

CHAPIN



The Chapin School

Head of School

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The seventh Head of School at Chapin will be an inspiring, student-centered, and intellectually curious leader who will bring a forward-thinking and global perspective to this joyful learning community. Building upon the School's strong history, the Head will embrace Chapin's traditions while continuing to drive innovative academic and co-curricular initiatives. Leading with courage and vision, the Head will empower and encourage students and professional community members to voice their perspectives and seek ways to strengthen the programs of the School. She/he will bring a deep commitment to diversity in all its forms and will serve as a confident and fearless role model to the students and faculty, unafraid to take bold stances. Leading with both "intellect and heart," the Head will set high standards for academic excellence while also creating a supportive environment in which both students and the professional community will thrive and grow.

Chapin's next Head of School will arrive at a time of tremendous opportunity. The School's 56,000 square-foot building addition is scheduled for completion in 2020, with three new floors of space dedicated to athletics and the arts. An existing gym will be transformed into an innovative, STEAM-focused "maker space." The incoming Head will continue to develop and implement programming to fill these spaces and to integrate Chapin's athletics, wellness, arts and technology programs into its broader educational mission.

Appointed by the Board of Trustees, the Head of School is the academic, administrative, and community leader responsible for Chapin. She/he will partner with the Board, the faculty, and the administrative team to articulate the School's priorities and to develop a vision to continue to move Chapin forward. An experienced educational leader, the Head will relish the opportunity to engage with all members of the Chapin community, from the youngest learners to the most senior alumnae. She/he will be a dynamic and aspirational leader who will communicate effectively with all constituents within the Chapin community as well as the broader educational community.

IDEAL EXPERIENCE

- Distinguished leadership experience at an educational institution.
- A deep commitment to excellence in education with a focus on the education of girls and young women.
- Demonstrated commitment to diversity and inclusion broadly defined.
- Impactful organizational leadership and management—strategic, programmatic, financial, and operational—in an academic setting.
- Experience serving as an inspirational public face of a community who can effectively engage a broad range of stakeholders.

CRITICAL LEADERSHIP CAPABILITIES

Bold Educational Leader with a Deep Passion for Girls Education

The Chapin School is known for providing an excellent education in a supportive environment. In the recent past, the faculty, leadership and Board of Trustees embraced and accomplished the ambitious agenda of the *Forward Focused* strategic plan, and the next Head will be the lead advocate in the continued evolution of the School and its programs. With her colleagues and board members, the Head will review research, explore and debate ideas, and set goals for the next strategic plan. She/he will engage the community in discussions of what Chapin graduates need to learn to thrive and lead in a global society. She/he will appreciate the challenges facing students in the connected, global, fast-paced world, and will be unrelenting in her quest to create an environment that supports their social, emotional, and personal growth. The Head will partner with the faculty to review, refine, and strengthen the current program while setting and realizing future initiatives that will enhance the already exceptional school.

Inspiring Community Builder

At this close-knit, welcoming, and inclusive school where all grades are “under one roof,” the next Head will celebrate the diversity and energy of the community and seek opportunities to create even more connection across the School and beyond to alumnae and parents. The next leader will build on the strengths inherent in this community and be the leading advocate for deepening the School’s commitment to diversity and creating an environment where all thrive. She/he will be visible, accessible, and known in the Chapin community. Within the school walls, she/he will be delighted, for example, to join the story circle in the Lower School, to spend lunch with the Middle School students, and to engage in thoughtful dialogue with the Upper School students. She/he will develop authentic rapport with parents and alumnae and seek opportunities to partner with educational leaders across the city and the nation. Whether speaking with one person or to a large group, the Chapin Head will convey energy and passion for the School, and her thoughtful intellect and global perspective will be evident. The next Head will understand that every interaction - formal and informal - is an opportunity to connect, to inspire, to serve as a role model, and to tell the Chapin story.

