



# 2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT

LAKE COUNTRY  
CLASSICAL ACADEMY



818 W Wisconsin Ave | Oconomowoc, WI 53066



# A COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

## FROM THE LCCA BOARD

As we reflect on the 2024–25 school year, we are reminded why so many families continue to choose Lake Country Classical Academy. LCCA exists to train the minds and improve the hearts of young people. That mission calls us to form students who are thoughtful, responsible, and guided by virtue.

At LCCA, education is about more than achievement. It is about cultivating habits of attention, perseverance, humility, and gratitude within a community where students feel known and supported. Academic study is part of something larger — helping young people grow in wisdom, develop sound judgment, and learn to care for others.

A classical school does not replace the family; it partners with it. Each family balances school, activities, faith, and home life in its own way. Our goal is not uniformity of experience, but unity of purpose — supporting parents as the primary guides in their children's formation. The Board remains committed to ensuring that LCCA is a place where families feel heard, valued, and respected, and where decisions are guided by what best supports the long-term flourishing of students.

As stewards of the school, the Board is committed to protecting this mission and preserving the stability and integrity of our model. Growth and refinement are natural in any maturing institution, but our foundation remains constant: forming young people of character in partnership with families.

The strength of LCCA is found not in any single initiative, but in the shared conviction of this community that education should prepare students not only for success, but for lives of meaning and responsibility.

*With gratitude,  
The Lake Country Classical Academy Board of Directors*

## MOTTO

is **scientia est libertas**, "Knowledge is liberty."

We seek to cultivate the pursuit of truth, the desire for good, and a love of beauty.

## VIRTUE CODE

By focusing on **honesty, courage, responsibility, respect, and wisdom**, we hope to prepare students for a life well-lived.

## MISSION

is to **train the minds** and **improve the hearts** of young people through a content-rich, classical education in the liberal arts and sciences with instruction in the principles of moral character and civic virtue.

# STUDENT SUCCESSSES

**LCCA STUDENT AWARDS** received throughout the year showcase the variety of talents found within our institutional walls. Through thoughtful and classic cultivation of these talents, we shine in local, state, and national competitions both academically and creatively.

## 2025 WISCONSIN JUNIOR LEAGUE LATIN CONVENTION

- LCCA students earned 40 ribbons for placing 5<sup>th</sup> or better
- Placed in the top 10 over 80 times
- Second place in the Quantitative Sweepstakes (most total points)
- Senior Peter Vourax was elected Secretary of the Wisconsin Senior Classical League

## 2025 NATIONAL LATIN EXAM (Grades 7-12)

- 5 Summa Cum Laude Gold Medals
- 9 Maxima Cum Laude Silver Medals
- 8 Magna Cum Laude Certificates
- 16 Cum Laude Certificates

## 2025 WAEA STATE ART EXHIBITION

- WAEA Chair Award - Maggie Anderson (below far left)
- 3 Silver Key Awards - Payton Vourax (below left center) & Abbey Merkel (below right center)
- 1 Honorable Mention - Amelia Mattheis (below far right)



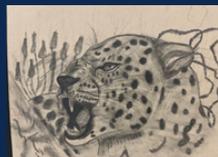
## 2025 HELEN FARNSWORTH MEARS ART EXHIBITION

- One 1<sup>st</sup> Place Winner - Malachi Petersohn
- One 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Winner - Cassidy Hoenigman
- Three 3 Honorable Mentions - Henry Anderson, Elliya Alexander, & Beckham Sliwinski

## 2025 STATE SOLO & ENSEMBLE AWARDS CLASS A SOLO PERFORMANCE WINNERS

- Micah Hahn
- Matthew Hahn
- Mackenzie Lenz

## 2025 LCCA GALLERY NIGHT | STUDENT SHOWCASE *Samples below*



# CULMINATION OF EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

**THE CLASS OF 2025** made history as the first graduating class of LCCA. Though small in number, just 15 students, their impact was immeasurable. As pioneers of the school's high school, they established traditions, set standards, and shaped the culture that future classes will continue to build upon.

They led the development of the upper school house system, organized the school's first prom, and launched philanthropic initiatives to give back to LCCA. Through bake sales, car washes, and other community-based efforts, they raised funds for a mission-themed plaque given to LCCA as a gesture of gratitude for the vision, dedication, and hard work that made their high school experience possible.

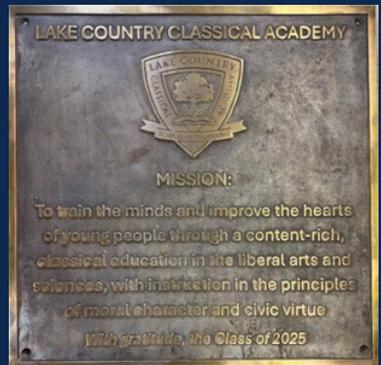
Their commitment to LCCA often required personal sacrifice. Some students commuted long distances each day, fully aware that other schools might have offered more extracurricular activities or elective options. Nevertheless, they chose to invest in the mission and future of LCCA. In doing so, they became a unified, supportive class that led the student body with integrity and appreciation for their teachers and the education they received.

