



ROBERT COLLEGE  
— 1863 —

## ROBERT COLLEGE 2020–2021

We illustrated our students with the hope that our campus will be filled with conversation and laughter when the pandemic is over.

### AN EDUCATIONAL ROLE MODEL IN TURKEY

Robert College (RC) is the first continually-running American educational institution founded outside the United States.

The school opened in 1863 in Istanbul to educate boys and was followed in 1871 by the American College for Girls. The two schools merged on one campus as a co-educational school in 1971 under the name Robert College.

RC is a private secondary school operated under the jurisdiction of the Turkish Ministry of Education and accredited by the New York State Association of Independent Schools. A coeducational, day and residential, university preparatory school, Robert College is located in Istanbul, on a sixty-five acre wooded area overlooking the Bosphorus strait.

### PRIVATE SCHOOL WITH A PUBLIC MISSION

Many students who excel on the national entrance exam and qualify for Robert College, find tuition an insurmountable obstacle.

Robert College strives to provide scholarship for these students to attend and experience a life transforming opportunity. RC is conscious that educating the brightest students regardless of their financial means serves not only those individual students but the whole country and the world at large.

Currently 272 of the 1,041 residential and day students at the school, receive financial support. This corresponds to the fact that 1 in every 4 student receives financial support.

### ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

**Cultivating brilliant young minds to be tomorrow's global visionaries and leaders is more important than ever.**

The Robert College five-year high school academic program is unique in Turkey. It was originally approved by the Turkish Ministry of Education in 1998 and has been updated and re-approved several times. Robert College's strong curriculum helps prepare students in the best way possible to continue their studies at university in Turkey and abroad. Students who graduate from RC will have critical and analytical thinking abilities and problem-solving skills that will help them to be successful in higher education environments.

Our school's curriculum, includes comprehensive courses in the fields of art, social sciences, mathematics and science, supported by expectations for advanced research and deep discussion. In addition to the required core courses in the Turkish national high school curriculum, Robert College also has a rich curriculum of elective courses similar to those which are offered at university prep schools in the US.

RC currently offers 9 AP courses and continues to extend its AP program with the approval of 14 more courses which will be offered to the students next year.

### STUDENTS FROM ALL OVER TURKEY

Robert College today is a meritocracy that attracts the most accomplished and deserving students from all over Turkey for whom it embodies a unique center of inspiration and potential.

RC serves Turkish students admitted on the basis of a highly competitive national exam. Typically, RC offers enrollment to students scoring approximately within the top 0.02% of the more than one million test takers who enter the exam. 26% of the students receive financial aid to attend RC, totaling \$3.8 million this year. This is a reflection of RC's strong endowment and loyal, committed alumni, who contribute toward scholarships every year. During the 2020-21 academic year, there are 1,041 students attending RC from 59 cities around Turkey. The residences are home to 187 students from outside of Istanbul.



# CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The breadth of the co-curricular activities offered sets Robert College apart from other schools in Turkey.

It is hard to overemphasize the impact of this program has on the students. They are able to choose from over 130 clubs, initiatives, and teams every year, covering a wide range of topics including art and performance, personal skills, creativity, culture and physical fitness. Alumni of all ages look back at their involvement in these activities as the defining experience of their Robert College years.



# OUTSTANDING COLLEGE ADMISSIONS\*

Today, as always, the most gifted and motivated students come to Robert College eager to learn.

Upon graduation our students have an excellent college admissions record and they go on to become leaders in their chosen fields. 50% of Robert College graduates between 2018-2020 chose to study abroad, including the Ivy League schools.

Brown University	3	Princeton University	3
Carnegie Mellon University	2	Stanford University	9
Columbia University	6	Tufts University	5
Cornell University	1	University of California, Berkeley	12
Dartmouth College	5	University of California, Los Angeles	4
Duke University	1	University of Chicago	10
Georgetown University	1	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	8
Harvard University	3	University of Michigan	4
New York University	9	University of Pennsylvania	2
Northwestern University	4	Yale University	9

\* Matriculation to Ivy League Schools: 32 students in the last three years

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Students come to Robert College equipped with curiosity and passion and it is a joy to keep evolving as a teacher to meet this spirit. Everyone here needs to be at the top of their game. I love it.

— Cyrus Carter, English teacher since 2006

- Why teach at Robert College?
- Our students are exceptional people! A friendly atmosphere of support between students and teachers exists here. We have a strong scholarship program that attracts the best young people from throughout Turkey. The staff is supportive in every aspect of moving to a new country, from helping with the visa process through getting you situated in your on campus housing. A community of smart and caring colleagues exists to help through your transition to a new country. The campus is amazing...I always say ‘it’s like living in Central Park!’

— Celeste Pierson, Art teacher since 2019

# HANDS ON APPROACH TO GLOBAL CIVICS

The long-standing social service tradition at Robert College is reflected in a hands-on approach to global civics programs.

The community involvement curriculum developed by the school formalizes a process of educating students by requiring them to plan and execute their own projects under faculty guidance.

Instilling a sense of social responsibility in students is crucial for RC, with a larger aim that all students internalize the ideal of giving back to the community, locally and globally. The goal is that this becomes a life-long practice.

The Community Involvement Program (CIP) at RC requires students to serve the broader community for at least 75 hours by graduation. Teachers and students travel to the far reaches of Turkey or stay nearby to work on social activities. Robert College has taken steps toward a greater sense of responsibility for the community, with initiatives on and off campus to use materials sparingly and to recycle waste better. Taking responsibility for the future is an essential part of our tradition.

# DISTINGUISHED FACULTY

RC’s faculty, **62%** of whom have a master’s degree or higher, have an average of approximately **20** years teaching experience.

**42%** of the teachers come from **8** different countries outside Turkey. About **50%** of RC’s faculty is made up of native English speakers.

During the 2020-2021 academic year, our school includes **1041** students and **129** teachers. The student-teacher ratio is **8** to **1**.

Robert College is dedicated to the professional development of its teachers and staff. The faculty reflects the bicultural and bilingual nature of the school.

A significant number of faculty and administrators reside on the beautiful wooded campus and are involved in the residential and co-curricular programs.

