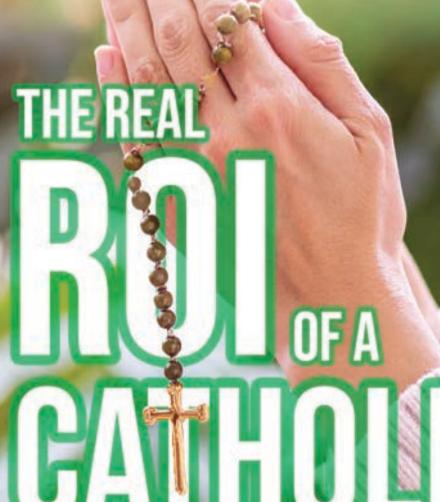
# DOMINICAN

TRUTH | COMPASSION | JUSTICE | COMMUNITY | PARTNERSHIP

SUMMER 2025



VALUES, VIRTUE, & VISION: PREPARING THOSE CALLED TO LEAD

CATHUR EDUCATION



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**OUR MISSION:** Dominican High School provides young adults with a co-educational, Catholic, college-preparatory experience based on the teachings of Jesus. Our faith-driven school community fosters spirituality and creativity, respects uniqueness and diversity, and encourages intellectual, social, physical, and artistic development. We commission our students to develop a heightened sense of social responsibility and respect for human dignity based on the values articulated by our founding congregation, the Sinsinawa Dominicans: Truth, Compassion, Justice, Community and Partnership.

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dominican Family and Friends,

Since 1956, Dominican High School has been an incredible place where students are not only educated, but nurtured and guided to become who they are truly called to be. Our promise to each family is simple, yet profound: at Dominican, we will know your student by name, by need, and by gift. This personal approach is at the heart of our mission, and it's what sets us apart.

As we celebrate 69 years of forming young people into leaders rooted in both faith and intellect, I find myself filled with deep gratitude for the enduring mission that has carried us through almost seven decades, and the inspiring community that continues to bring it to life today.

Our cover story in this issue explores the vital role of Catholic education in shaping the hearts and minds of tomorrow's leaders. In a world that often rushes past meaning, Dominican pauses for purpose, inviting students into a life of deeper reflection, compassion, and truth. This mission is beautifully captured in our new tagline: "Called to Lead." More than just words, this phrase reflects our legacy and our future; it is a declaration of who we are and what we empower our students to become.

Looking ahead, we are excited to launch our updated strategic plan, a bold and thoughtful vision for the years to come. This plan reaffirms our commitment to academic excellence while expanding the ways we infuse Dominican faith traditions into every aspect of student

life; inside the classroom, within service and leadership, through prayer and community, and in the spirit of joyful discovery that defines our halls. It is a roadmap that honors our past and points us toward a future filled with purpose and promise.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the extraordinary generosity of our alumni, parents, and friends. Your support is the foundation upon which every success is built. You make possible the transformative education, the personal attention, the sacred traditions, and the opportunities that define a Dominican experience. Whether you give your time, your treasure, or your prayers, thank you. You are a vital part of the legacy we celebrate and the mission we advance.

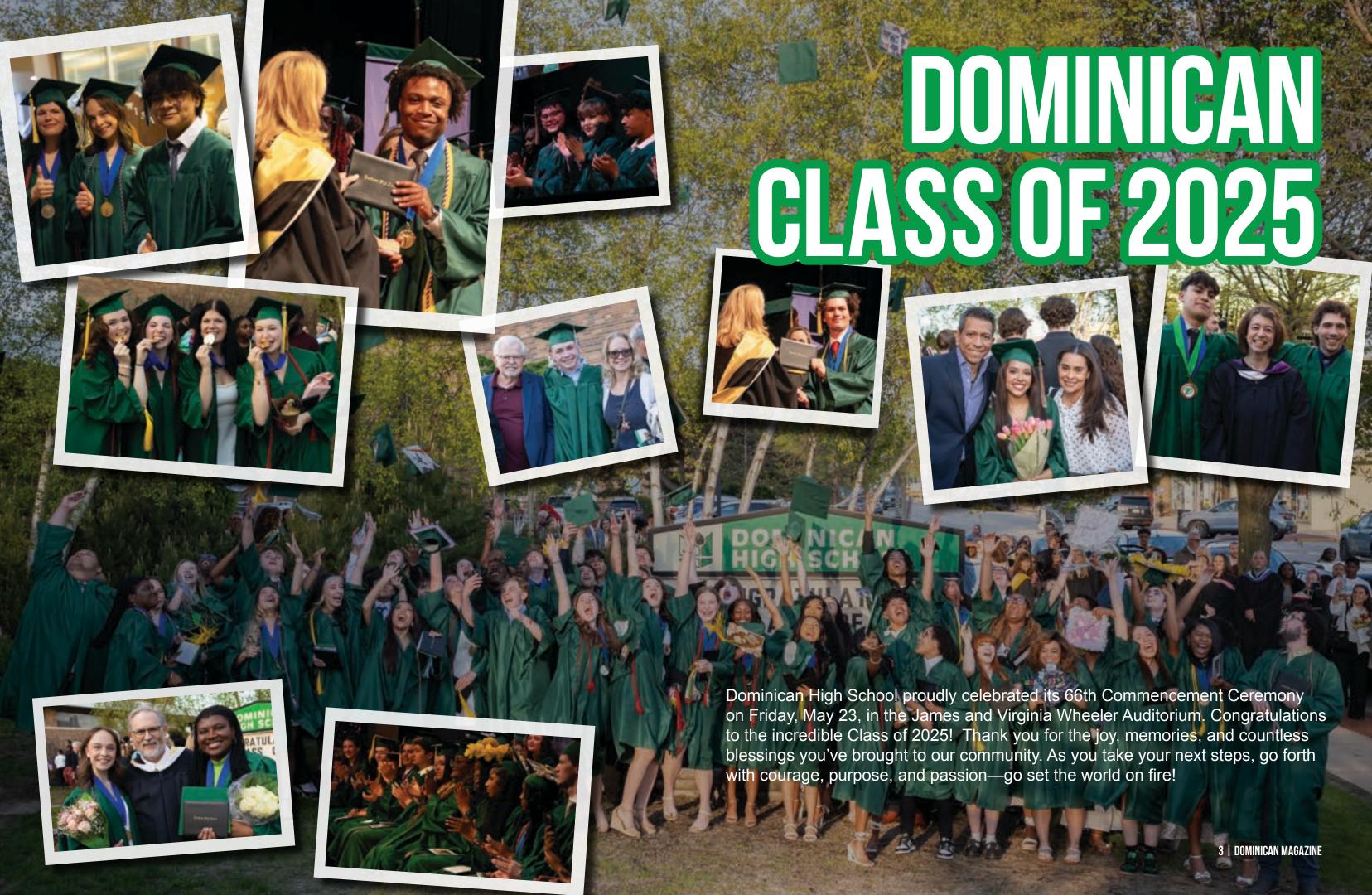
As you turn the pages of this magazine, I invite you to reflect with pride on all that we've accomplished, and to look forward with hope to all that lies ahead. Together, as one Dominican community, we continue to answer the call to lead.

God Bless and Go Knights!

Clame Gres

Leanne Giese President Dominican High School

Dominican High School publishes the Dominican Magazine for alumni, past parents, current families, and friends. Please contact Amanda Kirmse, Marketing and Communications Manager, at 414-332-1170 ext. 174 or akirmse@dominicanhighschool.com with any comments or updates to share.



