THE GOLDEN BEAR
ANNUAL FUND

Frequently Asked Questions

What is The Golden Bear Annual Fund?

The Golden Bear Annual Fund is an ongoing effort led by the HIES Development team and supported by dedicated volunteers and donors across the community—including parents, alumni, grandparents and friends.

The Golden Bear Annual Fund dollars are used exclusively to support HIES's operating budget. This means they provide for everything from books in the library and equipment for athletics—like soccer balls, lacrosse sticks and baseball bats—to supporting the dedicated faculty who shape each student's experience, as well as Fine Arts materials like paint brushes, pianos and pottery clay. They also fund science lab resources such as petri dishes and microscopes, student publications, campus life events and so much more!

Each year, The Golden Bear Annual Fund contributes approximately 10% of the school's total operating budget, making it HIES's number one philanthropic priority.

I'm passionate about a certain area—can I direct my gift there?

While we appreciate the flexibility that unrestricted support provides to the school, donors are also welcome to direct their gifts to specific institutional priorities, including Academic Programs, Athletics, Faculty Support, Fine Arts, Financial Aid, Security and Technology.

Why do we need The Golden Bear Annual Fund?

As an independent school, Holy Innocents' Episcopal School relies on a combination of tuition, philanthropic support, endowment income and grants to fund its daily operations.

Tuition alone does not cover the full cost of the HIES experience. The Golden Bear Annual Fund helps bridge that gap—ensuring the school can provide exceptional faculty, innovative programs and meaningful opportunities for every student. It is essential in sustaining the quality and experience that define HIES.

Why is support from current families so important?

Parent support at HIES has an immediate and meaningful impact on the student experience, enhancing every aspect of school life.

It also serves as a powerful reflection of the strength and commitment of the HIES community.

Each year, current families play a vital role in the success of The Golden Bear Annual Fund, contributing significantly to overall participation and philanthropic support. Their involvement helps build momentum, strengthen community and inspire others to give.

This effort is led by dedicated Parent Giving Chairs and volunteers who partner with the Development team to engage families and champion The Golden Bear Annual Fund.

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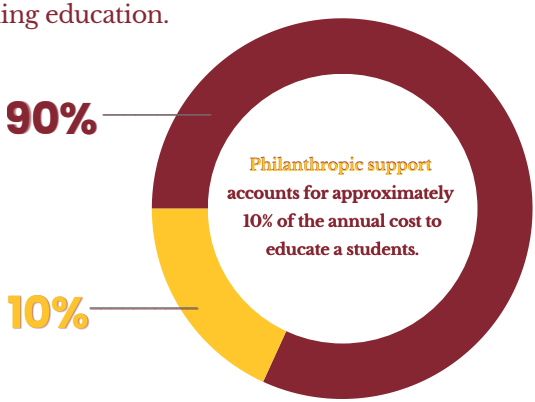
If I can only make a small gift, does my participation really matter?

Certainly! Your participation is vital—it demonstrates the community's commitment to Holy Innocents' mission and strengthens our appeal to foundations and corporate partners. Every contribution, no matter the size, helps ensure that current and future students continue to benefit from the exceptional education Holy Innocents' has provided since 1959.

Does tuition cover the full cost of the HIES experience?

No—tuition and fees do not cover the full cost of a Holy Innocents' education. A gap exists between tuition and the actual cost to educate each student. This gap is bridged through annual giving, along with income from the endowment and auxiliary programs.

Philanthropy plays a vital role in shaping the HIES experience, ensuring students have access to the essential resources that support a well-rounded and enriching education.



What is a matching gift?

Many companies offer matching gift programs that can double—or even triple—your contribution to the Golden Bear Annual Fund. All matching gifts are credited to you, increasing the impact of your generosity.

To find out if your employer participates, please enter your company's name below or contact your Human Resources department for more information. If your company offers a matching gift, please submit the completed form to the HIES Advancement Office using the contact information below.
If you have any questions, we are happy to help.

Holy Innocents' Episcopal School
805 Mount Vernon Highway NW
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What is the difference between annual giving and capital or endowed giving?

The Golden Bear Annual Fund helps us live; capital funds help us grow. That is, the Golden Bear Annual Fund is used for annual expenses, while capital and endowed gifts are for building and special projects.