

Samantha Jerideau '27



One-third of seniors graduate with an associate degree



Program unlocks potential for students with learning differences



Reflections of a once disillusioned teacher



Denise Phillips '70 leads campus ministry

August 2025

CONNECTIONS

INTRODUCTION

Letter From The President

As I look back on this past year at Bishop Dunne Catholic School, I am filled with gratitude for the dedication and passion of our faculty and staff. Each day, they arrive on campus with the mission to ignite purpose and unlock potential within every student. The work God has called us to shines through in both the quiet, everyday interactions—like a morning high five—as well as the major milestones, such as celebrating our graduates as they embark on their next chapter. Through all these moments, our team works relentlessly to remind our students that they are smart, capable, and loved. When our students truly believe this, their possibilities become limitless.



This year's achievements are a testament to that belief. Thirty percent of our seniors earned associate degrees, putting them ahead as they transition to university and helping their families save valuable time and resources. A number of our graduates will be the first in their families to attend college, and we are confident they are fully prepared to become the first to graduate as well. Collectively, our senior class has earned over \$8.29 million in scholarships, a remarkable reflection of their hard work and commitment.

As you explore this edition of Connections, I encourage you to celebrate the exceptional accomplishments of our students, faculty, staff, and alumni. None of this would be possible without you and your steadfast trust in Bishop Dunne Catholic School. Your support makes a real and lasting impact on the lives of our students.

Our Alma Mater beautifully reminds us:

*Alma Mater, Bishop Dunne
When together, we are one
All our years and all our days
Alma Mater, we sing your praise.*

Let's show our Falcon Pride this year by sharing the extraordinary things happening at Bishop Dunne. Join us at upcoming events and reconnect with classmates. I look forward to seeing you on campus and strengthening our community ties.

President Gabe Moreno '03

VISION: Inspiring future leaders to innovate and serve by delivering the best Catholic education to the students of North Texas.

MISSION: Bishop Dunne Catholic School empowers each student to explore, inquire, lead, and serve through a college preparatory education in a joyful community of faith.

CORE VALUES (P.R.I.D.E.)

Purpose • Respect • Integrity • Dedication • Excellence

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

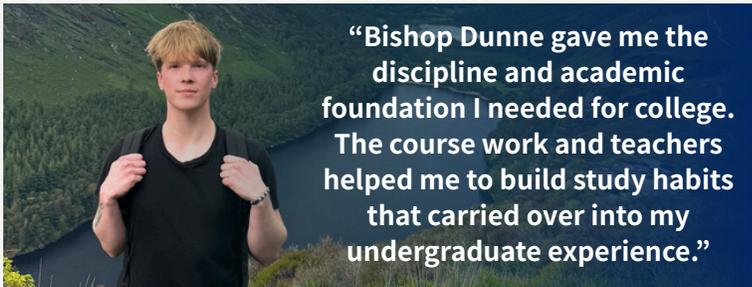
Written by board member Christine Horstman,
parent of Patrick Horstman '23



The drive to attend Bishop Dunne came from our son, Patrick. He had a few friends attending Dunne and had been to several football games when the Falcons won the state championship. He loved the school spirit.

When he visited as Falcon for a Day, he was struck by the student body's diversity. Everyone pulled up chairs to add more people to the lunch tables and mix together in true camaraderie.

At first, we weren't as certain as Patrick. He has multiple learning differences – dyslexia, dysgraphia, and ADHD. We weren't sure how he would transition to a college-prep environment. None of that mattered to Patrick. The people, sense of connection, and opportunity were what he valued most.



“Bishop Dunne gave me the discipline and academic foundation I needed for college. The course work and teachers helped me to build study habits that carried over into my undergraduate experience.”

At Open House, I spoke with faculty and was advised not to try any honors or AP courses. I met with Ms. Folz, head of the Learning Resources Center, and had a great conversation with her about the support Dunne could provide. It gave me confidence the educators were committed to the well-being and academic success of every individual student.

Despite 1 in 5 people having learning or attention issues, many private schools don't offer the support we found at Bishop Dunne. That speaks to our Catholic values that welcome everyone, and to our mission of Igniting Purpose and Unlocking Potential.

Near the end of eleventh grade, Patrick's teachers recommended him for several honors and AP classes. In twelfth grade, he took more. Patrick's teachers saw his potential and developed a pace appropriate for him. Being able to demonstrate his own growth journey in high school helped him with college admissions and scholarships.

He applied for honors at his top two university choices, and was accepted into both. His dual-credit courses will allow him to graduate from college a year early.

Patrick made the right choice in becoming a Falcon, and we are so proud of him. He was nurtured academically, and also in sports and extracurriculars. Patrick left Bishop Dunne knowing he had adults who cared about him and saw him.

It's my hope as a board member that I can contribute to ensuring Bishop Dunne is the school of choice for many other families in the future.

