Greetings Dragon Alumni, Parents and Friends,

I have the pleasure to share with you that O’Dowd is truly thriving ... and that our best days are ahead.

O’Dowd first opened its doors in 1951 and 67 years later, we owe a debt of gratitude to everyone – teachers, staff members, members of the religious orders who’ve served here, parents, alumni, volunteers, donors – who has helped us become the thriving school and community we are today.

The last 12 years have been especially transformational under the leadership of the late Steve Phelps. Today, O’Dowd is at enrollment capacity, has a waitlist for admissions, and features academic and co-curricular programs that prepare our students for college and beyond, with tuition assistance and support programs that ensure we can extend our Catholic mission and charism-values to as many students as possible. We learned a lot from Steve and have a vision for building on his achievements and taking O’Dowd to even greater heights.

Our institutional priorities position us boldly for future success: first, deepening our commitment to our charism and our values-based education; second, driving educational excellence and innovation; and third, seizing unprecedented opportunities to optimize our facilities.

In this magazine, please enjoy the articles that celebrate our life and mission around these three priorities and note the outstanding financial support we received from our community this year to further these priorities. The work at O’Dowd is animated by the spirituality that flows from the charism, thereby expressing our Catholic identity. We are emboldened by pursuing transformative educational strategies for the growth of our students. O’Dowd will be sustainably modernized to enhance the student experience by planning, funding and building the first phase of our campus master plan.

Thank you for engaging with us as we continue to celebrate our history and build on our solid foundation in order to become the Catholic high school our students most need for the complex world they boldly face. Toward that end, I am grateful for your investment in and advocacy on behalf of O’Dowd.

Best,

James Childs, MA, MEd
O’Dowd is Tops

We are proud to announce that Bishop O’Dowd High School won “Best Private High School” in Oakland magazine’s 2018 Best of Oakland and the East Bay annual readers’ poll for the fifth consecutive year! Thanks to all who voted for O’Dowd!

Write us!

We welcome your letters in response to articles in this magazine. Please e-mail submissions to Dragon editor Lisa Coffey Mahoney ’76 at lmahoney@bishopodowd.org or send a letter to:

Dragon Magazine
9500 Stearns Ave.
Oakland, CA 94605

We reserve the right to edit letters for clarity and space.

Are you interested in being a featured contributor? Please contact Lisa Coffey Mahoney ’76. We reserve the right to make decisions on whether or not to publish submitted contributions based on theme of the issue, available space and the nature of the story.

Contributed and staff photos are featured in the Dragon.
Legacy Starts AT O’DOWD
64th Annual Commencement

“The greatest use of a life is to spend it for something that outlasts it.” -William James

O’Dowd Board of Regents member and featured commencement speaker Ellie Knauss used this quote to deliver an inspiring call to action for O’Dowd’s Class of 2018 - your legacy starts now.
“No, not the inherit money from your great uncle type of legacy,” she said. “Legacy is something that leaves a consequence, has an effect and produces a result. In short, something you accomplish in your life that makes a difference. Some of you have already begun to form your legacies with what you have done at O’Dowd.”

Ellie and her husband, Don, were honored at O’Dowd’s 64th annual commencement with the Cor Unum Award. Named for the school’s motto, “One Heart in Christ,” the Cor Unum Award is Bishop O’Dowd High School’s highest honor. It is presented each year to select members of the O’Dowd community whose lives and work embody the school’s Mission to create a more just, joyful, and sustainable world.

The couple was recognized for their steadfast commitment to providing a Catholic education to as many deserving students as possible through transformative gifts in support of financial aid, and service to the mission of Catholic education. Ellie has been a member of the Board of Regents since 2012 and two of their four children - Alec ’10 and Kara ’13 - are alums.

“You are experiencing firsthand, the impact of legacy. You, O’Dowd’s graduating class of 2018, are living the legacy of a man who has been called a futurist in the field of Catholic education,” Ellie said. “Of course, I am speaking of Dr. Stephen Phelps, the president of Bishop O’Dowd High School for the last 12 years.

Dr. Phelps’ job? Mentor, teacher, coach and president. But his legacy? Service to others focused on developing confident, capable and successful young people – like every graduate in this room!”

Other commencement speakers included valedictorian Yujia Li and salutatorian Ruby Perez.

Class of 2018 Gives Back

Inspired by their four transformational years at O’Dowd, members of the Class of 2018 contributed $108,000 to provide the gift of an O’Dowd education to the next generation.

Leaving an **INDELIBLE IMPRESSION**

Several graduates were recognized with special awards at commencement, affirmations of their efforts to leave a lasting legacy at O’Dowd.

**Ruby Perez and Connor Tamor**

**Demonstrating Exceptional Leadership**

(General Activity Award)

**Christina Pirrotta and Ryan Allen**

**Personifying Academic and Athletic Excellence**

(Scholar-Athlete Award)

**Teixeira Cooper and Samuel Showalter**

**Giving of Self Through Service**

(Loyalty Award)

**Sabine Schroepfer and Chris Lucas**

**Living O’Dowd’s Mission**

(Regents’ Award)
ACCEIVING College Acceptance Outcomes

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
Fortaleza, Arden Peter
Grossman, Ethan Rosenthal
Hub, Julia Frances
Johnson, Maia Rose
Pashman, Ella Rachael

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY
Caine, Madsen Taelor
Grendi, Dane Stuart
Torres, Michael Andrew-Jacob

ATHENS TECHNICAL COLLEGE
Nguyen, Gilbert

BERKELEY CITY COLLEGE
Roddy, Nicholas Charles

BOSTON CONSERVATORY AT BERKLEE
Hurley, Nora Joan

CALIFORNIA COLLEGE OF THE ARTS (SAN FRANCISCO)
O’Callaghan, Courtney Elizabeth

CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, SAN LUIS OBISPO
Berkins, Spencer Ryan
Curulla, Christine Elizabeth
De Luca, Rachel Anne
Fauré, Margaux Emma Mandel
Lamoureux, Marie-Claire Jeanette
Lecocq, Emily Catherine
Moseley, Catherine
Rivera-Mayorga, Nathalie Krystina
Santa Cruz, Marcos

CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA
Toney, Samuel James

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, Chico
Allenbach, Samantha Taylor
Anderson, Beck Joseph
Dolan, Shane Michael
Ehrenberg, Samantha Nicole
Hastings, Isabella Virginia
McCroden, Milan Tiana
Naas, Valerie Anne
Park, Cameron Michaela
So, Jennica

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, DOMINGUEZ HILLS
Bremond, Sамиа Elizabeth
California State University, East Bay
Cleto, Joshua Piamonte
Gutierrez, Alondra

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH
Kirsch, Kai Michael
Parker, Maggie Lee

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, MONTEREY BAY
Gonzalez, Samantha Marie
West, Dyani Madison

CHABOT COLLEGE
Carmody, Liam
Czyzewski, Joseph La Fave
Joseph, Ryan Christopher
Mahoney, Zakiya Lynnee
Martin, Quante
Rosario, David Ransom

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
Quamina, Matthew Kenrick

CITY COLLEGE OF SAN FRANCISCO
Brown, Jason

CLEMONS UNIVERSITY
Gillikin, Alexis Nicole

COLLEGE OF ALAMEDA
Luna-Davila, Carlos Josue

COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY
Zheng, Ziqian

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
Brinson, Quinn Taylor
Wallace, Thomas Martin

COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO
Liu, Alicia D

CONTRA COSTA COLLEGE
Contra Costa College

DEPAUL UNIVERSITY
Cometa, Max Adrian
Moure, Seth Emilio

DIABLO VALLEY COLLEGE
Azouri, Marcel Clovis
Giacomelli, Gianna Marie
McGoldrick, Kieren Anthony
Mora, Victor Sebastian
Pedraza Lopez, Victor Gabriel
Rogers, Raeshawn Trinity
Roney, Camryn Elizabeth
Ross, Justin Robert Alexander
Schwart, Jaemon
Walker, Darryl Lewis

DREXEL UNIVERSITY
Abey, Efrem

DUKE UNIVERSITY
Ditzler, Luke W.

DURHAM UNIVERSITY
Pese, Georgina Rose Wardman

EMERSON COLLEGE
Anderson, Ryan Mckee

EMORY UNIVERSITY
Li, Yujia
Schroepfer, Sabine

FASHION INSTITUTE OF DESIGN AND MERCHANDISING, LOS ANGELES
Ji, Yuhan
Lan, Yunpei
White, Jasmine Gabrielle

FORDHAM UNIVERSITY
Li, Xipu
Talairida, Olivia Tomasina

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
Mayer, Shariyl Aatif

GONZAGA UNIVERSITY
Herbert, Hank Jackson
Kelly, Mavee
Low, Charlotte Anne

HAMPSTON UNIVERSITY
Colbert-Neal, Samantha Marie

HOLY NAMES UNIVERSITY
Martinez, Ana Patricia
Meadows, Elayne Tibayan

HOWARD UNIVERSITY
Awokosiye, Khukheper Andwele Kabetep
Jack
Hatchell, Jenay Denise
Loggins, Nakya Joi
Perkins, Maya Janeen
Wyatt, Adeya Ase

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY
Sanchez, Nicholas Sepetiaio

LANEY COLLEGE
Dominguez, Gemma Joceylnn
Turner, Lonnie

LAS POSITAS COLLEGE
Kaufman, Nathanael

LEWIS & CLARK COLLEGE
Kocabiyk, Isabella

LOYOLA MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY
Baker, Hannah

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO

LEWIS & CLARK COLLEGE
Kocabiyk, Isabella

MERRITT COLLEGE

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY, BOZEMAN
Ryan, Michael John

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
Fan, Wenbo

NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
Collard, Avery Elise

NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY
Hall, Kameeea Hadda
Smith, Andrew G
Wu, Margaret Elizabeth

PACE UNIVERSITY, NEW YORK CITY

PONTI LOMA NAZARENE UNIVERSITY
Montez, Kaine

PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY
Henry, Isaiah Kenyatta

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
Porter, Benjamin Obadiah
Ralston, Nadia

REED COLLEGE
Jed, Ana Sofia

SAGE EXPRESSATION COLLEGE – EMERYVILLE
McFadden, Blaine Reginald

SAINT MARY’S COLLEGE OF CALIFORNIA
Catanzaro, Maxwell Otis

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY
Donovan, George Andrew

SANTIT’S COLLEGE OF CALIFORNIA
Catanoso, Anthony Francis Inton

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY

TALLARIDA, Olivia Tomasina

TUCSON, Maia Rose

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

WEST, Dyani Madison

WINDROSS, Cecily Lulu

WINDROSS, Galanafa

98% of our students who apply to 4-year colleges are accepted, with 40% attending private colleges and universities and 25% choosing a UC school.
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Opportunity. That’s how Sophia Rodriguez ‘18 sums up her O’Dowd experience.

