

NONPROFIT PROFILE

Academy of Our Lady of Peace

Organization

Mission: Founded and rooted in the Gospel values of the Catholic church and the charism of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, the Academy of Our Lady of Peace empowers young women in an innovative learning environment that honors the individual while fostering community, and develops faith-filled leaders dedicated to the “love of God and the dear neighbor without distinction.”

Founded: 1882

Address:

4860 Oregon St.
San Diego, CA 92116

Employees: 97

Number of volunteers: 100+

The Academy of Our Lady of Peace (OLP), founded in 1882, celebrates a rich history of empowering high school women to become faith leaders in their local community and in the world. Guided by the spirit of our trailblazing founders, Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, faculty and staff empower girls to go forth as courageous women across all professions. In an all girls’



environment, with a thriving STEM curriculum alongside robust Visual and Performing Arts courses, graduates are some of the most sought out recipients of academic scholarships to top tier institutions worldwide.

Smartest move: Surrounding myself with outstanding faculty and staff who empower young women through compassion and kindness. A great team is what makes the difference!

Misconception: The biggest misconception is assuming there is just one type of OLP student, when in reality OLP supports all girls regardless



of socio-economics or background.

Events: 4th Annual Women’s Symposium on March 9th; Soir en Noir et Blanc 33rd Annual Fundraising Gala on March 3rd; Live conversation with Maria Shriver hosted by OLP Architects of Change club on March 22nd.

Wish list: That every girl would have the opportunity to attend an all girls’ high school where she can learn to be herself and celebrate her unique voice.

Executive Spotlight

Dr. Lauren Lek
Head of School

Birthplace:
Burlingame, CA

Education: BA from the University of California at San Diego in Literature, Masters in Education from Saint Mary’s College of California, Ed.D. from Pepperdine University in Educational Technology Leadership

Personal path to this organization: Our family moved to San Diego to pursue a business opportunity for my husband, at which time I was lucky enough to pursue my dream of being a leader in an all girls’ Catholic high school.

Downtime: Spending time with my three children, husband and family. We explore the many attractions of San Diego and Southern California, as well as enjoy time together at home.

Favorite quote: “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord” Jeremiah 29:11

Most like to meet: Malala Yousafzi (today) and Margaret Thatcher (from the past).

Favorite place for business meetings: Historic Carondelet Library on the OLP Campus.

Current residence: Carmel Valley, San Diego

Family: Husband John Lek, and children Lucas (8), Willem (5) and Emma (2).

