



Private School

Georgiana Bruce Kirby Preparatory School

California

Georgiana Bruce Kirby Preparatory School is a private day school in Santa Cruz, California, serving grades 6–12 with a rigorous college-preparatory curriculum. The school is known for small class sizes, individualized academic pathways, and strong integration of arts, sciences, and experiential learning.



PRIVATE



COED



COASTAL



STEM



ARTS



DIPLOMA
YEAR

Quick Facts

Founded: 1994

Niche.com Score: A+

Students: Co-educational

Climate: Cool winters / Dry summers

Population: 63,000

School Population: 280

High School Population: 175

Accepting students: Grade 9-12

Diploma Year offered: Yes

Interview Required? Yes

English as Second Language (ESL) support: Yes

University Acceptance rate: 100%

Academic Excellence

Kirby School offers a **rigorous college-preparatory program** designed to support intellectual curiosity, academic independence, and critical thinking. Small class sizes allow for close faculty mentorship and personalized instruction across all subjects. Over 60 percent of faculty members hold advanced degrees, including doctoral and master's qualifications, ensuring strong academic depth. Students pursue advanced coursework across **humanities, sciences, mathematics, technology, and languages**, with opportunities to specialize through intensive academic pathways.

Student Accomplishments

- High levels of university readiness supported by individualized academic mentoring
- Strong student participation in advanced arts, science, and humanities programs
- Graduates prepared for competitive college environments

Recent University Acceptances

- American University
- Bard College
- Bentley University
- Boston University
- Cabrillo College
- California State Polytechnic University
- Clark University
- Colgate University
- Colorado State University
- Columbia University
- Drexel University
- Gettysburg College
- Harvard University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- New York University
- Princeton
- Rhode Island School of Design
- Tufts University
- Tulane University
- University of California
- University of Washington
- Vassar College
- Wellesley College



Stats

10

of AP Courses

#1

of the Best Private High Schools in Santa Cruz

65%

Teachers with Advanced Degrees

100%

University and College Acceptance

7:1

Student Teacher Ratio

6-12

Grades at School

29

Average ACT Score

1370

Average SAT Score

Campus Facilities

The campus features **modern academic and creative facilities** designed to support hands-on learning. Students have access to specialized spaces including **an audio engineering lab with recording studios, a photography darkroom, a printing press for bookmaking, and dedicated studios** for ceramics, dance, drama, and visual arts. **Expansive music and art rooms** support both individual practice and collaborative work, creating a learning environment that encourages experimentation, creativity, and interdisciplinary exploration.

Athletics and Arts

Kirby School maintains a balanced approach to athletics and the arts as essential components of student development. Athletic programs emphasize teamwork, leadership, and physical wellness through a variety of competitive and recreational sports.

The arts program is a defining strength of the school, with extensive offerings in visual arts, music, theater, and performance. Instruction is led by experienced professionals, allowing students to pursue advanced creative work alongside academic study.



Highlights

Sports: Basketball, Cross Country Running, Mountain Biking, Soccer, Swimming, Track and Field, Ultimate Frisbee, Volleyball

Arts: Art, Art History, Book Arts, Ceramics, Photography, Studio Art - 2D Design, Studio Art - 3D Design, Studio Art - Drawing, Theater, Music, Choir, Jazz Choir, Jazz Ensemble, Orchestra, Music Theory

Advanced Placement courses: Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Comparative Government, Computer Science, English Literature and Composition, Music Theory, Physics, Psychology, Statistics, United States Government

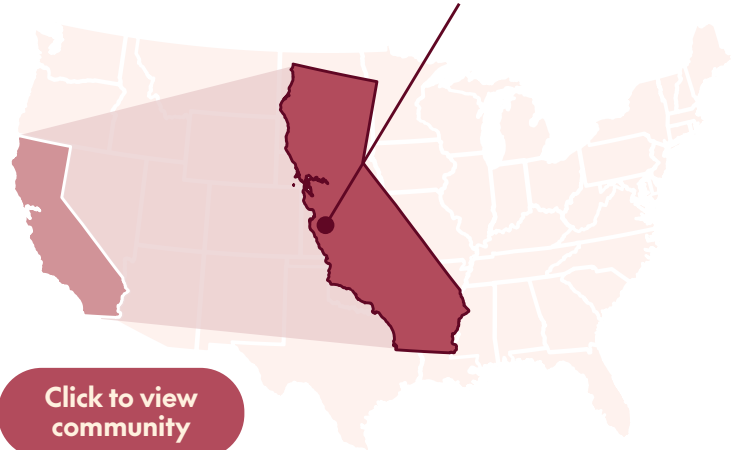
Clubs and extracurriculars: Ballroom Dancing, Chess Club, Epicurean Philosophy, Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA), Junior Statesman of America, Math Team, Mountain Biking Club, Quantum Physics, Student IT, Surf Club

Community

Santa Cruz is a vibrant coastal city offering a blend of cultural, recreational, and natural attractions. Students benefit from access to **beaches, redwood forests, and local cultural landmarks** such as the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk and Surfing Museum. The city is located approximately 32 miles from **San Jose International Airport**, providing convenient domestic and international travel connections.

Climate in Santa Cruz

Santa Cruz has a mild coastal climate with cool, wet winters and warm, dry summers, offering comfortable year-round living conditions.



[Click to view community](#)



"Kirby's International Students Program makes sure we all feel welcomed and get to know our classmates well and as fast as possible. The staff is constantly understanding of our situation and possible adaptation issues. Summing up, the program allows you to deepen your knowledge in the areas that interest you, while respecting everyone's culture and experience."

Clarissa from Brazil

"The teachers are amazing and the curriculum is rigorous, which has helped me excel beyond my grade level."

Student

Video

Learn more about the school