While at O’Dowd, Sophia had the opportunity for academic and personal growth, leadership development, and connecting more deeply with her cultural heritage.

Accepted to several top universities and colleges, the 4.0-plus National Merit Commended student and National Hispanic Scholar is now attending UCLA, where she plans to major in political science. She was inspired to explore this field after taking Bonnie Sussman’s AP U.S. Government & Politics and AP Comparative Government & Politics courses and getting a better grasp on political ideologies, processes and behavior.

“I find the ‘why’ part of political science very interesting. And I like learning about all the intricacies because if you can understand the systems that are in place it’s much
During her time at O’Dowd, Sophia was also a member of the water polo and swimming teams and the Feminism and Unity clubs, and served as vice president for Dumbledore’s Army (the Harry Potter Club).

“As being able to have all these opportunities was awesome. I found I didn’t have to stick to the things I had always done,” she said.

“My O’Dowd experience has been empowering. It helped me figure out where I fit in the world and find my voice on issues that I want to speak out about,” she said.


Second generation includes: Lily Rodriguez ’17 (daughter of Dante Rodriguez), Tyler Engleman ’17 (son of Qiqi Rodriguez), Sophia Rodriguez ’18 (daughter of Marin Rodriguez), Sebastian Camacho ’19 (son of Petra Rodriguez Camacho), Roman Rodriguez ’20 (son of Dante Rodriguez), Hannes Rodriguez ’22 (son of Marin Rodriguez) and Sierra Camacho ’23 (daughter of Petra Rodriguez Camacho).
If Kameela Hall ’18 could have looked into the future as an 8th grader and caught a glimpse of the high school senior she was to become she would have been pleased. Just a few years ahead was a mature, socially aware, empathetic and academically engaged young woman.

Kameela went “all in” when she arrived at O’Dowd, diving into broad range of activities. She played volleyball, served on the Black Student Union Executive Council and was a Dragon Ambassador Captain.

She was also a member of the National Honor Society and over the course of her time at O’Dowd completed an amazing 260 hours of community service, and served as a Senior Philanthropy Officer, leading fundraising for the Class of 2018 Senior Class Gift campaign and helping establish a life-long legacy for their class.

And she took a host of Advanced Placement and Honors classes, including AP Comparative Government & Politics, AP Psychology, AP Human Geography and Honors Chemistry.

“My O’Dowd experiences unlocked the potential that I had not been able to unlock on my own,” she said.

Kameela was encouraged in her growth by O’Dowd faculty and staff, particularly Academic Support Liaison Malik McCord. “He recognized my potential as a person, not just a student,” she said. “He always pushed me to articulately express my thoughts, and made me see how I could be someone who really made a difference on this campus and beyond.”

Today Kameela is a confident, yet empathetic leader. “You just can’t stand in front of a group and say ‘follow me.’ You have to recognize the fact that people have different points of view and help them come to a consensus,” she said. “I love it when people say their point of view was shifted because of something I said or how I acted.”

Kameela is grateful that O’Dowd provides forums for students to respectfully voice their opinions. “That was a huge part of why I was never afraid to speak out and to try to bring people together,” she said. “And I feel like that’s why we have so many leaders coming out of this school.”

Because of her O’Dowd experience, Kameela feels the world is her oyster. “I am going into college feeling on top of the world and ready to make a difference,” she said.

Kameela was admitted to Northern Arizona University’s Honors College and is double majoring in Business Management and Marketing.
Transferring to O’Dowd as a junior, Pablo Samoilys ’18 wasn’t sure what to expect.

Like most transfer students, Pablo worried about fitting in socially and was concerned about how he would handle O’Dowd’s challenging college prep curriculum.

On the social side, Pablo found the transfer experience surprisingly easy. “Everyone was really welcoming. All the teachers were immediately there to help me become a part of the community, and within a few days I had made friends,” he said.

But because Pablo had moved to the United States from Kenya, getting adjusted to the American education system presented a bigger challenge. “I came in not knowing the basic things. I barely understood GPA scores, and MLA format was completely new to me. On my early assignments I struggled, but my teachers were pretty forgiving and they gave me opportunities to redo things.”

Pablo dove in to his new school community, serving as a Dragon Ambassador Captain, playing tennis, and leading the Photography Club.

His most transformational O’Dowd experience, however, centered on his participation in the Kairos retreat program – first as a retreatant during his junior year.

“The whole experience was pretty amazing. I came back from that three-day retreat with a lot of new friends that I felt I had known for a lifetime,” he said. “Before that retreat I felt OK at O’Dowd, but afterwards O’Dowd really felt like home.”

Profoundly inspired, Pablo applied to be a Kairos student leader, and, as a senior, led a small group of junior students in reflection and self-discovery, helping them deepen their relationships with family, friends and God.

Pablo is currently attending UC Davis where he is considering majoring in product or industrial engineering and pursuing a career in high tech – perhaps focusing on prototyping and design.

“O’Dowd has played a really big role in my development into a young adult,” Pablo said. “When I moved to the United States I still considered myself an adolescent. These two years have refined me into the person I am today and I truly appreciate that.”

Added Pablo, “O’Dowd prepares you academically, but also guides and supports you in your personal development.”
Catholic Values + Educational Excellence + Innovation = A THRIVING O’DOWD

O’Dowd’s reputation as the premier Catholic college preparatory high school in the East Bay continues.

The school received more than 800 applications during the 2018-19 admissions cycle for just over 300 freshman spaces. This continued high demand for an O’Dowd education is reflective of our reputation as one of Northern California’s premier Catholic college preparatory schools.

The Class of 2022

- Honors students and Presidential Scholars
- High number of Legacy families and siblings continuing the tradition
- Live in a broad geographic region
- Equal number of boys and girls
- Come from 107 different feeder schools
- Reflects O’Dowd’s unwavering commitment to diversity
- 30% rely on the Transforming Lives Annual Fund for financial assistance
Next Generation DRAGONS

The Forristals – Meridith Armstrong Forristal ’92 and Jerry Forristal ’90 – are excited to have their daughter, Avery ’22, continue the family tradition of attending O’Dowd. And they’re not alone. The Forristals are among 34 Legacy Families in the Class of 2022.

“Our daughter grew up hearing the stories of our days at O’Dowd. She has seen, and is a part of, the many friendships that were forged in the halls and on the fields of O’Dowd so when it came time to pick a high school there really wasn’t a question about where she’d go. There’s no other place for our family where the balance of academic rigor, athletics, diversity and service blend to create the ideal high school experience,” Meridith said.

“We continue to see a high number of legacy families apply and enroll, a testament to the strength of our program and faith that students who leave O’Dowd and go into the world have positive outcomes beyond high school. Our values driven curriculum has always been pivotal to an O’Dowd education and families keep coming back,” Director of Admissions Kerryn Pincus said.

FUN FACTS ABOUT The Class of 2022

Word that Best Describes You
Creative and Outgoing

Favorite Ice Cream Flavor
Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough and Mint Chip

Favorite Movie
Black Panther

Favorite Social Media Channel
Instagram/Snapchat

Favorite Day of the Week
Saturday, followed closely by Friday

Favorite Type of Shoe
Sneakers (Nike and Vans)

Activity You Might Want to Try in High School
Digital Arts, followed closely by Debate

85 percent plan to play a sport at O’Dowd
A familiar face has assumed a new role at O’Dowd.

Former Principal James Childs, M.A., M.Ed., became O’Dowd’s second president on July 1, succeeding Steve Phelps who passed away unexpectedly last December.

Childs was initially attracted to O’Dowd because of the common perspective he shared with Phelps about Catholic education. “We engaged on a daily basis about building the future of O’Dowd. I will work hard to honor his vision and legacy, and my resolve is to continue and intensify the efforts of his distinguished leadership at O’Dowd, to move our school forward with the same passion and grace with which he approached his educational ministry,” he said.

Childs was selected after a comprehensive national search process, which was led by Interim President and Search Committee chair Kim Walsh and involved a committee representing all constituencies of the school, including the Board of Regents, alumni, faculty, staff, current and past parents.

“I am deeply honored and excited to take on the responsibilities and challenges as the president of Bishop O’Dowd High School, and feel very fortunate to be surrounded by extraordinary leadership and support as we embark upon the next leg of our grand expedition together,” he said.

Childs and his wife, Kate, have four children, including Sophia who is a member of the Class of 2020.
RESUME of Distinction


» CAMPUS MINISTER AND A THEOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY TEACHER at Cardinal Gibbons High School in Raleigh, North Carolina

» RELIGION TEACHER at Marian High School in Mishawaka, Indiana, where he was recognized as Teacher of the Year and coached the school’s mock trial team to an Indiana state championship.

