

# DONOVAN

## MAGAZINE

The Magazine of Monsignor Donovan Catholic High School

WINTER 2023



Including: The 2021-2022 Annual Report



Monsignor Donovan  
Catholic High School  
590 Lavender Rd,  
Athens, GA 30606  
(706) 433-0223  
[www.donovancatholichs.org](http://www.donovancatholichs.org)



The Advancement Office gratefully acknowledges the many alumni, parents, grandparents, faculty/staff, and friends who have contributed their time, talent, and treasure to Monsignor Donovan Catholic High School in 2021-2022. Every effort has been made to accurately list all contributors from July 1, 2021 until June 30, 2022. If, however, an error had been made, please accept our apologies and notify us at [jthomas@mdchs.org](mailto:jthomas@mdchs.org) or (706) 433-0223.

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*Photo of Vince Dooley: ©CBS Sports*

J.J. Thomas - Director of Advancement, Megan Wentworth - Advancement Coordinator, Dan Roth, Athens Creative Design - Magazine Design



# MONSIGNOR DONOVAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL POINTS OF RAM PRIDE

Founded: 2003  
Grades: 9-12

Instructional Staff Adv. Degrees: 89%  
Faculty with PhD: 25%  
College Acceptance Rate: 100%

**9:1**  
Student /Teacher  
Ratio

**11**  
AP Classes  
including the AP  
Capstone



**\$1.9 million +**  
Scholarships Awarded in 2022

**26**  
Average ACT  
Composite Score

**13**  
Varsity Sports  
88% of the students  
participate

**77%**  
Qualified for Zell Miller and  
HOPE Scholarships

**40**  
Hours of Apostolic  
Outreach



**Fine Arts Program:**  
One Act Play Competition,  
Ram Band, Studio Art, Literary  
and Governor's Honors



**Monsignor Donovan Catholic High School**  
Contact our admissions office today at (706) 433-0223, Ext.  
1003 or [khatcher@mdchs.org](mailto:khatcher@mdchs.org) to schedule a tour!  
590 Lavender Road Athens, Georgia 30606

**Courage Compassion Confidence**



Visit our website!

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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## BOARD OF TRUSTEES (2022-2023)

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State Court Judge, Athens-Clarke County

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*Vice-Chairperson*  
CFO, Advantage Behavioral Health



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## SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM

### SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Dr. Ashli Walker  
Interim Head of School

Mr. Chris Hulse  
Athletic Director

Mr. Nathan Edwards  
Associate Head of School for Student Affairs

Mr. Robert Sanfillipo  
Director of Facilities and Transportation

Mrs. Kara Hatcher  
Director of Enrollment Management

Mr. J.J. Thomas  
Director of Advancement



# DONOVAN IS GROWING!



*Dr. Ashli Walker,  
Interim Head of School*



*L to R Dr. Jason Cantarella,  
Dr. K.C. Barrientos, and Dr. Paul Quick*

The demand for a Donovan education has never been greater. The incoming freshman Class of 2026 more than doubled with an increase over the previous year by 131%. Partnerships with St. Joseph Catholic Parish School in Athens, St. Pius X Catholic Church in Conyers, and many outreach events led to a very successful enrollment season. The latest Donovan strategic plan, "Donovan 2025: From Foundation to a Dream Fulfilled," has placed an emphasis on Catholic outreach and our Catholic Identity. Our Catholic and non-Catholic students alike chose us because they appreciate our values, leadership opportunities, and the rigorous education provided at Donovan.

With the growth in students also comes the addition of new members of the Donovan faculty and staff. 89% of our faculty hold advanced degrees with 25% of them having a Ph.D. in their content or area of expertise. Our faculty have demonstrated a commitment to a lifelong love of learning and pass this on to our students every day.

