

Lamar School

Gratitude Report 2024-2025



Head of School



To our Lamar Families and Friends,

As we settle into the early weeks of summer, I write with a deep sense of gratitude for what we have accomplished together this past school year and for the strong foundation we continue to build for Lamar School's future.

At Lamar, we educate each individual student by providing a challenging and purposeful college preparatory education in a safe, respectful, Christian environment. That mission comes to life each day through the shared commitment of our families, faculty, students, and supporters. This year that mission was not only fulfilled, it was elevated.

In our annual gratitude report, you will see highlights of families within our community who have gone above and beyond in their support of Lamar School. From establishing new funds to memorials to making generous gifts, their kindness has created opportunities that extend far beyond the present moment. Because of their generosity, our students are able to experience varied opportunities and a purposeful education.

To our families, thank you for walking alongside us. Your trust in Lamar School, your involvement, and your support create a community where students thrive.

To our faculty and staff, your steadfast commitment and care have left a lasting imprint. You pour into our students each day, and we are so grateful for your commitment to education. Watching our students pursue excellence with joy, courage, and determination is among our greatest rewards and reminds us why this work matters.

To our Board of Trustees, thank you for your leadership and vision. Your strategic guidance and vision of our school's mission continue to guide us into a bright future.

Looking ahead, this September we will formally introduce Lamar School's 20 Year Vision, guided by a 10 Year Master Plan. This plan represents more than buildings and programs; it reflects a commitment to fulfillment of our mission, of our potential, and of the dreams we hold for generations to come.

Above all, thank you for being part of this community. Because of you, Lamar School is not just a place, it is a community with a shared purpose, a legacy in motion, and a vision unfolding.

Grateful,

Leigh Ann Ballou
Head of School





Foundation Board President



Dear Lamar School Community,

As I reflect on the close of another remarkable school year, I want to extend sincere thanks on behalf of the Lamar School Board of Trustees. Your support continues to shape our progress and affirm the strength of our community.

This year, the Board has been especially proud of the direction the school is headed and the clarity of the vision that guides us. In response to the feedback received from last year's community survey, we focused our efforts on three key priorities: attracting and recruiting the best faculty and staff, enhancing our facilities, and strengthening campus security.

Among our greatest accomplishments was the formal recognition of the dedicated faculty who have shaped Lamar. These individuals have invested year after year in the growth and development of our students.

In December, the Board was honored to implement the inaugural Teacher Appreciation Fund, which provides a monetary gift to faculty members who reach significant milestones of service—10, 20, 30, and even 40 years. We are proud to see this tradition continue annually as more of our teachers reach these meaningful markers. It is one small way we can say thank you for their enduring commitment.

Among our facility improvements, the complete renovation of the school cafeteria stands out. This vital space was expanded and updated with new kitchen equipment, modern seating, new flooring, fresh paint, and improved lighting. As the most frequently used space on campus, it will serve our students and faculty well for years to come.

Campus security remains a top priority. This year, improvements were made with additional cameras, card readers, and an upgraded front gate.

Looking ahead, we are energized by what is to come. In September, we will unveil Lamar School's 20 Year Vision, anchored by a bold and actionable 10-Year Master Plan. This vision represents not only the future of our campus and programs, but our enduring belief in the value of a Lamar education and our role in shaping future generations.

Thank you to every family, teacher, donor, and friend who walks with us. Because of you, Lamar continues to provide the very best education.

With gratitude,
Brandon Dunn
President, Board of Trustees
Lamar School

2024-2025 Foundation Board Members

Brandon Dunn – President
Paula Morgan – Vice President
Isabel Hall – Secretary
Drew Moffett – Treasurer

JJ Anders
Matthew Cassell
Jeremy Hill

Chris Newlin
Anthony Pritchard

Lamar School's mission is to educate each individual by providing a challenging and purposeful college preparatory curriculum



Master Plan

Lamar School's 20 Year Vision guided by a 10 Year Master Plan: A Vision Rooted in Mission and Driven by Excellence

This September, Lamar School's Board of Trustees will unveil Lamar School's 20-Year Vision, guided by a 10-Year Master Plan: A Vision Rooted in Mission and Driven by Excellence. This bold and strategic plan is the result of months of listening through community surveys, focus group conversations, and thoughtful board discussions. It is designed to shape the future of Lamar with purpose and care. The plan also encompasses the exciting development of the additional 107 acres next door, creating extraordinary opportunities for expanded academic, athletic, and outdoor learning spaces. Imagine passing through a newly designed entrance to experience a campus that reflects both the excellence of our legacy and the promise of our future. A future where engagement, resilience, purpose, and connection meet from the very first moment.





Faculty



Lamar School Teacher Milestone Appreciation Fund

The Lamar School Teacher Milestone Appreciation Fund is a special initiative designed to honor and reward the dedication of classroom teachers who serve at Lamar School. This fund acknowledges the invaluable contributions teachers make to the education and personal growth of students by providing milestone gifts as a token of appreciation.

Eligibility and Rewards:

After 10 years of teaching at Lamar School: Teachers receive a one time gift of \$1,000.

After 20 years of teaching: Teachers are honored with \$2,000.

After 30 years of teaching: Teachers are celebrated with \$3,000.

Purpose: The fund is a heartfelt expression of gratitude for the teachers' unwavering commitment to excellence in education and their enduring dedication to shaping the lives of students.

By supporting this initiative, Lamar School emphasizes the importance of fostering a strong community of educators who inspire lifelong learning and embody the school's values.

