

# THE PREP

St. Joseph's  
Preparatory School

EDUCATING MEN OF  
COMPETENCE,  
CONSCIENCE &  
COMPASSION

SINCE 1851

OPEN TO GROWTH

INTELLECTUALLY  
COMPETENT

RELIGIOUS

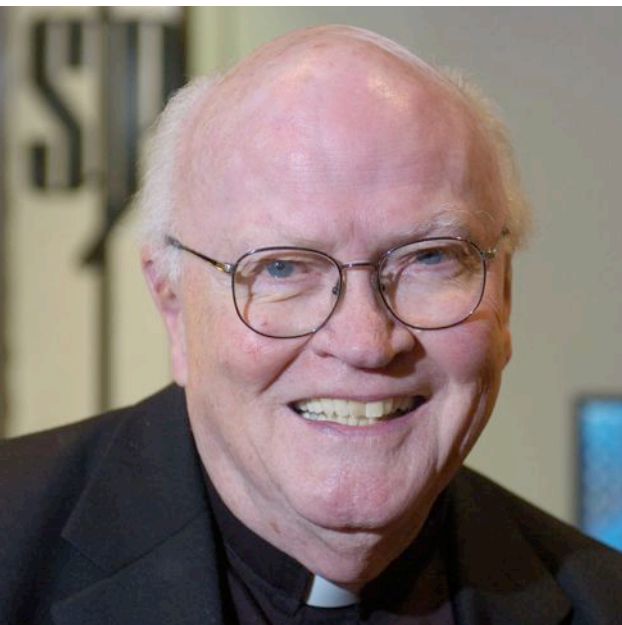
LOVING

COMMITTED TO  
DOING JUSTICE



THE MISSION OF ST. JOSEPH'S PREP  
as a Catholic, Jesuit, urban, college  
preparatory school is to develop the  
minds, hearts, souls, and characters of  
young men in their pursuit of becoming  
"MEN FOR AND WITH OTHERS."

# A NOTE FROM WILLIAM J. BYRON, S.J., '45



To Prospective Students and Their Parents-

Greetings:

Addressing this letter both to students, who are considering enrolling at St. Joseph's Prep, and their parents who, presumably, will be making the final decision, is a bit of a challenge. It is made easier, however, by our experience here at The Prep of finding parents and their sons on common ground when they consider what St. Joseph's has to offer.

Both generations appreciate:

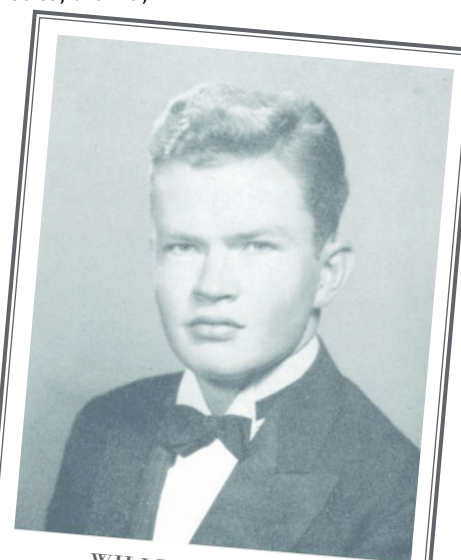
- 156 years experience in the Jesuit tradition of educating "men for others;"
- an academic program that challenges both the intellect and the imagination in working toward the goal of "eloquentia perfecta," a goal of Jesuit education;
- extracurricular opportunities that build character, confidence, and competence through athletics, drama, debating, publications, community service, and more;
- religious formation of mind and heart where classroom and chapel intersect;
- the formation of friendships that will last a lifetime;
- access to the "cura personalis"-personal attention-that characterizes Jesuit education;
- exposure to teachers, counselors, coaches, and support staff that are second to none;
- meeting and befriending other young men of talent from every point on the compass in the Philadelphia metropolitan area.

That is a fair portrait of The Prep. There is no place like it. It is one of the best secondary schools in the country.

If you think there might be a place for you in that picture-either as Prep Student or Prep Parent - I hope you will read this brochure with care and let us know how we can assist you so that your application process may begin. A warm welcome awaits you here.

