

Dragon

Finding God in All Things

The Bishop O'Dowd High School Magazine



Championing Better Lives
Through Better Education

Business Leader
Contributing to the Well
Being of Society

Passionate Advocate
for East Bay

Life and Career Strategist

Dauntless Dragon
Serves as Mentor for
Others

Social Justice Warrior

Commencement,
page 2

Doing Well, Doing Good,
Special insert

Annual Report,
page 32

Fall/Winter
2017



Charism

Finding God in all things calls us to:

- Community in Diversity
- Strength of Character
- Academic Excellence
- Kinship with Creation
- Social Justice
- Joy

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From the PRESIDENT

If you are worried about the future of America and need some genuine good news, read this issue of the *Dragon*. You will see that the high school you love and its faculty, staff and graduates are hard at work transforming the future for good.

An integral part of our mission is to advance society by creating citizens who have developed deep intellectual and academic excellence and strength of character so they may thrive and contribute to the common good. The profiles of Class of 2017 alumni and our feature section "Doing Well, Doing Good" demonstrate we are achieving our mission. These graduates are deeply committed to cultivating the values in our Charism.

Nothing contributes more significantly to the quality of our high school than a carefully administered admissions process as well as the hiring and retention of exceptional faculty and staff. We experienced our most successful admissions season ever (see page 12) and were pleased to welcome 16 St. Elizabeth students to our community in August (see page 10). We also experienced a historically high student and faculty/staff retention rate. And I'm pleased to report that our Board of Regents approved a much needed increase in faculty compensation, the most important investment we can make in our academic program.

Your financial support and that of your peers - including a 700% increase in the number of alumni supporters overall since 2005 - has been pivotal to ensuring the excellence of the well-rounded O'Dowd education many of you experienced, as well as increasing access. This issue includes the 2016-17 Annual Report that details how contributions to our Transforming Lives Fund and endowments are both at record high levels. This support has helped fund a doubling of the students on financial aid and tripling the amount of aid we are able to give to deserving students who would not otherwise be able to experience a transformative O'Dowd education. Your support has also allowed us to introduce and expand more than a dozen programs - such as Speech and Debate, sustainability, student support and campus ministry - in the last 12 years. Thank you!

Upcoming: By supporting our *One Word, One Gift* campaign (see page 17), our *Transforming Lives Dinner* on November 2, and our Crab Feed, set for February 3, 2018, you can help transform more lives. We also invite you to join us at other social events planned for this year (see page 16).

With your continued support, we look forward to sharing even more good news about O'Dowd and its exceptional students who will be equipped to create positive change in the most demanding and challenging era in history.

Sincerely,

Stephen Phelps, Ed.D.



We are proud to announce that Bishop O'Dowd High School won "Best Private High School" in *Oakland* magazine's 2017 Best of Oakland and the East Bay annual readers' poll for the fourth consecutive year.

Write us!

We welcome your letters in response to articles in this magazine. Please e-mail submissions to *Dragon* editor Lisa Coffey Mahoney '76 at lmahoney@bishopodowd.org or send a letter to:

Dragon Magazine
9500 Stearns Ave.
Oakland, CA 94605

We reserve the right to edit letters for clarity and space.

Are you interested in being a featured contributor? Please contact Lisa Coffey Mahoney '76. We reserve the right to make decisions on whether or not to publish submitted contributions based on theme of the issue, available space and the nature of the story.

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Contributed and staff photos are featured in the *Dragon*.



The Class of 2017

*"How Lucky I Am to Have Something
That Makes Saying Goodbye So Hard"*



During the last few months of senior year a quote by AA Milne continually surged through **Claire Kelly's** mind – “How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard.”

“That has never felt more real than it does at this moment,” said Kelly in her salutatorian address during Bishop O’Dowd High School’s 63rd Commencement held on Sunday, June 4, at Oakland’s Paramount Theatre of the Arts.

“So this is it, four years of our lives reflected in one day,” she said. “Through struggles and good times we’ve become a family. And with this unique family in mind I’ll say ‘how lucky we are to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard.’”

Kelly encouraged her classmates to hold tight to their special high school memories. “Don’t say goodbye to these memories because I know you’ll treasure them forever. And experiences like these would be a shame to forget because they have indelibly shaped us,” she said.

From left to right: Mark Gravador, Valedictorian Eunice Jung, Alexis Stuckey, Emma Wawrzynek, Andrew Medeiros, Isabel Hallock and Gabriel Clark-Clough.

The Class of



From left to right: Connor Thomas, Liliana Rodriguez, Sophie Whitman, Samuel Taylor and Ian Thomas.

Valedictorian **Eunice Jung** talked about how O'Dowd's unparalleled community in diversity challenged the members of the Class of 2017 to grow and develop. "We are a one-of-a-kind class comprised of different voices, identities and interests," she said. "But the diversity you see in our graduating class is only a small microcosm of the diversity you will be exposed to in the next part of your life," she said.

"In a world where there are bans and walls to separate identities, it is even more important to recognize that there needs to be love for diversity now. The metaphysical definition of love is the cosmological force that brings two unlike things together - a unification of opposites. Diversity is love, it is energy, it is passion, it is growth, it is today and it is the future," Jung said. "Whether you realize it now or not, the

diversity that surrounds you allows you to visualize a world greater than your own. So instead of trying to isolate differences, appreciate the fusion of differences - even if they may clash with you. Because the energy that results from the clash of love is what brings progress and the creation of the future."

One of the highlights of the Commencement was the presentation of the Cor Unum Award to **Kathleen Sereda Glaub '71**, who made brief remarks.

Named for the school's motto, "One Heart in Christ," the Cor Unum Award is Bishop O'Dowd High School's highest honor. It is presented each year to select members of the O'Dowd community whose lives and work embody the core values of leadership, service, social justice and intellectual competence expressed in the school's mission.

of 2017

A former member of the O'Dowd Board of Regents, Glaub was instrumental in moving O'Dowd towards the President-Principal governance model, adopted in 2005, that has allowed the school to flourish. She and her family have also financially supported O'Dowd over the years, making gifts to both the Annual Fund and specific program and building campaigns.

During her professional career, Glaub shaped business and financing strategy for an assortment of biotech startup companies, played a pivotal role in product development programs for life-changing drugs, and negotiated transformational multimillion dollar partnership and buyout deals.

"This is a unique point in your lifetime because you stand at the threshold where nothing is impossible, where all doors are open, and any path is still an option," Glaub said.



Cor Unum Award winner Kathy Glaub '71.

You can watch all the commencement speeches on the O'Dowd YouTube channel, www.youtube.com/user/BODHS1.

Meanwhile, several students received special awards during the Commencement Exercises.

Audrey Byrne and **Chase Holliman** received the General Activity awards, presented to students who are distinguished by scholarship, excellence in

conduct and outstanding devotion to Bishop O'Dowd High School through participation and demonstrated leadership in extracurricular and cocurricular activities.

Antoneil Carter and **Tyler LeBoa** received the Loyalty awards, presented in recognition of their consistent support to the student body, staff and parents in carrying out activities, and their willingness to give of self in terms of service.

Scholar-Athlete awards went to **Myah Pace** and **Jerome Deck** for distinguishing themselves through consistent excellence in academics and athletics, and demonstrated good sportsmanship on the athletic field.

Madeleine Farrington and **Tamarik Rabb** received the Regents' Award, given to the seniors who most exemplify the mission of Bishop O'Dowd High School.

The 292 members of the Class of 2017 are now attending colleges and universities throughout the country. A listing of the students' college choices (known at press time) is on the following pages.

The Class of 2017 contributed more than 42,000 hours of service and raised more than \$118,000 for their senior class gift to provide financial assistance so that deserving students have the same opportunity that they had to benefit from all that O'Dowd has to offer.

The Class of 2017 *cont.*

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY
Robinson, Kendall Marie

ART CENTER COLLEGE OF DESIGN
Pedraza, Jessica

BABSON COLLEGE
Tang, Dazheng

BERKELEY CITY COLLEGE
Yao, Yifei

BREWSTER ACADEMY
WOLFEBORO, NH
Shaw, Brian Keith

BROWN UNIVERSITY
Houser, Carlie Rose

CANÁDA COLLEGE
Rabb, Tamarik Ondre

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE
UNIVERSITY, SAN LUIS OBISPO
Contarciego, Megan Inton
De Luca, Joseph Anthony
Deck, Jerome Maximiliano
Doron, Haley Sage
Eslick, Zachary Todd
Jorgensen, Tyler Paul
Knight, Caleb Robert
Schirmer, Michael Patrick
Senn, Sean Francis
Shervais, Neven Reyanne
Steidtmann, Spencer Grant
Yost, Paul Wesley

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
CHANNEL ISLANDS
Shields, Caroline Filomena

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
CHICO
Boyle, Shane Fintan

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
EAST BAY
Bush, Philip Cordell
Cao, Tam
Kroll, Sheridan Margaret
Phifer, Rodney Calvin

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
LONG BEACH
Amen, Jourdan Renee
Eatherton, Jade Lam
Schnider, Owen Frederick Sargent

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
LOS ANGELES
Patton, Yasmine Opal Ann

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
MONTEREY BAY
Paez, Angelo M

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
NORTH RIDGE
Gandhi, Julian Hector

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
SACRAMENTO
Cook, Landon G
Davis, Terrell Marquez

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
SAN MARCOS
Watson, Elan

CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY
Avery, Victoria Lynn

CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY
Schmidt, Spencer Christian

CHABOT COLLEGE
Admasu, Joseph
Baker-Greene, Ethan Ray
Challenger, Matthew Alan
Darbo, Taylor Lee
Davis, Anthony O'Neil
Durst, Amaris
McIntosh, Ruben Anthony
Moten, Nia Ashley

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
Bialek, Maksymilian Stefan

CLAREMONT MCKENNA COLLEGE
Brostrom, Walter Holden
He, Juliana Gar

COGSWELL POLYTECHNICAL
COLLEGE
Jia, Yuanzhi

COLLEGE OF SAN MATEO
Carter, Antoneil Alexis Mireya

COLLEGE OF THE HOLY CROSS
Jackson, Jordan Blake

DENISON UNIVERSITY
Sippel, Zachary Eli

DEPAUL UNIVERSITY
Mason, Alexa Nicole

DIABLO VALLEY COLLEGE
Isola, Joseph Roscoe
Johnson, Hunter Scott
Kutlik, Henry Andrew
Zhang, Tianning

DILLARD UNIVERSITY
Barker, Katelyn Lynette
Lewis, Sydney

DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY OF
CALIFORNIA
Aseremo, Matthew Cerdena
Pierce, Maxwell Dawson
Santiago, Mai Aguas

FOOTHILL COLLEGE
Engleman, Tyler Jeremy

FORDHAM UNIVERSITY
Ramiza, Graham Matthew
Velline, Beatrice Bella
Whiteman, Emery Celeste

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
Rosenfeld, Hannah Kate

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
Champion, Milan Tyne

HAMPTON UNIVERSITY
Choquette, Jules
Hardeman, Anya Chinaza

HOLY NAMES UNIVERSITY
Buckley-Williams, Jasmine Nicole

HOWARD UNIVERSITY
Gunn, Michaela Marie

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY
Bilensky, Avery Michael

INDIANA UNIVERSITY AT
BLOOMINGTON
Ellis, Riley Patrick
Miller, Roger Dale
Sterling, Zoe Minna

KALAMAZOO COLLEGE
Singleton, Lauren Wesley

LANEY COLLEGE
King, Trevor Marcus

LONG BEACH CITY COLLEGE
Dobbs, Kaia Rae

LOS ANGELES COLLEGE OF MUSIC
Chung, Nicholas Grant

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
Beeby, Salvatore Louis Graffagna

LOYOLA MARYMOUNT
UNIVERSITY
Benson, Matts
De Los Santos-Moore, Moriah Elijah
Hutton, Alexander Evan
Jackson, Jalyne Janee
Lorenz, Anja
Venegas, Carmen Loretta
Whitmore, Nile Ghedi

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY
NEW ORLEANS
Alonzi, Sarah Penelope
Davis, Kalimah Be'Eartha McKenzie
Piccinini, Francesca Iva

MERRITT COLLEGE
Orozco, Marcos Daniel

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
Delaney, Jessica Chiara
Reback, Hannah Michelle

MILLS COLLEGE
Cao, Tri-An

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY,
BOZEMAN
Ferioli, Tristan
Patel, Sonya Marie

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE
Brandon, Kolando Leon
Toure, Naiser Alaye
Ward, Nassir

NEW YORK FILM ACADEMY
Luo, Qianyu

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
Brown, Dylan Stirling
Chen, Xuelai
Gruendl, Blake Wilson
Johnson, Olivia

NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY
Coleman-Stithz, Jordan Colby

NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
Keating, Elizabeth Mercedes
Neema, Julien Frederic
Wang, Yuxuan

NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY
Boyd Conn, Josephine Zemfra

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
Grady, Jenna Marie

NYU SHANGHAI
Geary, Marcos Joseph

OREGON INSTITUTE OF
TECHNOLOGY
Seyoum, Abel Eskinaz

PITZER COLLEGE
Gonzalez, Aaron Robert

POMONA COLLEGE
West, Danielle Elizabeth

PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY
Fletcher, Louise
Miller-Heller, Caleb Reuben

PRATT INSTITUTE
Fu, Jiawei

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
Rennie, Zoe Alexandra

PURDUE UNIVERSITY
Murphy, Madison Lee
To, Quynh

QUEST UNIVERSITY CANADA
Silva, Natalie Anastasie

QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY
Scott, Layla Simone

RINGLING COLLEGE OF ART AND
DESIGN
Shirley, Kaelyn Alma

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE OF
CALIFORNIA
Gomez, Gregory Michael
Ibarra, Whitney Lissbeth
Jefferson, Armaun Malik
Kelly, Claire Frances
Novak, Charles Kip

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY
Gayton, Emily
Lucarelli, Melissa Ann
Moore, Lauryn Nicole
Murray, James Henry
Russell, Ashby Margaret

College Choices for the Class of 2017

SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY
Ferentz, Lillian Wanjiro
King, Kyle Patrick
Moore, Nkosi
Navarro, Cristina
Timm, Rachael Marie

SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY
Evers, Charles Winfield
Jones, Michael Aaron
Messay, Yonatan

SANTA BARBARA CITY COLLEGE
Aljarrah, Orion Rutledge Jamal
Clifford, Mary Elizabeth

SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY
Gao, Ziwei
LeBoa, Tyler Alexander
Thomas, Connor Ian
Wong, Christopher Elliott

SEATTLE UNIVERSITY
Ferris, Joseph Frederick
Le, Irine Thuy
Rodriguez, Liliana Francis

SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY
Bauman, Anika Krieger
Carpenter, Tyson Andrew
DeMent, Rebecca
DePaolo, Aaron James
Gonzalez, Fernando
O'Malley, Sarah Elizabeth
Radwan, Daniel
Ruggiero, Samantha Sofia
Towner, Olivia Sanchez

