

# **Sacred Heart Academy**

## **Student Activities**

### **Clubs and Organizations**



**2026 - 2027**

## **CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES FOR 2026 - 2027**

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### **Clubs with Open Membership**

#### **American Red Cross Club**

Contact: Ms. Sophia Coppola [scoppola@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:scoppola@sacredhearthamden.org)

*This club is aimed toward educating students in how to respond to natural disasters that occur in our world by forming students into capable volunteers who will go on to participate in acts of service.*

#### **Are You Board?**

Contact: Dr. Wendy Decter [wdecter@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:wdecter@sacredhearthamden.org)

*This club is a way for students to relax and have fun in an informal setting. Membership is not required. Anyone can drop in. Take your mind off school and apply it to board game/card game strategies.*

#### **Asian American/Pacific Islander Club**

Contact: Mrs. Alyssa Pascual [apascual@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:apascual@sacredhearthamden.org)

*This club celebrates the diversity of Asian cultures and creates an inclusive space for students to learn about Asian cultures. The group would emphasize cultural appreciation of all Asian groups.*

#### **Art Club**

Contact: Mrs. Teresa DelVecchio [tdelvecchio@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:tdelvecchio@sacredhearthamden.org)

*This club is run as an open studio where students can come and work on on-going works of their choice and/or have it become a community involved club working on projects such as murals, set-designs, posters, etc. for community-wide events/performances.*

#### **Best Buddies**

Contact: Mrs. Margaret-Mary Gethings [mmgethings@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:mmgethings@sacredhearthamden.org)

*"Best Buddies International is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to establishing a global volunteer movement that creates opportunities for one-to-one friendships, integrated employment, leadership development, inclusive living, and family support for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD)."*

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Best Buddies friendship Chapters build one-to-one friendships between people with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), offering social interactions while improving the quality of life and level of inclusion for a population that is often isolated and excluded. Through their participation, people with IDD form meaningful connections with their peers, gain self-confidence and self-esteem, and share interests, experiences and activities that many other individuals enjoy.

### **Black Student Union**

Contact: Mrs. Kim Crocco [kcrocco@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:kcrocco@sacredhearthamden.org)

*The mission of the BSU is to offer a supportive environment for student of color, providing a community, brave space and the opportunity to create change as we work towards a future of diversity, equity, respect and inclusion.*

### **Campus Ministry**

Contact: Ms. Kathleen Welsh [kwelsh@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:kwelsh@sacredhearthamden.org)

*Campus Ministry is a peer ministry outreach to the greater school community and promotes a "culture of Christian service" flowing from a growing personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Everyone: students, faculty and staff members, parents, and alumnae are considered members of SHA's Campus Ministry. They will all be encouraged to whole heartedly participate as a servant of Christ in all SHA Campus Ministry service projects, spiritual growth opportunities, and worship experiences. This includes Respect Life, Clelia's Cucina, Local Outreach, Sister-to-Sister and Faith Life.*

### **Crochet & Knit Club**

Contact: Mrs. Lindsey Olownia [lolownia@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:lolownia@sacredhearthamden.org)

*This club provides time for students to come together to share skills and teach others as we create items that could be sold and raise funds to donate to worthy causes.*

## **CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES FOR 2026 - 2027**

### **Drama Guild**

**Contact:** Mrs. MaryLee Delaney [mldelaney@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:mldelaney@sacredhearthamden.org)

*Membership in the Sacred Heart Academy Drama Guild is open to any student interested in drama. Throughout the school year, students may participate in events including a major play, a monologue contest, the CDA Festival and the HALO Awards. . For these events, students can involve themselves in a wide range of activities including acting, crew work, designing, composing and playwriting. Students may also participate in field trips to numerous professional theatrical productions. Exceptional theater students also have the opportunity to be awarded and recognized at the annual Honors Convocation.*

### **Excelsior Club**

**Contact:** Mrs. Jennifer Raccio [jraccio@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:jraccio@sacredhearthamden.org)

*The Excelsior Club will represent and share Sacred Heart Academy's charism with prospective students and families as Excelsior Ambassadors. This will include campus tour information sessions, open houses and other hostess responsibilities.*

