



2014-2015

State of the School

**Mirabeau B.
Lamar High School**
*An International
Baccalaureate World School*

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Photo by Michael Connell



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Our Position, Mission, & Vision

Our Position is to provide the best opportunity for a diverse group of students to receive a rigorous, internationally accredited education, with a broad range of extracurricular activities, in a safe and nurturing environment.

Our Mission is to develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring students to achieve their highest potential within an atmosphere of intercultural understanding and mutual respect.

Our Vision is to provide a quality education in a safe, student-centered learning environment that facilitates high quality educational opportunities for every student. Both faculty and staff will generate teaching and learning that supports critical thinking, high achievement, ethical behavior, and a respect for intercultural diversity. Leadership, service, and positive character traits will be nurtured by and for all. Teachers, administrators, staff, students, and parents alike are charged with preparing each student to be a productive citizen in a technological and global society.



The Mission of the International Baccalaureate

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end the organization works with schools, governments, and international organizations to develop challenging

programs of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programs encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate, and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

Academic and Social Life of Lamar

Every student, parent, and teacher at Lamar High School is a participant in the IB—it defines who we are, what we do, and who we want to be. From the moment a stakeholder steps foot onto this campus they are a member of the IB family. As we like to say, we are not just a school with an IB Programme, we are an IB World School.

The IB experience is not just a way to learn, it's a way of life, and the way to a better world.

The International Baccalaureate Programme promotes responsible global citizenship, provides intercultural awareness to all members of the school community, and focuses on academic excellence while stressing the importance of synthesizing knowledge gained both in and out of the classroom.

International Baccalaureate Programmes foster positive attitudes to learning by encouraging students to:

- ask challenging questions
- critically reflect
- develop research skills
- learn how to learn

The relationship between IB World Schools, IB students, and IB Headquarters can be described as triangular, since each party assumes certain responsibilities toward the other two parties.



College-Bound Campus Culture



AP EXAMS

IB DIPLOMA Programme

HCC DUAL CREDIT

- 80% of Lamar graduates continue with post secondary instruction (National Student Clearinghouse)
- 93% of students involved with post secondary continue into their second year (National Student Clearinghouse)
- Community involvement supports college-bound culture.
- Intellectual, social, and emotional preparation for every student
- Because students are preparing for college, all are encouraged to complete classes earning college credit

College emphasis for all students includes: admission exams, FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student

Aid), college application, and success in dual credit, Advanced placement or IB Diploma courses.

College-Bound Strategies

- superior academic preparation
- student work ethic
- student support
- college corner with two full-time and one part-time coordinators

Prior to graduation students will:

- complete a college application
- sit for college entrance exams or qualify through SAT or ACT, EOC
- complete the FAFSA
- experience a college campus visit

Lamar Graduates are Everywhere

Colleges in Texas, public and private, dominate student choices, but Lamar graduates gain acceptance and currently attend a wide ranges of colleges and universities in the United States and around the world.

- | | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| Abilene Christian University | Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University | Nebraska Wesleyan University | Stephen F. Austin State University |
| Agnes Scott College | Emory University | New Mexico State University | Stevens Institute of Technology |
| University of Alabama | Florida A&M University | University of New Mexico | Suffolk University |
| Albany College of Pharmacy | Florida Community College/Jacksonville | New York University | Sul Ross State University |
| Alcorn State University | Florida State University | North Carolina State University | Sweet Briar College |
| American Academy of Dramatic Art | University of Florida | University of North Texas | Syracuse University |
| American University | Fordham University | Northeastern University | Tarleton State University |
| University of Arkansas | Full Sail University | Northern Arizona University | Tennessee State University |
| Arizona State University | Furman University | Northwestern College | University of Tennessee |
| University of Arizona | George Mason University | Northwestern University | Texas A&M University |
| Auburn University | Georgia Institute of Technology | University of Notre Dame | Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi |
| Augustana University | University of Georgia | Occidental College | Texas A&M University, Galveston |
| Austin College | Goucher College | Oglethorpe University | Texas A&M University, Kingsville |
| Austin Community College | Grand Canyon University | Ohio University | Texas Christian University |
| Babson College | Guilford College | Oklahoma Christian University | Texas Southern University |
| Bar-Ilan University | Hampton University | Oklahoma Panhandle State University | Texas State University |
| Barnard College | Hardin-Simmons University | Oklahoma State University | Texas Tech University |
| Baylor University | University of Hartford | Oklahoma Wesleyan University | Texas Wesleyan University |
| Becker College | Harvard University | University of Oklahoma | Texas Women's University |
| Belmont University | Haverford College | University of Oregon | The New School University |
| Berklee College of Music | University of Hawaii | University of Phoenix-Houston Campus | Trinity University |
| Blinn College | Hawaii Pacific University | University of Pittsburgh | Tufts University |
| Boston College | Hofstra University | Our Lady of the Lake University | Tulane University |
| Brandeis University | Houston Baptist University | Pace University | Tuskegee University |
| Briar Cliff University | Houston Community College System | Pomona College | Tyler Janis College |
| Brigham Young University | University of Houston | Prairie View A&M University | Universal Technical Institute |
| Bryn Mawr College | Howard University | Pratt University | University of Texas, Austin |
| University of California at Berkeley | Howard Payne University | Princeton University | University of Texas, Dallas |
| University of California at Davis | Ithaca College | Purdue University | University of Texas, Permian Basin |
| University of California at Irvine | Indiana University | Randolph College | University of Texas, San Antonio |
| University of California at Los Angeles | University of Incarnate Word | Ranger College | University of Utah |
| University of California at Santa Barbara | University of Iowa | Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute | University of Virginia |
| University of California at Santa Cruz | Jackson State University | Rhodes College | University of Washington |
| California Polytechnic State University | James Madison University | Rice University | University of West Florida |
| Carleton College | Johns Hopkins University | Ringling college of Art and Design | University of Wisconsin |
| Carnegie Mellon University | Juniata College | Roberts Wesleyan College | Universidad Anahuac Del Sur |
| Case Western Reserve University | Kilgore College | University of Rochester | Universidad Nacional Autonoma De Mexico |
| Chapman University | Langston University | University of Rhode Island | Ursinus College |
| Clark Atlanta University | University of La Verne | Saint Augustine's University | Utah State University |
| Clemson University | Lamar Institute of Technology | University of St. Andrews, Scotland | Vanderbilt University |
| Coastal Carolina University | Liberty University | Sam Houston State University | Vernon College |
| College of Charleston | Lone Star College | San Diego State University | Virginia Commonwealth University |
| College of William and Mary | Louisiana State University | University of San Francisco | Washington & Lee University |
| Collin County Community College | Louisiana Tech University | San Jacinto College, South | Washington University, St. Louis |
| University of Colorado, Boulder | University of Louisiana, Lafayette | Sarah Lawrence College | Wellesley College |
| Colorado College | Loyola University | Savannah College of Art and Design | West Texas A&M University |
| Colorado School of Mines | University of Maine | University of Seville, Spain | West Virginia University |
| Colorado State University | University of Maryland | Sewanee: The University of the South | Wharton County Community College |
| Columbia College-Chicago | Mary Baldwin College | University of South Carolina | William and Mary University |
| Columbia University | University of Mary Hardin-Baylor | University of South Florida | Williams College |
| Concordia University-River Forest | University of Maryland | Southern Adventist University | College of Wooster |
| Concordia University-Austin | McGill University | University of Southern California | Xavier University, Cincinnati, Ohio |
| Cornell University | McMurry University | University of Southern Mississippi | Xavier University of Louisiana |
| Dallas Baptist University | University of Miami | Southern Methodist University | Yale University |
| University of Dallas | Michigan State University | Southern University and A&M College | Yeshiva University |
| Dartmouth College | Millsaps College | Southwestern Adventist University | |
| DePaul University | Mississippi College | Southwestern University | |
| DePauw University | Mississippi State University | Spelman College | |
| University of Denver | University of Mississippi | St. Edward's University | |
| Drake University | Montana State College | St. John's University | |
| Drexel University | University of Montana | University of St. Thomas | |
| Duke University | Morehouse College | Stanford University | |
| Eckerd College | Morgan State University | State University of New York | |

Lamar Students Have the Option of Customizing Their Education.

IB Diploma Programme

The IB Diploma Programme is the most rigorous academic pathway offered at Lamar High School.

- Students experience a world-class education through a balanced two-year curriculum that is comprehensive and standardized worldwide.
- Student work is assessed by certified IB examiners and moderated by an international examining board.
- Students are required to engage in individual research and inquiry into the theory and nature of knowledge, and to participate in community service and action projects.
- Twenty-four countries accept the IB diploma as undeniable proof of a quality pre-university education.
- IB Diploma recipients who earn at least a score of 4 on every exam and attend state colleges and universities in Texas, Florida, Colorado, and California are able to take advantage of state legislation that guarantees students a minimum of 24 hours of credit toward their bachelor degree plans.

IB Course Students

IB Course students are those who do not wish to pursue the full IB Diploma Programme. They can take one or more IB exams in IB Diploma subjects. Most universities accept a score of 4 or above for college credit or advanced placement.

IB Career-related Certificate Programme (IBCP)

The IBCP incorporates the educational principles, vision and learner profile of the IB into a unique offering that specifically addresses the needs of students who wish to engage in career-related education. The IBCP encourages students to benefit from elements of an IB education through a selection of two or more Diploma Programme courses comprised of an approach to learning (ATL)

course, a reflective project, language development, and community and service.