» BACHELOR’S DEGREE (TRIPLE MAJOR IN ENGLISH, THEOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY) AND MASTER’S DEGREE (THEOLOGICAL STUDIES, WITH A SPECIALIZATION IN SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY) from the University of Notre Dame. He also holds a master’s degree in Catholic School Leadership.

» CO-AUTHOR AND CO-EDITOR of The Catholic Spirit, Discovering Faith through Literature, Art, Film, and Music (2010) and Great Catholic Writings (2006), and has taught and delivered speeches at various workshops and conferences throughout the country.
Building on a Legacy of Innovation:
LOOKING BOLDLY INTO OUR SCHOOL’S FUTURE

Building a Culture of Care and a Framework for Educational Excellence

At the heart of the Catholic school educational philosophy is a cultural commitment to care for students, ensuring that every child is seen as an individual. This results in the formation of students who make of their gifts, talents, competencies, skills, and passions a distinctive gift of Catholic education to society. We recently sat down with O’Dowd’s new President James Childs to talk about the long-range planning process underway at O’Dowd, the educational philosophy that will inform that planning process, and the role of the Western Catholic Education Association (WCEA) accreditation process upon which the school is embarking this fall. To gain deeper insight into the accreditation process, we also sat down with Religion teacher and Retreat Director Michael Downs, who is coordinating this endeavor. Visit our website for more detailed information on the WCEA accreditation process - https://www.bishopodowd.org/wcea-accreditation-news/

Childs expressed that O’Dowd is committed to ensuring that all students feel seen. “At O’Dowd, ‘seeing every child’ presents as every student knowing that they are cared for. In the context of relationships with our students, we build developmental competencies, cultivate resiliency and empathy, and encourage their sense of responsibility in and for the world,” he said. “We are educating our students to provide for the common good in a much more impactful way, building a more just, joyful, and sustainable future, just as our missions indicates.”

Active visioning has taken place over the past two years in anticipation of the accreditation process, with an eye towards informing school priorities and areas of focus for the future. This work has included Academic Council sessions, Charism reflection work to deepen alignment, the School Climate Survey, as well as discussions and workshops with faculty and staff, explained Childs. The WCEA process maps the work already completed at O’Dowd over the last few years to this formal process to discern any further opportunities in meeting our goals. Accreditation with its explicit workflows and third party involvement expands our inventory of knowledge to inform planning and helps to ensure a quality educational program as well as alignment with best practices in Catholic education.

“The strategic imperatives for student growth emerging out of this comprehensive planning and accreditation process will take into consideration the developmental realities of teens, instructional strategies that expand their ability to learn - with sensitivity to equity, access and inclusion - overall student health and wellness, as well as leadership development,” explained Childs.

“O’Dowd is at the leading edge of Catholic education. Innovation over the years has focused on the implementation of programs that distinguish and define O’Dowd, such as Academic Support and the Living Lab. In this next phase of O’Dowd’s evolution, innovation will continue to be at the forefront of O’Dowd planning with an eye towards sustainable growth and management,” Childs said.

In addition to innovating how the culture of care presents at O’Dowd throughout all facets of the O’Dowd experience, this will include operational and technology strategies as well as program developments that enable better outcomes and efficiency, namely, how we utilize resources (people, space, time) in creative ways to meet our needs.

Stay tuned for more information on planning and innovation at O’Dowd from President Childs in O’Dowd Online, the monthly alumni and alumni parents e-newsletter, the weekly O’Dowd E-news and Dragon magazine. Contact Director of Communications Lisa Coffey Mahoney ’76 to receive these publications: lmahoney@bishopodowd.org.
Whether the genre is romance, philosophical fiction, or cooking, alumni authors are excited to share their passion for storytelling and writing. In this issue of the Dragon, we profile three of our very own alumni authors who have recently published books, or who are putting the finishing touches on a creative work.
ALUMS SHARE THEIR PASSION THROUGH WRITING
WHAT LIES BEYOND THE STARS

MICHAEL GOORJIAN

Michael
GOORJIAN ’89
Michael Goorjian ’89 Seeks What Lies Beyond the Stars

Though Michael Goorjian ’89 bought the novel Demian, by Herman Hesse, that was assigned reading in Debra Kolsrud’s English class at O’Dowd, he never got around to reading it. He skimmed it well enough to muddle through a test, and then moved on.

Several years later, Goorjian read the book in earnest – and he was captivated. He immersed himself in other philosophical fiction works, including another of Hesse’s books, Steppenwolf, and W. Somerset Maugham’s The Razor’s Edge.

Recently the Emmy-award winning actor, filmmaker and screenplay writer added a new artistic discipline to his resume – novelist. In 2016, Goorjian completed the first book of a trilogy he was commissioned to write for Hay House Publishing - What Lies Beyond the Stars, set in San Francisco’s technology industry and the rural coastal town of Mendocino. “There are a lot of facets to it,” says Goorjian. “In a way, the story is rooted in exploring the idea of human attention and how it’s become a currency. But the exploration of the idea is woven into a story that is based on Dante’s Divine Comedy and the relationship between Dante and Beatrice.”

He is currently finishing the second book, Beyond the Fractured Sky, which will be released in 2019, as well as directing an Armenian-based film.

At O’Dowd, Goorjian participated in Drama for four years, starring in productions such as Fiddler on the Roof and One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest, and believes his O’Dowd experience was pivotal in his professional success.

“I learned from (Drama Director) Dennis Kohles ’69, who was one of my first mentors, the high level of discipline that is required for this profession. And that has been the engine beneath what has made me successful,” Goorjian said.

Goorjian is probably best known for his role as Justin, Neve Campbell’s love interest on the Golden Globe winning series Party of Five, but his television, film and theater credits are lengthy – dating back to his first role as a dancer in the Disney film Newsies, which he landed while a student at UCLA School of Theatre, Film and Television.

His favorite roles include Heroin Bob in the indie film SLC Punk and the autistic teenager David in David’s Mother – a portrayal that earned him an Emmy. As a director, Goorjian achieved widespread recognition for his first major independent film, Illusion, which he wrote, directed and starred in alongside Hollywood legend Kirk Douglas.

It was through promoting this project at film festivals that Goorjian met Gay Hendricks, a psychologist, writer and teacher in the field of personal growth and relationships, who asked him to produce and direct the documentary You Can Heal Your Life starring internationally renowned metaphysical author and teacher Louise Hay for Hay House Publishing. He subsequently worked on The Shift, starring best-selling author Wayne Dyer.

“I had a screenplay that I was working on and I asked the CEO of Hay House to read it so I could get his opinion,” Goorjian said. “He asked me if I was interesting in turning the screenplay into a novel and I said, ‘Sure!’ Moving from writing a screenplay to writing a novel definitely was a jump, but the screenplay was essentially a skeleton that I could build the novel upon.”

Goorjian says if there is one common thread in all of his artistic endeavors it is storytelling. “I spent years studying mythology, fairy tales and folklore,” he said. “With novel writing, however, I can dig into deeper philosophical questions. It’s slow art instead of fast art. Slow art addresses more complicated thematic aspects of life and hopefully sticks around longer.”

Looking ahead, Goorjian is interested in exploring writing non-fiction, specifically philosophy and social commentary, and doing occasional acting and directing projects.

Get more information about Goorjian and his work: www.michaelagoorjian.com
Jasmine GUILLORY ’93
Jasmine Guillory ’93 Finds Creative Outlet in Writing

From the time she was young, Jasmine Guillory ’93 had her sights set on being a lawyer. She majored in history at Wellesley College, graduated from Stanford Law School, and then clerked for a year at the Federal District Court in San Francisco before joining a law firm where she immersed herself in the world of securities and intellectual property.

Several years later, Guillory moved on to the non-profit world, contributing her legal expertise at several local foundations. She loved her work, but desired a creative outlet. Baking, knitting, singing? She liked all those things, but they just didn’t hit the mark. Then it came to her – writing. “I’ve always loved reading, so I thought I’d give writing a try,” Guillory said.

She dove right in, and began to write for a few hours every night when she got home from work. She completed a young adult novel, received “positive rejections,” and wrote half of another novel in the same genre before finding her niche – romance adult fiction. “My writing voice worked better writing for adults than teenagers,” she said.

Her first venture in the new genre was a smash hit. The Wedding Date, published on January 30, 2018, was named Target’s Diverse Book of the Month for February, one of Elle magazine’s “21 Books We’re Most Excited to Read in 2018,” a Romance Novel of the Month by a Washington Post reviewer, and a USA Today Bestseller to name a few of the accolades.

Guillory included a shout out to several of her former teachers, including O’Dowd’s Bonnie Sussman and the late Brad Goodhart, in the acknowledgement of the book. “None of you were writing teachers, but you all taught me how to write,” she wrote.

Her second novel, The Proposal, was due out in September, and she is currently writing a third. She also pens pop culture essays from time to time. And, she is still working as a lawyer.

Guillory’s not sure when she might be able to devote her time solely to writing. “You get an advance for a book, which comes in three installments, and then you get royalties twice a year. But you never know how much the royalties are going to be until they come, so it’s good to have a regular paycheck,” she said.

Guillory is still getting used to seeing her book on bookshelves.

“It’s been years of ups and downs with my writing, and thinking that no one would care about my book. Now people are buying it and seem to be really liking it. That is just so exciting to me,” she said.

When it comes to stepping out of your comfort zone to do something that you love, Guillory advises go for it. “I know so many people who I went to law school with who are doing completely different things than they planned. Lots of people find their passion later in life, or decide they have more than one passion,” she said.

Learn more about Guillory’s work at www.jasmineguillory.com/about
Maria Zizka ’06 Creates a Recipe for Professional Success

When Maria Zizka ’06 began co-authoring a column on food and culture for U.C. Berkeley’s The Daily Californian, she couldn’t have imagined how the experience would change her life trajectory.

