



# THE WHITE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL



# ARE YOU CURIOUS?

## **Welcome to The White Mountain School.**

Here you will love learning, expand what you thought was possible, and reimagine what you are capable of doing. We are a college preparatory boarding school, but we will do far more together than simply prepare you for college. We will prepare you to lead a meaningful and fulfilling life inspired by a sense of purpose and human connection.

We recognize that the students we serve sit at the nexus of the present and the future. Thus, it is our responsibility to inspire and develop the next generation of change-makers. Come see what's possible at White Mountain.

# WE ARE A SCHOOL OF **INQUIRY AND ENGAGEMENT**

*As a member of this community you will be connected to a group of peers and adults that work with you to pursue your interests, learn, grow, celebrate your successes, and support you when you face challenges.*

**Building community is an intentional act.** At White Mountain, that starts on our Orientation Trips. Immediately following Welcome Day at the start of the year, students head off campus in groups of 12 to work together and build relationships. After our three-day Orientation Trips return, school can begin.

We believe that students learn and grow best when they feel connected. We intentionally create an informal environment in order to facilitate those connections. All teachers and students go by first names here. Also, in our weekly Morning Meetings you will see teachers alongside students sitting on the floor as we gather and listen to a morning reading, or view a performance or presentation.



**OUR MISSION:** We are a school of inquiry and engagement. Grounded in our Episcopal heritage, we prepare and inspire students to lead lives of curiosity, courage and compassion.

# STUDENT-DRIVEN INQUIRY + **PURPOSEFUL LEARNING**

**What is Student-Driven Inquiry?** Good question. It's a commitment to putting students in the driver's seat. The skills and habits that are essential to learning can be applied to content that is both interesting and relevant to students. Cognitive science research indicates that we learn best when seeking answers to questions we truly hold; not simply learning what will be on a test.

**LASR PROGRAM:** LASR stands for Leadership, Arts, Service, and Research—the four catalysts for students to project their ideas during the annual Inquiry Summit. The program is emblematic of our School's dedication to authentic inquiry and gives real purpose to what we do. All students spend a semester learning about something that they care deeply about in the subject area of their choosing.

# THE POWER OF CHOICE

It's not about the required courses students **must** take that makes their educational experience special. It's the breadth of courses they get to take. Have a look at this sampling of courses and see what looks interesting to you. Want more? Check out the website below.

**CERAMICS**

**FILM PHOTOGRAPHY**

**THE ART OF DANCE**

**INTRODUCTION TO ROBOTICS ENGINEERING**

**MURDER IN LITERATURE**

**PLACE-BASED WRITING**

**SPIRITUAL MEMOIR**

**CULTURE AND COMMUNICATION**

**EASTERN RELIGIONS**

**SUSTAINABLE FARMING**

**LAND USE**

**CALCULUS-BASED PHYSICS: MECHANICS**

**OUTDOOR EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP**

**ENVIRONMENTAL WRITERS**

**BEATS AND BEYOND**

**WILDERNESS FIRST RESPONDER**

**DANCE TECHNIQUE**

Want to design your own course? How about a class on Intersectional Feminism? **You can do that too.**



[whitemountain.org/Courses](http://whitemountain.org/Courses)

# ESSENTIAL SKILLS + HABITS

*Is the only way to learn critical thinking by reading William Shakespeare's "Macbeth"?*

*Is the only way to learn effective communication by debating who started the War of 1812?*

*Is the only way to learn organization by completing 25 algebra problems per night?*

**We don't think so.** And neither does any of the research we found developing our Essential Skills and Habits for Academic Success. Our teachers find creative ways to teach our students through content that matters to them. Your classes here will feel meaningful and relevant to you. Your classes here will be different.



# ESSENTIAL SKILLS

## RESEARCH SKILLS

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- Identify relevant issues, debates, and open questions.
- Access, evaluate, and incorporate a wide variety of information resources.
- Arrive at original conclusions or arguments based on evidence.

## CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS

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- Think systematically and logically.
- Comprehend, analyze, synthesize, and interpret knowledge and information.
- Effectively assess the soundness of an argument.

## COMMUNICATION SKILLS

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- Express ideas with clarity, concision, and grace.
- Write with correct grammar, mechanics, and citations.
- Craft well-structured papers that come to logical conclusions.
- Deliver engaging and informative presentations.