Organizational Capacity Builder

The next leader of Chapin must be a strategic, capable steward of the School’s assets with strong business acumen, effective managerial skills, and impeccable judgment. A sophisticated and inspiring leader who understands the importance of aligning ambitions with resources, she/he will welcome debate, value diverse perspectives, listen, and then make decisions always in the best interest of the students and the School. She/he will provide critical leadership to attract and retain talent at all levels and will create an empowered team where people are supported, mentored, and held accountable. As a passionate advocate for Chapin with its donor community, the next Head will secure new resources to support the current and future needs of the School.

Search Process

Chapin is an equal opportunity employer. Chapin does not discriminate based on race, religion, color, sexual orientation, or national or ethnic origin. The Chapin School actively seeks diversity in its professional community and student body.

Chapin is committed to diversity in its culture, curriculum, and program. Believing that an equitable, inclusive community is essential to learning, Chapin actively seeks families, faculty and staff who bring a range of experiences to the School. Chapin embraces and respects differences in age, ethnicity, gender, learning style, physical ability, race, religion, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic class. Expecting and requiring respect for others are hallmarks of our educational process.

To submit your own application materials or nominate someone to serve as the next Head of School at The Chapin School, please send an email message with supporting materials to ChapinHOS@SpencerStuart.com.

“Remember that your school symbol is a wheel and that like it, education has no beginning that we can remember, no end that we can see... you have learned about Fortitude and Rectitude, and now we send you away, that life may teach you. Fortitude, you know, includes not only Courage, but Strength, Endurance, Patience – that one must be brave for others as well as for oneself.”

Maria Bowen Chapin

The Chapin School is a K-12 independent day school for girls, dedicated to the intellectual and personal growth of its students. Located on the Upper East Side of Manhattan, Chapin’s educational tradition dates back to 1901, when Maria Bowen Chapin founded the School. Her vision for the education of young women has remained the School’s guide as its curriculum and traditions have evolved.

To ensure that Chapin’s educational purpose, its students’ aspirations and the spirit of its inclusive community are at the fore, Chapin continuously revisits and revitalizes its mission statement. Its new mission, which was approved and adopted by the Board of Trustees on March 11, 2019, is as follows:

Chapin is dedicated to empowering a diverse, ambitious and resolute community of young women to thrive and lead in their world. Guided by our motto, Fortiter et Recte, Chapin considers bravery, compassion, service and respect for self and others to be fundamental values. We believe that equity, inclusion and collaboration are critical to personal growth. By advancing and deepening each student’s agency, confidence and resilience within an affirming and joyful learning environment, Chapin strives to ensure that each student is emboldened to pursue distinction as a leader and contributing citizen.

Chapin students are artists, athletes, computer programmers, engineers, musicians and physicists, often at the same time. From Kindergarten through Class 12, its nearly 800 students share a home under one roof at 100 East End Avenue, which encourages collaboration and lifelong friendships and cultivates warmth, energy and joy. The School’s three divisions—Lower, Middle and Upper Schools—have their own discrete spaces, yet students interact with individuals from other grades throughout the day.

While studying at Chapin, each student builds a clear understanding of her world by thinking independently and collaborating with others. She gains qualities such as empathy, emotional intelligence and the pursuit of personal excellence. A Chapin education challenges students’ minds while providing the foundation for a lifetime of curiosity, creativity and intellectual achievement.

Community at Chapin is more than a collection of people; it is a way of thinking and being. Chapin builds community in many ways. Through advisory groups and programs, for example, students learn to respect others’ ideas and points of view and to develop close relationships with peers and teachers. Chapin faculty regularly collaborate on cross-curricular initiatives and course planning, often arriving at new ideas as a group. Parents regularly visit Chapin to see their children in school performances and athletic events, meet with teachers and attend Parents’ Association events. And each year, hundreds of alumnae return to the School for Alumnae Reunion, during which they enjoy old friendships and new ones, while also sharing experiences with current students and faculty. These are just a few ways in which community members recognize they are part of something greater than themselves, and that they are always welcomed back.

