:** 38
- **Average Class Size:** 24
- **Residential Type:** Cambridge Homestay
- **18-19 Tuition:** $40,810

- College counseling
- College & career visits
- Dual enrollment (7)
- Advanced courses

- New gym & stadium
- Award winning teams
- Variety of options

- Business
- STEM certificate
- Fine & Performing Arts classes

La Salle College High School – 123LB

- **Location:** Wyndmoor, Pennsylvania
- **School Type:** Private, All-boys
- **Student Body Size:** 1060
- **# of International Students:** 17
- **Average Class Size:** 19
- **Residential Type:** Cambridge Homestay
- **18-19 Tuition:** $58,020
- **Overall Niche Grade:** A+

- SAT & ACT prep
- College counselling
- Acceptances to 6 Ivy Leagues past 3 years

- Nationally recognized leader in IT
- 200+ Microsoft & Adobe certifications

- 45 sports teams
- 56 clubs & activities
- 89 championships in past 5 years

Lansdale Catholic High School – 121LC

- **Location:** Lansdale, PA
- **School Type:** Private, Co-ed
- **Student Body Size:** 661
- **# of International Students:** 6
- **Average Class Size:** 21
- **Residential Type:** Cambridge Homestay
- **18-19 Tuition:** $37,000 including tuition, residential & School ESL

- SAT & ACT prep
- College counselling
- Dual Enrollment

- New ‘State of the art’ Science Labs supporting robust STEM program

- Diocesan Scholars Program
- Independent Study
- Business & Tech courses
- Fine Arts & Music Courses

Christian School of York – 132SC

- **Location:** York, Pennsylvania
- **School Type:** Private, Co-ed
- **Student Body Size:** 378
- **# of International Students:** 9
- **Average Class Size:** 15
- **Residential Type:** Cambridge Homestay
- **18-19 Tuition:** $40,440

- Dual enrollment through 'Sevenstar'
- 130 courses

- Community service opportunities
- Clubs & Societies
- Sports

- Rigorous individualized college counseling
- Starts in 9th grade
- High quality ESL

Erie, PA

- Driving distance of Niagara Falls, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Buffalo, New York City, & Washington, DC!
- Great location for college visits
- Erie has all the comforts of a major city, yet the perks of a small town!
- Erie has hot summers, cool falls, snowy winters, and warm springs!
- Most international students join the Ski club!
- Erie has a large shopping mall with many retail stores!
- There are several delicious Chinese restaurants in Erie, PA!
- Erie is home to miles of beautiful beaches along the Great Lake!
- Erie has one the best indoor water parks in the USA!
- Erie has safe neighborhoods and low crime!
- The residents of Erie are very friendly and love international guests!

Erie First Christian Academy – 321SC

- **Location:** Erie, PA
- **School Type:** Co-ed
- **Student Body Size:** 300 (126 in 9-12)
- **# of International Students:** 37
- **Average Class Size:** 16
- **Residential Type:** Boarding
- **18-19 Tuition:** $41,915
- **Overall Niche Grade:** A

- Dual Enrollment
- Unique Course Offerings
- 29 Advance Courses

- 25 Clubs Offered
- 16 Sports
- Highlights include Equestrian, Kayaking and Skiing

- Multiple ESL levels offered
- Strong student support
- Frequent activities for international students

Cathedral Preparatory School – 331LB

- Newly renovated Science labs
- 13 3D Printers
- Robotics, Engineering and CAD

- 46 Honors Classes
- 18 AP Classes
- Dual Enrollment with Gannon University
- Daily ESL Classes
- 1:1 IPad

- 65% of graduates major in STEM
- 100% College Acceptance
- Average SAT Score: 1320

- **Location:** Erie, PA
- **School Type:** Boys
- **Student Body Size:** 580
- **# of International Students:** 11
- **Average Class Size:** 18
- **Residential Type:** Homestay
- **18-19 Tuition:** $39,900
- **Overall Niche Grade:** A-

Villa Maria Academy – 331MG

- **Location:** Erie, PA
- **School Type:** Girls
- **Student Body Size:** 343
- **# of International Students:** 8
- **Average Class Size:** 18
- **Residential Type:** Homestay
- **18-19 Tuition:** $39,900
- **Overall Niche Grade:** A-