## QUANTITATIVE REASONING SKILLS

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- Describe and interpret ideas with equations and graphs.
- Analyze and explain quantitative data.
- Comfortably utilize mathematical tools for problem-solving.

## ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS

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- Good time management practices.
- Effective setting of short- and long-term goals.
- Organized physical and digital workspaces.

## STUDY SKILLS

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- Have effective strategies for taking and organizing notes.
- Strong reading skills.
- Know how to prepare for and take examinations.

# ESSENTIAL HABITS

## CURIOSITY

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- Use questions to drive learning.
- Frame questions well.
- Explore ideas with purpose and enthusiasm.

## REFLECTION

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- Aware of current level of understanding.
- Reflect on successes and challenges.
- Use of feedback to improve work.
- Understand that ability and competence grow with effort.

## COLLABORATION

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- Welcome spirited dialogue about ideas.
- Participate successfully on teams and in study groups.
- Communicate openly with teachers and advisors.

## PERSISTENCE

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- Pursue inquiry as a dynamic and recursive experience.
- Work with precision and accuracy.
- Persevere when presented with a novel, difficult, or ambiguous task.
- Confident with the problem-solving, experimental, and inquiry processes.

*“Our goal is not to produce students who have memorized material but students who are curious and have the academic skills and habits that will allow them to pursue work they genuinely care about.”*

- Rachel Van Wylen, Art Teacher

# EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

*Whether you are laser-cutting prototypes for a design-thinking class in our Inquiry, Innovation and Impact Lab, learning about movement and dance in our award-winning art center, boiling down maple syrup in an agriculture and farming course, or testing the tensile strength of a climbing rope at the Petzl Factory in Utah, you will learn by doing at White Mountain.*

**GREEN SCHOOL:** The White Mountain School is a long-time leader of the Green Schools movement. As the first high school in the country to have a dedicated Sustainability Studies Department, we believe it is important that students learn not just about the theory of sustainability but also how to take action within their own lives and the community in which they live.

A person with a backpack and a blue cap is hiking on a rocky trail. The person is seen from behind, wearing a white long-sleeved shirt, black leggings, and colorful sneakers. They are carrying a large, colorful backpack. The trail is made of large, light-colored rocks and is bordered by a metal railing. In the background, there is a deep valley with a river or stream, surrounded by green hills and mountains under a clear blue sky. Tall grasses are visible in the foreground on the right side.

# 24

Field Courses  
offered  
each year

## **FIELD COURSES**

Is the classroom the only place to learn? We don't think so. White Mountain students immerse themselves in a week-long, off-campus Field Course each semester. These unique programs allow for in-depth, academic exploration in an authentic setting. Each Field Course provides an incomparable opportunity for students to explore and develop interests beyond the walls of the traditional classroom. Each year White Mountain offers 24 different Field Courses. Where do you want to go?

## **RECENT FIELD COURSES INCLUDE**

Avalanche Education + Backcountry Skiing  
**Sawtooth Mountains, Idaho**

Buddhism: The Study + Practice  
**Upstate New York**

Cultural Immersion + Sustainable  
Community Development  
**Nicaragua**

From Acceptance to Inclusion to Affirmation:  
A Look at the Past, Present, + Future of  
Students of Color in Independent Schools  
**New England**

Permaculture: A Path to  
Extending Sustainability  
**New England**

Art History and Theatre in New York City  
**New York, New York**

# COLLEGE COUNSELING

Where will you go after White Mountain?  
We can help you get there.

We have a dedicated Director of College Counseling who works with students and their families in an individualized process that allows students to show the amazing work they have done. Students' college applications highlight the unique work they have created in our LASR Program through Student-Driven Inquiry. We know our students and demonstrate a deep understanding of them as individuals. You will see that students matriculate to a wide variety of colleges and universities because it is truly about finding the best fit for each student.

*It turns out, colleges seem to think what we're doing works.*

**100**  
percent of our graduates  
are accepted to college.



# BEYOND WHITE MOUNTAIN

Recent college acceptances:

**BOWDOIN COLLEGE**

**BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY**

**BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY**

**COLBY COLLEGE**

**COLGATE UNIVERSITY**

**COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY**

**CORNELL UNIVERSITY**

**DENISON UNIVERSITY**

**ELON UNIVERSITY**

**JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY**

**LEHIGH UNIVERSITY**

**MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE**

**NEW YORK UNIVERSITY**

**NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY**

**SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY**

**UNIVERSITY OF DENVER**

**UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER**

**YALE UNIVERSITY**



# TRADITIONS BUILD BONDS



## COMMUNITY WEEKEND

Community Weekend is the first weekend of the school year. We play games and have activities planned for all interests. Points are awarded to teams (Dark Blue or Light Blue) for performance and participation—go Dark Blue!



