

Cornerstone Integrated Liberal Arts

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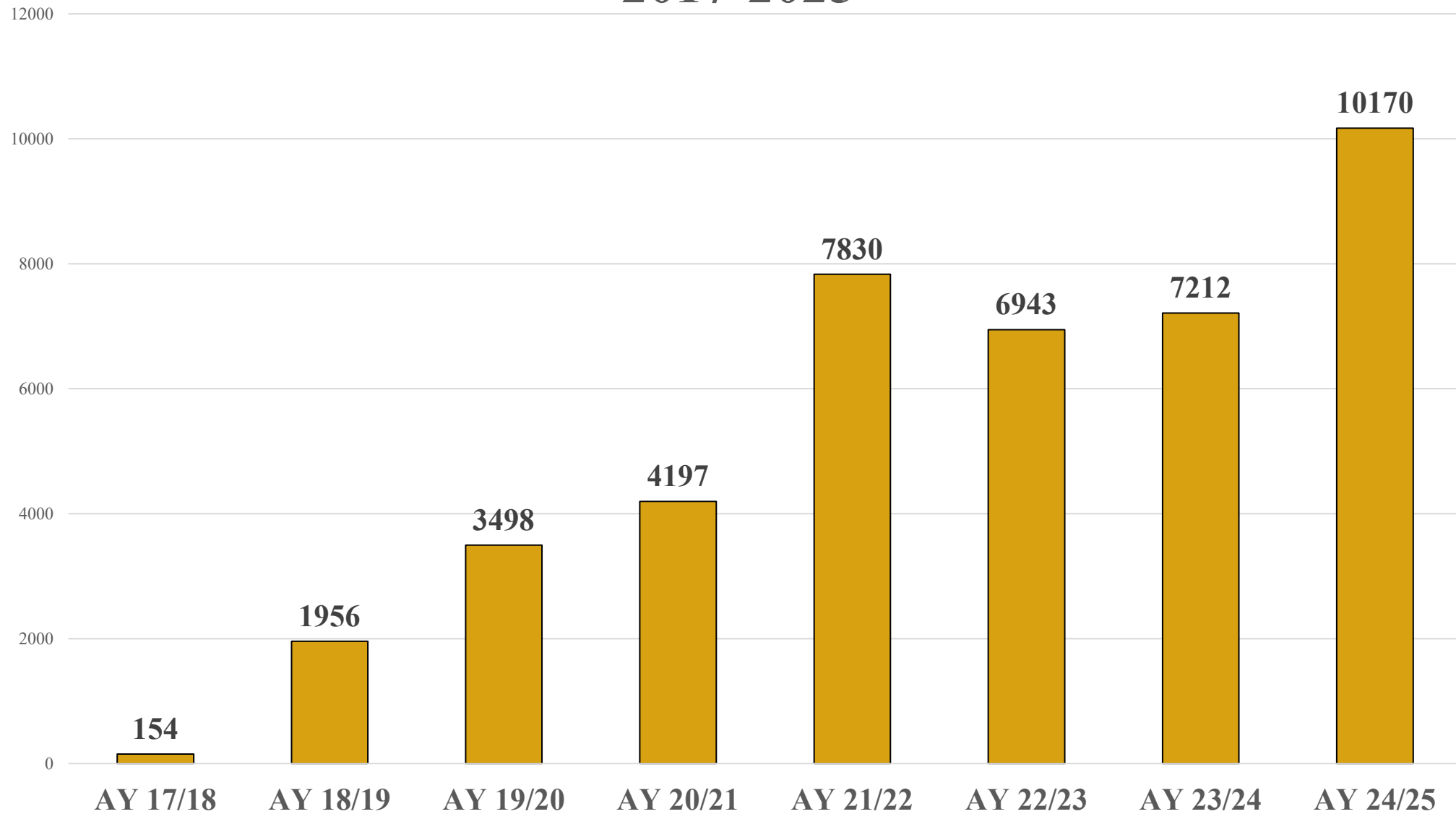
Director, and Germaine Seelye Oesterle
Professor of History

