





“Post Oak is the kind of school where we motivate each other to be self-motivated.” Post Oak alumna Jennie Kamin made that statement ten years ago as an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student while being interviewed for the film *Doorway to Lifelong Learning*, and it is more true than ever today.

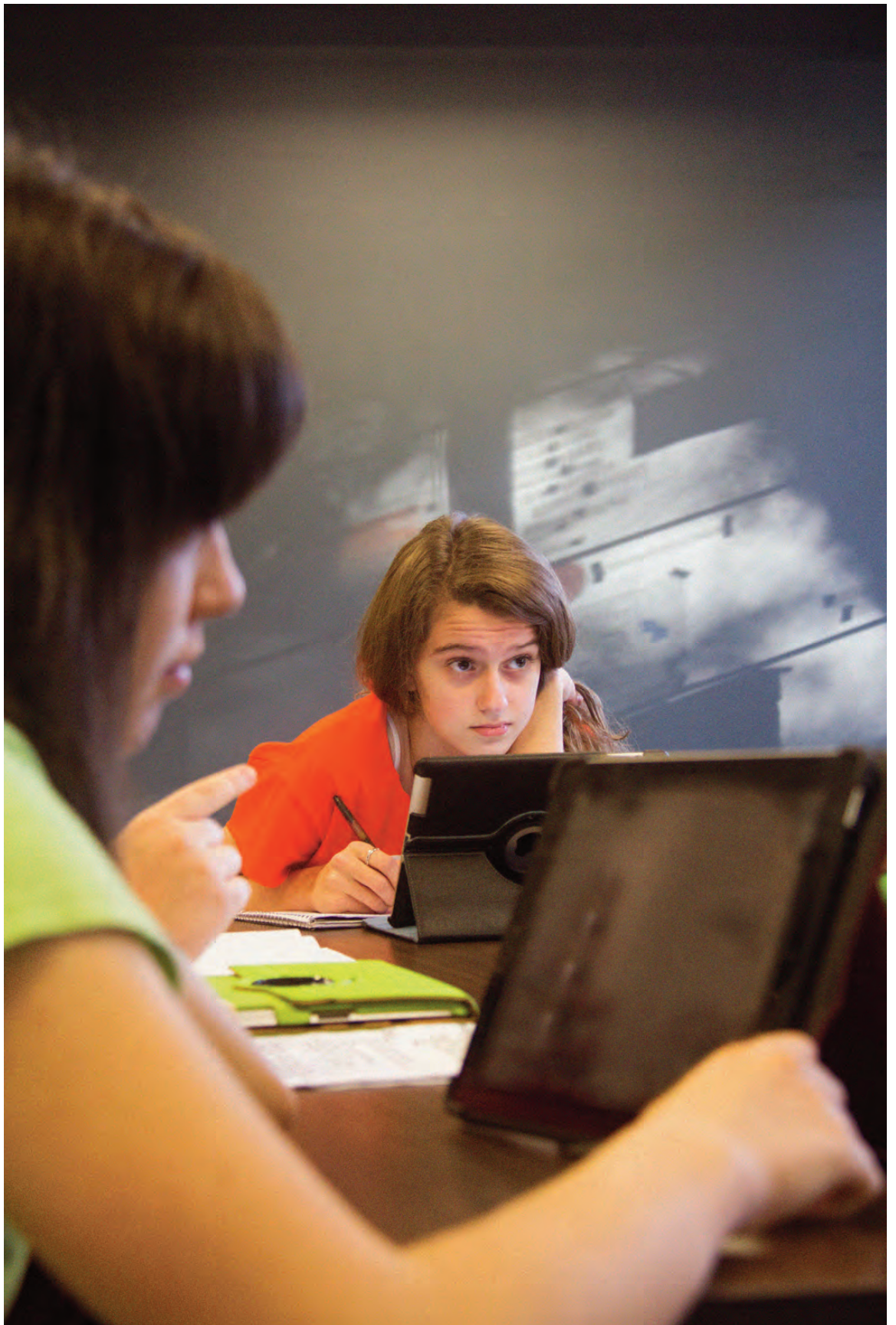
A graphic showing the number '18%' in a stylized font. The '1' is orange, the '8' is orange, and the '%' symbol is green.

*Our Interdisciplinary Network*—Post Oak High School students spent about 18 percent of their weekly hours outside of school in partnering activities with organizations around the museum district. This included art classes at the Glassell Junior School, research at the University of St. Thomas and Rice University, and many visits to the Houston Museum of Natural Science and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.

In our contemporary world of “race to the top” and “no child left behind,” many critics say we have left *all* children behind; that high stakes testing has gutted our schools. In response, for the past 15 years the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)\* has examined students’ school experience and the factors impacting motivation and lifelong learning.

In the spring of 2013, Post Oak’s high school students participated in the High School Survey of Student Engagement (HSSSE) along with 27,000 other high school students in private and public schools nationwide. Even compared to this self-selected group of schools that explicitly value student engagement, Post Oak High School students exhibited higher levels of engagement and demonstrated that their school is measurably different from other private and public schools.

\* What is ‘student engagement’ and why does it matter? Students are engaged when they are involved in their work, persist despite challenges and obstacles, and take visible delight in accomplishing their work. Student engagement also refers to a “student’s willingness, need, desire and compulsion to participate in, and be successful in, the learning process promoting higher level thinking for enduring understanding.”



When compared to these other schools, Post Oak High School students described significantly higher levels of: teacher and student support; engagement in class discussions; creativity; community involvement; idea and information comprehension and analysis; use and mastery of technology; building positive relationships; critical thinking; class participation; writing; peer collaboration; and connecting ideas from one class with another.

*Overview of Respondents*—In the spring of 2013, more than 27,000 students completed the high school survey of student engagement from 25 states located in all regions of the United States. Participating schools ranged in student population from 35 to 2,352 students. Public schools comprise all respondents including charter, alternative and magnet schools. Private schools are both residential and non-residential independent schools.