Dual Credit College Program for Juniors and Seniors in Partnership with Houston Community College System

Dual credit courses

- A limited number of combination Dual Credit/DP Standard Level courses taught by resident instructors
- features increased rigor
- requires DP/AP exams
- offers HCC college credit

All other Dual Credit courses are taught in an online standard format with high school instructor support

- offers HCC college credit
- does not require DP or AP exams
- Students get an early start on transferable college credits at no cost for tuition and fees
- Entrance exam requirements met for Texas colleges and universities.
- Students graduate from high school with earned college credit



IB Learner Profile

The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.



Balanced

They understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves and others.

IB Middle Years

Life in the 21st century places many changing demands on students making the transition through adolescence. The International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Programme is designed to help them find a sense of belonging in the ever-changing and increasingly interrelated world around them and to foster a positive attitude toward learning. In order to meet the challenges of life in the 21st century, Lamar High School has chosen to adopt the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme as the curricular framework through which all students will learn. Lamar High School offers a Summer Academy Programme to assist freshmen students in making the transition to the rigors of an International Baccalaureate education.

The Programme consists of eight subject groups integrated through five areas of interaction that provide a framework for learning within and across the subjects. Students are required to study the language of their community, a second language, humanities, sciences, mathematics, arts, physical education, and technology.

Personal Project—In the final year of the Programme, students engage in a personal project which allows them to demonstrate the understandings and skills they have developed throughout the Programme.

Aspects of IBMYP:

- encourage international-mindedness in students, starting with a foundation in their own language and culture;
- encourage students to adopt a positive attitude through learning by solving problems, showing creativity and resourcefulness, and actively participating in their community through service;
- reflect real life by providing a framework that allows students to see the connections

among subjects, and between the subjects, and relevance to life issues;

- support the development of communication skills to encourage inquiry, understanding, language acquisition, and to allow student reflection and expression;
- emphasize, through the IB Learner Profile, the development of the whole student—physically, intellectually, emotionally, and ethically.



 **Inquirers**

They develop their natural curiosity. They acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research and show independence in learning. They actively enjoy learning and this love of learning will be sustained throughout their lives.

IB Diploma Programme

The International Baccalaureate Diploma is earned by completing coursework and examinations in six (6) different subject areas. Exams are scored on a scale from 1-7 with a score of 4 considered passing. All exams have internal and external assessments. The core consists of enrollment in, and successful completion of, the Theory of Knowledge course, writing of the Extended Essay (a critical analysis of in-depth research), and the accumulation of CAS (creativity, activity, service) activities.

During the 2013-14 school year, 723 eleventh and twelfth grade students took at least one (1) IB exam. Of the subject exams offered, four subject areas scored higher than the world average.

The average exam score for IB Diploma recipients was 4.61, and the average total points earned was 29. The highest accumulation of points was 40. In the class of 2014, 96 students received the IB Diploma.



Lamar High School offers over sixty advanced level courses in the following disciplines: English, math, science, social studies, fine arts, and languages other than English. Over twenty International Baccalaureate (IB) pre-diploma classes are offered to students typically in ninth and tenth grades, while over forty diploma level classes are available to eleventh and twelfth grade students. Advanced Placement (AP) courses are available for world history, human geography, and government. During the 2013-14 school year, Lamar High School administered 1,650 AP exams and 2,426 IB exams.



Inquirers

They develop their natural curiosity. They acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research and show independence in learning. They actively enjoy learning and this love of learning will be sustained throughout their lives.



Principled

They act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups and communities. They take responsibility for their own actions and the consequences that accompany them.



Open-minded

They understand and appreciate their own cultures and personal histories, and are open to the perspectives, values and traditions of other individuals and communities. They are accustomed to seeking and evaluating a range of points of view, and are willing to grow from the experience.

IB Career-related Programme

The **IB Career-related Programme (IBCP)** is an innovative education framework for students in the eleventh and twelfth grades incorporating the vision and educational principles of the IB into a unique programme specifically tailored for students who wish to engage in career-related learning. The aim of the IBCP is to provide students with both an academic and practical foundation to support both their further studies and specialized training, thereby ensuring their success in the workforce.



Photo by Akia Storey

IBCP students engage with a challenging programme of study that genuinely interests them while gaining transferable and lifelong skills in applied knowledge, critical thinking, communication, and cross-cultural engagement. They are well prepared to succeed at institutions of higher learning. The IBCP provides a comprehensive link between the academic challenge of the Diploma Programme and the international-mindedness of the IB classroom into a tailored, career-focused pathway.

The IBCP framework is built around three interconnected elements:

- two or more Diploma Programme courses

- an IBCP core that includes approaches to learning, community and service, language development and a reflective project
- an approved career-related study.

The IBCP enables schools to widen participation to an IB education. Schools retain the ability to choose the career-related courses that are most suited to local conditions and the needs of their students. Schools gain the added flexibility in direct curriculum development as well as the IBCP core to create an educational pathway that puts a strong focus on individual student needs.