STANFORD UNIVERSITY
Ho, Carla Jane
Jung, Eunice Dasul

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY
Burns, Connor Patrick

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY
Olofson, Trevor Alexander

THE AMERICAN COLLEGE IN SPAIN
Weir, Tarn Rex

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
Waxman, Gloria Anne

THE NEW SCHOOL - ALL DIVISIONS
Imholz, Fanya Sandrine

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
Sun, Jiayi

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
Bruin, Moire Maricela

THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
Diaz, Juliana Hope

THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA, MISSOULA
Dillon, Dawson Jesse

TULANE UNIVERSITY
Clark-Clough, Gabriel Louis

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY - ARMY
Lusan, Andre Matthew Elliott

UNIVERSIDAD PANAMERICANA
Urgelles, Manuel Alejandro

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Bartelt-Eells, Nina
Shilliday, Michael Patrick

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY
Appel, Zoe Therese
Brusco, Natalia Marie
Choy, Brandon Robert
Desler, Nicholas Karlson
Folkmanis, Sarah Emily
Hurtado, Stefano Santiago
Nix, Bridget Caroline
Shiber, Kate Sophia
Tang, Dayuan
Wawrzynek, Emma Frances
Yau-Weeks, Sophia Carrell

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS
Alvear, Mariana Doran
Angeles, Dana Marguerite
McDaniel, Molly Ann
Pena, Jennifer
Rezente, Elizabeth Mary Adele
Shepherd, Nathan Edward
Sin, Tiffany

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES
Ballantine, Carl Knox
Farrington, Madeleine Annick
Holliman, Chase Williams
Hwang, Michael
Lancaster, Benjamin
Lonner, Elijah Benjamin
Murphy, Madeleine Claire
Riani, Nicolas Perry
Taylor, Grace Alta
Weinerth, Isabel Clare

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE
Ermias, Gelila T
Johnson, Hana Rose
Juarez-Fuentes, Alejandro
Mladjov, Reece V.
Olimpiada, Isabella
Truong, Julie D.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO
Byrne, Audrey Rebecca
Lim, Chaerin
Ramsey, Marina

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA
Flynn, Devon Rose
Huang, Haoyang
Kaufmann, Hadley Beatrice

Kernan-Woitalla, Julia Jasmine
Linde, Noah Ruland

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ
Anene, Jonathan Jideofor
Black, Thomas Patrick Christian
Curtis, Alicia Noel
DeOlivares, Milo Teodoro
Gullikson, Linnea Elizabeth
Hirsch, Jacob Samuel
Keast, Victoria Amber Demotica
Koo, Clement Tin Yan
McMaster, Thomas Michael
Rumberger, Jonquil
Steinwert, Ryan Jean
Taffe, Owen Connor
Taylor, Samuel Robert
Tracey-Cook, Matthew
Wenzler, Giovanni
Whitman, Sophie Elizabeth
Williams, Aidan Cole
Wisherop, Thane Alexander
Yi, Chuxiong

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
Jernigan, Aris KimLan
Stanley, Alexis Lynnette

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO AT BOULDER
Mann, Austin
Rugg, Alexander Lawrence

UNIVERSITY OF DENVER
McLaurin, Cameron L.

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA
Ruiz-Mendoza, Adryanna Soledad

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
Thomas, Ian Carey Stengaard

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Szuha, Samantha Marie

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, DULUTH
Strayer, Henry L

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO
Pride, Arianna

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON
Aker, Malia
Borst, Hannah Rose
Flynn, Thomas Patrick
Mainini, Julia Ashley-Burd
O'Tey, Jason
Rasmussen, Aly Judith
Robarts, Madeleine Elizabeth

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
Lozano, Amado Caesar

UNIVERSITY OF PORTLAND
Craney, Sarah Jessica
Pearl, Kelsey Reed
Wooldridge, Kristina S

UNIVERSITY OF PUGET SOUND
Loran, Henry Francis
Resnick, Sydni Martine

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO
Bilodeau, Madisen Sierra
Hagmaier, Cooper Dawson
Pace, Myah Esther

UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO
Debro, Kira Noel
Gravador, Mark Santiago
John, Molena Kuwena
Pang, Brandon Noah

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
Godfrey-Baggett, Je'Quari Camey
Tucker, Solomon Alijah

UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC
Espinosa, Rochelle Dagamac

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
Anderson-Kline, Lena Grace

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
Benson, Elizabeth Ann
Do Valle Costa, Ana Vitoria
Gee, Maria Alyson
Zhang, Hengliang

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, MADISON
Coldiron, Jackson Arthur Karl
Isip, Cole Brandon

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY
Lempres, Sarah Maren

VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY
Sinsheimer, Miranda Liliane

VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY
Ambers, Morgan

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
Yau-Weeks, Christian Francis

WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY
Huntington, William Henry
Santos, Daniel Sean Cabradilla

XAVIER UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA
Kefentse, Jaha Kamaria

YALE UNIVERSITY
Bonta, Reina Gabriela

GAP YEAR
Daniel, Isabella Ashley
Eckman, Benjamin Myles
Hallock, Isabel Rose
Larsen, Bridget Weeks
Medeiros, Andrew Jeffrey
Morton, Ayanna Kai
Pike, Andrew Alejandro
Vance, Glen Charles

The Class of 2017 *cont.*



NATHAN SHEPHERD

It wasn't until he came to O'Dowd and took Tony Green's African-American Studies and Black Nationalist Movements courses that **Nathan Shepherd** learned about and began to appreciate the richness of African-American history. "Those two classes were so interesting and inspiring," he said. "I know that most young people don't have the opportunity to take classes like that, so I feel very fortunate."

Nathan thrived in the O'Dowd learning environment, where students are encouraged in dialogue and inquiry about historical events and how they relate to current situations. "Anybody can break out a textbook, study and regurgitate the information," he said. "I like the fact that we are encouraged to have discussions and in depth conversations in class about the subjects we are studying."

This fall, Nathan headed to UC Davis on a football scholarship. He plans to pursue a dual major in business and kinesiology, and hopes to someday launch a business that incorporates sports and educational training.

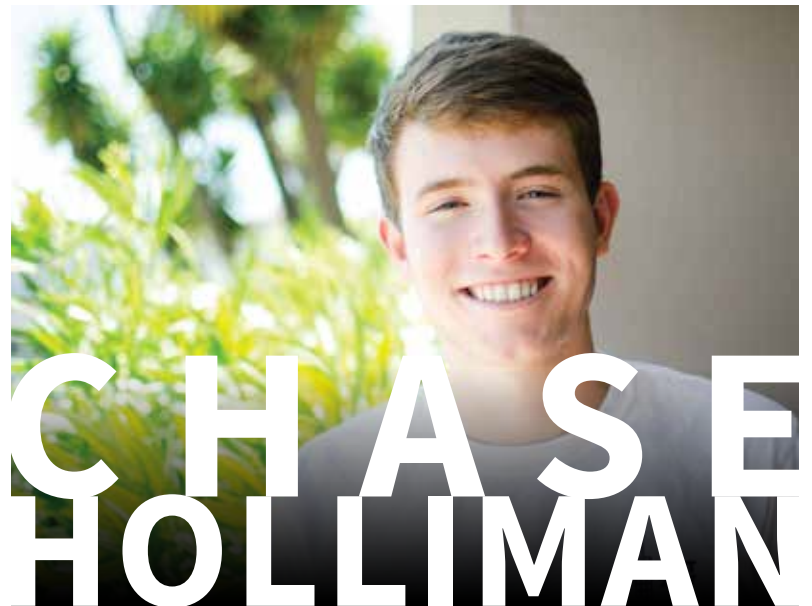
At O'Dowd, Nathan was motivated to strive by his peers. "When you are surrounded by people who are excelling at a high caliber it pushes you to reach for higher goals," he said. "My decision to come to O'Dowd was life-changing because I've had better opportunities to excel."

Raised as a Baptist, Nathan enjoyed learning about other religions/beliefs through O'Dowd's comprehensive Religious Studies Department. "Those classes helped give me a more complete picture of the world," he said.

In addition to playing football for four years at O'Dowd and earning a state championship title during his senior season,

Nathan played varsity lacrosse for two years, was a member of the Jazz Band, earned a Sustainability Certificate, and participated in the Career Partnerships Program - all while taking a number of challenging AP and Honors courses.

Nathan was also encouraged by his counselor, **Fran Warmerdam**, to participate in UC Berkeley's Summer Math and Science Honors Academy (SMASH), sponsored by the Level Playing Field Institute, a free of cost, STEM-intensive college preparatory program for underrepresented high school students of color. During the five-week, three-year summer, fully residential program, students take STEM courses, as well as develop critical thinking, civic awareness, leadership and a sense of social responsibility. He's grateful that O'Dowd led him to that opportunity to expand his horizons.



CHASE HOLLIMAN

The typical high school student might be inclined to ease up on his or her academic course schedule second semester of senior year. But **Chase Holliman** isn't typical.

Chase shouldered five AP courses - Comparative Government & Politics, English Literature, Macroeconomics, Psychology, and Statistics - in addition to his obligations as a member of the senior Campus Ministry Team (CMT) and his role as secretary/treasurer for the senior class.

While he's always been driven academically, Chase credits the O'Dowd learning environment for taking him to the next level. "I found that I like working hard and learning," he said. "And because I had teachers who were so engaging and passionate it was easy for me to get motivated."

Graduating Senior Profiles

Having received acceptances from Boston College, Cal Poly, Georgetown, USC, UC Berkeley and UC Santa Barbara, Chase is now attending UCLA.

He's interested in majoring in business, with a double minor in English and psychology, and is considering pursuing a career in business or becoming an English professor.

At O'Dowd, Chase was involved in student government all four years - he served as freshman class president, a sophomore class representative, and secretary/treasurer during his junior and senior years. "It's been a platform for me to exercise my leadership skills," he said. "I love people, and being active in student government enabled me to connect with my fellow students as well as be more involved with the school."

Meanwhile, Chase's involvement on CMT was very meaningful for him. "High school is a time when kids are struggling to find themselves and express their faith," he said. "Being on CMT allowed me to connect with my spirituality, and was the platform through which I could express my faith and help others express theirs."

Chase also served as a Kairos rector, heading up that retreat experience for a group of junior students. "You go through so much in your teenage years, and there's a lot of trying to figure out who you are. You have all these experiences - good and bad - and it's hard to articulate how you feel about them," he said. "Kairos helps you realize that you have a community of people who are willing to listen, help you and give you advice."

As a member of the Filipino Club for four years, Chase gained an appreciation for a culture very different from his own. "I was welcomed into the club with open arms and learned so much. That was a really powerful experience for me because I was able to live out Community in Diversity," he said.

Looking back on his high school experience, Chase is most grateful for the passionate teachers who encouraged his academic pursuits.

"I loved going to O'Dowd. I looked forward to sitting in class for 80 minutes because I knew that my teachers were going to be engaging and excited about what they were teaching. I think that's very novel for most kids," he said. "I feel confident about my future. I feel like I have a tool belt that will help me tackle the world."



When **Reina Bonta** signed up to participate in a Kairos retreat during her junior year, she had no idea how deeply the experience would impact her.

"There just aren't words to describe Kairos," Reina said. "It provides a time for self-exploration and helps you discover who you are during a time in your life when that's exactly what you need."

During her senior year, Reina served as a Kairos rector, helping junior retreatants experience similar personal growth.

Reina said Kairos is just one example of the breadth of the O'Dowd experience, one that has prepared her for the next step - Yale University, where she will play soccer.

"O'Dowd offers many different pathways for students to engage in self-discovery, figure out their passions, and lay out the path for a successful future," she said.

A transfer student who attended a public high school for freshman year, Reina was looking to be challenged academically, as well as athletically. "O'Dowd had the perfect marriage of academics and sports," she said.



Reina said what initially struck her about O'Dowd was the strong personal connections between students, as well as students and teachers. "It's just a very cohesive, warm and welcoming community that I treasure very much," she said.

On the field, Reina helped lead the varsity soccer team to a perfect 10-0 record, with zero goals conceded. The Dragons were the first team since the league was formed in 2012 to pull off such a feat. Senior year she served as team captain and was voted the league's Player of the Year for her efforts.

In addition to playing soccer, Reina was a member of the National Honor Society and the Solidarity in Action Club, which helps organize O'Dowd's annual Social Justice Teach In and works to spread awareness about various social justice issues.

Reina is contemplating pursuing either neuroscience or political science as a major in college, and is looking forward to continuing her education with like-minded, driven and ambitious people. She believes her O'Dowd education has prepared her for college and life. "I definitely feel ready to take on whatever life has to offer me," she said.

O'DOWD



O'Dowd welcomed 16 transfer students from St. Elizabeth High School in August.

News

From Mustangs TO DRAGONS

O'Dowd welcomed 16 transfer students from St. Elizabeth High School in August, including seniors **Katey Dotson, Carlos Luna, Quante Martin, Ana Martinez, Robert Montoya, Gilbert Nguyen, Kalin Pont-Tate, Karla Salinas and Ignacio Zavala**, juniors **Raul Gonzalez, Diana Hernandez and Brendan Zamora**, and sophomores **Kevin Bermudez, Clovis Choquette, Juan Jimenez and Adrian Mendoza**.

These students were displaced when St. Elizabeth High School closed its doors at the end of the 2016-17 school year due to dwindling enrollment. Prior to acceptance at O'Dowd, their academic and personal credentials were evaluated to ensure successful college preparatory outcomes. The Diocese of Oakland will establish a Cristo Rey high school at the St. Elizabeth site, with opening scheduled for fall 2018.

Last spring, as they wrapped up their final year at St. Elizabeth, the students said they were a bit nervous but mostly excited about the transition, and looking forward to making new friends, taking interesting classes, and participating in O'Dowd's wide range of clubs and sports.

Dotson, whose younger sister is a member of the Class of 2021, expressed enthusiasm about having the opportunity to take a sports medicine class.

Martin said he was grateful to be able to continue his education at a Catholic school, where many classmates share his faith. "I've always attended a Catholic school, so it will be nice to stay in the same environment," he said.

Several of the students said they were initially intimidated by O'Dowd's academic reputation, but were encouraged after meeting with the entire counseling team in the spring and learning about the broad

spectrum of academic support offered. Each student also met with his/her counselor individually to discuss course schedules for 2017-18. And they received "Dragon Pride" t-shirts.

"Clearly, it has to be a big adjustment for students coming from St. Liz, both emotionally and educationally. It's not easy to help them assimilate, but we're committed to making it as seamless as possible. It was clear that their St. Liz teachers and administrators really cared for them, and we want to fold them into our family also," O'Dowd Director of Counseling **Fran Warmerdam** said.

Added Warmerdam, "As a school we had quite a few meetings, trying to brainstorm areas in which these students might need support - anything from logistics, to computer use, to polos, to a special college 'course' for the rising seniors, to essay writing, to math diagnostics, to translation for parents. We actually created a Google sheet with responsibilities and due dates."

Meanwhile, some of the students are already looking to the future. Juan Jimenez said he's hoping to eventually go to law school and feels an O'Dowd education will help him reach that goal.