# High School Survey of Student Engagement

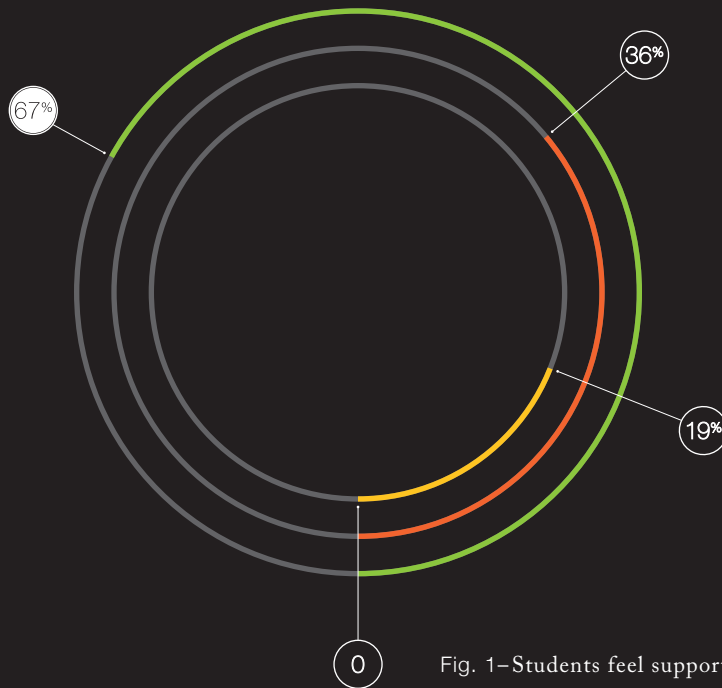


Fig. 1—Students feel supported by other students

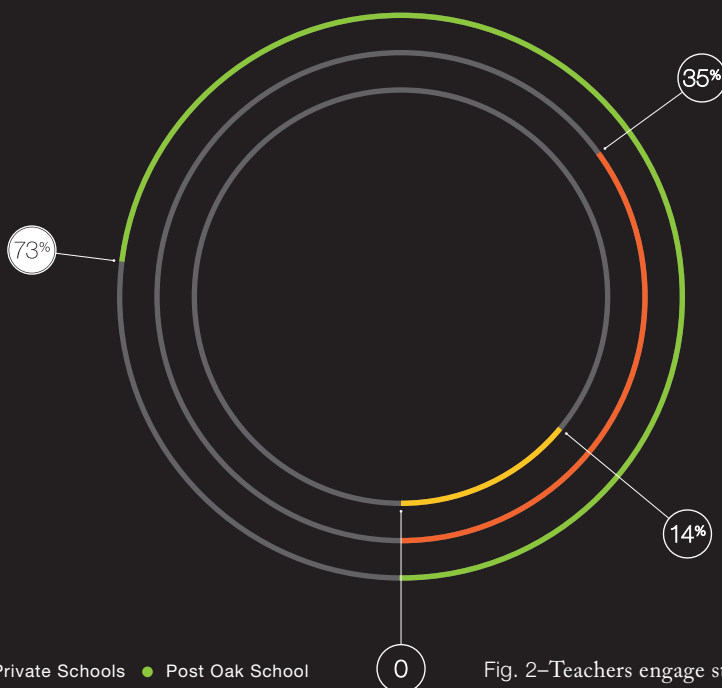


Fig. 2—Teachers engage students in class discussions

● Public Schools ● Private Schools ● Post Oak School

*Percent students responding "strongly agree."  
Other options were: agree, disagree and strongly disagree.*

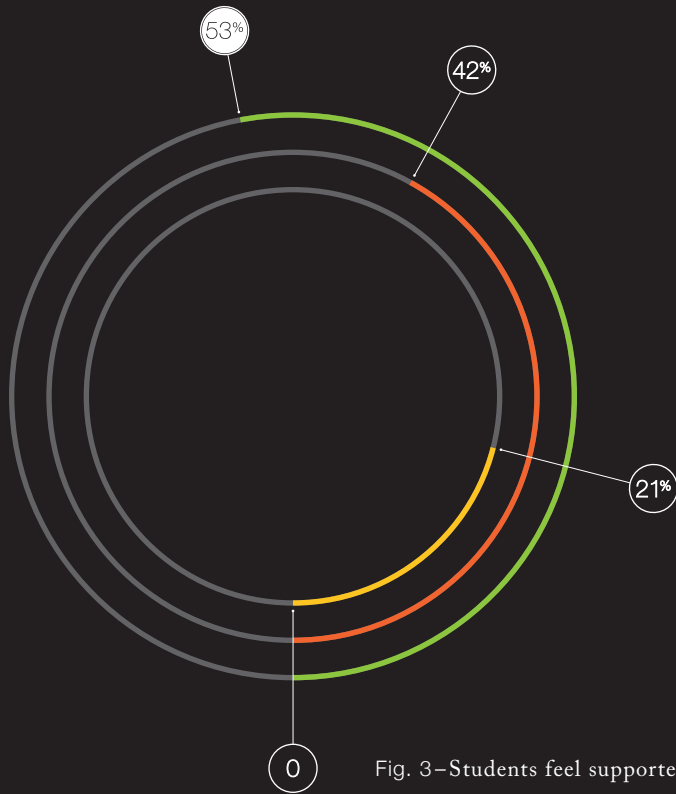


Fig. 3—Students feel supported by teachers

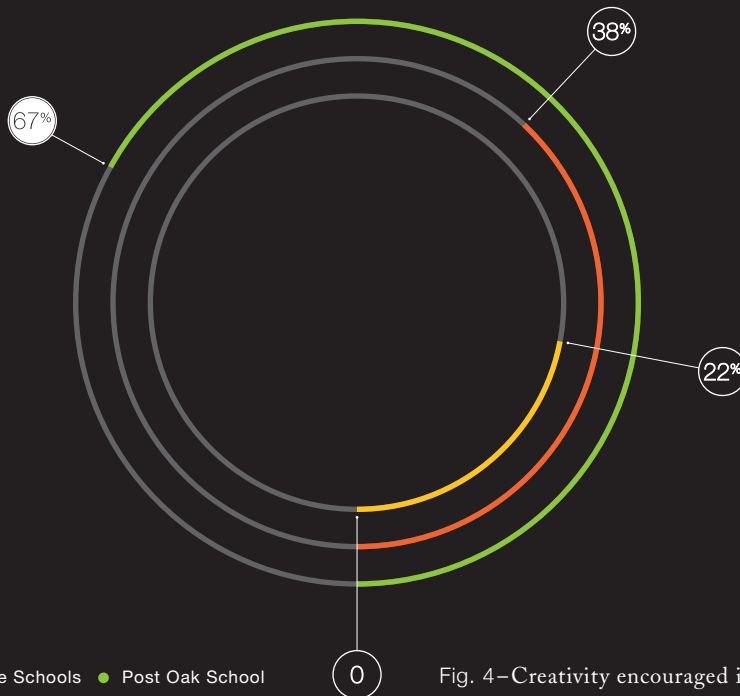


Fig. 4—Creativity encouraged in class assignments

● Public Schools ● Private Schools ● Post Oak School

*Percent students responding "strongly agree."  
Other options were: agree, disagree and strongly disagree.*