## MORNING MEETINGS

Morning Meetings are how we start our day. We come together as a community and listen to a morning reading given by a faculty member, student, or club. Topics range from serious to silly. It's a staple of progressive education.



## MOUNTAIN DAY + BEACH DAY

Mountain Day and Beach Day are “Head’s Holidays”. One morning in the winter and one in the spring, students will wake up to a surprise—no classes today! We’re heading to Jay Peak.



## LIGHT BLUE VS. DARK BLUE

Light Blue vs Dark Blue is our school-wide annual competition. Each community member is assigned to a team (LB or DB). At the end of the year, the team with the most points wins!



# BONDS BUILD COMMUNITY



## SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY DAY

Sustainable Community Day brings us all together to learn about the impact of our actions. Students participate in workshops throughout the day to learn sustainable practices.



## INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

International Night celebrates the cultures and cuisines of our international student population. It is accompanied by a School performance that includes music and dancing.



## COMMUNITY DINNERS

Community Dinners happen once per month. We come together for a more formal meal and celebration. These coincide with holidays as well as award ceremonies.



## ADVISORY DINNERS

Also once per month, the Dining Hall closes for dinner, and students have dinner with their advisors either in their home or at a restaurant. This gives students a little taste of home.



# A FOCUS ON **WELLNESS**

**Our schedule reflects our values.** You will find time to be a student, time to be social, time to be active, time to rest, and, of course, plenty of time to eat. When students on our Academic Steering Committee told us Thursdays were the hardest day of the week, we changed our schedule to give them an extra hour of sleep.



[whitemountain.org/WeeklySchedule](http://whitemountain.org/WeeklySchedule)



# BOUNDLESS OPPORTUNITY

Our afternoon programs have a variety of shapes and sizes. You're bound to find the one(s) for you. Our co-curricular offerings vary widely from traditional team sports and endurance sports, to unique adventure-based sports and other activities that allow you to be on stage or behind it, working with your hands on a robot or on The Farm. No school our size has the number of offerings we do. **There is power in choice.**

## CLUBS

**VOCAL ENSEMBLE**

**ART**

**ASTRONOMY**

**CHESS**

**CITIZENSHIP**

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

**DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS**

**INDOOR SOCCER**

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MENTORS**

**DIVERSITY**

**NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY**

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

**ROBOTICS**

**SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

**QUEER CLUB**

**STUDENT COUNCIL**

**SUSTAINABILITY**

**THE PENDULUM (YEARBOOK)**

## CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

**BACKCOUNTRY SKI + SNOWBOARD**

**BASKETBALL**

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

**CROSS COUNTRY**

**CYCLING**

**DANCE**

**ECO-ART**

**FARM & FOREST**

**FREESTYLE SKI + SNOWBOARD**

**HIKING & FITNESS**

**ICE CLIMBING**

**INSTRUCTIONAL MOUNTAIN PROGRAM**

**LACROSSE**

**MOUNTAIN BIKING**

**TRACK AND FIELD**

**RECREATIONAL SKI + SNOWBOARD**

**ROBOTICS**

**ROCK CLIMBING**

**SOCCER**

**SKI RACING**

**SPORT CLIMBING**

**THEATER**

**WEIGHT TRAINING**

**WHITewater KAYAKING**

**YOGA**

# HOME AWAY FROM HOME

**Want a roommate?** White Mountain has four dormitories with an impressive residential life curriculum. We want you to feel at home in your room and have common space to gather with friends to watch a movie, hang out, and have dorm meetings. There are faculty apartments in each dormitory so you'll always have a friendly face to go to if you need help with an assignment, you forget how to clean your room, or if you just need a freshly baked cookie to get you through study hall.