Because of the generous support of current families and alums as well as O'Dowd's financial aid program, the students' families will not suffer financial hardship as a result of their prior school closure. The families are paying the same tuition they paid at St. Elizabeth. To give to the Transforming Lives Annual Fund and support the students and programs that define the O'Dowd experience, visit www.bishopodowd.org/give.

NEWS CONTINUED



Class of 2021 members at Navigating O'Dowd orientation event.

High Demand for an **O'DOWD** **EDUCATION**

For the second year in a row, O'Dowd experienced both a record number of applicants and a record yield on acceptances for the Class of 2021.

More than 800 students sought admission for 310 spots, and the number of students accepting admissions surged 20 percent from last year. This increasing demand for an O'Dowd education is reflective of our reputation as one of Northern California's premier Catholic college preparatory high schools.

Director of Admissions **Kerryn Pincus Gallagher** attributes the increasing demand to the quality of O'Dowd's graduates and excellent programs, and an admissions process that allows prospective students and their families to experience the breadth and

depth of O’Dowd’s academic excellence and quality programs. Prospective students meet personally with current students, as well as faculty and staff, which offers them genuine insight about how they will fit in at O’Dowd.

In addition, communications to prospective families through forward-thinking marketing materials and an updated website, coupled with a warm Student and Parent Ambassador program led by Associate Director of Admissions **Moire Bruin**, allows for more personalized visits for prospective students.

Expanded outreach that brings many prospective students to campus during the school day helps in the effort. “We brought in 25 partner schools, and had visits from over 900 students,” Gallagher said. “Academic areas of interest were considered in selecting classes for students to visit. Students also were able to tour the campus and had ample time to ask questions of their paired Student Ambassador.”

These efforts were recognized by parents, who said they could better visualize how their children would integrate into the school community and benefit from an O’Dowd education.

Class of 2021 parent **Meghan O’Leary** said that while many students from her son’s elementary school, Corpus Christi School, choose to attend O’Dowd, the family looked at many high schools - from independent private, to public to Catholic - to ensure the right fit for her son, **Connor O’Leary Herreras**.

“What struck us was how we felt at O’Dowd,” she said. “There was a warmth and passion that the O’Dowd students had for their school that was very compelling for us.”

The extensive, high level academic offerings and breadth of activities was impressive, she said, as was O’Dowd’s commitment to social justice. “Last fall, when so much was happening socially - with Black Lives Matter and the election - I really appreciated how O’Dowd gave students the opportunity to express themselves and provided ways for them to engage in productive dialogue.”

Dorothy Militar and her husband **Roy** both benefited from Catholic high school educations and wanted

the same for their daughter, **Kenzy ’21**. “O’Dowd was a natural choice for Kenzy because of the high quality of education coupled with a strong Catholic identity,” Militar said. “It is not surprising that O’Dowd had a record number of applicants this year because of the strong dedication to academics and focus on individual success for each and every student.”

“Above and beyond O’Dowd’s strong sense of community, while teaching the value of serving the greater community, its quality, and well-rounded education will stretch my daughter’s intellect to its limits,” Class of 2021 parent **Melanie Shulman** said.

The Class of 2021, along with the composition of the entire 2017-18 student body, reflects the cultural and socio-economic landscape of the Bay Area as well as the increasingly complex, fast-changing global world.

GENDER:

Female 50%
Male 50%

ETHNICITY:

White 43%, Black 23%, Other/Mixed Race 14%, Asian 11%, Latino 9%

PREVIOUS SCHOOL TYPE:

Private 34%
Catholic 33%
Public 32%

PERCENT ON FINANCIAL AID: 30%

STUDENT BODY SIZE: 1,200

COMMITTED ALUMS/PARENTS

to Chair O'Dowd's
Signature Fundraising Event
Transforming Lives Dinner
November 2, 2017



Hester Family.



Canales/Onken Family.

When **Kevin '88** and **Amy '89 Hester** returned to O'Dowd as parents (Claudia '18 and Ella '20 Hester) two years ago, they were excited to get involved and volunteer. Kevin joined the Board of Regents, as a member of the Building and Grounds Committee, and the couple assumed leadership roles on the *Transforming Lives Dinner* Committee.

“Being on the committee with others who were dedicated to making O'Dowd welcoming and accessible to all we quickly realized what a wonderful group we joined, and the next year we didn't hesitate to become part of the committee again,” they said.

This year the Hesters, along with **Tina Canales** and **Greg Onken** (Gabriella “Gigi” Onken '19) are chairing the *Transforming Lives Dinner*, O'Dowd's signature fundraising event.

“We want to make sure we keep O'Dowd a special place that is accessible to all students who qualify to attend, regardless of economic circumstances,” the Hesters said.

Though Gigi transferred to O'Dowd as a sophomore, Canales and Onken had long been admirers of the school. After serving on the *Transforming Lives Dinner* Committee last year, the couple became inspired to do more.

“What really drew us to the event is that it is the most direct and immediate form of support we have ever seen – the funds are used this year to help the families and students who need it now in order to attend O'Dowd. Without it, we risk losing some great students and families from our community,” they said.

“Most don't realize that 30% of all O'Dowd students receive some tuition assistance, with none receiving 100%. Those receiving this assistance cover just about every category one can define and we truly believe that the diversity at O'Dowd, be it ethnicity, socio-economic standing, background, beliefs or any other category one can create, is authentic and that all of us benefit from the inclusion of people not exactly like us. With the inclusion of those of us who receive help in order to have access to the resources and

opportunities that O'Dowd offers, we are all made better,” Canales and Onken said.

The couples are excited to be working together, and are confident the event fundraising goal - \$400,000 – can be met.

“All of the committee members are good, generous people who believe in the mission of the school, know the benefits of the *Transforming Lives Dinner* fundraiser and are willing to work extremely hard to make it successful,” Canales and Onken said.

The Hesters agree. “It's rewarding to be involved with a group of people who are dedicated and genuinely want to make this a successful fundraiser. Being with people who share this same enthusiasm and generosity makes everyone want to make the extra effort.”

Additionally, both couples are committed to creating a more sustainable model for future committees by reaching out to all constituencies to broaden and expand sponsorship and attendance.

Given the past experience both couples bring to the table, these goals will likely be met.

The Hesters have been involved in multiple fundraising events, including co-chairing the annual school auction at Alameda's St. Joseph School, while Greg Onken co-chaired the Capital Campaign at St. Theresa School that culminated in a dramatic transformation of the physical facilities and the addition of a much needed event center/gym to the campus.

Learn more about the *Transforming Lives Dinner* at: www.bishopodowd.org/tld

TRANSFORMING LIVES DINNER
COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Tina Canales and Greg Onken, co-chairs

Kevin '88 and Amy '89 Hester, co-chairs

Annette & Tom Counts

Melissa Heller & Steven Douglas

Margie Matthews '64

Louisa & John Tallarida

PJ & Lionel Vaughn

Mollie Westphal & Russell Spektor

NEWS CONTINUED

2017-2018 EVENTS

Alumni Reunion Weekend

Homecoming Beer Garden: Friday, October 20, 2017
Reunions: Saturday, October 21, 2017

Transforming Lives Dinner

Thursday, November 2, 2017

Open House

Sunday, November 5, 2017

Fall Play

Friday-Sunday, November 10-12 and 17-19, 2017

Annual Crab Feed

Saturday, February 3, 2018

Spring Garden Festival

Saturday, April 28, 2018

Student Art Show

Friday–Thursday, April 27–May 3

Spring Musical

Friday–Saturday, April 27–28, 2018, Friday–Sunday,
May 4–6 and Friday–Sunday, May 11–13, 2018

Baccalaureate Mass

Friday, June 1, 2018

Commencement

Sunday, June 3, 2018

You can find more details about these events and more
on our website, www.bishopodowd.org.

ONE WORD:

"Indebted"

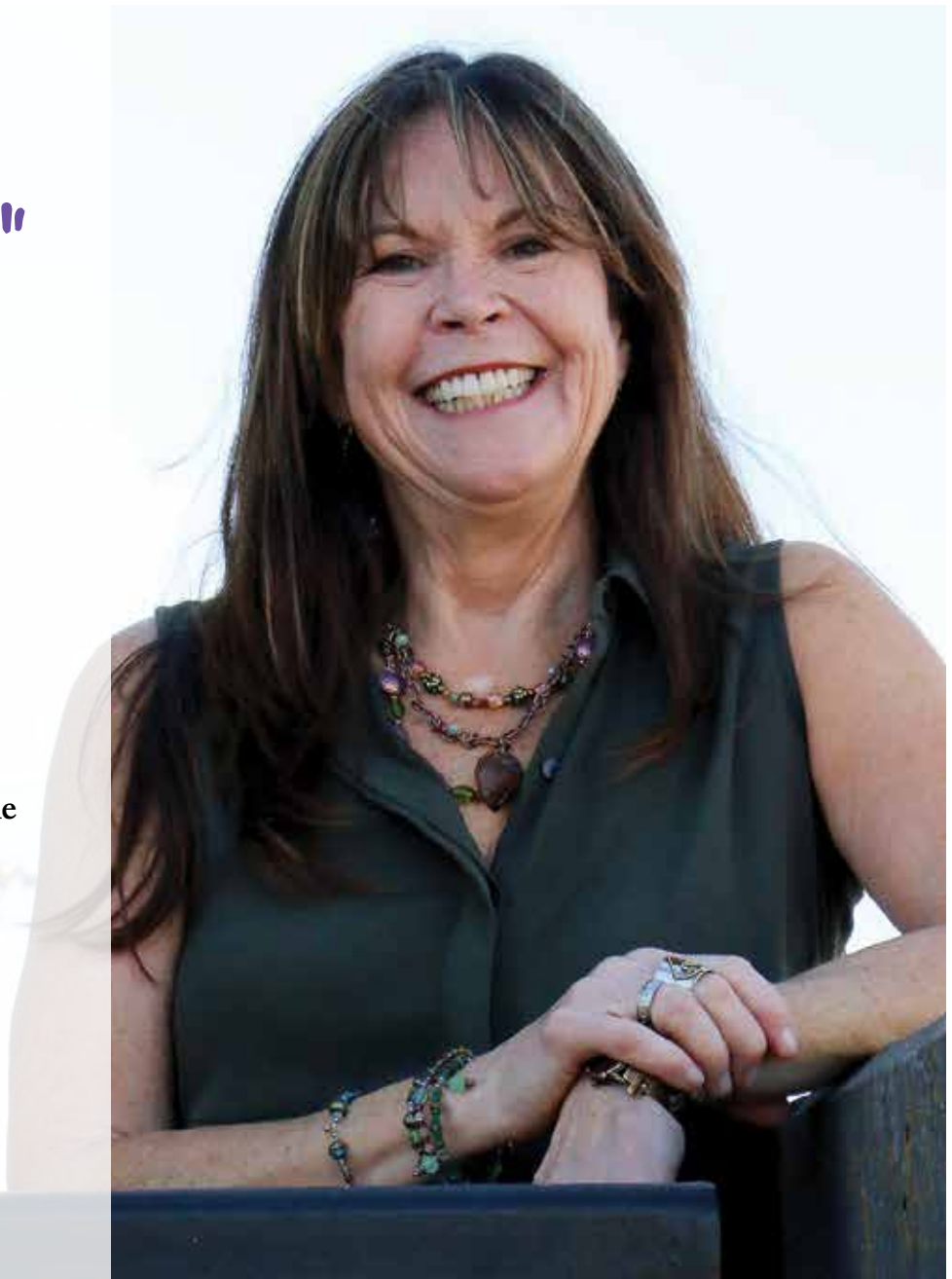
"Some of the best memories of my life revolve around my experiences at O'Dowd. I achieve success each day as I continue to practice values such as fairness, kindness, compassion and empathy – qualities nurtured at O'Dowd that seem to be fading from the world today. I am indebted to the school and happy to give back."

— *Lori KovenChambers '75*



One Word.
One Gift.

TRANSFORMING LIVES
The O'Dowd Annual Fund



One Word. It's a simple concept. Tell us one word that describes what O'Dowd means to you. One word can make a difference and tell a story, your story.

One Gift. Make one gift to the Annual Fund in honor of what O'Dowd means to you. Just one gift can make a difference and give future students the chance to write their own stories.

Tell us your *One Word* and make *One Gift* today.

bishopodowd.org/give



Juliet Arechiga '93.

7 things ABOUT Juliet Arechiga '93

What inspired you to do this kind of work?

Deep down I always knew education would be my field, but it took me some time to embrace it. I thought I should break into some career that was historically less accessible to women. After college, I tried on a few professional personas but found them unfulfilling. While I was working at a public policy consulting firm in Washington, DC, a colleague poised to retire took me aside and confided that she regretted not pursuing her passion and implored me to not make the same mistake. Shortly thereafter I landed at the Lab School of Washington, a school for students with language-based learning disabilities. As soon as I walked into the school, I felt a sense of peace wash over me. I had found a professional home. I started as a teacher, but the director, the late Sally Smith, saw me as a potential counselor. I owe much to Sally for helping me find my path. The work I do is beyond rewarding. I always say I have the best students because I do.

What is your position here and how long have you worked at O'Dowd?

I'm the designated counselor for students diagnosed with learning differences and ADHD. I'm in my third year.

What is the best piece of advice you ever received (*generally—it doesn't have to be related to O'Dowd*)?

I suppose a couple refrains from my father come to mind. My dad would always tell me, "Life is just moments." Another of his favorites was, "Always have adventure in your back pocket." He said both so many times that, being a kid, I had to roll my eyes sometimes. But he's lived his life fully, been kind and generous, and savored his experiences. I take inspiration from him. Another I use quite a bit is, "It's a good problem to have." Perspective is so easy to lose and wonderful to gain.

What is your favorite thing about your job?

My students, of course. I find them just delightful. Every day I get to have real conversation. Every day I am charmed and moved by my students.

What about your field or position do you think would surprise people the most?

I suppose one thing that might surprise people about counseling is that we're not in the business of dispensing advice. We do much more listening than talking.

What is the most interesting or surprising thing about you?

For those who know me, I'm an open book. I'm far from shy. I suppose I can share my newest creative pursuit with you. I've become pretty crazy about needle felting. My mother gave my daughter a kit and it snowballed from there. Just last week, I made a four foot felted redwood tree house for my son's Ewoks. I'm also a life-long thrifter. I almost never buy anything new.

If you could rescue only one thing from your burning office, what would it be?

I appreciate the question as now I have an emergency plan. My office is packed with art - from past students, family, friends and the odd yard sale. I'd have to grab a painting, purchased while honeymooning in Vietnam, of three monks. If I had enough time, I'd also grab this vintage poster I've had for years that says "Human Being: Handle With Care."

Bonus questions:

What is your favorite kind of music? What are your favorite bands?

My husband is really into music and has introduced me to Arvo Part, TV on the Radio and Cate Le Bon. Old favorites include The Pixies, Radiohead and Arcade Fire.

ALUMNI

We Heard You, O'Dowd Alumni!

Dear O'Dowd Alumni,

In May, we held an Alumni Advisory Summit in which alumni spanning seven decades participated in a day of discussion about the O'Dowd alumni experience and provided invaluable feedback to lay the groundwork for our alumni relations program. Then in June, we emailed and mailed (via the Summer 2017 Dragon issue) all alumni and invited participation in a survey. We were thrilled that over 650 of you gave O'Dowd your opinions, ideas and feedback! And we listened.