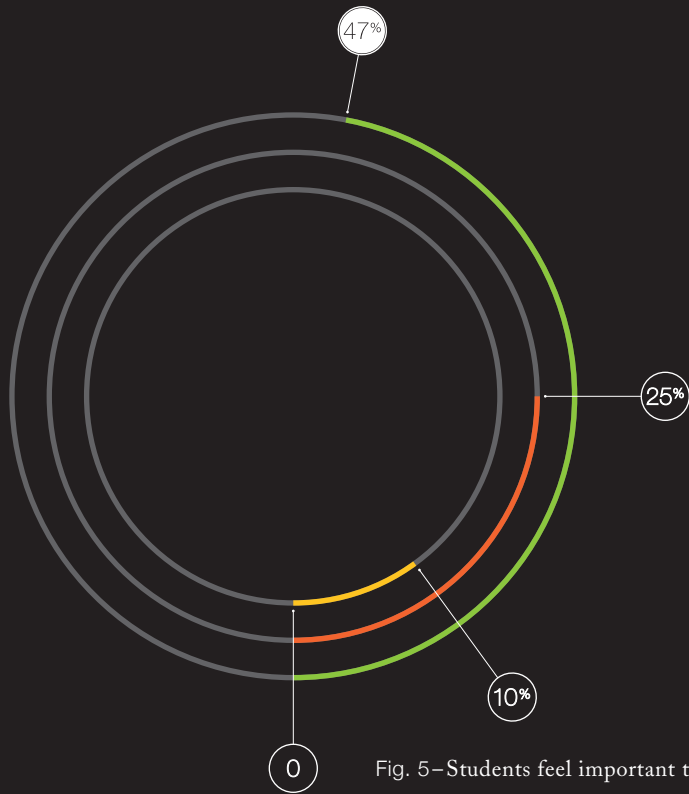


Fig. 5-Students feel important to their community

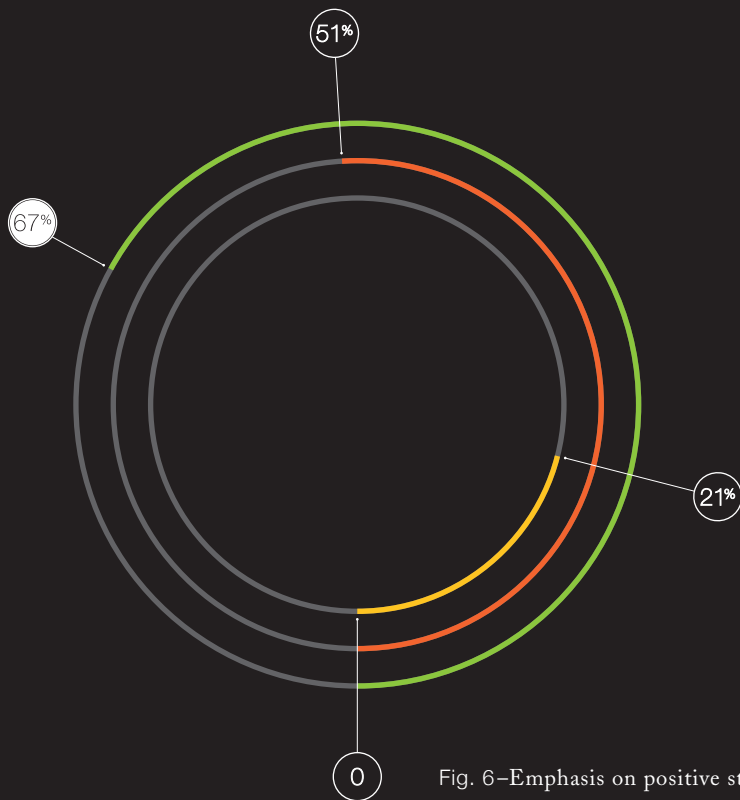


Fig. 6-Emphasis on positive student relationships

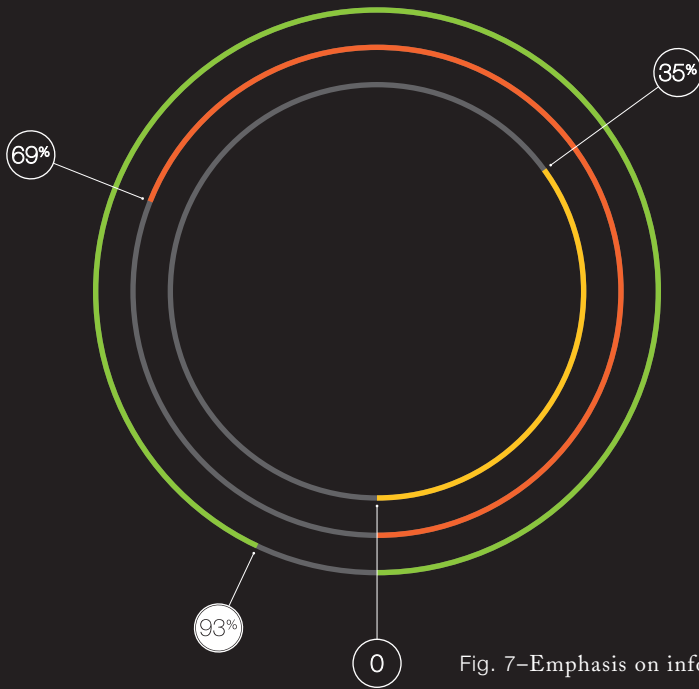


Fig. 7—Emphasis on information comprehension

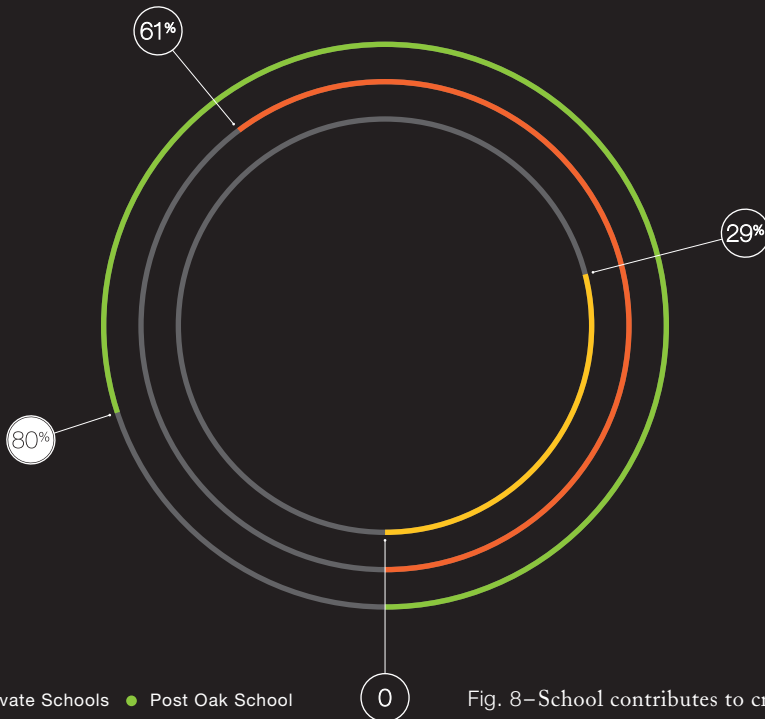


Fig. 8—School contributes to critical thinking skills

● Public Schools ● Private Schools ● Post Oak School

*Percent students responding "strongly agree."  
Other options were: agree, disagree and strongly disagree.*

This is what we expect a Post Oak student to experience at all levels, from infant community to primary to elementary to middle school to high school: high levels of engagement with an emphasis on critical analytical thinking, active and creative work, understanding ideas and information, asking questions, connecting concepts, constructive feedback from teachers, collaboration with peers, positive and supportive relationships with classmates and teachers.

*An Entrepreneurial Curriculum*—Each January Post Oak High School students participate in courses that they help design. Ideas for the courses come from both students and faculty and the courses are collaboratively designed. The courses are opportunities for students to pursue topics that connect directly with their interests. this year students explored history through computer simulations, psychological research through observation in the field, and entrepreneurial design and process.

The high school start-up was our 'shiny penny' last year. At the same time, Post Oak's teacher training center, the Houston Montessori Institute (HMI), welcomed its inaugural class of nineteen trainees. HMI attracted students from around the world and over three summers will prepare them to be Montessori primary teachers. The Institute confers a diploma under the authority of the Association Montessori Internationale (AMI), and is also affiliated with Loyola University Maryland which grants credits toward an M.Ed.

4600

*Technology Enhancements*—During 2012-2013, Post Oak initiated several technology upgrades to augment the school's commitment to providing ease of access to the latest online educational resources. Upgrades included: the installation of an enterprise level wireless system, an update of our internet bandwidth at 4600 to accommodate growth of in-cloud services, and the purchase of iPads and apps for high school students, as well as, e-readers and e-books for middle school students.





19

*Montessori Teacher Training*—The Houston Montessori Institute, certified by both Association Montessori Internationale (AMI) and the Texas Workforce Commission, opened with 19 students for the first session of a three-year program this summer. The program will train teachers to understand the fundamental nature of childhood, and thereby enable children to grow and develop according to their natural dispositions.