Board of Directors 2025-2026

Jon Buchanan '98 - Chairman
Kevin Brown '79
Reese Collins '04
Paula Day
Brent English
Christine Horstman
Jann Laws Jackson
Christian Johnson
Alyson Rae Robinson '06
Jason Saucedo
Matt Smith
Zenobia Tasby '02
Wayne Warren '79
Kyle Wick
Simon Zubras

**This year, former board member
Ed Robben passed away.**

Ed served on the Bishop Dunne board from 2017-2023. We want to acknowledge this humble, generous-hearted man and his service to our Falcon community.

COMMUNITY

Students



On May 23, 61 smart, capable, and loved seniors attended their graduation ceremony at Concord Church. Many began their journey at Bishop Dunne seven years ago and have developed deep relationships with administrators, teachers, and classmates that will last a lifetime.

As the Class of 2025 wrote to the Class of 2029 in a letter given to each middle school graduate, this same wisdom applies to them as well: "Today marks the beginning of a new chapter, one filled with new experiences, challenges, and opportunities that will help shape who you are and who you're becoming."

\$8.29M

in scholarship money
offered to seniors

30%

of seniors earned a free
associate degree on campus

20%

of seniors were first-
generation college students

95%

of seniors were
admitted to college

Our graduates are going places!



UNIVERSITY
of DALLAS



The
UNIVERSITY
of
OKLAHOMA



PEPPERDINE
UNIVERSITY



UNITED STATES
NAVAL ACADEMY
Annapolis



ST. JOHN'S
UNIVERSITY



TEXAS TECH
UNIVERSITY.



THE UNIVERSITY
of
MISSISSIPPI



UNIVERSITY
of
HOUSTON



DBU



Berklee
College of Music

COMMUNITY

Alumni

It all started with an all-girls class of about forty in 1961, the result of a merger between two local girls' high schools, established by the Sisters of St. Mary of Namur. Originally named Our Lady of Good Counsel, the school was renamed Bishop Dunne High School in 1963, in honor of Bishop Edward Dunne, the second Bishop of the Diocese of Dallas.

Class of 1965 pictured



Alumni Council in June

Today, the **alumni community** is more than 7,000 strong. Many graduates still reside in or near Dallas. The new Alumni Council is an initiative designed to spark fellowship, create meaningful connections, and empower alumni to help shape Bishop Dunne's legacy.



Last October, a record 280 guests attended **the Homecoming game and party**, while celebrating the reunion of the classes of 1994, 1999, and 2004. The David Whiteman '85 Band performed while Falcon-owned businesses like Smokey John's Bar-B-Que, owned by Juan '89 and Brent Reaves '95, served food.



Juan '89 & Brent '95 Reaves



Class of 1975

This year, all alumni classes engaged in the **High Hopes Spring Challenge**. Nearly 200 alumni collectively gave \$58,000 with some of the proceeds benefiting the freshman leadership program in 2025-2026. The Class of 1975 won highest engagement rate, followed by the Classes of 2008 and 1997.



Lee Fagot '65 traveled from California to be part of his class reunion and spoke to our graduating seniors. Lee told the students, "Whatever you learn, experience, see, or accomplish, is yours, and yours alone forever..."



Scott & Susan on Valentine's Day 1977

During the week of Valentine's Day, we celebrated "Love at Dunne" to recount the many love stories that began on campus. One of our favorite stories began in 1977 between Scott Norwood '78 and Susan May '80 at a Valentine's Day dance. They dated for several years, but their paths split during college. They reconnected at an alumni event and ten years later, Scott proposed in front of the school where they first met.

On June 21, Bishop Dunne hosted its first wedding on campus as Scott and Susan said their vows, surrounded by 150 loved ones, including more than fifty Falcon friends. It was truly a special day.



Scott & Susan before their wedding day in 2025

COMMUNITY *Teachers*

It is the commitment to excellence and faith-driven culture of Bishop Dunne that has resulted in the high quality of teaching and robust curriculum that is igniting purpose and unlocking the full potential of its smart, capable, and loved students.

Diocese of Dallas Recognizes Bishop Dunne Teachers



Instructor Mark Clifford was named Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops' High School Teacher of the Year. This marks the THIRD time in five years a Bishop Dunne teacher has earned this state-wide honor.



Director of Band Daniel Harrelson was awarded the Diocese of Dallas Educator of the Year Award. Last year, band qualified to perform at Carnegie Hall, the only team in the region to receive this honor.

Reflections of a Once Disillusioned Teacher by Instructor Jason Walker

Since the age of 10, the only thing I have ever really wanted to be is a teacher. I had so many remarkable teachers during my life who inspired and encouraged me. I finally accomplished that dream at 40. But it wasn't at all what I expected.

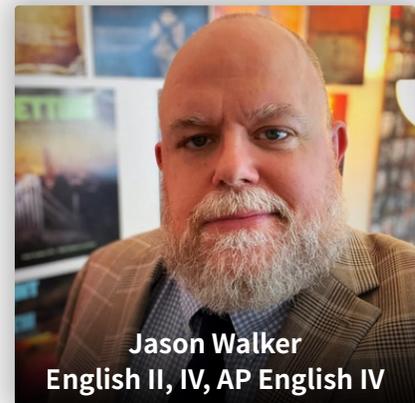
In the 22 years since I'd graduated high school, teaching had changed—A LOT! I wasn't happy. I wasn't fulfilled. How was I so wrong about the only thing I'd ever felt right about?

