IWA

The Word Magazine

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INCARNATE WORD ACADEMY MAGAZINE



We are the Heart of Excellence

INCARNATE WORD ACADEMY
THE HEART OF HOUSTON

The Word



MISSION
Incarnate Word Academy provides young women with a Catholic college preparatory education, helping them grow in their relationship with Jesus, the Incarnate Word, and live according to His values. Our cornerstones are academics, values and spirituality.

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ON THE COVER
Cassie Martinez, '27, Sophie Michael, '28, and Audrey Martin, '27, take a moment during our Fall Photoshoot to smile for the camera. Photo by Daniel Pawlowski.

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President's Letter



"Excellence comes from discovering our passion, setting goals, staying focused and working hard."

DEAR IWA FAMILY,

It's easy to feel cynical in these times. Life seems challenging everywhere you look, whether it's dealing with rising grocery prices, government shutdowns, or witnessing images of violence locally, nationally, or globally on our screens each night. These realities can understandably spark fear, and I often find myself asking, "Where is all of this heading?"

But then I come to school and I am inspired by our bright young students. They are filled with happiness and excitement about all the experiences they encounter on their high school journey. Don't get me wrong; it's not always easy, but they still are achieving remarkable things to prepare for college and help make our world a more caring and compassionate place. It is truly refreshing to see.

The magazine's title, "***The Heart of Excellence***," is quite fitting. Excellence is not the same as perfection; if it were, most of us would never achieve it. Instead, excellence often comes from discovering our passion, setting goals, staying focused and working hard. As I review the draft of the magazine, I can't help but smile. We recently bid farewell to our 2025 graduates and we're already hearing from them that IWA has well-prepared them to face the challenges of college life.

I am proud to see many examples of our current students achieving academic accolades. They are also taking risks by stepping out of their comfort zones to try new things, whether on stage, on the court, on the field, or on the course. All of these efforts reflect The Heart of Excellence.

In looking through the Alumnae section of the magazine, it's heartening to see that the IWA Sisterhood remains vibrant and strong. Once an IWA sister, always an IWA sister! The bonds among them run deep as they share joyful moments in their adult lives or gather with classmates to reminisce about "the good old days."

How do all of these "moments of excellence" occur? They happen through the dedicated service of those who support the IWA mission: the Board of Directors, our committed Faculty and Staff, supportive Families and generous Donors. I am truly grateful to all of you.

Reflecting on the contents of this magazine brings me great pride and excitement for the future. Excellence is always within our grasp.

Praised be the Incarnate Word,

Sr. Lauren Beck C.V.I.

SISTER LAUREN | **President**

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INCARNATE WORD ACADEMY

THE HEART OF HOUSTON



Falcon News

New Wall Graphics Beautify Campus

IWA has never looked so good! Our students, faculty and staff were delightfully surprised on the first day of school with our brand new wall graphics. The cafeteria and hallways were buzzing with school pride as the girls reunited from the summer and admired the artwork's inspiring messages.

The north cafeteria wall features a red slant with one of our new branding stickers and the words "Lead, Learn, and Succeed," a reminder to our students of IWA's values. A large heart takes up the bottom right corner of the wall, with three framed photos exhibited above. Two of the photos are of current students and serve as a reminder of the Sisterhood and the importance of academic excellence. The last photo is of our most recent seniors; an inspiration to the current students and a reminder of all they can aspire to achieve.

Close to the water bottle station, the next wall graphic sports the saying "What's Up? Be in the Know." Underneath, the school has installed a corkboard so that the students, faculty and staff can share upcoming events and announcements with each other.
In the Young Leaders Conference Room, we are proud to present our Leadership Wall. This wall is made up of a vivid collage of leadership-inspired words such as Resilience, Humility, Creativity, Strength, Responsibility, Perseverance, Empathy, Curiosity and Action.

The space outside of the Auditorium showcases a similar design, with arts-related words. This wall serves as an inspiration for our girls as they enter the auditorium to sing, act, perform or applaud. Some of these words and phrases include: A Joyous Noise, Spotlight, Choreography, Step Up, Arts and Music.

We invite parents, alumnae and friends to come visit IWA this year to see these exciting changes! We are the Heart of Houston!

#TheHeartofCreativity

IWA

IWA Introduces a Beautifully Redesigned Website

For the past several months, IWA's Marketing and Communications Department has been working hard to develop and create an exciting new website, designed to better serve our family community. We aim to tell stories about our students' accomplishments, our supportive educational environment and to provide the most current information to our site's visitors.

Our new site showcases updated images and videos of our students, alumnae and parents that let visitors hear firsthand about the IWA experience. The sitemap at the bottom of every page will also help visitors navigate to any topic, and our new and improved search function will also help with this. A school's website is frequently a first impression to potential students and families, and we are ready to put our best foot forward!

#TheHeartofInnovation

More Than A Decade in the Making: The Capitol Street Garage

Tuesday, August 29, 2025, was a historic day for IWA! Bishop Italo Dell'Oro, auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, led the IWA student body, faculty and staff, and invited guests in a prayer service and blessed our highly anticipated Capital Street Garage. In his opening remarks, Bishop Italo told the enthusiastic crowd, "I've never seen a group of people so hyped for a parking garage."

The garage, jointly owned by IWA and Annunciation Church, will accommodate approximately 305 vehicles and provide ample parking for both organizations, even during simultaneous events. Additionally, the Capitol Street Garage will allow IWA to offer convenient parking for Astros fans, which will generate extra income for both the school and church.

Beaming with joy at the sight of the garage, Sister Lauren reflected, "As I look at this stunning garage–you've got to admit, it's not your average garage–I see a dream come true! I'm so thankful for all the people who, over the years, contributed their expertise, talents and gifts to the planning, design and construction. God is good! **WE DID IT!**"

#TheHeartofExcellence





Creativity Shines at IWA

Each year, the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards celebrate outstanding young artists and writers across the nation. Our students once again demonstrated exceptional talent, imagination and voice, earning recognition at every level and standing out from thousands of other submissions.

Two of our art students won the Gold Key, the highest regional honor, and advanced to national judging!

Two additional art students were honored with the Silver Key, recognizing strong originality and technical excellence, while six students received honorable mention for their creativity and potential, distinguished by their unique perspective and skill. Congratulations to all of you!

#TheHeartofCreativity



National African American Recognition Program Honorees

The National African American Recognition Program honors students whose PSAT scores place them among the top 2.5% of African American test-takers nationwide. IWA proudly congratulates two remarkable students who have earned this honor: Grace Farnum and Alana Shadow.

Congratulations and kudos for your dedication, perseverance and academic excellence. Your hard work not only brings pride to IWA but also sets an inspiring example for your peers and future generations of Falcons!

#TheHeartofAcademics

Students Honored with National Recognition Awards

Every year, the College Board's National Recognition Programs celebrate outstanding academic achievement among students from underrepresented communities. These honors recognize high school juniors who score in the top 2.5% nationwide on the PSAT/NMSQT among eligible test-takers in their respective categories. This year, Incarnate Word Academy proudly celebrates the accomplishments of 14 exceptional students who have earned this prestigious distinction. Congratulations girls! We are so proud! Kudos to all the students, their teacher, Mrs. Ann Marie Giradot, and the faithful mentors who support and instruct all of the teams' efforts.

#TheHeartofAcademics

IWA Robotics Teams—Inspiring with Heart and Reaching for the Starts!

The IWA FTC Robotics team Women of the Wires (WOW) had an amazing year!

In April, the team won the Sweepstakes Award at the TAPPS State FTC Robotics Championship in Waco, Texas. In April, the team offered an outreach STEM Day at St. Francis de Sales Catholic School. The WOW Robotics ladies led eight different STEM activities that students from all grade levels were able to participate in. We hope that this day inspired a love of STEM!

At the end of the school year, the IWA Robotics Team was presented with the **Sr. Jeanne de Matel Award** for outstanding dedication, perseverance and excellence in Robotics teamwork and for bringing honor and recognition to Incarnate Word.

Over the summer, Women of the Wires was selected by Dr. Dee Wallace, a FIRST in Texas coordinator, to attend the Comicpalooza Convention at the George R. Brown Convention Center. Four WOW team members attended the Convention to showcase FTC Robotics and introducez the attendees to FIRST Robotics. WOW also offered a two-day Rookie Robotics camp in late July. This camp introduced new team members to FTC Robotics and also helped St. Thomas, our brother school, with the launch of their own FTC Robotics team.

To top it off, we now have a second FTC Robotics team, Sisters of the Servos! Their motto is "Reaching for the Stars." They will be competing alongside Women of the Wires, whose motto is "Inspiring with Heart."

