



Dear **DONOHO FAMILY,**

he 2023 - 2024 school year marks the 60th anniversary of The Donoho School. The past sixty years are characterized by tremendous growth and achievement, but most importantly for those who have been part of this journey, it is sixty years of memories. Memories of your best friends, favorite teachers, and small daily occurrences that stay with you a lifetime and always make you smile. The Donoho School of today is a place where everyday our students come to learn and grow. A place where our graduates take those lessons and leave this place they called home and go on to achieve at the highest level. It's a place where each day our faculty get to help foster and prepare our current students for that life journey that lies ahead. For the past sixty years, it's seen a continuous cycle of excellence and achievement that we are proud to lead.

As you review this year's *SOAR* magazine, please take time to appreciate the many accomplishments from the past year as well as the many changes that took place over the summer. We are thankful to all those who support Donoho through their generosity that allowed many of those changes to take place. In many ways it is these contributions that enable our faculty to inspire, our students to soar, and our Donoho family to be so successful.

We hope this magazine will bring back wonderful memories of your journey and instill in you a desire to continue to help your Donoho family build its legacy of excellence for generations to come. Please remember this tradition of continued accomplishment is achieved only with your support of the Annual Fund. As we say each year, tuition alone does not cover the cost of a Donoho education. It is our partnership with Alumni, Parents, Grandparents, and Friends, all essential members of the Donoho family, that makes all of our successes a reality. It takes a family for a school to be successful, and we are blessed with a family beyond comparison.

We are the Falcons!!!

Mr. David J. Noone Head of School Mrs. Kari Payne Board Chair

Hari M Payne

ADMINISTRATION & STAFF

David J. Noone Head of School

Maggie Henderson Head of the Middle & Upper School

Jean Jaudon '78 Head of the Lower School

Katie Newton Head of Enrollment Management

& College Counseling

Sharon Burt Executive Assistant to the

Head of School & Registrar

Tanya Barnes Director of Technology

Claire Caballero Advancement Associate of Marketing

& Communications

Steve Gendron Athletic Director

Carol Hagan '90 Finance Manager

Alyson Mims '98 Director of Development & Alumni Affairs

Jeff Tolbert Director of Building & Grounds

2023-2024 SCHOOLYEAR

OFFICERS -

Mrs. Kari Payne Chairperson
Mrs. Gina Johnson Vice Chairperson
Mr. William M. Wakefield '80 Treasurer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Life Member (1963-2008)

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Director Emeritus

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Mrs. Lisa H. Soleman '71

Mr. Cleo T. Thomas, Jr.

+deceased

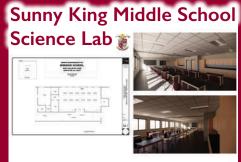
2022-2023 HIGHLIGHTS

Class of 2023 - 93% THE DONOHO, SCHO

The Donoho School Class of 2023 was accepted to colleges and universities across the country with 93% of the class accepting merit-based scholarships with 71% receiving half to full tuition.



Back-to-Back Champs: The Lady Falcons clinched the 2022 AHSAA 2A Volleyball State Championship.



It was a year of tremendous support for our endowment, physical plant, and Annual Fund, highlighted by the Sunny King Automotive Group Middle School Science Lab.Thank you!



The Donoho School remains committed to the arts and to immersive learning opportunities for all students. A daily enrichment program begins in PreK and includes art, music, tech time and coding, world language, and extended library time.



Two Lower School Robotics teams advanced to the VEX IQ State Tournament at Auburn University.



New visual arts opportunities include Ceramics I and Ceramics II at the Upper School!

Blue Ribbon Award



The Donoho School is honored to be a 2022-2023 AISA Blue Ribbon Award recipient once again.



The Donoho School Varsity Scholars Bowl team captured the AISA State Championship title.



Thank you to our Donoho Parents Association and Falcon Pride supporters for another amazing year!



The Kindergarten classes fluttered with excitement when releasing their butterflies after watching them grow from caterpillars to chrysalides to butterflies.



Our theatre department brought home five state titles from the Alabama Conference of Theatre Trumbauer Festival.



The International Fair is a favorite annual event in all divisions where students sample foods and celebrate the many cultures of our students and families.

