A Message from 
Dyke Brown, Director 
on the 
Goals of The Athenian School

We have chosen the name “The Athenian School” because we share the concern which Periclean Athens had for the full development of its citizens. Our goals are similar to those which Athens prized:

—First, concern for intellectual fitness and for the development of the mind and the power of reason.

—Second, and closely linked to it, concern for the personal and civic development of each individual: for the fitness of his body and his character, for his commitment to humane values, and for the development of his capacity to assume the responsibilities of adult citizenship and leadership.

The ideal of Athens is the School’s ideal: a person who has learned to love knowledge and to use the capacities of a disciplined mind; a person who is strong in body and in belief, and who will act on the strength of his conviction; a person who is committed to the pursuit of truth, beauty and virtue, and to the well-being of democratic society and of his fellow man.

This is the kind of person our nation and the world needs, and this is the goal of The Athenian School. It is not enough to be concerned with the scholarly excellence of our students alone. The values and purposes to which their well-trained minds will be committed are of equal importance. The major decisions and actions of their lives will be based on ideals and goals which take fundamental form during adolescence. As one member of our Advisory Board has said, “In judging a school, I would want to know first what its graduates care most about ... for what a school values, its students will tend to believe is important.”

Dyke Brown, Director

Born in San Francisco and educated in Bay Area public schools, Mr. Brown graduated with highest honors from the University of California at Berkeley, where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. He then attended Oxford University, England, as a Rhodes Scholar, from which he received a B.A. and M.A. He obtained his LL.B. degree from Yale Law School and upon graduation became Assistant Dean.

After service in the Navy during World War II, he practiced law in San Francisco with John Francis Neylan and later became a partner in the firm of Cooley, Crowley and Gaither. For ten years he was Vice President of The Ford Foundation in New York; among his responsibilities was the inauguration and direction of the Foundation’s Youth Development Program.