Yours sincerely,

William J. Byron, S.J., '45  
President



WILLIAM J. BYRON  
1002 E. RITTENHOUSE STREET  
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Sodality 1, 2, 3, 4; K, B, S. 1, 2, 3, 4; Crew 4; CHRONICLE 2, 3, 4; Yearbook 4; Football 3, 4; Debating 3; Class Officer 4.

Father Byron during his Prep years

# THE PREP EXPERIENCE

## THERE IS SOMETHING ABOUT THE PREP.

Some think of it as the Jesuit ideals of *cura personalis* (individual concern for the whole person) and *magis* (constantly improving our efforts to strengthen our relationship with God). Some just call it "Prep Pride."

It is a special way of thinking of oneself as a part of a community. We are not simply a community of young men, but a community of caring individuals.

At The Prep, students support each other. Whether they are cheering at a Battle of the Bands or a football game, giving standing ovations for a theater performance or a jazz concert or challenging their teammates as they prepare for a debate, our students are there for one another.

At The Prep, the faculty is there for the students – not just during class hours, but whenever a problem arises, or an idea comes to mind. Our faculty is ready to challenge learners to discover their best, to sponsor new ideas for clubs, lead trips or help find ways to tackle difficult issues.



At The Prep, the whole community believes in the importance of service. We take the credo "Men For and With Others" seriously. That means we say "yes" to building a Habitat for Humanity home. We all join in the annual Community Service Corps-sponsored Thanksgiving Basket Drive. We find a way to fund missions to Latin America, where our students serve the poor and marginalized. We respond when people in our community are in need.

At The Prep, every young man is challenged and cared for every day. Our goal is to develop a balanced individual, who can rise to intellectual, spiritual and physical challenges without losing his sense of belonging.



# HISTORY OF ST. JOSEPH'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL

## FOUNDING

St. Joseph's Preparatory School was founded in 1851 in Philadelphia, growing out of what is now known as Old St. Joseph's Church, the first Catholic institution in Philadelphia, established by Rev. Joseph Greaton, S.J. in 1733. As the city and the parish grew over time, the Jesuits of the Maryland Province decided to create St. Joseph's College with a preparatory department that eventually grew into the high school. In the late 1800s the school moved to its current location, where the order had built the spectacular Church of the Gesu. In the 1920s, "The College" moved to City Line Avenue leaving all the buildings for "The Prep." The school continued to grow and change over the next several decades until a devastating fire in January 1966 destroyed two-thirds of the school's physical plant. Many people figured The Prep would follow the lead of many other urban institutions and leave the city for a more lush suburban setting, but just 16 months after the fire The Prep was rebuilt at the same location on Girard Avenue.



## CONTINUING OUR DEDICATION TO THE COMMUNITY

The Jesuits of the late 1960s made a conscious decision to stay in North Philadelphia. The location's easy access to the subway, trolley and commuter lines were an obvious benefit, allowing The Prep to serve a wider variety of students. However, just as important, was the education presented by the urban locale.

This important decision continues to define The Prep as a diverse academic community that builds "Men for and with Others."

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*"By 'urban' we mean that our geographic location places us in the middle of an urban context. Our outlook ranges quite literally from the urban downtown skyline of a major city, across acres of urban decay and renewal, and places us within reach of persons both rich and poor, elderly and young, immigrant and native, homeless and housed, healthy and ill, addicted and free, educated and illiterate, hungry and well-nourished, employed and unemployed."*

– TAKEN FROM THE MISSION STATEMENT  
OF ST. JOSEPH'S PREP  
(September 2006)

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## THE JESUIT PHILOSOPHY

The Prep bases its philosophy on the life and teachings of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Because we are Jesuit, our education and formation are rooted in Ignatian spirituality. Because we are Jesuit, our work is characterized by loyalty to the Church, availability for service, and a high-hearted love of Christ. Because we are Jesuit, the education we provide is marked by “*cura personalis*,” which means attention to the individual student and respect for the individual’s potential and pace in learning.

Central to the Ignatian philosophy is the belief that all human beings are redeemed – blessed and gifted with a perfectible nature. With this belief as a cornerstone, St. Joseph’s Preparatory School encourages its students to discover through serious and prayerful reflection not only a strong sense of their own self-worth but also a clear responsibility to share their gifts by working with, and for, their fellow human beings.