These two new programs came about after several years of preparatory work, and so a successful Year One for each of them was hard-earned and duly celebrated by the board of trustees, administration, faculty and parents. Over the past five years we have also been working to accommodate the growth of our elementary and middle school programs. During that time frame we have added new classrooms for lower elementary and upper elementary, and last year's class of eighth graders was the largest ever in the middle school. Now we need to consolidate that growth through construction, creating additional space on the main campus. The Board and administration worked intensively with the architects and the contractor last year, and will continue to do so in the year ahead. Construction is planned to begin in June 2014. We have simultaneously launched the BIGWork Capital Campaign to fund the building renovations as well as to cover start-up costs for the high school and training center. The response from current and alumni parents and foundations has been generous and we anticipate the successful conclusion of the campaign in the year ahead.

*Authentic Academic Experiences*—The teachers of the middle school implemented the science occupations for the first time during the 2012-2013 school year. The work of the students in the occupations included the creation of a sundial by the astronomy occupations group, and the successful execution of an art exhibit by the photography occupations group. Another example of student self-expression was the production of *Our Town*.

The word "Sci" is rendered in a stylized, hand-drawn outline font. The letter 'S' is orange, 'C' is yellow, and 'i' is green. The 'i' has a small green dot above it.

While these strategic initiatives have demanded much attention from the board of trustees and some key administrative staff, the core work of the school, the daily classroom work of students and teachers, has carried on with focused energy and singular purpose—which brings us back full circle to the question of student engagement and ultimately, to the impact of Montessori education. When tech entrepreneur Jeremy Allaire was asked by *The New York Times* about his most important leadership lessons, he said, “One of the most important influences early on was being educated in a Montessori setting. The Montessori ethos was very formative for me because it built into me a belief in self-direction, in independent thought, in peer collaboration, in responsibility.”

—John Long, Head of School







## Our Generous Community Giving

To Post Oak's parent community...thank you! Through your generous gifts of time, talent, and support, the life of the school was enhanced in many ways. Parents chaired and volunteered for multiple community events such as POPA Dinner, Field Day, and Book Fair. Classroom experiences were enriched by the ongoing work of parents as chaperones, helpers, presenters, and room parents. And our fundraisers met with new levels of success thanks to parent leadership.

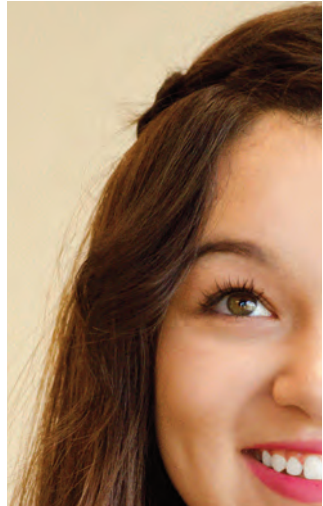
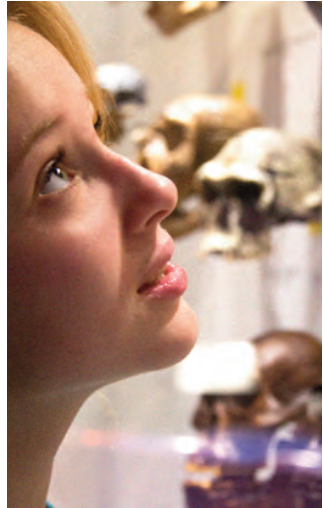
Our three Post Oak Parent Association (POPA) Chairs, Laura Citardi, Jessica Gregg, and Whitney Walsh, led the parent volunteer efforts. We recognize their hard work and achievements that helped fill the school year with energy and optimism. That vitality was carried on into the spring season with the 2013 Biennial Gala, Friday Night Fever. With exceptional leadership, organization, and direction, gala chairs, Jian Short and Erin Stus, created a disco-dancing extravaganza which grossed over \$465,000, making it a record-breaking event at Post Oak.