### **Future Business Leaders of America- DECA @SHA**

**Contact:** Mrs. Antonia Boncet [tboncek@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:tboncek@sacredhearthamden.org)

*This is an organization for students who want a future in business, marketing and media. This group will give students real-world experience and develop leadership, communication and marketing/business skills.*

DECA is a national student organization that prepares high school students to become **emerging leaders and entrepreneurs** in areas including marketing, finance, management, hospitality, entrepreneurship, and personal financial literacy. ( [DECA](#) )

A DECA chapter would give Sacred Heart Academy students the opportunity to take what they learn in business classes and apply it in real-world situations.

**DECA gives SHA an opportunity to create a highly visible, student-led business program with a relatively low barrier to entry**

**.Most importantly, it fits who we want our students to become:**

**Confident young women who can lead, communicate, compete, solve problems, and turn ideas into action.**

## **CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES FOR 2026 - 2027**

### **Golf Club**

Contact: Mrs. Anna Patel [apatel@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:apatel@sacredhearthamden.org)

*This club will bring together students who are interested in playing golf in an enjoyable and supportive environment. The club will help members improve their golf skills, learn the rules and etiquette of the sport and encourage teamwork, sportsmanship and leadership.*

### **Handbell Choir**

Contact: Mrs. Vesna Mehinovic [vmehinovic@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:vmehinovic@sacredhearthamden.org)

*Students will have the opportunity to learn how to play tuned hand bells and perform on various occasions.*

### **History Day Club**

Contact: Mrs. Kristin Behn [kbehn@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:kbehn@sacredhearthamden.org)

*History Day Club is where curious, driven girls come together to research the innovators, disruptors, and change-makers who shaped the world — including the women whose stories often get skipped.*

*Explore how bold ideas in science, technology, art, politics, and culture created ripple effects that are still felt today. Dig into archives, uncover primary sources, and tell a story that matters to YOU. You'll sharpen your research, notetaking, writing, and public speaking skills and have an opportunity to compete at the History Day competition in March 2027.*

*Come as you are — new to research or already obsessed with history. Bring your questions, your ambition, and your voice. All grade levels are welcome!*

### **Irish Club**

Contact: Mr. James Rullan [jrullan@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:jrullan@sacredhearthamden.org)

*The purpose of the Irish Club is to celebrate Irish heritage and foster appreciation for Irish culture and history.*

### **Italian Club**

Contact: Sr. Clara Johnson [cjohnson@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:cjohnson@sacredhearthamden.org)

*The purpose of the Italian Club is to promote a knowledge and appreciation for the Italian culture, cuisine, history and language through discussion and activities.*

## **CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES FOR 2026 - 2027**

### **Math League**

Contact: Mrs. Susan Vitale [svitale@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:svitale@sacredhearthamden.org)

*This club is open to all students. If you enjoy stretching your brain by trying to solve some extremely difficult problems, this is the club for you! We meet once a month after Mu Alpha Theta (math honors society), for 20 minutes working on solving problems. Students can work alone or work with others and have fun doing so. Check out our bulletin board for more information.*

### **Medical Careers Club**

Contact: Dr. Wendy Decter [wdecter@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:wdecter@sacredhearthamden.org)

*The purpose of this club is to expose students who may be thinking about healthcare professions to the many possibilities that exist. The aim is to make known the important and impactful jobs in the healthcare field that may be unfamiliar to the students at SHA, beyond nurses, doctors and physical therapists.*

### **Morgan's Message**

Contact: Mrs. Kerry Alexander [kalexander@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:kalexander@sacredhearthamden.org)

*The purpose of Morgan's Message is to eliminate the stigma surrounding mental health within the high school student-athlete communities and to equalize the treatment of physical and mental health in athletics*

### **Robotics and Engineering Club**

Contact: Ms. Sophia Coppola [scoppola@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:scoppola@sacredhearthamden.org)

*This club will be beneficial for the students who wish to have the opportunity to explore engineering and robotics opportunities that may not be offered in a classroom setting.*