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*Through our programs, our services and our religious education, we hope to root our students in a personal relationship with Christ, and basic Christian values. We hope to open their minds - expand their horizons, increase their generosity - making them servants rather than people looking to be served. We hope that all this helps them make choices - choices that come from their own deepest desires, their passions - that they wind up doing what they do because of a passion for it.*

— REV. BRUCE MAIVELETT, S.J. ,  
Director of Ignatian Identity

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# ACADEMICS



## ACADEMIC PHILOSOPHY

St. Joseph's Preparatory School prepares its students for the nation's finest colleges and universities through a rigorous, traditional academic program. Its faculty averages nearly 20 years of service to The Prep, and many are alumni who have returned "home." Of the full-time faculty of approximately 70 men and women, over 90 percent hold masters degrees.

## SPECIAL ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES

Once students pass the basic course requirements, they are encouraged to challenge themselves further through Advanced Placement courses and explore an exciting range of electives. Students interested in language and literature may choose from courses like Personal Writing, Censorship, Journalism or Elements of Drama. Students serious about science may choose to expand their computer expertise, take Advanced Placement courses, or experience field research in an elective Environmental Science class. Elective art courses include sculpture, painting, ceramics and illustration.

Advanced Placement courses are offered in 13 areas of study including history, English, science, classical and modern languages, mathematics, psychology and computer science. Many of The Prep's AP students receive college credit as a result of their performance in the Advanced Placement Examinations.

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*I assign a science project every quarter, and I integrate different disciplines into the sciences. I have the students write, do historic research, and use the Internet. I also take environmental science students to the Heinz Nature Center where we do hands-on work for the entire day. And we are constantly doing investigative work in the field.*

— DR. BARBARA GIULIANO,  
Science Teacher and Forensics Coach

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## ACCREDITATIONS

The Prep is fully accredited by the Pennsylvania State Department of Public Instruction and the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. It is also an active member of the Jesuit Secondary Education Association, the National Catholic Education Association, the Pennsylvania Association of Independent Schools, and the Association of Delaware Valley Independent Schools.

## FACILITIES

The Prep is fully outfitted with facilities for all disciplines, including history and government, literature, languages, sciences, computer science, fine arts, religion and athletics.

### WITHIN ITS CAMPUS, THE PREP CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING:

- Thirty-four classrooms and three science laboratories are equipped with wireless technology.
- The McShain Library is equipped with numerous carrels, thousands of reference books, computerized card catalog, and internet access for students.
- The Hart Computer Center, available daily for student use, features state of the art technology for instruction and communication.
- A 350-seat auditorium showcases dramatic and musical productions by The Cape and Sword Drama Society.
- The Kelly Fieldhouse is a 27,000 square foot athletic facility with multiple gymnasia, a mezzanine jogging track, and rooftop playing field. It is the companion to the Student Athletic Service Building, which has locker and shower rooms, weight and training rooms and the Quinn Wrestling Gym.
- The Kueny Training Center is a modern sports and training room, staffed by personnel from Temple Sports Medicine.
- The Gillen Boathouse, which The Prep shares with Saint Joseph's University, is located just minutes from school along the Schuylkill River.
- The Church of the Gesu is the focal point of The Prep's campus. This classic place of worship is the site of liturgies, Masses and other special events.



# BEYOND ACADEMICS

The Jesuit ideals of The Prep include much more than academics. With that in mind, The Prep offers many activities that build body, mind, spirit and, of course, imagination for every student. Whether he excels in athletics, photography, forensics or theater, each student can find a way to express his talents. And no matter what his talents, every student is expected to utilize them for the greater glory of God.



## SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Besides students being invited to attend Mass every morning in the school chapel, they participate in "all-school" Masses as well as "class" Masses throughout the year. Throughout their four years, starting with the Freshman Retreat and culminating with the Kairos experience, students are encouraged to discover themselves and their relationship with God. In addition, classes in religion and spirituality as well as the pervasive spirit of St. Ignatius are all part of every student's daily life.

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*The Kairos retreat isn't mandatory, but just about everyone goes. What happens there is a secret, but I can tell you that it changes you...it enriches you.*

— PREP SENIOR

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## SERVICE

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*Being an "MFO," a man for and with others, is important to us. It is part of who we are now and in the future.*

— PREP STUDENT

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Service to others is built into the Ignatian approach to education. At The Prep, it is a part of every young man's experience. Service opportunities such as tutoring students from the Gesu School, distributing Thanksgiving meals to neighbors, or fundraising for Catholic service organizations, allow each student the opportunity to experience the joy of giving. We learn about others, we learn about ourselves and we gain insight into the world.