Parents continued to show generous support through their tremendous response to the annual Post Oak Fund. With 97 percent parent participation and \$286,000 raised, this annual effort also had a record-breaking year. Chaired by parent, Paula Mey, this year's campaign was a focus on educating Post Oak families on the importance of the annual fund and the impact it has across all levels in the school. Working with a dedicated group of Class Captains, Paula and her team did an outstanding job.

Behind the scenes, our BIGWork Capital Campaign was in its beginning phases. Chaired by alum parents, Melanie Gray and Mark Wawro, Honorary Chairs, Laurie and Leland Fondren, and Parent Chairs, Anita and Alan Ying, this major capital campaign passed the halfway point of its \$6 million goal. Our campaign chairs worked hard all year and will continue the charge into the next school year.

To each and every parent who stepped up to lend a hand or make a donation, thank you. Everyone working together makes Post Oak the best it can be.





The financial stability of the Post Oak School continued during the 2012–2013 school year as we enrolled our first class of ninth graders in The Post Oak High School.

Our audited financial statements for the 2011–2012 school year resulted in an increase in net assets of \$756,801. The unaudited results for the 2012–2013 school year show an increase in net assets for all funds of \$2,376,733. The School experienced level enrollment on the main campus of 401 students and an addition of 15 students for the entering class of the High School.

The overall financial success for the 2012–2013 school year was driven by positive budget variances in the operating budget, an extremely successful gala and annual fund as well as receipts of over \$2 million for our capital campaign. The three individual loans used for the purchase and construction of the high school property in the Museum District were consolidated and refinanced with Bank of America for a 15-year term at 4 percent. The debt service on these loans will be serviced by the operating budget of the high school. The School utilized the last of the cash reserves during 2012–2013 and will rebuild these following the completion of the construction project on the main campus. The School maintains a strong working capital position throughout the year due to the prompt collection of tuition and fees in advance of the need for funds to operate the School. In keeping with our commitment to the Post Oak School Endowment the school was able to transfer \$32,500 at the close of the 2012–2013 school year.

The investment policy of the Post Oak School Endowment directs a long-term investment approach. The current asset allocation target is 20 percent cash and fixed income, and 80 percent equities to maximize long-term returns. More than 80 percent of the portfolio is invested in low cost institutional asset class mutual funds managed by Dimensional Fund Advisors.

During the year ended June 30, 2013, in keeping with the School's endowment policy, a separate endowment committee was created to oversee the investments and policies relevant to sustain the long-term stability and growth of the Post Oak School Endowment. At the request of the endowment committee, an "interim" period of growth was established until such time as the endowment reaches a value of \$3 million dollars.

The combined portfolio experienced a 16.09 percent investment gain for the one-year ended June 30, 2013 and 37.66 percent since inception. The market value of the endowment accounts was \$1,362,487 at June 30, 2013.

Income Statement	<i>Operating Fund</i>	<i>Temporary Restricted</i>	<i>Endowment</i>	<i>2012-2013 Total</i>
<b>Revenue</b>				
Tuition Based Revenues	\$ 7,260,931	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 7,260,931
Other Tuition and Fees	240,623	—	—	240,623
Other Income (Loss)	1,835	—	205,157	206,992
Annual Giving	287,675	—	—	287,675
Special Events (Net)	359,309	13,400	—	372,709
All Other Giving (Net)	40,541	1,984,682	—	2,025,223
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>8,190,914</b>	<b>1,998,082</b>	<b>205,157</b>	<b>10,394,153</b>
Net Assets Released from Restriction	1,740,958	(1,740,958)	—	—
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 9,931,872</b>	<b>\$ 257,124</b>	<b>\$ 205,157</b>	<b>\$ 10,394,153</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 5,031,291	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 5,013,291
Financial Aid	653,600	—	—	653,600
Other Program Expenses	740,667	—	—	740,667
High School Start Up Expenses	53,177	—	—	53,177
Plant Expenses	913,602	—	—	913,602
General Administration	620,710	—	4,368	625,078
Total Expenses	8,013,047	—	4,368	8,017,415
Transfers In/Out	(32,500)	—	32,500	—
<b>Increase in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,886,325</b>	<b>\$ 257,124</b>	<b>\$ 233,289</b>	<b>\$ 2,376,738</b>

Consolidated Balance Sheet	<i>General Fund</i>	<i>Temporary Restricted</i>	<i>Endowment</i>	<i>2012-2013 Total</i>
<b>Assets</b>				
Total Cash and Investments	\$ 2,716,665	\$ —	\$ 1,471,714	\$ 4,188,379
Net Student Receivables	53,326	—	—	53,326
Other Pledges and Receivables Net	42,735	1,745,754	—	1,788,489
Prepaid Expenses and Other Deposits	166,878	—	—	166,878
Interfund Payables/Receivables	770,304	—	32,500	802,804
Total Current Assets	3,749,908	1,745,754	1,504,214	6,999,876
Total Fixed Assets	9,926,072	—	—	9,926,072
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 13,675,980</b>	<b>\$ 1,745,754</b>	<b>\$ 1,504,214</b>	<b>\$ 16,925,948</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Accounts Payable	\$ 144,460	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 144,460
Accrued Salaries and Benefits	317,180	—	—	317,180
Deferred Income	1,467,748	—	—	1,467,748
Interfund Payables/Receivables	32,500	765,622	4,686	802,808
Accrued Expenses	8,819	—	—	8,819
Notes Payable	2,491,927	—	—	2,491,927
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 4,462,634</b>	<b>\$ 765,622</b>	<b>\$ 4,686</b>	<b>\$ 5,232,942</b>
<b>Fund Balance</b>				
Net Assets	\$ 9,213,346	\$ 980,132	\$ 1,499,528	\$ 11,693,006
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ 13,675,980</b>	<b>\$ 1,745,754</b>	<b>\$ 1,504,214</b>	<b>\$ 16,925,948</b>

## Alumni Update

'82

### Donovan Buck

Donovan is currently the Director of Technology at BrandExtract, a company that merged with Donovan Bravo Zulu Interactive, a dot-com he founded with Malcolm Wolter in the mid-90's. He has served on the curriculum advisory boards of the Art Institute of Houston and North Harris Community College, and firmly believes in the power of continuing education.

'97

### Philip Storey

Four days before graduating from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Philip Storey competed in the Texas Ironman Triathlon. After graduation, Philip accepted a one-year Ophthalmology Research Fellowship at Wills Eye Institute in Philadelphia. Philip completed his internship in Internal Medicine at Kaiser Permanente San Francisco this past summer, and is now in sunny Los Angeles and the University of Southern California for ophthalmology residency.