## **BY THE NUMBERS**

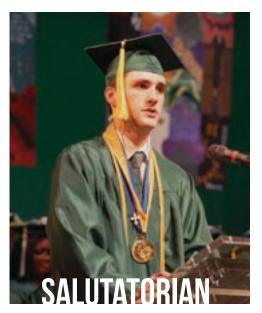








CECILIA PARLIER GPA: 4.438

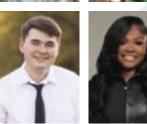


QUINTIN TORRES GPA: 4.375

## **NOTABLE FULL SCHOLARSHIPS**

# FOUR ALL-IN MILWAUKEE SCHOLARS





TEMI ADESANYA, ANGEL CLEVELAND, CARSON GARRY, AKYRA SIMMONS

ONE BURKE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



JACOB ARMSTRONG

#### ONE MERCILE J. LEE SCHOLAR



QUINTIN TORRES

# ONE NATIONAL MERIT RECIPIENT\*



CECILIA PARLIER
\*NOT A FULL TUITION-PAID SCHOLARSHIP

## **AROUND CAMPUS**







#### **CLASS-WIDE SERVICE**

Dominican freshman and sophomore students, joined by parent and staff chaperones, visited multiple organizations throughout the greater Milwaukee area and assisted with various service projects. On average, 5,500 community service hours are completed by each class per year.







#### **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK MEGA MASS**

Dominican hosted the 6th Annual North Shore Catholic Schools Week Mass with Most Reverend Archbishop Grob as our celebrant! Students, faculty, staff, and guests of Holy Family, St. Eugene, St. Monica, and St. Robert, totaling over 1,300, joined us for the Memorial of Dominican Saint, Thomas Aguinas.







#### **LENTEN FOOD DRIVE**

Freshman student, Maggie Johnson, started her own Lenten Food Drive at the age of six and has continued her almsgiving every year since. For Maggie's 8th Annual Lenten Food Drive this year, we invited the Dominican community to support her efforts by donating food items to her collection box. This year, she collected over 3,000 pounds of food which was donated to Family Sharing food pantry in Grafton.







#### **MULTICULTURAL CELEBRATION DAY**

From traditional dress to delicious food, music and dance — Multicultural Celebration Day was a vibrant day of pride for our students. Our Knights attended a variety of workshops on campus that highlighted a variety of cultures around the globe!



#### TRUNK-OR-TREAT

Our Knights had a terrific time celebrating Trunk-or-Treat together on campus! Students from multiple different clubs and groups at Dominican decorated their cars, handed out candy to their classmates, and enjoyed the fabulous new school tradition.















#### **ANNUAL TALENT SHOW**

Dominican's Annual Talent Show displayed a variety of talents from our gifted Knights! Thank you to our students who shared their incredible gifts with us.





#### **DINNER WITH FR. TONNY**

Dominican's School Chaplain, Fr. Tonny Kizza, welcomed a party of eight guests to St. Monica's Rectory for a traditional Ugandan meal, a new item from the Dominican auction! Thank you to Fr. Tonny for sharing cuisine, culture, and his own past-times with our Dominican community!













#### **SINSINAWA CORE VALUE AWARDS**

The Sinsinawa Core Value Awards recognize students who symbolize the culture and excellence at Dominican. Congratulations to the Class of 2025 recipients (from top left):

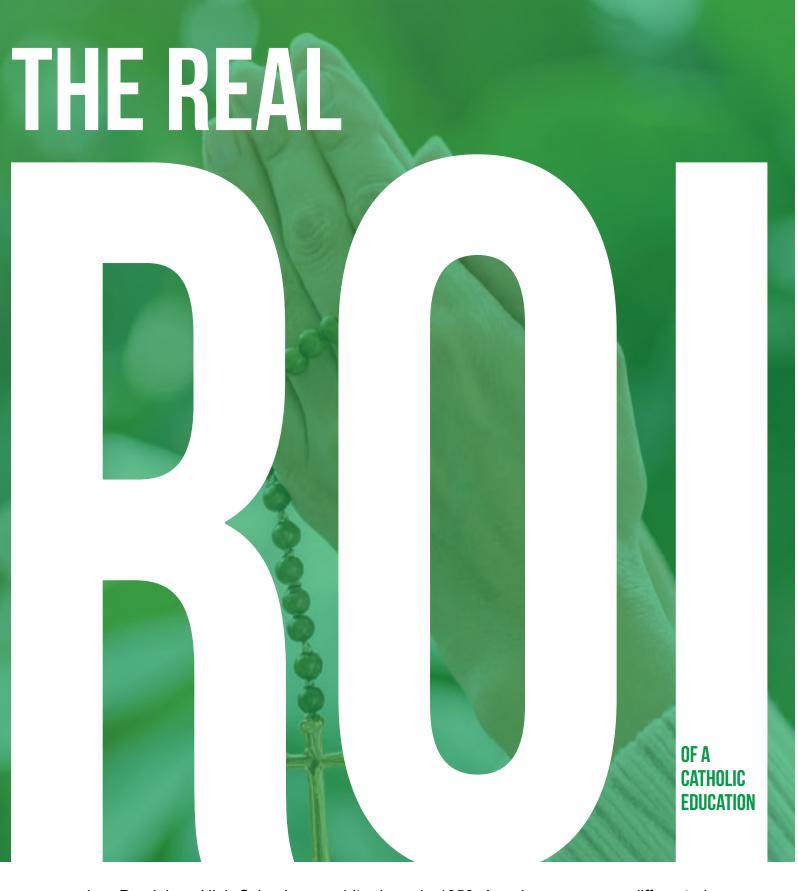
McKenzy Beamon, Compassion Margo Meyer, Community Akyra Simmons, Truth Tyler Feldbruegge, Partnership RaNiya Dunlap, Justice



#### MATTHEW 25 AWARD

The Matthew 25 award is given to one graduate each year who embodies each of our Sinsinawa Core Values, and simply put, lives the Gospel. Congratulations to Cecilia Parlier, this year's Matthew 25 Award recipient!





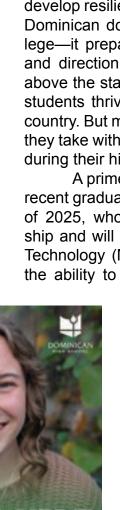
hen Dominican High School opened its doors in 1956, America was a very different place. Gas was 22 cents a gallon, the average price of a home was \$14,500, and Dominican's tuition was just a few hundred dollars a year. Families choosing Dominican knew they were making an investment—one not just in education, but in faith, character, and the future of their children. Nearly seven decades later, the cost of that investment has increased to \$15,750 per year, but so has the return.

Dominican's tuition reflects more than numbers. It represents decades of growth in academic offerings, faculty development, extracurricular excellence, and a renewed commitment to forming young people in faith and leadership. While the sticker price has risen with the cost of living, the true return on investment—a graduate formed in values, virtue, and vision—is more powerful and more necessary than ever.

In 1956, the idea of paying over \$15,000 annually for high school might have seemed unthinkable. Today, families spend that amount on childcare or summer camps. And while inflation explains much of the increase, Dominican's value proposition has grown far beyond its humble beginnings. Transitioning into the 1980s, a pivotal moment in Dominican's history hit. As the number of Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters diminished, the school made a critical decision—to pay its lay teachers and remaining Sisters equally and competitively. This change acknowledged the professionalism and dedication of every staff member, but it also increased operational costs. Unlike public schools funded through taxes, Dominican relies heavily on tuition and philanthropic support. As competition with public and charter schools intensified, Dominican leaned even more heavily into what has always set it apart: its mission to form the whole person.

In today's world, where moral relativism and cultural confusion often dominate headlines, Dominican remains rooted in something eternal. From day one, the school has been more than a place of academics. It has been a place

of formation—where virtue is taught not just in religion classes, but through the everyday lives of students, faculty, and staff. This is the kind of formation that cannot be replicated in public institutions. As society has grown more secular, Dominican has remained steadfast in its commitment to forming young people with a deep moral compass. Here, students learn what it means to serve others, to seek truth, and to lead lives grounded in purpose.