You want communication with more stories about alumni and information specific to alumni. We are currently working creating on a monthly e-newsletter just for you! Make sure we have your email address so you receive it.

You made it clear that reunions were, by far, the most important alumni event to you. And you want a reunion hosted by O'Dowd at O'Dowd. We are preparing to roll out a Reunion Day in 2018 so reunion coordinators can focus on reaching out to their fellow classmates and can leave the event logistics to the Office of Alumni Relations.

You also told us that you wanted to know about more meaningful ways to volunteer. Many of you want to serve as a mentor to students and young alumni, as well as be a guest speaker or lecturer in class. So we're currently collaborating with Dragon Launch (a college and career preparation program) to develop more opportunities for alumni to give of their time and talent.

Please also let us know if you would like to volunteer with the roll out of a Reunion Day in 2018. It's a huge gift to your fellow alumni when you volunteer to help with reunion efforts.

We will continue to review Alumni Advisory Summit and alumni survey feedback to create or find ways to meet your needs and make your ideas come to fruition. Thank you very much for your participation, O'Dowd Alumni.

As always, keep in touch with us! We love hearing your good news, updates and questions. You can reach me at lramirez@bishopodowd.org or 510-577-9100, ext. 317. You can also stay connected to us through social media:

Facebook: LizaDawn Ramirez (FB said we have to be a person in order to keep up our profile so, sadly, we no longer could go by "O'Dowd Alums".)

Instagram: [odowdalumni](#)

Twitter: [odowdalumni](#)

LinkedIn: [LizaDawn Ramirez](#)

LinkedIn Group: [O'Dowd Alumni](#)

Go Dragons!

LizaDawn

ALUMNI SURVEY RESULTS SNAPSHOT

89% have a positive or very positive attitude towards O'Dowd

60% feel well-connected to O'Dowd

70% think O'Dowd is an important asset to the social fabric of the East Bay

75% would send their child or grandchild to O'Dowd

76% are interested in reunions

News



MS. SAUNDERS IS NOW MRS. GRAY

Starr Saunders '98 married Christopher Gray on July 27, 2017, with the ceremony held in the O'Dowd theater followed by a reception in the large gym with the theme "Enchantment Under The Sea Dance" (from the movie *Back to the Future*). A host of alumni were in attendance including **Jamie and Julie (Florence) White '98**, **Colleen Callaghan Spinato '98**, **Kim (Soller) Tanimoto '98**, **Daniel Thuillier '98**, **Nick Maccarone '98**, **Sarah (Boze) Pettey '98**, **Kim (Suisa) Powell '98**, **Anthony Glafkides '98**, **Shannon Allison '98**, and **Tiffany (Saunders) Hartsinck '94**.

"I am grateful we were able to have our wedding at O'Dowd, because it is a place that has played such a huge part of my life," Starr said. "It made sense to get married in the theater, since I was so heavily involved in the Theater Department when I was a student." Added Starr, "what a way to celebrate another very important day in my life."



Laurie Thirion '93 married Tom Billups on June 10, 2017, at Old St. Hilary's Chapel in Tiburon. Dragons in the wedding party included (from left to right) **Debbie Thirion '93**, **Tracy Thirion '89**, **Susan Carroll '93** and **Joy Jaeger Ehlers '93**. O'Dowd social studies teacher Ray Lehner (far left) introduced Laurie and Tom and officiated the wedding.



Jenny Knutson '06 and Sam Fitzgerald were married on May 13, 2017, at Mission Santa Clara, located on the campus of Santa Clara University, where Jenny and Sam met as freshmen. A host of Dragons attended the wedding and reception, which was held at Nella Terra Cellars in Sunol. The wedding party included Maid of Honor **Katie Knutson '10**, **Katie Hawkins '07** and **Erika Halstenrud '06**. The couple is currently living in Manhattan.

ALUMNI CONTINUED

O'Dowd Alumni PRE-SHOW RECEPTION

The second annual O'Dowd Alumni Pre-Show Reception was held on Friday, May 5. More than 90 attendees enjoyed the reception before attending the Drama Department's production of *Legally Blonde*.

Several alumni had special ties to the theater, including **Rachael Chiappetta '08**, who starred in several productions during her O'Dowd years, including *Ragtime*, *Hair* and *You Can't Take It With You*.

Others were excited to see their children in the performance, while some simply wanted to enjoy a night at the theater with fellow alums.

Special thanks to Drama Director **Dennis Kohles '69** for providing complimentary tickets for the O'Dowd alums, and well-deserved kudos to all the talented students in the musical.



Rachel Chiappetta '08 and Dennis Kohles '69.



The Matthews sisters, left to right, Carol Matthews Milano '57, Cynthia Matthews Darbo '56, Julie Matthews Grajeda '75 and Margie Matthews '64.

Alumni Reflections from the Alumni Survey

"I can see looking back now that the privilege of attending O'Dowd molded the foundation of my future success. Without a doubt - even more than college. The experience taught me how to discipline myself and achieve anything I desired. And that is priceless!"

Alum, Class of 1979

"When I talk about my experience at O'Dowd to others that are not familiar with the school, my description is often met with surprise. O'Dowd is not the typical Catholic school. It is very diverse, welcoming of other religions and philosophies, and progressive. I believe that O'Dowd strikes the perfect balance between modeling and promoting a Catholic life and also being open, accepting, and even encouraging of other beliefs and lifestyles. This openness and support is central to creating a safe, nurturing environment in which teens can learn and develop as individuals and members of society."

Alum, Class of 1997

ALUMNI ADVISORY Summit

A group of alumni gathered on campus May 6 for the O'Dowd Alumni Advisory Summit. This group, led by **John Valva '84**, participated in a day of discussion about the O'Dowd alumni experience and provided invaluable feedback to lay the ground work for our alumni relations program.



Photo, from the top, clock-wise: LizaDawn Ramirez, Director of Alumni Engagement and Philanthropy; faculty member Brian Cushing '84; John Valva '84; Diane Mascote McRae '81; Liz DiGiacomo '02; Dick Moore '63; Dana Ciraulo Young '83; Julie Matthews Grajeda '75; Margie Matthews '64; Tracey Broadhead Frith '85; Laura Goslee '11; Cara Conley '10; Dr. Phelps, President; Jessica Delaney '17, Senior Philanthropy Officer; Maddy Farrington '17, Senior Philanthropy Officer; Joyce Allencastre Souza '57; Sue Hansen Heeg '66; Al Heeg '55; Bev Mello Rettus '55; Raul Peña '73, Lauryn Holloway '03; Sean O'Shea '98; Jim Negri '68; Earl JOHson '61 and Don Keeley '68 (not pictured: Yalda Rafie '12).

Transforming Lives Dinner
Supporting O'Dowd Students

NOVEMBER 2, 2017
JOIN US FOR O'DOWD'S MAJOR FUNDRAISER OF THE YEAR

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!
For Reservations and Sponsorship Information: bishopdowd.org/tld

TRANSFORMING LIVES
The O'Dowd Annual Fund

ALUMNI CONTINUED

Alumni Reflections from the Alumni Survey

“O’Dowd was a good school then, and an even better school now. I am proud to say I went to O’Dowd. It was a challenging and rich experience.”

Alum, Class of 1963

“Being an O’Dowd student, now alum, has shaped my entire life. It has given me opportunities in both my personal and professional life. It has given me a solid set of values and virtues that I hold strong to this day. And, it has given me a reason to give back to my community and make sure I help as many people as possible.”

Alum, Class of 1995

Upcoming **REUNIONS**

1957 – 60 Years

We’re celebrating our 60th reunion this year! Save the date: Saturday evening, October 21, at Bishop O’Dowd High School, in the Dominical Hall Courtyard. Please contact Joyce Souza at jbeeniebear@netzero.net with any questions or if you are interested in planning.

1962 – 55 Years

Save the date: Saturday evening, October 21, at O’Dowd’s Center for Environmental Studies! Please contact Pam Mack at macksj43@gmail.com or Wes Smith at wes_smith@comcast.net with any questions or if you are interested in planning.

1967 – 50 Years

The 50th reunion for the Class of 1967 is set for Oct. 14, 2017. Contact Suzy Arnhart for more information at (510) 776-1336 or sarnhart@gmail.com.

1968 – Upcoming 50 Years

Contact Pat Sinnott at sinnottpj@gmail.com to help out with the reunion because 2018 is just around the corner.

1977 – 40 Years

The 40th reunion for the Class of 1977 is set for August 26, 2017, at Oakland’s Sequoyah Country Club. Please contact Kelly Tatum at rosieemom@yahoo.com with any questions or if you are interested in planning.

1987 - 30 Years

Please contact Tim Rosefield at tj.rosefield@gmail.com with any questions or if you are interested in planning.

1992 – 25 Years

Please contact Lisa Wright at lisabaskinwright@yahoo.com with any questions or if you are interested in planning.

1997 – 20 Years

Please contact Sabrina Shell at sabrina.shell07@gmail.com with any questions or if you are interested in planning.

2002 – 15 Years

Please contact Liz DiGiacomo at lizdigiacomo@hotmail.com with any questions or if you are interested in helping with planning.

An Easy Way to Help Bishop O'Dowd High School

If you are 70½ or older, rather than simply take your withdrawal this year, you can direct your IRA administrator to distribute a gift from your IRA to O'Dowd. Any amount you transfer counts against your required minimum distribution (RMD), and you can direct \$1,000, \$10,000, \$50,000 or even \$100,000 to O'Dowd this year.

Making an IRA Rollover Gift is Easier Than Ever

- Contact your IRA administrator. Because of the popularity of the rollover, most administrators provide forms and a procedure to help you make a rollover gift.
- You can direct a transfer of up to \$100,000 to be made this year from your IRA to O'Dowd.
- You will pay no income taxes on the amount transferred.
Note: Because you are not claiming the transferred amount as income, you will not receive an income tax deduction for your gift.
- Please contact us to let us know how you would like your gift to be used.



Rollover Your IRA for Good

Are you frustrated by the required minimum distribution rules?

- You must withdraw a portion of your IRA each year based upon your age.
- **You must pay income tax on the portion you withdraw.**
- You will face stiff penalties if you fail to withdraw your RMD.

By taking a distribution from your IRA this year, you will likely pay more in taxes and may even reach a higher tax bracket. Rolling over part of your IRA's "required minimum distribution" or "RMD" to O'Dowd can help reduce your tax bill while supporting our school.

Jen Ripley
jripley@bishopodowd.org
(510) 553-8619
www.bishopodowd.org/giving

This information is not intended as tax, legal or financial advice. Gift results may vary. Consult your personal financial advisor for information specific to your situation. Under federal rules your benefits may be different from this example.

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CLASSES NO

1967

Mahalo Broadcasting/Hawaii Public Radio news reporter

Sherry Bracken was named 2017 SBA Small Business Advocate for Media and Journalism for the State of Hawaii. This award honors an individual who assists small businesses through advocacy efforts to increase the awareness of the contributions of small business to the economic vitality and wellbeing of the community. Sherry was honored at the 30th Annual SBA Small Business Awards Luncheon and Expo on May 4, 2017. Get more details about Sherry and her work at www.hawaiiibusiness.com/the-best-of-small-business-sba-awards-2017/8



1984

Public policy advocate and former senior policy advisor to the Clinton campaign **Maya Harris** joined MSNBC as a political analyst in June.



1990

Sean MacDonald was named to US Campaign's Digital 40 Over 40 - a list of the most talented, accomplished and relevant grownups currently in interactive marketing. Sean is the global chief digital officer for McCann Worldgroup, and is responsible for putting digital at the center of all companies, geographies and platforms. For example, for a "Field Trip to Mars" initiative for Lockheed Martin, Sean oversaw the invention of special glass that could shift from transparent to a high-definition screen to make kids on a bus believe they were traveling across Mars. The effort won 19 Lions, making it the most-awarded work at Cannes last year. Read more about his work at <http://www.campaignlive.com/article/digital-40-40-2017-sean-macdonald-chief-digital-officer-mc-cann-worldgroup/1428285>



2005

Alexis Musante recently won the Jefferson Award for her work as a co-founder of Technology Exposure with Access to Mentoring (TEAM), which trains young people to utilize SportsCode - the same special-

ized software used by most teams in the NBA, WNBA, and in professional rugby and soccer - with the long term goal of getting more people of color into sports management positions. Learn more about her work at www.sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2017/06/15/oakland-nonprofit-trains-students-for-pro-sports-management-careers



2006

Kevin Hanson and **Adam Naor** hope to make it easier for parents to teach their kids about the value of money and the benefits of saving through a fun mobile app, Pennybox, intended to be used collaboratively in the family. Recently launched on iPhone, with plans to release later on Android, Pennybox incentivizes tech-savvy kids ages 6-16 to improve their financial literacy. Read more about their work at <http://www.bishopodowd.org/alums-create-app-teach-kids-financial-literacy/>



Notes

2008

Jordan Turner graduated from the University of San Diego School of Law in May.

2009

Brianna Benedetto graduated from UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine in May.

2012

Daniel (DJ) Jones signed as a free agent with the Canadian Football League's Edmonton Eskimos in May. A two-year standout for Southwestern Oklahoma State University (he transferred to SWOSU from Menlo College after Menlo eliminated its football program), DJ earned All-Great American Conference honors in both seasons. As a senior, he was named a First Team All-GAC choice at wide receiver after setting a new sin-

gle-season school record with 968 yards on 69 receptions. As a junior, DJ earned several All-American honors as an All-Purpose Player and Kick Returner and he was also named SWOSU's Male Athlete of the Year for 2015-16.

Immediately upon graduating from Santa Clara University in 2016, where he was a four-year starter on the men's soccer team, **Max Ornstil** joined the Portland Timbers U-23 Premier Development League team where he was named "Player of the Year." Upon completion of the PDL season, Max was asked to train with the Portland Timbers T2 team which is the Portland Timbers' entry in the United Soccer League ("USL"), the second highest level professional soccer league in the United States. At the completion of the 2016 USL season, Max was asked attend the T2 training camp in February 2017 and was thereafter signed to a professional soccer contract later that month with T2.

2013

Duke's **Oderah Chidom** was selected 31st overall by the Atlanta Dream in the third round of the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) Draft held in April. She is the first O'Dowd women's basketball player to be drafted.

The University of Washington's **Kevin King** was selected first in the second round of April's 2017 NFL Draft (33rd overall) by the Green Bay Packers.

2015

On June 22, **Ivan Rabb** was selected 35th in the second round of the 2017 NBA Draft by the Memphis Grizzlies. Ivan starred at UC Berkeley for two years before declaring for the draft last spring.

Jennifer Schoendorf '06 and **Kristin Schoendorf '09** both earned a Master's degree in Social Work, as well as Pupil Personnel Services Credentials, from California State University, Long Beach, in May, and are beginning their careers in social work.

Over the course of the two-year program, Jennifer and Kristin worked with various client populations through internships, advocated for policy at the State Capitol in Sacramento, and traveled to South Africa as part of a study abroad program.

