



THE UPPER SCHOOL NAUTILUS PROGRAM

GRADES SEVEN AND EIGHT

Fostering a sense of community, the Nautilus Program within the Upper School seizes the opportunity to strengthen the bond and culture of connectedness during a crucial period of development for girls. With its spiraling and interlinked chambers, the nautilus metaphorically reflects the maturation of each student and is a symbol of both growth and change. The Nautilus Program's initiatives foster a familial, creative, collaborative, and student-driven experience. Faculty members celebrate and foster the individual spirit of each girl while simultaneously ensuring she feels connected to a larger whole.



ASHLEY HALL
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THE NAUTILUS CURRICULUM

As part of the Upper School, the Nautilus Program follows the same curriculum while offering additional signature programs that encourage girls to develop a voice both in and outside of the classroom.

SEVENTH GRADE

- ★ In the fall, girls travel to Camp High Rocks for a three day, two night class trip that offers leadership opportunities, teambuilding, and bonding while also strengthening advisory group ties.
- ★ As part of their Gibbes Museum of Art docent project, girls investigate a work of art, present their findings in a research paper, and deliver an oral presentation open to the public as part of their service as a gallery tour guide.
- ★ An interdisciplinary project with Heifer International features seventh graders researching the government and income of several Heifer International countries then hosting a market and bazaar to raise awareness and funding to empower other communities.

EIGHTH GRADE

- ★ Girls have the opportunity to tackle world issues and policies as part of Model UN activities.
- ★ Tying into their study of the heroic journey with the *Odyssey* and the *Iliad*, girls develop their own Shero Comic-Con, complete with their own female action heroes. Crafting graphic novels, students elaborate on what each hero stands for, her values, and her persona and then share their creations in a student-planned celebration.
- ★ As part of the Nautilus program's dedication to hands-on STEM learning, girls travel to the Kennedy Space Center to learn about space exploration, and then to Disney World to investigate the application of physics to roller coasters.
- ★ A Charleston Harbor sailing experience ties in the themes of the Nautilus experience: development of self, overcoming obstacles and challenges, teambuilding, and embracing one's journey.

ALL NAUTILUS STUDENTS

- ★ Located on the first and second floors of Jenkins Hall, the Nautilus Program offers new programmatic initiatives that foster a creative, collaborative, and student-driven experience.
- ★ From theatric presentations to costume and artwork contests, the Classics Forum celebrates everything students have learned from their Greek and Latin studies.
- ★ A partnership with the Charleston Medical District Greenway connects girls with area professionals who help create an urban greenway oasis a few blocks from Ashley Hall.
- ★ Advisory group is a purposeful time for activities designed to encourage healthy bonding, ownership, social skills, and unconditional positive regard for others. Morning Meeting is conducted as a student-run breakout session two days a week, providing students with an opportunity to share their thoughts, gain a voice, and undertake a leadership role among their peers.
- ★ Choosing their own arts electives (theater, visual arts, choir, and strings), students try new experiences and see where their interests lie.
- ★ Each Nautilus Program student pledges to uphold the following three tenets: being an engaged learner; being a conscientious student; and being a good steward of her environment.

Please note: Certain activities that do not meet Ashley Hall's current COVID-19 safety procedures may be postponed and/or canceled. The safety and health of our students are the School's utmost priority.

OFFICE OF ADMISSION
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