A Biology major, Zizka was taking pre-med classes and contemplating becoming a doctor.

Today, Zizka is a cookbook writer and recipe developer who has collaborated with California’s leading chefs, including Elisabeth Prueitt, Jessica Koslow and Suzanne Goin. She has co-authored numerous award-winning cookbooks, such as Tartine All Day, Everything I Want to Eat, and This Is Camino, has contributed to 12 published books and developed over 1,000 recipes. Her first solo cookbook will be published by Artisan in early 2019.

Her professional accomplishments have not gone unnoticed. Zizka made the 2018 edition of the Forbes 30 Under 30: Food & Drink listing. “It’s the greatest honor I’ve ever received for my work,” she said. “I still almost can’t believe it’s really true. I was totally surprised and I feel so grateful.”
Zizka recalled the evening that she and her now husband, graphic designer Graham Bradley, were walking home from the library during her second year of college.

“Graham said that he heard the school newspaper was hiring a columnist and suggested I write about food,” she said. “I had been cooking a lot, but I had no experience writing and I didn’t think anyone would hire me to do that.”

Bradley, an experienced writer, offered an intriguing option – “we can co-author it.” The couple applied for the position and was hired. Zizka subsequently joined the Cal cooking club, and began to consider a leap into a very unusual career – cookbook writing and recipe developing.

“I didn’t really have a model for what it might look like, but when I thought about writing about food my heart just pounded in my chest,” she said. “It scared me in a good way.”

After graduating from UC Berkeley, Zizka moved to Manhattan – a place she had never even visited before – to take an internship with Slow Food USA. This non-profit organization, founded by Carlo Petrini - stands against the disappearance of local food traditions and people’s dwindling interest in the food they eat, where it comes from, how it tastes and how our food choices affect the rest of the world.

At Slow Food, Zizka worked on the Ark of Taste - a project that catalogues delicious and distinctive foods facing extinction - writing about heritage apple varieties that once grew in New York State.

Zizka subsequently attended L’Università degli Studi di Scienze Gastronomiche in Italy, where she earned a master’s degree in food culture and communications. She wrote her master’s thesis on American cookbooks in the 20th century and how the introduction of eBooks changed the market.

A requirement of the master’s program was to complete a three-month internship. So Zizka wrote to a chef and author she admired – Suzanne Goin – and asked to work with her. Much to Zizka’s delight, Goin offered her the opportunity collaborate on a cookbook, heading up recipe testing.

“Suzanne became my mentor and has always been the biggest supporter of me and my career,” Zizka said. “And Graham and I got married at one of her restaurants – A.O.C. in Los Angeles.”

Recipe writing is a quirky thing, Zizka says. “It’s such a particular style of writing, and there is a style guide that each publishing house follows,” she explained. “I love how you can get a sense of someone’s personality and voice through a recipe. I’m really attracted to recipes that are unique and packed with verbs that a person would actually use.”

Zizka started work on her solo cookbook about 18 months ago. “The cookbook-making process isn’t quick. It takes years to develop and test more than one hundred recipes, edit the manuscript, design the layout, and photograph all the dishes. Then of course there’s the printing and book binding,” she said. “The really sweet thread through this is my husband is doing all the design.”

The idea to develop her own cookbook came shortly after Zizka got engaged and was perusing cookbooks intended for newlyweds.

“Even though they were recently published they felt outdated and they didn’t reflect my reality. They were often about a wife cooking for her husband, and so I had this idea to write a modern, updated version of a newlywed cookbook where the couple is a team and they work together. It’s about cooking for each other and other people,” she said.

Zizka says one of the most challenging aspects of her work - recipe development in particular - is being comfortable with feelings of frustration. “If a dish doesn’t turn out well, I have to be able to just try again and again,” she said. “That takes a certain drive.”

With years of cooking under her belt, Zizka doesn’t have too many mishaps in the kitchen these days. “I can see when things are headed down a bad path and I can make adjustments in real time to prevent any major disasters. But I’ve certainly had my fair share,” she said.

Check out the alumni page of our website to read more about what our alumni are doing:
www.bishopodowd.org/alumni-portal
A host of Dragons were recognized as All-League players by the West Alameda County Conference (Foothill League). These are the All-League selections for the winter and spring sports.

**Men's Basketball, 27-6 overall, 10-0 league, 1st in WACC-Foothill**
ALL-LEAGUE
Elijah Hardy and Naseem Gaskin (first team); Ross Williams (second team); Will Chavarin and Iniko McNeil (honorable mention). **Players of the Year:** Elijah Hardy and Naseem Gaskin.

**Women's Basketball, 19-11 overall, 10-0 league, 1st in WACC-Foothill**
ALL-LEAGUE
Jada Holland and Zakiya Mahoney (first team); Kennedy Johnson and Lexi Love (second team); Daylee Dunn and Abigail Pagila (honorable mention). **Player of the Year:** Jada Holland.

**Men's Soccer, 20-2-3 overall, 13-0-3, 1st in WACC-Foothill**
ALL-LEAGUE
Ryan Allen, Ryan Anderson, Harrison Kepp and Josh Redfield (first team); Nico Hausser, Daniel Kjeldsen and Michael Ryan (second team); Liam Carmody and Andrew Smith (honorable mention). **Player of the Year:** Ryan Allen.

**Women's Soccer, 6-10-2 overall, 5-3-2 league, 3rd in WACC-Foothill**
ALL-LEAGUE
Grace Porter (first team); Maggie Bautista, Bella Mahoney and Andi Wiley, (second team); Alexa Ingersoll and Marie Claire Lamoureux (honorable mention)

**Men's Lacrosse, 11-10 overall, 3-1 league, 2nd in WACC**
ALL-LEAGUE
Ethan Dilk, Zach Jolly and Alex Murphy (first team); Aleks Bialek, Wyatt Duffy and Josh Miller (second team); Luke Pfeiffer and Theo Yu (honorable mention)

**Women's Lacrosse, 8-10 overall, 4-1 league, 2nd in WACC**
ALL-LEAGUE
Kelly Baxter, Colleen Cushing, Anika Ditzler and Lizzy Firestone (first team); Marie-Claire Lamoureux, Kate Marcel and Silan Morris-Gavriel (second team); Charlotte Low and Nadia Ralston (honorable mention). **Player of the Year:** Colleen Cushing.
Men’s Rugby, 5-5 overall, 2-4 league, 7th in NorCal Rugby-Division 1

Women’s Rugby, 7-1 overall, 6-1 league, 1st in NorCal Rugby-Division 1

Men’s Rugby, 5-5 overall, 2-4 league, 7th in NorCal Rugby-Division 1

Women’s Rugby, 7-1 overall, 6-1 league, 1st in NorCal Rugby-Division 1

Baseball, 16-13 overall, 8-8 league, 3rd in WACC-Foothill

ALL-LEAGUE
Matthias Haas (first team); Adam Bail, Luke Ditzler, Liam Rizzo and Thompson Wyatt (second team); Tyler Manca and Kaine Montez (honorable mention).

Women’s Track & Field, 5-0, 1st in WACC dual league meets, 1st in WACC Championship Meet

ALL-LEAGUE
Kandace Blackshire, Emily Dotson, Daylee Dunn, Jazlynn Gibbs, Jordan Jones and Tierra Robinson-Jones (first team). Track Athlete of the Year: Tierra Robinson-Jones.

Softball, 17-6 overall, 7-3 league, 2nd in WACC-Foothill

ALL-LEAGUE
Lizzy Avery, Frankie Hammoude and Nicole Hammoude (first team); Jayla Dailey (second team); Michael Gonzales and Marissa Petty (honorable mention). Player of the Year: Frankie Hammoude.

Men’s Golf, 11-1, 1st in WACC-Foothill

ALL-LEAGUE
Adrian Davis, Nicholas Ferry, Moe Flynn, Spencer Leader and Jason Ravetti. Golfer of the Year: Spencer Leader.

Men’s Track & Field, 1-4, 5th in WACC dual league meets, 2nd in WACC Championship Meet

ALL-LEAGUE
Jonathan Kyriacou (first team)

Women’s Track & Field, 5-0, 1st in WACC dual league meets, 1st in WACC Championship Meet

ALL-LEAGUE
Kandace Blackshire, Emily Dotson, Daylee Dunn, Jazlynn Gibbs, Jordan Jones and Tierra Robinson-Jones (first team). Track Athlete of the Year: Tierra Robinson-Jones.

Men’s Tennis, 6-8 overall, 0-8 league, 5th in WACC

ALL-LEAGUE
Aidan Forth (doubles); Grant Craney and Michael Jayasuriya (honorable mention)

Men’s Tennis, 6-8 overall, 0-8 league, 5th in WACC

ALL-LEAGUE
Aidan Forth (doubles); Grant Craney and Michael Jayasuriya (honorable mention)

Baseball, 16-13 overall, 8-8 league, 3rd in WACC-Foothill

ALL-LEAGUE
Matthias Haas (first team); Adam Bail, Luke Ditzler, Liam Rizzo and Thompson Wyatt (second team); Tyler Manca and Kaine Montez (honorable mention).

Women’s Track & Field, 5-0, 1st in WACC dual league meets, 1st in WACC Championship Meet

ALL-LEAGUE
Kandace Blackshire, Emily Dotson, Daylee Dunn, Jazlynn Gibbs, Jordan Jones and Tierra Robinson-Jones (first team). Track Athlete of the Year: Tierra Robinson-Jones.

Men’s Golf, 11-1, 1st in WACC-Foothill

ALL-LEAGUE
Adrian Davis, Nicholas Ferry, Moe Flynn, Spencer Leader and Jason Ravetti. Golfer of the Year: Spencer Leader.