Then, 10 years, 3 schools, 1 pandemic, and a PhD later, Bishop Dunne Catholic School called me for a preliminary virtual interview. Less than a week later, I was standing in Room 412 doing a teaching demonstration in a class of ninth graders.

I was happy when Mr. Guerrero called to offer me the job, but if I'm honest, my expectations were low. My teaching experiences had been so disheartening to that point, it was a natural response. But I couldn't have been more wrong!

The culture, the heart, my colleagues, and my incredible students have restored my belief in my lifelong dream. BDCS took in a disillusioned, skeptical English teacher who wouldn't have set foot in a commencement ceremony to a joyful, satisfied educator.

So now, I've come full circle. Those ninth graders who welcomed me into their class to "teach" them for 45 minutes are seniors—MY seniors, the Class of 2026! And I will pray with them, attend Mass with them, listen, laugh, and cry with them. And I'll thank God for every moment.

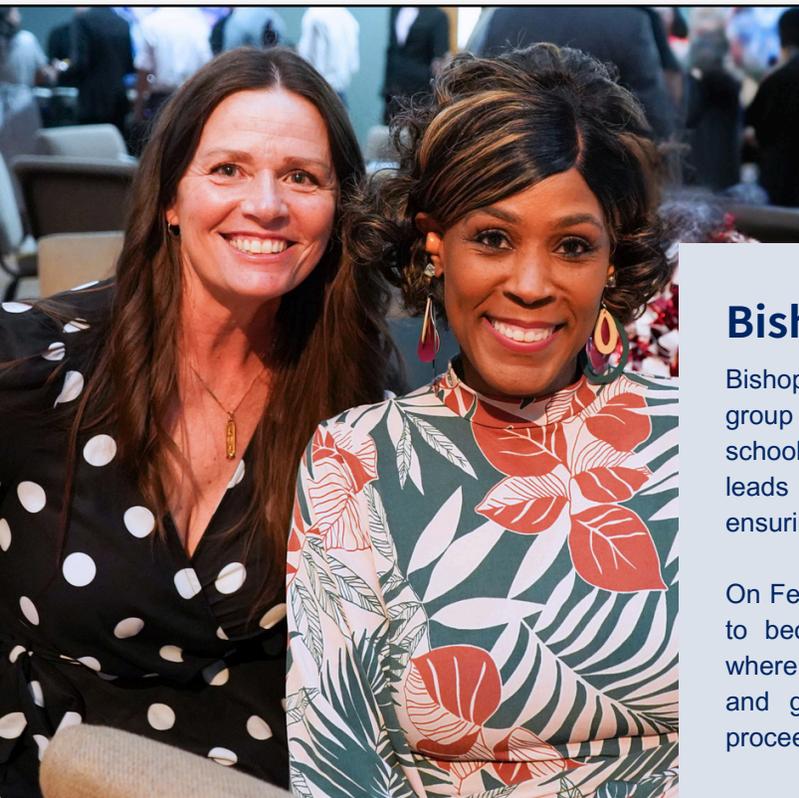


COMMUNITY

Parents



The Dads' Club continued to have stellar events including a cornhole tournament, basketball challenges, poker nights, participation in the Mardi Gras Parade, service projects, and so much more. Our Dads' Club puts the fun in fundraising as they find special projects to bless families or students in need. With social media posts that entertain as well as inform, our Dads' Club is the best place for dads and guardians to make a difference while having fun.



Bishop Dunne Parents' Association

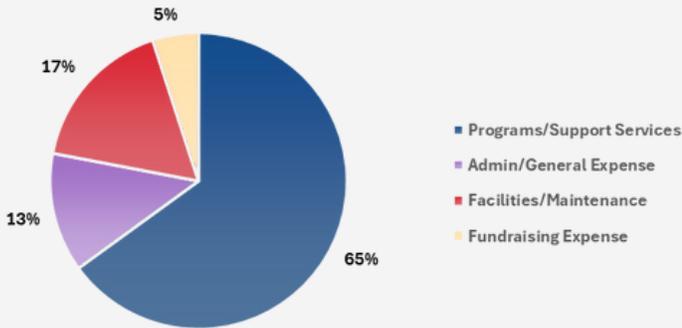
Bishop Dunne Parents' Association (PA) is a no-cost volunteer group for parents and guardians to build fellowship, support school activities, and fundraise. President CeeCee Simon leads by example, consistently volunteering her time and ensuring all parents feel welcome and informed.

On February 27, 2025, PA sponsored Casino Night (expected to become an annual event) at The SchoolHouse Dallas where all were welcome. It was a successful event as parents and guests came together for an evening of fun while proceeds benefited the school.