Jim Michaletz, a current Dominican parent, reflects on the value of this foundation. "Dominican impressed our family with its holistic approach to forming the mind, body, and soul. My son, Xavier '26, has had a significant school experience, impacting his interest in the seminary and vocation to the Catholic church."



Dominican's academic program is not designed for the faint of heart. Students are expected to push themselves, manage their time, and develop resilience. But the results speak volumes. Dominican doesn't just prepare students for college—it prepares them to lead lives of meaning and direction. With an average ACT score well above the state and national average, Dominican students thrive in top-tier universities across the country. But more than test scores and transcripts, they take with them the discipline and drive forged during their high school years.

A prime example of this is Cecilia Parlier, a recent graduate and Co-Valedictorian of the Class of 2025, who earned a National Merit Scholarship and will attend Masssachuesetts Institute of Technology (MIT) this fall. "As a student, having the ability to take difficult classes in all subject

areas, learn from dedicated, extremely qualified instructors, and seek out additional educational opportunities through activities such as robotics, stage crew, and other programs has helped me along the path to achieving my dreams of attending an elite university. The individualized academic support offered at Dominican paired with the rigor available to all students has prepared me for success in a way that nothing else could." Dominican alumni consistently testify that their college courses felt less daunting than some of their toughest high school classes. That is not just preparation; it's empowerment.

More than a school. Dominican is a launching pad. It forms not only scholars, but servant leaders. The tradition of faith, character, and service built into every corner of Dominican's culture ensures that students don't just graduate—they transform.

This transformation doesn't end at commencement. It ripples outward into families, workplaces, parishes, and communities.

Nate Friday, Class of 2009, reflects on his journey from student to Campus Minister. "For the first two years I attended Dominican I was not interested in a relationship with God. However, members of the community saw a faith in me and the fire of the Holy Spirit within me that I didn't even see my-

self. I am so thankful I now have the opportunity to help students find their path to Christ."

Stories like Nate's highlight how Dominican doesn't just educate-it forms. And formation is the type of return on investment that transcends money. The virtues learned within Dominican's walls—compassion, leadership, integrity, and service—form the foundation of lives that influence the world.

Of course, \$15,750 is no small sum. But families know that investing in Dominican is an investment in something eternal. It's the kind of value that doesn't depreciate-it multiplies. Students may only be enrolled at Dominican for four years, but the impact of those years lasts for a lifetime. Graduates become doctors, teachers, artists, engineers, ministers, and entrepreneurs. More importantly, they become men and women of faith and virtue, called to lead in ways the world desperately needs.

Even the cost itself becomes a teaching tool. Dominican's work-study programs allow students to contribute to the cost of their tuition, instilling a sense of ownership and

responsibility. That model of shared sacrifice helps students and families alike see the cost of education not as a bill—but as a bond.

Dominican families are not just purchasing a product—they are participating in a mission. A mission that forms young people into future leaders with integrity, compassion, and purpose. In a world that increasingly asks, What can I get? Dominican continues to ask,

> Who are you called to be? That question underpins every lesson, every retreat, every game, every Mass, and every moment of student life. Yes, times have changed. The economy has shifted. Public education options have evolved. But the need for schools that educate the

whole person—mind, body, and spirit—has never been greater.

KAIROS 21. 2018

Dominican High School's return on investment isn't measured in stock portfolios or income brackets. It's measured in lives transformed, vocations discovered, and generations shaped. It's measured in faith rekindled and dreams made real. When families choose Dominican, they are choosing more than excellence—they are choosing eternal impact. And in that sense, the real ROI is not only worth every penny, it's priceless.





#### A MESSAGE FROM MR. MURRAY THE FUTURE OF AI WITHIN DOMINICAN

At Dominican, we embrace the thoughtful use of artificial intelligence as one of many tools to support teaching and learning. Our teachers use AI to enhance lesson planning, spark creativity, and improve productivity—helping to design engaging, interactive classroom experiences. We've hosted guest speakers to guide our faculty on responsible AI integration, and our administration continues to explore ways AI can support critical thinking and student growth. Just as importantly, we emphasize that AI is a tool—not a replacement—for the essential relationships, insight, and expertise that define great teaching.

Looking ahead, we are committed to deepening our understanding of Al's role in education. We are actively exploring professional development opportunities, collaborating with educational leaders, and piloting classroom strategies that help students use Al ethically and effectively. As this technology evolves, so will our approach—ensuring that our use of AI remains grounded in our mission and focused on student success.

\*Al-generated image



## DONATE \$10 A MONTH

Remember those unforgettable moments at Dominican? The friendships, the teachers, and the experiences that shaped who you are today. Now, you have a chance to give back and ensure future students have the same opportunities you did.

Just \$10 a month—less than a few coffees or a streaming subscription-can fit into your budget and leave a lasting impact on Dominican students.



\$19.99 PER MONTH



\$22.99 PER \$82.99 PER \$9.99 PER MONTH



MONTH





Your contribution will fund scholarships, support new programs, and improve facilities. It's a small amount, but together, we can make a big difference. Plus, you'll stay connected with the school community, enjoy exclusive benefits, and be part of a network of alumni committed to making a positive change. Join us in building a legacy that future generations will benefit from.

SCAN HERE TO SET UP YOUR MONTHLY DONATION. LET'S MAKE A DIFFERENCE, ONE MONTH AT A TIME.



## WHERE THEY ARE NOW

Following previous student scholarship speakers from the Annual Dominican Auction



Giving back to the upcoming generation of students and playing a part in their growth and development has been very fulfilling for me.

#### **BRANDON QUIN '13**

If you've ever attended a Dominican Auction, you've likely heard one of our scholarship students share how Dominican transformed their life. In 2013, Brandon Quin took the stage as our auction scholarship speaker, reflecting on how Dominican taught him the value of time management and the importance of a strong support system. After graduating, Brandon went on to attend St. Mary's University of Minnesota, where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Sports Management.

"After I graduated, I reflected on my time at Dominican and realized what a huge support system my teachers were at the time," said Brandon. "Receiving scholarship support was instrumental in helping me graduate from Dominican and pursue a college education. Without it, I wouldn't have been able to attend Dominican."

Now, 12 years later, Brandon is back in the area and working as an Operations Manager at Hultafors Group, a large manufacturer of safety wear. He's also back at his alma mater as the head coach for the boys' soccer team and the goalkeeper coach for the girls' soccer team.

"One passion I recently discovered is coaching. Giving back to the upcoming generation of students and playing a part in their growth and development has been very fulfilling for me. Being around the kids every day with their optimistic outlook and limitless energy has been very refreshing and motivating."

Stories like Brandon's bring our mission at Dominican full circle, reminding us just how meaningful and life-changing this high school experience can be for our students.

\*Pictured with Abby Young,
Director of Counseling at Dominican

#### **PHIL JONES '20**

Since graduating from Dominican in 2020, Phil has continued to embody the values and leadership that made him a standout scholarship speaker during his time here. After high school, he attended Marquette University, where he earned a degree in Corporate Communications with minors in Innovations & Entrepreneurship and Public Relations.

Phil was part of Marquette's prestigious Urban Scholars Program—a full-tuition scholarship awarded to high-achieving students from Milwaukee. He describes the program as life-changing, not only because of the financial support but also because of the mentorship and academic guidance it provided.

Now, Phil works as an Admissions Counselor at Marquette University and received the Rising Star Award from the Wisconsin Association for College Admissions Counseling at the organization's annual conference. The award honors college and high school professionals who exemplify excellence and dedication in their first five years in the admissions/counseling profession.

