

Founded in 1946, Besant Hill School of Happy Valley is a small, elite boarding high school in California, offering students a nurturing environment where they can flourish and feel free to be themselves.

Located in Ojai, a mountain community just 1.5 hours north of Los Angeles, Besant Hill sits on a beautiful 520-acre campus just 15 miles inland from the Pacific Ocean. Students study in a serene and calming environment, while still having easy access to some of the best educational, professional and recreational resources on the west coast.

With a 4:1 student-to-teacher ratio (one of the lowest ratios in the whole country), teachers at Besant Hill use practices from some of the best teaching methods in the world, including the Socratic Method, Mastery Teaching, Project Based Learning and Cooperative Learning. Students receive personalized learning experiences through small class sizes, as well as programs like the Instructional Support Program, the Capstone Program, Outdoor and Sustainability Education and the 4-Year College Planning Program.

With multi-tiered ESL coursework and a comprehensive residential program, Besant Hill is a home away from home for international students from more than 20 countries.

- Year Founded: **1946**
- Total Enrollment: **80**
- Open Grades: **9-12, Post-Graduate**
- Campus Size: **520 Acres**
- Faculty with Advanced Degrees: **80%**
- Faculty-To-Student Ratio: **1:4**
- Number of Courses Offered: **63**
- Colleges Visiting Campus: **50+**
- College Placement: **100%**
- Number of Countries Represented: **20+**



**Besant Hill
School**
Of Happy Valley



**Tight-Knit Experiential Learning
With A Global Perspective**



**SCAN CODE TO APPLY
AND LEARN MORE**



A Small Boarding School in a Desired Location

Besant Hill School is located in Ojai, a beautiful town in Southern California located about 1.5 hours north of Los Angeles and 1 hour south of Santa Barbara. The 520-acre campus features academic, boarding and recreational facilities that complement the serene, natural environment.

Students live in a safe, picturesque campus and enjoy easy access to world-famous museums, amusement parks, leading universities and more.

Besant Hill has 100 students and a 1:4 faculty-to-student ratio, ensuring that each student’s individual needs are identified and met.

Rigorous College Preparatory Curriculum and College Planning

The school’s unique Instructional Support Program (ISP) is designed to help students develop learning strategies they can use in high school, university and beyond, with organization and time management skills serving as the foundation of the program. Additionally, students receive both individual and small group academic support for their core classes.

More than 60 courses are offered, including 20+ in Fine and Performing Arts. The school also offers a competitive and engaging fitness program.

The College Counseling Office works closely with all students and their families from the moment they arrive on campus. A four-year plan is specifically designed for each student.

Besant Hill School has established a strong connection with top universities. Besant Hill teachers have graduated from Stanford, Brown, Columbia,



UCLA, USC and Boston College. Each year, more than 50 colleges visit Besant Hill and graduates have been accepted by Stanford, UC Berkeley, UCLA, NYU and Northwestern.

Personalized Learning Experiences and Signature Programs Unleash Each Student’s Full Potential

Capstone Program: In this program, seniors take their education outside the classroom and further pursue their interests and passions. Recent projects include art shows, environmental sustainability research projects and stage productions.

Outdoor Education Program (OEP): Learning opportunities take place in various settings across California. Students develop life skills through activities such as rock climbing, backpacking and whitewater rafting.

Experiential Learning and World Travel: Faculty members and students create meaningful, curriculum-based trips to support specific educational objectives. Past trips have been to Ecuador, Italy, Cuba, Greece, Australia and Nepal.

A Global Community with Robust Residential and ESL Programs

Three levels of English as a Second Language (ESL) are offered.

International students work with the school’s Director of International Student Programs, the Director of Teaching and Learning and the College Counselor to set future goals and exceed their potential.

The on-campus residences feature comfortable, modern rooms, as well as lounge and study areas. Boarding students come from more than 20 countries, and can take advantage of organized weekend activities – including beach trips, movies, shopping mall excursions, hikes, trips to Universal Studios and more.



Signature Electives in the Arts and Athletics

- Music Ensemble
- Music Theory
- Chamber Singers
- Performing Arts
- Acting
- Studio Art
- Ceramics
- Art History
- Film
- Digital Arts and Photography
- Bookmaking and Publishing
- Yoga
- Surfing
- Golf
- Swimming
- Dance
- Circuit Training
- Aquatics
- And Many More

College Acceptances in the Past 3 Years

- University of Arizona
- Boston College
- Boston University
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of California, Los Angeles
- Fordham University
- University of Michigan
- New York University
- Northeastern University
- Northwestern University
- University of Oregon
- Parsons School of Design
- Penn State University
- Purdue University
- Savannah College of Art and Design
- School of the Art Institute of Chicago
- Stanford University
- Syracuse University
- University of Washington
- And Many More

Cost

Tuition	\$73,550
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*Boarding and meals included | *Scholarships may be available

Admissions

Language Requirements	All Tests Accepted
Application Materials	• Online Application • 3 Years of Transcripts • 2 Letters of Recommendation • Student Writing Sample
Interview	Required