#TheHeartofSTEM

National Hispanic Recognition Program Honorees

Students who have earned this recognition represent the top academic performers among Hispanic and Latino PSAT test-takers. IWA is thrilled to announce 12 honorees from the Class of 2025: Clarissa Banda, Olivia Coronado, Daniella Cross, Emma Elkareh, Grace Farnum, Maribel Garza, Juliette LaWare, Anai Muñiz, Cecilia Prodoehl, Ruby Ramírez, Tania Rodriguez, and Raina Winfrey. ¡Felicidades!

#TheHeartofAcademics



The Class of 2025 has Taken Flight!

The IWA community came together on Saturday, May 17 to celebrate the Class of 2025. Held in the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Downtown Houston, the Baccalaureate Mass and Graduation Ceremony was a beautiful end to the 2024–2025 school year.

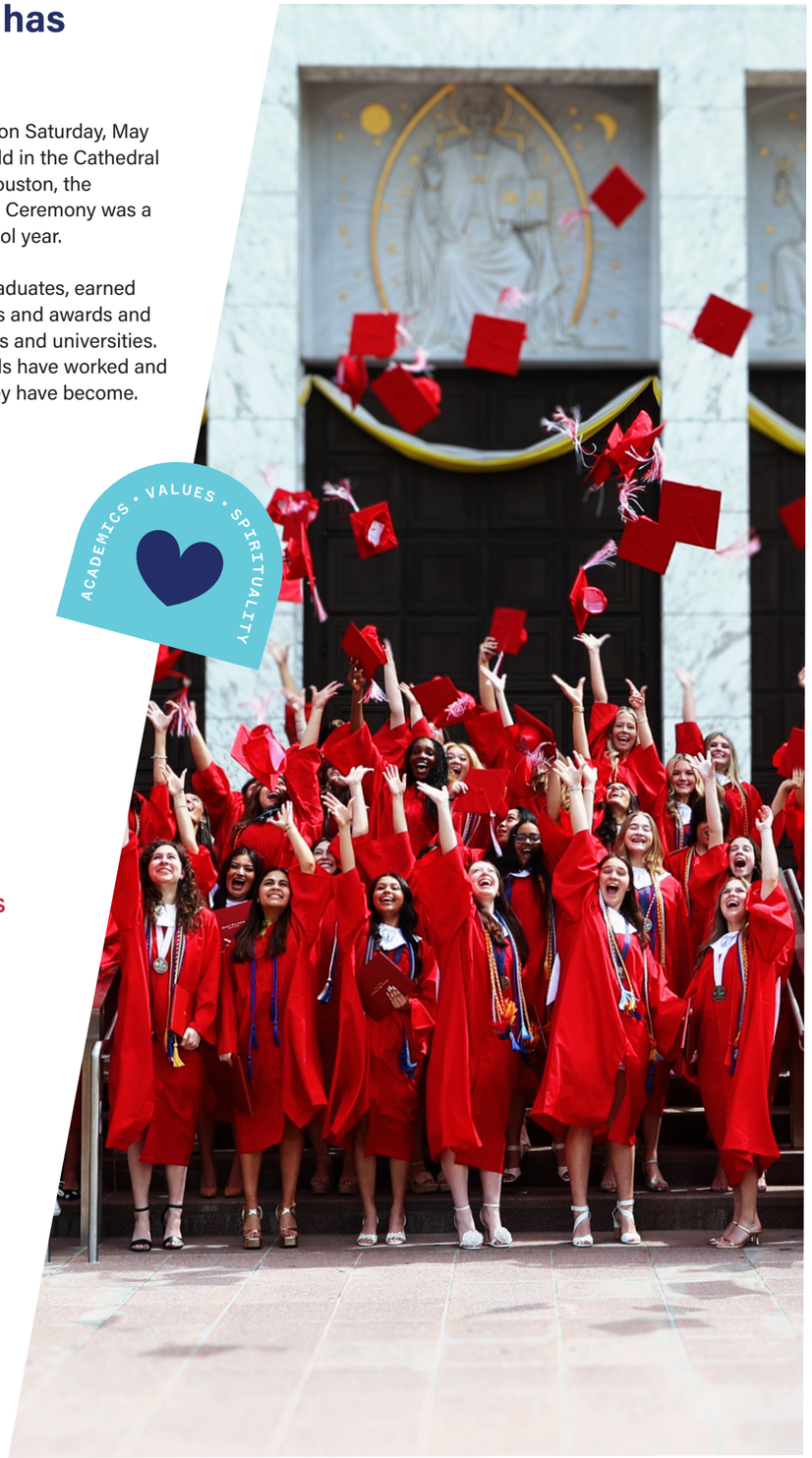
The Class of 2025, made up of 62 graduates, earned more than $15 million in scholarships and awards and were accepted into over 300 colleges and universities. We are so proud of how hard our girls have worked and of what incredible young women they have become. Continue to spread your wings!

62
TOTAL GRADUATES

349
ACCEPTANCES TO COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

9959
CUMULATIVE SERVICE HOURS

$15M
SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS



Honors for the Class of 2025

WOMAN OF THE WORD AWARD
Rebecca Peterson

SERVANT OF THE WORD AWARD
Maribel Garza

SPIRIT OF THE WORD AWARD
Leilani Tamez

CHARLINE BARRY THEOLOGY AWARD
Lizbeth Michael

SOCIETY OF WOMEN ENGINEERS AWARD
Rebecca Peterson

SERVICE LEARNING AWARD
Katlin Trostmann

LEADING WITH BUSINESS
Danika Vance-Tassin

DISTINGUISHED LEADERS AWARD
Ava Baughman
Erin Baumeister
Angela Benny
Emma Elkareh
Katherine Gallagher
Ishanna Gama
Maribel Garza
Kelsie Glover
Sophia Hamilton
Bella Martinez
Kate McGarvey
Lizbeth Michel
Loly Nguyen
Rebecca Peterson
Cecilia Prodoehl
Tania Treviño
Alana Shadow
Kendy Taylor
Kaitlin Mendoza-Trostmann
Alexandra Waggoner
Raina Winfrey

DEPARTMENT AWARD: THEOLOGY
Rebecca Peterson

DEPARTMENT AWARD: ENGLISH
Katherine Gallagher
Alexandra Leon
Anai Muñiz

DEPARTMENT AWARD: MATH
Clarissa Banda
Erin Baumeister
Allison Temple
Danika Vance-Tassin
Raina Winfrey

DEPARTMENT AWARD: SCIENCE
Sarah Bourgeois
Leilani Tamez
Kendy Taylor
Raina Winfrey
Lillian Woods

DEPARTMENT AWARD: SOCIAL STUDIES
Katherine Gallagher
Bella Martinez
Rebecca Peterson
Lara Resenblad
Raina Winfrey
Lillian Woods

DEPARTMENT AWARD: ATHLETICS, FINE & PERFORMING ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY
Fia Déhais
Eden Fuller
Eleanor Kane
Tiffany Nguyen
Danika Vance-Tassin

SCHOLAR ATHLETE
Meredith Martin

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLAR
Erin Baumeister
Maribel Garza
Ruby Ramirez

NATIONAL HISPANIC RECOGNITION AWARD
Clarissa Banda
Olivia Coronado
Daniela Cross
Emma Elkareh
Grace Farnum
Maribel Garza
Juliette LaWare
Anai Muñiz
Cecilia Prodoehl
Ruby Ramirez
Tania Treviño
Raina Winfrey

NATIONAL AFRICAN AMERICAN RECOGNITION AWARD
Grace Farnum
Alana Shadow

SCHOLASTIC HONORABLE MENTION AWARD
Lyndzie Kitzman

AP CAPSTONE DIPLOMA
Julia Bounds
Sarah Bourgeois
Ishanna Gamma
Lizbeth Michel
Raina Winfrey

AP SCHOLAR
Julia Alderete
Ava Baughman
Julia Bounds
Rose Collora
Mariana Conley
Daniela Cross
Fia Dehais
Claire Fischbach
Katherine Gallagher
Natalie Garcia
Bella Martinez
Lizbeth Michel
Alerice Milagrosa
Caitlin Straw
Kaitlin Trotsmann

AP SCHOLAR WITH DISTINCTION
Clarissa Banda
Erin Baumeister
Sarah Bourgeois
Grace Farnum
Ishanna Gamma
Maribel Garza
Kelsie Glover
Eleanor Kane
Juliette LaWare
Anai Muniz
Rebecca Peterson
Ruby Ramirez
Alana Shadow
Allison Temple
Valeria Velasco-Vaca
Alexandra Waggoner
Raina Winfrey

AP SCHOLAR WITH HONOR
Maria Aguirre
Sophia Hamilton
Meredith Martin
Kate McGarvey
Tania Rodriguez
Kendy Taylor

AP SEMINAR & RESEARCH CERTIFICATES
Bella Martinez
Alercie Milagrosa

PRESIDENT'S EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE SILVER AWARD
Ava Baughman
Emma Elkareh
Grace Farnum
Claire Fischbach
Meredith Martin
Cecilia Prodoehl
Iris Reedy
Caitlin Straw
Valeria Velasco-Vaca
Alexandra Waggoner
Lillian Woods

PRESIDENT'S EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE GOLD AWARD
Clarissa Banda
Erin Baumeister
Julia Bounds
Sarah Bourgeois
Amy Burdzinski
Daniela Cross
Katherine Gallagher
Ishanna Gama
Maribel Garza
Kelsie Glover
Sophia Hamilton
Juliette LaWare
Anai Muñiz
Rebecca Peterson
Ruby Ramirez
Alana Shadow
Kendy Taylor
Allison Temple
Raina Winfrey

Student Profiles



IWA

The Heart of Academics

IWA girls are recognized as students who lead, learn and succeed. On these pages, two recent graduates, Erin Baumeister and Ruby Ramirez, our Class of 2025 Salutatorian and Valedictorian, speak about their time at IWA, their favorite experiences, future plans and more.