IMPRESSIVE SPACES

**WEEKENDS:** Activities include outdoor outings such as moonlight hikes, ski trips or mountain bike riding; shopping trips to outlet centers, Burlington, or the local towns; art excursions to movies, plays, and art exhibits; School-sponsored cultural events, cookie baking in faculty kitchens and games, etc.

### I<sup>3</sup> LAB

Opened the Fall of 2019 in collaboration with Dartmouth College's Thayer School of Engineering. Home of Northern Horizons, our FIRST Robotics team, and space for all students to build and explore.

### CREATIVE EDGE DANCE STUDIO

White Mountain owns and operates a full-scale dance studio—Creative Edge—which is open to the public and teaches more than 100 dancers. There are performance opportunities in two full-length ballets, an annual recital, and regular competitions for company members.

### THE FARM

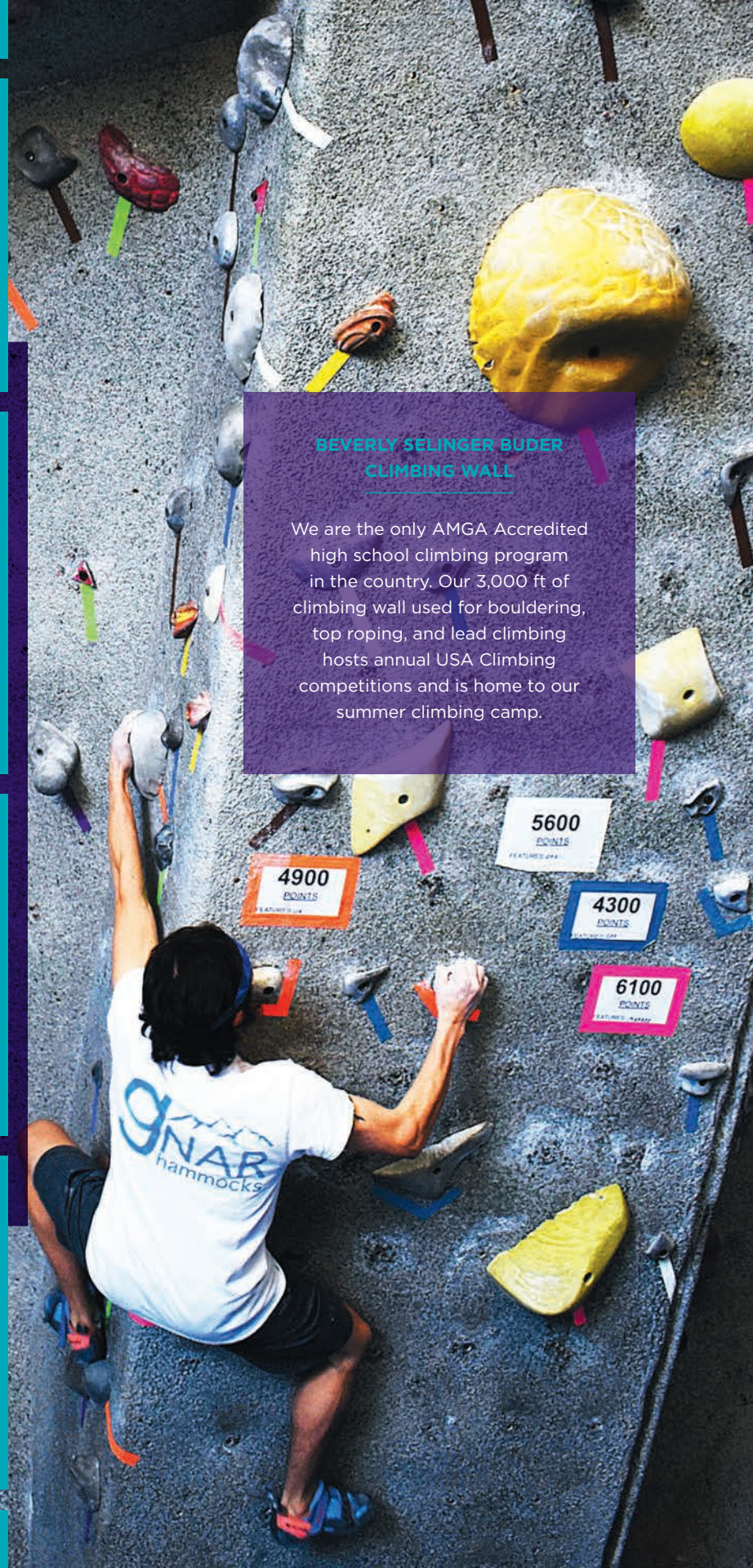
Our organic farm produces multiple varieties of vegetables, fruits, and berries and includes two additional indoor growing spaces, a Sugar Shack for making maple syrup (200 gal of sap was collected in spring 2019!), and 10 free range chickens.

