

## Latin textbooks written in Louisville gain national attention

November, 2007

*Winners of the Scripps National Spelling Bee and the National Vocabulary Championship cite textbooks written by two Highlands Latin School teachers as keys to winning.*

Louisville, KY-- Textbooks written by Highlands Latin School teachers Cheryl Lowe and Martin Cothran were key tools used by the winners of both the 2007 National Spelling Bee and National Vocabulary Championship to prepare for the competitions.

The winner of the Scripps National Spelling Bee singled out two of Louisville native Cheryl Lowe's Latin programs as texts he used to prepare for the competition which was broadcast recently on ESPN. When asked what curriculum Evan O'Dorney used, his mother responded, "For his Latin studies, we used *Latina Christiana* and we've done two of the Henle books." Mrs. Lowe, founder of the Highlands Latin School, wrote *Latina Christiana* for students in grades three through six, and also wrote the instruction guides to the high school *Henle Latin* text.

The winner of the 2007 National Vocabulary Championship, Robert Marsland III, also used *Latina Christiana*, as well as *Traditional Logic*, written by Martin Cothran, another Highlands Latin teacher. The \$40,000 first prize winner said that to win the competition, "I mostly relied on my Latin and Greek knowledge." Robert's father was so impressed with the texts Mrs. Lowe and Mr. Cothran wrote that he actually started classes in his community using two of Mr. Cothran's logic texts, *Traditional Logic* and *Material Logic*.

"I wrote *Latina Christiana* simply because I could not find a Latin textbook that offered what I wanted for my students," Lowe explained. "Ten years later, it's proven to be a much-needed book, and



I'm both humbled and gratified that students who are winning national awards are finding this to be helpful in their studies. More than anything, my singular desire was to teach Latin, and publishing this book has enabled me to teach to thousands."

Since first writing *Latina Christiana* in 1996, more than 200,000 students across the U.S. and in 23 countries have used Mrs. Lowe's Latin texts. Her passion for education also led her to create a publishing company, Memoria Press, and found the Highlands Latin School, a K-12 classical Christian school on Frankfort Ave with 285 students. The Latin books were published by Memoria, which has published 150 books since it was founded in 1996.



Martin Cothran drives to Louisville from Danville to teach Logic and Rhetoric at Highlands Latin. He is also the editor of *The Classical Teacher*, a journal of classical education with more than 100,000 copies printed each year.

"The students who used our books to prepare for the National Spelling Bee and the National Vocabulary Championship prove the value of a classical education," Mr. Cothran says. "I hope that more students will follow their example. Latin is the basis for a thorough knowledge of the English language and will help any student throughout life."

Four teachers at the Highlands Latin School have published textbooks in their areas of expertise with combined sales of more than 1,000,000 copies.

## Student Success at Highlands Latin

October, 2009



*HLS completed another successful year with the highest three year average ACT and SAT scores in Louisville and a ranking in the top 1% of schools across the country for K-8th grade.*

Cheryl Lowe founded Highlands Latin School after decades of work in education. Her approach has proven that a focus on an academic school culture, within a classical Christian setting, leads to impressive results.

In only nine years, HLS has grown from an enrollment of 50 to over 385. For each of the last four years, Highlands Latin has ranked in the top 1% in the nation on the ITBS Standardized Test and received the highest average ACT or SAT scores in Louisville according to Business First. Additionally, 100% of the graduating seniors not only attended college but also received at least one academic scholarship offer.

But student success isn't limited to academics at HLS, where high-achieving students thrive in a strong collegial school culture. Students in kindergarten through twelfth grade attend classes in the same building, and older students interact

with and mentor their younger classmates. The absence of social cliques combined with the genuine friendship among students will be a sight sure to warm any parent's heart on a school visit.



Highlands Latin School  
2800 Frankfort Ave, Louisville, KY 40206  
[www.TheLatinSchool.org](http://www.TheLatinSchool.org)  
502-895-5333

| High School                     | 3 Yr Average ACT | 3 Yr Average SAT | 09-10 Tuition |
|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Highlands Latin School          | 27               | 1916             | \$5,250       |
| Louisville Collegiate School    | 25               | 1878             | \$17,900      |
| Kentucky Country Day School     | 26               | 1842             | \$16,190      |
| Saint Xavier High School        | 24               | 1767             | \$9,725       |
| Christian Academy of Louisville | 24               | 1719             | \$7,400       |
| Sacred Heart Academy            | 24               | 1703             | \$9,120       |
| Assumption High School          | 24               | 1738             | \$9,375       |
| Trinity High School             | 23               | 1760             | \$9,735       |

*National Average SAT ~ 1510*

\*Tuition figures are based on 2009-2010 tuition. ACT/SAT is 3 year average based on 06-07, 07-08, 08-09