Erin Baumeister ‘25



OPPORTUNITIES TO LEAD

During my time at IWA, I found a wide range of opportunities to lead: I served as captain of the tennis team, co-president of Stitching Sisters and STEM+, helped lead freshman orientation and was an active member of several other school clubs and organizations.

One of my most meaningful leadership roles was serving as a Falcon Ambassador.

As a Falcon Ambassador, I supported the Admissions Department by giving prospective student tours, assisting with our annual Open House and helping with other admissions events.

FAVORITE EXPERIENCE

Some of my favorite memories at IWA are simply the times I spent with my friends. I loved our lunchtime conversations, running around on Foundation Day and sharing quiet moments together during free time at junior and senior retreats.

IWA truly is the heart of sisterhood!

GROWTH

While at Incarnate Word, I was able to dive deep into the sciences and truly discover where my passions lie. The classes taught by Mr. Comer, Mrs. Garza and Dr. Daponte were especially influential in helping me decide what I wanted to pursue in college. With their guidance, I discovered a passion for scientific research, particularly medical research. Taking AP classes in high school also gave me the foundation and confidence to handle college-level work. I couldn’t have done it without the support of my teachers, classmates and the school community.

FUTURE PLANS

This fall, I’ll be attending Rice University, where I plan to major in either Biochemistry or Biomolecular Engineering. After college, I hope to pursue a PhD, potentially through a dual MD/PhD program. I also plan to continue playing tennis at the club level at Rice and in USTA league teams.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The close, supportive environment at IWA has had a profound impact on my growth. Teachers like Mr. Comer and Ms. Kelly consistently go out of their way to support and encourage students to improve and succeed. The individualized attention they provide fosters meaningful personal development and I know I’ve grown significantly since my freshman year, thanks in large part to their guidance and dedication.

Ruby Ramirez ‘25

OPPORTUNITIES TO LEAD

I’m a naturally quiet person, so leadership wasn’t something I expected to pursue. The summer before senior year, a friend asked me if I wanted to start a chess club with her. Organizing the club added another responsibility to an already busy school year, but we managed to balance our workloads and successfully run the club.

This experience proved invaluable to me as a leader.

FAVORITE EXPERIENCE

I have had many wonderful experiences at IWA, which provides much more than just a basic education. Its downtown location allows students to easily visit places like Discovery Green (DG) for picnics, the George R. Brown Convention Center or PWC for leadership events, and even attend Astros games or performances such as The Nutcracker at the Wortham Theater Center. Our Family Falcon picnics at DG are enjoyable IWA traditions and serve as great bonding experiences with my IWA sisters.

GROWTH

During my time at IWA, I faced academic challenges that tested both my time management skills and my patience. In rigorous classes like AP Biology and AP Calculus BC, I developed a strong work ethic and effective study habits. My success also stemmed from the dedication of teachers who consistently worked to prepare us for the future and provide a quality education. The skills I gained from those experiences strengthened my intellect and discipline—attributes that will serve me well as I study engineering in college. Incarnate Word Academy also nurtures intellect alongside faith. As a Catholic school, it offers many opportunities to practice my faith through attending Mass, prayer services, retreats and offering service to others. The community’s sincere commitment to its beliefs creates an environment where students can explore their relationship with God without judgment.

FUTURE PLANS

In the immediate future, I plan to major in engineering science at Trinity University in San Antonio. Because of my positive experiences with clubs at IWA, I hope to get involved in Trinity’s student organizations as well. I also want to travel as much as possible to experience more of the world.

KEY TAKEAWAY

An education at Incarnate Word is not just about memorizing facts and regurgitating information. It encourages genuine critical thinking and creativity. The school offers a variety of AP and honors courses that challenge students and prepare them for the future. Small class sizes and strong student-teacher ratio ensure that everyone has access to direct support from their instructors. There’s also much more to IWA’s education than the core curriculum alone; the school’s sisterhood fosters lasting interpersonal connections and encourages each and every student to grow socially and spiritually.



Athletics



The Heart of Champions

BY RICK PEREZ, ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

I'm in my 24th year as athletic director at Incarnate Word Academy. Looking back on my time here, it is incredible to see how much we have grown since then. In 2001, we only had five sports available for the girls to play: basketball, cross country, softball, track and volleyball.

Now, we are proud to offer ten different sports for our girls. Each team has been remarkably successful, competing in championships and having girls qualify for TAPPS at the state level. We also have eleven former students still competing at the college level. In May 2025, Kendy Taylor signed at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, to continue cheerleading. This was the very first time one of our girls has signed for cheer and we are thrilled!

Forty percent of our total student body participates in at least one sport, with many girls excelling in multiple sports. This involvement showcases their passion for athletics while also maintaining strong academic performance. When middle school students visit IWA for tours, they witness firsthand the welcoming environment of their future teammates in nine different sports. If they have the talent and dedication, our coaches are sure to recognize it. We have even had freshmen who performed exceptionally well, allowing them to join the varsity teams—an opportunity that is often unlikely in larger schools. IWA is fortunate to offer its students the opportunity to actively participate in sports, making it an integral part of their overall high school experience.

Many of our student athletes are enrolled in honors level classes and AP/Dual Credit classes, where they make use of the valuable life skills that participating in a sport has helped to instill in them. Some of the skills that the girls learn include teamwork, discipline, resilience and time managament. Our girls are champions on and off the field, and we couldn't be more proud of them!

Go Falcons!



Cross Country

Throughout the summer, our Falcons were hard at work preparing for the 2025–2026 school year. The girls joined St. Agnes in Memorial Park to train together. Although the IWA Falcons and St. Agnes Tigers are rivals, they help push each other to train better and work harder. Competition season began on August 16, as IWA hosted the 15th Annual Cross Country Invitational at Challengers Seven Memorial Park. Mary Brush, ’28, finished in 11th place and Clementine Wells, ’29, finished in 12th place. On Friday, August 29, the team attended South Houston Invitational at Crenshaw Park in Pasadena, Texas. Vivian Espinoza, ’27, finished in first place! Mary Brush, ’28, placed seventh and Clementine Wells, ’29, placed in eighth. We are so proud of our team! They competed in the district meet on October 18 at The Woodlands Christian Academy.

Volleyball

Our Volleyball team was also training hard over the summer, with camps taking place from July 21–24 here at IWA. This summer we had more camp participants than ever before. Tryouts took place August 4 and 5 and we have 30 incredible athletes across our Freshman, Junior Varsity and Varsity teams. We have four seniors on our Varsity team this year, Elizabeth Carter, Margaret Duncan, Brigid Flaherty and Olive Focke. Head Coach Britni Villareal is back with us again for her third year and is looking forward to a great season. Competition within our district began on September 25 here at IWA, with our girls competing against St. Pius X High School.

Basketball

Our basketball camp took place July 14–17. This was the first time in 15 years that IWA has had a summer basketball camp, an incredible milestone for us! Broderick Williams, our first-year head coach, is expecting great things for this season. Margaret Duncan, ’26, and Brielle Reagins, ’26, will be leading the team. Kennedy Trahan, ’20, IWA’s Admissions Outreach Coordinator, will also serve as assistant coach for the basketball team and head coach for the JV team. We are thrilled to have her with us!

IWA FALCONS

Soccer

Our Head Coach Jenny Smith is looking forward to a strong soccer season! The team is led by seniors Brigid Flaherty, Claire Hayes, Victoria Parker and Taran Boles. Last spring, Kate McGarvey, ’25, signed a letter of intent to play soccer at Rhodes College. She checked in with us recently and let us know that she is having a great season.

