

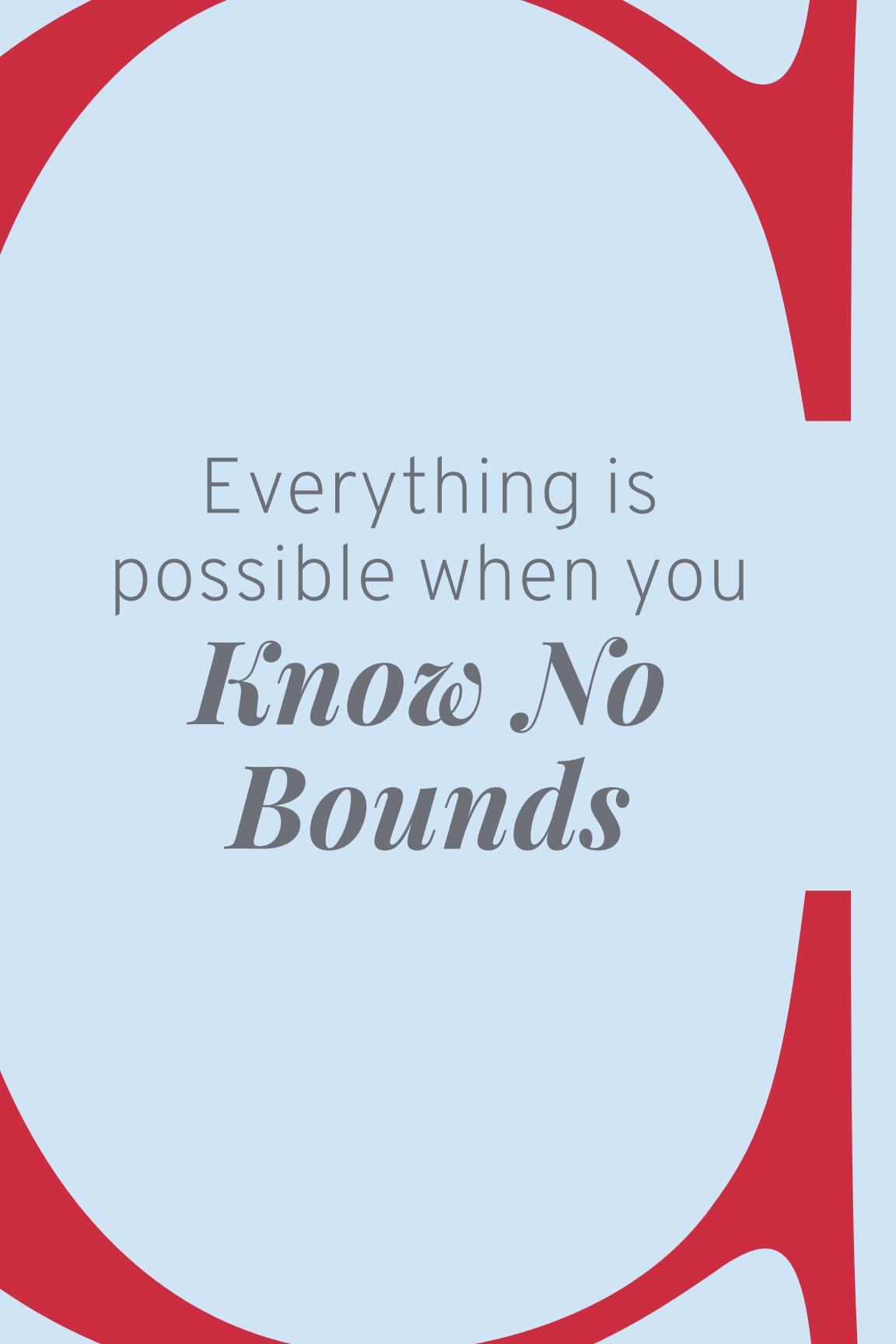
What's Possible?



What's possible
when there's
nothing standing
between you and
your goals?

Everything!





Everything is
possible when you

***Know No
Bounds***

When you become
a Castilleja girl,
there is no limit
to what you
can accomplish.