New additions to Donovan include Dr. K.C. Barrientos with studies in Spanish and Portuguese Language and Literature and Dr. Jason Cantarella who teaches Mathematics at the University of Georgia and volunteers at Donovan, teaching AP Calculus. We also

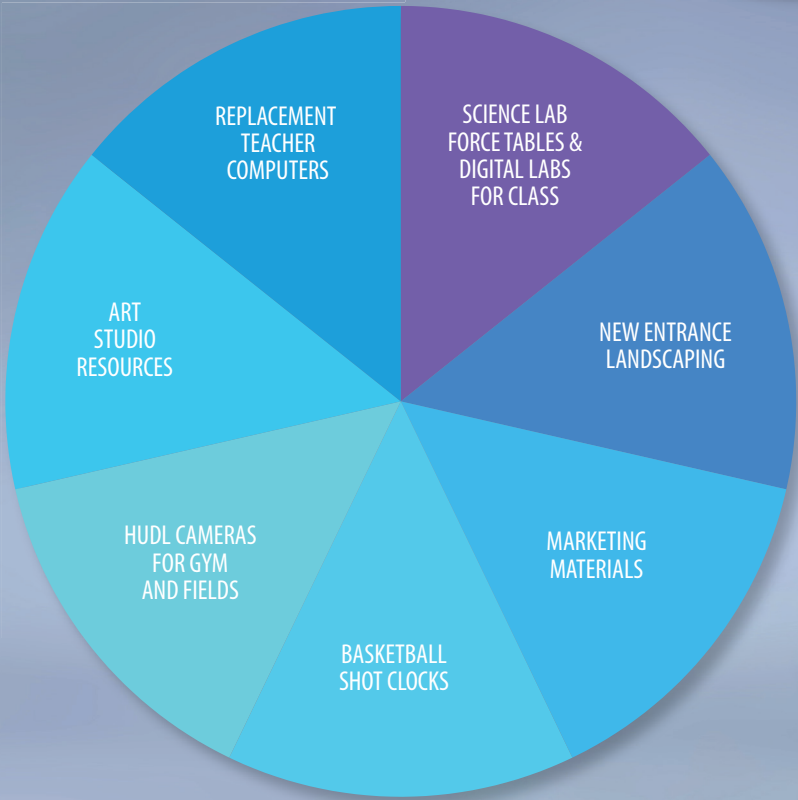
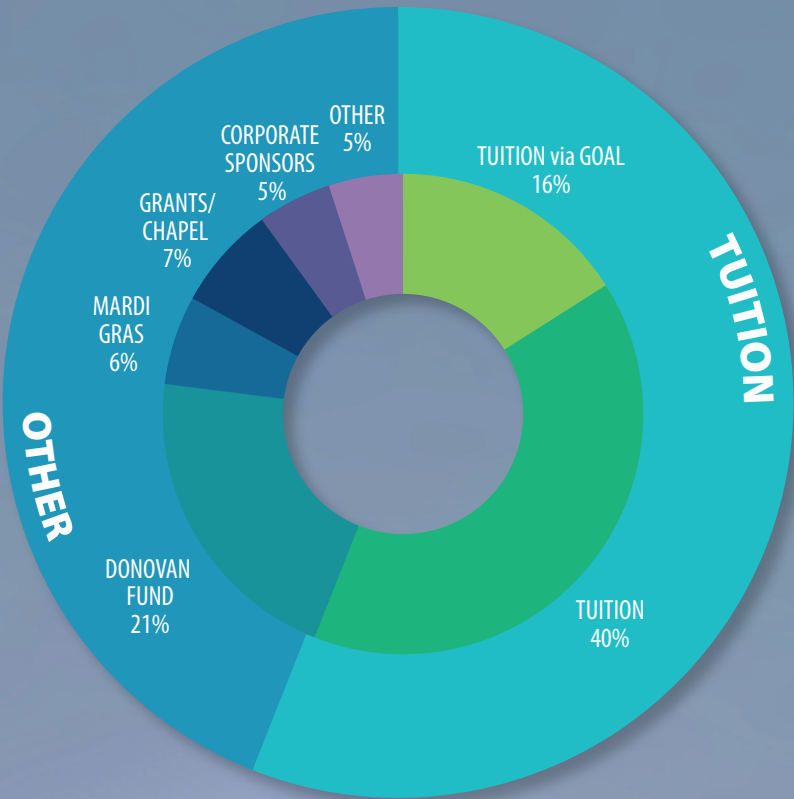
welcomed Mr. Benjamin Thoele in Mathematics, Mrs. Michelle Campbell as our first Campus Minister, Mr. Lanchus Sexius in Theology, and Mr. Hank Sullivant as director of the Donovan Singers. Fr. Avery Daniel has also assumed responsibilities for sacramental life at Donovan as part of his duties at St. Joseph Parish.

