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Head-Royce is a nonsectarian college preparatory day school with co-educational classes from kindergarten through 12th grade. Founded in 1887 in Berkeley, California as the Anna Head School for Girls, it was relocated in 1964 and now occupies a 22-acre campus in a residential area of Oakland. The School has been fully co-educational since 1979.

Our Mission

The Head-Royce curriculum reflects the diversity, globalism, environmental awareness, and innovation of Oakland and the Bay Area. Through its rigorous and challenging courses, the School seeks to inspire in students:

- a lifelong love of learning and commitment to academic excellence
- a respect for the diversity that makes our society strong
- a passion for constructive and responsible global citizenship
- a facility for creative, collaborative, critical thinking

Our Students

Head-Royce enrolls approximately 890 students: 245 in the Lower School, 270 in Middle School and 375 in the Upper School. Students come from Oakland, Berkeley, and over 30 other Bay Area communities. Students of color comprise more than 55% of our population. For the 2018–2019 academic year, the School will grant over \$5.5 million in financial aid to more than 27% of our students.

Head-Royce fosters an atmosphere of self-governance and encourages its students to develop leadership skills both inside and outside the classroom. Upper School students may apply to serve in one-year posts on faculty/student committees in areas such as curriculum, diversity, and student life. Our students regularly represent Head-Royce at the National Student Diversity Leadership Conference. Other leadership opportunities include serving as senior prefects and student council officers. Active student clubs include Black Student Union, Latinos Unidos, Gender Sexuality Diversity, Green Team, Diversity Council, Asia Club, FADE (our student-led dance troupe) and Thespian Troupe 2811, among many others. A new element of our strong visual arts program is the annual Head-Royce Film Festival, which features student work. Caravan, our advanced jazz band, performs throughout the Bay Area and Colla Voce, our select choir, performs at music festivals in the United States and abroad.

Through our premier athletic program, Head-Royce students can play on over 28 interscholastic teams. Our competitive programs have captured over 50 league championships in the last 10 years, including the 2016 state championship in women's volleyball. Recent Head-Royce graduates have competed in interscholastic sports at Brandeis, Bowdoin, Brown, UC Berkeley, UCLA, Carleton, Colgate, Cornell, Claremont-McKenna College, Dartmouth, Denison, Georgetown, Haverford, Howard University, Macalester, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Middlebury, NYU, Northwestern, Oberlin, Occidental, Pomona-Pitzer, University of Pennsylvania, University of Portland, Princeton, University of Puget Sound, Stanford, Swarthmore, Tufts, Vassar, Washington University at St. Louis, Wesleyan, and Wheaton.

Our Faculty

The Upper School has 56 teaching faculty members; more than 75% have at least one advanced degree and six have doctorates. The average tenure of Upper School faculty members is 13 years.

Of Special Note

The Center for Community Engagement ▶

Established in 2013, the Center for Community Engagement provides students with opportunities to explore civic engagement on a personal level with internships and summer opportunities. The goal of the center is to help students form authentic partnerships with organizations that promote social change and encourage leadership training in such fields as global education, government, medicine and STEM research (science, technology, engineering and math.)

Computer Science ▶

The goal of our four-year computer science program is to introduce students to computational thinking and software development through problem and project-based learning. After completing Computer Science prerequisites, students can take year-long courses in data structures and advanced program design. Each year, students complete two design projects that are independently prototyped and designed. Students regularly continue their education through a summer internship or a senior project based around software development.

Other Stem Opportunities ▶

In addition to our electives in engineering and robotics, we field an award-winning Upper School VEX Robotics Team that competes in regional and national tournaments. The Computer Science Club also actively competes in local and international competitions such as the American Computer Science League and the United States Computing Olympiad. In recent years, we expanded our Technology Internship Program with students gaining practical experience in jobs both on and off campus. Students are encouraged to participate in science fair competitions, and engineering students design and construct original projects at our annual "Engineering Expo."

Debate ▶

The School's debate program is entering its fourth decade and provides extensive opportunities for students interested in both policy and public speaking competition. Students may elect to compete locally or travel nationally as part of the advanced team which competes in tournaments throughout the year.

Our Academic Program

Typically students take five academic subjects each semester, and most take an elective as well. Our AP courses are designed for juniors and seniors. On average, Head-Royce students graduate having taken three of the 14 AP courses we offer.

Some departments design their own advanced courses in lieu of the AP curriculum. For instance, all of our semester-long senior English and History electives resemble college seminars in content, style, and expectations and require a significant amount of reading and analytical writing. We consider the following courses as rigorous as AP equivalents: Neurobiology, Molecular Genetics, Economics, Multivariable Calculus, Advanced Computer Science: Data Structures, French Cinema and Literature, Latin V, and all senior English and History courses.

The Head-Royce math curriculum is differentiated and rigorous, and fully prepares our students for college-level math. All of our calculus classes provide an outstanding foundation for college calculus, statistics, and science.