You can do anything.
Go everywhere.
Learn everything.
Be whoever you want.

How is this possible?

At Castilleja, we put you at the center of everything we do, and we prepare you to tackle any challenge that arises as you pursue your goals. We bring the best practices in education into an optimal environment for girls.

Young women have unique and incredible gifts to share with the world. Castilleja will help you amplify your talents and support you in the ways you learn best—with raised awareness, compassion, and engagement. Our teachers mentor you as you explore new ideas and concepts. You'll have the opportunity to put your knowledge and skills into practice in all that you do on campus and in a real-world environment—in our maker space, in community partnerships, or on a Global Investigator trip. You can truly make meaning out of what you learn.





**In the
Company
of Girls**

everything
is possible



It's about the remarkable presence of girls, not the absence of boys.

Girls are uniquely poised to lead the way toward a better world. At Castilleja, we're on a mission to make this so. We celebrate and honor girls' unique learning styles, combining the best practices in teaching girls with the way they learn as individuals.

Social and emotional learning (SEL) is embedded into the Castilleja experience. We focus on the positive social and emotional development of each student. We want you to be motivated to achieve, happily engaged in your work, and satisfied with your learning experience. So, our faculty develop and deliver a curriculum that is engaging, relevant, and critical for girls, and a classroom environment that is caring and challenging. We combine our SEL philosophy with opportunities for you to lead and to effect positive change both locally and globally on your way to becoming a compassionate leader in the world.

Explore Fearlessly

As a Castilleja girl, you'll take risks. You'll join your peers in tackling our challenging curriculum with boundless enthusiasm and curiosity. You'll create bonds with girls and will nurture, support, and mentor each other to expand your individual aspirations. You can ask questions with abandon. You can explore fearlessly, confident in the guidance from our community and the strength of your connection to your peers.

At Castilleja—and in the company of girls—every opportunity is yours to seize.



NO GLASS CEILING

Everything is possible when there are

Your role as a leader starts the moment you join our community. At Castilleja, there are no glass ceilings to shatter. You will confidently assume your right to lead.

Evidence shows that countries, corporations, and teams succeed more often when women are in leadership roles. That is why, at Castilleja, leadership doesn't just mean being in charge; it means serving as a role model, unearthing new ways of tackling difficult issues, and identifying the critical problem that needs solving.

During your years at Castilleja, you'll be expected to lead; and with peers spanning grades 6-12, there are endless opportunities to do so. In the classroom, we want to hear your thoughts, and we welcome your questions. Outside of the classroom, you'll find opportunities to lead in student government, athletics, clubs, and the arts. At Castilleja, being a leader isn't about having the power; it's about having the awesome privilege and responsibility to use your unique strengths to achieve the best possible outcome.

Unlimited Ways to Lead

Castilleja alumnae make up a diverse and impressive group of leaders pursuing their passions and putting their unique talents to work in the world. Our graduates are high-ranking politicians, teachers, entrepreneurs, and activists. They have opened schools in Delhi for impoverished girls, founded companies that revolutionized nutrition in schools, held the position of Secretary of Commerce, and joined the ranks of educators right here at Castilleja.

Castilleja will equip you to be an extraordinarily prepared, highly effective citizen of the world, empowered to do work that matters.

A group of young women in school uniforms are running on a grassy field. They are wearing dark blue polo shirts and light blue pleated skirts. Some are wearing dark shorts under the skirts. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a blurred green field with some trees in the distance.

What's possible when there are no limits?

Everything

Who can you be at Castilleja?

Anyone

Where can your goals take you?