"My passion has always been to help as many people as possible," he says. "I want to be a resource and a positive influence, especially for those from backgrounds like mine."

Looking back, Phil credits Dominican for preparing him to navigate both academic and professional challenges. From balancing tough college exams to adjusting to diverse environments, he says the foundation built in the classroom and on the court taught him the importance of preparation and time management.

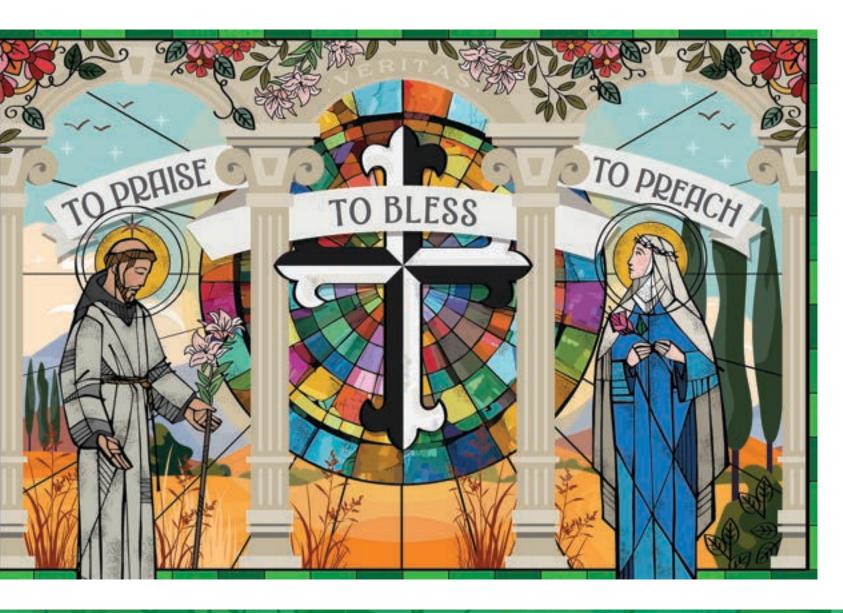
Dominican is proud of Phil's continued impact and grateful to have been a part of his journey.



Dominican helped me become confident in any setting. I know how to show up, speak up, and build connections.

## **FACILITY UPDATES**

Dominican has completed multiple facility updates thorughout the 2024-2025 school year! Check out a few of our favorites.



#### DOMINICAN SAINTS AND SPIRIT ILLUMINATE ST. DOMINIC CHAPEL

A new mural in St. Dominic Chapel brings the Dominican mission vividly to life. St. Catherine of Siena and St. Dominic are depicted in motion — symbols of faith in action. At the center is the Dominican Cross, surrounded by the words "to praise, to bless, to preach" — the heart of Dominican life. Vibrant stained glass elements frame the mural, inspired by the iconic windows of Queen of the Rosary Chapel at Sinsinawa Mound. The mural is more than decoration; it's a spiritual anchor. Each week, students gather here for Mass, and the mural deepens that experience — offering beauty, meaning, and a visual reminder of their call to lead with truth and compassion. It connects tradition with today's students, creating a sacred space that forms both mind and heart.



## **CONCESSIONS**

Dominican has a brand new Concessions Stand out on Palermo's Field! The new addition also includes attached restrooms which are open during scheduled games on the field. Funding provided by Mike Heyer '63.



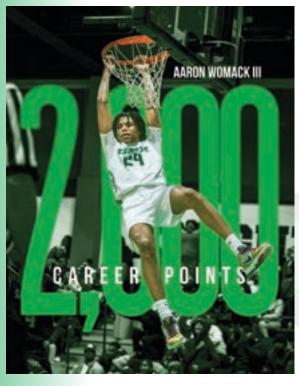
## **FLAG POLE**

Our new flagpole stands tall on Palermo's Field, also featuring our school flag, a bold symbol of Knight pride that soars with every game. Funding provided by Dean '92 & Sheila Koch.



# UNDER CONSTRUCTION: THIRD FLOOR PAINTING

Dominican's hallways are beginning to get a make-over! This multiple-year project will include painting all floors a neutral color, painting lockers, and adding more splashes of color through murals. Funding provided by brothers Andy '80 and Bill '83 Kadrich.



## AARON WOMACK III '25 ALL-TIME LEADING SCORER

During a game in Crowley Gymnasium on February 28th, Aaron eclipsed the previous all-time leading Dominican High School scoring mark of 2,193 points, set by Diamond Stone. He would eventually finish with 2,240 points as a Knight, and currently sits at #32 on the all-time scoring list in state history. That prestigious scoring list represents all Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) scoring statistics in the state of Wisconsin since 1953! Twice-voted the Wisconsin High School "Athlete of the Week" the past two seasons, Womack was also nominated for the State of Wisconsin "Player of the Year" Award in 2025. Averaging over 30 points per game during his Senior season, Womack was named First Team All-Conference by Metro Classic Conference coaches, selected to the conference "All-Defensive" Team, and honored as the Conference "Defensive Player of the Year." He was an integral part of a varsity program that won 40 games the past two school years. The college-bound Womack will take his game to Syracuse University this fall. Congratulations, Aaron, on making school history and creating an unsurpassed legacy here at Dominican!



## TYLER FELDBRUEGGE '25 ALL-TIME STRIKEOUT LEADER

Feared by batters for his fastball and off-speed pitches, Tyler now holds the record for all-time strikeouts for a Dominican pitcher. In fact, during the team's WIAA Regional baseball playoff win, Tyler notched his 300th career strikeout, a prestigious mark. His extraordinary achievements have been noted and celebrated. He was named First Team All-Conference by Metro Classic Conference coaches, and in May, Tyler became the first athlete in school history to be selected for the State All-Star Game, where he will be one of only 72 high school players in the State of Wisconsin to be honored. Tyler was also the recipient of the Mark Kasprzak Award, a 40-year tradition at Dominican High School honoring one Senior student-athlete who exhibits behaviors, values, and ideals based on their faith in God. Congratulations, Tyler, on making school history and creating an unsurpassed legacy here at Dominican!

## **OLYMPIAN AWARDS**

During the 2024-2025 school year, over 75% of Dominican High School students competed in at least one sport. To celebrate and honor the extraordinary commitment and contributions of our Senior student-athletes, we proudly present the "Dominican Olympian Award." This award is given to any senior athlete who has participated on 8 or more athletic teams during their four years here at Dominican.

- \* The bronze medal is awarded for 8 total seasons of participation.
- \* The silver medal is awarded for 10 total seasons of participation.
- \* The gold medal is awarded for 12 or more total seasons of participation.

Congratulations to our Olympian Award winners and thank you for all your impressive athletic contributions!

#### **BRONZE MEDAL**



JACOB ARMSTRONG



JAMIYAH BROWN



ADRIAN MERCADO



FELDBRUEGGE

**SILVER MEDAL** 



MARGO MEYER



VIVIAN SNYDFR



JAUKARI WATSON



#### **2026 ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS**

Dominican High School's Athletic Hall of Fame was established to celebrate individuals who have made a lasting impact on our athletic programs. Over the past 28 years, more than 70 alumni, coaches, and friends of Dominican have been inducted in honor of their outstanding athletic contributions. Athletes and coaches must meet specific qualifications in one of three categories. For more information on these qualifications, please scan the QR code. In August 2026, we will welcome a new class of inductees. To submit a nomination, please scan the QR code or email our Athletic Director at **tmlada@dominicanhighschool.com**. *Entries must be submitted by September 30, 2025*.



#### 1. MADDIE PICKART '26

During a volleyball game in Crowley Gymnasium the night of October 8th, Junior Maddie Pickart surpassed the illustrious 1,000 recorded assists mark during her athletic career at Dominican High School! That personal record is an impressive accomplishment, both as an indication of the important role she has played on the Knights volleyball team and her selfless style of play. Entering her senior year, Maddie will be counted on to help lead our talented girls' volleyball team to new heights, and challenge for the Metro Classic Conference title!

