

Families, Colleagues, and Friends,

I am pleased to share with you this year's Great Hearts Annual Report. For the past fifteen years, Great Hearts has offered students an exceptional education. Great Hearts is now the largest provider of K-12 classical education campuses in the country, and we aspire to grow much more over the next decade. We don't seek to grow for growth's sake. Rather, our growth is inspired by three fundamental principles.

First, we believe that education should cultivate the minds and hearts of students through the pursuit of truth, goodness, and beauty. We form the character of our students just as much as their intellect. In the classical education model, heart and mind are developed together to form a flourishing human being. So, in this report you will find the exceptional academic results of our students—and they are world-class results—joined by stories about how their deeper nature as great-hearted young men and women shines through.

Second, we believe that our teachers are the heart of our schools. The Great Hearts culture does not happen by accident. The amazing teachers who pour their lives and talents into serving students every day are essential to the success of our enterprise. Great Hearts exists and succeeds because incredibly bright, dedicated, and virtuous teachers have moved from towns and cities around the country to answer our call to action, and their personal calling to lead.

Third, we believe that classical education should be broadly available to students from all zip codes and backgrounds. For far too long, classical education has been the exclusive domain of ivy-covered private schools, with difficult entrance requirements and lofty tuition bills. As a network of public charter schools, Great Hearts has changed the model and offers a broadly appealing program, with superior results, open to all families, tuition free.

These principles and our success so far animate our mission to expand our classical public school offering in Arizona, Texas, and beyond. And we are also compelled by the thousands of families on our wait list. As we grow, we continue to improve the quality of our schools, showing that high growth and high quality can be married in an organization that stays committed to its core purpose. We hope you enjoy this annual report, and we are honored to work alongside you in renewing American public education.

Wade Dyke,  
*President and CEO*

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Wade Dyke joined Great Hearts as President and CEO in January 2017. At Great Hearts, he oversees the Arizona and Texas operations while leading efforts to establish the plans for the organization's next phase of growth. A Rhodes Scholar, he holds a doctorate in politics and a bachelor's degree in politics and economics from Oxford University in England. He returns to charter school management as one of the original pioneers in the field. In 1999, he helped start Chancellor Beacon Academies, now Imagine Schools.

# Why We Exist

Great Hearts is passionately committed to cultivating the minds and hearts of students through the pursuit of Truth, Goodness, and Beauty.

## Truth

Great Hearts is devoted to the pursuit of knowledge and wisdom about every aspect of reality, whether be it nature, history, philosophy, morality, or mathematics. Truth is something much greater than mere personal opinion or an individual perspective—it is transcendentally true, across times and cultures.

## Goodness

Great Hearts is passionately committed to that which is good. Through the material we teach our students and in the manner we live our lives, we pursue what is truly good for both the individual and society. We seek a balanced, classical ideal of the good life, one that is based not on material prosperity alone but upon moral excellence and the virtues of justice and sacrifice.

## Beauty

Great Hearts ardently loves what is beautiful: the fine and worthy things that uplift us and fill us with wonder. We hold most dear those things that fill us with both emotional and intellectual delight, whether it be in art and music, in poetry and literature, but also in human action, mathematics, and nature itself. Amidst the ordinary, we always make room in our hearts and minds for the finest works of human creativity and for the beauty of our vast universe.



With our core purpose as our north star, we operate classical K-12 charter schools that offer our students a transformative educational experience. We believe that the highest goal of education is to become good, intellectually and morally. By engaging a well-rounded program in a vibrant school culture, our students are prepared for success in college, leadership in all their endeavors, and most importantly a life filled with purpose.

Our “great-hearted” graduates are prepared for the 21st century. They have the skills to pursue their chosen calling, and they possess great hearts to deploy their talents for a purpose beyond themselves.