### Rahim Kurji

Rahim Kurji is part of the class of 2013 at Wharton School of Business. He was elected as student body president at Brown University in 2003—the first Muslim elected to any such position in an Ivy League school. Rahim says he learned at Post Oak, "Better to fail at something big than to succeed at something small." After graduating from Brown, he spent 5 years working with pediatric AIDS patients in India for the Clinton Foundation, working on the program administration for setting up a nursing clinic.

'01

### Abbie Kamin

Abbie graduated Cum Laude from Tulane University in 2009 where she was president of the political science honors society, Pi Sigma Alpha.

Following her graduation, she remained in New Orleans to work for a mayoral campaign and from there went on to work as a paralegal in a law firm for a year.

Abbie moved to Washington, DC in 2011 to attend law school at American University. Last summer she interned with the Democratic National Committee in the voter protection department working on election law/voting issues for the presidential election. This past fall and spring she moved over to Capitol Hill and began an internship in Senator Landrieu's (D-LA) office where, among other things, she did research regarding the BP oil spill and the multi-district litigation surrounding it. This past summer, she worked as a legal intern with the minority party of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. Abbie says her move to DC was definitely a change but she is enjoying it; she does prefer Houston food and traffic to DC's!

'02

### Sam Geer

Things are well in LA. As of March I'm no longer working at Apple and am now working freelance full time. In addition to a lot of lower budget projects, I was recently a production assistant on a new NBC show called *I Am Victor* that's going to be airing later this fall.

As far as my film goes, finding the right story to tell has been more challenging than I initially anticipated. I've written and scrapped three different drafts so far in trying to find the best possible narrative to bring to life. Things are finally coming together on my latest draft, so I'm hoping to have the script ready by the fall. The plan right now is to secure financing for the film throughout the winter and to be going into production sometime in the spring of 2014, most likely April or May.

### Nick Hetherington

Everything is going great here in Los Angeles. I am currently working on the show *SportsNation* and really love it. I am getting to do some things I wasn't able to do in Bristol like segment produce a bit aside from

my normal job of cutting video for the show. Segment producing involves more writing and coming up with qualifiers which is something new that I am getting used to. I am also helping out every now and then on *NBA Countdown*. Last year capped my most successful year at ESPN as I was promoted from Production Assistant to Content Associate, getting to work on shows like the 9AM *SportsCenter* and *College Gameday* in the fall. In June, I traveled to Barcelona to visit my sister, Tina Hetherington, another POS alum, who is studying abroad there aside from working.

### Ben Jawdat

I recently finished the third academic year of the physics PhD program at the University of Houston. Some highlights from the past year include attending a conference at IBM last fall, preparing a demonstration of high temperature superconductivity for a conference at the University of Houston that marked the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of high temperature superconductivity, and presenting some of my research in a talk at an annual meeting of the American Physical Society in Baltimore this year. Over the summer months I continued my work at the Texas Center for Superconductivity here at the University of Houston.

'03

### Sam Boyar

Sam has worked for the last two years at Border to Border Exploration as a wellsite geologist. He was recently accepted to the Rice University Jones Graduate School of Business and will be leaving his job later this summer to move back to Houston and pursue an energy-focused MBA. He enjoyed getting to spend two more years working in Austin (and East Texas) after college, but is very excited about getting back to Houston and starting the next chapter in his life.

### Brittany Fondren

Brittany works in Human Resources at Cornerstone Recovery. Recently she has been working on creating a program that will help Cornerstone



better understand the correlation between parent involvement and the sustainability of their adolescent's sobriety, which she says has been very interesting.

Brittany went to Japan for a week last August with sisters and fellow Post Oak alumni, Lauren and Catherine. This summer she traveled to Juarez with Catherine to visit Lauren, who is living there as a Foreign Service Officer. She also traveled to Port O'Conner for a week in July to help out with the family fishing tournament (POCO Bueno). Brittany has also done volunteer work with Bo's Place and the Menninger Clinic.

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#### Nick Wallace

Nick is currently interning with Marathon Oil working for the IT North American Production Operations team. After spending some time in the Sheridan, Wyoming office working with the engineers as they upgrade some of their systems, he headed back to Houston to work out of Marathon's Galleria office the rest of the summer. He has been working for Marathon since his internship last summer under a College Learner program, which allowed him to work 25–30 hour weeks while taking classes. He will be graduating from UH in December with a B.B.A. in MIS (Management Information Systems).

Nick also visited Mexico City and Oaxaca last August for a couple weeks where he practiced his Spanish and ate good food. He spent Memorial Day weekend back country camping

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#### William Wawro

William recently began working as an editor at Hey Guy Media, an independent production and post-production company. He also volunteers at the Manhattan Beach aquarium in his spare time, and is counting down the days until he comes back home to visit his family and Houston. He sees fellow Post Oak alums and LA residents Sam Geer, Nick Hetherington, and Jonathan Ward frequently.

William says, "I hope The Post Oak School is doing well. I was actually espousing Montessori philosophy to some of my friends and got into a detailed discussion about the efficacy for Montessori. I was glad to find research online that supported my core beliefs in Montessori; however, I was a little disappointed by the lack of evidence for its application in a higher learning setting. I am excited about Post Oak's new high school opening and hope that it can further provide encouraging evidence for what I have known through my own experience: Montessori rocks."



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#### Jennie Kamin

Jennie lives in New Orleans where she works in film and television. In May, she worked on a production in Biloxi, Miss. which began shooting there in mid-June.

The film, a southern gothic thriller called *Artists Die Best in Black*, stars Malcolm McDowell, Hani

hopes to contribute to the revival of a post-Katrina Mississippi by training the local talent (both behind and in front of the camera) so the state can become a competitor in the lucrative national film market. The intention is for the state to follow Louisiana's lead and begin attracting large-scale productions to hire local workers and bring their business to Mississippi.

Jennie's stepfather is directing the film and her mother is on the set. Jennie says, "It has been such a fun and unique experience collaborating with my family in a professional setting like this one."

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#### Matthew McDonald

After graduating from Boston University in May 2012 with a major in percussion performance, Matthew played in Episcopal High School's musical earlier this spring (*Seussical: The Musical*). In addition to occasional teaching at EHS, he has also been playing at a church in Katy on select weekends.



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#### Stephanie Styles

Stephanie is a rising senior at the University of Michigan where she rooms with fellow Post Oak alum, Becky Bereswill. Stephanie is majoring in musical theatre and recently played the role of Johanna in *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* with Generations Theatre Company in Houston this past July.