Teachers with 10 or more years at Lamar School



Sandy Syner, Nancy Sterling, Yolanda Bertram, Miriam Chesney, April Clodfelter, Elizabeth Honeycutt, Enley Long, Beverly Litchfield, Susan Smith, Genie Autry, Bobby Madden, Belinda Matlock, Beth Rhett, Mary Jones, Jamie Ransier, Phyllis Skipper
Not pictured: Stephanie Singley



Class of 2025

Fifty-eight outstanding young men and women graduated on Friday, May 16. This class leaves with an impressive record, earning many honors both in and outside of school. Their many achievements include:

- an ACT average score of 25
- 15 seniors in the 30+ Club
- 2 students recognized as STAR Students with a 35 on the ACT
- Scholarships Offered: \$4,800,000
- Scholarships Accepted: \$2,500,000
- 1 National Merit Finalist
- 1 National Merit Commended
- 1 Mississippi State University Presidential Scholar
- 1 University of Mississippi STAMPS Scholar
- Attending 19 Colleges and Universities
- 7 athletes playing at the collegiate level
- 19 students in the 12 Year Plus Club who have been at Lamar since 1st grade or longer



Sean Auzenne
Valedictorian



Connor Lagendyk
Salutatorian
STAR Student
National Merit
Finalist



Eleanor Cosby
STAR Student



Cooper Ransier
National Merit
Semifinalist
MSU Presidential
Scholar



Hob Carleton
UM STAMPS Scholar





Class of 2025

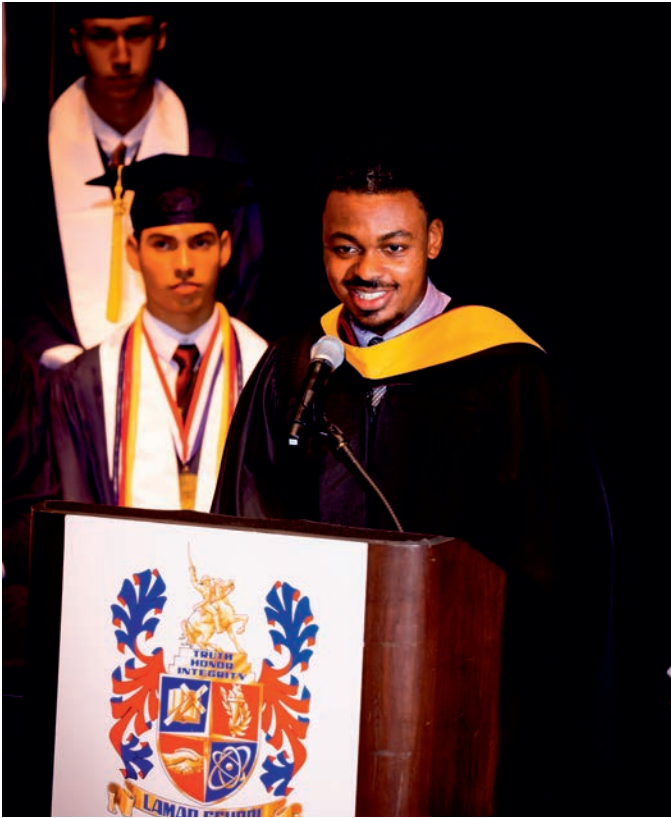


Matriculations

Sean Aristile Auzenne
Madison Carole Barefield
Madeline Ann Bass
Aiden Lane Becton
Avery Loren Becton
Wyatt Ethan Bond
Kristopher Lee Booker
Olivia Grace Brent
Thomas Hasty Bryan
Cameron Wade Burchfield
Jay Byeon
Robert Wayne Carleton
Jared Gael Castillo-Sarao
Grace Clayton
Madelyn Grace Clayton
Witten Louis Cobb
Eleanor Elaine Cosby
Brooklyn Nicole Cox
Sara Ann Daleo
Grace Catherine deGeneres
Zoë Elizabeth Drummond
Turner Salone Elliott
Jackson Rhodes Frazier
Caroline Melissa Frugé
Samuel Garcia
Samuel Kale Gilbert
Aryah Lashae Grace
Emma Clark Hale
Ashton Blake Simon Hart
Ty Christian Herrington
Samuel Francis Hosch
Zion-Dennis Emmanuel Huggins
Stephen Blanks Jackson
Miles Grace Joyner
William Kellan Kerley
Connor Thomas Lagendyk
Daren Bryson Locke
Ann Gilbert Martin
Rylan Shayne Mayatt
Wyatt O'Neal McBrayer
Bella Rose Miller
Jett Reeves Morgan
Devon Vonn Poole
Reed William Rainey
Joshua Calvin Randall
Cooper Charles Ransier
Jaren Jovan Rivas
Katharine Sophia Rush
Wesley Pace Sparks
Ella McCall Temple
Alan Graham Tynes
Juliet Eloise Utsey
Mary Bennett Phillips Waller
Katie Allyn Ward
Addyson Makaylee Warden
Ty Khale Wiggins
Gracie Alyne Woodall
Meredith Alana Worthy

Mississippi State University
Mississippi State University
Samford University
Auburn University
Auburn University
Northwest Mississippi Community College
University of Mississippi
Mississippi State University
East Mississippi Community College
Mississippi State University
University of Mississippi
University of Mississippi
Mississippi State University
University of Connecticut
Mississippi State University
Mississippi State University
Auburn University
Mississippi College
University of Wisconsin - Platteville
University of Alabama
University of Mississippi
Mississippi State University
Meridian Community College
Tennessee Tech University
Liberty University
Meridian Community College
Shelton State Community College
University of Mississippi
University of Alabama
Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College
Meridian Community College
East Central Community College
University of Mississippi
Mississippi State University
University of Mississippi
University of Alabama
Mississippi State University
University of Mississippi
University of Mississippi
East Mississippi Community College
East Mississippi Community College
University of Mississippi
Mississippi State University
Mississippi State University
Meridian Community College
Mississippi State University
Mississippi State University
Mississippi State University
University of Southern Mississippi
Mississippi State University
University of Mississippi
University of the South Sewanee
University of Alabama
University of Mississippi
Mississippi College
East Mississippi Community College
Mississippi State University
North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University

Alumni Spotlight



Brandon Harmon - Class of 2015
Undergraduate Degree: Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering

Ten years after graduating from Lamar, Brandon Harmon delivered the Commencement Address to the Class of 2025. He emphasized to students the importance of being kind and being true to yourself, "Being kind is one of the most underrated qualities a person can have. Often looked upon as a weakness, it's a powerful tool you can use to make a positive impact on those around you." Born and raised in De Kalb, Brandon came to Lamar in the 8th grade and was a National Achievement Scholar Semi-Finalist and member of the state championship football team. During his 4 years in the Shackouls Honors College at MSU, Brandon served as an Engineering Recruitment Leader for the Bagley College of Engineering, encouraging students from across the country to come to Mississippi State. He was selected to join the Maroon VIP organization where he became a campus tour guide and escorted future students and honored guests through the historic and cultural sites around campus. Brandon also volunteered as a mentor under the Brickfire program where he helped teach underprivileged kids in the Starkville community about the importance of education, life lessons, and how to dominate at kickball! Brandon now lives in Hattiesburg where he works as a design engineer for Howard Industries. He and his wife Chelsea are the proud parents of two boys, Bryson and Caleb.