Swim

Swim season began in September. The Falcons continue to train at the University of Houston’s Natatorium. We congratulate our Head Coach Rachel Boyle, who welcomed a baby girl in early September. Marcela Portillo, our swim coach for the 2016–2017 season, has returned to coach our girls while Rachel is on maternity leave. Juniors Molly Burrell and Veronica Burger will be the team leaders. Our team hopes to make it to State in February and the first swim meet took place in October. Go Falcons!



Leadership



Young Leaders Program Rebrands: A Change for the Better

Incarnate Word Academy's renowned and respected Young Leaders Program, under the direction of Ms. Antoinette Hernandez, has decided to update curriculum course titles that better reflect their content and goals. "We re-evaluated the curriculum," says Ms. Hernandez, "and determined that the course names should be more straightforward and robust."

The four original Incarnate Word class offerings will now be called:

- **FUNDAMENTALS OF LEADERSHIP**
  Formerly Leading with Character and Academics
- **SERVICE IN ACTION**
  Formerly Leading with Service
- **EMERGING ENTREPRENEURS**
  Formerly Leading with Business
- **PERSONAL FINANCE MANAGEMENT**
  Formerly Leading with Personal Finance

IWA is committed to helping students become Authentic Bold Servant Leaders.

In addition to these courses, IWA is one of the first schools in the nation to offer AP Seminar and AP Research with a focus in leadership. These trademarked College Board courses, also known as the AP Capstone program, were added to our course catalog in 2023 and 2024 to provide further opportunities for students to use their foundational leadership skills to make real, relevant changes in the world around them. In AP Seminar, students develop ethical research and media literacy skills to holistically approach modern, relevant issues of interest to our students and effectively communicate impactful solutions to an audience.

AP Research takes these lessons a step further and walks students through the professional research process, focusing on a gap in the body of knowledge that the student will answer through original research, culminating in a 5000-word academic paper, a thesis defense before a panel of judges and the chance to publish their findings in professional journals.

"After over ten years of operation, the school's leadership program is stronger than ever," says Ms. Hernandez. "The program continues to empower young women to develop their individual strengths to make positive change in their communities, families and careers."

IWA Honors First AP Captstone Graduates

Incarnate Word Academy is the first school in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston to introduce the AP Capstone Diploma program. Eleven students from the graduating class of 2025 are the first Capstone Cohort to complete both AP Seminar and AP Research with the potential to earn the AP Capstone Diploma™ in the Heart of Houston.

The AP Capstone Diploma program, comprising the two interdisciplinary project-based courses of AP Seminar and AP Research, helps students develop hard and soft skills that are essential to academic and career success. Students create research projects based on topics of personal interest and are assessed on the critical thinking, ethical research, collaboration, time management and presentation skills needed to complete their projects. "The AP Capstone program reignites curiosity in the classroom," shared Bianca Peart, global director of the AP Capstone Diploma program. "Students are not only building essential skills for college and career success but they're also discovering how their voices and ideas can make an impact."

During the 2024–2025 school year, more than 160,000 students in over 3,500 schools worldwide participated in AP Capstone. Of these, approximately 27,650 students earned the AP Capstone Diploma, and 12,430 students earned the AP Seminar and Research Certificate. At Incarnate Word, 10 of the 11 students in our cohort were recognized by College Board in some way, with 55% earning an AP Capstone Diploma compared to the global average of 17.2%.

Below are the lists of honored students with their Capstone research project.

Of the students who participated in the AP Capstone Diploma program at IWA, six were awarded the AP Capstone Diploma by earning scores of three or higher in AP Seminar, AP Research and on four additional AP Exams:

- Julia Bounds – "Dye-ing for Color: Analysis of Natural Dyes in Sprinkles Compared to their Synthetic Counterparts"
- Sarah Bourgeois – "The Generational Effects of Extreme Beauty Standards on Disordered Eating: A Cross-Sectional Study"
- Ishanna Gama – "Exploring the Impact of Varying Frequencies of Wolfgang Mozart's Piano Sonata No. 11 on Test Performance of Middle School Students in Houston, Texas"
- Lizbeth Michel – "Creating Curriculums for the Sea: Improving Ocean Literacy in Texas 7th Grade Students"
- Anai Muniz – "The Phenomena of the Female Character: Quantity vs. Quality"
- Raina Winfrey – "Gen Z and Modernization in the Roman Catholic Church"

Two students were awarded the AP Seminar and Research Certificate by earning scores of three or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research:

- Bella Martinez – "The Portrayal of a Leader: Royal Portrait of King Charles III"
- Alerice Milagrosa – "Wheelchair Accessibility in Residential Housing Design"

Two more of the students earned the title of AP Scholar with Distinction by earning a score of three or higher on at least five AP exams with a total average AP score of 3.5+:

- Erin Baumeister – "Modern Application of Historic Expression Techniques: An Analysis of Quilting and its Relation to Women's History"
- Maribel Garza – "Heat and Homelessness: A Solar-Powered Solution"

Congratulations to our inaugural Capstone Cohort!



Welcoming Freshmen to the Heart of Houston

For the second year, IWA's three-day Freshman Orientation helped to welcome the incoming freshmen class and to introduce them to the IWA sisterhood!

Orientation began off-site at Camp Kappe for two days and continued into the first day of school on campus. At Camp Kappe, the Campus Ministry Leadership faculty guided the general sessions while the Orientation Team, made up of upper classmen, led the small groups. Activities included indoor and outdoor team building exercises with plenty of down time for prayer, crafts and games.

By the time the Class of 2029 stepped on campus for their first day of school, friendships were blossoming and the sisterhood was strong! On that day, freshmen received their iPads and class schedules and discovered that their lockers were boldly decorated in customized themes and colors, courtesy of their Falcon Family Senior. Each Falcon Family group, comprising of students from each grade level, is ready and excited to welcome, guide, support and celebrate the new freshmen as they are introduced into the IWA sisterhood.

The freshmen then walked through their class schedules, met teachers, heard from a panel of upperclassmen and capped off the day with a fun ice cream social.

To further support a smooth transition into high school, the Orientation Team will continue to meet with the freshmen once a month. These check-ins provide a space to answer any questions, share helpful advice and glean insights from their upperclassmen mentors.

First-Ever "IWA Leads" Builds Community

On September 8, IWA held its first annual All-Campus Leadership Day, entitled "IWA Leads." Students engaged in a series of team-building activities with their Falcon Families, aimed with the goal sparking their leadership skills and igniting the leader in each of them. Teams of color-coded Falcon Families met for general session talks with Ms. Hernandez to explore this year's theme of **LEAP**: cultivate **Love**, generate **Energy**, inspire **Audacity** and provide **Proof**. Teams also broke out into small group sessions for activities to reflect on their own contributions to school culture, problem solving in the community, and dedication to using their leadership skills to step up and make a difference.

LEAP activities will continue throughout the school year to forge friendships, foster leadership and have fun!

Office Hours

Allison Self

A HEART FOR TEACHING

Biology teacher Allison Self is one of the newer faculty members at Incarnate Word Academy, but she has embraced the school's culture and mission from day one. "I chose IWA because I wanted to be a part of a community that valued sisterhood and spirituality," she says.

"It is so cool that I can continue to grow in my Catholic faith each day and share that with my students. From my first week here, I have felt nothing but love from all of the girls. IWA is truly a family and I am so blessed to be a part of it!"

Ms. Self grew up in the Kingwood area and attended Texas A&M University where she received her B.S. in Vertebrate Zoology. "My love for Biology classes is what led me to attain my teaching certification in life sciences," she explains. In her first year post grad, she taught seventh grade science at Scoggins Middle School in Frisco, TX. After a year of living in Dallas, she wanted to move back to Houston to be near family. This is her second year at IWA, where you'll find her on the third floor teaching college prep Biology, Honors Biology and Forensic Science.

What does she like most about her job? "The most rewarding part of teaching is the relationships I form with my students," says Ms. Self.



"I love getting to know each of my students, watching them grow and guiding them through the transformative time of high school."

When she's not working, Ms. Self loves exploring Houston's restaurant scene with her fiancé, as well as relaxing with her pet vertebrates: two cats, a dog, a bearded dragon and a dwarf hamster.