Their journey culminated in a Senior Spotlight feature, where one class member expressed the gratitude shared by many: "I would like to thank the founders of LCCA for providing an opportunity to grow and prosper, my teachers for helping me to grow, the administration for running LCCA, and the board for supervising the operations of LCCA. I owe my success to you all."

**THE SENIOR THESIS** is the capstone of a student's intellectual formation at Lake Country Classical Academy. Moving beyond shorter assignments, students pursue a question rooted in what Mortimer Adler calls "the ideas we judge by": what is true, good, and beautiful. Through sustained close reading and analysis, they seek to understand the minds of great thinkers and enter the ongoing Great Conversation, ultimately contributing an argument of their own.

Rather than original research in unexplored fields, the thesis requires students to revisit significant texts, trace the network of ideas surrounding them, and situate their thinking within that tradition. Guided by an advisor and grounded firmly in textual evidence, students write as emerging philosophers – careful, disciplined, and attentive to truth.

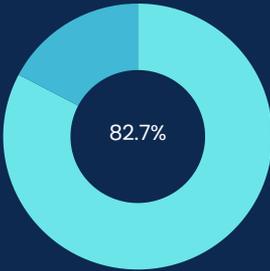
The project culminates in a 12–15 page paper (with every word justified) and an oral defense before a faculty panel, with the advisor serving as chief reader.



# CULTIVATING COMMUNITIES THROUGH SCHOLARLY SUCCESS

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (DPI) REPORT CARD RESULTS** for the 2024-25 school year show we are once again an "Exceeds Expectations" 4-star school! We are especially pleased that our Achievement score remains the same or higher than 100.0% of K-12 schools in the state. Our overall score has improved to 82.7, just 1.3 points from a 5-star rating.

## OVERALL SCORE



DPI 4-Star Rated  
Exceeds Expectations

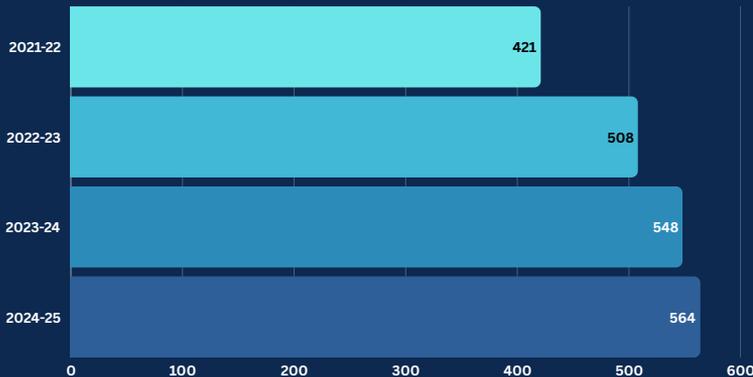
## PRIORITY AREA WEIGHTS



*The data above is comprised of multiple sources across four priority areas: Achievement, Growth, Target Group Outcomes, and On-Track to Graduation.*

**LCCA STUDENT ENROLLMENT** has grown steadily from year one, as a K-9 public charter school, to year four, as a fully K-12 institution. With declining population data in the U.S., as well as in the State of Wisconsin, LCCA's growth remains a testament to educational choice in the Lake Country area.

## LCCA 4-YEAR ENROLLMENT DATA Per Department of Public Instruction

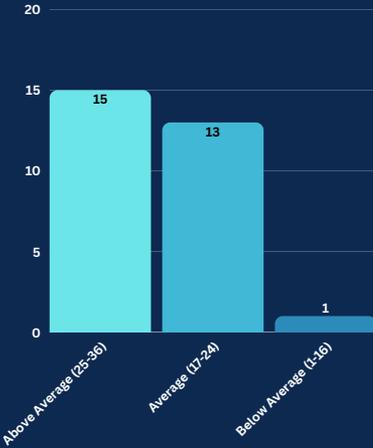


# ACADEMIC ASSESSMENTS

**2025 ACT PERFORMANCE TESTING** by LCCA juniors in the fall of 2024 and spring of 2025 produced impressive results, with 15 of 19 students performing in the 25-26 Above Average category. Notably, 8 of these students received a score of 30 or higher, classified as “highly competitive,” placing the student in the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher for competitive top-tier post-secondary schools.

The **2025 CLASSIC LEARNING TEST (CLT)** was taken by LCCA juniors in the spring of 2025. The CLT evaluates intellectual capacity and aptitude, as well as meaningful pieces of literature in its testing process. Results indicated a 12% improvement year-over-year, with LCCA’s average score improving from 66 in 2024 to 75 in 2025.