Rachel Busler Misnear - Class of 1995
Undergraduate Degree: Bachelor of Arts in Public Relations from Mississippi State University
Master of Education from Belhaven University

While at Lamar, Rachel was active in all aspects of school life, from cheer and basketball to track and field. After graduating from college, she taught in Jackson Public Schools and a Catholic school. However, her first love has always been art. Following in the footsteps of her father, Charlie Busler, Rachel has been creating art since childhood. Her bright and larger than life vibe carries over into her creations. Her artistic process involves layering paint and colors to forge dynamic patterns that echo nature's intricate lacework. Rachel is now a full-time artist whose work is currently showing across Mississippi at Plant the Earth and Crooked Letter in Meridian, Brown's Fine Art Gallery (Jackson), Caron Galleries (Tupelo & Laurel), and Turnrow (Greenwood). She and her husband, Seth, have three amazing kids, Jude, Hazel, and Sheperd.

Alumni Spotlight



Peyton Long Hutchinson - Class of 1996
Degree: Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting from the University of Mississippi

Peyton is a painter based in Madison, MS. Her deep love for the outdoors and the ever-changing beauty of nature continues to inspire her work. As a landscape artist, Peyton embraces the challenge of capturing the full spectrum of color found in nature--considering herself a colorist of contemporary landscapes. She earned a BFA in Painting from the University of Mississippi and studied at the Rhode Island School of Design. While in college, Peyton attended the Marchutz School of Art in Aix-en-Provence, France, where she fell in love with plein air painting-- and found a lifelong companion in her palette knife. Peyton works out of her Madison studio, where she lives with her husband, Burney, and their children, Max, Sam, and Palmer Ann. Locally, she has studied renowned artists like Jere Allen, Greg Cartmell and Bob Tompkins. She also studied impressionism with Italian artist Jerry Fresia and Californian artist Camile Prezwodek. Her original paintings and prints are available on her website. You can find her on social at @peytonpaintings. She currently displays her work at The Caron Gallery in Tupelo, McTaggart Fine Art in Flora, and Hallie Ward Interiors in Meridian.

On Lamar:

At Lamar Elementary School, Peyton still fondly remembers her love for art classes in Ms. Trest's trailer. Later, in middle school, she enjoyed drawing still lifes in Mrs. Follis' art class. It was Mrs. Follis who first recognized Peyton's potential and called her mother, Frances Long, to suggest she pursue additional art lessons outside of school. Soon after, Peyton began studying with Carolyn Causey in after-school sessions. Looking back, Peyton sees that her entire art journey began at Lamar and continued to grow through college and into her life today.



Cecelia Mosley - Class of 2016
Degrees: Bachelor of Fine Art in Sculpture from The University of Mississippi
Master of Fine Art in Sculpture from Louisiana State University

Cecelia is a mixed media artist whose work explores language through material and form. Now based in Birmingham, she creates dynamic installations that examine language, perception, and cognitive experience. She works with a diverse range of materials, including metal, acrylic, paper, ceramics, styrofoam, light, and vinyl -using them to visually articulate the nuances of language and understanding. Cecelia has public installations and permanent sculptures across the region at the Mississippi Children's Museum in Meridian, on the University of Mississippi campus, the Matthews-Sanders Sculpture Garden in Cleveland, as well as in Hattiesburg, Rosemary Beach, FL; Alpharetta and Macon, GA; and Decatur, IN. Beginning August 23, Cecelia will have an exhibition at the Mississippi Arts + Entertainment Experience entitled Cecelia Moseley: Remnants of Language, featuring large scale metal structures, a selection of prints, and a vivid acrylic installation.

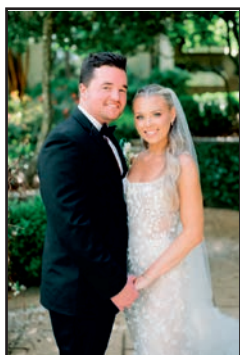
On Lamar:

"Lamar provided me with a strong foundation in the elements of art and design and introduced me to a variety of 2D materials. That early exposure sparked a larger question for me: What are my tools? Through that exploration, I discovered 3D work offered the most tactile and natural way for me to create and express myself. While at Lamar, with Ms. Trest and Ms. Fort, I learned the importance of presenting and formatting work for exhibitions, gaining early experience through student opportunities like the Duck Stamp competition and the Meridian Museum of Art. Those experiences laid the groundwork for understanding what it means to be an artist."



Congratulations

Weddings



Eli Eakes (2019) married Anna Kate Henry on June 1, 2024
Katelyn Rainey (2020) married Tyler Slay on July 13, 2024.
Taylor Cook (2019) married Luke Johnson on June 15, 2024.
Anna Katherine Ward (2017) married Gil Banks on September 7, 2024.
Will Cope (2016) married Emily Charbonneau on September 21, 2024.
Wes McRae (2017) married Lexi Ann Lane on September 28, 2024.
Caden Clodfelter (2017) married Lindsey Paige Higginbotham on October 5, 2024.
Kaylila Pasha (2017) married Cody Crawford on October 13, 2024.
Lake Majure (2016) married Shea Self on December 6, 2024.
Caroline Parker (2017) married Patrick Mahoney on December 14, 2024.
Caroline Garrett (2018) married **Charlie Ballou (2018)** on January 4, 2025.
Grace Goodman (2016) married Tyler Alexander on January 11, 2025.
Alexa Hogan (2018) married **Tate Thompson (2017)** on May 3, 2025.