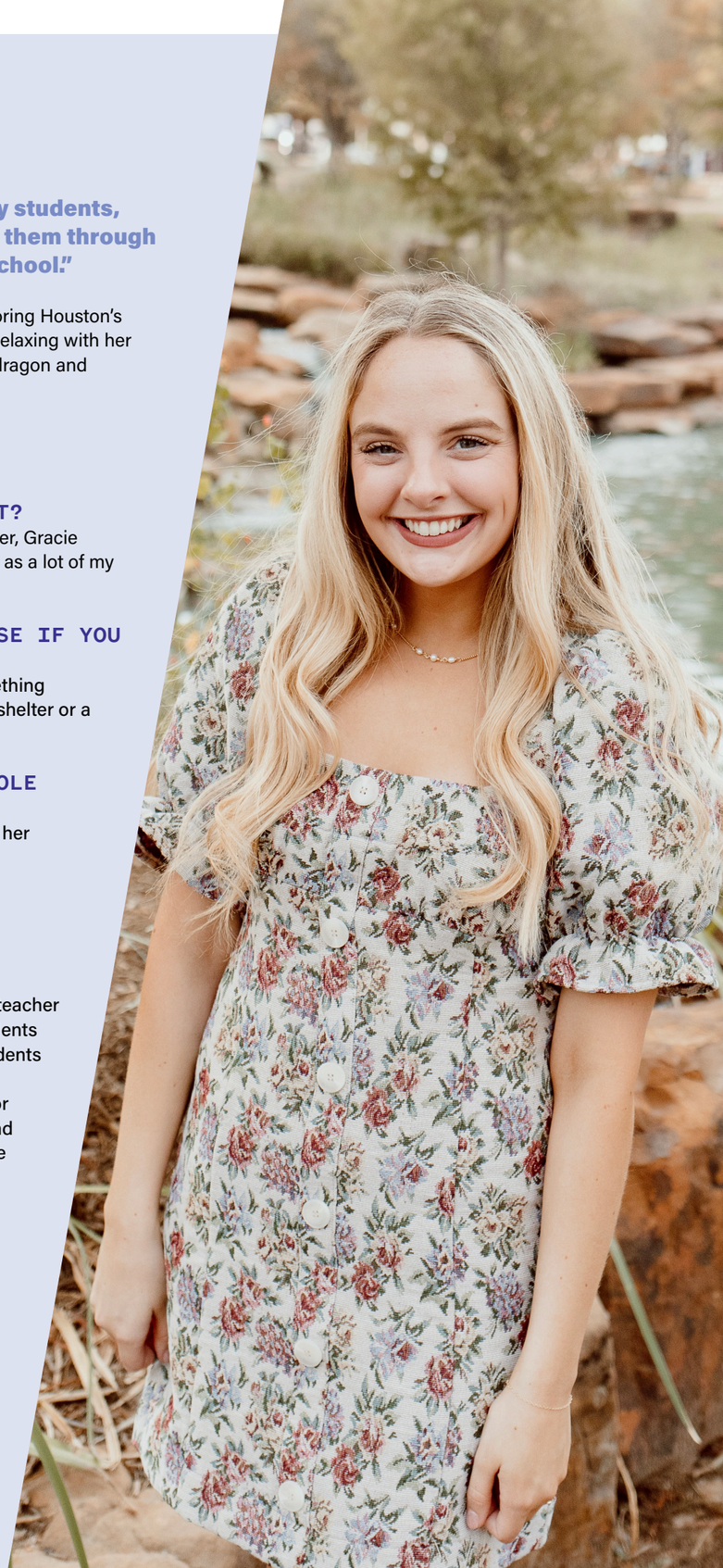
Q&A

WHAT'S TOP ON YOUR PLAYLIST?
Taylor Swift, Olivia Rodrigo, Sabrina Carpenter, Gracie Abrams. I tend to have the same music taste as a lot of my students!

WHAT CAREER WOULD YOU CHOOSE IF YOU WEREN'T A TEACHER?
If I weren't a teacher, I would be doing something involving animals like working at an animal shelter or a zoo.

DID YOU HAVE A MENTOR OR ROLE MODEL WHO INSPIRED YOU?
My mom is a teacher, so I learned a lot from her and got to witness first hand her impacting and helping students.

CAN YOU SHARE A FAVORITE CLASSROOM MOMENT?
The most memorable moments for me as a teacher are the small memories I make with my students everyday. I try to keep my door open for students before and after school and during advisory and flex, for girls to come in and talk, vent, or decompress. I want my room to be a safe and comfortable space for everyone and in these moments I truly feel like I am where I am supposed to be and fulfilling my purpose as an educator!



Fine Arts

Last spring, our Falcon Theater invited boys from STHS to join the cast to put on an incredible performance of "Miss Holmes," directed by Chip Simmons. This show put an exciting twist on the Sherlock Holmes story, with the female lead solving local crimes in Victorian England while facing societal obstacles.



FEATURING SOPHIE OGBO
AS MISS HOLMES





Advancement News

FEATURE

2024–2025 Annual Fund Exceeds All Expectations

Each year, Incarnate Word Academy invites its many benefactors to join in making the Academy a philanthropic priority by giving to the Annual Fund, which runs from July 1 through June 30. During the 2024–2025 campaign, our parents, grandparents, faculty, staff, board of advisors, alumnae, friends, community organizations and foundations responded to this invitation with love and generosity-helping us to raise a record amount of just over $523,000. Thank you to everyone who gave!

Gifts to the Annual Fund help us to close the gap between the true cost to educate each student and what is covered by tuition. Donations are unrestricted, which allows them to be directed where they are needed most, giving our students incredible access to exceptional academics, highly-qualified and caring faculty and staff, numerous extracurricular and athletic opportunities and our acclaimed Young Leaders Program. Because of the generosity of our donors to the Annual Fund, IWA is able to do all of this while challenging them to grow spiritually through ministry, retreat and service experiences.

As we continue to propel our mission forward, we invite you to prayerfully consider giving once again or perhaps for the first time, during the 2025–2026 Annual Fund. Gifts can be made via check through the envelope included in this magazine, online at incarnateword.org/give, or during Giving Tuesday on December 2, 2025!

"For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be." Matthew 6:21

IWA

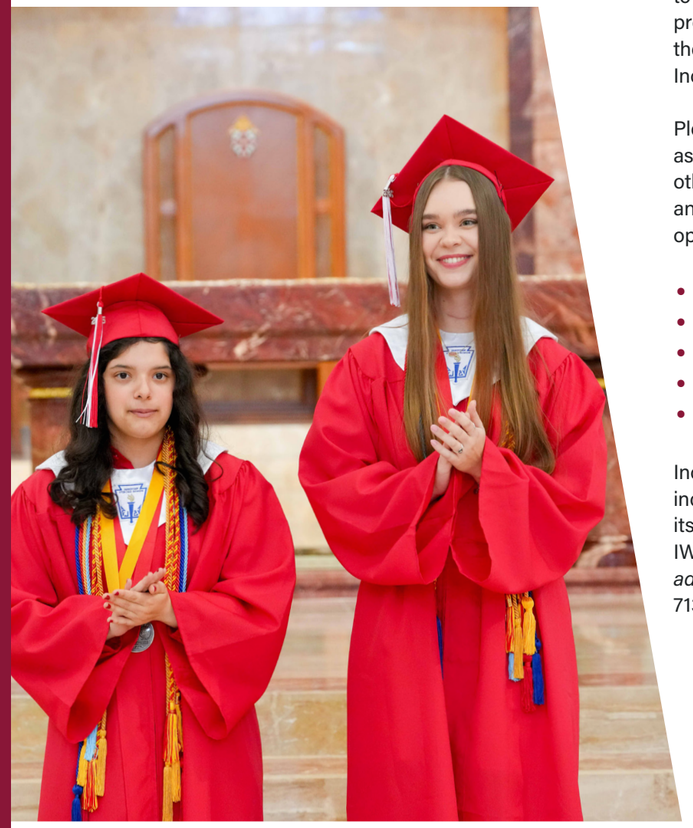
Giving Tuesday

Join together with the IWA Community and commit to making Incarnate Word Academy your philanthropic priority, this **Giving Tuesday**,* December 2, 2025.

**Giving Tuesday is a global movement that began in 2012 to unleash radical generosity. Last year, IWA raised over $65,000 on Giving Tuesday. All donations made on Giving Tuesday benefit the IWA Annual Fund. Visit incarnateword.org to learn more.*

Ready to make your gift? Scan the QR code below!

WE ARE THE HEART OF HOUSTON



609 Legacy Society—Planned Giving

The legacy of Incarnate Word Academy, Houston's first Catholic high school, is steeped in a rich and vibrant history. Since 1873, when the first three Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament arrived at the corner of Jackson and Crawford Streets—specifically at **609 Crawford**—our school has been fortunate to have the support of dedicated Sisters, families, students, alumnae, faculty, staff and friends of the Academy. These individuals have generously contributed their time, talent and resources to support IWA.

As we continue to plan for the future of Incarnate Word Academy, we invite you to consider an investment in IWA's lasting legacy by joining the 609 Legacy Society and including the Academy in your estate plans. By making a planned gift, you allow the mission of Incarnate Word Academy to be part of your legacy, ensuring that IWA can continue to provide young women with a Catholic college preparatory education for decades to come, helping them to grow in their relationship with Jesus the Incarnate Word and live according to His values.