### **SHAdes at SHA**

Contact: Mrs. Yorian Santiago [ysantiago@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:ysantiago@sacredhearthamden.org)

*The purpose of this club is to promote equality, diversity, and awareness in our school community. Through discussion, education, and activities, we work to create an environment of peace and understanding at SHA. SHAdes hope to help our school learn about the differences that make us unique, embrace and value those differences, and learn how to be agents of change toward acceptance and discovery not only in our own school, but our nation as well. With Excelsior values, SHAdes hope to continually strive to work towards an environment where we will one day value all diversity that makes us beautiful.*

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### **Voices for Justice**

Contact: Mrs. Jessica Begich [jbegich@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:jbegich@sacredhearthamden.org)

The purpose of this club is to raise awareness about global issues such as human trafficking, women's issues, inequality, and domestic violence. The goal is to provide a safe space to discuss these issues.

### **Women's Leadership**

Contact: Mrs. Susan Vitale [svitale@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:svitale@sacredhearthamden.org)

*The purpose of this club is to empower our SHA students by providing strategies to build self-confidence and develop leadership skills.*

### **World Language Club**

Contact: Madame Sylvie Levallois [slevallois@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:slevallois@sacredhearthamden.org)

*The World Language Club celebrates French and Spanish through fun activities and cultural experiences. Students will explore music, food, traditions, and celebrations from French- and Spanish-speaking cultures.*

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### **SCHOOL PUBLICATIONS**

#### **Alethea (School Newspaper)**

Contact: Mrs. Barbara Badore [bbadore@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:bbadore@sacredhearthamden.org)

*The purpose of Alethea is to write, edit and publish the school newspaper four times a year. The newspaper gives students the opportunity to further develop their writing and research skills and express the ideas and opinions of the SHA student body.*

#### **Clelian (Yearbook)**

Contact: Ms. Eileen Halloran [ehalloran@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:ehalloran@sacredhearthamden.org)

*The purpose of Clelian is to produce a yearbook that captures the spirit and activity of the school year and that serves as a historical record of the year. The yearbook gives staff members experience in the journalistic demands of copy writing, photography, and layout design in a computer-based setting.*

#### **PRISM (Literary Magazine)**

Contact: Mr. John Christie [jchristie@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:jchristie@sacredhearthamden.org) Ms. Maureen Hayes [mhayes@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:mhayes@sacredhearthamden.org)

*PRISM seeks to discover the artwork, poetry and prose of SHA students and to publish their work in a formal literary publication.*

## **CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES FOR 2026 - 2027**

### **ORGANIZATIONS WITH SELECTED MEMBERSHIP (by specified criteria)**

#### **National English Honor Society**

Contact: Mrs. Nicole Boucher [nboucher@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:nboucher@sacredhearthamden.org)

*The National English Honor Society is being created to advance the social and academic study of English and celebrate English Language Arts and Literature. This honor society will be open to those who meet the criteria for admittance set by the National English Honor Society.*

*The society will encourage participation in reading, writing and discussions of literature, encourage publication in The Alethea and Prism and learn about possibilities for using these skills in future careers.*

#### **International Thespian Society**

Contact: Mrs. MaryLee Delaney [mldelaney@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:mldelaney@sacredhearthamden.org)

*The International Thespian Society is the only theatre honor society for middle and high school students in the United States. Affiliation brings credibility and distinction to students, theatre programs, and schools. It is a visible, positive symbol of the quality of our theatre program*

*ITS recognizes, rewards, and encourages student achievement and celebrates the work of students in all aspects of theatre - performance and production. Each student is honored on a national level and gains access to opportunities and resources beyond those of their school.*

#### **Math Honor Society (Mu Alpha Theta)**

Contact: Mr. Gregory Strobel [gstrobel@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:gstrobel@sacredhearthamden.org)

*Students who have an overall GPA of 3.0, are juniors or seniors enrolled in an AP math course, and who are members in good standing of Math League are invited to join. Members must attend all meetings, participate in all events, and participate in the Peer Tutoring Program. Additionally, students must maintain proper status in all the areas that qualified them for membership. Failure to do so will mean the student will not receive an honors cord for graduation.*