The IBCP enables students to:

- Develop a broad range of career-related competencies and to deepen their understanding in general areas of knowledge
- Prepare for effective participation in an ever-changing world of work
- Foster the attributes of the learner profile allowing students to become true lifelong learners willing to consider new perspectives
- Engage in learning that makes a positive difference to future lives
- Become a self-confident person ready for life in the 21st century.



Photo by Akia Storey

A Full Continuum of International Education Within the Lamar Feeder Pattern



Primary Years Programme Grades PreK-5

Age-appropriate, moderated criterion-referenced assessments

The inclusion of international mindedness in the curriculum

A culminating product of student work—the exhibition

Transdisciplinary initiatives within the curriculum

Students to act in their communities as a result of their learning



Middle Years Programme Grades 6-10

Samples of teachers' assessment of students are moderated by IB with reports to the schools.

All students must study another language.

The Personal Project at the end of grade ten may be a piece of writing or may take other forms.

Areas of Interaction

A community service project is required of all students



Diploma Programme Grades 11-12

Students, themselves, are assessed in multiple, authentic ways in all subjects.

All diploma candidates must be assessed (speaking, reading, writing, composing) in a Language B.

The Extended Essay, a 4,000-word piece of written independent research

Theory of Knowledge and Concurrency of Learning

A minimum of 150 hours over two years in (CAS) Creative, Action, Service



IB Career-Related Programme

IBCP requirements are assessed in accordance with rigorous international standards.

IBCP students take written exams in, at least, 2 Diploma Programme courses.

The reflective project

The approaches to learning course

Community & service and language development portfolio

The International Baccalaureate (IB) is a non-profit educational foundation, motivated by its mission, focused on the student. Our four programmes for students aged 3 to 19 help develop the intellectual, personal, emotional, and social skills to live, learn, and work in a rapidly globalizing world. Founded in 1968, we currently work with 3,968 schools in 144 countries to develop and offer four challenging programmes to students aged 3 to 19. The Lamar High School feeder pattern provides students the opportunity to participate in the complete IB continuum of education: PYP, MYP, DP, and CC.

Business Administration Magnet Program

Lamar Business Administration Magnet Program is comprised of over 1,000 students selected by application. This rigorous program includes courses in Principles of Business, Marketing, Business Information, Management, Accounting, Economics, and Banking and Finance.

Initiated in 1983, the program emphasizes college-bound readiness in all areas of instruction. Senior Internships are provided to students by business partners to allow students to gain work experience in a wide-variety of careers that interest them. These business partners have included oil and gas, accounting and tax firms, lawyers, medical, advertising, financial institutions, insurance, non-profit, and educational organizations. Students gain not only the work experience, but also the confidence to know what is expected of them in the workplace.

In 2010, Smart Financial Credit Union opened a branch office at Lamar High School, the first of its kind in Houston ISD. The branch manager hires Lamar Magnet interns who are trained to provide bank services.

Smart Financial Credit Union hires former Lamar interns who attend local universities.

Photos by Rebecca Hsaio and Josie Deese



Reflective

They give thoughtful consideration to their own learning and experience. They are able to assess and understand their strengths and limitations in order to support their learning and personal development.



Communicators

They understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of modes of communication. They work effectively and willingly in collaboration with others.

Career and Technical Education

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs offered at Lamar provide unlimited educational opportunities for students to acquire the necessary academic and technical skills needed to enter into a high-skill, high-wage, high-demand, global workforce and/or continue their education at the postsecondary level. We offer programs in Business Management and Marketing, Information Technology, Culinary Arts, Horticulture, Agriculture, Manufacturing, Audio Visual Technology and Communication, and Engineering Design.



The **Business Management and Marketing** programs offer classes that prepare students for the 21st Century in the areas of Business, Accounting, Computer Science, Marketing and Global Awareness. Students can participate in an Internship or a Co-op program. Students can earn **Microsoft Office** and **Quick Books** certification.

The **Culinary Arts** program focuses on all-important culinary skills and healthy eating. The students operate the **Café M Restaurant** and offer catering services. The **Coffee Bar** in the library is an extension of this program before and after school. Students earn **ServSafe** certification in this program.

The **Agriculture** program provides students the opportunity to raise animals and compete in shows throughout Texas. Students in the **Horticulture** compete in floral design competitions and projects. Lamar has a livestock and plant show, and auctions every year to showcase the student projects.

The **Engineering and Design** program has a nationally acclaimed Robotics class. Students work in conjunction with the **Manufacturing System** classes. Students can earn **OSHA** certification.

Lamar Cable Television is student-driven and challenges students to assume real-life responsibilities in the media and broadcast industry. Students use a professionally equipped studio to film, edit, and broadcast a daily news program.

The **Journalism** class uses Adobe InDesign, Photoshop, and other computer software programs to produce the award-winning yearbook, *Orenda*, as well as multiple issues of the school magazine, *Lamar Life*.

