

**Head of the
Cranbrook
Kingswood Girls
Middle School
Leadership Opportunity**

Cranbrook Schools



Bloomfield Hills, Michigan
173 students
Grades 6 - 8
<http://schools.cranbrook.edu>

Carney, Sandoe  Associates

800-225-7986 ▼ www.carneysandoe.com

THE POSITION

Cranbrook Schools in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, seeks a Head of the Cranbrook Kingswood Girls Middle School to lead a community of 173 sixth through eighth grade girls and 20 faculty members. Located in the Detroit metropolitan area, Cranbrook Schools educates students in preschool through 12th grade and is one of the largest independent schools in the nation. Three schools are housed in separate buildings and on distinct sites within the 319-acre campus: a lower school with an early childhood center, a middle school with distinct boys' and girls' school facilities and programs, and a coeducational college-preparatory boarding and day high school. Regarded as one of the finest private schools in the nation, Cranbrook Schools offers a comprehensive, well-rounded learning environment. Cranbrook graduates enroll at many of the finest colleges and universities in the United States and abroad.

This is an exciting time in Cranbrook Schools' history, with recent construction projects and major upgrades throughout the campus. The next Head of the Cranbrook Kingswood Girls Middle School will find a state-of-the-art facility that opened in the spring of 2011. A building of exceptional beauty and function, this unique space was designed specifically for girls in grades six through eight and forms an ideal setting for an exceptional program. The Head of the Cranbrook Kingswood Middle Girls Middle School will report directly to the Director of Schools and is a member of the senior administrative team. He or she will be charged with ensuring the continuing excellence of all aspects of the girls' middle school program in the context of the unifying Mission Statement.

Mission Statement

Cranbrook Schools are independent day and boarding schools that provide students with a challenging and comprehensive college preparatory education. We motivate students from diverse backgrounds to strive for intellectual, creative, and physical excellence, to develop a deep appreciation for the arts and different cultures, and to employ the technological tools of our modern age. Our schools seek to instill in students a strong sense of personal and social responsibility, the ability to think critically, and the competence to communicate and contribute in an increasingly global community.



CRANBROOK SCHOOLS

Cranbrook Schools is a division of the Cranbrook Educational Community (CEC), one of the world's leading centers of education, art, and science, composed of a graduate Academy of Art and Museum, the Cranbrook Institute of Science, and historic Cranbrook House. Founded by Detroit philanthropists George and Ellen Booth in 1904, Cranbrook's campus features the work of world-renowned architects Eliel Saarinen, Albert Kahn, Steven Holl, Tod Williams, Billie Tsien, Rafael Moneo, and Peter Rose as well as sculptors Carl Milles and Marshall Fredericks. Critics have called Cranbrook "the most enchanted and enchanting setting in America." In 1989, Cranbrook was designated a National Historic Landmark, an honor



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accorded to only two other independent schools in the United States.

For the 2010-2011 academic year, Cranbrook Schools enrolled 1655 students: 515 in the Lower School, 344 in the Middle Schools, and 796 in the Upper School, 262 of whom are boarders. These students are from 17 states and 21 countries, reflecting a diversity of races, ethnic origins, and religious beliefs. In the Cranbrook Kingswood Girls Middle School, 28% are students of color. For the 2011-2012 school year, Cranbrook Schools awarded \$7.7 million in need-based financial aid to 31% of the student body. The financial aid budget has increased an average of 4% every year since 2006.

Throughout its history, Cranbrook has taught boys and girls separately at the middle school level. Single-sex programs and separate campuses meet the specific physical, social/emotional, and learning styles of boys and girls in the early adolescent years. The focus in both schools remains on what is truly important: offering a challenging, comprehensive, and distinctive education that prepares students for a lifetime.

