



**ST. CECILIA
ACADEMY**

Strategic Plan 2015 – 2018

*Faith
in Young Women.*
SINCE 1860.

A Letter from the Principal

Dear Friends,

In undertaking a new strategic plan, it is good, as St. Thomas Aquinas would advise us, to begin with the end in mind. Where do we want to be in the next three years? While setting new goals and creating strategies is always exciting, we are also mindful that plans for the future, rather than being a rupture with the past, acknowledge continuity with the excellent work that precedes us. Indeed, in this 800th anniversary of the foundation of the Dominican Order, it is a providential time to revisit our roots as we press forward to set a future vision for growth.

St. Cecilia Academy has a history that is unique in Nashville, possessing a tradition that is at once both centuries old and yet vibrant with the freshness of new life. Founded in 1860 by the Congregation of Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia, we are rooted in an educational tradition that first began with St. Dominic in 1216. St. Dominic de Guzman, a young priest from Spain, had a dream: to send out to every part of the world religious men and women totally dedicated to Christ and to preaching the Word of God “in season and out.” With a special emphasis on study and joy-filled community, the Dominican Order over the centuries has carried the saving truth of Jesus Christ to every continent and nation.

One-hundred-and-fifty-five years ago, four Dominican Sisters from Ohio also had a dream: to start a school for girls in Nashville where teaching the truths of the Catholic faith would go hand-in-hand with offering students the best formation in the humanities, arts, and sciences the age had to offer.

In the year 2015, St. Cecilia Academy returns to our roots. Last year, as faculty, staff, present and past parents, and friends from the community were assembled to discuss strategic plan goals for the five areas of teaching and learning, Catholic identity, student life, enrollment, marketing and advancement, and facilities, one thing became clear. St. Cecilia has a legacy of Dominican academic excellence in a Christ-centered environment that is as relevant today as it was 155 or 800 years ago. We want to continue to offer our students the very best in academic, athletic, and extracurricular programs. Our goal is that future generations of young women can discover and appreciate what is truest, best, and most beautiful in the world around them as they grow in wisdom and virtue. At St. Cecilia we want each graduate to discover who God has created her to be and to take great joy in His plan for her life.

Thank you for being a part of our mission. We count on your prayers, your interest, and your support to help us achieve our 2018 Vision for St. Cecilia Academy.

In Christ and St. Dominic,

Sister Anne Catherine, O.P.

Sister Anne Catherine, O.P.

Principal



ST. CECILIA ACADEMY

THE ST. CECILIA ACADEMY PROMISE:

St. Cecilia Academy ennobles young women, equips them to excel, and inspires them to lead lives of integrity.

SCHOOL MOTTO:

Veritatem dare summa caritas. To give truth is the greatest charity.

STRATEGIC PLAN 2018 VISION STATEMENT:

By 2018, St. Cecilia Academy will be the premier Catholic college preparatory school for young women in the South. St. Cecilia Academy will equip students to excel through a deep intellectual formation in the Dominican tradition and will inspire them in confidence and virtue to lead lives of integrity.



ST. CECILIA ACADEMY

Strategic Plan 2018

Area I: Teaching, Learning, and Technology

Goal I: Attract, develop, and retain a faculty that inspires students and colleagues to commit to excellence in every facet of their lives.

Goal II: Provide tools, training, and time to incorporate innovative, state-of-the-art technology effectively into the classroom, maximizing student learning and skill development in each academic department, and equipping students to be wise and ethical digital citizens.

Goal III: Engage the entire faculty and staff in the process of curriculum review and alignment, developing a more cohesive liberal arts curriculum with opportunities for deeper philosophical inquiry and greater integration across the disciplines.

Area II: Catholic Identity

Goal I: Develop a comprehensive ongoing program of formation for St. Cecilia faculty and staff that explores the intellectual and spiritual heritage of Catholic education in general and of the Dominican Order in particular.

Goal II: Offer parents opportunities to grow in their own relationship with Christ and to gain understanding of the intellectual and spiritual heritage of the Dominican Order.