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#### Michael Harvey

Michael spent his spring semester studying abroad through the Notre Dame London Program. He spent the semester with over a hundred other Notre Dame students living and studying in the heart of London (their classroom building was one block from Trafalgar Square), and it was an incredible experience. As an Economics and Political Science double major, Michael was able to take courses on British politics and the British economy and financial system and then enhance his learning experience with visits to Parliament and the City of London. In addition to visiting many of London's main attractions, he also

**“I am excited about Post Oak’s new high school opening and hope that it can further provide encouraging evidence for what I have known through my own experience: Montessori rocks.”**

—William Wawro '03

in Yellowstone, "...since I'm up in Wyoming. I hiked about 10 miles from a trail head in the Northern part of the park and camped for two nights, didn't see any other people the entire time, just tons of bison and elk."

Forstenberg and Luke Goss. Jennie has a supporting role in the film. While the film itself is based on a novel that is set in Biloxi, the goal of the production team bringing the film to Mississippi is actually two-fold: the staff

spent some time traveling through Europe. The highlight of his travels was being in St. Peter's Square in Vatican City for the announcement of Pope Francis and seeing white smoke emerge from the chimney above the Sistine Chapel—an experience he describes as, "truly surreal."

Over the summer months, Michael interned at Amegy Bank as a Credit Analyst Intern in their Commercial Banking Department. He is currently at Notre Dame completing his senior year.

'07

#### Gray Crawford

I've been attending a small liberal arts school, St. John's College, in Santa Fe. My studies are hugely time-consuming, but the difficulty inherent in the program provides massively fascinating information. The curriculum works out to be a double major in Philosophy and History of Mathematics & Science, and a triple minor in Comparative Literature, Classical Studies, and History of Music/Music Theory. Every class is seminar-style, with a professor (called the tutor) presiding over 18 or so students discussing the text at hand. It's all based around the classics, and only primary texts are utilized. We read from Plato to Euclid, Descartes to Bach, Kant to Newton, Heidegger to Einstein, etc... It's all quite fun to read, albeit often very challenging. We re-perform seminal experiments (Millikan's Oil Drop, Rutherford's gold foil, etc...), compose preludes, translate Sophocles, Heraclitus, and many others, track the solar motion through the ecliptic latitudes (along with understanding Ptolemy's heliocentric model before moving to Copernicus and Kepler's geocentric one), and read oh so many significant works. And write oh so many papers.

I worked as the teaching assistant for my sophomore music class, helping with analysis where the class was finding difficulties, explaining concepts in harmonics, etc..., playing examples on the piano for further assistance. It was a fun job last year,

and it was a joy to work so closely with the tutor for my music class.

'08

#### Tom Harvey

Tom spent his summer in Jerusalem on an abroad program studying inter-religious dialogue and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. He is currently a sophomore at Notre Dame.

#### Nikhil Schneider

Nikhil worked full time this summer and has now returned to the University of Houston for his sophomore year.

'09

#### Joshua Brenner

Josh graduated from St. John's School in May. The research he conducted at MD Anderson over the past year is awaiting submission to a scientific journal. This past summer Josh worked in a lab at Baylor working with T-cells before starting his freshman year in the Plan II program at the University of Texas.

#### Christina Fondren

Christina graduated from the Kinkaid School in May. In January she completed a three-week internship in New York City, and her spring was filled

University of Mississippi in the fall. She spent her summer months traveling to the Bahamas with her family.

#### Sophia Ladner

Sophia graduated from Episcopal High School in May and applied early decision and was accepted into Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts.

#### Quinn Looper

Quinn graduated from Episcopal High School in May where he received the MVP award for volleyball and the Sportsmanship Award for tennis. He was also selected Homecoming King. Quinn was very involved with ETV (Episcopal TV) during his last two years and, in addition to screenwriting, filming and editing, he was also designated Special Effects Creator.

Quinn participated in the Volleyball Junior Nationals in Reno, Nevada at the end of June. He accepted a scholarship to Juniata College in Huntingdon, Pennsylvania where he is now studying computer science and business, as well as playing men's volleyball.

#### Tim McMahon

Tim graduated from Episcopal High School in May. He was awarded medals for excellence in the study of mathematics and the study of digital arts for his senior year. Tim was also

**“The Post Oak School gave me the education and learning skills that I use to this day, and that I have used throughout high school.”**

— *Natalie Wade '09*

with graduation parties and fun events. Christina will spend time in the Bahamas and California with her family before heading off to Charlottesville to attend the University of Virginia in the fall.

#### Hailey Heck

Hailey graduated from Episcopal High School in May and will attend the

named Outstanding Moviemaker at the arts awards chapel. He is now a freshman at Vanderbilt University.

#### Gabrielle Posada

Gaby graduated from the Kinkaid School in May. She interned in a neuroscience lab at Baylor College of Medicine in the Medical Center. Gaby experienced a summer packed

of adventure, with trips to Florida, Boston, and Colombia. She also did her fair share of babysitting before she headed to Austin to study neuroscience at the University of Texas.

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#### **Natalie Wade**

Natalie graduated from St. Gregory College Preparatory School in Tucson, Arizona in May where she played varsity tennis, volunteered, and was the manager of the soccer team. Natalie says, "The Post Oak School gave me the education and learning skills that I use to this day, and that I have used throughout high school. My teachers at Post Oak were amazing: Ms. Nickerson, Mr. Pinto, Mr. Nez and Ms. Gray to name a few, and I could not imagine being the devoted student I am today without the foundations that were laid for me by the Post Oak School."

Natalie began her studies at Wake Forest University this past fall.



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#### **John Henry Styles**

John Henry committed to Stanford University to play baseball. He is currently a senior at Episcopal High School.



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#### **Christian Gray**

Christian attended the American Festival for the Arts 2013 Summer Music Conservatory at Pershing Middle School for AFA's Choral & Vocal Studies department.

She also received the Nowinski scholarship which will be used toward the conservatory tuition. Christian is now a junior at the High School for the Performing and Visual Arts.

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#### **Megan Routbort**

Megan started her junior year at St. John's School this fall. In 2013, she received two regional gold keys and a national silver medal from the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards for her journalism. She is also working as an Assignments Editor for the St. John's Review. Besides writing for

the paper, during her sophomore year Megan ran cross-country, started the SJS Mock Trial team (based on her love of the competition at POMS!), and earned the Silver Presidential Volunteer Service Award. Over the summer, Megan interned at a local law firm and continued to work as a babysitter and tutor.