COMMUNITY

Donors

Allocation of Expenses



Total Donations Raised 7/1/24 through 6/30/25

Falcon Fund \$1,878,601

Operations Restricted \$474,700

Endowment \$15,000

The Falcon Fund is the cornerstone of all fundraising efforts at Bishop Dunne. It fuels the formational program Bishop Dunne offers to ignite purpose and unlock potential in each student. It provides cutting-edge technology and innovative learning tools, quality educators, and extracurricular activities that empower students to become the future leaders of our community. It also provides tuition assistance for families who are struggling financially.

Operations Restricted

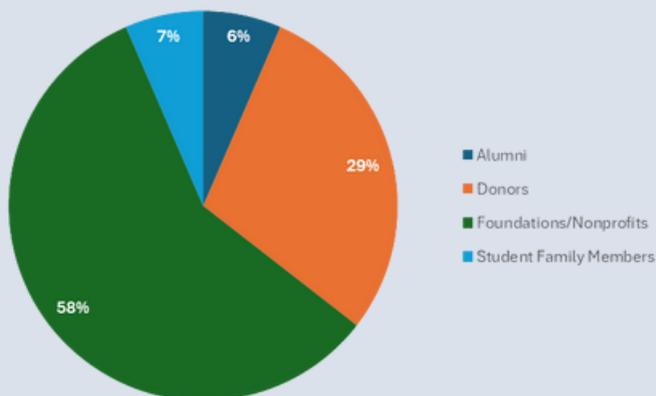
are funds raised by the Development Department for a specific project related to academic, formation, or facility needs.

The Endowment Fund

supports the legacy of the school since the principal cannot be withdrawn. Five percent of the interest income is distributed to the school each year. The minimum endowment gift is \$5,000.

Administration made a decision to make the Falcon Fund and Operations Restricted a priority in 2024-2025 based on short-term financial needs. The focus will be reprioritized in the coming year.

Constituent Giving



Planned Giving: *It's never too early for legacy planning.*

It is always a good time to plan your legacy giving. Whether you are looking for a complex planned giving structure, ways to give more and reduce your taxes, or wish to include Bishop Dunne as a beneficiary in your will, we are here to help. We cannot predict the future, but we can plan for it. Call the Development Department and ask for Ms. Goodwin today.

ADMISSIONS

The quality of a Bishop Dunne education is second to none in the region. More than 75% of our families live in public school zones where schools are rated a D or F, according to the latest Texas Education Agency ratings. Bishop Dunne provides a transformative education that ignites purpose and unlocks the potential of students, so they may thrive.



Ambassador Program

The Ambassador program is a way for students to give back to the school as tour guides for Bishop Dunne guests. It is a prestigious role that helps the school and looks great on a student's resume.



Bishop Dunne Falcon Fest 2025

Falcon Fest is a family-friendly, free outdoor event in mid-May for the Falcon community and prospective students and their families.

College Ready Academy

The College Ready Academy is offered to first-generation college students to help guide them and their parents/guardians through the college process and the transition to college.

Collegiate Institute

The Collegiate Institute begins in ninth grade and allows students to earn a free associate degree on campus.

Campus Visits

"Falcon for a Day" is an Admissions program where prospective students experience a day in the life of a Falcon. Visitors attend classes and join students for lunch. It is a great way to learn more about the Bishop Dunne experience.

Open House is offered periodically throughout the year to prospective students and their families to meet staff, faculty, and students one-on-one. Instructors demonstrate some of the learning tools used in class such as the Anatomage Table, a medical college-grade virtual lab used in science classes.



Anatomage Table featured at Open House



The 6th grade class had a year full of learning, discovery, and growth. Early in the year, they visited the Dallas Arboretum, and during the holidays, they attended a live performance of *A Christmas Carol* at the Dallas Theater Center.

In celebration of Black History Month, students participated in a Living History Museum with the theme African Americans in Sports. Another powerful experience came with a visit to the Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum.



Students at the Dallas Arboretum



Living history Museum: African Americans in Sports

The 7th grade class enjoyed an enriching year filled with hands-on learning and new adventures. From local outings to a memorable overnight trip, students explored the world around them while continuing to grow as learners and young leaders.

Students attended a field trip to the Dallas Zoo, where they observed animals from around the world and explored topics related to biology, conservation, and ecosystems.

Students also visited the Texas State Capitol where they toured the historic building, learned about the legislative process, and saw government in action, helping them make meaningful connections to their social studies curriculum.



FORMATION

Middle School

7th & 8th Grade Biennial Washington, D.C. Trip with Close Up Foundation

Every two years, seventh and eighth-grade students travel to Washington, D.C. with the Close Up Foundation.

During their recent trip, students explored iconic landmarks such as the U.S. Capitol, the Supreme Court Building, Lincoln Memorial, and the Arlington National Cemetery. They engaged in hands-on workshops, debates, and small-group discussions with peers from across the country.



Students visiting Seaworld

The 8th grade class had a memorable experience this year as students prepared to enter high school. Early in the year, students traveled to the George W. Bush Presidential Library.

