

Peoria Academy

25th Anniversary Reflection

Twenty five years ago, an intrepid group of local parents had a problem to solve. They wanted a more intimate school experience for their children, without limits from government or religious entities, that could deliver success for every child...but they could not find that place in Central Illinois at the time.

So they rallied their neighbors...and they built it.

They centered Peoria Academy's identity around celebrating the dignity of individuals, cultivating each child's innate curiosity, and honoring the diverse fabric of our home: the City of Peoria and the greater Central Illinois region.

As we continue to celebrate our 25th anniversary, we have evolved as an institution in Peoria, and we're ready for more.

Our philosophy at Peoria Academy is to instill the rigor, critical thinking, and humanity of a liberal arts education into our elementary and middle school students so that they will be fully prepared, empathetic, curious, and nimble citizens when they graduate from our programs. We're proud to be the only pre-K through 8th grade school in the region to provide a certified International Baccalaureate curriculum for all grade levels. And we are, still, a diverse community of students, parents, and educators working together to provide a rigorous educational experience...right here in Central Illinois.

So, we invite you to join us in our mission, to act locally to bolster and safeguard a nuanced, personalized, broad-based, and humane liberal arts education for our young students, right here in Peoria.

We see the spark of curiosity and optimism every day in our students, and we welcome your help to continue our necessary work, to protect that spark, to continue being a model and inspiration for cultural understanding and social progress in our home and yours, Central Illinois.

Chris Wilson
Executive Director
cwilson@peoriaacademy.org

Brandon Jordan
Director of Community Engagement
bjordan@peoriaacademy.org



Investing in the Future of Peoria Academy

The 25th Anniversary Initiative

As we continue to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Peoria Academy's founding this year, we remain committed to building a solid foundation for the future of the school, both for current students and for the next generation of students and families.

We hope that you will join us in honoring Peoria Academy's history and in accelerating Peoria Academy into the future. There are two ways to help:

- 1) Sponsor and attend our Gala celebration on April 11th, 2026.
- 2) Contribute to the 25th Anniversary Fund by making a direct gift or by participating in our ongoing room naming campaign as detailed below.

Peoria Academy Gala

Peoria Academy will host our annual Gala celebration on April 11, 2026. The gala will be the primary fundraiser to support the school's present operating needs: enhancing our programs, supporting faculty development, and driving improvements across the school and facility.

Additional information about our Gala may be accessed here, as available: onecau.sc/_bd7qy1

The 25 for 25 Campaign - Our 25th Anniversary Fund

Founded in 2000, Peoria Academy provides an exemplary independent school education to a diverse population of students in Central Illinois.

To strengthen the mission of Peoria Academy, we are building an anniversary fund. This fund is overseen by the board's finance committee, and will provide the financial foundation for a vibrant future for the school. Specifically, we envision that this future-focused fund will help the school to:

- Moderate tuition increases and ensure access to a vibrant financial aid program
- Support faculty compensation, recruitment, and professional development efforts
- Deepen and improve our offerings in the arts, music, and athletics
- Improve our buildings and grounds



Room Naming Campaign

To provide additional gifts to support the anniversary effort, individuals and groups will have the opportunity to make single or multi-year gifts in exchange for naming rights for 5 years to Peoria Academy classrooms and spaces.

Each individual classroom space can be sponsored for the next 5 years for \$25,000, allowing individuals, groups, or organizations to name the classroom. Gifts will be designated for the anniversary effort and can be paid in whole or over a period of up to 60 months.

In addition to our classrooms, the following spaces can also be named:

- The Library (\$50,000)
- The Cafeteria (\$25,000)
- The Gym (\$75,000)

We'd like to thank the following individuals and families for graciously supporting the spaces listed below in honor of our 25th Anniversary Room Naming Campaign to date:

- The Art Studio - the McBee Orzulak & Mackey families
- The Science Lab - Patricia Lease
- The Commons - Nazish Jafri & Noel Liu
- The Outdoor Education Center - the Hagen, Petrakis, and Thomasson Families
- Second Grade - Alison & Tanner Jamison and Jenna Foutch
- Humanities Room - Janaki Nair, Attorney at Law

Thank you, as well, to the more than 35 individuals and families who contributed directly to the 25th Anniversary Fund.