Please consider naming Incarnate Word Academy as a beneficiary in your will, trust, retirement plan, or other deferred giving plans. Planned gifts are flexible and can be modified throughout your lifetime. Gift options can include:

- CASH
- STOCKS
- REAL ESTATE
- LIFE INSURANCE
- CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUST

Incarnate Word Academy is profoundly grateful for individuals considering this impactful way to support its future. For more information about supporting IWA, please contact *advancement@incarnateword.org* or call 713-227-3637.

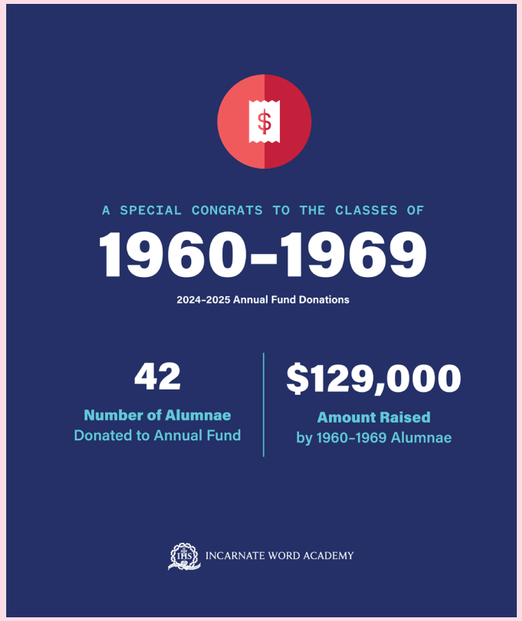
Save the Date

SPRING IN THE CITY

This year's gala is right around the corner! Please join us at **6:30 p.m.** on **Saturday, April 25, 2026** at The Revaire.

We can't wait to see you there!





Our Supporters Are the Best of the Best

Thanks to the unwavering support of our donors, we raised over $523,000 for the 2024–2025 Annual Fund! This was a record setting campaign.

To our amazing alumnae, thank you for always showing up and giving so generously of your time, resources, and love for IWA. Each of you plays a vital role in helping us continue our mission and keep the spirit of sisterhood strong.

We truly could not do it without you. You inspire us every day, and we are so grateful to have you as part of our IWA family.

Olé Madrid Gala & Auction

HONORS THE SISTERS OF CHARITY OF THE INCARNATE WORD

Over $1 Million Raised For IWA

On Saturday, April 26, Incarnate Word Academy hosted the 2025 Gala & Auction: *Olé Madrid* at The Revaire. For the second year in a row, the venue was transformed, this time into an Old-World Spanish setting of golds, deep green, red roses, yellow carnations and ornate fans. The gala was co-chaired by Caroline and Chris Marciano (Katie '28), Monica Ciatto '98 and Oscar Montemayor (Olivia '27) and Tracy and Mark Temple (Allie '25), who helped lead an unforgettable evening in support of IWA!

Each year, the gala committee selects an honoree for the Sister Agatha Sheehan Award. This year, the award was presented to the Congregation of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, who have embodied unwavering faith, compassion and service that have profoundly shaped the fabric of our community.

Their legacy of service and long-standing commitment to Incarnate Word Academy and its mission were celebrated by the community with gratitude and admiration.





Guests enjoyed an evening filled with lively entertainment, including traditional flamenco dancers and a Spanish guitarist.

The program featured a spirited live auction and the crowd-favorite "Paddles Up" moment following heartfelt remarks by Tania Rodriguez, '25, capturing the important impact that IWA has made in her life, which moved the crowd to generously donate to the scholarship and financial aid fund. One of the highlights of the live auction was Amora, a mini Bernedoodle puppy! The IWA student body came together to pick Amora's name. As the students proudly carried her through the ballroom, the crowd erupted in excitement, with enthusiastic bidding filling the room as guests vied for the chance to take her home.

Thanks to the generosity of so many the event grossed more than $1,097,000, among the most successful galas in IWA's history.

The 2025 Gala & Auction: *Olé Madrid* was not only a vibrant celebration of culture and community, but also a powerful demonstration of the enduring support for IWA's students and mission.



Alumnae

FEATURE

Tina Buchanan Hartsfield ’86

After graduating from Incarnate Word Academy in 1986, Tina Buchanan Hartsfield began her college career at the University of Houston, where she was enrolled from 1988–1991. She graduated from the University of Louisville in 1999 with an engineering degree. “I learned most of my electrical knowledge from my father,” she says. “He owned an electrical contractor business and took me on many of his projects. His hands-on training is what I value more than any degree I have earned.”

Currently, Tina works for Amentum, a technical and engineering services company, as a Project Engineer with NASA. She began working at Kennedy Space Center (KSC) in 2017 on a federal contract. In 2022, the contract changed to Base Operations and Spaceport Services.

In April 2025, Tina received the Silver Snoopy award for improving astronaut safety.

Of all the Safe Flight Awareness Awards, the Silver Snoopy best symbolizes the intent and spirit of Space Flight Awareness. An astronaut always presents the Silver Snoopy because the recipient is chosen by a group of astronauts to highlight a colleague who exemplifies excellence and contributes to flight safety and mission success. Fewer than one percent of the aerospace program workforce receive this prestigious honor annually.

Tina earned the award after she served as the lead project manager and lead system engineer driving the Kennedy Space Center electrical line splice upgrade project. The project she was working on upgraded 3,000 existing underground power lines to significantly increase the capability, performance and reliability of NASA’s premier launch system.

The award itself [the Silver Snoopy pin] was flown on SpaceX 13 to the International Space Center (ISS) and was at the Space Station from December 17, 2017, to January 12, 2018. “The award was presented to me by Mark Vande Hei, retired United States Army officer and current NASA astronaut,” Tina says.

Besides the Silver Snoopy pin, Tina received the Silver Dollar Award in 2024, in addition to several other awards over the years. Someday she hopes to receive the Lifetime Achievement award, but she emphasizes that accolades aren’t what motivates her:

“I am just happy to continue to support the missions, not for the awards, but because I believe in the overall mission. NASA’s motto is For all Humanity.”

Tina’s values, motivation and accomplishments speak to the foundation she received at IWA.



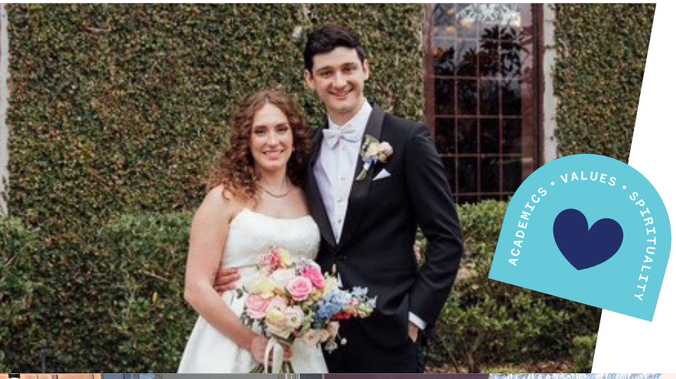
Q&A

HOW HAS IWA PROVIDED A GOOD FOUNDATION FOR YOUR LIFE?
IWA helped me to develop strong critical thinking skills, which I use every day with my role at KSC. Without IWA’s foundation, I would not be able to succeed.

ARE THERE ANY TEACHERS THAT MADE AN IMPACT ON YOU?
Sr. Madeline was always very encouraging. Because of her support, I was able to succeed both in the classroom and outside. I learned the most from Sr. Mark Edward. She even helped me to get my first job at St. Joseph Hospital transcribing surgeon’s notes in Latin.

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE EXPERIENCE AT IWA?
The best part of attending IWA was the sisterhood. I am still in touch with friends that I made during my time at Incarnate Word.

HOW HAS AN IWA EDUCATION HELPED YOU NAVIGATE A SUCCESSFUL CAREER?
The development of both critical thinking and character development that IWA helped me to develop have been crucial for my success in my career. Additionally, IWA instilled in me a strong moral compass and a sense of responsibility towards others.



HALLIE LYONS GARTNER ’19

Hallie Lyons Gartner ’19 met Jack Gartner at Texas A&M in 2020 during Fish Camp. They tied the knot on March 9, 2025. Congratulations to the lovely couple!



THREE GENERATIONS OF SISTERHOOD COME TOGETHER!

Mary Donna Moceri, ’76, Rosie Carrabba, ’55 and Bernie Falco, ’61, gathered at The Original Carrabba’s on Voss to reminisce about the Sisterhood and good memories.