The mission of the **JROTC** is to support the educational goals of Lamar High School by being the most outstanding unit in the city. In 1946, General Dwight D. Eisenhower described the Lamar JROTC program as "Best of the Best". From that day, we have strived to uphold this title



Risk-takers

They approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought, and have independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas and strategies. They are brave and articulate in defending their beliefs.

Career and Technical Education

and perform at the best of our abilities. We take into consideration, not only our academics and leadership, but the students themselves.

The **JROTC Color Guard** is required to uncover the colors for competition/display and present the colors on many occasions on the field with the Lamar band. We present the colors at pep-rallies and most sporting events, on or off campus.



Photos by Akia Storey and Rebecca Hsaio



Knowledgeable

They explore concepts, ideas and issues that have local and global significance. In so doing, they acquire in-depth knowledge and develop understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.



Thinkers

They exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to recognize and approach complex problems, and make reasoned, ethical decisions.

Academic Performance

2014 Accountability Summary

Lamar High School met standards for the 2013-2014 school year by earning the highest possible rating of distinction in all eligible indices—Student Achievement, Closing the Performance Gap, and Postsecondary Readiness—according to the Texas Education Agency’s Accountability Rating System. Student performance on the five tested core areas of Algebra I, Biology, English I, English II, and U.S. History was used to determine the rating. The distinction rating is awarded to schools that perform in the top 25% of all comprehensive high schools in the State of Texas.

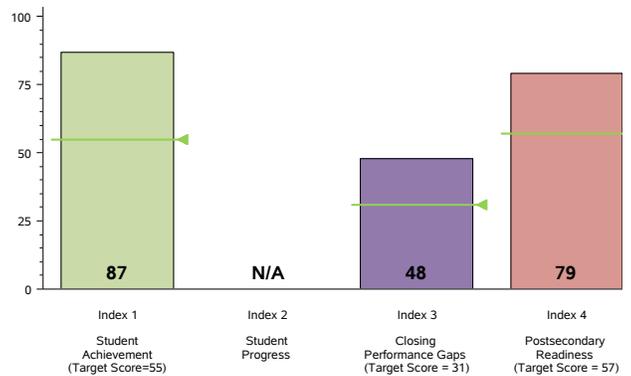
- **Student Achievement** – Represents a snapshot of performance across all subjects, on both general and alternative assessments, at an established performance standard. (*All Students*)
- **Student Progress** – Provides an opportunity for diverse campuses to show improvements made independent of overall achievement levels. Growth is evaluated by subject and student group. (*All Students; Student Groups by Race/Ethnicity; English Language Learners; Special Education*)
- **Closing Performance Gaps** – Emphasizes advanced academic achievement of the economically disadvantaged student group and the lowest performing race/ethnicity student groups at each campus or district. (*All Students; Student Groups by Race/Ethnicity*)
- **Postsecondary Readiness** – This measure emphasizes the importance of students receiving high school diplomas that provide the foundation necessary for success in college, the workforce, job training Programmes or the military. (*All Students; Student Groups by Race/Ethnicity; English Language Learners; Special Education*)

Accountability Rating

Met Standard

Met Standards on	Did Not Meet Standards on
- Student Achievement	- NONE
- Closing Performance Gaps	
- Postsecondary Readiness	

Performance Index Report



Distinction Designation



Academic Achievement in Reading/ELA	DISTINCTION EARNED
Academic Achievement in Mathematics	DISTINCTION EARNED
Academic Achievement in Science	DISTINCTION EARNED
Academic Achievement in Social Studies	DISTINCTION EARNED
Top 25 Percent Closing Performance Gaps	DISTINCTION EARNED
Postsecondary Readiness	DISTINCTION EARNED

Academic Performance

Class of 2014

- 3 - 2014 National Merit Semifinalists
- 5 - 2014 National Achievement Outstanding Participants
- 16 - 2014 National Merit Commended
- 3 - 2014 National Hispanic Recognition

Class of 2015

- 4 - 2015 National Merit Semifinalists
- 4 - 2015 National Achievement Outstanding Participants
- 7 - 2015 National Merit Commended
- 5 - 2015 National Hispanic Recognition

88% of Lamar's sophomores and juniors took the PSAT.

HISD provides the opportunity for all freshmen and sophomore students to take the PSAT, and Lamar extends that opportunity to all juniors.



College-Bound Assessments

Both the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT I) and ACT Assessment (ACT) are college entrance exams. Both SAT I and ACT provide a standard by which the skills of students applying for colleges and universities can be compared nationally. Standardized tests are designed to allow college admissions officers to judge all students by a common measuring stick. College admissions officers use the scores as a way to predict academic performance in the first year of college. Educational organizations recognize scores on either test as useful indicators of college readiness and valid predictors of college success. Lamar High School consistently scores well above the district and state average on both the SAT and ACT.



Caring

They show empathy, compassion and respect towards the needs and feelings of others. They have a personal commitment to service, and act to make a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.