2025 JUNIOR ACT PERFORMANCE

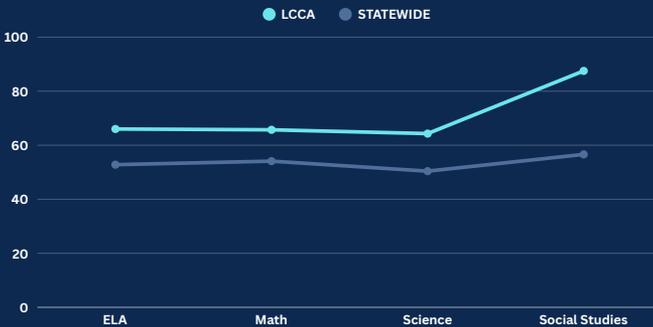


CLASSIC LEARNING TEST



**WISCONSIN FORWARD TESTING RESULTS** for the 2024-25 school year showed LCCA students improved in ELA, science, and social studies, with a minor decline in math scores year-over-year. LCCA’s overall performance is significantly higher than state-wide testing averages in Wisconsin, as evidenced in the following chart.

WISCONSIN FORWARD TESTING



# CELEBRATING A CONNECTED CULTURE

The **UPPER SCHOOL HOUSE SYSTEM** at Lake Country Classical Academy has rapidly become an integral component of the West Campus culture. Comprised of six distinct houses, it engages students in grades 7 through 12 in a wide array of activities, competitions, and purposeful interactions within their assigned house each year. Sixth-grade students participate as apprentices of the system before being sorted into a house in 7th grade. The system's mission is clear: *To cultivate student involvement in self-governance and the development of civic virtue, foster camaraderie across grade levels, and promote growth in moral character.* Ultimately, the House System, along with its House Consul helmsmen, serves as a vital training ground for future leaders, aligning directly with LCCA's **Portrait of a Graduate**.

**CELEBRATE-A-SENIOR** is an engaging program pairing elementary students with high school seniors to honor graduating students through letters, art, or small celebrations. This meaningful exchange fosters mentorship, school spirit, and a sense of community across grade levels. It's a fun and heartwarming way for younger students to learn about goal setting while showing appreciation for their older peers' accomplishments. We energize elementary students with senior pride!

**SCHOOL FIELD TRIPS** for grades K-6 provide hands-on learning experiences that bring classroom lessons to life, helping students make real-world connections across subjects like science, history, and the arts. These outings spark curiosity, support social development, and deepen understanding through exploration and observation. Field trips are not only educational but also fun, offering students a memorable break from routine that enhances engagement and learning.



SENIOR HOLIDAY  
CRAFTS & COOKIES



SENIOR HIGH FIVES



SENIOR HELPERS



SENIOR WALK



SENIOR SEND-OFF

# CLASSICALLY CULTIVATING CURIOSITY

**LCCA's 6TH-GRADE SHEEP HEART DISSECTION** offers students a hands-on opportunity to explore the anatomy and functions of the human heart by engaging with the classical education principle of learning through direct observation and inquiry. By carefully examining the heart's chambers, valves, and blood vessels, students gain a deeper understanding of how the circulatory system works. This experiment not only enhances their knowledge of biology but also fosters the classical virtues of curiosity, critical thinking, and disciplined teamwork. Students explore the marvels of creation, cultivating a sense of wonder and respect for the order of the natural world in an engaging way.



SHEEP'S HEART  
HANDS-ON LEARNING



DISSECTION  
EXPERIMENT SUCCESS!



DISSECTION  
TEAMWORK

**CIVIL WAR REENACTMENT** fuels the minds of LCCA fifth graders as they learn about pivotal events and figures of the US Civil War. They explore the deep divisions between the North and the South over slavery, highlighting key historical figures such as Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S Grant, and Robert E Lee. Utilizing the Hillsdale 1776 curriculum, students learn about major themes, like the Underground Railroad, the Emancipation Proclamation, the Gettysburg Address, and the roles of the Union and the Confederacy. The unit culminates with a visit from an actual Civil War reenactor who brings history to life, teaching students about a day in the life of a soldier, from sampling stew to marching in formation.



GENERALS



TROOPS



# ADVANCING ATHLETICS

## WISCONSIN ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (WIAA)

**ACCEPTANCE** was granted to LCCA at the end of the 2024–25 school year after successfully completing a 3-year probational period. Thanks to our Co-Op partnership as well as our independent participation in a variety of sports, LCCA's student athletes are now able to compete in area conference matchups, postseason competitions, and championship tournaments.