Jennifer completed her undergraduate work at the University of Southern California, while Kristin completed her undergraduate work at UC Santa Cruz. Kristin subsequently worked as an Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) Therapist and Jennifer worked as a Case Manager for a non-profit foster care agency in Texas. The sisters said these experiences guided them to their true passion: social work.

Said Jennifer "O'Dowd not only instilled the work ethic and skills we needed to be successful in our pursuit of higher education but also

a deeper understanding of what it means to 'give back' to those in the community who have less. And we were raised in a family where finding your passion was a core value along with making a positive difference in the lives of others."



ATHLETIC



Women's 4 x 400 Relay Team **CAPTURES STATE TITLE**

The O'Dowd women's 4 x 400 relay team (**Marnae Glover '18, Tierra Robinson-Jones '18, Lauryn Moore '17 and Jasmine Powell '19**) raced to a first place finish, going 3-minutes, 46.33 seconds, at the 99th California Interscholastic Federation state track and field championships, held at Veterans Memorial Stadium at Buchanan High School in Clovis on June 3.

Individually, Tierra Robinson-Jones took second place in the 400-meter dash, from lane 8, clocking in at 53.24 - ranking her at #1 in the North Coast Section, #2 in California, and #10 in the country in the event.

Hana Johnson '17 made the finals in the triple jump, leaping 39-feet, 6 ½ inches to secure 8th place. She is ranked #3 in the North Coast Section, #8 in California, and #77 in the United States in the event.

The 4 x 100 relay team (**Jordan Jones '19, Glover, Powell and Robinson-Jones**) placed fourth, going 46.94.

Overall the Dragons placed fourth overall at the state meet - with just six girls competing.

"I am overjoyed by our performance at the state meet," Director of Cross Country/Track & Field **Jamal Cooks** said. "The team did an outstanding job executing race plans, maintaining composure, and performing at a high level."

Doing Well, Doing Good

Each and every day, we learn about O'Dowd alumni who are creating positive change in their local communities and the greater world. Whether they work in the field of education, medicine, science, business or law, are committed to preserving the environment or championing social justice causes, our graduates are driving economic and social change.

As Pope Francis says "All it takes is for one person to stop and help, and change the lives of people around us, turning a small ripple into a revolution."

Likewise, our donors create impact – both immediate and everlasting – by supporting programs like the Transforming Lives Annual Fund, which helps provide engaging academics and innovative classroom programs, life-changing experiences, including service learning and retreats, and student financial aid.

In this section you will read about O'Dowd alumni who are doing well while doing good, and see how your gifts are so vital in opening doors of opportunity for our students, preparing them to thrive and to contribute to a positive world in this age of acceleration.



Shana Lancaster '02

Social Justice Warrior

Can a donut kebab be transformational? Absolutely.

A social enterprise launched by Shana Lancaster '02 employs, trains and provides healing opportunities for young women of color in Oakland by creating fair wage jobs for youth who are facing significant barriers to employment, and empowers them with the training they need to build their own economic ladders - with donut kebabs.

Mamacitas Café, which Lancaster launched in 2014 with partners Simone Obiddah and Renee Geesler, started as a pop-up food operation, and then expanded to offer catering services, featuring donut kebabs - mini donuts on a stick that are fried onsite at parties, events and festivals - and Red Bay Coffee. Kori Chen '02 is the director of business development and special initiatives for the Oakland-based coffee roasting company.

The business partners recently undertook a Kickstarter campaign to raise money to secure a 3,000-square-foot-space by the Lake Merritt BART station that will serve as both a brick and mortar café and commercial kitchen.

In the short term, this expansion will allow them to offer full time jobs to the six young women currently working for Mamacitas part-time, as well as offer additional employment opportunities with the company. "Our longer term vision is converting the business into a cooperative so that we can offer employees equity in the business," she said.

Lancaster and Geesler wrote the business plan for Mamacitas with the support of The Women's Initiative for Self Employment, sought advice and support from trusted friends, and then took a leap of faith.

"We did our first pop-up in downtown Oakland. We brought mini fryers and our donut dough and coffee and invited the community to come out and test our recipe and give us feedback. We continued on like that for about a year," she said. "Donuts and coffee are a timeless combination. And with a donut kebab it's really easy for people to drink coffee and eat their snack as they walk around."

EMPOWERING OTHERS

Lancaster is inspired every day by her work in the community. "I've never had a job I've disliked, but it's a really different way of working when you are doing something that is so aligned with your values," she said. "There are so many amazing young women in Oakland that are really being ignored and denied access to the city's evolving economic revival. It's so disappointing to see these young, inspired, creative and brilliant young women being excluded.

"So seeing young women who historically have been silenced and marginalized being in such a powerful role of having ownership over their own ideas, work and labor is so exciting," she said. "It's such a cool re-imagining of the work place to have young people leading the way, and see them so satisfied and empowered in a job."

Read complete story about Lancaster at:
www.bishopodowd.org/alumni-month-shana



Michele Thornton-Ghee '84

Life and Career Strategist

Michele Thornton-Ghee '84 didn't graduate college until the age of 30. Between high school and college she dated the wrong men, gained 30 pounds, and cleaned homes for a living. "I had a job I hated, was in a bad relationship, straddled with debt, and had no vision for my life," she said.

Losing her beloved father to cancer served as a catalyst for Thornton-Ghee making significant life changes.

"My father was such a huge influence in my life. I watched him work hard not only to provide for our family but also to give back to our community. I remember him telling me that I was not allowed to use his illness as an excuse to miss work or not excel. On his deathbed, I made my father a promise that I would make him proud of me. I stand on that promise to this day," Thornton-Ghee said.

Thornton-Ghee's first step in fulfilling the promise was earning a bachelor's degree with honors in business management from Golden Gate University. She later completed The Women's Leadership Forum program at Harvard Business School.

Currently senior vice president for BET HER (a subsidiary of BET Networks/Viacom Inc.), Thornton-Ghee is the head of television sales for BET HER— a 24-hour African American lifestyle network designed for Black Women. She and her team are charged with growing the revenue base for the network.

HELPING OTHERS DEVELOP A LIFE PLAN

Thornton-Ghee also recently published her second book, *Stratechic 2.0, Her Plan, Her Power Her Purpose*, which provides a 10-step framework for women to develop a personal life plan. "I wanted to write a book about my experiences. I knew I had a story to tell that would interest women," she said.

"Women are born strategists. We typically use that strategy to benefit the people around us - our families, our businesses, our kids," she said. "I'm telling women if they take their inherent abilities and apply them to a life plan and build out a strategy they can do anything. Some of my favorite chapters in the book discuss activating self-awareness - because understanding how others view you is a powerful tool - and asking for what you've earned. Knowing yourself and having the ability to articulate who you are at any given time is critical in getting what you want."

A sales professional in the media and entertainment space for 20 years, Thornton-Ghee struggled with the lack of opportunity for advancement in her field. "I created new businesses and generated millions of dollars for my previous companies. That wasn't enough to get promoted. It wasn't enough to have an opportunity to lead people. I was stuck and became frustrated with the system. I should have been frustrated with myself because I didn't have a plan, didn't leverage relationships, and didn't ask for what I had earned. I finally realized that I had the power to change my station in life and I haven't looked back since," she said.

Read complete story about Thornton-Ghee at:
www.bishopodowd.org/alumni-month-michele



A stylized illustration of a woman with blonde hair, smiling, wearing a dark top and a blue necklace with large circular beads. The background is a solid olive green color.

Johnna Grell '93

Championing Better Lives Through Better Education

The first female in her family to graduate from college, Johnna Con-cannon Grell '93 knows the sacrifices her parents made so that she and her brother, Jason '90, could attend O'Dowd and benefit from a college preparatory education were instrumental in setting her on a path for success.

As Superintendent of Oakland Military Institute College Preparatory Academy, Grell is committed to ensuring that other young people also find that path – even if their parents can't afford private school educa-tion.

Serving inner-city youth in grades 6-12, OMI is the first charter school ever sponsored by the state, the first public military school and the first school sponsored by the National Guard. It provides a structured and rigorous academic program where students develop as scholars, leaders, critical thinkers and citizens. All students graduate having met University of California and California State Uni-versity A-G requirements, and several of the school's alumni have gone on to outstanding universities such as UC Berkeley, UCLA, Stanford, Yale and West Point.

CAREER PATH

Grell began her professional career at Oakland's St. Paschal Baylon School, teaching middle school math and science, where she remained for six years until the school closed in 2001. It wasn't long before a St. Paschal colleague who had joined the OMI staff asked Grell if she would consider filling an unexpected opening for a sixth grade teacher at the school.

During her 14 years tenure at OMI, Grell earned her National Board Certification in English and taught middle school through 9th grade English and English as a second language, earned an administrative credential at Cal State East Bay, and served as principal for one year before being selected by the Board and Governor Brown as the school's Superintendent.

In that role, Grell serves as both an academic leader and chief financial officer, overseeing a staff of 96, which includes OMI's Na-tional Guard partners who head up the military science aspect of the curriculum. Because demand for an OMI education is so high, Grell is also helping lead efforts to expand the campus.

The best part about her job, Grell says, is working with students and playing a part in setting them on a path for success.

"Success doesn't necessarily depend on where you come from, or what skills you are born with, it depends on your passion and your commitment to be the best version of yourself," Grell said. "What we are trying to do here is meet students where they are, give them the tools they need and offer them opportunities they wouldn't otherwise have so they can be that best version."

Read complete story about Grell at www.bishopodowd.org/johnna-grell-93-committed-helping-others-succeed

Johnnie Bryant '03

Dauntless Dragon Serves as Mentor for Others

Johnnie Bryant '03 understands the powerful impact a mentor can have on a young person. Having someone that believes you can accomplish great things is a powerful catalyst for achievement, he said.

Growing up in a single family home, with his mom working the graveyard shift, Bryant was often home by himself after school. Left to his own devices, he generally chose to play hoops in the front yard instead of hit the books. His basketball skills were stellar, his grades not so.

At O'Dowd, Bryant met Lou Richie '89 – at that time an assistant coach for the men's varsity basketball team – who intervened when Bryant became academically ineligible to play basketball for parts of his sophomore and junior seasons.

Under Richie's guidance, and with help from social studies teacher Tony Green, by senior year Bryant was posting a respectable 3.3 grade point average. "They gave me the road map, as far as how to study and prepare and do school work," he said. "They believed in me, which gave me confidence. I didn't want to let them down so that was motivation for me, too."

That's why Bryant, now an assistant coach with the Utah Jazz, embraces any opportunity that presents itself to pay it forward.

One of the ways he does that is by participating in the International Basketball Federation (FIBA) and the National Basketball Association's (NBA) global development and community relations outreach program for youngsters, Basketball Without Borders (BWB), which helps promote leadership, education, sportsmanship and healthy living as well as friendship, openness and respect.

Bryant first participated in a BWB Africa Camp held in Angola in 2016, and this past summer traveled to Israel for a BWB Europe Camp.

After playing at San Francisco City College for a year, Bryant earned a scholarship to the University of Utah. He is the Utes all-time leader in career 3-point shooting percentage and is ranked No. 20 on the all-time scoring list.

He played one season professionally with Telemotive Muenchen, Germany, and then founded Bryant Sports Academy, a unique skills development program. He joined the Jazz as a player development assistant in 2012, and was promoted to assistant coach in 2014.

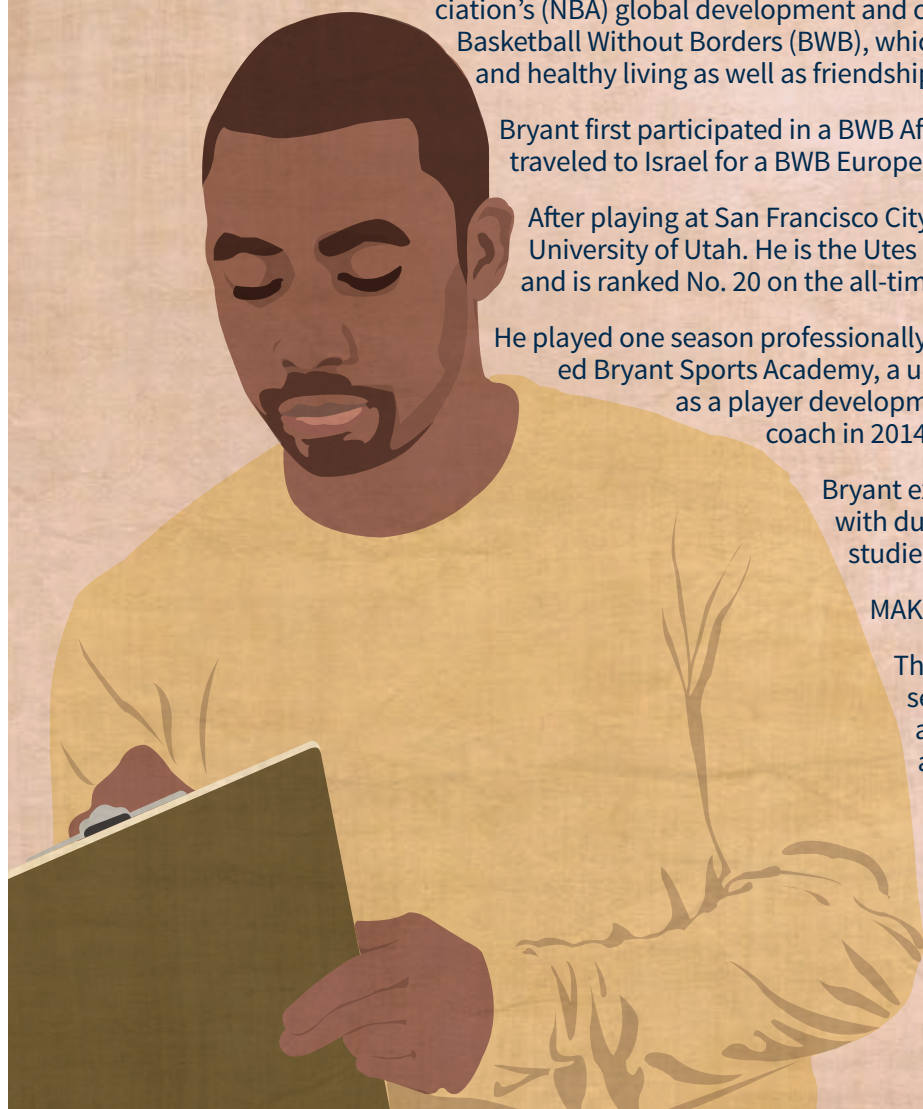
Bryant excelled in the classroom, too. He graduated from college with dual bachelor's degrees – human development and family studies/sports management – in three years.

MAKING AN IMPACT

Though Bryant always dreamed of making a name for himself in the NBA, he anticipated it would be on the court and not on the bench. However, he feels very blessed and fortunate his path led him to coaching.

"To be able to help players improve and have an impact on their lives during the time that you coach them is what it's all about," he said. "The wins and losses don't compare to the life lessons and the relationships you build through the game of basketball."

