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OPEN DOOR

A Newsletter from Bishop John T. Walker School for Boys

SUMMER | 2018

10TH ANNIVERSARY
2008-2018

EDUCATION IS THE DOOR TO OPPORTUNITY

Coming Home!

A vibrant new school space secures a bright future for BWS students.



What a joy to see our boys excitedly settled into their routines in their new school space at THEARC! Their colorful classrooms are filled with beautiful natural light, and every corner of the building is buzzing with happiness and laughter. Inhabiting this incredible, exuberant facility was made possible through BWS's capital campaign, *Securing Their Future: A Campaign for the Boys of the Bishop Walker School*.

To date, over \$4.7 million has been raised toward our \$6.5 million goal.

On October 19, 2017, following our annual Service of Evening Prayer at the Washington National Cathedral, *Securing Their Future* co-chairs Tony Parker and John Thorne announced the campaign's public phase to a small crowd of Governing Board members and supporters. They referenced the

“audacious dream” that is the Bishop Walker School. Created in 2008 during the worst financial crisis of our time, the school's founders took the bold initiative to start a school for our city's most vulnerable children so that they may have access to the same high-quality, independent school education as the District's wealthiest families.

The largest priority for *Securing Their Future* is to fund our continuing presence at THEARC and fully growing into our state-of-the-art space. This 31,000-square-foot facility gives BWS students access to a range of neighboring nonprofit programs, a regulation-size gym, playground, gardens, and a 365-seat theater.

Alongside the goals already made manifest at THEARC, *Securing Their Future* aims to create a foundation for the future of the Bishop Walker School. We are seeking to establish a \$1 million

As we continue progress on *Securing Their Future*, I invite you see our wonderful boys in their new school at THEARC. We will be hosting tours on the following dates all beginning at 11:30 am:

- Wednesday, June 27**
- Tuesday, July 3**
- Wednesday, July 11**
- Thursday, July 19**
- Tuesday, July 24**

Please RSVP to me directly at:
202-591-3074
dshepard@bishopwalkerschool.org
For future tour dates, please visit:
bishopwalkerschool.org/tourdates

operating reserve that will allow us to nimbly respond to opportunities as they arise and to be prepared for unexpected future needs. This campaign is yet another “audacious dream,” which will ensure that BWS students receive the greatest education possible.



David A. Shepard, Director of Development



Play Time is a Necessity at BWS

Recess and Movement Class are an important part of the school day at BWS! Boys must channel their excess energy through play so they can focus properly in the classroom. As such, Bishop Walker students have recess twice a day and have Movement Classes three times a week. Thanks to **KaBOOM!**, the new playground at THEARC give our boys a safe and fun place to play!

6th Grade Class Completes Legacy Art Project

This year, the 6th Graders based their Legacy Project on the style of **Kehinde Wiley**—the artist who painted President Obama’s recent presidential portrait. Modeled after Kehinde’s piece titled “Three Graces,” the boys have selected three important African American icons as the subject of their painting: Martin Luther King, Jr., Barack Obama, and Bishop John T. Walker. As is BWS tradition, the graduating class’s Legacy Project will continue to hang in the school after they graduate.



JAZZIN INSCHOOL RETURNS TO BWS

This spring, the 5th grade took part in the DC Jazz Festival’s **Jazzin’ InSchool** program—which introduces students to the rich legacy and culture of jazz music. As a part of the program, the boys attended a concert by South African jazz pianist Witness Matlou and local vocal ensemble Sweet Honey and the Rock. The performers also spoke about their musical influences that are deeply rooted in African and American jazz traditions.



Presiding Bishop Michael Curry Speaks at BWS Chapel

In February, Episcopal Church **Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry** and our own Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde visited BWS for chapel! Bishop Curry spoke about his relationship with Bishop Walker and how he exemplified our six pillars of character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship. Thank you Bishop Curry for your stirring words, and thank you Bishop Budde for your continued dedication to BWS!



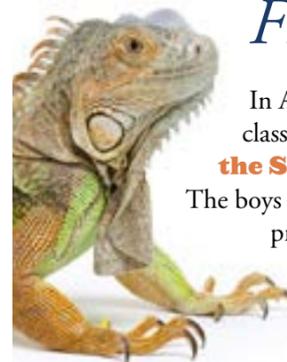
Lunch Buddy Oliver Ames Climbs Mt. Everest for BWS!

In March, one of our longtime Lunch Buddies, **Oliver Ames**, left for Nepal to climb Mt. Everest in celebration of BWS’s 10th Anniversary with the goal of raising \$10,000 for our school. On May 16th, Oliver summited Mount Everest and raised the Bishop Walker School flag high! Congratulations on your journey to the top of the world, and thank you for all you have done for our school!

BWS LOOKING FOR 2019 SUMMER LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

If you know of any summer camps that provide financial aid, please contact Ian Keener at keener@bishopwalkerschool.org. We are already in the process of finding summer learning opportunities for our oldest boys for next year and would appreciate any summer camp suggestions. Thank you!

Kindergarten Learns about Reptiles on Zoo Field Trip



In April, Ms. Ball took the kindergarten class on their **annual field trip to the Smithsonian’s National Zoo**. The boys visited the reptile house for a special program on snakes and lizards, and then they walked to the great ape house to learn about orangutans—just in time to see a mother orangutan play with her baby!

Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives Visits BWS

In April, we were visited by the **Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives** along with Frederick Douglass’s great-great-great-grandson and Booker T. Washington’s great-great grandson, **Kenneth Morris**. Mr. Morris spoke about his family’s great history and the importance of education in the life of Frederick Douglass and Booker T. Washington. Thank you to Mr. Morris and the Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives for visiting our school



If you would like to read more about these stories or want to stay up-to-date on BWS news, please follow us on

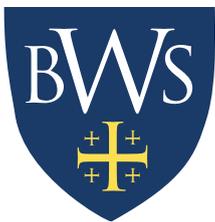
or visit www.bishopwalkerschool.org



BISHOP WALKER SCHOOL 10TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

On March 1, 2018, the Bishop John T. Walker School for Boys hosted its 10th Anniversary Annual Dinner at Washington National Cathedral. More than 600 guests gathered to raise over \$500,000 to support our school and its mission. It was an incredible evening filled with the beautiful voices of the BWS Chorus and the motivating words of the

Honorable Madeleine Albright, Bishop Mariann Budde, Governing Board President Peter Lee, and Executive Director James Woody. Thank you to all of our Underwriters, Sponsors, Honor Roll, and those who were able to attend! A special thank you to everyone who bid on the Live Auction and Raised the Paddle!



BISHOP JOHN T. WALKER
SCHOOL FOR BOYS

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