Men’s Track & Field, 1-4, 5th in WACC dual league meets, 2nd in WACC Championship Meet

ALL-LEAGUE
Jonathan Kyriacou (first team)

Women’s Track & Field, 5-0, 1st in WACC dual league meets, 1st in WACC Championship Meet

ALL-LEAGUE
Kandace Blackshire, Emily Dotson, Daylee Dunn, Jazlynn Gibbs, Jordan Jones and Tierra Robinson-Jones (first team). Track Athlete of the Year: Tierra Robinson-Jones.

Men’s Tennis, 6-8 overall, 0-8 league, 5th in WACC

ALL-LEAGUE
Aidan Forth (doubles); Grant Craney and Michael Jayasuriya (honorable mention)

Baseball, 16-13 overall, 8-8 league, 3rd in WACC-Foothill

ALL-LEAGUE
Matthias Haas (first team); Adam Bail, Luke Ditzler, Liam Rizzo and Thompson Wyatt (second team); Tyler Manca and Kaine Montez (honorable mention).
Dragons Join
ELITE HOOPS CLUB

Class of 2018 basketball players Naseem Gaskin, Elijah Hardy and Zakiya Mahoney left their mark on the O’Dowd record book, each scoring 1,000 career points. Gaskin also left O’Dowd as the single-game scoring record holder (44 points).

See where these student-athletes stack up with fellow alums.

Women’s Basketball Players Who Have Scored 1,000 Career Points

- Cathy Russi Thomas ’83
- Sara Lillevand Judd ’86
- Liz Gettleman ’92
- Calisha Harmon Cobb ’94
- Briana Weiss ’05
- Alexis Bostick ’10
- Robie Mayberry ’10
- KC Waters ’13 (also 1,000 rebound club)
- Oderah Chidom ’13
- Aisia Robertson ’15
- Myah Pace ’17 (also 1,000 rebound club)
- Zakiya Mahoney ’18

Top Three All-Time Leading Scorers in Men’s Basketball Program

- Ivan Rabb ’15 – 2,089 points
- Tony Jackson ’82 – 1,511 points
- Naseem Gaskin ’18 - 1,445 points
Those honored included:

**RYAN ANDERSON**  
Soccer – Emerson College

**QUINN BRINNON**  
Football – Colorado State University

**MADISON BURKE**  
Crew – Villanova University

**HAILEY CALDWELL-MEURER**  
Women’s Rowing – University Of California, San Diego

**MICHAEL GONZALES**  
Softball – Loyola Marymount University

**NASEEM GASKIN**  
Basketball – University Of Utah

**MARNAE GLOVER**  
Track – Missouri Valley College

**FRANCESCA HAMMOUDE**  
Softball – Oregon State

**ELIJAH HARDY**  
Basketball – University Of Washington

**ISAIAH HENRY**  
Football – Portland State University

**ISABELLA HOGLUND**  
Volleyball – UC Santa Cruz

**JEVON HOLLAND**  
Football – University of Oregon

**ZACHARY JOLLY**  
Lacrosse – University of Oregon

**HARRISON KEPP**  
Soccer – University of San Francisco

**COLE KRETLOW**  
Cross Country – Seton Hall University

**SPENCER LEADER**  
Golf – Trinity University

**EMILY MATTOON**  
Beach Volleyball – University of Oregon

**MILES OWENS**  
Football – University of California, Berkeley

**CHRISTINA PIRROTTA**  
Soccer – University of Chicago

**TIERRA ROBINSON-JONES**  
Track & Field – Texas A&M

**ANDI WILEY**  
Soccer – Wesleyan University

**ROSS WILLIAMS**  
Basketball – Menlo College

The Bishop O’Dowd High School Athletic Department celebrated and honored more than 20 student-athletes from the Class of 2018 who signed National Letters of Intent and those who were recruited to play at the collegiate level at a ceremony held in the theater on May 15, 2018.
Athletics NEWS
... continued from p.29

TIERRA ROBINSON-JONES ’18
California Gatorade Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year

In June, Tierra Robinson-Jones ’18 became the first student-athlete from O’Dowd to be named the Gatorade California Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. This award recognizes athletic excellence as well as high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the track.

The accolades continued when Tierra was presented a Proclamation from Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf recognizing her success as an Oakland student-athlete and declaring Sunday, August 5, 2018, as “Tierra Robinson-Jones Day in Oakland.”

Tierra was the first Northern California girl in state history to win the 200- and 400-meter dashes in the same state championship at the CIF State Track & Field Championships held at Buchanan High School in Clovis June 1-2. Her personal best time of 52.37 seconds in the 400 ranked her as the No. 2 high school girl’s time in the country this season for the event. She clocked in at 23.66 in the 200 – another personal best. She signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track & field on a scholarship at Texas A&M.
Hello O’Dowd Alumni,

This year was an exciting one as over 500 of you came back to campus. I’m ecstatic to have so many alumni visit and hope the number grows year after year. And if you haven’t visited lately, please do! Contact me to arrange a tour or RSVP for the next alumni event. Speaking of which …

The first O’Dowd Grand Reunion was truly a celebration and most definitely lived up to its name - Party on the Quad! We had attendees spanning 10 reunion classes - 1958; 1963; 1968; 1978; 1983; 1988; 1993; 1998; 2003; and 2008. This was a huge undertaking and couldn’t have been done without all your enthusiasm and support. You have helped build the momentum and I can’t wait to celebrate with you next year at the Grand Reunion on May 18, 2019. You’ll be seeing emails, e-news articles and social media posts in early 2019, so make sure we have your contact info and you’re connected to O’Dowd Alumni on social media (see handles below).

Just a few weeks prior to the Grand Reunion, we had our 5th annual Alumni Night at the Theater which was also a lot of fun. For the first time, in honor of the musical Hair and our 60s graduates, we had a costume contest for the grooviest outfit. Many Dragons rose to the occasion, donning tie-dye shirts, peace signs, Mary Tyler Moore-inspired wear and other creative outfits. Once again, special thanks to Drama Director Dennis Kohles ’69 for providing complimentary tickets for our alums and kudos to the talented student performers. Bravo!

I sincerely love hearing from you. Please share your good news, updates and questions by reaching out to laduviso@bishopodowd.org or (510) 553-8617.

Go Dragons!

LizaDawn

Get Involved

» Share a job/internship opportunity
» Rally your class for reunion
» Help find “lost” alums
» Update your contact information
» Send us an update for Class Notes
» Plan a campus visit

Upcoming Alumni Events

» Crab Feed – February 2, 2019
» Alumni Night at the Theater – May 10, 2019
» Grand Reunion: Party on the Quad - May 18, 2019
  All alumni welcome! Celebrating classes ending in 4 & 9.
» Grand Reunion: Party on the Quad – May 16, 2020
  Classes ending in 5 & 0s – Save this 2020 date!

Contact LizaDawn Aduviso

laduviso@bishopodowd.org
(510) 553-8617

www.bishopodowd.org/alumni-portal

You can also connect through social media:
LinkedIn Group: O’Dowd Alumni
Facebook: ODowd Alums
Instagram: odowdalumni
Twitter: odowdalumni
LinkedIn: LizaDawn Aduviso
More than 25 alumni gathered for the 3rd annual O’Dowd Alumni Summit, held at the Center for Environmental Studies on August 29, 2018, to learn about the Alumni Strategic Plan and the school’s efforts to actively engage its valued alumni in the life of the school.

In addition to learning about the future of O’Dowd Alumni Relations, the group heard from fellow alumni who attended the Grand Reunion in June. Father/daughter alums Patrick Riley ’63 and Shauna Riley Fithian ’88 shared a unique O’Dowd experience by celebrating their reunions at the same time at O’Dowd’s 2018 Grand Reunion!
“My feeling on campus was ‘Wow, this feels so familiar.’ Yet it felt all new and kind of shiny in a way that I didn’t remember. I loved seeing all the composites because I remember as a student that was something I always did - look for my dad and uncle - and my friends would look for their family members and people that they knew. It was neat to see my photo on the wall in this place that I feel so connected to,” Fithian said.

Jim Negri ’68 participated in the Summit, sharing his enthusiasm about O’Dowd with attendees, much like he has throughout the year with his classmates as they celebrate their 50th reunion.

Jim has a great perspective on O’Dowd. Not only is he an alumnus, he’s the parent of an O’Dowd graduate, a former O’Dowd teacher and a recently retired school district superintendent with a keen perspective on education. Jim said that throughout his career, he always looked to O’Dowd for inspiration, as it has always been ahead of the educational curve. “The role of any educational institution is to prepare the next generation of leaders in the democratic society. There is no question that O’Dowd excels at meeting this goal,” he said.

Jim led a discussion around alumni support at the Summit. He noted that 4% of O’Dowd alumni donated to our school last year. Comparatively, the alumni giving average for Bay Area Catholic schools 11%.

Jim inspired the Dragon competitive spirit by saying he didn’t understand why O’Dowd wasn’t beating all these schools in terms of alumni giving percentage. “AsDragons, we have always been proud of being the best in everything!” he said.
RENEWING CONNECTIONS AND RELIVING MEMORIES at the Inaugural Grand Reunion

Close to 200 alumni returned to campus on June 2, 2018, for the inaugural O’Dowd Grand Reunion – Party on the Quad.

This event was geared for all classes scheduled to hold reunions in 2018, and provided an opportunity for alumni to connect with classmates, friends and favorite faculty and staff on the O’Dowd campus. Each class had its own designated gathering space.

“The Grand Reunion was truly a celebration and most definitely lived up to its name - Party on the Quad! It was wonderful to see so many alums coming back to O’Dowd and having a great time. It was a joy to honor our alumni and welcome them back home,” Director of Alumni Engagement & Philanthropy LizaDawn Aduviso said.

The Quad was transformed into a fabulous party space, with music, fun games and activities, as well as delicious food – including paella, brats and sliders – and beverages.