Dr. Paul Quick, who has been a dedicated Donovan faculty member in English for a number of years was joined by newly conferred Dr. Ashli Walker, Interim Head of School, who received her Ph.D. in June from the University of Georgia. Dr. Walker came to Donovan with her degree focusing on Educational Theory and Practice.

Additionally, with growth comes new leaders to increase the capacity to serve our constituents. Mr. Robert Sanfilippo joined the Donovan family in February as Director of Facilities and Transportation. Mr. Chris Hulse joined Donovan as Athletic Director. Mrs. Megan Wentworth joined Donovan as Advancement Coordinator. Finally, Mr. Joseph Thomas took over the role of Director of Advancement. We have incredibly talented people who have accepted positions because they want to serve our community. We are blessed to have them.



WHERE  
OUR MONEY  
COMES FROM



HOW OUR  
MONEY WAS  
SPENT

# Donovan Fund Goal = \$250,000



The Donovan Fund is essential to the operation of Monsignor Donovan Catholic High School. It helps to bridge the gap between what tuition covers and the actual cost of operating our school. The Donovan Fund is used to fill basic operating needs, provide enrichment opportunities, update technology, and increase security to ensure that we are able to provide a safe and accessible learning environment.





Our annual Donovan Reunion was held at Clarkes Standard this year. A special THANK YOU to Wells Scott, David Glassman, Thomas Erwin, and Laura Kathryn Hogan for helping us organize such a successful reunion night in 2021!

We invite all alumni to celebrate the Ram legacy by getting involved, making a gift, and staying connected to Monsignor Donovan!



## SEEKING YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

If you would like to share information about your major life event, let us know at: [jthomas@mdchs.org](mailto:jthomas@mdchs.org)

## DONOR HONOR ROLL

*This listing includes tax deductible & cash gifts received July 1, 2021– June 30, 2022. Contributors to the GOAL scholarship program are recognized later in the Annual Report.*

### **MSGR. WALTER J DONOVAN SOCIETY GIFTS OF \$50,000+**

Mr. Mark and Mrs. Lisa  
Christopherson

### **FOUNDERS CIRCLE GIFTS OF \$25,000- \$49,999**

Dr. John and Dr. Michelle Barton  
Mr. Thomas and Mrs. Lori Scott

### **PRELATE OF HONOR CIRCLE GIFTS OF \$10,000- \$24,999**

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Romero  
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 Mr. Hector and Sandra Tejada  
 Mr. Jason Tranovich  
 Dr. Ashli Walker  
 Mr. Benjamin and Mrs. Kirsten Walters

### FRIEND GIFTS OF \$100- \$249

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### CONTRIBUTOR UP TO \$99

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 Ms. Lynn Renna  
 St. Catherine Labouré Catholic Church  
 St. Matthew Catholic Church  
 Mr. Nicholas Watson  
 Mr. Jacob Watson

## GOAL DONOR LIST

### New Increased Limits

TAX FILING STATUS	PREVIOUS LIMIT	NEW LIMIT
Single Filer	\$1,000	\$2,500
Married Separate Filer	\$1,250	\$2,500
Married Joint Filer	\$2,500	\$5,000
Pass-Through Owner (not making HB 149 election)	\$10,000	\$25,000
C Corp, Trust, or Pass-Through electing to pay tax at the entity level (HB 149)	75% of annual tax liability	

Timothy and Petrea Adams  
 Allied Paving Contractors, Inc  
 Irene Allinger  
 Franco Alva-Ruiz  
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 Company  
 Charles and Susan Auslander  
 Charles and Bette Auslander  
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 Daniel and Kara Ceradsky  
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 Randy and Heather Christopherson  
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 Tray Crispino  
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 Vincent and Barbara Dooley  
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 Richard and Scarlett Dunne  
 Gaylen Edwards  
 Ronald Fetch  
 Lance Finn  
 Kevin and Kristine Flaa  
 Ivan and Teresa Flores  
 Jon Forche  
 Nadine Forche  
 Kenneth and Karen Fortson  
 Billy and Wendy Friend