Newborns

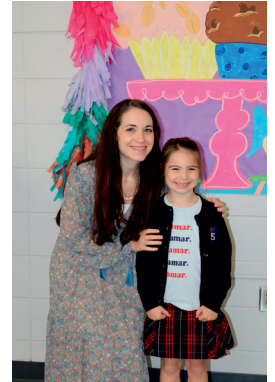
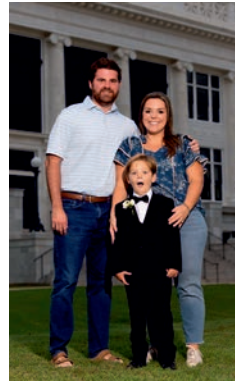
Whitney Rhett Butler (2014) and husband Reed welcomed baby Bailey Elizabeth Butler on December 8, 2023.
Anna Arrington Dunn (2014) and husband Cooper welcomed baby Cooper Lee Dunn on November 26, 2024.
Eric Stubbs, Jr (2004) and wife Laine welcomed baby Reese Elizabeth Stubbs on December 5, 2024.
Ann Morgan Lamar Wells (2015) and husband West welcomed baby Eleanor Lamar "Nora" Wells on January 13, 2025.
Edie Long Keyes (2019) and husband Carter welcomed baby Ann Reed Keyes on February 1, 2025.
Morgan Mitchell McCorkle (2021) and her husband Jody welcomed baby Andrew Wells McCorkle on February 19, 2025.
Marilyn Hessler Shaffer and Brett Shaffer (2015) welcomed twins, Henry Charles and John Morgan Shaffer on April 23, 2025.
Jennifer Lagendijk Carney (2010) and husband Chip welcomed baby Harriette Rush Carney on May 27, 2025.

Congratulations on another degree!

Sara Beth Brown (2019) graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi with a Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology. She is employed at Bay Springs Elementary in Bay Springs, MS, as a Speech-Language Pathologist.
Benjamin Bryan (2021) graduated from Mississippi State University and will be a rep for Poly Pharmaceuticals in Alabama.
Abby Cope (2021) graduated from the University of Alabama with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication and Information Science, a Major in public relations and a minor in creative writing. She is employed with the Marietta Daily Journal.
Emma Herrington (2021) graduated from Mississippi State University in the honors college with a Bachelor's degree in biological sciences and business administration. She will be starting a sales position with Petroleum Services Corporation in Houston, Texas.
Isabel Long (2020) graduated from the University of Mississippi with a degree in Integrated Marketing Communications. She is VP of Sales and Marketing for Long Cleaning Solutions.
Collier McRae (2021) graduated summa cum laude from Mississippi State University with a bachelor's degree in Industrial and Systems Engineering. He is currently pursuing his accelerated Master of Business Administration at MSU.
Isabel Price (2021) graduated from Auburn University magna cum laude with a major in Industrial Engineering and minor in Business Analytics. She will start her career as a Contracts Analyst with the Southern Company.
Baker Whitcomb (2021) graduated from Mississippi State University with a degree in Finance.
Avery Watson (2016) graduated from the University of Mississippi with a Doctor of Medicine.

We love to celebrate your successes and accomplishments. Please share with us what you are doing now and let us know if you'd like to be featured in an upcoming Alumni Spotlight. Email us at lamarschool@lamarschool.com.

Alumni On Campus





Thank You to Our Supporters

We are grateful for all who have generously given to Lamar School. Your gifts help us to ensure that we meet our goal of providing an exceptional academic program, a vibrant learning community, a safe environment, and premier campus facilities. Gifts of all sizes directly impact the lives of each student. *Thank you!*

You will find your name if you contributed to the Annual Fund between June 1, 2024 and May 31, 2025.

Legacy Circle (\$10,000 and up)

John & Rainey Breaux
Leland & Glynese Irby
Tony & Debbie McDaniel
Chris & Mary Lindsey Newlin
Mitchell Donor Advised Fund
Specialty Roll Products
Michael & Dana Van Veckhoven
James C. Wilbourn Lamar School
Endowment Trust

Leadership Circle (\$9,999--\$2,500)

Matthew & Amanda Cassell
Caleb & Madison Dulaney
Joe & Mary Ann Wilkerson
Felise Woodall

Loyalty Circle (\$2,499--\$500)

Class of 2026
Class of 2028
Class of 2031
Jimmy & Ann Alexander
Ben Webb Educational Furniture
Larry & Linda Bagley
Will & Leigh Ann Ballou
Claudia Bielawski
Patrick & Sara Boyer
Andrea Brauninger
Chandler & Jamie Castle
Leonard & Betsy Cobb
The Citizens Bank
Reid & Mallory Davis
Robert & Jennifer Eubanks
Frugé Oil Company
Bobby & Deborah Fryery
Bailey Gogan
Ryan & Casey Haarala

Jeremy & Kristin Hill
Grant & Erin Honeycutt
Johnson & Johnson Matching
Gifts Program
Larkin & Jenny Ruth Kennedy
Jim & Chris Lauderdale
Larry & Judy Layton
Don & Beverly Litchfield
Lawrence & Ginger Mason
Alex & Meagan McElroy
Camesha McGowin
Gerry & Hope Mitchell
Nathan & Heather Myatt
Evan & Shelley McDonald
Nathan E. Daniels Roofing, Co.
Ken & Amy Nelson
David & Rita Newell
Linton & Janice Newlin
John & Jennifer Northam
James McRae
Ed & Rhonda Poole
Scott & Allison Powell
Charlie & Morgan Purdy
Tom & Sharon Redd
Bruce & Vanessa Roberts
Victor Roman
William & Harriett Simmons
Ed & Phyllis Skipper
CD & Linda Smith
Randy & Debbie Smith
David Stevens
John & Kristi Voss
Ben & Julie Webb
Neville & Tracie Wichman
Brad & Karie Woodall

Friends Circle (up to \$499)

Class of 1974
Class of 1982
Class of 2027
Chad & Sherry Acton
Wade Allen
Rachel Anderson
George & Nancy Arrington
AT&T Matching Gifts
Program
Genie Autry
Thomas & Marsha Balzli
Bill & Christine Barham
Robert & Linda Barham
Hunt & Amanda Blackledge
Bo Haarala Autoplex
Valerie Bristor
Phil & Cindy Brooks
LaToria Brown
Stuart & Stephanie Brown
Anne Buffington
Business Technologies
Group
Maurice & Becky Carkuff
Randy & Miriam Chesney
Grey & Becky Cobb
Bob & Susan Coffin
Faye Coit
Johnny & Angie Cook
Bob & Ann Craven
D & E Construction
Don & Lynne Davis
Michael & Holley Davis
Richard Davis
Alex & Mary Katherine
DeBardeleben
Rick & Julia DeBardeleben
Andy & Anne Dowdle