At The Prep, student service does not stop with the requirements of school. Students come up with their own ideas for service, find help from faculty to implement them, and then take action. A book drive which collected more than 10,000 books for local elementary schools and the Student Council-organized blood drives are just two examples of student-initiated service.

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*The service component at St. Joe's is like the hub of the wheel: everything else we do must come from that center. No matter what else we're teaching, the whole notion of "I'm giving because it's my mandate" should permeate every aspect of the day here. I'm a springboard for ideas, but the bottom line is that the kids run the activities. The people who benefit from the experience of giving are not just people served, but also the givers.*

— BARBARA BROWN, service advisor

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## ATHLETICS

*Prep students bleed crimson and gray. I don't know where you could find the spirit you find at The Prep!*

— PREP STUDENT

As part of our mission to develop the whole person, our students are encouraged to strive for excellence in athletics. Our "Prep Pride" is apparent when, win or lose, team members see students, parents and alumni in the stands, no matter the locale. The varsity sports program participates in the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) as part of the

Philadelphia Catholic League and includes: baseball, basketball, bowling, crew, cross country, football, golf, lacrosse, soccer, swimming, tennis, track, and wrestling. There are also numerous club sports including ice hockey, rugby and ultimate frisbee.

## CLUBS AND COMPETITIONS

At The Prep there is something for everyone and if it does not exist yet, students are encouraged to create it. Some clubs, like paintball, are just for fun while others involve competition. The forensics team, for example, has established a national reputation for excellence.



Every year, there is something new. At last count, however, clubs and after-school activities included Asian Culture, Band (Concert, Dixie and Jazz), Black and Latino Culture, Chess, Christos Choir, Classics, Community Service Corps, Computers, Dramatics, Environmental Action, Forensics, Hockey, Intramurals, Juggling, Language, Library, Martial Arts, Mathletes, Mock Trial, Model UN/OAS, National Honor Society, Paintball, Photography, Respect Life, Retreats, Student Publications, Science, Spirit, Student Council and Students Against Destructive Decisions.

*Whether you walk into The Prep at 7 a.m. or 7 p.m. there is always something going on... there is always something to do.*

— PREP STUDENT

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PREP

## **Q Why is The Prep in North Philadelphia?**

**&A** St. Joseph's Preparatory School originally moved to North Philadelphia in the 1880s. In 1966, most of the original structure burned to the ground, offering The Prep an opportunity to leave the city for the suburbs. Instead, The Prep chose to stay put, in a neighborhood that offers unique resources to our students. Not only is our location centrally located and accessible to public transportation, but it also offers our students something special. In coming to The Prep every day most of our students must step outside of their comfort zone and into a different world. In serving their neighbors with tutoring, Thanksgiving meals and more, our students learn that differences are not as great as they appear and that service can be tremendously satisfying to both giver and receiver.

## **Q How will my child get to school and to afterschool activities?**

**&A** The Prep now offers an extensive transportation service which brings students to school from as far north as Doylestown and as far south as Gloucester County, N.J. Our bus service also safely transports students to off-campus events, and back home again. Please see the inserts in this package for further information. Older students can drive to and from school, and sometimes underclassmen arrange rides with students from their area.

## **Q Where are your playing fields?**

**&A** At present, The Prep's campus covers over six acres. Our Fieldhouse offers top-quality indoor athletic facilities for basketball and wrestling, our swimming pool is one of the best in the Catholic League and our Boathouse offers unique access to crew on the Schuylkill River. Practice for field sports are held off campus, generally in Fairmount Park. This arrangement allows our students to experience the city in a safe, controlled manner while keeping costs lower for our families.

## **Q What do Prep students do before and after class?**

**&A** In addition to a wide range of athletic and club activities, students are encouraged to simply spend time at school

with one another and with faculty. Early mornings find many students preparing for the day's classes in the dining hall. After classes, students may be found in the computer lab, the library, the theater, the Fieldhouse or off campus with coaches and teammates.



## **Q Where do The Prep students come from?**

**&A** The Prep students come from five counties in Pennsylvania and four counties in New Jersey, even as far away as Ocean City. Some come from public schools while many graduate from Catholic elementary schools and other private schools, with more than 200 schools represented in The Prep student body. Prep students come from a wide range of economic and ethnic backgrounds, but all share strong academic abilities, a desire to excel, and a willingness to take an active role in a close community.