#### 2. Brandon applewhite '26

Junior Brandon Applewhite recently finished his third season as a member of our boys' golf team in a special way, by qualifying to play in the WIAA sectional golf meet at The Bog in Saukville. To earn the trip, Brandon shot a season-best 88 in a tightly-contested regional match, besting his opponent by 1 stroke to grab the spot at the Sectional meet. From the start of the season to the finish, he demonstrated significant improvement. He and his teammates are poised for a big Spring season next school year!

#### 3. BROOKLYN LOVE '26

During a basketball game in Crowley Gymnasium on February 18th, Junior Brooklyn Love surpassed the impressive 1,000 point mark in her high school basketball career! True to form and her style of play, Brooklyn's big shot was a sweet floater in the lane over two towering defenders. Known for her explosiveness on offense and aggressiveness on defense, she was once again a major part of our Knights' successful season, helping lead the team to 18 wins and an exciting WIAA regional home playoff game victory! We're excited for what Brooklyn's upcoming season holds.

#### **ALL-CONFERENCE SELECTIONS**

#### SOCCER - BOYS

Honorable Mention
Tyler Feldbruegge
Keenan Theiler
Niko Bohacek
Ozzie Colvin

Max Luna

#### **VOLLEYBALL - GIRLS**

First Team
Marlee Hills
Ana Schweisthal
Second Team
Maddie Pickart
Gabby Johnson
Ava Stelter
Honorable Mention
Sydney Knautz

#### **VOLLEYBALL - BOYS**

First Team
Michael Griesel
Second Team
Sam Piotrowski
Owen Patneaude
Honorable Mention
Amarae Richardson

#### **FOOTBALL**

Honorable Mention
Demitrius Taylor, Jr.

#### **TENNIS - GIRLS**

Honorable Mention
Margo Meyer (Singles)
Jada Newman (Singles)

#### **CROSS COUNTRY**

First Team

Addison Drifka Fabian Wakanabo TRACK & FIELD First Team

Third Team
Girls 100m: Laylah Bly
Girls 100m Hurdles: A'Miracle Smith
Girls 200m: Laylah Bly

Boys High Jump: Amare Nixon

Girls 100m: Sydney Knautz

Girls 200m: Sydney Knautz

#### **BASKETBALL - GIRLS**

First Team
Brooklyn Love
Second Team
Angelina Reyes
Honorable Mention
Laylah Bly
All-Defensive Team
Kaelei Agee

#### **BASKETBALL - BOYS**

First Team
Aaron Womack III\*
Zaihir Jones
Honorable Mention
Amare Nixon
Demitrius Taylor, Jr.

All-Defensive Team
First Team
Tyler Feldbruegge\*
Honorable Mention
Michael Griesel
Joey Cabral
SUCCER - GIRLS

#### . . . .

BASEBALL

Second Team
Maria Emmerich
Honorable Mention
Clara Scanlan

\*All-State Selection

#### Aaron Womack III\*

**SOFTBALL** 

First Team

Aaron Womack III\*

Defensive Player of Year

Lily Weiler
Lulu Sims
Second Team
Ceci Parlier
Cate Wahlen
Honorable Mention
Maddie Pickart
Vivian Snyder
Runner-Up Player of Year
Lily Weiler

r



## **ROBOTICS TEAM**

Congratulations to Dominican's Robotics Team, the TermiKnightors, for their impressive team effort at this year's FIRST regional competition! The TermiKnightors finished with a 4-5 record and placed 37th out of 51 teams in ranking points at the competition, while ranking 23rd out of 70 total teams in Wisconsin. Dominican Robotics also took home the Rising All-Star Award for their terrific team chemistry!











## **LEGO LEAGUE**

Dominican's First Lego League Team, led by students on the Robotics Team, competed in their second regionals competition in December! Dominican placed 10th out of 29 total teams for the functionality and design of their lego-built robot!

## DOMINICAN FINE ARTS

Dominican celebrated nine students recognized at this year's Scholastic Art Awards Ceremony held at the Milwaukee Art Museum! Students had their art on display from February 1st through March 16th in Schroeder Galleria at the Milwaukee Art Museum.









# STUDENT - INVOLVEMENT -





## RETREAT LEADERS

Since 2007, our juniors have attended Dominican's most impactful retreat, the Kairos Retreat. Led by seniors, this three-day/twonight retreat focuses on students developing a deeper relationship with their classmates, with their families, and with Christ. Kairos helps our students grow into the best versions of themselves and is a life-changing experience for many.



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## THAT'S A



The 2024-25 season was a celebration of Dominican High School Theatre past, present, and future. Our fall show, The Old Man and The Old Moon, introduced

us to our new director who is also a Dominican alum, Matt Zembrowski '01. Matt brought a fresh perspective to our Theatre Department with this funny, quirky adventure. Dominican students brought the wacky energy and lovely voices and this little-known show quickly became a favorite.

In February we performed *Godspell* on a two-story theatrical playground. In a heartfelt nod to Dominican's rich history, we used repurposed set pieces, props, and costumes from almost 30 years of Dominican past productions, bridging the past and present of Dominican Theatre in a way no other show has done on this stage. *Godspell*'s unique storytelling allowed many of our students a chance to shine. Dominican Theatre received 15 Jerry Award nominations for *Godspell*, including Outstanding Musical, Outstanding Ensemble, Outstanding Stage Crew, Outstanding Choreography, Outstanding Orchestra, and Outstanding Costume Design.

While still in the throes of our winter musical, two members of stage crew decided to create *A Knight of One Acts* 

for our spring show – three, 30-minute shows totally student led, acted, and directed. The tenacity of these students paid off, and *A Knight of One Acts* was a success! Forty students eagerly joined cast and crew learning the value of hard work and perseverance, and taking a deeper look into the many countless hours it takes to put on a show. We tell students that they can do anything they put their mind and heart into at Dominican, and this show embodied that sentiment.

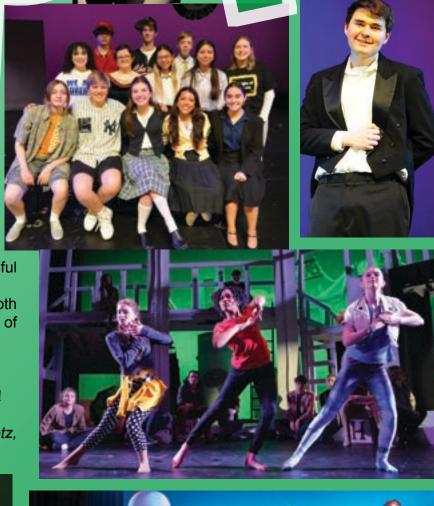
Dominican Theatre Stage Crew students continue to wow our community. Stage Crew won first place at the Wisconsin Interscholastic Theatre Festival Tech Challenge – the second year in a row Dominican has taken home first place at State. Competitions include Knot Tying, Quick Change, Cable Roll Relay, and Hang & Focus. Several crew members also won individual awards including first place in Lights, second place in Prop Shift, and third place in Leg a Platform, Sew a Button, and Knot Tying.

Dominican High School Theatre had a successful 2024-25 season. 72 students were involved in productions this year, making lifelong memories both onstage and off. We had 17 seniors graduate, 12 of them have participated in theatre all four years at Dominican.

Bravo, Dominican Theatre, on a wonderful season!