Please join us in this effort! We respectfully ask that you consider making a generous leadership gift toward this campaign in order to help us strengthen the Peoria Academy program and experience for our students.

If you wish to participate in the 25th Anniversary Campaign, please complete the information below, date, sign, and return to Peoria Academy via mail or scan to: Brandon Jordan, Director of Community Engagement, 2711 Willow Knolls Dr., Peoria, IL 61614;

bjordan@peoriaacademy.org



The 25 for 25 Campaign - 25th Anniversary Fund

Donation/Pledge Form

We respectfully ask that you consider making a generous leadership gift toward this effort in order to help us strengthen the Peoria Academy program and experience for our students.

- ☐ Yes, I will give \$ _____ to the 25th Anniversary Fund!
- ☐ Yes, I will give \$ _____ to sponsor the _____ room and support the 25th Anniversary Fund! *(please contact Brandon for room availability)*

We hope that you will be willing to provide this gift in accordance with the following proposed options (please check one):

- ☐ Payment in full, paid via check or online, mailed to or delivered to Peoria Academy
- ☐ Annual gift, due by Dec.31, paid via check or online, divided over _____ years (up to 5)
- ☐ Monthly, recurring gift of \$ _____, via credit card, paid over _____ months

Please make your online payments at <https://peoriaacademyinc.factsmgmtadmin.com/give/> and select either the "25th Anniversary Fund" or the "Room Naming Appeal"

Donor Name:

Donor Address:

Donor Phone Number:

I hereby certify that I agree to abide by this pledge to Peoria Academy.

Signature:

Printed Name:

Date:

Please complete this form, date, sign, and return to Peoria Academy via mail or scan to: Brandon Jordan, Director of Community Engagement, 2711 Willow Knolls Dr., Peoria, IL 61614;
bjordan@peoriaacademy.org



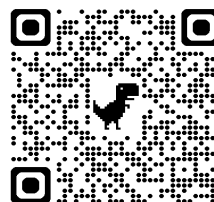


How can you support Peoria Academy's 25th Anniversary Fund today?

Option 1 - Recurring Donation (\$25/month)

We believe in inclusion and we would love for everyone at Peoria Academy to help contribute toward a vibrant future for our school and students by donating to the 25th Anniversary Fund. To increase participation even further, we're providing a more accessible and easy to "set-and-forget" option for our families to support the school.

We ask you to go to this [link](#) (or scan the QR code now), input your information, and set up **a monthly, recurring \$25 donation to Peoria Academy**. It's really that easy!



Option 2 - Room Naming

Individuals and groups have the opportunity to make single or multi-year gifts in exchange for naming rights for 5 years to Peoria Academy classrooms and spaces.

Each individual classroom space can be sponsored for the next 5 years for \$25,000, allowing individuals, groups, or organizations to name the classroom. Gifts will be designated for the anniversary effort and can be paid in whole or over a period of up to 60 months.

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Thank you, as well, to the more than 35 individuals and families who contributed directly to the 25th Anniversary Fund. We are grateful for your support.

Please contact Brandon Jordan or Chris Wilson for more information about Room Naming availability & opportunities.

Additional Ways to Give

Caterpillar Matching Program

The Caterpillar Foundation is proud to offer the year-round Matching Gifts Program to support Caterpillar employees and members of its Board of Directors in their contributions to worthy causes. Eligible Caterpillar participants may request an annual combined total maximum match of \$10,000 USD each calendar year to charities to which contributions are tax deductible. Please contact Brandon Jordan at bjordan@peoriaacademy.org or visit caterpillar.com/matching-gifts for additional eligibility information.

Stock Transfers

Did you know that when you donate stock, you avoid the tax on the gain while deducting 100% of the value of the contribution? When you give stock, you may earn 2-3x the tax savings vs. donating cash. It's a win-win for you and us. And now it's fast, safe and easy to do. Peoria Academy has partnered with DonateStock.com to enable our supporters to make stock donations easily.

Our DonateStock page <https://donatestock.com/peoria-academy-inc> enables you to donate stock from your brokerage directly to our account through a secure portal, making the gifting process fast, safe and easy. Visit our DonateStock page or contact Ken Bachelor, kbachelor@peoriaacademy.org for more information.