## **Q Where do The Prep students go after graduation?**

**&A** Virtually all Prep students go to college, and many on to graduate programs. Many of our students attend top universities in the region and the nation. For a full list of recent college acceptances see the inserts in this package.

## **Q Are there any famous Prep graduates?**

**&A** Absolutely! Just a few include Democratic candidate for Mayor of Philadelphia Michael Nutter '75, Philadelphia Councilmen James Kenney '76, Brian O'Neill '69 and Bill Greenlee '71. Andrew von Eschenbach '59 is the head of the Food and Drug Administration. In entertainment, Rob McElhenney '95 is the creator and star of the FX series "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia," Michael Rady '99 starred in the movie "Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants" and Henry



Gibson '53, a regular on "Laugh-in," most recently had a role in the hit movie "Wedding Crashers." In the world of sports there is Rich Gannon '83 and Victor Hobson '98 from the NFL and Phil Martelli '72, head coach of Saint Joseph's University men's basketball team. Also, Tom Burgoyne '83 is the Phillie Phanatic, America's favorite mascot.

The answer is incomplete though without mentioning the fact that among The Prep alumni there are six current bishops in the United States and abroad, including three archbishops, and numerous presidents of Jesuit colleges and universities.

### **Q** How do parents get involved?

**&A** Parents and alumni are a vital part of life at The Prep. There are numerous opportunities for parent involvement, including active Fathers' and Mothers' Clubs, special Christmas and Graduation events, sporting events, religious celebrations and much more.

### **Q** How much does The Prep cost relative to its competition?

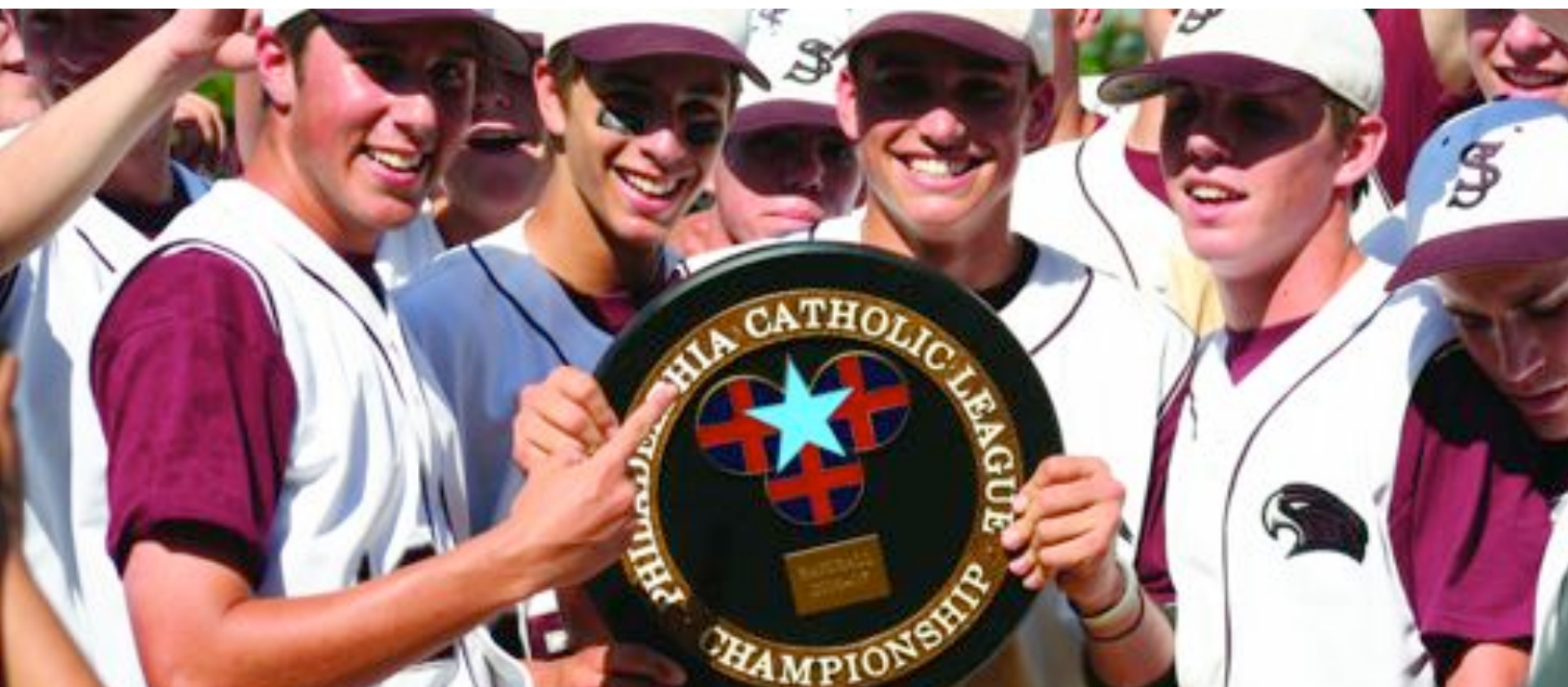
**&A** The Prep is able to compete academically and athletically with the finest schools in the area while keeping its fees significantly lower than many comparable schools. See the inserts for specific information about this year's tuition costs.