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### **NHS (National Honor Society)**

Contact: Mr. James Rullan [jrullan@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:jrullan@sacredhearthamden.org)

*The National Honor Society is an academic organization dedicated to recognizing and promoting student excellence in academics, leadership, service, and character. Students in the second semester of their sophomore or junior year of school who have maintained an overall 3.8 GPA average are invited to apply to the Sacred Heart Academy chapter of NHS. To maintain membership, students are obligated to maintain their academic excellence, attend NHS meetings monthly, offer peer tutoring once per cycle, and perform additional service for the school community.*

### **Science National Honor Society**

Contact: Dr. Elizabeth Christophy [echristophy@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:echristophy@sacredhearthamden.org)

*The SNHS encourages and recognizes scientific and intellectual thought, advances the students' knowledge of classical and modern science, communicates with the scientific community, encourages students to participate in community service and in turn, encourages a dedication to the pursuit of scientific knowledge that benefits all humankind. [Click here](#) for criteria for membership.*

### **World Language Honor Society**

Contact: Madame Sylvie Levallois [slevallois@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:slevallois@sacredhearthamden.org)

- ***The Spanish National Honor Society** is an academic organization dedicated to promoting the study of the Spanish language and the culture of Hispanic countries. Membership is based on academic performance and commitment to service. Students taking Spanish at Sacred Heart Academy will be eligible to join if they earned an A- in Spanish for three consecutive semesters, as well as having an overall GPA of 3.33. Members must also commit to offering peer-tutoring during the school year in accordance with standards laid out by their teachers. To maintain active membership and receive an Honor Cord in their senior year, students must continue to take Spanish, or have exhausted all levels offered at Sacred Heart Academy, and consistently demonstrate a commitment to service through peer tutoring in Spanish.*
- ***The French National Honor Society** is an academic organization dedicated to promoting the study of the French language and the culture of French-speaking countries. Membership is based on academic performance and commitment to service. Students taking French at Sacred Heart Academy will be eligible to join if they earned an A- in French for three consecutive semesters. Members must also commit to offering peer-tutoring during the school year in accordance with standards laid out by their teachers. To maintain active membership and receive an Honor Cord in their senior year, students must continue to take French, or have exhausted all levels offered at Sacred Heart Academy, and consistently demonstrate a commitment to service through peer tutoring in French.*

## CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES FOR 2026 - 2027

### ORGANIZATIONS WITH ELECTED/SELECTED MEMBERSHIP

#### **Student Council**

Contact: Mrs. Susan Allen [sallen@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:sallen@sacredhearthamden.org)

*The Student Council exists to promote and encourage student leadership, to render service, to serve as a student governing body and to achieve a better understanding of the aims and philosophy of SHA. Student Council works to support and encourage unity within the school.*

#### **Peer Connection**

Contact: Mrs. Jessica Begich [jbegich@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:jbegich@sacredhearthamden.org)

*Peer Connection is a community of students whose mission is to offer a caring, Christian connection to their peers through confidential listening, mediation techniques, intervention strategies, and group support. Freshmen may apply for membership in March.*

#### **Campus Ministry Leadership Team**

Contact: Mrs. Kathleen Welsh [kwelsh@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:kwelsh@sacredhearthamden.org)

*CMLT is a leadership group that supports and promotes the faith life of the school. This group of students assist/directs all programs of Campus Ministry, including liturgies, retreats, faith sharing, respect life, local outreach, and community service.*

#### **Kairos Retreat Leadership Team**

Contact: Sr. Clara Johnson [cjohnson@sacredhearthamden.org](mailto:cjohnson@sacredhearthamden.org)

*Kairos is the Greek word in Christian scripture for "momentary time," sometimes referred to as "God's time." Kairos is a three-day retreat that invites the senior class to consider what it means to live intentionally in "God's time." It also encourages students to carefully examine their relationships with God. Modeled off the Ignatian Kairos model, Kairos Retreats are student-led retreats that help participants understand their relationship to God, themselves, and others on a deeper level through: Kairos Leadership team talks; faculty talks; and small group discussions.*

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