CATCHING UP

The reunion committee for the Incarnate Word Academy **Class of 1976** gathered at Mia’s Table to organize their 50th reunion celebration, which will occur from April 24 to April 26, 2026, at the Kemah Boardwalk. For more details, feel free to reach out to *MaryDonna1957@sbcglobal.net* or connect with fellow classmates on the “Incarnate Word Academy Class of 1976” Facebook page.

For more information, see the invitation on page 36.



First row (Left): Mary Donna Sicola-Moceri and Cindy Vara-Leija / Second row (Left): Angela Espree-Daniel, Magdalen Arroyo-Belmont, Phyllis Alexander-Camarata and Beatrice Mendoza-Licea / Back row (Left): Tracey Perez-Hegger, Ann Marie Gentempo-Paradowski, Michelle Olivier-Galfione, Kathleen Chmiel-Curl and Annette Grizzaffi-Michels

Committee that could not attend: Andrea Adame-Davidson, Dorian Hundl-Bray and Janet McCann-East

FIFTIETH REUNION

The **Class of 1974** celebrated their 50th reunion on Saturday, April 20, 2024, with 34 alumnae in attendance. The day was filled with joyful reminiscing, heartfelt conversations and reconnecting with lifelong friends. Guests enjoyed a delicious BBQ lunch, fun giveaway prizes and a wonderful display of IWA memorabilia that brought back cherished memories. The celebration ended on a high note with everyone joining in for a spirited rendition of “*We Are Family.*”





SISTERS FROM THE SIXTIES!

Take a look at this lovely group photo of classmates from the Class of 1962, who recently reunited to catch up and share memories!

Standing (left to right): Janet Hamala Huber, Christine Micklitz Womack, Teresa Ramirez, Lena Schuttee Tomasino, Teresa Medina Martinez and Maria Villagomez Buzek.

Seated: Peggy Schulin and Loretta Prazak Kasowski.

70 YEARS OF MARRIAGE

Christine Schulze ’54 and her husband Adrian celebrated their incredible 70th wedding anniversary in September of 2024. Together, they raised three children—two daughters and a son. Christine enjoyed a successful career as a real estate broker in Houston before retiring to Fredericksburg, Texas, where the couple now resides in an assisted living community.



SARAH O’CONNOR ’17

Sarah O’Connor, ’17, spent her dental school spring break on a mission trip to San Raimundo, Guatemala, where she provided much-needed dental care to underserved schools and families. She proudly graduated this past May 2025—congratulations, Sarah!



KATIE PHILLIPS STINSON ’15

Katie Phillips Stinson ’15 and Riley met while studying Supply Chain Management at Kansas State University’s College of Business. What a beautiful full-circle moment—10 years after graduating from IWA, Katie was married at Annunciation Catholic Church, where she worshiped as a high school student!





PRAISED BE THE INCARNATE WORD

As a Policy Analyst for Senator Carol Alvarado, Erin Gonzales ’18 recently caught up with Sister Maria Eleanor Caisido, C.V.I. at the Texas Capitol. Another beautiful full-circle moment!

WE ARE THE HEART OF HOUSTON

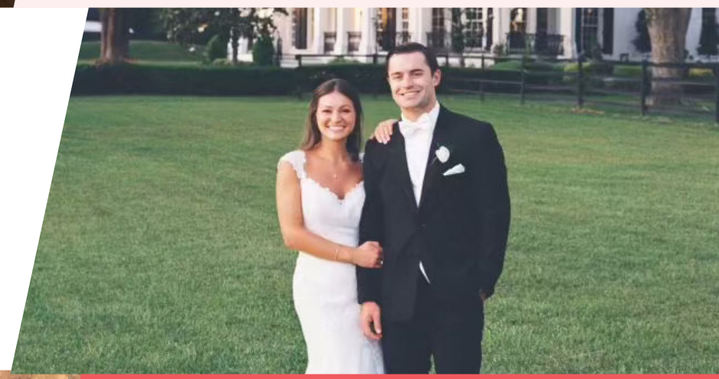


THE CAMINO DE SANTIAGO

“My husband and I walked the 115 km from Sarria to the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela on the El Camino Way in Spain this past May! What an unbelievable experience we had! Even wore my IWA t-shirt for the pic!” —Deborah (Deb) Freitag Jaska, ’75, in front of the Cathedral in Santiago de Compostela, Spain.

CLARE FINGER SPATH ’20

Clare Finger Spath ’20 met her now-husband, Michael, in student ministry during their freshman year at Texas A&M. After years of friendship, he knocked on her door senior year, asked her on a date, and the rest is history! They tied the knot on May 4, 2025, and are now happily married and living in Houston.





THE HEART OF SPIRITUALITY

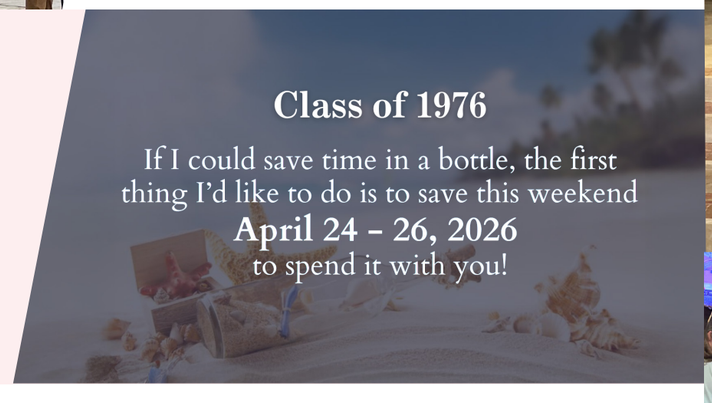
Members of the Class of 1962 gathered for their annual Mass at Sacred Heart Co-Cathedral.

Pictured left to right: Christine Micklitz Womack, Maria Villagomez Buzek, Lena Schuttee Tomasino, Teresa Ramirez, Janet Hamala Huber, Lillian Cegielski Kozel, Peggy Schulin and Teresa Medina Martinez.

CLASS OF ’76: CELEBRATING 50 YEARS!

Join us for your 50th Reunion weekend at Kemah Boardwalk. Come and go as you please for the planned events, or stay for the entire celebration.

To RSVP, contact Mary Donna Moceri by email at *MaryDonna1957@sbcglobal.net* or by phone at (281) 222-8187.





SHARED SCHOOL SPIRIT

On July 22, 2025, alumni from IWA, Strake, SAA, Duchesne, STH, Frassati, St. Pius X, Cristo Rey Jesuit and St. John Paul XXIII came together at Kirby Ice House for an evening of community and fun. The event was a great opportunity for graduates to catch up and celebrate their shared school spirit!

CLASS OF ’67 SHARE LAUGHS

A fantastic group of classmates from the Class of ’67 came together to share laughs and memories at Paulette Spinella Janak’s beautiful Galveston Bay home in Bacliff, Texas.

Attendees included:
Terry Enriquez Hickman, Bessilyn Carrabba Piazza, Mary Foucheaux Machacek, Paulette Zann Chavez, Lucy Lerma, Rosalinda Azios Peterson, Patricia Bilinoski Hoffman and Belinda Postman Kaylani.



ANY NEWS?

We want to hear from you! Please send your news—weddings, engagements, pregnancies, career news and IWA get-togethers—to Annual Fund and Alumnae Coordinator Angelique Longobardi, ‘17, at *alongobardi@incarnateword.org*.

In Memoriam

Margaret (Peggy) Ann Krengle-Parsons ’63

Carol Bruns Krengle ’67

Josie Frances Carraba Ditta ’53

Sadie Jo Montalbano Aquilina

Joseph H. Amberson Jr.
Husband of Barbara Van Postman ‘69

Olivia Orlando Dugas ’69

Mary Louise Kasowski Spencer ’55

Rodolfo Perez
Father of teacher Rick Perez

Mary Ann Felchak Motley’57

Susanna Neufeld (née Rempel)
Mother of teacher Delnor Neufeld

Clayton Sonnier
Husband of Margret LaChapelle Sonnier ‘00

Amanda Comer Gregory
Daughter of Stephen Comer

Sister Mary Gemma Standford CCVI

John Pennington
Father of Talia Pennington-Dorsey

Barbara Ann Daniels Hammer ‘53

Ruth Thies Herlihy ‘48
Sister of Sr. Marian Grace Thies

Paul Deltz
Father of Carole Flaherty

Mindy Zapata
Sister of Michelle Le

IWA

2024-2025

Annual Report

Throughout our 152-year history, Incarnate Word Academy has been blessed to have the support of generous benefactors who believe in the mission of the Academy and feel compelled to share joyfully their treasure. These benefactors include our founders, the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament, foundations, the board of advisors, faculty, staff, alumnae, parents, grandparents and friends of IWA. Each gift represents a commitment to providing a transformational Catholic education to young women, rooted in the values and traditions of Incarnate Word Academy, now and for generations to come. We are filled with gratitude for these gifts and honored to recognize the donors whose names are listed on the following pages.

