



International School of the Sacred Heart, Tokyo, Appoints New Head of School

Tokyo, Japan - The International School of the Sacred Heart (ISSH) is delighted to announce the appointment of Anne Wachter, RSCJ, as the new Head of School. This appointment was made by Sister Mieko Uno, RSCJ, Chairperson of Japan's Sacred Heart School Corporation. Sr. Wachter brings a wealth of experience to her new role, having spent the last decade as the head of the Sacred Heart School of Halifax in Canada.



Sr. Wachter's connection with the Sacred Heart tradition runs deep, having attended the Sacred Heart school in her hometown of Omaha, Nebraska, in the USA. Throughout her professional journey, she has served as a dedicated teacher and administrator at various Sacred Heart schools, including those in New York City, Chicago, Louisiana, and San Francisco, where she also completed a Master of Arts degree in Educational Administration at the University of San Francisco. Her educational background includes a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and a secondary teaching certificate earned at St. Mary's College, Notre Dame.

Beyond her academic achievements, Sr. Wachter is an avid sports enthusiast, having previously run the NYC Marathon. Now, in Tokyo, she enjoys taking long walks and practicing her golf swing at the driving range. She looks forward to utilizing the School's top-tier Tennis courts that boast US Open quality.

Sr. Wachter expressed her enthusiasm, saying, "What a privilege it is to be able to serve our International School of the Sacred Heart! At ISSH, the world literally comes together, and our globally minded faculty works tirelessly to develop courageous, compassionate, and confident leaders. Our mission at Sacred Heart goes beyond academic success; we personally know each student and sow in them the seeds of wisdom and love that are timeless treasures in our fractured world."

The International School of the Sacred Heart is renowned for its academic excellence and holds accreditations from both the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and the prestigious Council of International Schools (CIS), known as the gold standard for international schools. As part of its ongoing commitment to excellence, ISSH is now engaged in an in-depth self-study, a significant part of the process to renew its accreditation. Also in motion are plans for new construction on the wooded campus - a harmonious oasis in the Hiroo district of Shibuya-ku, Tokyo. The new arts and science center that includes a fabulous cafeteria and classrooms is a centerpiece of the strategic plan.



Image of new school building upon completion

With a history of 115 years in international education in Tokyo, ISSH maintains a distinguished academic program led by outstanding educators from over 20 countries. These educators wholeheartedly embrace the clear and enduring mission of Sacred Heart, empowering students to excel in their academic pursuits while fostering a compassionate and loving community.

Sr. Wachter is proud to share that the ISSH graduates of the Class of '23 have once again upheld the tradition of outperforming their Japanese counterparts and peers globally. Their exceptional results in the AP Exams have earned them internationally recognized university credits, paving the way for a promising university journey.



The heart and soul of ISSH resonate with five other Sacred Heart schools in Japan and over 100 schools worldwide. A testament to the strength of the program, 20% of ISSH's faculty and staff, including Sr. Wachter, are alumni of ISSH or another Sacred Heart school. This deep-rooted connection fosters a robust foundation for positive change and progress. The values of "Courage and Confidence" have been at the core of Sacred Heart education since the Society of the Sacred Heart's founding in France in 1800. Over the years, this philosophy has flourished globally, and in 1908, the first school in Asia, ISSH, was established.

The founder of the Society of the Sacred Heart, Madeleine Sophie Barat, known for her relational leadership style, kept the global family of schools unified while embracing local culture and realities. Today, this unity, dynamic cross-fertilization, and mutual support shape each school's focus on intellectual and personal development within a nurturing community that aims to make a positive difference in the world.

Sr. Wachter's appointment as Head of School heralds an exciting new chapter for ISSH, and her dedication to the Sacred Heart mission ensures that the school will continue to thrive as a beacon of academic excellence and compassion in Tokyo's educational landscape.

About ISSH:

The International School of the Sacred Heart (ISSH) is a leading institution in Tokyo, dedicated to providing a transformative education that fosters intellectual growth, global understanding, and compassionate leadership. Accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and the Council of International Schools (CIS), ISSH offers a nurturing environment where students from diverse backgrounds flourish academically and personally for Pre-K (ages 3-4), Kindergarten (age 5) and Grades 1-12.

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