Leslie & Susan Dunn
 Brad & Gena Dye
 Rob & Casey Eason
 Monty & Linda Farmer
 Rusty & Karen Fears
 Cathy Feltenstein
 Lin & Jessica Feng
 Richard & Nancy Francis
 Charles & Trish Frazier
 LJ & Nicola Frugé
 Mickey & Jill Gavin
 Harry & Ashley Gayden
 Barry Germany
 Lisa Gilmore
 Susan Gordon
 Lew Gray
 Marilyn Greene
 Drew & Kristen Gunn
 Dallas & Sydney Hannah
 Trent & Lynn Hale
 David & Isabel Hall
 Maurice & Cathy Hall
 Mitchell & Tiffany Harwood
 Ralph & Christy Henson
 Tommy Hester
 Kristi Hodges
 David & Elizabeth Honeycutt
 Julia Huggins
 Barbara Hull
 Dewitt & Barbara Jones
 Harrison & Krystine Jones
 Mary Jones
 Mickey & Margaret Ann King
 Chase & Heather LaCoste
 Andy & Corrie Lagendyk
 Michael & Kerri Lagendyk
 Alan & Lou Ann Lamar
 Lamar HS Faculty
 Garry & Dana Lawyer
 Stephen & Sarah LeBlanc
 Eric & Kim Lee
 Christopher & Latoiya Locke
 Joey & Melissa Mabry
 Koko Mackin
 David & Jean Makey
 Scottie & Gloria Mayatt
 Harry & Joyce Mayer
 Helen Meyer
 Jane McNaughton
 Adam & Melissa Mitchell
 Gray Montgomery
 Johnny & Tonya Morgan
 Ron & Sylvia Morgan
 Shelia Morseman
 Phil Mosley

George & Judy Nasif
 Daniel & Lauren Parker
 Mia Pollman
 Ree Pollman
 Richard & Terri Polovich
 Taylor & Mary Prewitt
 Mary Robbins
 Michael & Lauren Reid
 Logan & Anne Rush
 Helen Quarles
 Linda Sanford
 Nelda Sistrunk
 Amanda Slayton
 Neill Sloan
 Steve & Cindy Slimp
 Alan & Allessa Smith
 Southern Cleaning Services
 of Meridian
 Kyle Stiefel
 Douglas Teleisha
 Sandy Temple
 Susie Temple
 Howard & Mel Trawick
 Scott & Christy Turner
 Clayton & Wen Tynes
 Susan Valko
 Richard & Betty Vise
 Ashley Vogt
 E.L. & Sylvia Vowell
 Charlie Ward
 David & Ginny Waters
 Wells Fargo Advisors-Coffin,
 Sims, Lamar, & Hannah
 Robert & Rachel Westbrook
 David & Margaret White
 Shelley Whittington
 Deanna Wilbourn
 Richard Wilbourn III
 Duffee & Aletha Williams
 Butch & Diane Wright
 Ashton & Barbara Zeller

Sustaining Givers

We have the honor of recognizing donors' many years of dedication and consistent giving. Faithful donors who have made gifts over the past five consecutive years (or more) are listed below:

Chad & Sherry Acton
 Will & Leigh Ann Ballou
 Bo Haarala Autoplex
 Valerie Bristor
 Matt & Manda Cassell
 Grey & Becky Cobb
 Leonard & Betsy Cobb
 Bob & Susan Coffin
 Richard Davis
 Darrell Denney
 Brad & Gena Dye
 Mickey & Jill Gavin
 Lew Gray
 Ralph & Christy Henson
 David & Elizabeth Honeycutt
 Mary Jones
 Andy & Corrie Lagendyk
 Alan & Lou Ann Lamar
 Larry & Judy Layton
 Jim & Chris Lauderdale
 Don & Beverly Litchfield
 Joey & Melissa Mabry
 Lawrence & Ginger Mason
 Tony & Debbie McDaniel
 Helen Meyer
 Ken & Amy Nelson
 Mia Pollman
 Victor Roman
 Linda Sanford
 Ed & Phyllis Skipper
 CD & Linda Smith
 Robert & Rachel Westbrook
 Neville & Tracie Wichman
 James C. Wilbourn Lamar
 School
 Endowment Trust
 Robert & Rachel Westbrook
 David & Margaret White
 Duffee & Aletha Williams
 Joe & Mary Ann Wilkerson
 Felise Woodall



Teacher Endowment Fund

Shane & Mary-Margaret Adams
Will & Leigh Ann Ballou
Valerie Bristor
Stuart & Stephanie Brown
Richard Davis

Darrell Denney
David & Mary Gilmore
Trent & Lynn Hale
Ralph & Christy Henson

David & Elizabeth Honeycutt
Grant & Erin Honeycutt
Nathan & Heather Myatt
Ed & Phyllis Skipper
ML & Kim Waters



Advancing the Arts

The Advancing the Arts Fund is a newly established initiative at Lamar School dedicated to enriching and promoting arts opportunities for students across the elementary, middle, and high school levels.

Contributions to this fund will support a wide range of artistic endeavors, including:

- Music education and experiences
- Vocal performance and technique
 - Instrumental training
- Musical productions and theater
- Arts faculty development and curriculum enhancement

This fund has been generously established by **Logan and Bethany Davis**, who are committed to fostering creativity and excellence in the arts at Lamar School. Along with the donors below, the Davises warmly invite other families to support this meaningful cause and help students explore and excel in the arts.