30 October 2025

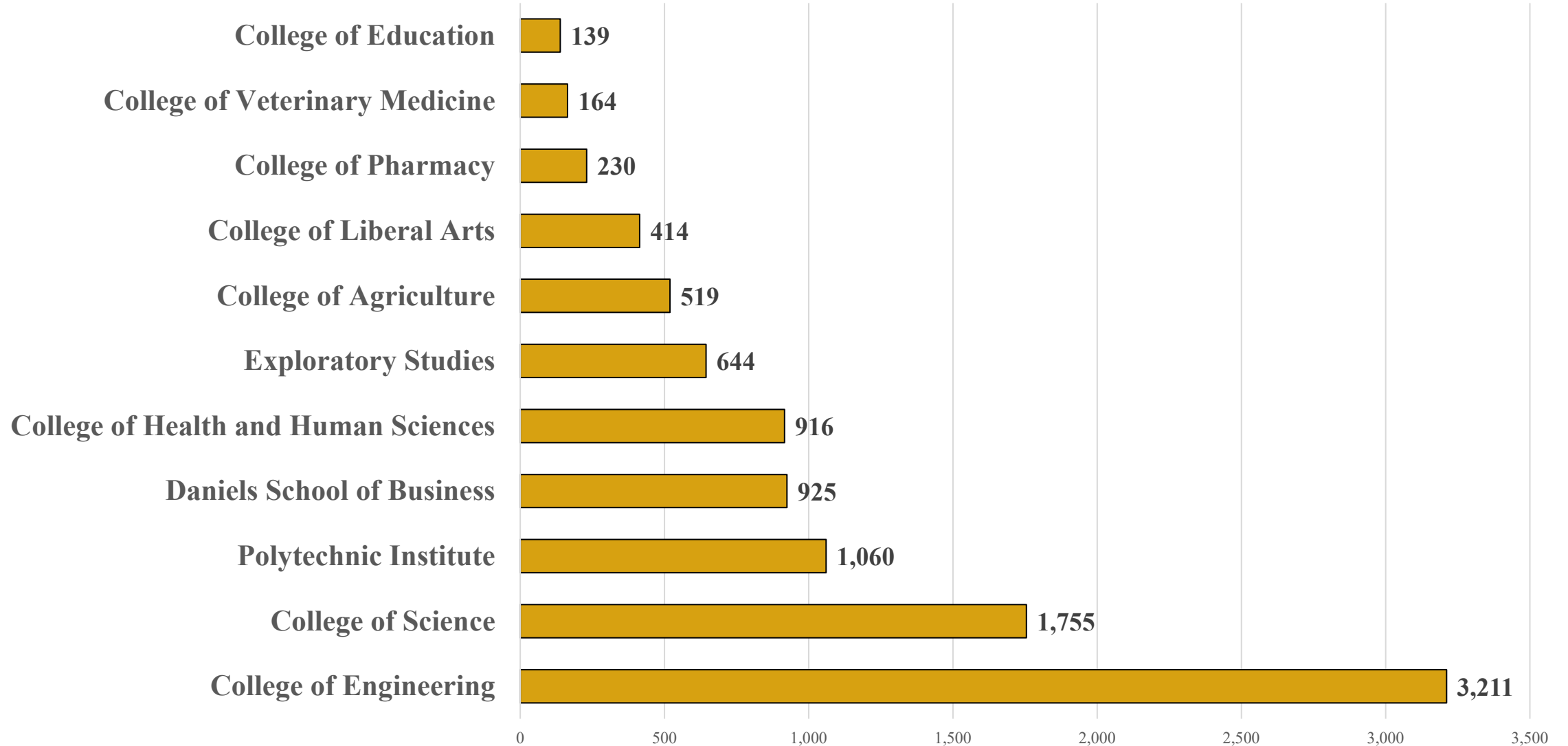


Enrollments in “Transformative Texts” by Academic Year

2017-2025



New Students by College, West Lafayette and Indianapolis, 2025



First-Year Students this Fall

Transformative Texts in West Lafayette

We are currently teaching **4,080** students this fall (1,649 are First-Year Engineering).

Transformative Texts in Indianapolis

Serving our Indianapolis campus, currently teaching **510** first-year students

Transformative Texts: Daniels Business School

Teaching first-year Business students the fundamentals of Political Economy, currently teaching **750** students this fall.

Total number of students in Transformative Texts this fall = **5,340**

Transformative Texts I & II

First-year students enroll in two foundational courses
in the College of Liberal Arts:

Transformative Texts (SCLA 101).

Critical Thinking and Communication I, from Antiquity to Modernity.

Fulfills the Written Communication and Information Literacy requirements of the University Core.

Transformative Texts (SCLA 102).

Critical Thinking and Communication II, Modern World.

Fulfills the Oral Communication requirement of the University Core.



All Active
Learning.
Professor David
Riesbeck's class
reads Homer's
Iliad, and
breaks into
small groups.