Goal III: Offer opportunities for students to grow in the daily practice of their faith.

Goal IV: Connect with the Dominican intellectual tradition by highlighting more explicitly the unity of truth expressed across the various academic disciplines.

Area III: Student Life

Goal I: Define and develop the objectives of school clubs so as to provide purposeful and meaningful experiences for students to gain leadership ability based on their common interests.

Goal II: Introduce initiatives to energize school spirit and encourage stakeholders' sense of pride in being a member of the St. Cecilia community.

Goal III: Offer students inspiring and meaningful service opportunities that develop their passions and equip them to grapple with real-world challenges.

Goal IV: Initiate practices and programs for a heightened understanding of and appreciation for the St. Cecilia Academy Honor Code.

Area IV: Enrollment, Marketing, and Advancement

Goal I: Attract and retain the best prospective students from diverse backgrounds who desire to be part of the St. Cecilia Academy educational experience.

Goal II: Acquire and sustain the appropriate physical and financial resources needed to carry forward the St. Cecilia Academy Promise effectively and to achieve the Strategic Plan 2018 Vision for St. Cecilia Academy.

Goal III: Embark on a comprehensive campaign to support our St. Cecilia Academy Promise and the strategic initiatives outlined in this strategic plan.

Goal IV: Engage various stakeholders in the multi-faceted life of St. Cecilia Academy.

Area V: Facilities

Goal I: Improve the current building and athletic facilities in ways that continue to maintain a positive learning environment for all current students as well as attract prospective students.

Goal II: Study options and implement best practices for safety, security, functionality, and energy efficiency on campus.

Goal III: Explore and design a long-term vision for the school campus that will best utilize existing space and provide optimal facilities to expand educational, athletic, and co-curricular programs for future generations of St. Cecilia Academy students.

Implementation

With the approval of the strategic plan in August 2015 by the Prioress General and General Council of the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia, this 2018 St. Cecilia Academy Strategic Plan becomes an action plan that will be implemented by the school's administration, faculty, and volunteers over the next three years under the leadership of the Change Management Team.

Change Management Team

Sister Anne Catherine, O.P.

Sister Julia Marie, O.P.

Andres Montana

Sister Amelia, O.P.

Betty Bader

Deb Fay

Deanna Kendall

Kevin Kile

Charles Martinez

Amie Pike

Oversight Committee

Sister Anne Catherine, O.P., Principal
Betty Bader – *Oversight Committee Co-chair*
Deb Fay – *Oversight Committee Co-chair*
Deanna Kendall - *Teaching, Learning, and Technology*
Sister Amelia, O.P., *Student Life*
Charles Martinez - *Enrollment, Marketing, and Advancement*
Kevin Kile - *Catholic Identity*
Amie Pike - *Facilities*

Teaching, Learning, and Technology

Deanna Kendall: Chair	Kenneth Albritton
Sister Cecilia Anne, O.P.	Diane Connolly
Sister Julia Marie, O.P.	Sarah Robinson
Sister Mary Agnes, O.P.	Sara Strobel

Student Life

Sister Amelia, O.P.: Chair	Maddie Keller	Beth Walker
Betty Bader	Teresa Marchetti	
Krissie Betbeze	Bryan Picklesimer	
Jennifer Burns	Margaret Pyburn	
Francis Horn	Lucy Scherrer	

Enrollment, Marketing, and Advancement

Charles Martinez: Chair	Dale Corsa
Sister Scholastica, O.P.	Deb Fay
Betty Bader	Susan George
Clark Baker	Maggie Kuyper
Alexza Clark	Bridget Nolan Thomas

Catholic Identity

Kevin Kile: Chair	Ashley George
Sister Michaela, O.P.	Andres Montana
Cheryl Carpenter	Janie Sizemore
Frances Fitzgerald	Margaret Smith

Facilities

Amie Pike: Chair	Dale Corsa	Joyce Wall
Sister Catherine Marie, O.P.	Jim Tarwater	
Kenneth Albritton	John Wall	