Fine Arts and Forensics

Lamar High School is an IB World School that sees the arts as a form of human expression, a means to explore the human condition, and a powerful form of visual, aural, and tactile affective communication. Through active participation in the arts, students learn to be imaginative and open-minded thinkers who can work individually and collaboratively to create artistic experiences. The artistic experience provides a powerful way to know ourselves and others.

Lamar students can choose from a wide array of experiences in arts and communication studies, and these classes prepare them to become proficient performers and artists, as well as knowledgeable patrons and supporters of the arts in their communities.

Music

Lamar choirs have approximately 200 students who participate in Varsity and Junior Varsity choirs, as well as specialized ensembles and Madrigals. The award winning choirs of Lamar present Winter and Spring concerts, as well as participation in UIL Solo & Ensemble and Concert & Sight Reading. In addition, they have been ambassadors for Lamar, nationally and internationally. Choral directors stress healthy vocal technique, music reading skills, and diversity of music literature study, and their goal is to create lifelong musicians.

Lamar band is active as a marching band during football season and concert band during the remainder of the school year. Jazz band studies are also offered. Band students also represent Lamar in parades and the Houston ISD All-City Band concert. In addition, students participate in UIL Solo & Ensemble competition, as well as Concert & Sight-Reading. Band directors stress music reading and perform a wide variety of literature

throughout the year, always teaching the power of individual excellence and teamwork.

Lamar orchestra encompasses a diverse range of skills and experience on stringed instruments. Students collaborate with band and choir for joint concerts, and these young string players are involved in learning orchestral parts for the all-school musical. In addition, students are encouraged to perform as soloists and in small ensembles. The directors emphasize good technical habits and music literacy, and encourage students to continue their musical interests.

Lamar piano studies are open to all students in a well-equipped digital keyboard lab. Students are provided individual and group instruction, and they participate in recitals twice a year. Recitals are held in the Ned S. Holmes Performance Hall, and students perform on Lamar's Steinway Concert Grand piano. In preparation for recital repertoire, students practice sight-reading, scales, chords and learn elements of music theory.

Visual

Visual arts offers a variety of experiences designed to help them become individual and collaborative artists, as well develop a thoughtful and knowledgeable basis for art appreciation.

Art 1 students study principles and elements of design and the creative design process, various 2-D media, color theory, and art criticism. Students learn to draw and to create original artworks.

Art 2 students explore a variety of painting media, and through practical studio application, they continue to develop technical skills for their individual artworks.

Fine Arts and Forensics Continued

Art 3 students participate in the IB Diploma Programme and Standard or Higher Level. Individual research and process is a crucial part of the student artwork, and these students produce portfolios and sit for IB exams.

Theatre

Theatre offers a background for both performance and technical art. Students have consistently advanced to Area in UIL One-Act Play, and garnered awards for both individual performances and tech crew. In addition, they present plays throughout the year for student and community audiences as part of the Loading Dock Production Company.

Theatre 1 is an overall survey of acting techniques, stage terminology, introductory technical skills, and the history and literature of theatre art.

Theatre 2 is the advanced theatre course where students continue to refine their acting and technical skills by performing and producing two plays each year.

Technical theater provides practical experience with set design, lighting, sound, costumes, and make-up that supports productions by the Loading Dock Production Company.

IB Diploma Theatre explores theater traditions from non-European cultures, traces the influence of American modern theatre, and examines the works of Stanislavski, Aristotle and other theatre theorists. Students sit for the IB exam in theatre, complete a portfolio demonstrating their personal growth in their chosen emphasis, and direct and design public performances.

In addition to these classes, Lamar High School presents an all-school musical each year with auditions open to all students. Members of the fine arts classes participate in various performance and

technical roles. Performances are held in the Ned S. Holmes Performance Hall for the general public as well as special performance for elementary school audiences.

Dance

Lamar Dance Theatre is the resident dance company, and is composed of modern/contemporary and hip hop dancers. The company's focus is on the concert ensemble and dance for the stage rather than competition, and Lamar dancers work with professional dance companies and artists. Performance opportunities include preludes for the Wortham Theater Center dance concerts, community service benefits and outreach, and the annual dance showcases within the district.

The Varsity Rangerettes, Lamar's award winning drill team, have compiled an impressive list of awards. These honors include: Outstanding Choreography, Outstanding Technique, Outstanding Showmanship, Outstanding Presentation, Judges Award Officer Novelty, Judges Award Team Hip Hop, Staff Award for Discipline, Staff Award for Spirit, and Staff Award for Attitude.

Forensics

Lamar's chapter of the National Forensic League Speech and Debate has been garnering awards since its inception in 1939. Students currently compete in the National Catholic Forensic League, University Interscholastic League, and Texas Forensic Association, and have consistently won awards in national competitions. Lamar High School has been officially designated as one of the top 100 schools recognized for accomplishments in Debate, NFL Soci t  de 300.