Curricular Highlights and Capstone Experiences

- **The I-Search:** In the 9th grade all students complete the I-Search, an extensive research project in which they investigate a contemporary topic through personal interviews and library and internet research. In addition to submitting a 7–10 page paper, students prepare a five-minute presentation (modeled on TED talks) summarizing their project. Recent I-Search paper titles include *The Unfortunate Reality: The Physical, Emotional, and Financial Effects of Neuroblastoma*, *For the Last Time, What Are You? Mixed-Race Children and Identity*, and *Reel Revolution: Democratization of Filmmaking Tools*.
- **Junior Honors Humanities Curriculum:** Together, English 11 and History 11 explore the canonical literature and history of the West. Authors covered include Plato, Sappho, Montaigne, Rousseau, Chaucer and Shakespeare, among many others. Students analyze primary sources and explore themes through seminar-style discussions and frequent analytical writing.
- **Senior Year Curriculum:** Given our robust senior electives in all departments, seniors can craft an academically rigorous fourth-year curriculum that allows them to make deep connections to topics that inspire them. When scheduling allows, a number of seniors choose to double up in language, math, science, or history.
- **Senior Projects:** In May, all seniors participate in structured internships of their choosing. Through these projects, students explore an area of personal, academic, or professional interest. Students complete 80 hours of internship work and reflect on their experiences in a presentation to the school community. Recent graduates have held internships at local businesses, laboratories, social service and arts organizations, and with corporations. Other students have pursued projects in medical research, finance, film production, architecture, engineering, online journalism, directing, teaching, and creative writing.
- **Study Abroad:** To promote a global perspective in our students, we have a network of partnerships throughout the world. We participate in School Year Abroad, which sponsors programs in China, France, Italy, and Spain. Students may also participate in other study abroad programs; most recently our students have studied in China, Cyprus, Denmark, England, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Japan, and Spain.

Upper School Offerings

2018-2019

Subject Requirements	Required Courses Grades 9-11	Upper Division Courses		
English <i>Four years required</i>	English 9 English 10 English 11 (H)	Senior Electives American Fiction and Poetry* English 12* Big Book: War & Peace* Harlem Renaissance*		Japanese Literature & Culture* Lift Every Voice* Literature and Film* Memoir* Shakespeare* Wit Lit: the Art of Satire* Women's Literature*
History <i>Three years required</i>	History 9 U.S. History (H) History 11 (H)	AP Art History Economics Oakland Through Many Lenses* Comparative Politics* Environmental History*	Ethics* The Bay Area* Islam* Women in Modern America* Democracy in Action*	
Science <i>Three years required</i>	Conceptual Physics Chemistry (H) Biology AP Biology	AP Environmental Science AP Physics C Principles of Engineering Advanced Chemistry: Qualitative Analysis*	Science Issues* Molecular Genetics Neurobiology* Principles of Organic Chemistry* Robotics*	
Mathematics <i>Three years required</i>	Geometry Geometry (H) Algebra 2 Algebra 2 (H) Precalculus Precalculus (H)	Calculus AP Statistics	AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC Multivariable Calculus	
World Languages				
World Languages <i>Three years required; Students must complete Level 3 of one language</i>	Chinese 2 Chinese 3 Chinese 4 (H) Chinese 5 (H) AP Chinese	French 2 French 3 French 4 (H) AP French Language French Cinema & Literature (H)	Latin 1 Latin 2 Latin 3 Latin 4 (H) Latin 5 (H) Advanced Latin Seminar	Spanish 1 Spanish 2 Spanish 3 Spanish 4 (H) Spanish 5 (H) Advanced Spanish Seminar (H) AP Spanish Language AP Spanish Literature
Arts Electives				
Visual and Performing Arts <i>One year of Advanced Art required</i>	Introductory Courses 2D Art 3D Art Introduction to Dance Drama 1 Photography Tech Theatre Theater Production	Advanced Courses Advanced 2D Art Advanced 3D Art Advanced Studio Art AP Studio Art Chorus Colla Voce Drama 2 Graphic Design	AP Music Theory Advanced Dance Jazz Band Advanced Jazz Band Photography 2 Photography 3 Filmmaking Filmmaking: Advanced Projects	
Other Electives				
Computer Science	Intro. to Computer Science & Engineering Algorithms & the Internet Mobile and Object-oriented Design (H)	Advanced Computer Science: Data Structures (H)	Advanced Topics in Computer Science (H)	
Humanities Electives	Expository Writing Speech and Debate 1 Speech and Debate 2			
Global Online Academy	Head-Royce is a founding member of Global Online Academy (GOA), a consortium of leading independent schools from around the world whose mission is to translate into online classrooms the intellectually rigorous programs and excellent teaching that are hallmarks of its member schools.			