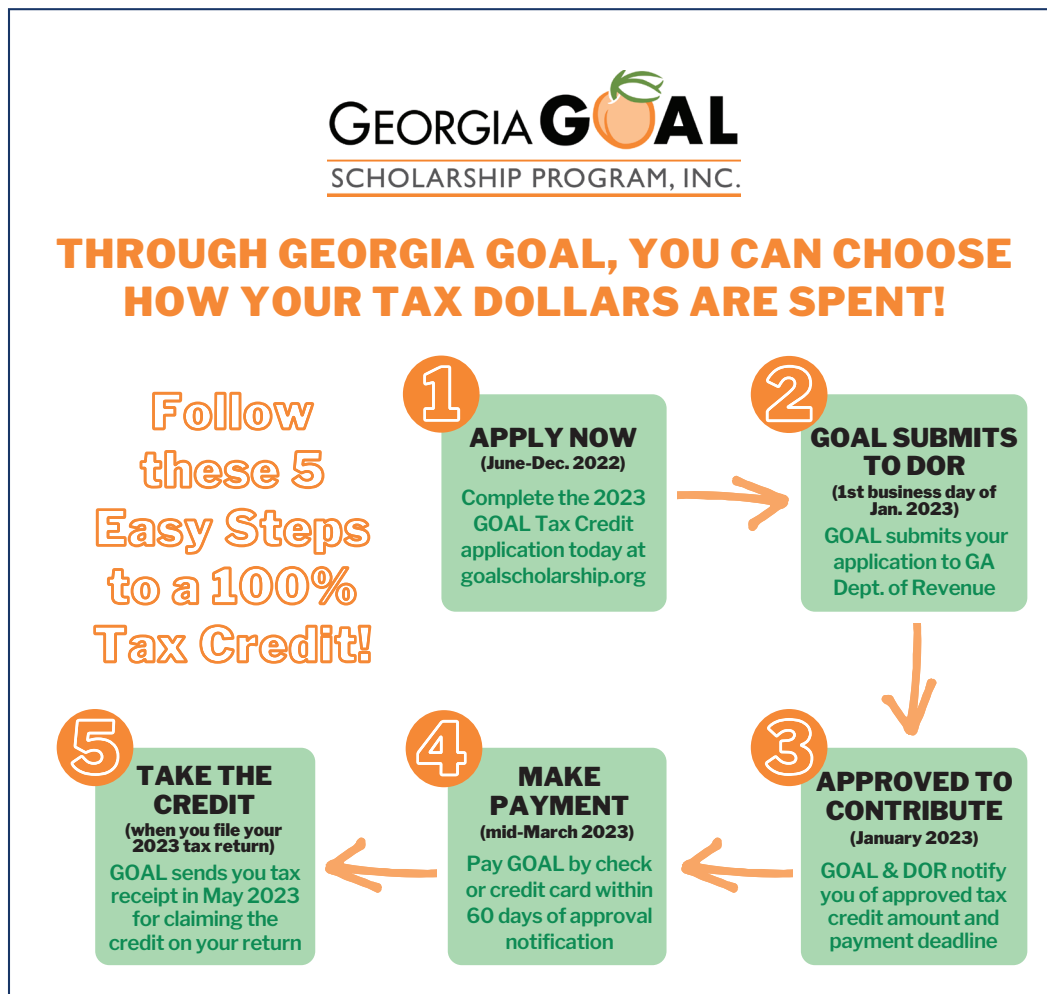
Michael and Dorothy Gearheart  
 Paul Gessner and Bonnie Best  
 Frank and Jenifer Gine  
 Alan and Margaret Glassman  
 David Glassman  
 Cesar and Cindy Gumucio  
 Jeanne Martin  
 Jake and Marisa Grant  
 Krista Grey  
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## GOAL DONOR LIST

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Harry and Dianne Westbrook  
Steve and Tracy White  
Brad and Dawn Whitehead  
Hugh and Stephanie Willcox  
Victor and Mary Woloschinow  
Jeffrey 'Brian' and April Woody  
Mr. and Dr. Daniel C Lackey  
Mr. and Mrs. David J Browning Sr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Jay D. Mitchell



## MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION

**Thank you to the following people and organizations who donated gifts in kind to our auction:**

Active Climbing  
Atlanta Braves  
Big City Bread  
Jennifer Brackman  
Oliva Chelko  
Chops & Hops  
Vicky and Christopher Joiner  
Mark and Lisa Christopherson  
Brooke Colter  
DePalma's  
Dimo Jewelry  
Reggie DiSante  
Elwood and Goetz  
Five and Ten  
Bonnie Best and Paul Gessner  
Dierk and Kara Hatcher  
Steve and Kathy Lober  
Magnolia Dental Spa  
Joe and Betty Martin  
Metal and Petal  
Chrys Moore  
Elizabeth Murillo-Mundo  
James and Assumpta Norrell  
Nevan Norrell  
Susan Pelham  
Dr. Ed Rock  
Shubert and Company PC, CPA's  
Ann Spenser  
Taziki's  
Ted's Most Best  
Terrapin Beer Company  
Dan Tokos  
Gerry Whitworth  
Widespread Panic  
Mike and Daniela Wieczorek  
Patrick Yuran



Each year, our Donovan community comes together to celebrate the mission of Donovan with a good ol' fashion celebration. This year we honored the "Queen of Mardi Gras," Rosie Hildebrand who started this event 16 years earlier. Donovan families and friends raised just over \$85,000 to support the school and our students. Join us for Mardi Gras 2023! "Laissez les bons temps rouler." Let the good times roll!

# MONSIGNOR DONOVAN

## CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

### CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



#### PRESENTING LEVEL

**\$10,000**

- Mardi Gras sponsorship
- Head of School Dinner sponsorship
- Website recognition
- Social media
- Full-page ad in the 2022-2023 school yearbook
- Athens Parade of Lights school float sponsorship
- True Blue athletic sponsorship

#### RAM PRIDE

**\$7,000**

- Mardi Gras sponsorship
- Head of School Dinner sponsorship
- True Blue athletic sponsorship

#### MAJOR EVENTS

**\$5,000**

- Mardi Gras sponsorship
- Head of School Dinner sponsorship

#### FRIEND OF DONOVAN

**\$5,000**

- Website recognition
- Social media
- Full-page ad in the 2022-2023 school yearbook
- Athens Parade of Lights school float sponsorship
- True Blue Athletic Sponsorship

#### MARDI GRAS

**\$2,500**

- Company logo/name on table
- 10 tickets to the event
- Company name and logo on event publicity

#### HEAD OF SCHOOL DINNER

**\$2,500**

- Company logo/name on table
- 10 tickets to the event
- Company name and logo on event publicity

#### FINE ARTS

**\$1,000**

- One-Act Play
- Art Program
- Ram Band
- Donovan Singers



(706) 433-0223

[www.donovancatholics.org](http://www.donovancatholics.org)

[jthomas@mdchs.org](mailto:jthomas@mdchs.org)