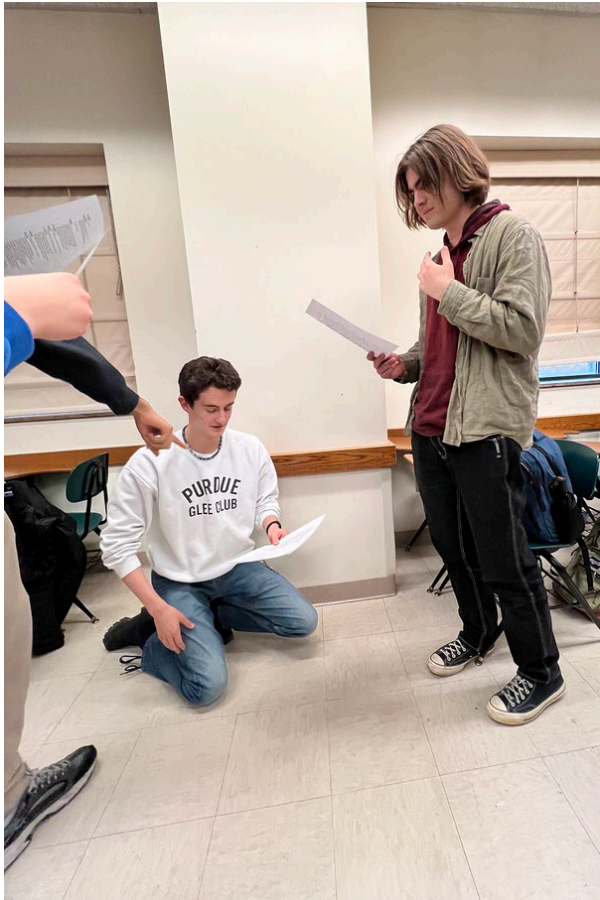


Experiential Learning: Darwin & Worms



Sometimes the worms are
very quiet

Reading & performing *Hamlet* with “Actors of the London Stage”



Some Special Topics in Transformative Texts this Fall:

Artificial Intelligence in the Loop: Humans in Charge

Wealth, Society, and the Future

The Good Society

The Quest: Physical, Mental, and Spiritual

Human versus Non-Human

Health, Disease, and Medicine

Utopian and Dystopian Narratives of Technology across Media

Science, Society, and Imagination

Technology's Help and Hindrance to Humankind's Growth

The Cornerstone Integrated Liberal Arts Certificate

Students take three more Liberal Arts courses in a theme:

Science and Technology

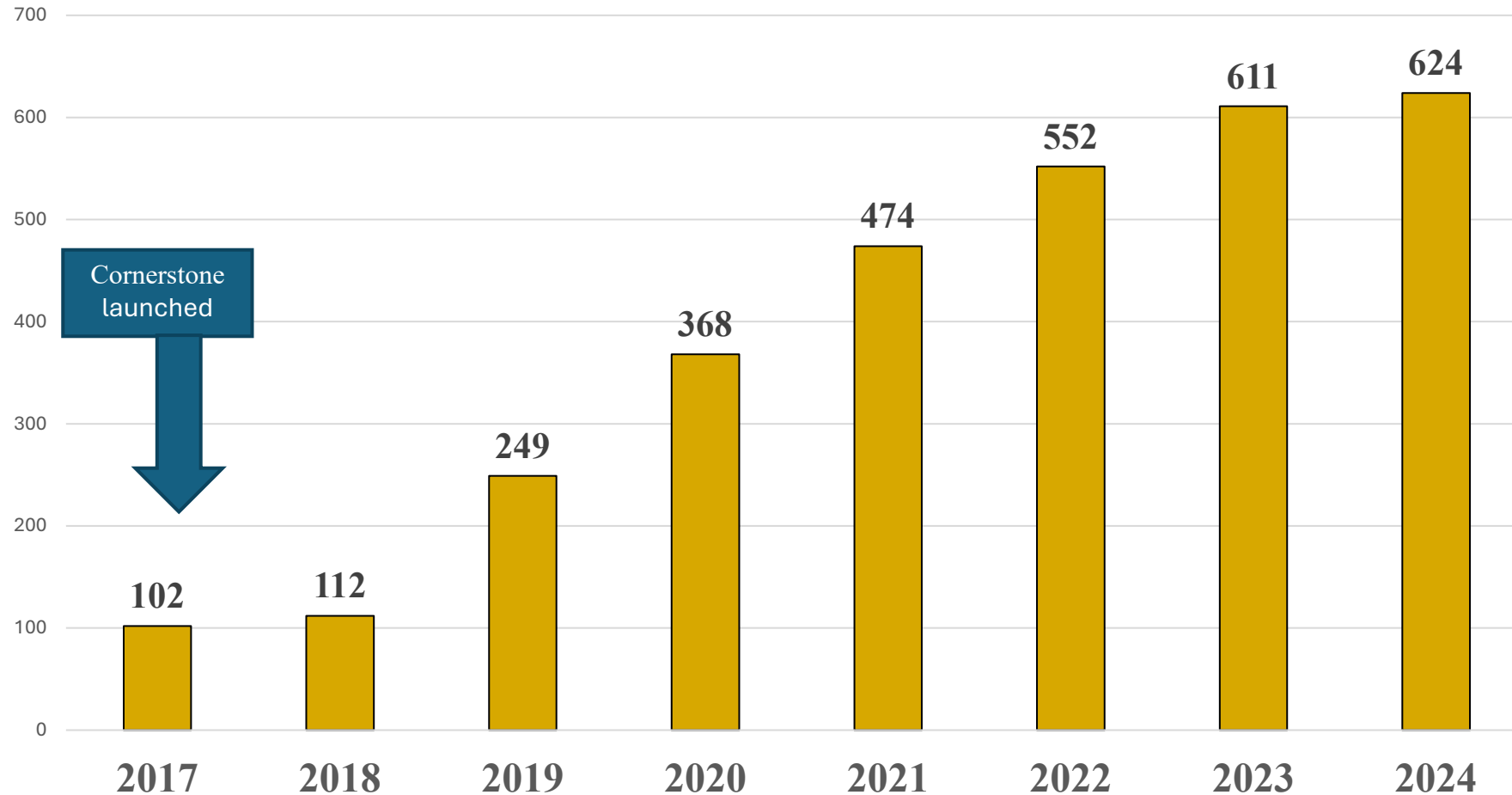
Environment and Sustainability

Healthcare and Medicine

Business and Management

Democracy and Citizenship

The Growth of STEM & Business Double Majors in the Liberal Arts



Adapting to AI: Learning AI Literacy & Ethics





NATIONAL ENDOWMENT
FOR THE HUMANITIES



Universities and Colleges Implementing Cornerstone

American University, DC
Anne Arundel Community College, MD
Augustana College, IL
Austin Community College, TX
Bard College, NY
California State Polytechnic University, CA
Catawba College, NC
Catholic University of America, DC
Clark Atlanta University, GA
Clemson University, SC
Colorado State University, CO
Cooper Union for Science and Art, NY
CSU Maritime Academy, CA
CUNY Baruch, NY
Dillard University, LA
Drexel University, PA
East Carolina University, NC
Emory University, GA
Fort Lewis College, CO
Georgetown University, DC
Houston Community College, TX
Howard University, DC
Indiana University of Pennsylvania, PA
Lehman College, NY

Linn-Benton Community College, OR
Lyon College, AK
Marshall University, WV
Mercer County Community College, NJ
Norfolk State University, VA
North Carolina State University, NC
Northern Kentucky University, KY
Pennsylvania State University system, PA
Pepperdine, CA
Rhodes College, TN
Rochester Institute of Technology, NY
Rose State, OK
Saint Louis University, NC
Seminole State, OK
Sonoma State, CA
Stanford University, CA
SUNY Cortland, NY
SUNY Erie Community College, NY
SUNY Onondaga Community College, NY
Tennessee Board of Regents system, TN
Texas A&M University system, TX
Thomas Jefferson University, PA
Transylvania University, KY
Trinity Washington University, DC

Tulsa Community College, OK
Tuskegee University, AL
UC Santa Cruz, CA
UConn, CT
University of Georgia, GA
University of Massachusetts Amherst, MO
University of Michigan Flint, MI
University of Montana, MT
University of Nevada, Las Vegas, NV
University of Nevada-Reno, NV
University of North Dakota, ND
University of Notre Dame, IN
University of Puerto Rico, PR
University of Wisconsin Platteville, WI
Ursinus College, PA
Ursuline College, OH
Vanderbilt University, TN
Victoria College, TX
Virginia Union University, VA

85 campuses in all

We teach the fundamentals of the learning process:

Reading: to read closely and critically with one's full attention, valuing learning for its own sake.

Writing: to articulate one's thoughts in an organized and clear manner that engages and values the reader.

Speaking: to speak with clarity and eloquence in a manner that engages and values the listener.

Listening: to listen with appreciation and curiosity to others and value their conversation.

Understanding: to appreciate the wisdom, feelings, and life experiences of others, seeking to learn from them.

And what else does Cornerstone do ...

Student contests: two every semester based on essays, fiction, poetry, artwork, and videos in Transformative Texts (with cash awards).

Film screenings: two every semester, like *Pride and Prejudice* and *Into the Wild*, modern adaptations of classic novels.

The Cornerstone Review and *The Exchange: Literature, Art & Business*. Two annual publications of student work.

Reading Allowed: Storytime with Cornerstone. Monthly story readings for students by our faculty in the Cornerstone Reading Room, HSSE Library.

Socrates Strategic Initiative. Cornerstone Award (\$1000) for an Outstanding Student in Transformative Texts.

How I Teach this Text, collaborative faculty workshops several times a year on how to teach reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

Text & the City. A faculty book club, bringing Indianapolis and West Lafayette faculty together.