*Semester-long senior elective

Standardized Testing for the Head-Royce Class of 2018



SAT (1600)	Middle 50%	Mean
Critical Reading	680 – 750	720
Math	680 – 780	750
Writing	680 – 760	730
ACT	Middle 50%	Mean
Composite	31 – 34	33

The Class of 2018 had **12 National Merit Commended Scholars**, **6 National Merit Scholarship semi-finalists** and **5 National Merit finalists**.

AP Information 2017-2018:

Number of students taking an AP exam: **158**

Total Number of AP tests: **293**

% of scores 3 or higher: **94%**

Subject Test*	Middle 50%	Mean	# of students
Biology Ecology	650 – 730	690	19
Biology Molecular	650 – 750	712	19
Chemistry	560 – 720	625	25
English Literature	640 – 730	682	37
French	570 – 750	679	7
Math I	610 – 710	668	11
Math II	670 – 780	726	46
Physics	640 – 790	679	7
Spanish	590 – 690	648	12
U.S. History	670 – 750	696	19

* Most commonly taken SAT Subject Tests

Head-Royce College Admission: 2014-2018

The following is a partial list of colleges and universities that have offered admission to graduates of Head-Royce, followed by the number of students enrolling in those colleges over the past five years. **Members of the Class of 2018 will attend the colleges in bold type.**

American University (2)
Amherst College (2)
Babson College (1)
 Bard College (2)
 Barnard College (3)
 Berklee College of Music (1)
 Boston College (3)
Boston University (1)
Bowdoin College (3)
 Brandeis University (1)
Brigham Young University (2)
Brown University (11)
 Bryn Mawr College (2)
 Bucknell University (1)
Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo (5)
 Carleton College (4)
Case Western Reserve University (1)
Claremont McKenna College (6)
Colby College (1)
 Colgate University (3)
College of the Atlantic (1)
 College of William & Mary (1)
 Columbia University (5)
Columbia Univ. -Sciences Po (1)
 Connecticut College (3)
 Cornell University (4)
 Dartmouth College (4)
Denison University (2)
 Dickinson College (2)
 Drew University (1)
 Duke University (4)
 Elon University (2)
Emory University (7)
 Franklin and Marshall College (2)
 Georgetown University (1)
Georgia Institute of Technology (3)
 Gonzaga University (1)
 Goucher College (1)
Harvard University (6)
Harvey Mudd College (2)
 Haverford College (2)
 Howard University (3)
 Indiana University at Bloomington (2)
 Johns Hopkins University (2)

Kenyon College (2)
 King's College London (1)
 Lehigh University (2)
 Lewis & Clark College (6)
Loyola Marymount University (4)
 Macalester College (3)
 Maryland Institute College of Art (1)
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology (3)
 McGill University (1)
 Miami University, Oxford (1)
 Middlebury College (2)
 Mount Holyoke College (1)
 New York University (12)
Northeastern University (10)
 Northwestern University (5)
 Oberlin College (2)
Occidental College (10)
Parsons School of Design (1)
Pitzer College (4)
 Pomona College (8)
 Pratt Institute (1)
Princeton University (3)
 Purdue University (2)
Reed College (1)
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (1)
 Rice University (1)
 Saint Mary's of California (1)
Santa Clara University (8)
Sarah Lawrence College (1)
 Scripps College (3)
 Seattle University (1)
 Seton Hall University (1)
Southern Methodist University (3)
 Southern Oregon University (1)
 St. John's University (1)
Stanford University (2)
 Swarthmore College (5)
Syracuse University (2)
The Ohio State University (1)
 Texas Christian University (2)
 The College of Wooster (1)
 The George Washington University (2)
 The New School (2)
 The University of Edinburgh (1)

The University of Iowa (1)
 Trinity College (1)
 Trinity University (1)
Tufts University (15)
Tulane University (7)
 University of British Columbia (2)
University of California, Berkeley (15)
 University of California, Davis (3)
University of California, Irvine (3)
University of California, Los Angeles (17)
 University of California, Riverside (2)
University of California, San Diego (4)
 University of California, Santa Barbara (5)
University of California, Santa Cruz (10)
 University of Chicago (8)
 University of Colorado at Boulder (2)
University of Illinois (1)
University of Maryland (1)
University of Michigan (9)
University of Notre Dame (1)
 University of Oregon (3)
 University of Pennsylvania (4)
 University of Portland (1)
 University of Puget Sound (1)
 University of Redlands (1)
University of San Diego (2)
University of San Francisco (2)
University of Southern California (21)
University of St. Andrews (1)
 University of the Pacific (1)
 University of Virginia (1)
University of Washington (6)
Vanderbilt University (4)
 Vassar College (1)
Wake Forest University (2)
 Washington University in St. Louis (8)
 Wellesley College (4)
 Wesleyan University (7)
 Whitman College (2)
 Willamette University (2)
 Williams College (3)
 Worcester Polytechnic Institute (1)
 Yale University (7)