### **Q** What kind of financial aid is available?

**&A** The Prep does offer financial aid to qualified students and families. For specific information about financial aid see the inserts.

### **Q** Is The Prep the wrong choice for anyone?

**&A** IN THE WORDS OF A PREP STUDENT: *The Prep would be wrong for someone who doesn't want to get involved or work hard. It's wrong for someone who expects to be handed grades. At The Prep you have to work no matter how smart you are!*



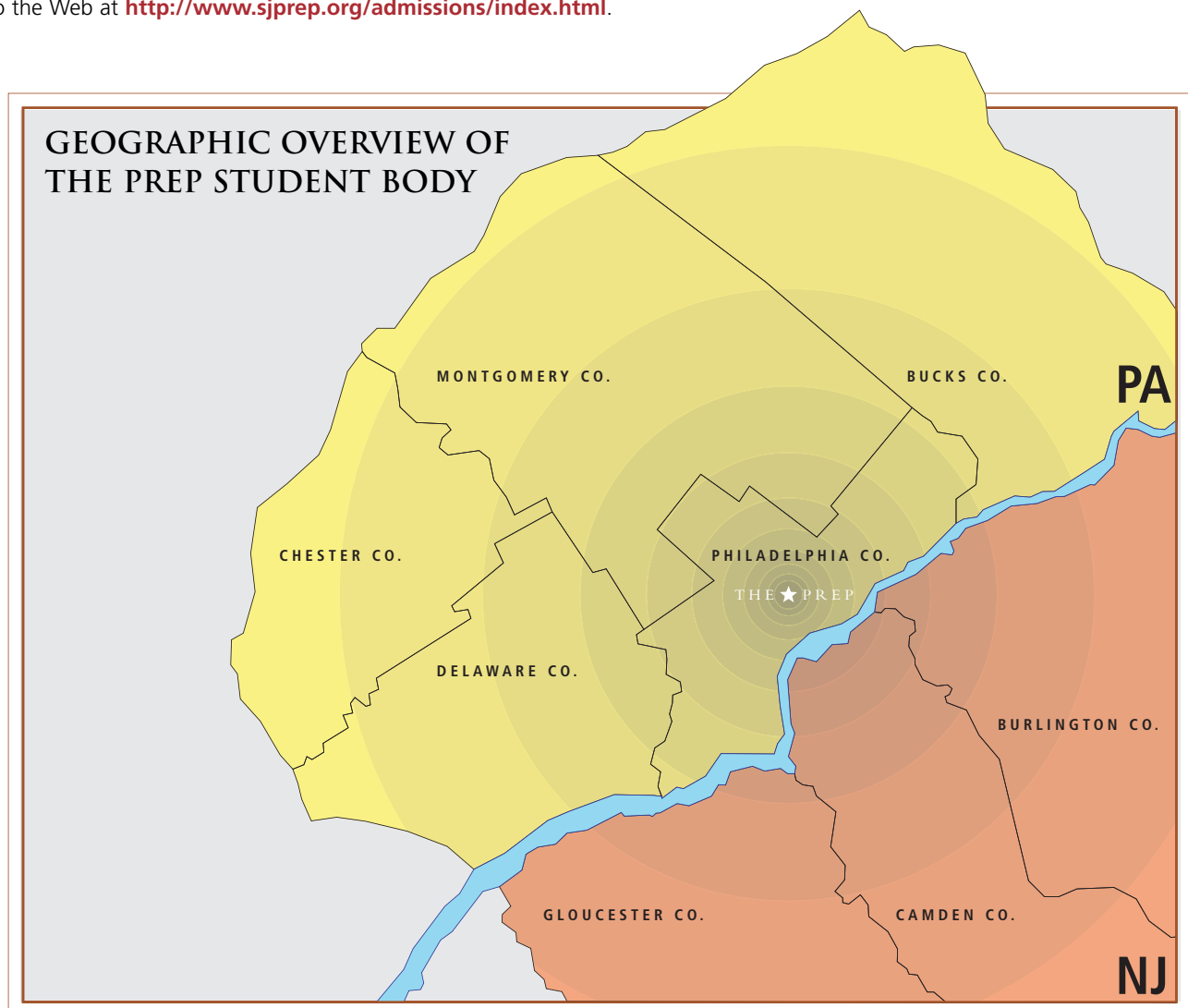
# AN INVITATION TO THE PREP

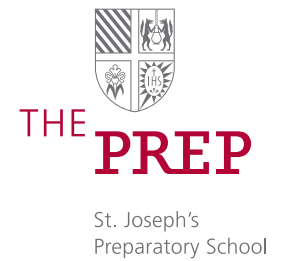
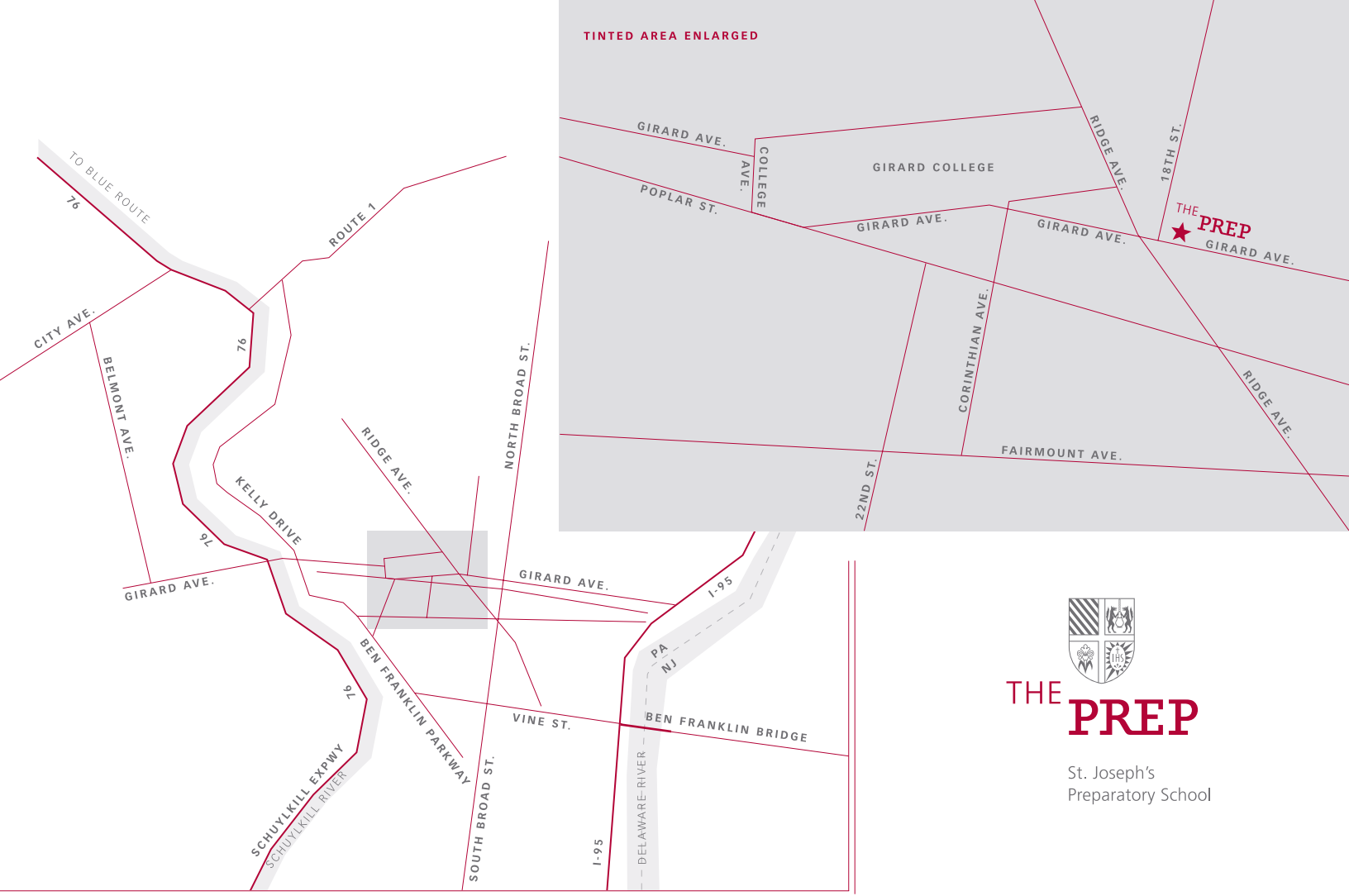
**THIS VIEWBOOK CAN PROVIDE ONLY A GLIMPSE INTO WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A PART OF THE PREP. THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT MORE...TAKE PART IN OUR PROGRAMS, MEET OUR COMMUNITY, AND GET TO KNOW US!**