Alumni also had the opportunity to tour the campus, enjoy a cooking workshop with fresh produce from the Living Lab, take fun photo booth candids, and share their personal stories of their O’Dowd experiences.

Several former and current faculty members were on hand, including Tom Tyler, Tony Green, Gary Mason, Doug Vierra, Mattie Ignacio, and Fran Warmerdam. “Awesome young people turned into awesome adults,” Warmerdam said.
Clockwise: Alumni had the opportunity to take fun photo booth shots at the Grand Reunion; Gary Mason and Geoff Williams ’98; Jane Schmitz ’93 and Olivia Melaugh ’93; Doug Griffin and Mary Esser-Sharon ’63 with Marguerite and Tony Green.
A 50th high school reunion celebration elicits reflection and the sharing of memories. Several members of the Class of 1968, who were celebrated and honored at a Golden Diploma Ceremony on June 2, 2018, held in conjunction with Alumni Grand Reunion festivities taking place on the O’Dowd campus, were eager to share with us memories of the impact their O’Dowd experience had on their lives.

From left to right: Don Keeley, Christine McCalla, Alison Little McGhee, Emilie Aymeric Corcoran, Diane Mahoney, Pam Graber, Lorraine Sandwell O’Kane and Char Hummel.
Enduring Memories:
WHAT I LEARNED AT O’DOWD

Don Keeley had no idea what kind of a career he wanted to pursue until he took a Chemistry class at O’Dowd. “I loved it, and there’s been a chemistry component in every job I’ve ever had,” he said.

Pat Sinnott developed his love for reading at O’Dowd and actually saved all his reading lists from high school and often revisits them. Living in the Dublin area, Pat hitchhiked to and from school every day, and while he was waiting to get picked up he would read books to pass the time. He remains grateful for the encouragement he received at O’Dowd to become an avid reader.

Alison Little McGhee said O’Dowd gave her self-confidence and welcomed her with open arms – a very different experience than she had in college when she felt unwanted as a minority. “I learned from my time at O’Dowd to never give up. After I had a stroke, I wrote My Stroke of Luck that details the challenges I faced.”

Diane Mahoney recalled a sewing project that she worked on for an entire semester. When she went to pick it up at the cleaners the day before it was due, she discovered that the business was closed for vacation. She was devastated – as the project was tied to a fashion show - and contacted her Home Economics teacher to let her know about the mishap. “My teacher was a calm individual who told me not to worry - just pick another project on which I had worked. Although it was a simple gesture, it has stayed with me to this day,” she said.
Family connections have been part of the O’Dowd experience from the earliest days of the school’s existence. Literally thousands of alumni can make connections to a sibling, cousin, parent, or grandparent who also walked the “hallowed halls” sung about in our alma mater (the 1963 version, not the original 1955 version).

On April 26, 2018, more than 50 members of Legacy families came together for a special reception sponsored by the Alumni Relations Office. Legacy families are unique members of the O’Dowd community who have second or third generations of students following in a direct line the footsteps of their parents or grandparents.

Guests gathered in the Center for Environmental Studies on an evening that was blessed with a beautiful sunset on the Bay. After mingling with and getting to know other families from the decades (helped along with an O’Dowd-based game of People Bingo), the families competed in a rousing game of Bishop O’Dowd High School Trivia. Do you know which principal had the longest tenure of office? (see answer below)

Sheila Moyles Cushing ’57 was the elder stateswoman at the event, sharing stories with her grandchildren, Colleen ’19 and Bob ’20. Jess Brown ’98 and his daughter, Jasaiya ’21, were the youngest Legacy connection in attendance. Five different decades of Dragon experiences were shared and some recorded as current students interviewed their parent/grandparent as part of the Dragon Stories Oral History Project launched in anticipation of the school’s 75th Anniversary. Plans are in the making for a Legacy Luncheon in 2018-19, so if you are part of a current Legacy family, keep your eye out for news of this fun event.

Answer: Fr. Richard Ranalleti, CSB, was O’Dowd’s longest serving principal (1991-2000).
Drama Veterans & Fans Gather FOR NIGHT AT THE THEATER

More than 85 alumni and their guests gathered for the third annual O’Dowd Alumni Night at the Theater reception, held in the CES on Friday, May 4, 2018, before attending the Drama Department’s production of Hair.

The classes of 1989 and 1990 were particularly well represented. Several alumni were Drama Department veterans and had participated in earlier productions of Hair, including Carmella Schuermann ’10 who traveled the farthest – from Munich, Germany – to attend the event.

Attendees were encouraged to come dressed in their grooviest outfits and participate in a costume contest. Former Dean Sondra Arnsdorf, social studies teacher Fritz Blume and his wife, Mary, and Lynn Cardin-Anderson ’63 served as judges for the contest. Winners included Schuermann, Dick Moore ’63, Linda Moore, Ashley Rollins ’07 and Blair Jackson.

Special thanks to Drama Director Dennis Kohles ’69 for providing complimentary tickets for the O’Dowd alums, and well-deserved kudos to all the talented students in the musical.

SAVE THE DATE

Be sure to join us at Alumni Night at the Theater next year –

May 10, 2019

For more information, visit:

www.bishopodowd.org/alumni
1984
John Valva was named executive director of the Oregon State University Alumni Association in June. He will also serve as vice president of Alumni Relations at OSU. Since 2010, John had served as executive director of alumni and constituent affairs at the University of California system, where he coordinated constituent engagement communications and alumni programs across the 10 University of California campuses.

1985
Julie Darmody is the co-executive producer of “Busy Tonight,” a late night talk show in E!, hosted by actress Busy Phillips, which will air this fall.

1992
Award-winning writer Chris Togneri was named public information officer for the City of Pittsburgh Department of Public Safety in April. In this role, Chris will lead communications for the city’s police, fire, emergency medical services and animal care and control bureaus. Previously, Chris worked as a freelance journalist following positions at the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, the Modesto Bee and the Slovak Spectator in Slovakia. He is a multiple winner of the Press Club of Western Pennsylvania’s Golden Quill awards and the Pennsylvania Newspaper Association’s Keystone Press awards, and has received awards from the Pittsburgh Black Media Federation, the Society of Professional Journalists, the Pennsylvania Women’s Press Association and the Pennsylvania Associated Press Managing Editors.

1996
Sarah Varni was recently named chief marketing officer of Twilio. She previously worked at Salesforce, where she served as senior vice president of product marketing, and was responsible for the positioning and go-to-marketing strategy for Salesforce’s flagship product, Sales Cloud. She also served as chief marketing officer for Desk.com, an all-in-one customer service app for fast-growing companies.

2000
Illustrator Shawn Harris’ first picture book Her Right Foot, written by Dave Eggers, was the recipient of six starred reviews. The duo has a follow-up picture book to be published this fall entitled What Can a Citizen Do?

2001
Ryan Madry was named assistant men’s basketball coach at Santa Clara University in May. Ryan spent 2017-18 as an assistant coach at Seattle University after a six-year stint at UC Santa Barbara. Last season, Seattle finished 20-14 and reached the Western Athletic Conference semifinals en route to a spot in the College Basketball Invitational Tournament. The win total marked a program high since returning to Division I status in 2008-09. During his time at UC Santa Barbara, the program won 19-plus games in four seasons with three of those concluding with a postseason trip.

2002
San Francisco State University Associate Director of Athletics Brandon Davis was recently named chairperson of the NCAA Division II Softball Committee. He has served on the committee since 2015 as chair of the Western Region, and has served on the West Region’s Regional Advisory Committee since 2013. In his role at SFSU, Brandon oversees the department’s communications and branding efforts, game operations, and serves as the primary contact for five sports.

2003
Lance Holloway has a role in the recently released movie Blindspotting.
2005
Award-winning author Jesse Byrd spoke at the 2018 New York Book Expo held in May. Jesse has written Oiseau The King Catcher, King Penguin and Sunny Days. And Sunny Days recently won the Mom’s Choice Award for Excellence in Children’s Literature.

2012
Entrepreneur and social media innovator Joshua Brown is beta testing his first app called OpenCrcle, a social media platform focused on putting “social” back in social media by offering an option to encourage getting together in person. Learn more about it: https://www.ebtoday.com/stories/say-hello-to-a-new-social-network

Her passion for boats and the sea led Bonnie Muchnick to the California Maritime Academy where she graduated with an Unlimited Tonnage Third Mate license in the Merchant Marines and a Bachelor of Science degree. She now works in the Gulf of Mexico on a 700-foot tug and barge tanker moving fuel between Florida and Louisiana.

2013
Gina Arias recently completed her first year in the doctoral program at John F. Kennedy University, where she is working towards a PsyD in Clinical Psychology with a concentration in Neuropsychology. Said Gina, “Ever since I took AP Psych my senior year at O’Dowd I fell in love with the way our brain works and I knew I wanted to study psychology and learn how to help people work through their problems.”

2014
Imani Davis recently graduated Cum Laude from St. John’s University with Bachelor of Science in Sport Management & a Minor Certificate in Legal Studies, and will be working as a Junior Agent for Wilhelmina Models in their Sports & Fitness Division.

Dominic Mortarotti graduated an American University Scholar in May with a bachelor’s degree in Political Science and Leadership.

Channing Nesbitt was recognized as a University of Washington Athletic Scholar, and celebrated at an event held on May 15, 2018, for his contributions on the university’s campus and in the community while achieving academic excellence.

Parker Wiggins-Harrison, Nhandi Scott, Kiana Gums, Christina Nwabuzoh and Chris Shelby all graduated from Loyola Marymount University in May.

2015
Maria Suarez Agudelo is the associate producer for The Morning Brew, USC’s TV station.

2017
University of San Diego student-athlete Myah Pace earned all-conference honors (West Coast Conference) and was named to the WCC All-Freshman Team.