Later in the spring, the class attended Physics Day at Six Flags, where science came to life. This unique blend of learning and fun allowed students to see physics in action while enjoying a day of excitement and discovery.



Middle School Celebration Ceremony

Middle School Graduation

Near the end of the year, our eighth-grade class attended their celebration ceremony, marking the close of middle school and honoring their many achievements. The celebration continued with a party at Redbird Skateland, where students laughed, danced, and created lasting memories with friends and teachers.

Now officially the Bishop Dunne Class of 2029, these students transition to high school with confidence and pride. Their personal growth, leadership, and resilience throughout the year have left a lasting impact, and the entire school community looks forward to seeing all they will accomplish in the years ahead.

Learning Resource Center

Prior to 2001, there was no Learning Resource Center (LRC) among the Dallas Diocese schools, but that changed when Bishop Dunne hired Leslie Folz in August 2001. Mrs. Folz was the first to offer support to students with different learning styles and abilities, offering resources and assistance tailored to students' individual needs. Demand for the services was high as students from other schools transferred to receive the attention and special services that were lacking at their previous schools. And most importantly, these students began to thrive! Sadly, Mrs. Folz retired in May 2025, but her legacy remains.

Last fall, Christina Bell Macher joined the Bishop Dunne team and began working with Mrs. Folz to acquaint herself with the LRC program. Throughout the school year, Mrs. Folz and Ms. Macher served more than 80 students, offering instructional accommodation, academic support, and aid for students returning from extended health-related absences. The baton has been passed, but the niche service Bishop Dunne offers students with special learning styles continues.

At Bishop Dunne, each student is celebrated for their unique qualities. They are God's masterpiece, endowed with purpose and potential that is ready to be unlocked!



Grant McClure

Attorneys Wade and Kelly McClure are parents of graduate Grant McClure '15 and three other sons. Grant required special attention due to a rare, congenital brain condition called Agenesis of the corpus callosum (ACC), where the right and left sides of his brain are missing the band of nerve fibers that connect the two sides.

While Grant overcame many impediments associated with the condition, he was diagnosed with learning issues that impacted the way he could receive information and express his thoughts. The McClures heard about the robust Learning Resource Center at Bishop Dunne, the nurturing family environment, and array of student activities, and knew this was the place for Grant!

Learning could sometimes be frustrating for Grant, but Mrs. Folz showed him tools to use. As a result, Mrs. McClure said he became a better student and person.

“Her class was a special place I could go to when the pressures were mounting. Mrs. Folz meant everything to me and other students who were fortunate to work with her,” Grant said.



“Leslie’s legacy can now be seen throughout the Diocese. We are all so very fortunate to have been touched by her kindness, positivity, and nurturing approach to education for all students,” said Mrs. McClure.

With Mrs. Folz’s support, Grant graduated from Dunne and was accepted to his first choice for college, Alaska Pacific University, where he later graduated with a bachelor’s degree.

STEM

Olivia Dugger, valedictorian for Class of 2021, found her purpose in an AP Human Geography class led by 26-year veteran instructor Brad Baker. Mr. Baker challenged Olivia and her classmates to map densely populated areas in Puerto Rico for the Red Cross after Hurricane Maria. That class ignited a purpose in Olivia to create sustainable solutions for struggling populations through Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Mapping.

During high school, Olivia earned 52 college credits that allowed her to earn competitive scholarships and internships. She graduated from TCU as an Honors Laureate in May with three majors—geography, digital culture and data analytics, and Italian.

In August, she began her GIS career as an associate technical consultant for Esri, the global market leader in GIS software and mapping. Olivia is one of many students who attended Mr. Baker's classes and chose a career in GIS or a related field.



2024-2025 Advanced GIS Mapping projects

Advanced Geographic Information Systems (GIS) uses map data and drone technology to participate in community service projects and identify solutions for geographic and environmental challenges throughout the world. Some Bishop Dunne students leverage their GIS Mapping studies at Dunne to pursue careers in this field with starting salaries sometimes as high as \$100,000.

Bishop Dunne students partnered with St. Vincent de Paul to provide research and spatial analysis for a \$5M grant supporting pharmaceutical services for rural Texans.

The Medical Society Club,

led by Science Chair Alma Keglovits '99, enjoyed guest medical professional speakers and internship opportunities. Students interested in sports medicine worked with Bishop Dunne Head Athletic Trainer Coach Tye Burch-Bowser.

STEM PROGRAM

Robotics, led by Vladimir Sosa '03, is teaching students how to build and program robots and remote controls. Thanks to a generous graduate from the Class of 1968, Mr. Sosa will have the parts required for the VEX Robotics Competition game for 2025-2026. This competition allows students to design and build robots in a game-based, engineering challenge.



Engineering students created technical drawings and constructed model bridges, catapults, and ping pong launchers! Students used the school's 3D printer and practiced their Computer-Aided Design (CAD) skills to create prototypes of mechanisms.