- Newly renovated Science labs
- 13 3D Printers
- Robotics, Engineering and CAD

- 46 Honors Classes
- 18 AP Classes
- Dual Enrollment with Gannon University
- Daily ESL Classes
- 1:1 IPad

- 65% of graduates major in STEM
- 100% College Acceptance
- Average SAT Score: 1320

Elk County Catholic School – 333MC

Location: St. Mary's, PA
School Type: Co-ed
Student Body Size: 564 (233 in 9-12)
# of International Students: 4 (3 from China)
Average Class Size: 17
Residential Type: School Homestay
18-19 Tuition: $31,500

- 15 Honors Courses
- 8 AP Courses
- 8 Dual Enrollment Classes

- 4 Clubs
- 9 Sports

- SAT Prep classes
- College Acceptance Rate 97%
- 1:1 IPad Program

Pittsburgh, PA

- According to **MarketWatch**, Pittsburgh ranked **no. 41 on the Global Livability Ranking**, one of only six American cities to be on the list, as well as the **6th most livable city in the U.S.**
- The Children's Museum of Pittsburgh was ranked as the **6th best museum for families** by **USA Today's 10Best**.
- **Realator.com** named Pittsburgh the **2nd most affordable city for outdoor lovers**.
- **Upgruv** reported that **PPG Paints Arena was ranked among the top 200 concert venues in the world at 41.**
- **WalletHub** compared 62 of the largest U.S. cities and Pittsburgh comes in at **#3 of the best cities to live**.
- **DK Eyewitness Travel** listed Pittsburgh as the **9th best US city for weekend breaks this summer**.
- **Smartasset** named Pittsburgh the **2nd best city for college grads** in their 2016 edition.
- **Reader's Digest** mentioned Pittsburgh in the Pennsylvania section of **America's Best Road Trips Are in these 5 States**.
- **WalletHub** ranked Pittsburgh the **3rd best city for hockey fans in 2017** on their list of 72 cities. With the factors used, Pittsburgh ranked 1st in highest NHL fan engagement.
- **Smartertravel** listed Pittsburgh as one of the **10 insanely affordable summer destinations for 2017**.
- **MoveBuddha** looked at over 100 cities and ranked Pittsburgh 3rd on its list of **top 10 cities for young families**.
- **RewardExpert** says Pittsburgh is a **top 5 staycation city in 2017**.
- **CNBC** named Pittsburgh the **2nd best city for millennials**.
- **RewardExpert** named Pittsburgh a top 10 **kid-friendly city to visit in 2017.**
- **Travel + Leisure** says Pittsburgh is one of the **best cities for architecture.**
- Pittsburgh International Airport was named **Airport of the Year** by ***Air Transport World Magazine***.

Vincentian Academy – 313SC

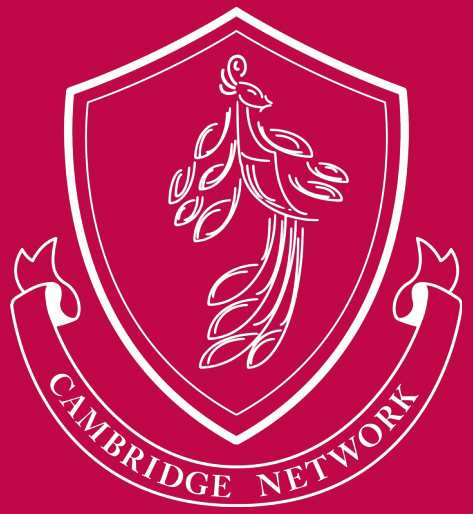
- IB Program
- Honors Courses
- AP Courses
- Dual Enrollment with 5 Universities

- Native Chinese ESL teacher
- ESL Level Courses

- 18 Clubs
- 13 Sports

Location: Pittsburgh, PA
School Type: Co-Ed
Student Body Size: 263
# of International Students: 8
Average Class Size: 19
Residential Type: Boarding/Homestay
18-19 Tuition: $51,200
Overall Niche Grade: A+

THANK YOU!



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