### MUSIC RECORDING STUDIO

Whether you're an artist, collaborator, composer, producer, or songwriter, we have the equipment you need. You can learn the basics in digital recording or continue to build your SoundCloud portfolio.

### BEVERLY SELINGER BUDER CLIMBING WALL

We are the only AMGA Accredited high school climbing program in the country. Our 3,000 ft of climbing wall used for bouldering, top roping, and lead climbing hosts annual USA Climbing competitions and is home to our summer climbing camp.



# THE ARTS

*Are you an artist? What kind?  
Not sure yet? That's OK too.*

**At White Mountain we have a variety of classes, clubs, and co-curricular opportunities for students to explore fine, performing, and visual arts.** Whether you are interested in learning to throw a pot in our ceramics studio, develop film in our darkroom, or hone your skills in our art studio, there's time and space for you to do it.

More of a performance artist? White Mountain actually owns and operates a full dance studio that offers seven styles of dance at beginner to expert levels. There are also three full-scale performances per year.

Singers, songwriters, and musicians—there's a place for you too! Interested in theater, either on stage or behind the scenes? Great!

[whitemountain.org/Arts](http://whitemountain.org/Arts)





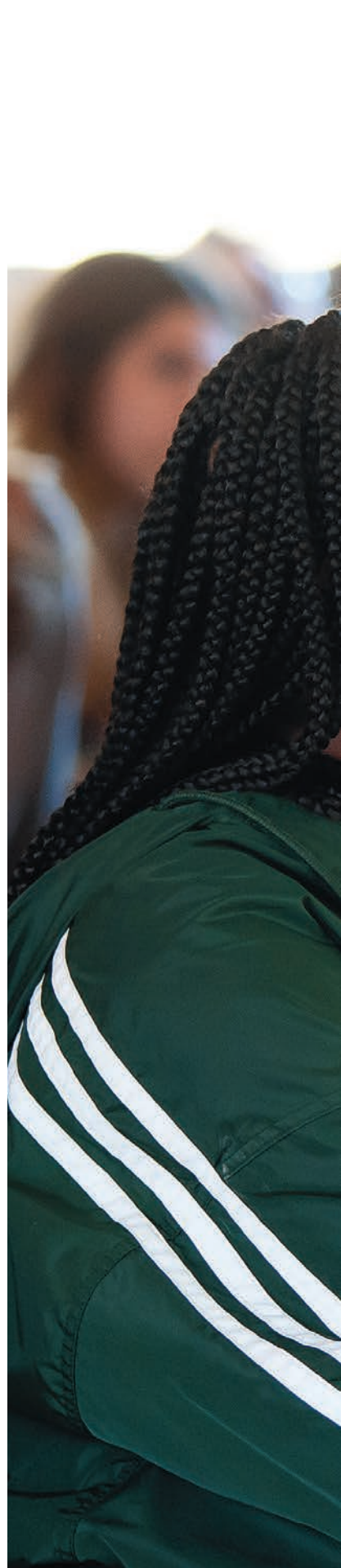
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# DIVERSITY, EQUITY + INCLUSION

**Do you believe that creating an equitable and inclusive community is a shared responsibility? Do you want to be part of it? So do we.**

The diversity of a school directly contributes to the quality of its students' education. Exposed to a variety of perspectives, students learn to think critically, to challenge their assumptions, and to explore alternative approaches and solutions to real world problems. We know as well that children grow best when they feel wholly safe and wholly welcome. Students bring their personal backgrounds and histories to the classroom and their classmates and teachers are richer for that gift.

It is our responsibility to welcome a diverse representation of students to White Mountain, create spaces and programs that are inclusive, and strive to provide experiences within our programs which are equitable.