Everywhere

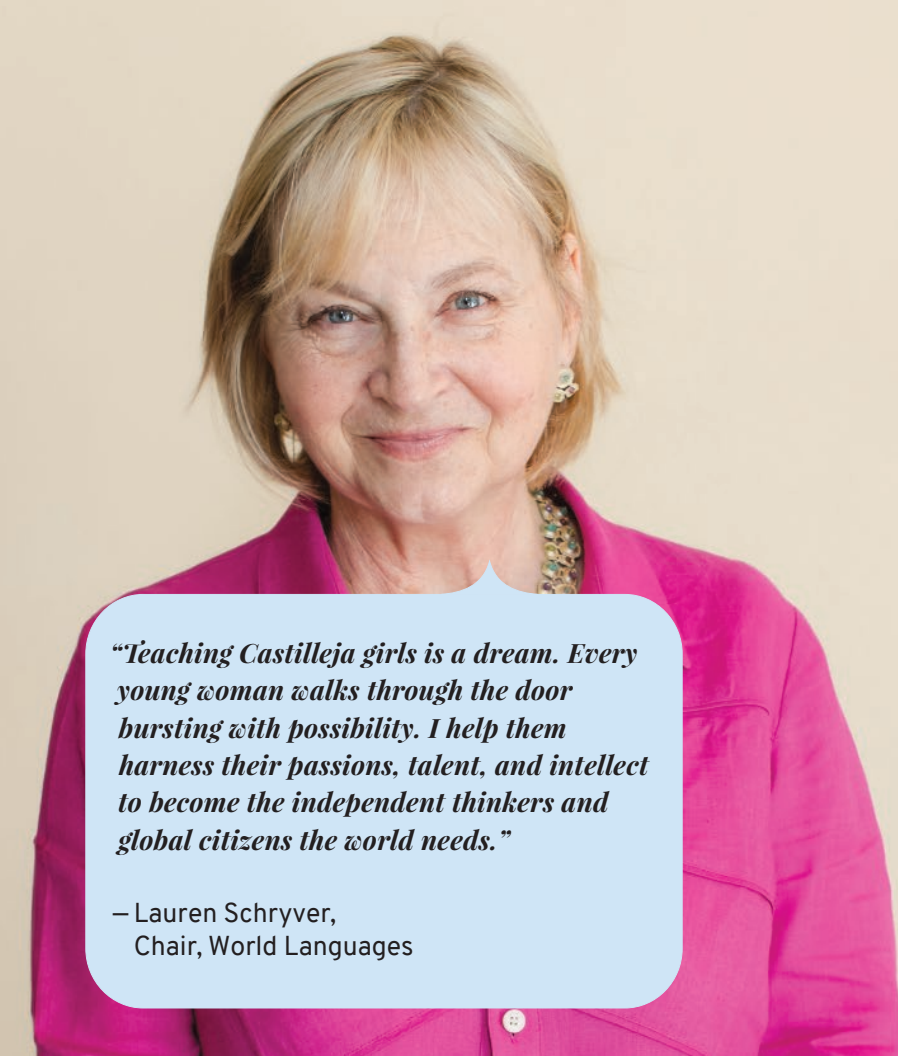
What can you accomplish when there are no ceilings?

Anything

Who can your leadership affect?

Everyone





“Teaching Castilleja girls is a dream. Every young woman walks through the door bursting with possibility. I help them harness their passions, talent, and intellect to become the independent thinkers and global citizens the world needs.”

— Lauren Schryver,
Chair, World Languages

“I’ve always been pretty shy, so I never imagined that my teachers would end up knowing me so well. One of my mentors from Diversity and Inclusion Club has really connected with me. We can talk about everything from life balance to summer plans, from my golf matches to current events. I’ve always been able to rely on her through stressful times, and I’ll definitely be staying in touch with her long after I graduate.”

— Sof K.
Class of '18



“I love my lacrosse team because we all push each other to be the best we can be on and off the field. We have fun while being competitive in a really healthy way.”

— Sam B.
Class of '19

“We can’t wait to see what the future holds for our daughter. Week after week, we see her becoming more of herself—more confident, more determined, more focused on the things she cares about. She’s learning to speak her own mind with conviction.”

— Jose and Maria R.
Parents of Aizza '22



“Castilleja was the center of my life when I was 17, but I didn’t expect it to continue to be so important 20 years later. As a Castilleja student, I benefited greatly from women who encouraged and supported me in fulfilling my dream to become a physician. So I’m especially excited to be launching the Medical Special Interest Group to mentor and encourage current Castilleja girls and young alumnae who are considering or entering the medical profession.”