SCHOOL SPIRIT



CROSS COUNTRY



BASKETBALL



TRACK

# EXPERIENCING ENGAGEMENT

**AFTER-SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS** provide an eclectic collection of activities when the school day is complete. Some of these include hiking club, soccer, chess, theater, martial arts, service club, and junior classic league. These activities offer students exciting opportunities to explore new interests, develop skills, and build confidence outside the traditional classroom setting. Programs foster creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving, while also providing a safe and supportive environment for social and personal growth.



THEATER



SERVICE CLUB



MAD SCIENCE



KIDDO KINETICS



# LIVING LITERACY

**LITERARY CHARACTER DAY** engages students with their literature as they embody their love of reading. This fun and engaging event encourages students to come to school dressed as their favorite characters from their most cherished books. This activity not only sparks creativity and enthusiasm for reading but also deepens comprehension as students explore character traits, story elements, and authors' purposes. It fosters a love of literature while reinforcing key literacy skills in an enjoyable and memorable way. This is the perfect tie-in to our annual Skytree Bookfair!



HARRY POTTER



SHERLOCK HOLMES



THE MADHATTER



# FLOURISHING FINE ARTS

**THE GOOD, THE TRUE, & THE BEAUTIFUL** shines through collaborative creation and performance in LCCA's Fine Arts Program. This program enables students to learn discipline, humility, and the power of art to uplift and inspire.



ORCHESTRA



THEATER



CHOIR



OPERA



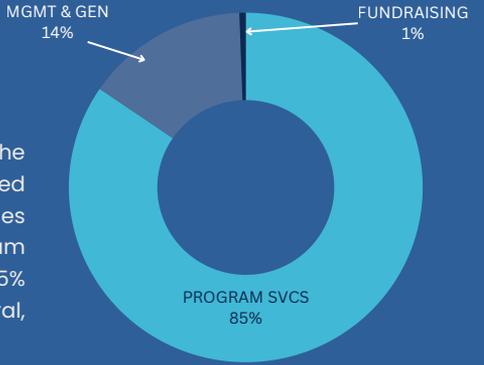
# FISCAL FINANCIALS

**CONTINUED GROWTH** in grants, donations, and interest income contributed to the financial surplus for the 2024–25 fiscal year. Lake Country Classical Academy received \$257,226 from the Wisconsin Charter School Project Waiver Cohort as support for new charter schools. In addition, the school received a \$500,000 donation from the William S. Knight Foundation, designated for One Campus expenses. Combined with continued support from the Liberty Gala and other sponsored events, total fundraising reached \$887,709, exceeding donations from the previous year. Historical surpluses held in interest-bearing accounts generated \$102,277 in interest income. Increased grant funding, philanthropic support, and investment returns helped offset operational expenses and expanding program costs.



## TOTAL EXPENSES

**COMBINED TOTAL EXPENSES** for the 2024–25 fiscal year reached \$7,544,524. The majority of expenses totaled 85% from operational program services, while the remaining 15% came from management, general, and fundraising expenditures.



**LCCA'S TOTAL REVENUES EXCEEDED EXPENSES** by \$737,666 in the fiscal year 2024–25 Statement of Activities. This surplus will apply to future growth and sustainability as the school builds a development plan for a permanent K–12 institution while offering robust classical education excellence to its community.

# SCHOOL YEAR SUMMARY

The 2024–2025 school year was a milestone year for Lake Country Classical Academy, marked by the graduation of its first senior class and continued momentum across academics, culture, and growth. LCCA once again earned a 4-Star “Exceeds Expectations” rating from the Wisconsin DPI, with achievement levels ranking at or above 100% of K–12 schools statewide. Students posted impressive gains on the Classic Learning Test, delivered standout ACT results, including multiple scores of 30+, and earned numerous state and national honors in the arts, music, and Latin. Enrollment climbed to 564 students, reflecting strong and growing demand for classical education in the Lake Country area. With expanding athletics, thriving fine arts, hands-on learning experiences, and a \$737,666 annual surplus supporting future development, LCCA continued to distinguish itself as a premier K–12 public charter school forming students in truth, character, and academic excellence.



## WHAT'S NEXT: 2026 LIBERTY GALA

Join us for our 6<sup>th</sup> Annual LCCA Liberty Gala in the spring of 2026 at the Marriott West. Our flagship fundraising event is always packed with friends, festivities, and fun! We can't wait to see you there!

**SAVE THE DATE: APRIL 24, 2026**

## STAY CONNECTED

- [info@lakecountryclassical.org](mailto:info@lakecountryclassical.org)
- [www.lakecountryclassical.org](http://www.lakecountryclassical.org)
- Phone: 262-254-9049
- 818 W Wisconsin Ave | Oconomowoc, WI 53066

## ADMINISTRATION

- Mrs. Margaret Hagedorn, Principal
- Dr. Eric Wozniak, Asst Principal (6-12)
- Miss Kami Joy, Asst Principal (K-5)
- Mrs. Emily Gajewski, Pupil Services