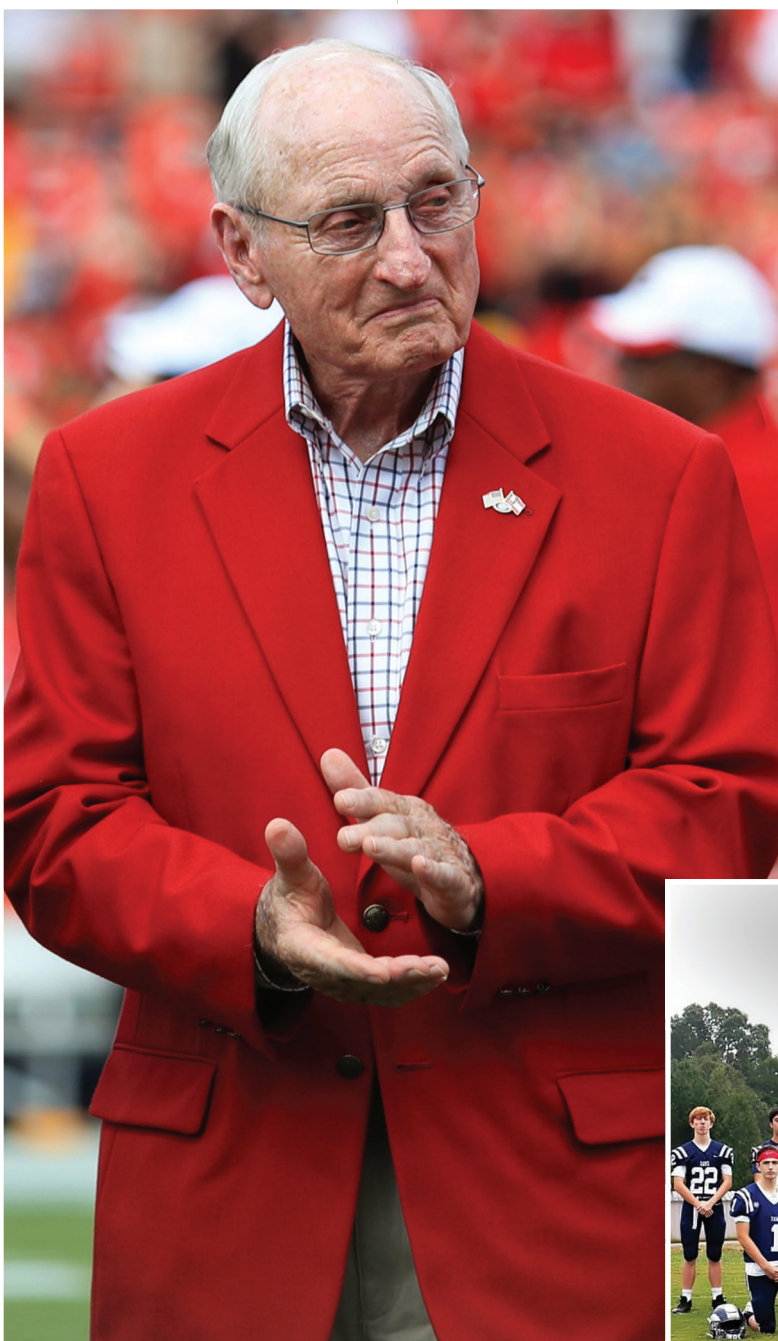


## IN TRIBUTE



It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the passing of one of the founders of Monsignor Donovan Catholic High School, Mr. Vince Dooley. In addition to his constant support of Donovan, Coach Dooley was involved with many local charitable works, including Extra Special People, The Dooley Golf Classic, Coats for Kids, and the Knights of Columbus. He will be truly missed by the entire city of Athens and beyond.

Our sincerest condolences go out to his wife Barbara, as well as their children, Deanna, Daniel, Denise, and Derek. They will all be in our prayers.



## Leaving a Legacy - The Donovan Legacy Society

Scarlett and I have always believed that it is expected that we as community members, should give back to our community which has been good to us. The lasting impact one can have on a cause, charities and community are important. I have spent more than 25 years on the Monsignor Donovan High School Board working to establish the School, and ensure it is a sustainable choice for the North Georgia community.

We are strong believers in the mission of Monsignor Donovan Catholic High School and the success it has had in helping to develop young adults into leaders with the competence, conscience, compassion, confidence, and courage who, out of love for Christ and others, will radiate Christ in their lives.

It has been our experience that Catholic education helps instill the value of integrity in young adults and as a result creates leaders with good moral character. It is our belief that the success our son, Ian has had, is grounded in the values and skills he acquired during his high school years at Monsignor Donovan Catholic High School.

In addition to our annual giving, we have decided to remember Donovan in our will with a legacy gift. We feel we will be able to make a more meaningful gift when we are no longer worrying about what we may need to provide for our living and medical needs in retirement.

In Support,

Richard and Scarlett Dunne



## New Donovan Legacy Society Created

As we celebrate the 20th Anniversary of Monsignor Donovan Catholic High School and The Board of Trustees have created the Donovan Legacy Society to recognize families who have remembered the school in their estate plans or will.

Legacy gifts will help sustain Monsignor Donovan Catholic High School for generations to come. Your bequest through your will may be for a specific dollar amount left to the school. You may consider leaving the school a percentage of the residuary of your estate, once all of your specific bequests have been distributed under the will. Please consider honoring us in your estate planning. If you have already included Donovan in your estate plans, or if you would like to learn more, please notify our office so that we can recognize you.

**Visit the website: <https://www.donovancatholics.org/giving/> or contact J.J. Thomas at (706) 433-0223 for more information.**

ACADEMICS



Our 2021-2022 school year was filled with academic successes!