- The Pre-8th Grade Summer Enrichment Program is a five-week program designed for boys and girls who have completed seventh grade and are looking for a fun yet challenging summer opportunity. The Pre-8th Program includes computer education, creative writing, drama and algebra, and is complemented by an athletic program.
- The Pre-Prep Program is for eighth-grade boys and girls interested in readying themselves for entrance exams to college preparatory schools.
- Open House events on campus and admissions visits to elementary schools are good opportunities for parents and prospective students to learn more and ask questions.

For most young men, the campus visit days are the most important experience of their eighth grade life. From the moment they step on campus, they are a part of The Prep community. Sponsored by current freshmen, they take part in classes, attend events, and truly get to know what we mean when we talk about Prep Pride!

To receive more information about these programs or to register, please contact the Prep Admission Office at **215-978-1958** or go to the Web at <http://www.sjprep.org/admissions/index.html>.





**From Western Suburbs**

Take Rt. 76 East (Schuylkill Expressway) to Girard Avenue Exit  
 Turn left onto Girard Avenue (East)  
 Turn right on College Avenue (at Girard College Wall)  
 Turn left at the light  
 Follow trolley tracks to 18th Street  
 Turn left onto 18th Street

**From Eastern Montgomery County**

Take the Blue Route (Rt. 476) to Rt. 76 East (Schuylkill Expressway)  
 Follow the directions above

**From Bucks County and Northeast Philadelphia**

Take I-95 South to Girard Avenue Exit  
 Follow Girard Avenue to 18th Street  
 Turn right onto 18th Street

**From Roxborough, Mt. Airy, and Chestnut Hill**

Kelly Drive to Fairmount Avenue, turn left  
 Turn left onto Corinthian Avenue  
 Turn right onto Girard Avenue  
 Turn left onto 18th Street

**From City Avenue**

Take Belmont Avenue (East) to South Concourse Drive  
 Turn left through Fairmount Park to Girard Avenue (Philadelphia Zoo)  
 Turn left onto Girard Avenue (East)  
 Turn right on College Avenue (at Girard College Wall)  
 Turn left at the light  
 Follow trolley tracks to 18th Street  
 Turn left onto 18th Street

**From New Jersey**

*If crossing Betsy Ross Bridge*  
 Take I-95 South to Girard Avenue Exit  
 Follow Girard Avenue to 18th Street  
 Turn right onto 18th Street

*If crossing Ben Franklin Bridge*  
 Take Rt. 676 West (Vine Street Expressway) to Ben Franklin Pkwy Exit  
 Follow 22nd Street to Fairmount Avenue  
 Turn right onto Fairmount Avenue  
 Turn left onto Corinthian Avenue  
 Turn right onto Girard Avenue  
 Turn left onto 18th Street

**From South Philadelphia and Center City Philadelphia**

16th Street (North) to Girard Avenue  
 Turn left onto Girard Avenue  
 Turn right onto 18th Street

**From Roosevelt Boulevard**

Roosevelt Boulevard to Broad Street  
 Turn left (Broad Street South)  
 Turn right onto Girard Avenue  
 Turn right onto 18th Street



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