To submit class notes email LizaDusk Aduviso at ladvioso@bishopodowd.org
Mike Caruso ’67 Retires After More Than 30 Years at Texas A&M

Mike Caruso, Associate Athletics Director for Game Management at Texas A&M Athletics retired in August. Mike was a mainstay in Aggie athletics for more than 30 years, starting in the Aggie promotions office in September 1987. He worked as an assistant athletics director for promotions and operations before taking on the associate athletics director role.

Earlier in his career, Mike served as head basketball coach and assistant to the athletics director at Elmhurst College (Chicago) from 1981-87. He was an assistant basketball coach at Creighton from 1974-81. He started in administration and as head basketball coach at Cathedral High School in Omaha in 1973-74.

Kathleen McGuirk ’06 and Miles Skorpen were married on July 7, 2018, at Triple S Ranch in Calistoga, and the couple is now living in San Francisco. Kathleen, who earned her bachelor’s degree at Cal and MBA at Northwestern University, was to start a new position in September as a member of the business growth team at Plaid, a financial technology company in San Francisco. Alumni in the wedding party included Kathleen’s twin sister, Allison McGuirk ’06, brothers Kevin ’01 and Michael ’03 McGuirk, Erika Halstenrud ’06 and Kayla Rockwall ’07. Alumni attending the wedding included Jenny Knutson Fitzgerald ’06, Torin Holland ’06, Brian Litke ’04, Scott Litke ’10, Catherine Petru ’05, Cameron Rockwall ’12 and Geoff Williams ’98.

Mike was a basketball star at O’Dowd, leading the Dragons to a 37-2 record and a California state championship his senior year. He went on to play basketball at Creighton under legendary Coach Eddie Sutton.
After two successful reunion tours in 2014 and 2016, The Matches recently reunited for perhaps the last time to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of their third album, A Band In Hope. The original line-up of the band – Justin San Souci ’00, Jon Devoto, Matt Whalen ’01 and Shawn Harris ’00 – reunited at The Fillmore in July, playing A Band In Hope in its entirety, along with songs from throughout its catalog. This album spawned the acclaimed music video for “Yankee In A Chip Shop,” shot on location in London and co-directed by Harris.

Interesting trivia: San Souci, Whalen and Harris were members of the Campus Ministry Team when they were O’Dowd students! Also, original band member Matthew Esposito ’99 left the group to attend the Naval Academy and has been serving as a Marine Infantry Officer since graduating from the Academy in 2005.

The Matches Reunite!
You gave more in 2017-18 . . .

Thank You.

Your generous support impacted our students and the programs that distinguish O’Dowd, sustaining the formation of a new generation of leaders. Bishop O’Dowd High School relies on the generous support of benefactors like you to ensure that O’Dowd remains at the forefront of college preparatory education and is accessible to all deserving students. Giving in all forms - $3,650,000* - increased over last year, demonstrating your commitment to successful student outcomes at O’Dowd.

Whether you’ve created a scholarship, contributed to the senior gift or engaged in any of the other many forms of giving, your gift has transformed a student’s life, a community and our world at large, leaving a timeless legacy.

Your Giving Supported Successful Outcomes

• 40,000 hours of service donated to the community by the Class of 2018
• 98% 4-year college acceptance
• 30% of O’Dowd students supported by financial aid
• 79% AP Exam pass rate

Faculty Development

• 70 out of 95 faculty and staff have advanced degrees
• 6,480 hours of faculty professional development over the last three years

Annual Giving

$3,150,000, including Senior Class gift of $108,000 to support tuition assistance

Endowment Growth

$461,000, including $275,000 contributed to the Steve Phelps fund

Transforming Lives Dinner & Crab Feed

Transforming Lives Dinner: $550,000
Crab Feed: Record $170,000, including $54,000 in support of the Steve Phelps fund

And you made an impact!

Driving Academic Innovation

Thanks to your generosity, we were able to introduce Spiritual Ecology, a new 2017-18 course developed as part of a collaborative effort between the Religious Studies and Sustainability departments to examine a spiritual response to our present ecological crisis. The course invites students to work personally and collectively as catalysts for bringing forward an environmentally sustainable, spiritually fulfilling, and socially just human presence on this planet.

Preparing Students to Lead

O’Dowd prepares its students to effectively communicate, build bridges, and capably lead others, skills which are critical in today’s global world. In the fall of 2017-18, nearly 30 student leaders participated in the Emerging Leaders Retreat (ELR), a series of workshops on topics such as public speaking, growth mindset and teamwork/listening.

Counseling Programs that Ensure Success

Your support allows O’Dowd to offer counseling and student support programs, such as the CORE program, that ensure access to successful outcomes. This program serves 60 students in grades 9-12 whose academic scores suggest that they may benefit from additional support. CORE students work one-on-one with a dedicated counselor and develop personalized strategies for success.

*All fundraising figures presented are pre-audit.
You, our benefactors, are partnering with us to ensure that the students of Bishop O’Dowd High School have the resources, the education and the faith formation to lead meaningful and impactful lives. O’Dowd has continued to raise the bar for excellence in Catholic education with our mission at the heart of everything we do. This would not be possible without you.

Our students perform their work — in class conversations, in service learning projects, in their ministry to each other through leadership, as fellow athletes on the field — mindful of the community they build in their four years on campus.

But we know that their experience has been made richer because of the leadership, faith and creativity that was brought to the campus by those who came before them. Generations of students, faculty and administrators have shaped this institution and thus, the daily experience of our students.

We’re deeply grateful for the financial support we’ve received this past year — support that enabled a generous financial aid program, salary increases for our faculty, a wide range of strong co-curricular programs, faith formation opportunities and improved facilities. We’re also grateful for the care and devotion that each O’Dowd community member has made to enhance this institution and its impact on individual lives and the East Bay.

Rebecca Bischoff
Chief Development Officer
Benefactor, Builders and Platinum Circles - Gifts of $25,000 +
Hannenele B. Bail
Elizabeth J. Cabraser ’70
Jim Canty ’60
Annette and Thomas A. Counts
Dana and Robert Emery
Erla Jaek and Kevin J. Kelly
Ellie and Donald Knauss
Karen A. Bals and Stephen H. Lockhart
Maria C. Canales and Gregory S. Okken
Sue and Joe Raphel ’70
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Margie and Kerry J. Murphy ’60
Bobbi and Robb Bragdon
Jeannette V. DeLaGarza-Dold and
Kathleen and Eamonn F. Dolan ’79
Margaret and Michael D. Desler
Margaret and Michael D. Desler
Kathleen and Eamon F. Dolan ’79
Jeanette V. DeLaGarza-Dold and
Edward J. Dold ’73
Denis L. Ducey
Thomas N. Duffy ’87
Lori G. and Brian G. Fogarty, Jr.
Sandra Backovich and David Gleason
Sarah H. Postyn and Carl R. Goldberg
Elizabeth M. Kane Gonzalez ’91 and
Kenneth W. Gonzalez
Marcia McKeiman, Haro McAluife ’60 and
Michael McAluife
Antoinette S. and John D. Heagerty ’60
Carolyn T. and Ronald W. Hutton
Scott M. Jacobsen
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Gail B. and James M. Keating
Sara and James A. Knight
Julie Koe and Steven Baughman
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Wendy T. and Joseph S. Madden
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Monica L. and John M. Marcone
MBK Foundation
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Loretta Cumming Meyer ’74 and
Paul J. Meyer
Francesca Paulel and Thomas C. Moore
Morgan Stanley Global Impact Funding
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Ana V. and Federico Moure
Laurie Shepherd Page ’79 and Lance Page
Linda L. and Michael V. Pirrotta
Laurie Shepherd Page ’79 and Lance Page
Linda L. and Michael V. Pirrotta
Debbie Chernoff and Vince Rocha
Lourdes and Roderick Roche ’81
Arleen Rossi
Kristen B. and Edward L. Talley
Michelle M. Russi ’88 and Rahn Twitchell
Judith Blout Sanchez ’60
Mary D. and John C. Tibbetts, Jr. ’70
John Valva ’84 and Hanna Derry Valva
Margaret A. and Richard G. Walterhouse
Debra L. Yau and Richard F. Weeks, Jr.
Danielle R. and Michael V. Wenzler
Mollie A. Westphal and Ruslan Stekport
Westpal Family Foundation
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Robert C. Colyar
Suzanne Schofield Connelly
Cheryl Delahoussaye
George F. Farley
Anne MacWhinney Hobbs
Noreen Angiola Maresca
Ellen McCracken
Marian Mendonza
Dennis Monohan
Vickie Barrious Poitevin
Mary Ann Rokovich
Carolyn H. Serras
Patricia Menghini Walters

1966
Terry A. Adami
Dyan Radich Beito
Laura Mayes Benz
Ron Flores
Mary Schneider Hanlon
Sue Hansen
William R. Jarvis

1967
Suzanne Arnhart
Kathryn R. McLeod Barger
Elizabeth Davis Blasius
Sherry L. Bracken
Dennise Burgess
Richard W. Clark, M.D.
Frances Amaral Costa
David W. Dixon
Carol Albers Evans, N.P.
Mike Friedrich
Douglas Hudson
James R. Kohles
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Michael McGuire
Linda Oakes Perkins
Michael Scanlon
James M. Schiavenza
J. Catherine Camacho Snelling
Michael Walsh
James R. White
Kathleen Elston Wright
Anonymous

1968
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Edda M. Browne Caraballo
Paul E. Dolan III
Theresa Erwin
Cecille Garcia
Terence E. Gentle
Nick Grover
Donald E. Keeley
Maureen Wingfield Klausner
Michelle DeVoe Kloos
Diane Mahoney
James P. Negri