Will and Leigh Ann Ballou
Hunt & Amanda Blackledge
Bonita Properties, Inc.
Mike & Liz Cain
Trey & Allison Hannah
Steven & Cindy Slimp



Cast of MS/HS Production of *Little Shop of Horrors*

Honorariums

Lamar School Class of 2025

Don & Beverly Litchfield

Cannon & Cal Boone

Ron & Sylvia Morgan

Hayden Brentall

Rusty & Karen Fears

Gaines Crawford

Ed & Phyllis Skipper

Franklin & Libby Davis

Richard & Nancy Francis

Mary Katherine, Andy, &

Kate DeBardeleben

Rick & Julia DeBardeleben

Hardy Graham

Gray Montgomery

Lamar School Faculty

Darrell Denney

Grant & Erin Honeycutt

Tony McDaniels

The Class of 1974

Ree Pollman

Ed & Phyllis Skipper

Toby, Nate, & Laney Robbins

Mary Robbins

Robotics Team

Jim & Margaret Mauldin

Nathan & Heather Myatt

Phyllis Skipper

Anonymous

Ed Skipper

John Summers

Gray Montgomery

Cade Vowell

Tom & Sharon Redd

Russell Walton

Neill Sloan

Memorials

Ruth Barham

Richard Davis

Alan & Lou Ann Lamar

Mia Pollman

Buddy Bennett

Ed & Phyllis Skipper

Dan Coit

Coffin, Lamar, Sims, and

Hannah

John Culpepper

Randy & Miriam Chesney

Ed & Phyllis Skipper

Pearce Dickson

George & Nancy Arrington

Bob & Susan Coffin

Lamar School Class of 1982

Miles & Ina Herrington

Monty & Linda Farmer

Scott & Bel Farmer

Gary Hines

Don & Beverly Litchfield

Cecil Johnson

Randy & Miriam Chesney

Alan & Lou Ann Lamar

Thomas Little

Harry & Joyce Mayer

James Lawrence Moore

Bob & Susan Coffin

Mary Lou Pace

Lamar High School Faculty

Don & Beverly Litchfield

Ree Pollman

Mike Partridge

Bob & Susan Coffin

Ed & Phyllis Skipper

Jamie Merle Poole

Lamar High School Faculty

Jimmy Purnell

Richard Davis

Scott & Cassie Davis

Sonny Rush

Anonymous

Robert Sanford

Coffin, Lamar, Sims, and

Hannah

Beryl Webb

Ed & Phyllis Skipper



Angie Cook

This spring, the Lamar School family experienced a profound loss with the unexpected passing of Mrs. Angie Cook, our beloved Upper School Office Administrator. Angie was more than the heartbeat of the high school office; she was a steady, calm presence who served all with such care. Remarkably well-organized, Angie had a unique ability to juggle endless tasks while listening to each student, parent, and teacher who needed her at the present moment.

Those who knew her well also knew she had a gift for growing things. Angie was truly the green thumb of the office, keeping her plants thriving. That's why the Senior Class's gift of bright, blooming planters in her memory is such a perfect tribute.

Along with Angie's family, we are deeply grateful for all who honored Angie with memorial gifts to Lamar School. Your generosity ensures that her legacy of care and kindness will continue to grow here.

Will & Leigh Ann Ballou

Mike & Liz Cain

Bob & Susan Coffin

Brad & Gena Dye

Lamar High School Faculty

Lamar School Class of 2025

Lamar School Class of 2027

Don & Beverly Litchfield

Joey & Melissa Mabry

Mia Pollman

Ree Pollman

Ed & Phyllis Skipper

Jamie & Nelda Sistrunk

Robert & Rachel Westbrook



Drew Denney Field House Fund

Class of 2004
Darrell Denney
Friends of Drew Denney
Vaughn Waters
JT Williamson

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the completion of the Drew Denney Field House.

Drew Denney, a Lamar student athlete who passed away in May of his junior year, was known for his unwavering happiness and generosity. His legacy has been carried on by friends and family who built the Drew Denney Field House and have continued to provide for its maintenance. Each year, "The Friends of Drew Denney" hold the Par 75 Golf Tournament, raising over \$23,000 this year. Thank you to all who participated and to those who made individual contribution in Drew's name. We are thankful for the Friends of Drew Denney who have supported Lamar School athletics in Drew's name for the last 20 years.

Charles Woodall

This year, many generous gifts were given in memory of Charles Woodall, a man whose love for Lamar School was deep, enduring, and unmistakable. Charles served on the Lamar School Board for six years during the 1980s, a time when meetings often lasted late into the night, and service was truly hands-on. Beyond his role as a trustee, Charles gave freely of his time and skills, volunteering countless hours on campus. Whether he was adding on to buildings, changing fixtures, cleaning flooded hallways, or helping maintain the grounds, Charles quietly ensured that Lamar continued to shine.

He was a fixture at athletic events, never missing a game when his son played, and later, showing up just as faithfully for his grandchildren. He also worked behind the scenes serving others, supporting students, and helping wherever he was asked. His presence was steady, humble, and full of heart. Charles was perhaps proudest of his wife, Felise Woodall, who taught second grade at Lamar for many years.

His love for Lamar carried over to me, and I am proud to call him my dad. His presence is still felt on campus, at games, and as we plan for the future. My brother, Brad, and I along with my mother thank the many friends and members of the Lamar community who honored him through memorial gifts. Your generosity ensures that his legacy will continue at one of the places he cherished most, Lamar School.

With heartfelt gratitude,
Leigh Ann Ballou
Head of School



*Charles Woodall with grandson,
Charlie Ballou '18.*

Shane & Mary-Margaret Adams
Jimmy & Ann Alexander
Wade Allen

George & Nancy Arrington
Thomas & Marsha Balzli
Bill & Chistine Barham
Robert & Linda Barham
Phil & Cindy Brooks

Business Technologies Group
Maurice & Becky Carkuff
Randy & Miriam Chesney

Bob & Susan Coffin
Faye Coit

Johnny & Angie Cook
Bob & Ann Craven
D & E Construction
Don & Lynne Davis
Andy & Anne Dowdle
Brad, Gena & Dan Dye

Barry Germany
Marilyn Greene
Maurice & Cathy Hall
Barbara Hull
Larkin & Jenny Ruth Kennedy
Mickey & Margaret Ann King
Alan & Lou Ann Lamar
Lamar High School Faculty
Lamar School Class of 2026
Lamar School Class of 2028
Lamar School Class of 2031

Jim & Chris Lauderdale
Garry, Dana, & Brooke Lawyer
Don & Beverly Litchfield
Joey & Melissa Mabry
Gerry & Hope Mitchell
Johnny and Tonya Morgan
Nathan, Heather, William, & John Myatt

Tony & Debbie McDaniel
William & Katie McDaniel
Adam & Margie Kate Miller
Nathan E. Daniels Roofing Co.
Mia Pollman
Ree Pollman
Ed & Rhonda Poole
Linda Sanford
Ed & Phyllis Skipper
Southern Cleaning Services of Meridian
David Stevens
Michael & Dana Van Veckhoven
Richard & Betty Vise
David & Ginny Waters
ML & Kim Waters
David & Margaret White
Deanna Wilbourn
Joe & Mary Ann Wilkerson
Butch & Diane Wright

Extra Innings of Generosity

When the decision was made to fully remodel the Lamar School cafeteria and completely gut the kitchen, one major question arose: How will we continue to provide lunches for our students?