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#### **Devina Schneider**

Devina, currently a junior at Episcopal High School, spent eight weeks at a Youth Conservation Corps at Yosemite National Park this past summer.

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#### **Jahnvi Schneider**

Jahnvi won 1st place in the 2D Art show at Episcopal High School for a piece titled Solar Storm. She also placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 3200m and 1<sup>st</sup> in the 1600m in track at the Southwest Preparatory Conference. Jahnvi worked at the West U Vet this summer before starting her junior year at EHS.



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#### **Tenille Tubbs**

Tenille finished her freshman year at St. John's in May. She recalls the big adjustment as she transitioned to another school—specifically noting how quiet the classrooms were compared to Post Oak—but she enjoyed her first year of high school. Her busy summer included driver's education and PSAT prep classes, as well as playing on a traveling lacrosse team.



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#### **Kate McMahon**

Kate finished her freshman year at Duke University in May. She is studying economics. This summer, she interned at a boutique investment bank in New York City. She loved the city, but Houston is in her blood. In August, Kate served as a crew leader for Project BUILD (Building Undergraduate Involvement in the Life of Durham). This project serves a comprehensive array of community service sites over an eight-day period prior to the beginning of the fall semester at Duke. Kate participated in Project BUILD last year,

and thoroughly enjoyed meeting and serving the folks in Durham. She attended Post Oak through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

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#### **Rishi Prasadha**

Rishi Prasadha is currently a Junior at Graces Memorial High School in Bakersfield, California. He's in band where he plays both the saxophone and percussion. Rishi is also on his school's water polo and swim team. Most recently, Rishi has been accepted to participate in the NYCF/MED program at UCLA. Rishi prides himself for his ability to effectively juggle the academic demand of school along with band and athletics.

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#### **Chloe Wood**

Chloe obtained a degree in neuroscience from Vassar University and is now preparing to begin her graduate studies at Stanford University. She is actively pursuing her interest in utilizing entrepreneurship and design to identify innovative ways to better serve and support people. She is currently building research to launch a new outreach program at a pediatric clinic that emphasizes wellness and higher education amongst low-income families in Houston. Her broader goal is to provide patients with brighter futures from health to education to lifetime achievement.

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*Since Post Oak alumni can be found all over the world, we rely on both traditional postal service and email to keep in contact. If you have an email address or a way to help us re-establish a Post Oak connection, please take a moment to email Jessica Jackson at [jessicajackson@postoak.school.org](mailto:jessicajackson@postoak.school.org). You can also join us on Facebook, Google+ or Twitter, or update your own information with our online form.*

## Alumni Matriculation

### High School Admissions

*During 2013 Post Oak School graduates were admitted to the following college preparatory schools:*

Awty International School\*  
Bellaire High School\*  
Duchesne Academy\*  
Emery/Weiner School\*  
Episcopal High School\*  
High School for the Performing and Visual Arts\*  
Houston Christian High School\*  
Pope John XXIII  
Post Oak High School\*  
School of the Woods  
St. Agnes Academy\*  
St. John's School\*  
St. Pius X  
St. Stephen's Episcopal School (Austin, TX)\*  
St. Thomas High School  
Strake Jesuit  
Westbury Christian  
Westchester\*

\*Denotes school attending.

### College Admissions

*Post Oak alumni populate top colleges and universities throughout the state, the nation, and abroad. College acceptances over the past nine years include:*

Alfred University  
American University  
Art Institute of Boston  
Art Institute of Chicago  
Art Institute of Houston  
Auburn University  
Austin College  
Baylor University  
Belmont University  
Boston University  
Bristol University  
Brooks Institute of Photography  
Brown University  
California College of the Arts  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Chapman University  
Christopher Newport University  
Clemson University  
College of Charleston  
Colorado College  
Colorado School of Mines  
Cranbrook Academy of Art  
Denison University  
Drew University  
Drexel University

Eckerd College  
Elon University  
Emerson College  
Evergreen State College  
Fashion Institute of Technology  
Fordham University  
Furman University  
Georgetown University  
Georgia Tech  
Gettysburg College  
Goucher College  
Hampshire College  
Ithaca College  
Juniata College  
Kansas University  
Lone Star Community College  
Louisiana State University  
Loyola University, New Orleans  
Millsaps College  
New York University  
Notre Dame University (Honors)  
Oberlin College  
Oklahoma State University  
Purdue University  
Randolph College  
Rhodes College  
Rice University  
Richmond University  
Rollins College  
San Diego State University  
San Francisco Conservatory of Music  
Sarah Lawrence College  
Savannah College of Art and Design  
Seton Hall University  
Sewanee—The University of the South  
Skidmore College  
Smith College  
Southern Methodist University  
Southwestern University  
Stanford University  
St. Edwards University  
St. John's College  
Syracuse University  
Texas A&M University  
Texas Christian University  
Texas Christian University (Honors)  
The Citadel  
The College of William and Mary  
Trinity University  
Tulane University  
University College of London  
University of Alabama  
University of Arkansas  
University of Arizona  
University of California—Los Angeles  
University of California—San Diego  
University of California—Santa Barbara  
University of California—Santa Clara  
University of Colorado—Boulder  
University of Delaware  
University of Georgia  
University of Houston

University of Houston, Cullen College of Engineering  
University of Houston (Honors)  
University of Indiana  
University of Kansas  
University of Massachusetts—Amherst  
University of Miami  
University of Michigan  
University of Mississippi  
University of New Orleans  
University of North Carolina  
University of Notre Dame  
University of Oklahoma  
University of Portland  
University of the Pacific  
University of St. Andrews  
University of South Carolina  
University of Southern California  
University of Southern California—School of Cinematic Arts  
University of Texas—Austin  
University of Texas—Austin, Plan II  
University of Texas—Business Honors  
University of Texas—San Antonio  
University of Texas—Tyler  
University of Tulsa  
University of Vermont  
University of Virginia—Richmond  
U.S. Naval Academy  
Vanderbilt University  
Wake Forest University  
Washington University in St. Louis  
West Point  
Wesleyan University

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*The mission of The Post Oak School, as a school accredited by AMI (Association Montessori Internationale), is to provide a superior Montessori environment and dynamic learning experiences which are designed according to the developmental characteristics and needs of children: to guide and nurture each child—intellectually, socially, and emotionally.*



*The*  
POST OAK  
SCHOOL



The Post Oak School 4600 Bissonnet Bellaire, Texas 77401 [www.postoakschool.org](http://www.postoakschool.org)  
The Post Oak High School 1102 Autrey Houston, Texas 77006 [www.postoakhighschool.org](http://www.postoakhighschool.org)