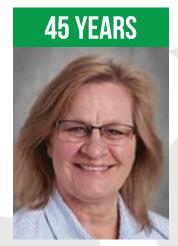
Photos by Kate Jurgens/PaxPhoto, Jim Michaletz, and Amanda Kirmse



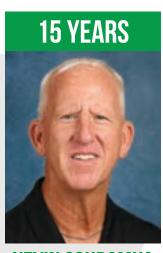


## FACULTY AND STAFF ANNIVERSARIES

Dominican would not be the incredible and very special Catholic high school that it is without the dedication and passion of its faculty and staff members. Congratulations to our employees who achieved milestone anniversaries this year! We are so grateful for their commitment to Dominican.



JOAN MORODER
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
FOR ACADEMICS



KEVIN SCHRAMKA
RELIGIOUS STUDIES TEACHER



AMY LUECK
MATHEMATICS TEACHER



JORDAN SHUTTA SCHOOL COUNSELOR



#### **OWN A PIECE OF DOMINICAN THEATRE HISTORY!**

Here's your chance to be part of the spotlight! Dominican's Theatre Department is offering a rare opportunity to purchase a remaining seat in our iconic auditorium. Between \$250-\$1,000 (depending on location), you can personalize a seat with a tribute plaque honoring a beloved student, alumni, family member, or friend and leave a lasting legacy in the heart of Dominican's vibrant performing arts community. Seats are limited, so claim your place in Dominican Theatre history today! If interested, please email Marcie Patneaude at mpatneaude@dominicanhighschool.com.



Kate McDevitt '84 Meyer: A Model of Volunteer Dedication at Dominican High School

The Dominican High School community thrives thanks to dedicated individuals who go above and beyond. One such person is Kate McDevitt '84 Meyer, whose volunteer contributions span nearly every corner of school life. From leadership roles to hands-on service, Kate's commitment reflects her deep caring for the students, staff, and mission of Dominican.

Kate is serving her first of three years as a Dominican High School Board Member, continuing her long-standing support of the school. She has been a co-host for Auction Benefit Parties, a part of the most recent Capital Campaign, has helped strengthen foundation relationships for Dominican, and remains an active attendee at the annual auction, helping sustain Dominican's largest fundraising tradition.

Her involvement doesn't stop there—Kate opened doors for students through real-world learning opportunities by hosting a field trip at her business, Biz Times, this year and speaking at Dominican's Career Day. She's no stranger to going the extra mile—literally—having driven our French students in the Dominivan to O'Hare for their trip to France last summer.

Kate volunteered her time for Campus Ministry, supervising sophomore service projects—even without a sophomore of her own—volunteering every date needed! She chaperoned students on the Freshman Retreat and regularly attends parent prayer experiences at Dominican, offering spiritual support to the school community.

Kate contributed behind the scenes with the Fine Arts Booster club organizing meals during performances and practices when Margo '25 was in theatre, and lending her expertise to implement the Working Genius productivity model for Dominican administration.

Perhaps most impressively, Kate served as an assistant coach for Dominican's tennis team for four years, consistently mentoring students on and off the court.

Dominican is truly blessed to have such dedication from alumna and past parent, Kate. She exemplifies the spirit of service, and Dominican is stronger because of her unwavering loyalty.



#### A KNIGHT AT CAMP DOMINICAN

Thank you to our wonderful 2025 Auction Co-Chairs, past parent, Theresa Barry and alumna, Jenny McMahon-Varik '84, for hosting a glamping-inspired evening, raising over \$350,000 for Dominican High School. The evening of April 12 was truly an evening of camp charm with a strong sense of camaraderie and purpose with over 250 guests, including 55+ alumni, 16 of which were young alumni, and another strong band of campers from the 1980s in attendance.

We hope you had a chance to visit our camp store staffed by our wonderful students this year which featured many fun items including spirit wear, local saplings and brand-new Dominican Yetis. If you weren't able to attend and would like a Yeti, they are now available in our school store. New this year we also featured camp care packages which highlighted talent within our

CAMPERS!



Dominican community including homemade items such as bread, salsa, cookies, pizza, and much more!

Throughout our camp session, we awarded many fabulous prizes to our campers. Our golden ticket went to board member and current parent, Joe Emmerich – he will receive \$3,500 off tuition next year for Maria '26 and Laura '28. Other winners included Angela Foy during Loser's Bingo, Theresa Barry winning the Blackstone grill, and of course our Buck's courtside ticket raffle winners, Tim O'Connell '04 and current parent Greg Flattery.

Our most outstanding camper award, however, goes to our scholarship speaker Jaylen Massey '25 for courageously sharing his academic and mental health journey. On the verge of withdrawing, Jaylen confided in his counselors and mom that he was struggling with his mental health. Shortly after, Jaylen was diagnosed with Bipolar depression. He started therapy which helped him become successful not only academically, but personally.





Jaylen is just one story of incredible perseverance and transformation that takes place at Dominican, and one of the many reasons so many members of our community raise their paddles on auction night. This year, our Dominican community donated over \$215,000 in scholarship funding to ensure our mission continues - one student, one story, at a time.

A heartfelt thank you to our incredible camp crew—our generous sponsors, fantastic vendors, and the many enthusiastic volunteers who brought energy, heart, and dedication to every detail, helping make Camp Dominican a true success. A special thank you to Mary Pesich '78 for the inspired decor for the evening. The camp vibes were high throughout the evening, but the Dominican pride is truly what makes Camp Dominican a place like no other.



Jaylen Massey, Student Scholarship Speaker

## **ALUMNI UPDATES**





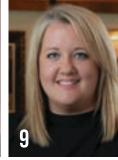
















#### **THE '60S**

Jack Monday '62 and his wife, Kathy celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last August surrounded by their children and grand-children in Tampa, Florida. The Monday's moved to Tampa from Milwaukee in 1986 and in retirement are enjoying family, their three Schnauzers and traveling. (1)

**Ted Moreau '65** & Bill Crowley attended the Wisconsin vs. Oregon football game on November 16, 2024. Even though the rain came down hard and Wisconsin didn't come out on top, they still had a great time. (2)

Mary Bertha '66 Evslin and her husband Tom, retired, sold their home, a car and their sailboat in Vermont, purchased an RV, and in mid-June embarked on a road trip across the country and plan to visit some fellow alums along the way! In late October they will settle down in Ohio near their daughter. The trip signifies an end to one part of their life and the beginning of another. (3)

#### **THE '80S**

**Greg Ponto '80** retired in 2019 after 27 years with Fidelity Investments. In an effort to stay active, he purchased an Expedia Cruises franchise in 2020 and has built up a business focusing on delivering wonderful vacation experiences for thousands of customers.

#### **THE '90S**

Jennifer Eschweiler '91 Luna, 3rd grade teacher at St. Eugene's in Fox Point, has been honored as a 2025 Herb Kohl Educational Foundation Teacher Fellow. She is among 114 teachers chosen from a large pool of applicants across Wisconsin. The Teacher Fellowship recognizes educators who exhibit leadership, passion for teaching, and the ability to inspire students. The award includes a \$6,000 personal grant and an additional \$6,000 grant for St. Eugene School. Congratulations, Jennifer! (4)

Melissa Orzehoskie '99 Odorzynski has joined two companies as their Chief Operating Officer. MISTR is an HIV prevention and treatment telemedicine company, and AdvanceCareRx, pharmacies dedicated to prevention and treatment of HIV. Melissa and her family reside in Tampa, Florida. (5)

#### **THE '00S**

Ambrose Wilson-Brown '01 and his wife Rebecca, welcomed daughter Rowan Marie on January 17, 2025. The family resides in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. (6)

Annaliese Koller '03 Shumate and her husband, Derrick welcomed Gisela Marie on February 14, 2025. She joins brother, Luke and sisters, Magdalena and Camilla. They reside in Mequon, Wisconsin. (7)