— Dr. Shira Lipton
Class of '97



"I love that we celebrate smart, creative, and passionate women at Castilleja. Guest speakers Jane Goodall, Condoleeza Rice, Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith, and our alumnae panelists have inspired me to think about how I can make a difference in the world."

— Ava A.
Class of '19

"Castilleja is so special, and I love the friendships I've formed here. I entered 6th grade knowing only a few people, and now I know everyone! I like that everyone is unique. This means that there are many different points of view and ways of looking at difficult problems. And no matter if I have a class with them or not, we have so much fun together!"

— Daniella H.
Class of '23



"Before Castilleja, I would never have described myself as an artist. However, when my ceramics teacher asked me about social issues I care about, I was inspired to create. I not only learned how to build things out of clay, I learned that art can convey an important message about something that really matters to me. Not only am I an artist, I'm also a risk taker, an avid learner, and a feminist."

— Catherine D.
Class of '21



With a

Global Mindset

everything is possible

At Castilleja, you'll learn from a global community so that you can lead in the world.

Castilleja girls travel the globe to learn, experience, and lead. Yet in a community of vastly different perspectives and backgrounds, you need only interact with your peers to experience the diversity of our global community. Each person at Castilleja is responsible for fostering an equitable, respectful, and just community. Together, we commit to learning from our diverse voices and experiences, and we aspire to engage our differences with courage, honesty, intellectual curiosity, and respect. This commitment to diversity, inclusion, and a global mindset is essential to developing compassionate leaders.



When you join our school, you'll learn from world-class thought leaders right in our community at Stanford University, Google, and IDEO. Our collaborations with these innovative organizations expose different ways of learning, bodies of expertise, and methods that both harness the Silicon Valley mindset and showcase the broader experiences in other parts of the world.

A little further from campus, you'll go on adventures with your classmates—to China, India, or the Dominican Republic—to experience and learn from the valuable perspectives of our neighbors in other parts of the globe. You'll see the beauty and the challenges that exist in our global community, and you'll better understand your role in the world.

When your campus extends far beyond the walls of your classroom, your education can take you anywhere. And when your school is a reflection of the world, the world becomes your school.

Global Engagement

Every January, Castilleja girls dive into a current and global issue. The week includes energizing classroom discussions, hands-on workshops, and influential guest speakers.

Recently, Global Week led us to think deeply about migration. As a school, we explored the political, environmental, and social issues that lead groups to leave their homelands for a different part of the world. We debated borders, nations, and the construction of citizenship, and we celebrated communities coming together to create new cultures. At the end of the week, we hosted a naturalization ceremony on campus for 21 young adults. We were honored to take part in this inspiring celebration of citizenship.

As a Castilleja girl, you'll gain the cultural competency critical to understanding world issues.

The Castilleja Experience

Castilleja creates endless opportunities to explore your passions and interests and develop the skills you need to achieve your goals.

Castilleja is an ideal environment for young women to learn, thrive, and grow through strong relationships, leading curriculum, and co-curricular programs and activities that enrich the academic experience. A Castilleja girl's week is just the right mix of classes, leadership development, socializing, clubs, and physical and artistic pursuits.



WED 4:30 P.M.

Game Day!

After dozens of hours practicing with coaches and her team, this Castilleja athlete is ready to take the first pitch. A drive to succeed launches the ball to the deep left field and the first run is scored.

WED 12:00 P.M.

Fro Yo!

Students race to the Dining Hall to see if their favorite lunch is being served. Some enjoy the noodle bar while others favor tacos, but everyone loves frozen yogurt! Trays in hand, girls find their favorite place on the Circle with friends, join a lunch time club meeting, or listen to a pop jazz ensemble. Something fun is always happening on the Circle!

THU 4:00 P.M.

Gatorbotics

The entirely student-run Gatorbotics team meets every night for two months to conceptualize and build a robot for a worldwide competition. Mentored by Silicon Valley engineers, the girls design, program, build, and test their robot until the nail-biting competitions begin. Attending the World Championship makes all their hard work and perseverance pay off.

WED 2:00 P.M.