THE CRANBROOK KINGSWOOD GIRLS MIDDLE SCHOOL

The mission at the Cranbrook Kingswood Girls Middle School is to provide a school environment where each girl feels challenged and supported to reach beyond what she thought possible. A comprehensive curriculum tailored to their needs parallels activities designed with adolescent girls in mind. By holding girls to the same high academic standards as the entire Cranbrook School community, they have innumerable opportunities to develop their self-concept and to be recognized both as an individual and as a member of a group. A rigorous middle school curriculum develops critical thinking, English and foreign language skills, appreciation of art and literature, and math and science mastery within an interactive learning environment where each child will feel encouraged and supported.



Cranbrook Kingswood Middle School teachers are organized into grade-level teams that meet daily to reflect upon and chart the academic and social growth of the girls in their grade. Teachers also serve as advisers to ensure that each girl has an advocate and each family a strong primary contact with the school. The after-school athletic program and numerous after-school clubs and activities encourage girls to seek out a passion or challenge outside of the classroom and explore it fully with the guidance of coaches and teachers. These program elements are part of a holistic approach to educating girls, extending educational opportunities beyond books and homework.

Admission to the girls' middle school is competitive and spaces are limited. Last year, 61 girls applied for 29 spaces. Eighty-three percent of students who were offered admission enrolled.



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CAMPUS, SETTING, AND LOCATION

The Cranbrook Educational Community was named after George Booth's ancestral home in Cranbrook, Kent, England. Many of the buildings on campus were designed by the renowned Finnish architect Eliel Saarinen. Sharing the grounds with the Schools are the graduate Cranbrook Academy of Art and Museum (1932) and the Cranbrook Institute of Science (1930), both considered preeminent in their fields. Cranbrook House (1918), the home of founders George and Ellen Booth, is surrounded by 40 acres of gardens, lawns, and woodlands. Recognizing that the physical plant should be equal to the intellectual, creative, and athletic activities that it hosts, Cranbrook invested more than \$75 million in the last 10 years on a broad and ambitious range of projects throughout the school campus. The state-of-the-art, \$16 million Cranbrook Kingswood Girls Middle School building also reveals its aesthetic lineage to the other buildings on Cranbrook's historic campus.

The 47,000-square-foot Cranbrook Kingswood Girls Middle School is divided into three clusters, one for each grade six through eight. All classrooms are equipped with SMART Boards. The three grades share spacious common areas including a dining hall, gymnasium, library, and workout room. The new building is the first on campus to meet LEED Silver requirements with its rainwater collection system and its use of recycled and Michigan-made construction products and furnishings. The building is surrounded by outdoor gardens and is just a short distance from the Cranbrook Institute of Science so that girls have direct access to the programs, exhibitions, and collections of the museum.



DETROIT AND SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN

Located 20 miles north of Detroit, the Bloomfield Hills/Birmingham area offers all the cultural excitement of a metropolitan area and all the serenity of a country escape. Since the campus is within driving distance of rural Michigan farmland, the University of Michigan, and downtown Detroit, students have the best of all worlds – the benefit of seeing live theater and major



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sporting events, browsing local bookshops and boutiques, or even canoeing on a small river or lake.

Situated between lakes Huron and Erie, Detroit is the eleventh largest metropolitan area in the country with more than 4.5 million people. The city dominates the national image of Michigan, but the region is much more vibrant and diverse than many outsiders realize. The metropolitan area has a rich mix of cultures and demographics. In addition to its white, African-American, and Hispanic populations, the region has the largest Arabic population outside the Middle East. Asians, South Asians, and Europeans are likewise drawn to the region's importance as a hub of the global auto industry. Detroit has dynamic and successful music, art, and sports scenes as well.

Economists recently noted that Michigan has moved into the early stages of a sustained recovery and are predicting net job growth for the state for the next three years. In addition, planners around the world have become captivated by the idea of Detroit as a laboratory for ideas to “right-size” our older cities. There is no denying the challenges in the city of Detroit, but for views on the current scene in Detroit – an intriguing and



complex reality that most national media miss – look at the Facebook pages for the Detroit Regional News Hub, the League of Adventurous Detroiters, and the Greening of Detroit. Another look at the region's diverse and sophisticated amenities can be seen in Hour magazine:

<http://www.hourdetroit.com>.