Closing the kitchen entirely could have disrupted a core part of the student experience, but thanks to the generosity of our dear friends at Storm Services, Leland and Glynease Irby, we never missed a beat.

The Irbys provided a fully outfitted kitchen trailer from their company, complete with commercial-grade equipment. In fact, the temporary setup allowed us to serve students more efficiently than ever before, even surpassing the capabilities of our former kitchen. This act of generosity reflects something deeper: kindness that lasts long after your children have graduated. Though their own children have graduated from Lamar, the Irbys continue to invest in our school and its future.

You'll see another example of their lasting impact in the Irby Family Hitting Facility, named in appreciation of their support for Lamar School baseball.

To Leland and Glynease, we thank you for sharing a mobile kitchen so that we could rebuild ours. Your kindness, like your legacy, will not be forgotten.



Special Events



Each year, Lamar School hosts several annual events which serve as fundraisers and opportunities to enhance relationships within our school, with our alumni, and with the community at large. Thank you to all who made a donation of time and talents. None of these events are possible without the support of our families and friends.

Friends of Lamar School Golf Tournament



Congratulations to the winning team:

Reid Davis, Brandon Dunn, John Rea, and Michael Van Veckhoven

On April 18, Lamar School hosted a 4-man scramble at Northwood Country Club raising almost \$4,000. Many thanks to **Reid Davis (Class of '01)** for planning and organizing the day, Kyle Carpenter of Northwood, and this year's sponsors:

Tournament Sponsor: Baptist Memorial Health Care

Hole Sponsors

Argent Wealth Clearspan Components Educational Furniture and Equipment Co
Dr. Austin Holmes The Lagendyk Family New South Ford Missonscape
Heather & Nathan Myatt Chuck Reese Logan Rush Transmission Services
Wells Fargo- Coffin Lamar, Sims, & Hannah David & Maragret White Woodall Electric

Trivia Night

Trivia Night gets bigger and better every year! Every table sold out within the first 24 hours! Be prepared to register quickly for 2026. This fun-filled night of fast-paced trivia is not possible without Jennifer McRae and her crew of volunteers and sponsors. All proceeds go to our arts and academics programs. We encourage you to join our Trivia Night Facebook page for highlights and information on Trivia Night 2026!

Congratulations to the winning teams: Prewitt and Hanegan "Shazam, Shazam, Shazam" and Lauderdale, Smith and Trost "Universally Challenged"



Callie Duncan, Co-Chair
Jodi McCormick, Co-Chair
Jennifer McRae, Co-Chair
Meredith Roberts, Co-Chair
Hope Daugherty (Class of '07), Co-Chair



Pals *Parents At Lamar School*



PALS aims to foster and maintain a strong partnership between parents and the school to enhance the educational environment for students and to support teachers. PALS provides opportunities for fundraising, coordinates volunteers, and builds community throughout the school.

We are grateful to all who volunteered this year under the leadership of Heather Martin (President), Bethany Flint (Vice-President), and Jackie DeFatta (Secretary).

Activities and events this year included:

Raider Reader Party * Homecoming Breakfast

Fall Festival * Veterans Day Program * Day of Love Breakfast

Elementary Art Gala * Uniform Resale



Booster Club

The quality of Lamar's athletic programs and the success of our student athletes depend on the continued support of our Booster Club. For the 2024-2025 school year, we are proud to support our Raiders in many ways including traveling to away games by charter bus. This experience allows our teams to travel safely and comfortably, but it comes at a cost. Thanks to the generosity of our Booster Club, travel is covered. Without that support, families would face additional fees to fund team transportation. Last year, the Booster Club made a tremendous impact by funding not only travel but other athletic needs such as updated equipment, uniforms, and weight training equipment. We are grateful to all who contributed to making 2024-2025 a banner year for the Raiders, and we look forward to an even stronger season ahead. Your support matters. Go Raiders!



- 1. Membership-** Memberships can be purchased online through our website. I urge everyone to join and help make a difference in the lives of our student athletes.
- 2. Corporate Sponsorship-** Sponsors enjoy season passes, parking passes, signage, program ads and reserved seating for one annual fee.
- 2. Ads in the Sports Program-** Our program is second to none! Please take time to look through the program and support the businesses who advertise with us each year.
- 3. Concessions-** Throughout the year, concession sales help us generate additional revenue. We have a great selection of food items and every purchase helps provide opportunities for our students. Most importantly, we thank the parents who volunteer to man the concession stands throughout the year. Please be willing to help us by agreeing to serve when you are asked.
- 4. Tailgating Tents and Chair Back Seating-** The berm area at the end of the football field gives Raider fans a great place to watch games and tailgate with friends. Tailgating spots and chair back seats are available to purchase through the Lamar website.
- 5. Booster Club Drawdown -** This annual event is our primary fundraiser. In 2024, we raised \$22,247.32. We hope you'll join us this fall for a fun evening and opportunity to support athletics at Lamar!

Go Raiders!
John Morgan Mims, President



Congratulations to the Golf team on their 9th consecutive State Championship!



Congratulations to the Volleyball team on their 3rd consecutive State Championship!

MAIS State Champions!

2024-25 Athletic Highlights

- 4 State Championships
- 5 District Championships
- 5 Individual State Champions
- 24 All-District Selections
- 14 MAIS All-Stars
- 11 MAIS Futures Game Selections
- 9 All -State Selections
- 7 College Signees

Division II Volleyball Player of the Year - Caroline Frugé

2 District Player of the Year Awards

1 WTOK All Scholastic Sports Team Member - Ty Herrington



MAIS Division II Volleyball Player of the Year

Congratulations to
Caroline Frugé!