Vision & Voice

Freshmen work in small groups to research an important social justice topic. Mentored by faculty, students collaborate in their research and together create a group presentation using images, graphics, video, and more to present their topic and point of view.



MON 9:00 A.M.

VA Partnership

8th graders visit the Palo Alto Veterans Hospital and build relationships with veterans. Through this experience they develop empathy and hone self-reflection skills. By embracing ambiguity and understanding different perspectives, our students learn to lead with compassion.



TUE 10:15 A.M.

MacBeth Trial

Room 18 transforms into a courtroom, as 10th grade English students put Macbeth on trial. In costume, in character, and in very high spirits, the girls use their wits—and mastery of the play—to persuade the jury.

TUE 1:45 P.M.

Tinker Time

Middle schoolers rush to meet Ms. Clark at the newly created Tinkering Nook just outside their classrooms. Using their creativity and imagination, the tinkerers work with 3D printers, littlebits, LEDs, and plenty of craft supplies to make personal projects with their friends.

MON 2:45 P.M.

Surprise!

The Circle is filled with excitement as students cuddle with animals in the petting zoo. Unexpected treats like flash mobs, DJs, dodgeball, petting zoos, and lifesize Jenga brighten the girls' weeks and bring friends together.



THU 5:00 P.M.

Musical

During an afternoon rehearsal of *The Addams Family* led by Upper School assistants and directors, 60 eager Middle Schoolers work on choreography, character development, and music.



FRI 1:30 P.M.

Spirit Week

Spirit week, color wars, and Jr/Sr Rivalry activities bring out the creative talents and friendly competition of students and teachers. From cheering on classmates and designing the Halloween Haunted House, to preparing care packages for our newest graduates, students' unbridled passion and spark make everything joyful and fun.



FRI 10:30 A.M.

Art Gallery

Celebrating the intersection of art and environmentalism, the student-led Gallery Leadership Team organized 16 workshops for eARTH day, including the creation of a painting of endangered species with artist-in-residence, muralist, Dave Kim.



Everything is possible when

Castilleja Stands With You

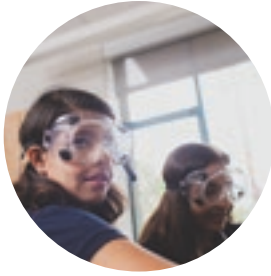
Castilleja girls are up for any challenge.
But you don't have to do it alone.

At Castilleja, you'll pursue your goals with the arms of fellow students, alumnae, faculty, staff, and parents wrapped around you.

Castilleja faculty are passionate about teaching young women. They become your intellectual partners and embark on a learning adventure with you.

With girls of all ages as your peers, you'll be inspired to pursue your individual goals. You'll engage in courageous conversation with the comfort of knowing you can have the uncomfortable talks. You'll enter into true collaboration with peers who want to succeed with you, not instead of you.

When you join Castilleja, you become part of a community over a century old. With the strength of our traditions behind you and the promise of our community supporting you well into the future, you can dream big. Being a Castilleja girl means becoming part of a limitless legacy of the Castilleja girls of yesterday, today, and tomorrow.



Castilleja Spirit

The spirit of our community lives in all aspects of a Castilleja education. In the classroom and on the court, the field, and the stage, Castilleja girls have an entire community rooting for them. Coaches, parents, teachers, staff, and peers stand at your side, pushing you to greatness, celebrating your victories, and working with you to overcome challenges. The Castilleja spirit is one of unlimited enthusiasm for you as you pursue your passions and interests.





A close-up portrait of a young woman with long, dark, wavy hair, smiling broadly at the camera. She is wearing a dark blue shirt. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

What's possible
for a Castilleja Girl?

Everything!

“At Castilleja, we believe there’s nothing you can’t accomplish. Surrounded by people who are as excited about learning as you are, every girl pursues a unique set of knowledge, skills, and experiences. You’ll emerge as a confident woman with the passion to impact the world and the tools to tackle any barrier between you and your goals.”

— Nanci Kauffman,
Head of School



Meet Castilleja

www.castilleja.org

650.470.7733

Palo Alto, California