The following list is inclusive of all donors who contributed to IWA during the 2025 year, which spans July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of these lists. We apologize for any errors or omissions that have been made and ask that you contact the IWA Advancement Department at 713-227-3637 or *advancement@incarnateword.org* with any concerns.

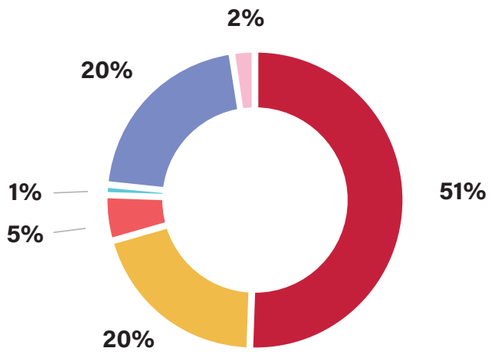


IWA

A Closer Look

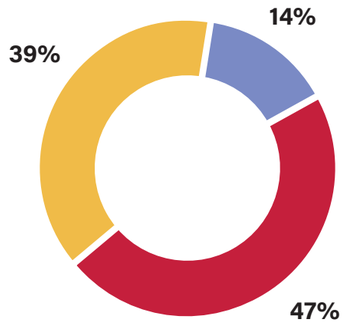
Below you will find the results for fiscal year 2024–2025. The cost to educate each student was $31,595, while tuition was $19,825. The difference is made up through fundraising and the generosity of donors.

Expenses



- $5,162,087 Salaries and Benefits **51%**
- $495,196 Administrative **5%**
- $2,026,268 Education **20%**
- $229,362 Contribution to Reserves **2%**
- $2,125,000 Contribution to 150th **20%**
- $120,387 Fundraising **1%**

Revenue



- $4,789,686 Tuition and Fees **47%**
- $3,935,735 Support for the Academy **39%**
- $1,442,923 Other Income **14%**

$10,158,300
Total Expenses

$10,168,344
Total Revenue

Scholarship Funds

$13,550,389
150th Anniversary Scholarship Endowment

$4,139,507
Scholarship Fund

$4,393,294
Named Scholarship

Sr. Brendan O'Donnell Scholarship
Knight-Powell Scholarship
Most Rev. John McCarthy Scholarship
Most Rev. Vincent Rizzotto Scholarship
Margaret Sheltz Scholarship
Bernice Stansy Purcell Scholarship
Sister Brigid Cummins Scholarship
Guokas Girls' Scholarship
Perry Dean Thomas Scholarship
Patricia Dossman Kubin '50 Scholarship
Richard Adkins Scholarship
Hugh Rafferty Scholarship
Joseph Cahill Scholarship
Christi Quinn Scholarship
Billie and Ann Ellis Scholarship
Vera Hope Barbosa Scholarship
Bishop George A. Sheltz Memorial Scholarship
Sister Virginia O'Donnell Scholarship

$22,083,190
Total Scholarship Funds



Thank You



Annual Fund

$15,000+

1873 SOCIETY: IWA SISTERS'LEGACY CIRCLE

Theresa and Frank Bramanti
Harry S. & Isabel C. Cameron Foundation
Congregation of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament
The Hildebrand Foundation
The John G. and Marie Stella Kenedy Memorial Foundation
Cora Sue Mach '60

$10,000–$14,999

1873 SOCIETY: MISSION CIRCLE

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston
Albert and Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation
Beck, Redden & Secrest, LLP
Dona and Albert Clay
Patricia '68 and Jerome Jezierski
The W.T. & Louise J. Moran Foundation
Louis and Peaches Owen Family Foundation
Barbara Peterman
Genny and Tedd Winter

$5,000–$9,999

1873 SOCIETY: PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

Nora and Richard Brooks
Beverly Cheek
Ashley and Mark Connely
Mary Margaret '60
Lewis & Joan Lowenstein Foundation
St. John Vianney Catholic Church
Ms. Susan Stranahan-Yan '67
Katy Theroux

$2,500–$4,999

1873 SOCIETY: LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

Mary Ann Beachler
John and Laura Brickey
Chris and Sarah Burke
Tracy and Jim Fish
Janet G. and Christian A. Garza
Kay Hawthorn
Deborah Freitag Jaska '75
Mary McGivern and Bill Jones
Joi Moseley '11
Elizabeth A. Muegge '63
Sister Virginia O'Donnell, C.V.I.
Blair Woodell and Henry Pogorzelski
Christi and Dean Quinn
Shell Oil Company Foundation
John Anigbogu and Monica Sinegal-Anigbogu
Ruth and John Soisson
Mr. and Mrs. Clint and Cathy Stephen
Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Turner
Genny and Tedd Winter
Joanie Zwahr

$1,500–$2,499

1873 SOCIETY: FIDELITY CIRCLE

Danielle and Tom Aleman
Mr. and Mrs. Paul L. Broussard
Dianna and Lloyd Cason
Chevron Corporation Humankind Program
Joan Molinaro and Tom Hatcher
Catherine McCann Knapp '73
Knights of Columbus Council 6878
Janet and Christian Garza
Rachel and Patrick Little
Lupe Vasquez Parham '74
The Rosales Family
Jill Schroeder
Schulte Charitable Foundation
Carolyn and David Sears
Christina M. Shively
Amanda Snook
Charron and Charles Uyenco
Julie Zogg

$1,000–$1,499

ACADEMICS STEWARDS: ACADEMICS CIRCLE

Patricia Arnold
Carol Barndollar
Loretta and John Boxie
Diane and Matthew Bramanti
Shavonnah Bush
Susanne and Robert Cenatiempo
Samuel Cimino
Wendy and Alistar Dawson
Esmeralda and Obed De La Cruz
Cara Drake
Enterprise Products Partners, L.P.
Fat Dads Basketball
Sidney Faust
Andrea Forero '05
Lori Gallagher and Curtis Huff
Pam and Peter Hasker
Knights of Columbus–Rev. John T. Weyer Council #11343
Juliette LaChapelle '83
John McCann
Ninfa '77 and Michael Muench
Mary and Ted Revia
Mary '54 and Melvin Schield
Tracy and Mark Temple
Lesli andi Kurt Tentinger
Darlene Hanks Villarreal '77
Dora De Los Santos and David Wilson
Leigh and Dennis Woods

$500–$999

ACADEMY STEWARDS: VALUES CIRCLE

Muhammad Aziz
Rachel and Chris Bacilla
Traci and Philip Bocock
Meg and Brandon Booth
Bernadette '78 and Robert Brown
Nancy Zey and Jonathan Brush
Angelo Cassaro
Dana and Stephen Comer
Roberta Jester '52 and Charles Court
Michelle and Brian Duncan
Nicholas and Cheryl Dzurec
Annie Fabio
Mary Ann Tamburello Foster '57
Heather and Randall Gallagher
Daniella Gonzalez '09
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Laurel and Jeb Bashaw

Gayle Gordy Maness
Madeline Bullock Parker '69

In Honor of The Sisters
Patricia Lonchar '63

Gift received In Honor of James L. Taylor
Carol S. Boll

Rosalie Montalbano Amperi
Rosalie Brandino

Sadie Montalbano Aquilina
Rosalie Bonura
Charles Giammalva
Marilyn Guerinot

Danika Vance Tassin '25
Beverly Cheek

ANNUAL FUND MATCHING GIFT COMPANIES

Chevron Corporation Humankind Program
Enterprise Products Partners, L.P.
Shell Oil Company Foundation
Wells Fargo Matching Gifts Program

Gala 2025

$150,000
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Congregation of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament

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CHRISTUS Health

$25,000
A GIFT OF AFFECTION

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Gail Rossett
Carl Roth
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Drs. Joe and Sylvia Trumble
Raye G. White
Francene Young

Total Earned: $77,800
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Katy Theroux
Gilda Mendoza Trostmann and Kuno Trostmann
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Lauren and Jonathan Wasielewski
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Anonymous
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Brennan's of Houston
Brew Crew Cookers
Dorothy Cannella
Claire Carvajal
Chicken N Pickle
Chick-Fil-A 59 & Kirby
Children's Museum Houston
City of Houston Mayor's Office of Special Events
Clare & Co Events
Clinic Concierge
Crave Cupcakes
Chloe Dao
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Kevin Geegan and Shakaree Geegan '10 Smith
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Guadalajara Hacienda
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H-E-B
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Houston Chamber Choir
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Johnny Carrabba Family of Restaurants
Jonathan's The Rub Memorial Green
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Congregation of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament
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