Many of our science classes conducted interactive assignments using our state-of-the-art Anatomage Table! Bishop Dunne is the only school in the area to have this medical school-grade, virtual lab.

FORMATION

Arts

The Bishop Dunne Band began the 2024-2025 school year strong with a \$126,000 gift from an anonymous donor. The funds provided new, customized marching band uniforms and new instruments.

In the 2025-2026 school year, the Bishop Dunne band is projected to have even larger ensembles as more students in the community vie for a seat in what is considered by many to be the top performing high school band in the region. It is an exciting time to be a member of the Bishop Dunne Band Program!



In 2024, band performed at **Carnegie Hall**, and this past year, they continued to showcase their award-winning talents. Bass clarinet player Ari Buck '26 was the first Association of Texas Small School Bands (ATSSB) all-state musician to represent Bishop Dunne in decades. Many band students competed with other Texas private schools in honor bands and ATSSB, earning superior ratings in most competitions.



Elias Young '25 is an accomplished, four-year, all-state champion tuba player who plans to study music education at Texas Christian University, having earned a \$67,500 annual scholarship to attend. He is a first-generation college student who began studying at Bishop Dunne in seventh grade and received tuition assistance in order to attend. But there were tough times before graduation.

"My mother and I moved six times between May 2022 and December 2023. After she lost her job, we had to leave our home and move in with my grandmother. The day before my sophomore year, my grandmother's home caught on fire.

We had nowhere else to stay but a hotel. The hardest part was losing motivation and confidence. What kept me going was support from teachers, friends, and especially my mom, who reminded me our situation didn't define my future. By the end of 2023, we had started fresh and began to rebuild."

"These events did not break me...They made me more determined than ever to attend college."



When Elias graduated on May 23, 2025, the applause from the Falcon community was deafening.

Mid-year, the Drama Club launched the tenth anniversary of **The Bishop Dunne Revue**, a whimsical variety show featuring students, graduates, and faculty. It also marked the tenth anniversary of the dedication of the Monsignor Milam J. Joseph Auditorium. Monsignor Milam opened the first night's performance with a prayer.



The Patrick and Beatrice Haggerty Foundation, a long-time partner, gave a generous donation this year to upgrade the auditorium's sound system and microphones.

FORMATION

Clubs & Service

One of Bishop Dunne's four Cardinal directions is to serve. We celebrate our faith and perform acts of service and witness together.

Bishop Dunne Clubs: African American Awareness, Campus Ministry, Drama Club, Empowerment 101, Future Business Leaders of America, GIS/Geo Tech Team, HS & MS Student Council, Latinos Unidos, Media Club, Medical Society Club, National Honor Society, Robotics Club, and many more!

Stronger Together - In the middle of tragedy in **Kerr County** caused by a treacherous storm resulting in flooding that killed more than 100 people, four of our schools came together to serve. Bishop Dunne, Bishop Lynch, and John Paul, II, in partnership with Notre Dame Catholic School in Kerrville, worked together to support the survivors. Food, sanitary items, and much more were collected at the schools. More than 50 Falcon volunteers welcomed community members who brought essentials to the school that were later transported to Kerrville. It was a powerful statement of compassion and God's faithfulness in the midst of tragedy, reflecting the unity of our Catholic community in serving others.

The Shoe Crew - Scarlett Schwegmann, Georgia Slovacek, Sarah Keyes, and Abigail Bussey from the Class of 2028 are Falcon athletes making a difference. Service is a passion for these girls. They heard that many student-athletes in the community went without athletic shoes and other gear due to financial hardship, so last August, they formed Project Starting Line, a 501 (c)(3). They began collecting new and gently worn athletic shoes and by May, they had 450 pairs of shoes! Margaret Shiver '65 heard about the Shoe Crew, and contacted Brookhaven Country Club to enlist their support. In early August 2025, the club had already donated ten boxes of shoes and gear!



The Empowerment Club and Development Department jointly host International Women's Day each year as students hear from top women executives in our community. This year, we welcomed: Executive Director of the Mike and Mary Terry Foundation Christina Collins; attorney Jessica Sepulveda '02; workforce executive Madelyn Collins; veterinarian and parent of a student Dr. Maya Barfield; Prince of Peace executive and school partner Zulma Hernandez; and public information officer for the Texas Department of Transportation Victoria Lara '16. Following the presentation, speakers joined students in the library for networking. **Our next International Women's Day will be Wednesday, March 4, 2026.**

Spiritual Formations

In 2025-2026, students will gather for a monthly All-School Mass in the gym, complemented by weekly morning Masses in our chapel. These meaningful experiences will enrich our shared faith journey.

Denise Phillips '70 is our new Director of Campus Ministry and Catholic Identity for the year. She earned her bachelor's degree in literary studies and master's degree in religious education and has 30 years of experience. Mrs. Phillips has a huge heart to nurture youth in their faith formation.



FORMATION

Leadership

Student formation is at the heart of all we do.

