



<i>The Classical Academy</i>	<i>Policies and Procedures</i>
Policy Name:	Graduation Honors and Highest Rank Scholars
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## **GRADUATION HONORS AND HIGHEST RANK SCHOLARS**

TCA does not rank students within their grade based on their GPA. However, TCA does award the following honors at graduation: summa cum laude, magna cum laude, and cum laude. In addition, TCA will have a valedictorian for each graduating class, to be determined as described below.

### **Honors**

Latin Honors are based upon students' grade point averages as of May 1, in the year of graduation. If school is not in session that day (holiday or snow day), the closing date will be the next day that school is in session.

The top 10% of the total graduating class will receive summa cum laude distinction, the next 10% will receive magna cum laude, and the next 10% will received cum laude. This method will result in a 10/20/30 distribution. When this is calculated, the non-transfer students' GPAs and Honors will be calculated, first. Then, transfer students' GPAs will be calculated and inserted into the ranks based on their placement in the top 30%. If a transfer student is the last student in one of the groups above, the cut off will be the next non-transfer student on the list. All GPA calculations for Honors will be based on 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade cumulative GPAs. A student who does not have a TCA transcript beginning with first semester grades from 9<sup>th</sup> grade is considered a transfer student.

Recognizing students who have earned Latin Honors is at the discretion of the Principal, at the Senior Assembly or the AAA Awards Night.

### **Valedictorian and Salutatorian**

Valedictorian and Salutatorian Honors are based upon students' grade point averages as of May 1, in the year of graduation. If school is not in session that day (holiday or snow day), the closing date will be the next day that school is in session.

In order to be the TCA valedictorian or the salutatorian, the student must have attended TCA High School continuously since first semester of the 9th grade. Transfer students are not eligible. The valedictorian must have met all graduation requirements and earned the highest weighted GPA of

his/her graduating class. The salutatorian will have earned the second highest weighted GPA of his/her graduating class.

In the case of an apparent tie for valedictorian, co-valedictorians will be recognized if the highest GPAs are equal at the 1/100th place value. When there are co-valedictorians, there will be no salutatorian.

The high school principal will notify the Valedictorian(s) and Salutatorian approximately two weeks prior to graduation, after AP testing has been completed. The Valedictorian(s) may give a 3-5 minutes speech and the Salutatorian may give a 2 minute speech. All student speakers must provide a written copy of their speeches and orally present their speeches to their assigned English teacher. Students may be coached. Speeches should be meaningful, succinct, and address student’s experiences during his/her time at TCA.

**Policy Revision History**

Date	Revision Details	Revised By
5/2/2016	Policy formalized.	Registrar