The Detroit metropolitan area boasts more than 20 institutions of higher learning; 14 museums and cultural centers; a symphony, opera, jazz festival, and arts festival; a wide range of arenas; professional sports teams in football, hockey, baseball, and basketball; and more theater seats than any other city east of the Mississippi River with the exception of New York City. Popular cultural venues include the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Detroit Science Center, Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, and the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit.

The State of Michigan enjoys a glorious natural landscape, especially the vast lakes that give it the

Cranbrook Schools

Grades: Preschool – Grade 12
Total enrollment: 1655
Faculty: 211
Operating budget: \$43 million
Endowment: \$49.8 million
Annual giving, most recent year: \$1.9 million
Capital giving, most recent year: \$5.5 million
Parent participation: 63%
Alumni participation: 21%
Financial aid budget: \$7.7 million
Students receiving aid: 31%

Kingswood Middle School for Girls

Enrollment: 173
Faculty: 20
Student-teacher ratio: 6:1
Faculty w/ advanced degrees: 65%
Diversity of students: 28%
Diversity of faculty: 8%



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nickname The Third Coast. With an average annual temperature of just under 50 degrees Fahrenheit, Detroit boasts a relatively temperate climate for such a northern locale, rated a surprising 5-6 Plant Hardiness Zone. Appreciating winter is an asset, though, as Detroit receives an annual snowfall of 45 inches. Michigan has 97 state parks, six state forests, and over 11,000 inland lakes. International wildlife refuges, managed by both the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the Canadian Wildlife Service, preserve coastal wetland areas, marshes, and islands along 48 miles of the Detroit River and Lake Erie shoreline. For more about the natural beauties of Michigan, visit www.puremichigan.org.

THE OPPORTUNITY

Cranbrook Schools is an exceptional independent school with a well-deserved reputation in this country and abroad. Each of the divisions within the school has its own mission and identity and strengths even as it contributes significantly to the larger enterprise. Noteworthy strengths for the Cranbrook Kingswood Girls Middle School are the following:



- The newly opened, state-of-the-art facility
- The wealth of educational, cultural, and natural resources within the Cranbrook Educational Community and its 319 acre campus
- “A safe place in a worrisome world” as one parent eloquently remarked
- The ability to design curricula, pedagogy, and allied programs for middle school girls
- Experienced, passionate, and highly professional leadership, faculty, and staff
- Collaborative relations with the other divisions
- Supportive and engaged parents

At the same time, exciting opportunities await the new head. Among these are to:

- Ensure that the faculty and staff take every advantage of the new building for the benefit of the girls’ education
- Strengthen communication and coordination with the other divisions and with parents for greater understanding and inclusion
- Foster an even greater team approach across departments and divisions to clarify and better integrate the curriculum
- Increase the uses of emerging technologies for classroom instruction and communication
- Oversee a review and revision of the schedule to meet perceived priorities in program and staffing
- Identify, recruit, and mentor new faculty as current staff retire
- Ensure that a robust program for faculty growth and evaluation is in place



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PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- Master's Degree or equivalent
- A clear and compelling vision for all-girls' education
- Teaching and administrative experience
- Knowledge about research and best practices for educating young girls
- Familiarity with and adeptness in the use of applied technologies
- Demonstrated success in curricular revisions to meet 21st century needs
- A strong commitment to the arts and sciences, given the Cranbrook campus

SKILLS AND PERSONAL QUALITIES

- A passion for single gender education in middle school
- Inspirational leadership and management skills
- Visible and active engagement in the community
- Excellent written and presentation skills
- Advocacy for the faculty, including their meeting the highest professional standards
- Sensitivity to school traditions and to the requirements for creativity and innovation
- Approachability and trustworthiness
- Good sense of humor and confidence

COMPENSATION

Compensation package will be very competitive and commensurate with experience and the regional independent school market.

Interested and qualified candidates should submit electronically and as separate documents the following materials:

- *cover letter expressing interest in the position*
- *current résumé*
- *statement of educational philosophy and practice*
- *list of 5 references with name, phone number, and email address of each to:*

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