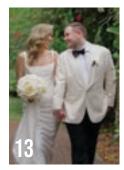
Rose Kobbs '03 Plewa was recognized by her peers and executive leadership for her dedication to customer success and organizational growth, Rose was honored to win the Applied Systems 2024 North Star Leadership Award. At Applied Systems, an industry-leading global insuretech company specializing in broker management solutions, she manages a team of product consultants, who provide high-touch and scaled solutioning to customers. In her spare time, Rose and her husband are Marquette Women's Basketball season ticket holders and enjoy cheering on the team. (8)

Madeline Cope '04, Catering Manager for The Bartolotta Restaurants, received the Spirit of NACE Award at the annual NACE Milwaukee Gala. NACE is the National Association for Catering and Events, and Madeline serves on the board as the Director of Membership. (9)

**Mike Flanagan '06** and his wife Maura, welcomed son Colin James, on August 13, 2024. He joins three-year-old brother, Aidan. The family resides in Chicago. (10)

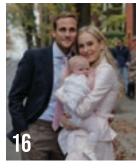
Jazzmyne Anderson-Jenkins '09 Adams proudly earned her Doctor of Public Health degree from the Medical College of Wisconsin, marking a pivotal step in her commitment to advancing health equity. She plans to continue this journey through academic medical research focused on financial toxicity and cancer survivorship. Her work explores how economic strain impacts patient outcomes, particularly in marginalized and rural communities. With a focus on practical solutions, she aims to help ensure no patient faces financial hardship at the cost of survival. (11)

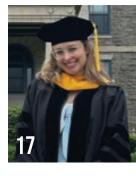


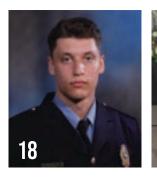
















#### **THE '10S**

Patrick '10 and Gabriella Badran '13 Linn welcomed their son, Colin Souheil, on January 4, 2025. The family resides in Shorewood, Wisconsin. (12)

**Tyler Manista '11** married Lauren Lombardo on March 29, 2025, near the bride's childhood home, at the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden in Coral Gables, Florida. In attendance were his siblings, Sydney '14 and Jarrod '19, and family friend, Harrison Carter '20. The couple resides in Boston, Massachusetts. (13)

Members of the Classes of '11 and '12 met up in Miami for the wedding of classmate, Tyler Manista '11 to Lauren Lombardo on March 29, 2025. In attendance were alums Will Curtis '11, Peter Cronin '12, Ryan Dlugopolski '11, and Drew Doring '11. (14)

Members of the Classes of '11 and '12 celebrated the wedding of fellow alum, Maggie O'Neil '11 in Long Island City, New York on October 26, 2024. Making the trip to New York was Drew Doring '11, Will Curtis '11, Peter Cronin '12, Lily Vartanian '11, Bizzy Gonring '11, sister of the bride, Katie O'Neil '11, Madeline Franke '12, Ryan Dlugopolski '11 and James Luy '11. (15)

**Katy Schuele '11** and husband, Matthew Scanlan, welcomed daughter Cecelia Therese on May 26, 2024. The family resides in Brooklyn, New York. (16)

Chris Vance '13 married Brian Laning on September 28, 2024. The celebration took place at Saint Kate-The Arts Hotel in downtown Milwaukee.

Esperanza (Essie) Jostad, PsyD '14 recently completed her doctorate in clinical psychology with a goal of working with individuals who have a range of complex and persistent mental health and developmental disability diagnoses. Dr. Jostad has enjoyed attending school in Pennsylvania for the past six years at Immaculata University and Xavier University (Cincinnati, OH) the previous four. She looks forward to moving back home to Wisconsin in the next few years upon completing licensure and residency to practice as a clinical psychologist. (17)

John Dunn '19 recently graduated from Raleigh Police Academy in North Carolina. He aims to empower people to help themselves and live a life of service, whether by showing compassion in times of need or providing a much-needed reality check. His job presents him with new challenges every day, and he's committed to overcoming each one. (18)

Maria Tijerina '19 received the 2025 Institute for Women's Leadership ENGAGE Award for Transformational Student Leadership. As a graduate student in Student Affairs in Higher Education at Marquette University, she co-founded Wisconsin's first fellowship for undergraduate students without work authorization, launching a mentorship and professional development program. Maria will begin her Ph.D. in Educational Policy and Leadership this fall, continuing her mission to build a more inclusive, equitable higher education system. (19)

#### THE '209

Morgan Theiler '22, a junior majoring in Psychology at University of Tennessee, presented at the student-led 2025 Connecting Across Disciplines Conference with the theme of Access and Advocacy for Mental Health. The conference is dedicated to fostering dialogue, innovation, and collaboration in the field of mental health advocacy, and Morgan presented her student-athlete mental health initiative, Beyond the Net. Following her early graduation in May, Morgan will attend Palm Beach Atlantic University in the fall to obtain her master's in clinical Mental Health Counseling. (20)

# SOMEONE TO KNOW





**Currently Lives:** Scottsdale, Arizona and Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin

**Current Job:** Retired Education Director at Milwaukee Co. Juvenile Detention Center

Role Models: Mr. Trojanowski has always been a role model of mine. Both as a student and as an administrator I recognized he had a special talent for finding out each student's strength and making sure they became aware of that strength.

**Favorite Dominican Memory:** My best memory is Mr. Zepp's Religion class. It was about the challenge of our purpose on earth and real philosophical questions that allowed us to explore "meaning of life" kind of questions.

How did Dominican shape the person you are today: Dominican partnered with my family values in shaping the person I am today.

Why Dominican is worthy of support: Dominican graduates are some of the most well-prepared, well-developed and well-educated future leaders in the area. There is no better investment than in our future leaders.

Words of advice for current Dominican students: See yourself as a small piece of a large puzzle with a responsibility for making that picture more beautiful by not just making yourself the best you can be, but by doing what you can to help all the other pieces fit well together.



**Currently Lives:** Fox Point, Wisconsin and Breckenridge, Colorado

**Current Job:** Both retired

**Role Models**: We both consider our parents as our best role models.

**Favorite Dominican Memory:** A combination of so many things! The 1974 State Basketball Championship was so historic during our time at Dominican. Then the traditional memories of Homecoming, basketball and football games with our classmates, variety shows, Library Club, and of course, graduation.

How did Dominican shape the person you are today: For both of us, Dominican formed a moral compass to

follow throughout our lives.

Why Dominican is worthy of support: We believe Dominican graduates do very well in life, and by supporting the school financially, more kids will have the access to a quality education.

Words of advice for current Dominican students: Take part in the activities Dominican has to offer. You will grow from experiences and keep in contact with your classmates. They will be your friends for life!



**Currently Lives:** Brookfield, Wisconsin

**Current Job:** Attorney/Shareholder at Habush, Habush & Rottier for 25 years

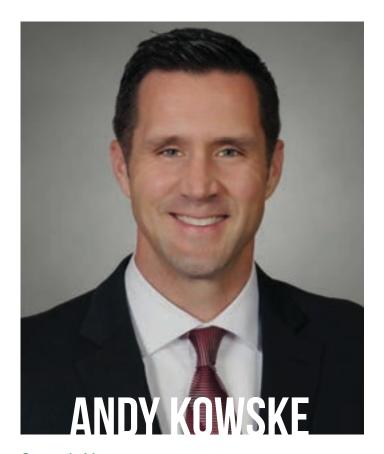
**Role Models**: My top two role models are definitely Michelle Obama and Mother Theresa.

**Favorite Dominican Memory:** Playing soccer! I played on Girls Varsity Soccer for 4 incredible years.

How did Dominican shape the person you are today: Dominican gave me a fantastic education which gave me the confidence to fulfill my dream of becoming a lawyer.