Lamar Athletics

Baseball—Boys - Over the years, many Lamar High School baseball players have achieved all-district and all-state honors.

Basketball—Boys and Girls - The mission of the basketball program is to field a team that excels on the court, achieves in the classroom, and positively impacts our school and community. Lamar basketball athletes are expected to demonstrate leadership, teamwork, diversity, cultural awareness, fundamental skills, hard work, and goal setting.

Cross-Country and Track—Boys and Girls - The Lamar High School track program is among the most competitive in the Houston area. Over the years, the varsity boys track team achieved all-district honors, while freshman and junior varsity teams have consistently won the district trophy.

Field Hockey—Girls - The Lamar High School Girls Field Hockey team is comprised of any high school female student at Lamar who wants to compete, have fun, and participate in a team sport.

Football—Boys - The Lamar football program is open to all freshman students wishing to participate, all other new students should contact Coach Nolen. An athletic packet must be completed before your student can step on the field. The athletic packet is available on-line for your convenience and in the athletic office, W106. There are three levels of football: Freshmen, Junior Varsity, and Varsity.

Golf—Boys and Girls - Lamar Golf embraces a competitive spirit that focuses on golf as a sport for life. The program's success stems from individual accomplishments that translate into a team mentality. Over the years, Lamar's boys and girls teams have won regional and district championships.

Lacrosse—Boys and Girls - Lamar's Lacrosse offers a high intensity game combining the physical aspects of football and the eye/hand coordination of tennis. The team offers both Junior Varsity and Varsity level players. The lacrosse season begins during the spring semester, however regular practice sessions are scheduled during the fall months.

Soccer—Boys and Girls - Lamar High School boys and girls soccer program is among the most competitive in the Houston area. The Lamar soccer program prides itself on hard work, dedication, determination, integrity, and successfully competing with the most talented teams in the Houston area.

Softball—Girls - Over the years, many Lamar High School softball players have not only achieved all-district recognition but have also received scholarships to participate at the collegiate level.

Swimming—Boys & Girls - The Lamar High School aquatics team is comprised of over eighty athletes. The team has captured a District Championship title for the past 24 seasons. The team practices before and after school and attends competitive meets on a weekly basis.

Tennis—Boys & Girls - Tennis is a year-round sport beginning in the fall semester with team tennis. Varsity and junior varsity teams play against other area high school teams with most matches scheduled after school. Lamar varsity tennis has repetitively achieved the District Team Tennis Championship .

Volleyball—Girls - The volleyball program at Lamar High School is comprised of any high school female student at Lamar who wants to compete, have fun, and participate in a team sport.

Water Polo—Boys and Girls - Lamar Water Polo creates a team spirit in what is essentially an individual sport. The water polo season is March through May. There are varsity and junior varsity sections of the sport. Water polo develops physical fitness and team spirit.

Wrestling—Boys and Girls - The goal of the Lamar wrestling program is to develop better students through the sport. Lamar wrestlers take responsibility for their actions, whether on or off the mat. This includes coming to practice on time, being prepared, and having a positive attitude.

Lamar High School Alumni Association

2014-2015 School Year Activities

1. The Lamar High School Alumni Association was chartered in July 1998 to raise funds to support the school, its students, its teachers, and to provide services for its alumni.
2. The association continued in its second Capital Campaign effort to raise funds for teacher training, college scholarships, student support services, classroom enhancements, a new FFA barn, landscape improvements, and improvements to the new sports fields.
3. The association received a \$1 million donation from Doug Pitcock, Class of 1945, to fund scholarships for graduating seniors.
4. The association received a \$1 million donation from Lynnette and David Mafrige to name the new football field to be built as part of the sports field renovation provided by the HISD Bond Initiative.
5. The association awarded four graduating seniors each with an \$8000 college scholarship bringing the overall total of HOPE Scholarships granted to seniors since 2005 to \$115,000.
6. The association sponsored a special event in May to honor Coach Tom Nolen for his 27 years of teaching/coaching at Lamar and to kick off the effort to raise funds for improving the Lamar sports fields.
7. The association awarded a \$1000 gift to Keri Ann King, biology, as Teacher of the Year and a \$1000 to Nancy Dolch, English, for the Miss Red Award.
8. The association hired several Lamar graduates to do research over the summer to add to our historical records.
9. The association funded a monthly landscape service to maintain the front lawn.



PTO— Parent-Teacher Organization

PTO MEMBERS:

Membership in the Lamar PTO includes almost 400 parents. More than \$50,000 has been collected in membership dues, combined with aggressive fund-raising initiatives, as well as outreach programs in the community. There are over 75 PTO Board members chairing various committees in numerous capacities. PTO Volunteers chair and organize major initiatives such as:

- Daily staffing of the School Store which raises over \$100,000 for the Student Assistance Fund, providing qualified students with transportation allowances, school uniforms and supplies, testing fees, and needed expenses;
- Funding teacher “wish lists” twice a year for classroom materials not otherwise provided by HISD;
- Hosting quarterly teacher appreciation lunches, as well as provide teacher-support gifts throughout the year;
- Funding, organizing, and staffing Lamar’s annual College Night which welcomes over 100 colleges and universities, as well as various vendors. Attendance is over 1,000 parents and students;
- Planning and staffing a theme-based annual Homecoming dance, as well as to provide food, drinks, and decorations for this festive evening;
- Providing volunteers for school tours which are held weekly;
- Raising funds in excess of \$75,000 for Safe-Prom and senior activities.