1969
Suzanne Montali Brennan
Joan Guettinger Carter
Kevin J. Donahue
Richard A. Espicha
Jane Mullen Gates
Robert Hall
Anne M. Duran Marchetti
Thomas J. McPartland
Richard J. Moore
Richard Murphy
James S. O’Hare
George T. Pekkari
Linda K. Leighton Quick
Josefa Tozer Scholz

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Debbie VanHecke Cuzner
Jeffry J. Hansen
Julie A. Wilson Petrini
Joseph E. Raphel
Robert Scarpas
Christine A. Songey Schmuits
Douglas M. Taylor
John C. Tibbetts, Jr.
Jane Ratto Traversa
Christine Pawloski Tulin

1971
Stephen M. Avery
John A. Cecconi, Sr.
Stephen Dunn
Kathleen Sereda Glaub
Janet Capurro Graham
Janet Layrac Haun
Diane Songey Twomey

1972
Joseph T. Barry
Margaret R. Connelly
Chris LeMay Dempsey
Robert E. Dempsey
Mark T. Hubbard
Anita Guerra Littman
Richard G. Logan, Jr.
Timothy P. Maroney
Mary E. Pratt
Charles Slingstad
Neal Vandenriese

1973
Pamela Warner Berry
Edward J. Dold

1974
Melinda A. Eisenhubt Dunn
Carol W. Heard
Elizabeth A. Cammerer Letz
Loretta Cumming Meyer
Michael Raphel
Steven F. Sciamanna
Frederick M. Turner
Anonymous

1975
Karin Rimel Amour
William C. Barbabagalo
Bridget McBride Belick
Wayne T. Gregory
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Dale A. Hampton Muller
Teresa Soriso Ritelli
Edward J. Ritelli, Jr.
Anne E. Symens-Bucher
Margaret M. Valva
Rick Zaslove
Anonymous

1976
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Mark I. Leyva
Robert D. Mahoney
Lisa Coffey Mahoney
Alisa A. Morua
Dominic M. Pontrelli
Daniel J. Schneider
Michael F. Ward

1977
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Jan Ushijima Frei
James Frei
Joel Gudger
Joan Shepherd Mellows
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Cherie Nanninga ’66
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Heather Kuiper and Loren Rauch
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Ken Reggio
Jen Ripley
Theresa and Donovan Rittenbach
Leslie Sims Robertsion ’81 and
Keith Robertson
Debbie Chernoff and Vincent Rocha
Loudes and Roderick Roche ’81
Katie and Brian K. Rogers ’91
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Saint Francis High School
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Sonia and John J. Sanchez
Gretta and Donrick A. Sanderson
Michele and Randol L. Schreck
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Michael A. Smahlik
Andrew G. Smith ’18
Judith Logan Smith ’64 and
Timothy J. Smith
Susan and Robert A. Smith
Stephanie G. Smith ’21
Kathleen A. and Alfred D. Soller
Mildred C. Sorrells
Frank Sparks
Ke Xu and Arthur J. Spencer ’62
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Trina L. and Steven W. Walz
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Robert Whitehill
Anna-Mae and Grant C. Wilson
Ji and Daniel Winkler
Rhea B. and Michael P. Wisherop
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Linda M. Reiden-Wright and
Barton J. Wright
Theresa K. and Gene Yang
Lesley M. Jones and Thomas S. Yeadler
Jill M. and Derek Yegian
Richard Yuen
Nora Garcia-Zepeda and Frank X. Zepeda
Anonymous (4)

This list honors those whose gifts made between July
1, 2017 and June 30, 2018. Please note that our gift list
reflects outright gifts and pledge payments and does
not include multiple year pledges. The fundraising
numbers referenced in this report are pre-audited
numbers. We welcome and encourage any corrections
to the report to
advancement@bishopodowd.org.

* indicates deceased
SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, February 2, 2019

You Can Support this Community Fundraiser in Many Ways!

Donate auction items
Become a sponsor
Volunteer on the committee
Purchase tickets (available in December)

For more information, contact Elizabeth Horpedahl at ehorpedahl@bishopodowd.org.

Grand Reunion: Party on the Quad!
Open to All O'Dowd Alumni

Sat, May 18, 2019
In Memoriam

Patrick Bird ’68  
Brother of Reid Bird ’71, Laura Bird ’72 and Candyce Bird 
Allen ’75

Rita McWalters Bradley ’60  
Sister of Dave McWalters ’58, Irene Stephens ’62 (deceased), 
Margaret Greenwalt ’66 (deceased) and Kathleen Webb ’65 
(deceased)

Alfred R. Bucher  
Father of Anne Bucher ’75 and Cathy Bucher ’82, and 
grandfather of Catherine ’07, John ’11, Timothy ’15 and 
Robert ’18 Symens-Bucher

Myron Candido ’59  
Husband of Loretta Candido, father Brian Candido, Craig 
Candido, Mark Candido and Ted Weldon, and brother of 
Gary Lee Candido ’64

Paul Carlin ’69  
Husband of Joy Carlin, father of Caneel Carlin, and brother 
of Nancy Carlin (deceased) ’73

Donald Doran ’59  
Brother of Chuck Doran ’62 (deceased) and Anne Doran 
Marchetti ’63

Marian Esser  
Mother of Adam ’93 (Anne-Marie) and Michael (Julia) 
Esser ’02

Sister Marie Amada Garcia, OP  
Faculty member at O’Dowd from 1965-1968

Joyce Ann Livingston Gerstenberger  
Mother of Patrick ’72 (Jane) Gerstenberger, Ann Simmons 
’74, Thomas (Ann) Gerstenberger, Robert ’78 (Dubrawski) 
Gerstenberger and Jan (Malcolm) Robertson and the late 
John and Jeffrey Gerstenberger

Frederick Phillip Hanavan  
Father of Pat Hanavan ’85, uncle of Tony Ronzone ’83 and 
great uncle of Cade ’20 and Austin ’20 Ronzone

Shelley Hansen  
Mother of Nils ’97 and Drew ’99 Hansen

Al Heeg ’55  
Husband of Sue Hansen ’66, brother of Patricia Heeg 
Devitt ’56 and uncle of Amy ’87 and Laura ’95 Devitt

Daniel Hoppe ’56  
Husband of Bonnie, father of Bruce, Eric, Sheila and Susan, 
grandfather of Rico, and James, and brother of Diane Hoppe 
Tamisiea ’59, Michael Hoppe and Richard Hoppe

Paul Keener  
Husband of Carla Keener and father of Christine ’07, 
Jessica ’09 and Rachel ’13 Keener

Peter Kozel ’79  
Husband of Debra, father of Shannon (Andrew) and Gianna, 
son of Betty, and brother of Ed Jr., Kim, Tom ’76 and Steve 
Kozel

Alfred LeBlanc  
Son of Lois LeBlanc and brother of Ivy (Chris) LeBlanc 
Wagner ’75, Ina Claire LeBlanc ’76, Iris (Chris) LeBlanc 
Clay ’80, Ione LeBlanc ’86 and Wilfred “Jay” LeBlanc ’82

Bud Pence  
Husband of Lysbeth Pence and father of Sylvia Sousa, Lisa 
Pence Weiman, Aly Pence ’05 and Christopher Pence ’09

Jerry Pokorny ’75

Mary Chris (Stephens) Prepouses  
Mother of K.C. (Jim) Econome ’74, Barbara (Mark) Fridell ’75 
and Vicki (Robert) Kinningham ’78

Thomas Gaetano Pursiano Jr.  
Husband of Frances Pursiano, father of Cathy ’69 (Jim) 
Pursiano Stark, David ’72 (Laurel Barry) Pursiano, Jayne 
Pursiano Bridgeman ’75 and James ’78 (Nadine Barroca) 
Pursiano

Homer Ratcliff  
Father of Lance Ratcliff ’19

David Rose ’60  
Brother of Barbara Payne and Patricia Kennedy

Patricia Scalise  
Mother of Julie ’77 (Rich) Burke, Jim ’84 (Marti), John ’85 
(Mara) and Patrick ’88 (Gemma) Scalise

Frederick James Schmidt  
Husband of Touria and father of Zack ’19 and Adam Schmidt

Barbara Jean Amaral Sonntag ’55  
Sister of Frances Amaral Costa ’67, Jane Amaral Smith ’64 
and Marylin Amaral Stephens ’59

Leo Tamisiea ’59  
Husband of Diane Hoppe Tamisiea ’59, and father of 
William, Margaret and Patricia Tamisiea.

Judith Ann (Gorman) Vinci ’58

John Voyles  
Former O’Dowd faculty member

Robert B. Wilson III ’64  
Father of Kevin Wilson, and brother of Bryan Wilson ’61 and 
Judith Wilson-Pates ’70

Clifford Kip Wixon ’57  
Husband of the late Charlotte Bettencourt Wixon ’59, father 
of Heidi (Erich) Wixon Novak and Amy (Michael) Wixon, 
grandfather of Charlotte, Charlie ’17 and Atticus Novak, 
Kippy ’22 and Elise-Jane Clemens, brother of Donald J. 
Wixon ’56 and Patricia (Allan J. Boscacci ’60) A. Wixon 
Boscacci’61, uncle of Julie Wixon Darmody ’85, Devin J. 
Wixon ’81 (deceased) and Dayna Wixon Woerner ’83, and 
brother-in-law of Chuck Bettencourt ’62 and Jeanne Ratto 
Bettencourt ’64

Bishop O’Dowd High School encourages The Dragon readers to forward to the school copies of obituary notices about the passing of O’Dowd community members so that the names of the deceased can be listed in the In Memoriam section of this magazine. Please send the notices to Lisa Coffey Mahoney ’76, c/o Bishop O’Dowd High School, 9500 Stearns Ave., Oakland, CA 94605, or e-mail them to lmahoney@bishopodowd.org. Note: Listings are based on information known at press time and may not include all surviving family members.
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— Esmeralda ’21

Please make a gift in support of students like Esmeralda today!

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