Bishop Dunne launched 7 Mindsets this year, led by Assistant Principal, Formation Michael Alfery '97 and School Guidance Counselor Damian McDonald, to support middle and high school students in their mental and emotional development. Students met weekly with a focus on building coping skills. In the 2025-2026 school year, 7 Mindsets will be offered in theology class.



Gabby Gonzalez '25, a third-generation Falcon, was the first Bishop Dunne student to attend the prestigious Four-Star Leadership program with General Tommy Franks the summer before her senior year. Students may attend this one-week conference by invitation only. Bishop Dunne is currently the only Dallas high school sending a student to this program annually.

Seventy-five students from around the world participate in this world-class summer leadership program where rising juniors and seniors meet national and international leaders. For Gabby, it changed her life. She found her voice, grew in her confidence, and discovered her purpose as a leader. Gabby will attend Trinity University in San Antonio. She earned

her associate degree at Bishop Dunne through the Collegiate Institute and plans to double major in accounting and political science, pursuing a career path in business or law.

Ninth grade seminar class offered a leadership curriculum developed by the Authentic Leadership Foundation and led by Coach Melvin Smith '17. The curriculum encouraged students to embrace a virtue-based decision-making process. By approaching decisions with integrity and intentionality, students learn critical leadership skills they can apply to their everyday lives.

The 2025-2026 freshman leadership program will be offered for the full year thanks to generous donations from our alumni.



Success Coach

Coach Melvin Smith '17 accepted the role of Success Coach to help students thrive as they transition from middle to high school or as outside students transfer to Dunne. Coach Smith meets one-on-one with students regularly to discuss their progress in classes and also for mental health check-ins.

“Yes, there are times for accountability and discipline, but making time for showing that you care means a lot and goes a long way.”

- Coach Melvin Smith '17

FORMATION

Althetics

"There is no traffic jam along the extra mile." - Roger Staubach

Football Coach Lineup

"As a coach, my goal is to inspire young men to be leaders on and off the field," Coach Hyder said.



Kerry Hyder, Jr.: New Head Coach, 10-year NFL veteran.



LaAdrian Waddle: Offensive Line Coach, six-year NFL veteran.



Keith Davis: Middle School Head Coach/Varsity Secondary Coach, ten-year NFL veteran.



Anthony Wallace: Associate Head Coach, Defensive Coordinator, Linebackers Coach, 15 years in sports management.



Jeremy Kerley: Offensive Coordinator, seven-year NFL veteran.



Dewayne Ikner: Secondary Coach, played football for Southern Nazarene University.

Archery



Coach Brad Baker and his 30-member archery team took silver in the state competition for private schools in two archery disciplines. Aaron Pelletier '26 won bronze as an individual shooter in both categories. The team also qualified for nationals for the very first time!

Swim



Kaden pictured on far right.

Kaden Polachek '25 competed at the TAPPS Div II State Swim Championship and won third place in the 100-yard freestyle and district champion in the same category. Kaden qualified for state competitions in all four of his high school years.

Tennis



Julian Williams '25 was the 2025 Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS) Girls Singles runner-up and district singles champion. She has been accepted to Clark Atlanta University and will be joining their women's tennis team!

NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Business Sponsorships

Where Business and Philanthropy Intersect

A business sponsorship at Bishop Dunne allows you to give to the school while also expanding your business reach. There is a sponsorship level for any sized business. Contact us today and let us work with you on a plan that will benefit the students and grow your business!

Event sponsorships are also available and can be combined with the Business Sponsorship Program.

 <https://www.bdcs.org/support/businesssponsorship>



Bishop Dunne *Presents*

Our community came together for the Second Annual Bishop Dunne Presents at Villa Luxe Hall on November 14, 2024. The Brad Thompson '87 Band and the Bishop Dunne student jazz ensemble performed that evening. Our keynote speaker, Dr. Yolanda Brooks, shared her inspiring story and background in mental health support for young athletes. Our generous guests helped us raise more than \$80,000 with a portion going toward scholarships for College Ready Academy graduates. These are students who are the first in their families to attend college.



The Third Annual Bishop Dunne Presents is scheduled for:

**Thursday, November 13, 2025
at the Dallas Museum of Arts.**

The David Whiteman '85 Band will be performing and public information officer for the Texas Department of Transportation and former news anchor Victoria Lara '16 will emcee the event.

NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS



Bishop Dunne

Golf Classic

The Bishop Dunne Golf Classic on April 25 brought alumni, parents, and donors together for an afternoon of fun competition at the Cowboys Golf Club.

It is a sellout event, so sponsors and golfers are encouraged to register early for the next Bishop Dunne Golf Classic scheduled for:

**Friday, April 10, 2026
at the Cowboys Golf Club.**

Bishop Dunne

Literary Festival

Bishop Dunne showcased bestselling author Nic Stone at its 2025 Bishop Dunne Literary Festival on Thursday, April 10th, 2025. Known for her engaging novels that explore themes of identity, justice, and empathy, Nic brought inspiration, warmth, and energy to every moment of the daylong event.