PTO volunteers are also instrumental in assisting with Book Distribution at the beginning of the school year, Chic-Fil-A sales throughout the school year, Yearbook Pictures, MYP Personal Projects, hall monitoring during IB exams and HISD testing, National Honor Society Induction Ceremony, Cultural Exchange Programs with Japan and China, Hospitality, Booster Club Liaisons, middle

school outreach, Freshmen Round-Up, Field trip volunteers and School Registration.



Class Committee Representatives:

Each class has two Co-Chairs and several Committee members who spend four years organizing grade level activities for the parents in their class with the goal of meeting other parents and raising funds for Senior year After Prom/Safe Prom events. This is a really great way to meet other parents in your child’s same class as you bond throughout the four years.



Alison Ayres Bell

Lamar PTO President 2014-2015

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The Whole Student

The mission of the Student Service Center is to remove any obstacle that is impeding the progress of any Lamar High School student.

The center's ultimate goal is to assist students with getting back on track—a academically and/or emotionally.

By providing flexible scheduling, the Student Service Center assists students to transition from services received beyond the campus to their regular campus schedule.



Lamar Soccer Team

Lamar Booster Clubs

Lamar Booster Clubs provide financial support for many activities and departments at Lamar High School, not just sports. Lamar Athletic Booster Club membership dues and contributions fund transportation to events and equipment for our athletic teams including baseball, basketball, cheerleading, cross country, diving, drill team, football, lacrosse, golf, soccer, softball, swimming,

Through a partnership with Community in Schools (CIS) and a grant from the Children's Health Fund of the Harris County Hospital District, two full-time and two part-time licensed social workers

coordinate with more than 100 outside agencies to provide social services for students and parents. CIS and Lamar provide numerous social worker internships for local universities and medical schools.

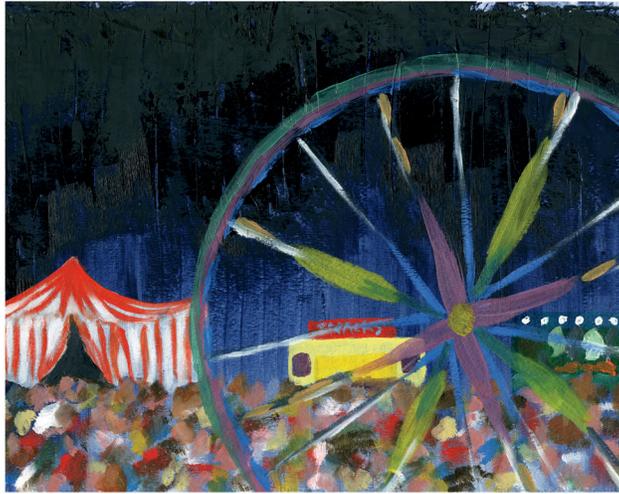


 **Principled**

They act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups and communities. They take responsibility for their own actions and the consequences that accompany them.

tennis, track and field, volleyball, water polo, and wrestling.

Lamar Fine Arts Booster Club contributions have purchased art talk textbooks, auto-lock table easels, sheet music, orchestra and color guard uniforms, wireless microphones for the theater and other requested items for art, band, color guard, choir, dance, orchestra, and theater departments.



Artist: **Evan Chambless - 12**

Title: "County Fair" Media: Oil on Gessoed paper

Art is about observing our environment. I used my observational skills to recreate the atmosphere of fun and excitement that I felt while visiting the Fayette County Fair in La Grange, Texas. In my painting, I reproduce the atmosphere employing bright colors and movements.



Artist: **Adelaid Prince 11**

Title: "Chair"

Media: Oil on canvas

Expressionist artists used bright colors to create beautiful scenes. I wanted to explore soft colors, calming to the eye, to create a soft mood. In this work, I used the ordinary chair with soft colors, to create a beautiful calm artwork. Life can be so stressful, sometimes we need a break from that. The chair represents rest.



Artist: **Jonathan Beavers - 11**

Title: "Dimensional Breakage"

Media: coffee, watercolor, prisma, and markers

This artwork was inspired by the artwork of Robert Delaney. The shapes, the colors, the lines, the paper, all come together to form this geometric "trick." I want the viewer to just enjoy the shapes and colors as the eye moves through the work.



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This artwork is produced and published by the Graphics Department at Lamar High School to honor and recognize outstanding student work.

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