

Hillcrest Academy | Annual Fund

The mission of Hillcrest Lutheran Academy is to equip students in a Christ-centered, Bible-based environment for a life of significance.

Founded nearly a century ago in 1916, Hillcrest Academy remains true to its Christ-centered mission as a Christian boarding school in the U. S. While at Hillcrest, students receive a holistic education that touches their heart, mind, and soul. Students are challenged to engage their culture, to be Christian in their thinking and actions, and to use their gifts to honor God and advance His kingdom.

A foundation for giving

Hillcrest counts on the success of its Annual Fund to enhance the education all students receive. Like most Christian schools, tuition doesn't cover the full cost of educating a child. Hillcrest relies on voluntary charitable support from alumni, parents, grandparents, friends and churches to help strengthen and grow Hillcrest and to build quality. Simply put, support for the Annual Fund provides Hillcrest the opportunity to become the best school it can be, providing a holistic education to all students.

Why doesn't tuition cover everything?

Increasing tuition to cover the total budget would put a Hillcrest Academy education beyond the reach of many families the school serves. The Board of Directors is committed to educating not just those students who can afford to pay full tuition costs, but also the students of those individuals who value and desire Christian education.

Tuition, room, board and fees provide a large percentage of the total operational budget – about 80% in 2008-09. Endowment earnings provide about 2%, so much of the remaining revenue required to operate the school – about \$320,000 this year – comes from charitable gifts to the Annual Fund.

Who benefits?

The entire Hillcrest Academy community benefits from the gifts to the Annual Fund. These gifts allow us to provide:

- Academic programming provided by excellent certified faculty;
- Spiritual programming;
- Co-curricular programs including choir, band, athletics, field trips, outside speakers, and student leadership groups;
- Scholarship support for deserving students;
- 16 faculty members with 140 years of combined teaching experience;
- Faculty development opportunities and professional support staff;
- A campus and facilities which are safe and which foster learning.

Why is it important that everyone participate?

Your charitable support, no matter the amount, impacts and changes lives for Christ and for our community, state, and world. Gifts to the Annual Fund help Hillcrest enhance its programs, recruit and retain exceptional faculty, and provide a multitude of resources that make a Hillcrest Academy education of immense value.

Hillcrest Giving Clubs

All donors will be acknowledged each year in the President's Annual Report. The giving clubs provide us an opportunity to recognize and appreciate annual charitable gifts to Hillcrest. The giving clubs are:

- \$120 Club
- \$500 Club
- \$1,000 Club
- \$5,000 Club
- \$10,000 Club

The HLA Legacy Club recognizes the cumulative giving of donors who reach \$25,000 and above.

The HLA Heritage Society recognizes those individuals who notify Hillcrest that it is included as a beneficiary in their will, trust, life insurance policy, or other planned gift. These gifts are recognized in the Annual Report. Bequests made through estates during the fiscal year will also be recognized.

Donors who make annual gifts at the \$1000 level and above will receive an invitation to a special reception given in your honor by the Board of Directors.