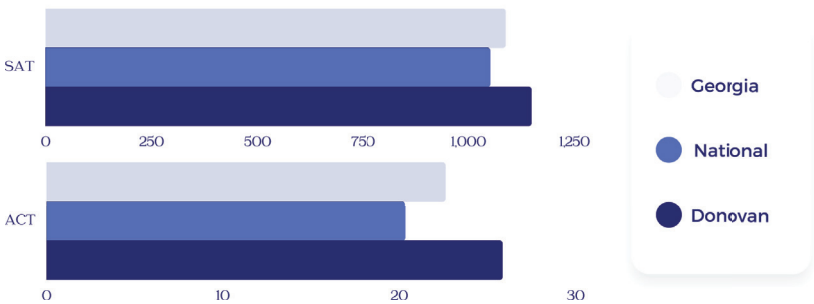
The AP Program recognizes high school students who have demonstrated outstanding college-level achievement through their performance on multiple AP Exams. We had nine students who received AP Scholar Awards: Uzochukwu Anukam; Andrew Auslander; Rachel Duncan; Mona Dunn-Betanzos; Cayla Floyd; Lila McMaster; Kenneth Nguyen; Emmet Norrell; Aiden Tranovich.

77% of 2022 graduates were HOPE and Zell Miller Recipients



Donovan Students Excel

Students at Donovan consistently outperform their public school counterparts across the nation. The chart below shows that in 2021, Donovan was well above average when it came to scores on college entrance exams.



A Donovan Education is Second to None According to Re-accreditation Visit

Monsignor Donovan was reaccredited by Cognia (formerly AdvancED and SACS) in May 2022. In 29 of the 30 standards, Donovan was recognized as making significant gains (improving) and above average (impacting). Donovan scored in the top tier of schools nationwide. On average, schools score between 278 - 283 on their rating scale of

400 points. Donovan received a score of 346. We are very proud of this recognition and happy to have an outside organization recognize our quality education. Our lead evaluator indicated that “if I lived in Athens and had children of school age, I would be proud to pay for your education!”

Governor’s Honor Program



Sabrina Katzman

Junior Sabrina Katzman was selected to attend the Governor’s Honors Program! Congratulations to junior Sabrina Katzman on attending the Governor’s Honors Program (GHP) this past summer (2022)! Her concentration area was Communicative Arts. GHP is a highly selective residential summer program for gifted and talented high school

students who are rising juniors and seniors. The program offers instruction that is significantly different from the typical high school classroom. It is designed to provide students with academic, cultural, and social enrichment necessary to become the next generation of global critical thinkers, innovators, and leaders.

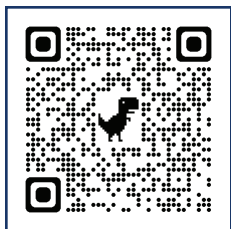


With the hire of our dynamic Athletic Director, Chris Hulse, in the spring of 2022, we entered a new era for Donovan Athletics. We are continuing to build and grow our programs with each new season. With 88% of our student body participating in athletics and record turnouts to support our home teams, our sports programs are getting noticed.

In the 2021/2022 school year, the boy's basketball team made the state playoffs, the boy's cross country was second in the region, and the boy's soccer team was a state semifinalist.

*Throughout the school year, our students have 13 different opportunities to participate on competitive sports teams.*

FOLLOW US  
ON FACEBOOK  
AND  
INSTAGRAM!



## FINE ARTS

Donovan provides opportunities for all students to flourish, whether they are scholars, artists, athletes, or all of the above. Our Fine Arts program is geared toward the interests of our students. This past school year, students participated in Ram Band, One Act Play, The Donovan

Singers, Art Club, and more.

Donovan's Christmas Float won Best Use of Theme in the Athens Parade of Lights and took home the Best Use of Theme award. Mr. Enghauser (RamBand) and Mrs. Johnson (Art) accepted the award from Mayor Girtz!



*From our mass choir and RamBand to the One Act Play, our student artists spent the year honing their creativity.*



*The Monsignor Donovan Catholic High School Class of 2022.*

The future is in your hearts and in your hands. God is entrusting to you the task, at once difficult and uplifting, of working with Him in the building of a civilization of love.