From the moment she stepped on campus, Nic was fully present with our students. She took the time to speak personally with every student and community member who approached her. What made these interactions truly special was her attention to detail. She didn't simply sign books; she personalized each message after asking thoughtful questions, creating meaningful connections with our students.

The 2025 Bishop Dunne Literary Festival was not just an event; it was a celebration of stories, voices, and the power of words to create change.



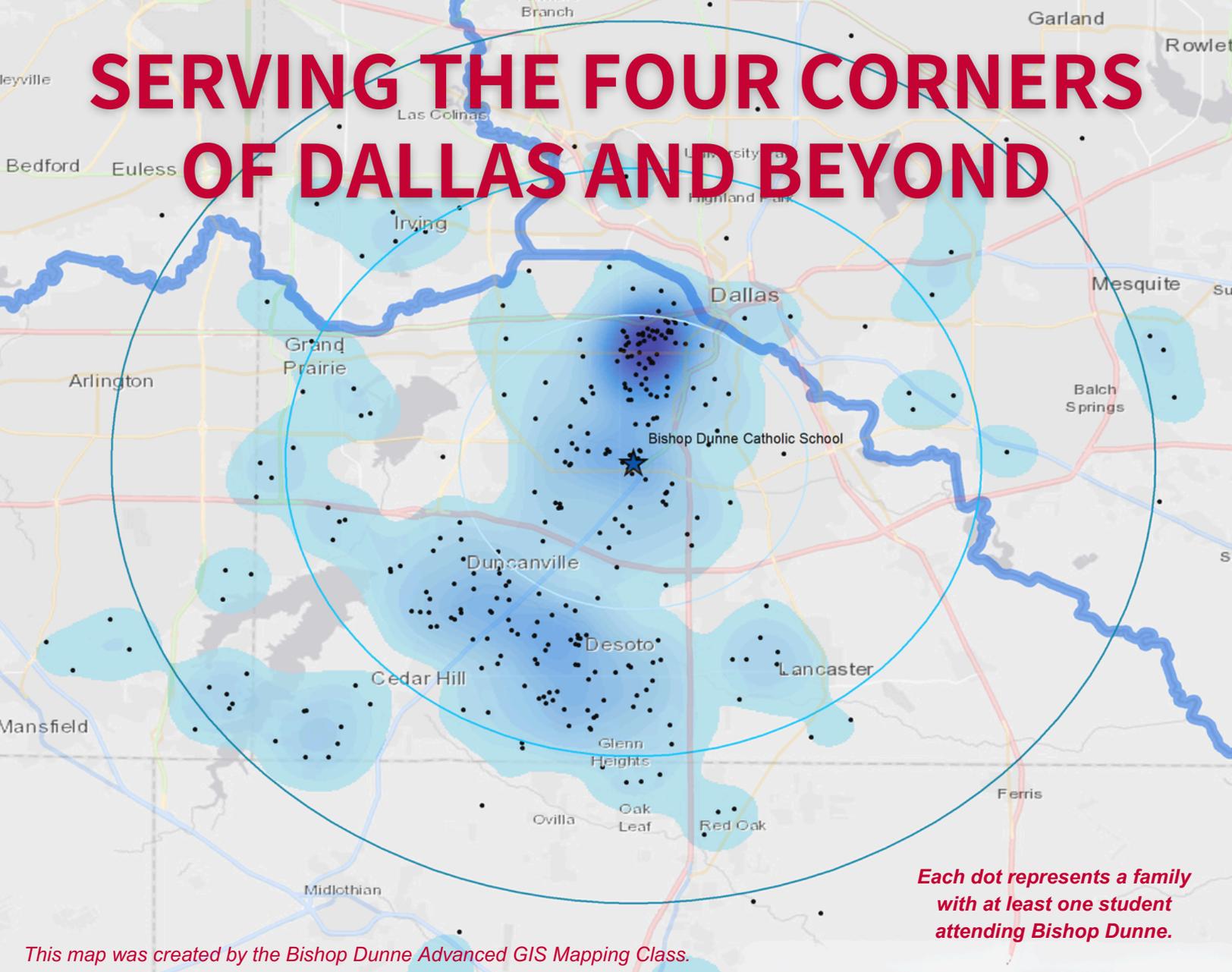
Nic Stone speaking at the Literary Festival

The sixth Annual Bishop Dunne Literary Festival is scheduled for:

April 16, 2026 with returning New York bestselling author Jason Reynolds of youth literature.

Joaquin Zihuatanejo and Cydni Robertson '09 will also be speakers for the day's event.

SERVING THE FOUR CORNERS OF DALLAS AND BEYOND



Each dot represents a family with at least one student attending Bishop Dunne.

This map was created by the Bishop Dunne Advanced GIS Mapping Class.

Leadership Team

President
Gabe Moreno '03

Principal
Steve Guerrero

Director of Development
Elisa Goodwin

Assistant Principal, Academics
Christine Voigt

Assistant Principal, Formation
Michael Alfars '97

Director of Middle School
Erica Culton

Thank you for being part of our community!



Follow us on social media!



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