Read complete story about Bryant at:
www.bishopodowd.org/johnnie



Celine Sabatte Mactaggart '97

Passionate Advocate for East Bay

Celine Sabatte Mactaggart '97 found a way to combine her passion for the East Bay with her enthusiasm for writing. She's launched a lifestyle blog that highlights the vibrancy and influence that the area has on entrepreneurship, design, food and style, and also features local business owners, creatives and inspirational members of the community that are making a difference.

The fourth-generation Oaklander launched the blog, *24 East*, in 2015 when her third and youngest child was turning one. "I had always wanted to go back to work after being home with our kids, but struggled to know what that would look like. I thought about doing freelance writing, but also didn't see a source out there that focused specifically on lifestyle things in our area," she said.

SEEKING TO CHANGE PERCEPTIONS

"The East Bay has been vastly underrepresented in the media with positive news for my entire life, and I wanted to change that. I also knew that if I solely wrote about the East Bay, then people who didn't live here wouldn't connect with the area or change their perceptions, so that is why I sprinkle in content about the greater Bay Area that still aligns with our content pillars of wellness, design, the food scene, etc."

Mactaggart earned a bachelor's degree in Communications, with a minor in English, from St. Mary's College, as well as a graduate certificate from Harvard that concentrated in nonprofit management. She holds a master's degree in nonprofit administration from the University of San Francisco.

While in graduate school, Mactaggart worked for several local nonprofits – including the Make-A-Wish Foundation and the YH Soda Foundation – and then went into hospital fundraising, holding positions at the California Pacific Medical Foundation and Alta Bates Summit Foundation.

She was a stay-at-home mom (her children are currently ages 6, 5 and 2 ½) and served on the Board of Trustees of Cal Performances at UC Berkeley, the Board of Regents of St. Mary's College and the board of the George Mark Children's House before venturing into blogging.

"I love connecting with people that inspire me and I love learning about their routines, their career paths, what they love about living here, and the hopes they have for their work," she said. "I feel so honored to have interviewed the Editor-in-Chief of Sunset Magazine, the CFO of the Golden State Warriors (only one of four women CFO's in the NBA), and my Class of 1997 O'Dowd friend Rebecca Alexander, who is an author, advocate, psychotherapist and endurance athlete."

Mactaggart feels very fortunate to live in an area that means so much to her, and is eager to share her passion with others. "I think people from Oakland have an intrinsic loyalty to the area that can't be compared. And that gives us a really vibrant culture as well," she said.

Read complete story about Mactaggart at:
www.bishopodowd.org/celine





Garry Hill-Thomas '00

Business Leader Contributing to the Well Being of Society

The striking contrast between the attractive University of Nevada-Reno campus and the blighted neighborhood just across the street troubled Garry Hill-Thomas '00.

In the shadow of a university that had completed a succession of major capital improvement projects stood dilapidated homes with boarded up windows and empty lots filled with trash. "It just didn't make sense to me," he said. "I became very passionate about revitalizing the area."

Hill-Thomas joined with fellow UNR alum and basketball teammate Kevin Pinkney in 2011 to form Pink Hill Properties, LLC, and the pair are now leading the rehabilitation of Virginia Street along the UNR corridor.

Their flagship project, The Towers at Pink Hill, which was due to open in August 2017, will provide modern and affordable student housing on three floors, with restaurants and retail shops on the ground floor.

This project addresses the great need for student housing, while beautifying the neighborhood, Hill-Thomas said. "There is a lack of student housing around the university. Many of the students who can't get housing in the dorms live in basements of old residential buildings," he said. "Those aren't places where families feel comfortable leaving their sons and daughters. We wanted to change that."

CHANGING THE HOUSING LANDSCAPE

Hill-Thomas said there were several challenges getting his student housing project off the ground. With money he had saved from his professional basketball days, he approached several of the property owners with offers to purchase their homes. "They were more than willing," he said.

Then came the hard part. Discovering there were zoning restrictions blocking the plan, Hill-Thomas and his business partner had to persuade the city to rezone the area to allow for multifamily and mixed use. "It took a lot of time to pull everyone together to see the big picture," he said.

The project has garnered lots of interest. "We've drawn investors from other cities who are helping to transform the outlying area of the university campus, which is great because we couldn't have changed that whole block with our dollars. But we were the pioneers in putting it all together and it's been nice to have other people see the vision, feel the excitement and jump in, too."

A second building is planned for The Tower at Pink Hill, and the company has acquired other property in Reno with plans to create a community of duplexes targeted for millennials seeking to break into the housing market, Hill-Thomas said.

Hill-Thomas hopes to make a similar impact on his hometown of Oakland, and has his eye on property around O'Dowd for a possible residential development project.

Read complete story about Garry at www.bishopodowd.org/garry-hill-thomas-00-making-difference-community

Evidence of the Impact O'Dowd Students Have on the Community

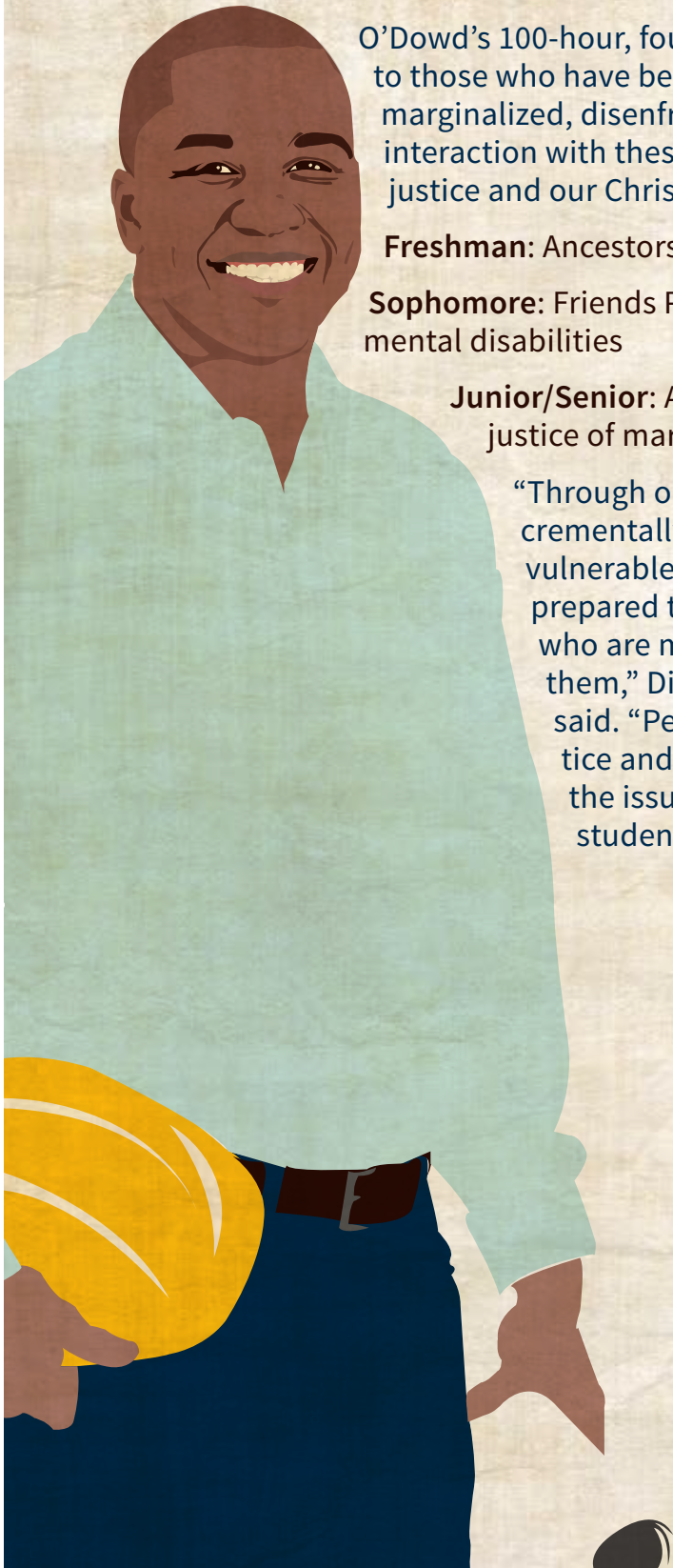
O'Dowd's 100-hour, four-year service learning program opens students' eyes to those who have been pushed to the sides of society – those who have been marginalized, disenfranchised, misjudged, forgotten or ignored. Through their interaction with these people, students gain a personal understanding of social justice and our Christian call to reach out to those on the edges.

Freshman: Ancestors Project – focuses on elders in our society

Sophomore: Friends Project – focuses on children or people living with developmental disabilities

Junior/Senior: Anawim Project – focuses on those who experience the injustice of marginalization

“Through our robust service learning program, O'Dowd students incrementally immerse themselves in the lives of those who are most vulnerable. By junior and senior year, students' formation thus far has prepared them to listen – all to better understand the lives of those who are marginalized and work for justice with and on behalf of them,” Director of Service Learning **Beth Mueller** said. “Personal encounter with social injustice and knowing a hope that lies beyond the issues at hand sparks in the O'Dowd student a desire to work for change.”



CS NEWS

Student-Athletes CELEBRATED

The Bishop O'Dowd High School Athletic Department celebrated and honored nearly 30 student-athletes from the Class of 2017 who signed National Letters of Intent and those who were recruited to play at the collegiate level at a ceremony held in the theater on May 22.

THOSE HONORED INCLUDED:

MARIANA ALVEAR

Lacrosse - University of California, Davis

VICTORIA AVERY

Basketball - Carnegie Mellon University

ELIZABETH BENSON

Crew - University of Washington

MAKS BIALEK

Lacrosse - Chapman University

AVERY BILENSKY

Football - Humboldt State University

REINA BONTA

Soccer - Yale University

JE'QUARI GODFREY-BAGGETT

Football - University of Southern California

AARON GONZALEZ

Track and Field - Pomona-Pitzer Colleges

COOPER HAGMAIER

Football - University of San Diego

WILLIAM HUNTINGTON

Basketball - Willamette University

JORDAN JACKSON

Football - Holy Cross University

HANA JOHNSON

Track and Field - University of California, Riverside

ELI LONNER

Lacrosse - UCLA

AMADO LOZANO

Soccer - University of Pennsylvania

REECE MLADJOV

Soccer - University of California, Riverside

LAURYN MOORE

Track and Field - San Diego State University

MYAH PACE

Basketball - University of San Diego

ANGELO PAEZ

Baseball - California State University, Monterey Bay

MAXWELL PIERCE

Lacrosse - Dominican University

SYDNI RESNICK

Swimming - University of Puget Sound

HANNAH ROSENFELD

Softball - George Mason University

SPENCER SCHMIDT

Lacrosse - Case Western Reserve University

LAYLA SCOTT

Rugby - Quinnipiac University

NATHAN SHEPHERD

Football - University of California, Davis

MIRANDA SINSHEIMER

Water Polo - Villanova University

OWEN TAFFE

Track and Field - University of California, Santa Cruz

ALIJAH VERA TUCKER

Football - University of Southern California

TARN WEIR

Soccer - American College in Spain

PAUL WESLEY YOST

Lacrosse - Cal Poly San Luis Obispo



CONTINUED

Team Records and **ALL-LEAGUE HONORS**

A host of Dragons were recognized as All-League players by the West Alameda County Conference (Foothill League). The All-League selections are listed below by sport:

Baseball, 7-9 in WACC, 4th in WACC (Foothill League), 8-17 overall record

ALL-LEAGUE

Adam Bail, Ben Lancaster and Kaine Montez (second team); Luke Ditzler and Matthias Haas (honorable mention).

Men's Golf, 13-1 league, 1st in WACC, 14-2 overall record, WACC Tournament Champions, NCS Division II Champions

ALL-LEAGUE

Adrian Davis, Moe Flynn, Thomas Flynn, Spencer Leader and Jason Ravetti. **Golfer of the Year: Spencer Leader**

Men's Lacrosse, 4-0, 1st in WACC regular season, 2nd in League Tournament, 11-9 overall record

ALL-LEAGUE

Zach Jolly, Maxwell Pierce and Wesley Yost (first team); Alexander Bialek, Cole Danish, Alex Murphy, Luke Pfeiffer and Clay Restagno (second team); Matt Bialek and Rudy Byles, (honorable mention).

Player of the Year: Wesley Yost

Women's Lacrosse, 3-1, 2nd in WACC regular season, 1st in League Tournament, Runner-up in NCS Division II, 13-8 overall record

ALL-LEAGUE

Mariana Alvear, Kelly Baxter, Colleen Cushing, Marie-Claire Lamoureux and Kate Marcel (first team); Maddy Caine, Rachel DeLuca, Annika Ditzler and Nadia Ralston (second team); Lizzie Firestone and Maia Johnson (honorable mention). **Co-Player of the Year: Mariana Alvear**

Men's Rugby, 5-2, 2nd in Division II Bay League, 7-5 overall record, Norcal Division II Bowl Champions

Women's Rugby, 6-1 in Division I Bay League, 6-3-1 overall record

Softball, 6-4 in WACC, 3rd in WACC (Foothill League), 14-7 overall record

ALL-LEAGUE

Lizzy Avery, Frankie Hammoude, Nicole Hammoude and Hannah Rosenfeld (first team); Michael Edwards-Gonzales (second team); Allie Cortis and Jayla Dailey (honorable mention). **Co-Player of the Year: Frankie Hammoude**

Men's Swimming, 5-3 dual meet record, 3rd in WACC

ALL-LEAGUE

Giovanni Wenzler

Women's Swimming, 5-3 dual meet record, 3rd in WACC

Men's Tennis, 7-6, 4th in WACC (Foothill League), 15-9-1 overall record

ALL-LEAGUE:

Ian Thomas (doubles); Brandon Choy and Noah Linde (honorable mention)

Men's Track & Field, 3-2, 3rd in WACC (Foothill League) dual league meets, 2nd in WACC Championship Meet

ALL-LEAGUE

Andrew Pike

Women's Track & Field, 4-1, 2nd in WACC (Foothill League) dual league meets, WACC Foothill League Meet Champion, 2nd in NCS Bay Shore Meet, 2nd in NCS Meet of Champions, 4th Place in CIF State Team Standings

ALL-LEAGUE

Daylee Dunn, Marnae Glover, Maya Jenkins, Hannah Johnson, Jordan Jones, Lauryn Moore, Jasmine Powell and Tierra Robinson-Jones. **Track Athlete of the Year: Tierra Robinson-Jones; Co-Field Athletes of the Year: Maya Jenkins and Hana Johnson**

We Heard You, O'Dowd Alumni: Announcing the O'Dowd Alumni Directory Project

As a result of your feedback from the alumni survey and Alumni Advisory Summit, we are proud to announce the launch of our 2017 Alumni Directory Project. Our goal is to meet your needs and develop a resource for you to remain connected with former high school friends, classmates and associates. We know that this directory will also provide alumni with the necessary information to network professionally.

Over the next few months, Publishing Concepts, Inc. (PCI), our partners in this project, will be contacting O'Dowd Alumni by phone, email and mail to verify or update information. When contacted, please take a few moments to verify that we have complete and accurate information. We understand you might not want to provide your information to just anyone, so we want you to know their request for information is legitimate.

