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CALVERT HALL COLLEGE
(BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, U.S.A.)

TWO EDUCATION PROGRAMS

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THE XAVIER PROGRAM

The Xavier Program at Calvert Hall College, Baltimore, Maryland, serves a unique group of students with identified language learning difficulties. The goal of the Xavier Program named for long time faculty member Brother Xavier Langan, FSC, is to provide remediation for continued development of skills in language areas and support for completing coursework simultaneously. The students served in this Program may encounter problems in reading, writing, spelling, and math skills due to conditions often referred to as dyslexia or specific language disability. While some students in the Xavier Program may have relatively mild differences, their learning problems are significant in that they result in performance below that expected from students with high potential.

Characteristic of students with specific language difficulty is an uneven profile of performance. Each individual presents a unique profile of strengths and weaknesses in academic areas. In order to address the unique learning characteristics of these students their academic programs are tailored to meet their individual needs. Though they are fully integrated into the academic environment at Calvert Hall, students in the Xavier Program receive additional instruction from a Language Specialist on an individual or small group basis for one period each day. During this time, they receive remediation and direct instruction in language skills affecting reading, writing, and math, as well as assistance and support for coursework assignments. This may well involve work on skills such as organization, monitoring and proofreading, and test taking techniques.

Students in the Xavier Program at Calvert Hall profit from smaller class sizes and flexible scheduling. The average class size is twenty students and classes can be arranged to help students meet graduation requirements and acquire electives of particular inter-

est. In their regular classes, these students receive consideration through appropriate modification in instructional techniques and testing procedures. Specifically, they may take untimed tests where the need arises, may receive help with note taking, and may request differential grading of written assignments (content vs. mechanics).

An educational plan will be developed for each student which outlines his program and specifies objectives to be addressed in the language remediation sessions. To facilitate implementation of their programs, there is ongoing communication between the language specialist and classroom teachers. Progress towards the stated goals is reviewed with the parents at regular intervals.

The Xavier Program affords its students a strong academic program in a resourceful setting that acknowledges their strengths, and encourages their contribution to the school community. Calvert Hall believes that the student in the Xavier Program benefits from the challenging, yet supportive, academic environment at Calvert Hall. The students will also profit from the art, music, and sports activities which round out their academic programs and contribute to their personal development, to the mutual benefit of both students and the school.

Calvert Hall College has an enrollement of 1060 young men between the ages of 14 to 18. Approximately 40 of the students are enrolled in the Xavier Program. The Xavier Program is staffed by a full time Director and four full time staff members. Calvert Hall's overall faculty of 80 members includes 20 Christian Brothers.

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THE McMULLIN
SCHOLARS PROGRAM

THE PROGRAM

The McMullin Scholars Program is a comprehensive, four-year academic program consisting of honors and Advanced Placement courses from the English, Social Studies, Religion, Foreign Language, Mathematics, and Science departments.

Courses are designed to meet the special needs of the intellectually gifted student. Accelerated content, in-depth study, small group discussions, interdisciplinary approaches, and experiential learning opportunities are an integral part of the Scholars Program.

Recognizing that many of our students will one day assume high-level, responsible position in society, the

development of leadership skills and social responsibility are central components of the program.

General requirements for students in the Program include:

- Honors Latin
- Honors Religions
- Humanities Seminars
- Summer course in Communication, Research and Study Skills
- Proficiency in a modern foreign language
- Advanced study in at least two disciplines.

THE STUDENTS

McMullin Scholars are a small, select group of students who are committed to the pursuit of truth and knowledge. As a part of a community that includes other scholars (both students and teachers), Scholars are expected to be active learners who take responsibility for their education. In return for making an academic commitment, Scholars are entitled to certain opportunities and benefits that are not available to the general student body.

BENEFITS AND HONORS

- A variety of cultural, educational, and travel opportunities, designed to promote fellowship among participants, are available to Scholars.
- Each student in the Program is assigned a faculty member who serves as a mentor and academic advisor for four years.
- Upperclass students have an opportunity to work on real problems and engage in independent research projects with mentors in the academic, business, professional and political community.
- A student who fulfills all requirements of the program will be honored at graduation as a McMullin Scholar.
- An explanation of the Scholars Program accompanies a student's transcript when he applies to colleges and universities.

PROGRAM PURPOSE AND GOALS

The purpose of the Scholars Program is to promote academic excellence. Program goals are:

- To ensure that each student has an opportunity to develop his intellectual gifts to the fullest.

- To enhance further the opportunities for fellowship and leadership in a Christian community.

- To graduate students with a liberal education so that they will be life-long learners who are: proficient in a foreign language; well-grounded in the humanities, sciences, and mathematics; able to communicate successfully both orally and through the written word.

HISTORY

The development of the McMullin Scholars Program at Calvert Hall College began in the Spring, 1985 with the first class of Scholars beginning in September, 1986. Although Calvert Hall had an outstanding Honors and Advanced Placement Program for many years, the Administration felt a significant need to move beyond a traditional program into a more inclusive and coordinated effort involving academic and leadership development. While academic knowledge is the key to scholarship, responsible use of that knowledge should be at the heart of any true Scholar Program.

STUDENT SELECTION

Students are selected for the program on the basis of overall intellectual ability, as well as specific high-level ability in the mathematics, verbal, scientific, or foreign language areas. The selection committee and program director will consider IQ test scores, standardized ability and achievement test scores, grade point average, and teacher or counselor recommendation and faculty interview.

BROTHER FRANCIS McMULLIN, FSC

The McMullin Scholars Program is named to honor the memory of Brother Francis McMullin, FSC, the founder of Calvert Hall College, and the first American Christian Brother. In 1843, at age of 16, John McMullin responded to the invitation of Archbishop Samuel Eccleston to go to Montreal for training as a Christian Brother. In 1845 he returned to Baltimore as Brother Francis and on September 15, 1845, began Calvert Hall at Saratoga and Sharp Streets. He continued his work at Calvert Hall for the next year and a half, until poor health forced him to move to a warmer climate. On March 7, 1847, in St. Augustine, Florida, Brother Francis died, but his work lived on reflecting that same spirit of service, generosity, and dedication he brought to its beginnings... and all this between the ages of sixteen and twenty!