Why Dominican is worthy of support: The education and environment at Dominican are like none other. This is a place where everyone belongs and can succeed..

Words of advice for current Dominican students: Be yourself, work hard, do what you love and you will be successful in life.



**Currently Lives:** New Berlin, Wisconsin

**Current Job:** I am a civil engineer, specifically Vice President, Wisconsin Office Growth Officer, at HNTB Corporation in Milwaukee. I've been at HNTB for 21 years!

**Role Models**: My basketball coaches growing up, they were all great influences on me and taught me how to be a man.

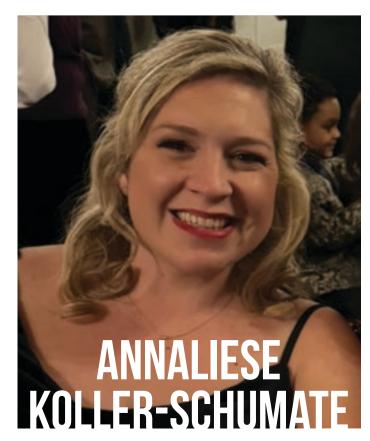
**Favorite Dominican Memory:** Winning the basketball state championship my senior year! During my freshman year, our team was 3-19, showing significant improvement every year leading up the State Championship.

#### How did Dominican shape the person you are

**today:** Dominican shaped me into a person who is well-rounded and taught me the value of having kind and caring people in my life. Dominican's Catholic education also helped me find my faith and how to prosper through life staying close to Jesus Christ.

Why Dominican is worthy of support: Dominican High School brings Catholic education to a diverse group of students, bringing them together from different communities, a cornerstone of quality education in the Milwaukee area.

Words of advice for current Dominican students: Have faith- God loves you and will show you the way.



**Currently Lives:** Mequon, Wisconsin

**Current Job:** I am an Emergency and Crisis Psychiatrist for Milwaukee County- I've been there 12 years!

**Role Models**: My mom, Rose Koller who worked as an RN on the burn unit for over 44 years.

**Favorite Dominican Memory:** Performing Ragtime at the Pabst Theatre in Milwaukee!

#### How did Dominican shape the person you are

**today:** Dominican helped to build a person who desires to be of service to her community and wants to give back. I get to do that in my work, in my church and as a parent.

Why Dominican is worthy of support: Dominican helps build strong people who make an impact on their communities wherever that ends up being. I support Dominican graduates and see them making huge impacts on their communities in so many varied regards.

Words of advice for current Dominican students: Find gratitude in each day and see what you can do to make a place or situation better.



**Currently Lives:** New York City

**Current Job:** I am currently a medical student at NYU Grossman School of Medicine in their accelerated 3-year curriculum. I am heading into my final year!

**Role Models**: My role models are my parents who are also physicians (mom is a psychiatrist and my dad is an internal medicine doctor). They have emulated the type of physician I hope to become one day.

Favorite Dominican Memory: Moving to Milwaukee from Charleston, South Carolina during my junior year of high school was a big adjustment for me. My years at Dominican quickly became some of my favorites with how welcoming the community was. Making friends and seeing those grow deep in such short time was so critical. I can't thank my classmates enough for making my experience so amazing.

#### How did Dominican shape the person you are

**today:** Much of my work ethic and values grew during my time at Dominican, and I learned how to surround myself with a circle that would push me to be better each day.

Why Dominican is worthy of support: In my experience, Dominican is a special place where I was accepted and integrated into the community faster than I could have imagined. Dominican is a place where each person can find their voice and their community, and that continues to be very special to me.

Words of advice for current Dominican students: Take the time to be present, get to know those around you and develop a diverse skillset through trial and error.



**Currently Lives: Milwaukee** 

**Current Job:** I am a Dealer Acquisitions Specialist and the Founder of Move Mountains Clothing.

**Favorite Words of Wisdom:** Proverbs 13:20, "Walk with the wise and you become wise, but the companion of fools fares badly."

**Favorite Part of Your Job:** Through founding Move Mountains Clothing in 2023, being able to spread faith while working with collegiate and professional athletes around the country. It's been pretty amazing!

#### How did Dominican shape the person you are

**today:** Dominican gave me connections that I still utilize today along with great teachers who pushed each student to see their full potential.

Why Dominican is worthy of support: Dominican gives people opportunities to do what they want and really follow their passions which helps them grow each and every day.

Words of advice for current Dominican students: Don't take the days and the people that you are surrounded by for granted and live each day to the fullest.

## **ALUMNI IN MEMORIUM**

May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Eternal rest grant unto them, Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Barbara Jakopac '60 November 26, 2024

Cynthia Mills Smithers '61 March 19, 2025

Penelope Schmitt '63 Kelsey January 3, 2025

Karen Dohr '65 Goodwin September 26, 2024

Patrick Drury '65 December 26, 2024

Mark Ellenbecker '65 October 28, 2024

Lawrence Schultz '65 January 19, 2024

Katie Korzilius '69 Dykes November 30, 2024 Patricia Blazer '70 Curran January 29, 2025

Christina Rukavina '70 April 6, 2025

Steve St. Onge '74 January 10, 2025

Mary Hilboldt '75 August 16, 2024

Katie Pandl '75 April 20, 2025

Margaret Berbaum '85 December 19, 2024

Noreen Mikolajczak '87 Onesti October 11. 2024

\*All names as of Sept 16, 2024 – May 31, 2025

We celebrate the lives of Dominican Alumni, current and past faculty & staff, and Sinsinawa Dominican sisters, whose deaths were recently shared with us. We rely on the information available to us and sincerely apologize for any names we have inadvertently omitted.

Please contact Alumni Manager, Julie Dlugopolski at jdlugopolski@dominicanhighschool.com for any memorial notifications.





The Dominican High School Distinguished Alumni Awards honor graduates who exemplify our five core values of Truth, Compassion, Justice, Community, and Partnership. Recognition is awarded to individuals who carry forth and support the Dominican mission through professional, leadership and service achievements.

## 2025 DISTINGUISHED ALUM OF THE YEAR



**ANNEMARIE SCOBEY-POLACHECK '86** 

#### 2025 YOUNG ALUM OF THE YEAR



**ANNIE DESING '17** 

### **SAVE THE DATE**

8/8

# F D D J

ALUMNI & FRIENDS REUNION TAILGATE
Friday, August 8th
Dominican High School

Join us from 6:00pm— 8:00pm on Dominican's Terrace for a Bunzel's tailgate, drinks, tours, and the Distinguished & Young Alumni Awards. Scan the QR Code to register!

9/19

## KNIGHTWALK Friday, September 19th Dominican/Whitefish Bay Area

Dominican's annual fundraiser culminates in a six-mile walk around Whitefish Bay where students show off their Dominican spirit.

9/22-9/27

#### **HOMECOMING WEEK**

Stay updated via Facebook and our monthly e-blast for a list of everything happening at Dominican during Homecoming Week!

3/11

## 42ND ANNUAL BILL CROWLEY GOLF OUTING

#### Monday, August 11th Ozaukee Country Club

Enjoy a round of golf at the beautiful Ozaukee Country Club with alumni, family and friends. Not a golfer? Join us afterward for dinner. Visit bcgo2025.givesmart.com for more info.

9/20

#### KNIGHTRUN



Saturday, September 20th Dominican/Whitefish Bay Area

The day after the student-led KnightWalk, join in on the fun with this 5K run/walk through the streets of Whitefish Bay. Scan the QR Code to register!

10/05

#### OPEN HOUSE Sunday Oct

#### Sunday, October 5th Dominican High School

Bring your middle school or grade school student for a tour of Dominican or visit your alma mater and see what's new. Mass will begin at 8:00am and tours will run from 9:00am – 12:00pm.



CALLED TO LEAD

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