Below is information about the project and PCI. If you have any questions, feel free to call the Office of Alumni Relations at (510) 577-9100, ext. 320, or email us at alumni@bishopodowd.org.

WHY DO I NEED TO UPDATE MY INFORMATION?

Information changes quickly! Mailing addresses, email addresses, children ... things are always changing with our alumni and we want to keep in touch with you. Updating your information will ensure O'Dowd and the alumni association can keep you connected.

CAN I CHOOSE WHAT INFORMATION IS LISTED IN THE DIRECTORY?

Yes. As a standard, the following information will be printed in the directory:

- Current name (last, first, middle initial) and cross-reference by name as a student
- Class year
- Current job title and employer name
- Home mailing address and phone number
- Preferred email address

If you wish not to have certain information printed in the directory, you may choose to have specific details omitted.

WHAT IF I DON'T WANT TO BE LISTED IN THE DIRECTORY? WHAT IF I DON'T WANT CERTAIN PIECES OF INFORMATION LISTED?

PCI can still update your information for us, but will honor your specific request to exclude all of parts of your biographical data from the publication.

WHO AT O'DOWD SHOULD I CONTACT IF I HAVE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS?

Please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at (510) 577-9100, ext. 320, or email us at alumni@bishopodowd.org.

Please visit www.bishopodowd.org/heard-odowd-alumni-announcing-odowd-alumni-directory-project for complete information about the directory project.



It is with great pride that we recognize the support that ensures Bishop O'Dowd High School remains strong, healthy and growing. We had a wonderful year, raising \$3,184,960, of which \$2,500,000 was given to the *Transforming Lives Annual Fund*, supporting those areas of greatest need. The O'Dowd community also increased the school's endowment to \$2,877,000 during the 2016-17 school year. Additionally, contributions enabled the school to provide renovations to its library as well as provide improved outdoor gathering spaces for students. These financial contributions were buttressed by the time and talent of dedicated O'Dowd volunteers for which the school is deeply appreciative.

The ongoing success of O'Dowd, its programs, alumni and students, is a testament to the generous contributions and the continually growing participation by the O'Dowd community.



THE ANNUAL REPORT

HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

Benefactor, Builders and Platinum Circles - Gifts of \$25,000 +

Coca-Cola Foundation Matching Gifts Program
Annette and Thomas A. Counts
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
Ellie and Donald Knauss
Maria C. Canales and Gregory S. Onken
Joseph Ratto
Anonymous (3)

Gold Circle - Gifts of \$10,000 +

Elizabeth Y. and Don Wesley Arnold
Michelle and John Brinnon
Elizabeth J. Cabraser '70
Jim Canty '60
Suzanne Schofield Connolly '65 and Peter Connolly
Diana M. and Paul E. Dolan III '68
Gregory P. Schmidt '65 Living Trust
Rocio E. and Michael A. Haas
Amy Duffy Hester '89 and Kevin P. Hester '88
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 Vincenzo Traversa
 Cindy L. Hoch and David M. Trinchero
 Truist
 Gina Jackson and Carlos Trujillo
 Tanisha and Solomon Tucker
 Michael M. Turnacliiff
 Kate and Frederick M. Turner '74
 Jase Turner
 Valena and Lonnie Turner

Helene Simi Twyford '55 and
 Alfred T. Twyford
 Susana G. and Manuel S. † Uribe
 William Van Doren
 Jane R. and Neal Vandendriesche '72
 Jessica C. Morehead Vassallo '03 and
 Andrew Vassallo
 Yvette Velarde '66 and Myron Fehr
 Kisitina and Thomas Venegas
 Irene and Thomas Villagomez II
 Gabriela E. Villarreal
 Darling Vinavong and Brian M. Payawal '92
 Nhubin T. N. and Michael G. C. Vo
 Nida E. and Emile K. Wahbeh
 Patrice Wakeley '01
 Liz and Michael Waldrip '81
 Lisa and Darryl L. Walker, Sr.
 Martha Walker
 Kate Walsh-Cunnane
 Kenneth B. Walters '62
 Patricia Menghini Walters '65
 Adrienne Hanson and Granville Walton
 Carol Ward
 Michael F. Ward '76
 Frances J. Warmerdam and
 James Patterson
 Tracy Smith and Bryan Waters
 Gail and Dennis Watts
 Michelle C. and Chris M. Webber
 Susan and William Weir
 Susan L. Weiss
 Vanessa A. and Michael C. Wellington
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 Richard H. Whitsel
 La Tanya Buckley-Williams and
 James Williams
 Gene Wong
 Ming-Ching Wong
 Linda and David Woo
 Anne and William Woodell
 Nina Woodruff and Gregory Walker
 Keay R. Wu
 Stacey E. and Derwin L. Wyatt
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 Phing Y. Yam '03
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 Patricia McFeely Belding '59
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 Kelly Cronin '80
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 Siobhan T. and Brian D. Cushing '84
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 Debbie VanHecke '70 and Gregor J. Cuzner
 Trina and Francis Dalton
 Brion F. Daniels '81
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 "Growth"

"O'Dowd has given me amazing opportunities to grow and change. From debate to CMT, O'Dowd has made me into the person I am today. It has taught me to be my own advocate, and to stand up even if I'm the only one standing."

— Dylan Brown '17



Tell us your *One Word* and make *One Gift* today.
bishopodowd.org/give

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 John Burns '62
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 Rose Caldwell
 Isabella W. Caliri '19
 Grace Prindiville Campbell '64
 Tri-An Cao '17
 Edda M. Caraballo '68 and Tony Caraballo
 Sherri A. Carpenter '91
 Tyson A. Carpenter '17

Kalimah B. M. Davis '17
 Kira N. Debro '17
 Jerome M. Deck '17
 Cheryl Delahoussaye '65
 Jessica C. Delaney '17
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 Juliana H. Diaz '17
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Rocco Riani
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Quisqueya M. Rodriguez '90 and
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Alyssa V. Rollins '12
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Bonnie and Paul Rosenstein
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Gregory A. Schmitz
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Christian F. Yau-Weeks '17
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Paul W. Yost '17
Ke'Ale Young '20
Anonymous (1)

This list honors those whose gifts were made between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017. Please note that our gift list reflects outright gifts and pledge payments and does not include multiple year pledges. The fundraising numbers referenced in this report are pre-audited numbers. We welcome and encourage any corrections to the report to advancement@bishopodowd.org.

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Alumni, parents, faculty and friends who make legacy gifts to Bishop O'Dowd High School in their estate plans play a key role in charting our future and assuring fiscal stability. Their gifts build the endowment, a perpetual fund whose income provides essential financial support for all aspects of the school. We recognize the commitment of these visionary donors by extending to them membership in the 1951 Heritage Society.

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Lillian and Ross J. Cadenasso
Jim Canty '60
Kathleen A. Connelly '60 and Parkes Johnson
Margaret Cornwall
Ana F. Costa '72
Steve and Kate Costa
Pauline and Ernest DeCoite
Chris DeLima '83
Marion Ferreira Durbin '56
Christina S. Fisher '85
Lillian and Stewart Fong
The Estate of Paul M. Harvey '63
Mark Hellender '62
Betty and Dale Isaacs
Janine Jason and William R. Jarvis '66
Carol M. and Earl R. JOHson '61
Connie and N. Eric Jorgensen '56
Karlin and Rodney I. Krug '55
Mark S. Luciano '78
William Lyons
Pam Ellis Mack '62 and Stephen Mack
Gertrude McCulloch '63
Margie and Kerry Murphy '60
Rina and James P. Negri '68
Phillip Palmer '87
Barbara J. and Stephen R. Petersen '61
Vickie Barrious Poitevin '65 and Michael J. Poitevin
Sid Quick and Linda K. Leighton Quick '63
LizaDawn and Gil Ramirez
Robert J. Ravano '58
Jen Ripley
Karen M. Ruiz '88
Gale A. Ross Salvador '72
The Estate of Gregory P. Schmidt '65

Nicole DeMarais Shaw '81
Thea Gorman Shepard '62 and Ken L. Shepard '59
Dr. and Mrs. William M. Smith
Victoria Bramsman Srago '62 and Michael Srago
Reverend Paul Vassar '63
Geraldine and Carlo Vecchiarelli '60

ALUMNI BY YEAR

1955

Roberta Souza Andersen
James T. Bill
Madeline Messina Cutino
Beth Sullivan George
Carol A. Hubert
Carol Salel Hurley
Jacqueline Haake Jacobberger
John W. Tarabini
Helene Simi Twyford
Anne Cowie Ulses
William H. Wiegmann

1956

Ann Thompson Buckley
James B. Curran
Michael F. Egan
Edward S. Gallagher
Robert F. Gilfether
Ellen A. Doctor Graham
N. Eric Jorgensen
Philip A. Meany
Donald Parr
Richard J. Perry
Antone F. Salel
Marlene Monese Sartwell
Paul J. Schmidt
Diana Padovani-Skokan
Linda L. Slakey

1957

Bernadine Castagnola Carpenter
Sheila Moyles Cushing
Ronald Dirito
Sharon Duffy Rinehart
Anthony B. Varni
Clifford Wixson

1958

V. Paul Bail
Maryanne J. Bertram
Richard A. Cerruti
Saloma Guesnon Cordero

Phil Davidson
Stephen V. Davoren
John R. Dougery
Marilyn Hagerman Miller
Herbert Nobriga
Rose Triplett Perry
Robert J. Ravano
Raymond Soto
Laurie Phillips Whitsel

1959

Phyllis A. Riley Bazzano
Patricia McFeely Belding
John P. Burke
Richard A. McGregor
Marlene Costa Nielsen
David A. Woolsey

1960

Jim Canty
James C. Dietrich
Judith Kollmeyer Geiselman
Bea Steffensen Hallenbeck
Marcia McKeirman Haro McAuliffe
Valerie Kercher Hasson
John D. Heagerty
Kathleen Cummings Jordan
Patricia Santi McMillan
Kerry J. Murphy
Nancy Farnan Oliver
Robert D. Rivers
James Salber
Judith Blout Sanchez
Geraldine Graham Sandor
Constance Tobin Sturdy
Marilyn Baeta Teghtmeyer †

1961

LaVerne Murillo Aguirre-Parmley
David Dold
Earl R. JOHson
Sharon Schmitt Kluball
Thomas Lotz
Stephen R. Petersen
Kathleen Schmidt Padilla

1962

James A. Aguiar
Helen Yolland Bakke
Mary Frances Corcoran Barranti
John M. Burns
Phillip M. Dobbins †
Heide Aguirre Happoldt
Robert F. Jardine
Carol Koerlin Kloninger-Piper
Pamela Ellis Mack
Daniel J. O'Keefe

Dani Zablocki Parker
Diane L. Steccone Smahlik
Wesley P. Smith
Donna McKenzie Soto
Arthur J. Spencer
Victoria Bramsman Srago
Kenneth B. Walters

1963

Suzanne Montali Brennan
Michael A. Brodick
Joan Guettinger Carter
Kevin J. Donahue
Jane Mullen Gates
Robert Hall
Judith Schiavenza Madigan
Anne M. Doran Marchetti
Gertrude McCulloch
Richard J. Moore
Richard Murphy
George T. Pekkari
Linda K. Leighton Quick
Josefa Tozer Scholz

1964

Patricia Mitchell Bartholomeu
Grace Prindiville Campbell
Kenneth M. De Cesare
Patrick W. Golden, Jr.
Catherine Kirby Levinson
Marjorie Matthews
Mary C. Oppedahl
Judith Logan Smith
Diane L. Wydler

1965

Christopher S. Burns
Georgia A. Reynolds Burns
Rodrigo T. Calvao, Jr.
Donna M. Chenier
Robert C. Colyar
Suzanne Schofield Connolly
Paulette Rivard Cummings
Cheryl Delahoussaye
George F. Farley
Thomas Gilfether
Maggie Pullman Graney
Marian Mendonza
Dennis Monohan
Vickie Barrious Poitevin
John R. Rampa
Mary Ann Rokovich
Gregory P. Schmidt †
Carolyn H. Serrao
Patricia Menghini Walters

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JoAnn M. Carpaneto Bergesen
William J. Correia
Veronica S. Raphael Faussner
Mary Schneider Hanlon
William R. Jarvis
Thomas A. Lerone
Cherrie Nanninga
Jay Nelson
Julia O'Kane
Susan Dold Rampa
Kathleen Parker Ramsay
Terri Texeira
Edmond E. Traille
Yvette Velarde
Cecelia Andrews Zimmerling

1967

Elizabeth Davis Blasius
Dennise Burgess
Michael A. Caruso
Ralph E. Costa
David W. Dixon
Reginald A. Edwards
Tim E. Graney
Brian E. Harkness
Richard F. Holmes †
Douglas Hudson
James R. Kohles
Michael McGuire
Linda Oakes Perkins
James M. Schiavenza
J. Catherine Camacho Snelling
Mary V. Walsh
James R. White

1968

Karen Biancalana-Lambricht
Edda M. Browne Caraballo
Rosemary Santich Costa
Paul E. Dolan III
Terrence E. Gentle
Ann J. Chiappelone Graves
Donald E. Keeley
Tom McCoy
James P. Negri
Paul B. Schmidt
Pat J. Sinnott
Donna Rumulo Vannucci
David Wilson

1969

Theresa Light Ajuria
Karen Keefe Ashiku

Joseph Choy †
Margaret Piper Choy
Brian T. Donahue
Michael M. Frandy
Dennis M. Kohles
Carolyn Cranston Lott
Thomas P. Roberson
Randal L. Thornally
Monica L. Hayes Younghein

1970

Elizabeth J. Cabraser
Debbie VanHecke Cuzner
Laurent I. Edwards
Dennis J. Egan
Cynthia Amiotte Lavagetto
Nancy J. Negri
Julie A. Wilson Petrini
Joseph E. Raphael
Robert Scarpa
Christine A. Songey Schmitz
Douglas M. Taylor
John C. Tibbetts, Jr.
Jane Ratto Traversa
Mary Henry Welschmeyer
Nick Welschmeyer

1971

Stephen M. Avery
John A. Cecconi, Sr.
Rhonda G. Dijeau
Stephen Dunn
Kathleen Sereda Glaub
Janet Capurro Graham
Diane Songey Twomey
Claudia Heinemann Walker

1972

Joseph T. Barry
Margaret R. Connelly
Nancy Souza Gilfillan
Mark T. Hubbard
Ed Levy
Anita Gurrea Littman
Richard G. Logan, Jr.
Charles Slyngstad
Neal Vandendriesche

1973

Anonymous
Pamela Warner Berry
Margaret Campos
Edward J. Dold
Sally M. Elizares
Martin G. Friedrich
Kevin J. Hatheway
Mark D. Muller

Lisa Nicolini
Richard J. Owyang

1974

Susan Paul Alton
C. K. Canning
Leonidia F. Gonsalves
Anthony Grundy
Carol W. Heard
Elizabeth A. Cammerer Letz
Loretta Cumming Meyer
John S. Muller
Stephanie A. Ragland
Michael Raphael
Steven F. Sciamanna
Frederick M. Turner