– St John Paul II

*Senior Spotlight*



**Stella Sweeney**  
 Valedictorian  
 National Honors Society  
 Student Government  
 Band/Cheerleading CLASS OF 2022

*Senior Spotlight*



**Aiden Tranovich**  
 Salutatorian  
 National Honors Society  
 Student Government  
 Cross Country, Tennis CLASS OF 2022

*Senior Spotlight*



**Lila McMaster**  
 National Honor Society  
 Student Government  
 One Act Play CLASS OF 2022



## The Chapel of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

*A place to worship*

During the strategic planning retreat, the Catholic Identity of Monsignor Donovan Catholic High School was discussed in every aspect of the school. Fr. Paul Moreau, Pastor of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Athens, suggested that a Chapel at the entrance of the school would be an incredible outward sign of our Catholicism and serve as a place for the school community to worship each week. All members of the Donovan community are encouraged to use the chapel for personal prayer. It is also a place for praying the rosary and Eucharistic adoration.

With gifts from Philip and Janine Durden, and two families who wish to remain anonymous, two-thirds of the estimated costs were raised within six weeks of the end of the planning retreat. The #igivecatholic campaign in 2021 raised the remaining investment needed for construction. The total raised for the chapel was just over \$72,000. This, along with significant donations and discounts from Rick Allen and Dixie Athens Enterprises kept the project on time and on budget.

Megan Horstman, daughter of Claire Thompson, whose family endowed a scholarship in her name for the students of Monsignor Donovan Catholic High School in 2020, donated



*The Chapel of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.*

the beautiful baby grand piano which currently resides in the chapel. She inherited this piano from her mother upon her passing. We are appreciative of this gift which reminds us of Claire every time we worship together.

## SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



*Claire donated the baby grand piano that we use in the chapel today.*

### The Claire Thompson Memorial Scholarship

The Claire Thompson Endowed Scholarship has been established in the honor of its namesake. This need-based scholarship is awarded each year to an achieving student who would not be able to attend Donovan without assistance. This need based scholarship is applied toward a student's tuition and is renewable each year providing the student maintains a high academic average and exemplifies good citizenship. It is our expectation that each recipient contributes significantly to the life of the school.

*We remember Claire Thompson who passed away in 2021*

Claire Thompson, a community leader in Athens, moved to the area in 1964. She raised six children, ensuring that they were raised with a deep love of their Catholic faith. Claire and her husband Bill were Oblates of the Monastery of the Holy Spirit in Conyers, Georgia. As her children grew, Claire wished that there was a Catholic high school option for her children in the area.

In 2019, her daughter Elizabeth Goizueta, endowed a scholarship

program in Claire's name. Claire's visit to Donovan, with her children and grandchildren were joyful memories for them and the Donovan family. In 2020, Donovan awarded the first scholarship in Claire's name to a student who had an economic need and was being treated for a serious life-threatening illness. Claire and her daughter were happy to meet this student on her last ever visit to the school.

Claire passed away in 2021 with her children generously asking for memorials to be made to the scholarship in her name. In January 2022, Megan Horstman, another daughter of Claire, reached out to Donovan because she had inherited the family's baby grand piano from her mother's estate but wanted to offer it to Donovan. This incredible gift now resides in our new Chapel of the Immaculate Heart of Mary that was completed in April.

### St. Mary's Health Care Scholarship

In November 2021, St. Mary's Health Care System partnered with Monsignor Donovan Catholic High School to offer scholarships to students who have significant financial need because of their commitment to

combat the social determinants of health. Tamara Bourda, Regional Vice President for Community Health and Well-Being along with Julie Carter, Vice President of Mission Services, presented this scholarship to Donovan. We are also pleased that Julie Carter has joined the Donovan Board of Trustees in August 2022.

### Monsignor Walter J. Donovan Academic Merit Scholarship

Students who score in the 90th percentile on the High School Placement Test (HSPT), have a 3.5 Grade Point Average from middle school, and demonstrate overall academic excellence may apply for this scholarship which covers 50% of the annual Donovan Tuition. This scholarship is renewable provided the student maintain their academic record each year.

### The Tony and JoAn Salloum International Program Scholarship

Proceeds from this scholarship aid international students in the application, acceptance, and experience of the International Program.

### Knights of Columbus Scholarship

The Knights of Columbus - Deacon William P. Lakin Council 6514 graciously donates each year for students who are Catholic. Students apply by writing an essay that explains what their faith means to them and why they want a Catholic education.

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