Senior Athletes of the Year

Congratulations to Caroline Frugé and Kellan Kerley!

James C. Wilbourn Lamar School Endowment Trust

The James C. Wilbourn Lamar School Endowment Trust was established in 1985 by Mr. Wilbourn's widow, Garnett S. Wilbourn, along with their son and daughter-in-law, Richard and Deanna A. Wilbourn, longtime supporters of Lamar School. Each year 90% of the income of the Trust is distributed in two ways: to fund a capital project and to fund what has come to be known as the Wilbourn Scholarship.

The Wilbourn Scholarship is not specifically tied to leadership or academic success. Rather, it is granted to a deserving athlete(s) who possesses solid character traits, such as self-discipline, humility, a drive to succeed, a strong work ethic, honesty, toughness, and resilience in addition to God-given talent. These are attributes that the creators of the Trust, as well as its namesake, held dear and that deem a student athlete as deserving of this honor. Since it was established, the James C. Wilbourn Trust has given \$218,971 to benefit Lamar School and its students.



2025 Wilbourn Scholarships

The Wilbourn family annually presents upcoming seniors with scholarships honoring the legacy of James Wilbourn. These scholarships are awarded to "deserving young men or women in the possession of athletic abilities which allow them to participate competitively in interscholastic athletics." The 2025-26 recipients are Jackson Whitcomb, Nate Lee, Jalin Trotter, and Charlee Castle

Accolades



Jefferson Davis Academy Scholarships

Upon closing, Jefferson Davis Academy established a scholarship fund at Lamar School. Recipients are chosen based on academics, good citizenship, and school involvement. Upcoming seniors with a connection to JDA may apply. The 2025-26 recipients are Reid Griffin and Elliott Watson.



DAR Good Citizens

The Sam Dale Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution sponsors the DAR Good Citizen Award for schools in their region. The awards are based on the candidates' record of dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism. This year's awards went to Gracely Thompson (5th grade), Jack Voss (8th grade), and Madeline Bass (12th grade). Madeline was also honored with the DAR Citizenship Award as an elementary student!

NAS Teacher Salute

Beverly Litchfield who teaches third-grade math and science was presented the "Teacher Salute" award by Captain Luke Davis, commanding officer of Naval Air Station Meridian, on April 8, 2025. Litchfield has taught in the public and private school systems for nearly 50 years.



Her nomination said, "Her strength lies in her dedication to her students and the ability to guide them through engaging and detailed lessons." NAS Meridian honors teachers who have gone above and beyond for military children in our local school system. Lamar School is also proud to be a Military Star School. As a part of this joint program, we are better equipped to respond to the educational and social-emotional challenges military-connected children face during their transition to a new school and keep them on track to be college, workforce, and life-ready.

A Legacy of Generosity



For almost six decades, Lamar School has been blessed with the generosity of parents, grandparents, faculty, alumni, and the community at large. We ask that all members of the Lamar family unite in their commitment to help sustain the high standards of Lamar School. We are invested, not only in the future of Lamar School, but the future of all Lamar students. There are many ways, both large and small, that we can all touch the future. Please consider ways, not only financially, you can help continue this legacy of generosity for decades to come.

Financial Giving:

1. **Annual Fund** – The annual solicitation of financial support for the operating budget.
2. **Capital Campaign** – Capital Campaigns are efforts established to fund new buildings or renovate existing buildings.
3. **Endowment Gift** – A gift given to provide income through earnings from a protected fund.
4. **Gift-In-Kind** – A gift of equipment, supplies, professional services, contract services, etc. Please contact the school administration prior to giving.
5. **Planned Gift** – Planned or deferred gifts allow donors to make a significant gift that will benefit Lamar School in the future, typically at the donor's or beneficiary's death. These gifts include bequests, contracts, or trusts.
6. **Matching Gift** – Corporate matching gifts may be made to either the Annual Fund or Capital Campaign.
7. **Memorial and Honorarium Gifts** – These gifts offer an opportunity to honor a relative, friend, or business associate for a special occasion or during a bereavement period.
8. **Gifts of Stock** – Gifts of stock are accepted by Lamar School. The most common form of stock transfer is for the donor to work directly with a broker. Please contact us for more information.
9. **Children's Promise Act Tax Credit** – You can now contribute to LAMAR SCHOOL and receive a DOLLAR-FOR-DOLLAR CREDIT on your MS STATE INCOME TAX LIABILITY. The state of Mississippi now allows contributions to LAMAR SCHOOL to offset YOUR STATE INCOME TAX LIABILITY. Businesses can contribute 50% of total tax liability through The Child's Promise Act. More information on the MS State Tax Law, The Children's Promise Act, can be found at www.dor.ms.gov. Please contact Leigh Ann Ballou, Head of School, to answer any questions you may have, 601-482-1345.



What's New at Lamar School?



What's New on Campus?

- Intercom System
- Updated Playground Equipment
- Cafeteria Flooring
- Cafeteria Tables
- New Kitchen Equipment
- Improved Lunch Options
- Updated Cafeteria Restrooms
- Refinished Gymnasium Floor
- Scorers Table for Gym
- Team Chairs for Gym
- Weekly Raider Communication
- Elementary FIRST Lego League
- Strength and Conditioning Program
- International Travel



What's to Come?

- Access Control Doors
- Service Golf Carts
- Lawn Mower
- Art Display Wall in Cafeteria
- Updated Faculty Restrooms
- Dr. Sonny Rush Training Room
- Elementary HVAC System
- SMART Boards for Teachers
- Middle School Counselor
- Middle School Electives
- School Wide Phone System
- Updated Access Points



Ways to Support Lamar School:

- Encourage students to excel in all they do.
- Attend school events.
- Volunteer for PALS.
- Join the Booster Club.
- Chaperone or host a field trip.
- Volunteer to share your expertise with a class or group.
- Be an advocate for Lamar School in the community.
- Pray daily for our school, students, and faculty.
- Follow, like, and share Lamar School on social media.





Lamar School
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Meridian, MS 39305

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