1975

Anonymous
Karin Rimel Amour
Bridget McBride Belick
Lori KovenChambers
Dale Hampton Muller
Thomas O. Powell
Edward J. Ritelli, Jr.
Teresa Sorisio Ritelli
Kathleen M. Rueger
Anne E. Symens-Bucher
Margaret M. Valva
Ivy LeBlanc Wagner

1976

Al Carrasco
Jennifer Pettis Farros
Mark I. Leyva
Lisa Coffey Mahoney
Robert D. Mahoney
Alisa A. Morua
Daniel J. Schneider
John Tessandori
Michael F. Ward

1977

Richard J. Cadenasso
James Frei
Jan Ushijima Frei
Joel Gudger
Maureen Barry Tyree
Michael R. Ward

1978

Marianne Mosher Carrasco
William M. Gonsalves III
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Stephen K. Woo

1979

Raquel Brigham Brown
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Eamonn F. Dolan
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Michael J. Huaco
Sheila Coffey Kilty
Janice C. Walters Kroll
Katherine McGinty Naas
Laurie Sheperd Page
Michael Rezente
Amy E. Wheat Rumberger

1980

Steven A. Callaway
Leonard Charles III
Katie Durkin Cronin
Kelly Cronin
Genevia Gee Fulbright
Peter J. Nuti
Ronald A. Ratto
Paul A. Schmidt
Jeannine Willits Songey

1981

Francis P. Chan
Michael J. Cooke
Brion F. Daniels
Danielle Duffy O'Brien
Patrick J. Flood
Michael R. Hester
Brent A. LeBoa
Brian D. Lucky
Jason Maas
Diane Mascote McRae/
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Rick Nygren
Leslie Sims Robertson
Roderick Roche
Nicole DeMarais Shaw
Carrie Govan Skelly
Daryl K. Tom
Michael Waldrip
Antonette Gullatt West
Theresa Rush Woo

1982

Sabrina Chaumette
Stephen L. Daniels
Kathleen Doherty-Smith

Christine MacDonald Downs
Reginald Hamilton
Adrienne Guyton Hogg
Warren Hogg
Stephen T. Holloway
Derreck Johnson
John R. Murray
Julie Smith Richardson
David A. Rinetti
Mercele Y. Seale
Christopher D. Sooy

1983

Lori Govan Adams
Douglas J. Anderson
Andrew J. Armanino
Douglas S. Atkinson
Sharon R. Correia
Kathleen U. Scannell Flood
Rhonda M. Jackson Morris
Suzanne Nuti Peterson
Marin A. Rodriguez
Liwayway Berry Ronzone
Laurence A. Walters
Sheba Y. Whitfield
Keith D. Wright
Dana Ciraulo Young

1984

Lisa Umezawa Bunn
Daniel Copenhagen
Brian D. Cushing
Cathleen Lanigan Doucette
Patricia Hennigan Dunne
Brenda Lewis Jackson
Christopher W. Kahn
Stuart M. Maus
Sarah M. Miller
Leon Natsues
James F. Nettleton
Dante A. Rodriguez
Monica A. Sullivan
Laurence M. Toney
John Valva
Craig M. Wallace
David J. Wulff

1985

Tracey N. Broadhead Frith
Lisa Brue
Michael Cameron
Patrick Connolly
Okashi Robles
Robert L. Roddy

1986

Tamulia Dalke

Margaret B. Dunlap
Crystal Raine Johnson
Andrew Jones
J. Robert Krug
Brian P. Lee
Rebecca C. Perata
Karen Bozzone Raven

1987

Petra S. Rodriguez Camacho
Kech Collins Carera
Thomas N. Duffy
Jordona Elderts
Scott D. Gathey
Yolanda Harvey-Patton
Michael C. Humphrey
Christopher Nettleton
Phillip Palmer
Kimberly Papillon-Toure
Paul J. Robinson
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1988

Cara Logan Brockbank
Ryan A. Brockbank
Kevin P. Hester
Robert E. Huber
Alexandra M. Kovach
Leslie A. Mladinich
Michelle A. Thompson Moir
Paulette Bickers Roddy
Michelle M. Russi
Leila Bulling Towne
Mark Wayland

1989

Anonymous
Michele A. Colgan
Grace Gamoso Curcio
Nancy Wilkins Fitzpatrick
Megan L. Foley
Amy Duffy Hester
Christopher J. Kuesel
Kathleen Bozzone Olmos
Llewellyn B. Richie
Jennifer Rusk Thomas
Meghan Bailey Wallingford

1990

Adria G. Ibarra
Quisqueya M. Rodriguez

1991

Sherri A. Carpenter
Christian A. Green
Alexander D. Grell
Robert E. Kreitz

Mario G. Perez
Brian K. Rogers
Aniesha I. Sapp

1992

Jason J. Beito
Adam E. Herndon
Brian J. Loeffler
Brian M. Payawal
Aimee L. Tom

1993

Juliet A. Arechiga
Gerald D. Bennett
Emerson A. DuBois
Tarik Glenn
Johnna Concannon Grell
Jane S. P. Schmitz
Laura L. Thirion
Monica Kearney Yu

1994

Burr H. Hilsabeck
Amy C. Nolin LeBold
Jessica W. Y. Ng
Daniel H. Stephens
Khari E. Stockey

1995

Shannon M. Donahue
Maira P. Srago Kolasinski
Michael W. Meyers
Monique L. Tascoe-Burris

1996

Takiyah N. Brooks
Leah M. Casey
Else G. Dittmer
Erik L. Kriens
John R. Leabee
Cara D. Power Marasco
Jaseon S. Outlaw

1998

Karen L. Fleming
Kevin P. Reimers
Starr L. Saunders
Julie R. Florence White

1999

Justin R. Fritzsche
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2000

Anne Hester
Brandon A. Sims
Anna R. Temple

2001

Patrice Wakeley

2002

Mario Palestini

2003

Jessica C. Morehead Vassallo
Phing Y. Yam

2005

Daniel J. Hess

2006

Ronny L. Smith

2007

Michael S. Lineberry

2009

Zosha A. Adam

2011

Andrew G. McFann
Sarah L. Raven

2012

Mackenzie Berliner-Glasser
Caroline R. Counts
Alyssa V. Rollins

2015

Amanda M. Raven

2016

Alexandra Gonzalez
Amit Nagdev

2017

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Jourdan R. Amen
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Ethan R. Baker-Greene
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Matts Benson
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THE SENIOR CLASS GIFT

The Class of 2017 achieved record level giving by raising over \$96,200 to create a class scholarship gift. A matching gift of \$22,000 from **Don and Ellie Knauss** inspired early giving in September. With the match, the total class gift was \$118,200, which was presented at the Baccalaureate Mass. Funds from the scholarship will be awarded annually to students in financial need who would otherwise be unable to attend O'Dowd.

The campaign was led by volunteer students and parents. **Jessica Delaney '17**, one of the senior philanthropy officers, attended St. Philip Neri School prior to O'Dowd and appreciates the value of a Catholic education and a caring community like O'Dowd. "I donated because I know my money is going to help another student receive a top quality education that they probably wouldn't have had the opportunity to experience otherwise."

O'Dowd is eternally grateful to the Class of 2017 students and their families for creating such a meaningful gift.



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The Bishop O'Dowd High School endowment fund grew 15% in 2016-2017 due to the Knauss family endowment match and the many alumni, parents and friends who participated in the challenge.

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ONE WORD:
"Grace"

"I came into O'Dowd as a perfectionist, but my teachers and mentors taught me how to accept my own faults and react to others' mistakes with grace. As an alumna, the compassion and graciousness I learned from the O'Dowd community are an important part of who I am."

—Alyssa Rollins '12



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ONE WORD:
 "Home"

"The O'Dowd community is one of my homes. A place where I can be myself, I can grow and help students be their best selves. It is a faith community that is shaping human beings to make our world a better place. I come to O'Dowd and leave each day with tremendous joy."

— Brian Judd,
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ONE WORD:
 "Connections"

"The connections I've made and continue to make from being part of the O'Dowd community make me proud to say I am an alumnus and a parent of two current students. These connections are powerful and often lead to more opportunities."

— Lisa Brue '85



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In Memoriam

Former O'Dowd Faculty Member/Coach Joe Vanni Passes Away

Joe Vanni, the man considered the “Father of O’Dowd Football,” passed away on March 22. He was 83.

A member of the O’Dowd Hall of Fame Class of 2004, Vanni served at O’Dowd from 1966-1973. He taught PE and driver’s education, and coached both varsity football and track.

It was because of his persistence that football was introduced as a sport in the fall of 1970. **John Cecconi ’71**, who served as a varsity team captain during the inaugural season, said the entire O’Dowd community owes a debt of appreciation and gratitude to Vanni.

“What is taken for granted today, was a major undertaking and leap of faith back in 1970. Coach Vanni single-handedly built the program from the ground up, from its basic organization to performing all the fundraising,” Cecconi said.

Former O’Dowd Vice Principal and Dean of Studies for Boys **Jack Dold** said Vanni was a wonderful teacher, loyal to the school, and devoted to his students.

When it came to football, Dold said Vanni’s “energy carried us through some very lean years as we learned how to play the game.”

Kevin Donahue ’63, who taught and coached at O’Dowd from 1968-1974, said Vanni was a great mentor. “He took me under his wing and taught me the ropes of teaching,” Donahue said.

Donahue also served as an assistant football coach under Vanni. “I knew nothing about football at the time. But Joe taught me about football and also track.

That gave me a better appreciation for other sports, which really helped me when I became an athletic director (Donahue served as the athletic director at San Mateo’s Junipero Serra High School for 30 years).

Vanni is survived by seven of his eight children Vicki Austin, Danny Vanni, Dominic Vanni, Louie Vanni, Gina Prince, Anna Smylie and Vincent Vanni, 13 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Read more about Vanni at

www.bishopodowd.org/former-odowd-faculty-membercoach-joe-vanni-passes-away



Former O'Dowd Teacher Paul Seishas Passes Away

Former O'Dowd religion teacher and senior class moderator Paul Seishas passed away on May 5. Seishas served at O'Dowd from 1974-1983, before joining the faculty at Jesuit High School in Sacramento, where he served for 32 years as a counselor before retiring in 2015. He also served as an adjunct professor of counseling psychology at the University of San Francisco, and established the ACT (Affiliation of Catholic Therapists) for Today, a Catholic faith based ministry that serves the Sacramento Diocese.

Current O'Dowd Religion teacher **Doug Vierra** was hired to replace Seishas when he moved on to Jesuit High in 1983, and recalled how wonderfully helpful Seishas was in helping him get acclimated.

“He helped me prep to teach Living & Dying and Human Development, which were courses he had personally developed and introduced,” Vierra said. “He literally photocopied every page of his teaching binder - in those days lesson plans were handwritten - and gave me summaries of all the videos he used. I couldn't have done it without him.”

Paul is survived by his wife, Kathleen, four adult children and two granddaughters. His brother Armond is the principal of St. Joachim School in Hayward. Read more about Seishas at www.bishopodowd.org/former-odowd-teacher-paul-seishas-passes-away



Remembering Former Faculty Member Eric Thiel '70

Former O'Dowd faculty member Eric Thiel '70 passed away suddenly from a heart attack on June 3 – just a day after retiring as a teacher from Amador Valley High School where he served for 25 years.

While at O'Dowd (1976-1985), he taught AP Biology, Biology, Marine Biology, Human Anatomy & Physiology, and Photography. He served as science department chairperson (1979-1985), Director of Student Activities, and coached volleyball and golf.

“Eric was a joyful guy. Always smiling, frequently laughing, and always wanting to have fun. He truly didn't have a mean or malicious bone in his body. He was a true competitor, but never in a cutthroat way. And that was Eric's impact on his students. No matter a student's mood going into Eric's classroom, out to his practice, sitting around him in the gym watching a basketball game, or standing with him bs-ing around the flagpole during lunch, students went away more joyful and optimistic than they were entering his presence,” former O'Dowd English teacher **Lee Lipps** said.

“When you are part of a school's faculty, you hear both positive and negative things from your students about others of their teachers, past and present. I never once heard a negative about 'Mr. Thiel',” Lipps added.

Thiel is survived by his wife, Kelly, his four children, Julie, Ryan, Zach and Noah, and his grandchildren Colby and Brady. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Leslie Ramos Thiel '70, who died of cancer in 2003. Read more about Thiel at www.bishopodowd.org/former-faculty-member-eric-thiel-70-passes-away



In Memoriam

Pearl C. Arhontes '57

Wife of James K. Arhontes, mother of Jimmy (Nancy), Robert, Steven (Karen) and Stacy (Bill Petrone) Arhontes, and grandmother of Amanda, Jason, A.J., Alyssa and Kylie Arhontes

Alfred Richard Bucher

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Brother of Laurie Mariman '65 and Mark Mariman '66, brother-in-law of Linda Adamo Mariman '67 and uncle of Jennifer Mariman '01

Javier Melendez-Zayas '13

Son of Julius Melendez and Patricia Zayas

William "Bill" Merletti '74

Husband of Linda, father of Kathleen and Angela, and brother of Robert '75 and Richard '77 Merletti

Patrick Murphy '70

Brother of Mike '62, Theresa '66, Dennis, Peggy, Lori, Tami, Sally, Penny, Debbie, John and Timothy (deceased) Murphy

John Normart '59**Anne Prindiville '67**

Sister of Grace Prindiville Campbell '64

Robert Raymer

Husband of Judi Raymer and father of Chantal Raymer Walsh '88 and Elise Raymer Roper '88

Heinz Billoh Rosener '08

Son of Zainab and Gus Fallay and brother of Mahda Fallay

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Husband of Kathleen "Cab" Rogers and father of Andy '85 (Janine), Matt '87 (Amy), Brian '91 (Katie) and John '93 (Lynnsay) Rogers

Paul Seishas, former faculty member

Husband of Kathleen Seishas

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Mother of the late Barry '70, Barbara '74 and Todd '77 (Rosemary) Sorce

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Wife of James Teghtmeyer

Eric Thiel '70, former faculty member

Husband of Kelly, father of Julie, Ryan, Zach and Noah, and grandfather of Colby and Brady

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Husband of Cecilia Tonsing, father of Cathy Tonsing O'Sullivan (Bob) '86 and Mike Tonsing Jr. (Sally Mason), and grandfather of Ellie, Erin and Amelia

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Joe Vanni, former faculty member

Father of Vicki Austin, Danny Vanni, Dominic Vanni, Louie Vanni, Gina Prince, Anna Smylie and Vincent Vanni, 13 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren

Gary Votto

Husband of Kim and father of Brittany '04 and Briana '07 Votto

Jack Wilkes

Grandfather of Olivia '12 and Ryan '15 Seideman

Josephine Wunderlich

Mother of Karen Stradford '94

Bishop O'Dowd High School encourages *The Dragon* readers to forward to the school copies of obituary notices about the passing of O'Dowd community members so that the names of the deceased can be listed in the In Memoriam section of this magazine. Please send the notices to Lisa Coffey Mahoney '76, c/o Bishop O'Dowd High School, 9500 Stearns Ave., Oakland, CA 94605, or e-mail them to lmahoney@bishopodowd.org. Note: Listings are based on information known at press time and may not include all surviving family members.



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