# CREATING SPACE

At White Mountain, we build in time and create spaces for students to discuss, learn, and reflect on the importance of creating a diverse, equitable, and inclusive community. One example of this can be seen in our affinity groups and clubs that focus on supporting students that share a piece of their background, identity, ideology, or a common interest. The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Steering Committee dedicated the 2017-18 school year to educating the community about the importance of affinity groups in providing a collective voice for students sharing a piece of their identity. In addition to the internal work we do, White Mountain annually sends students to the Student Diversity Leadership Conference and sends teachers to the People of Color Conference to further develop our cultural understandings and meet other amazing people passionate about diversity, equity, and inclusion work.

## **Affinity Groups and Clubs:**

**STUDENTS OF COLOR**

**SOCIAL JUSTICE WARRIORS**

**QUEER CLUB**

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENT COUNCIL**

**INTERFAITH COUNCIL**

**LATINX STUDENTS**

**BACKCOUNTRY SISTERS FOR WOMEN IN THE OUTDOORS**

# *Do you have a need to lead?*

White Mountain students have numerous opportunities to develop their leadership skills. All of these represent places that our students can learn about their impact on others around them.

## LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

PROCTORS

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STUDENT AMBASSADORS

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CREW SUPERVISORS

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MORNING MEETING PRESENTERS

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CLUB SPONSORS

---

TEAM CAPTAINS

---

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

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SOCIAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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SUMMER READING SPONSORS




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# BE A LEADER



# 140 STUDENTS

	FROM	CONTINENTS	COUNTRIES	STATES
		6	10	24
INTERNATIONAL		BOARDING STUDENTS		DAY STUDENTS
19%		110		30
  <b>\$2 MILLION</b>			<b>35%</b>	
IN FINANCIAL AID AWARDED			OF DOMESTIC BOARDERS = STUDENTS OF COLOR	

# 45 FACULTY + STAFF

<b>85%</b> PERCENT OF FACULTY MEMBERS LIVE ON CAMPUS	<b>6:1</b> STUDENT TO TEACHER RATIO 
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# 50 SPORTS + CLUBS

**55** COURSES ON CAMPUS + GLOBAL ONLINE ACADEMY (GOA) → GOA COURSES INCLUDE:

- Bioethics • Climate Change + Global Inequality • CSII: Analyzing Data with Python • Gender Studies • Neuropsychology

# PLACE

More than 85 years ago, then Head of School Aunt Dot selected our current location because she knew that the mountain setting would help students develop both humility and vision. She was right. In these mountains we are “surrounded by things greater than ourselves” that connect us with a purpose beyond ourselves. Our mountain setting inspires us to explore more broadly, to think more deeply, and to experience the fullness of life.

NESTLED IN THE WHITE MOUNTAINS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, OUR 250 ACRE CAMPUS, AND THE COMMUNITIES THAT SURROUND US, PROVIDE AMPLE SPACE TO LEARN, PLAY, AND GROW.



# 250

ACRE  
CAMPUS

IN THE WHITE  
MOUNTAINS



# 6 MILES

OF MAINTAINED TRAILS ON CAMPUS FOR  
WALKING, MOUNTAIN BIKING, CROSS COUNTRY  
SKIING, AND MORE!

# 1

AMAZING DOWNTOWN  
LESS THAN 2 MILES AWAY  
(Littleton, NH)

# 2 OF THE BEST SKI MOUNTAINS

IN THE NORTHEAST WITHIN 30 MINUTES  
(Cannon + Bretton Woods)



# STILL CURIOUS?

Visiting and experiencing any boarding school in New England is important, and The White Mountain School is no different. We can tell you over and over how amazing this place is, but you really have to see it to believe it. We invite you to spend some time with us and see for yourself if this is the place for you.

**To schedule a tour:**

EMAIL: [admission@whitemountain.org](mailto:admission@whitemountain.org)

CALL: **603.444.2928 x226**



THE  
**WHITE  
MOUNTAIN**  
SCHOOL

As an Episcopal school, we honor and celebrate the unique worth of each individual. We welcome students of all faiths and encourage them to grow in their own understanding of spirituality. Our Episcopal heritage inspires our commitment to community service (local and international), it informs our relationship to the natural world, and it is why we have always been a school that respects each student as an individual with unique talents and passions.

[whitemountain.org](http://whitemountain.org)

THE WHITE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL IS A GENDER-INCLUSIVE INDEPENDENT  
BOARDING SCHOOL LOCATED IN BETHLEHEM, NH.

371 West Farm Road • Bethlehem, NH 03574 • 603.444.2928