2022-2023 ATHLETIC SEASON

Notable Achievements

1 State Championship:

Volleyball

🧙 1 State Runner Up:

• Girls Tennis



• Estella Connell, Track and Field High Jump, Triple Jump, and Indoor Long Jump

2 County Championships:

- Girls Soccer
- Girls Tennis



Baseball



🌟 15 All State Athletes

\chi 4 County Coaches of the Year:

- Kristie Alderman, Tennis
- Tim Melton, Soccer

- Steve Gendron, Baseball
- Anna Taylor, Volleyball

★ 4 All County Players of the Year:

- Lily Grace Draper, Volleyball
- Erin Turley, Girls Soccer

- Claire Hillman, Girls Tennis
- Peyton Webb, Baseball

1 State Player of the Year:

• Peyton Webb, Baseball

5 Area/Sectional Championships:

- Boys Soccer Baseball
- Girls Tennis Volleyball
- Girls Soccer

🌟 1 Bryant-Jordan Scholarship Winner:

• Lily Grace Draper



















DISCOVER DONOHO

Northeast Alabama's premier independent school









Our youngest falcons find joy in their educational journeys through experiential and hands-on learning, and our upper school students are challenged by honors, Dual Enrollment, and Advanced Placement courses. Our graduates are being admitted to some of the nation's top colleges and universities, including Vanderbilt University, University of Chicago, University of Virginia, Johns Hopkins University, Princeton University, and Emory University - just to name a few. Graduates who chose to stay in-state have received academic scholarships at a historic level.

We invite you to visit The Donoho School if you are looking for an independent education as an option for your child. Contact our admissions office today at 256-237-5477.

Why start the Donoho journey now?

Because the most important moment in your child's education is now!

- Distinguished preparation for college-bound students with 93% of the Class of 2023 accepting a merit-based scholarship
- Accredited by SAIS
- AISA Blue Ribbon School
- 75% of faculty hold advanced degrees
- 96 National Merit Scholars in the school's 60-year history
- All enrichments begin in PreK, including art, music, world language, and tech time/coding
- 21 AHSAA-recognized sports teams with 22 state championships
- Robust opportunities through the Donoho Arts
 Collaborative, including jazz, concert, and pep bands, choir, theatre, and visual arts
- Enrichment opportunities in engineering and design, computer science, ACT prep, broadcast journalism, fine arts, and more















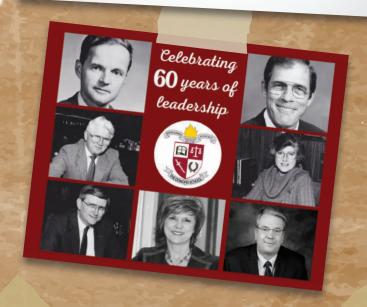
Then and Now...



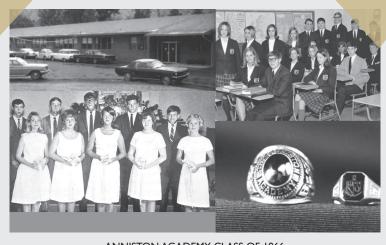
THE ORIGINAL SCHOOL BUILDINGS OF THE ANNISTON ACADEMY



THE ORIGINAL FACULTY OF THE ANNISTON ACADEMY 1963 - 1964







ANNISTON ACADEMY CLASS OF 1966



THE GYMTHEN AND NOW...





THE ARTS BUILDING THEN AND NOW...

Celebrating 60 Gears and a Bright Future



DONOHO AT 60:

A Never Ending Journey of Excellence

n the spring of 1962, a group of Anniston citizens came together to L discuss the need and gauge support for an independent middle and high school in Anniston. Led by Tom Potts, Sr. and Miller Sproull, this small group quickly learned that there was broad community support for such a school. Moving at a pace that is unheard of today, those citizens over the course of the next 18 months, purchased and developed our beautiful land and built the building that would become part of our Upper School today. Opening in the fall of 1963, Anniston Academy began with seventy-eight students in grades 7 to 10, with the idea that the higher grades would be added in the next two years. From that focused but small beginning, the Anniston Academy would begin a six decade journey of growth, mergers, prosperity, and most importantly continued academic, athletic, and artistic excellence. This rich past established the now named Donoho School as the preeminent independent school in eastern Alabama and one of the leading independent schools in the entire state and nation.

The Donoho School of today, now with seven buildings spread over two campuses including a dedicated Fine Arts Building as well as a football stadium, baseball complex, and of course the "Donoho Dome," has celebrated many achievements by those who have made this campus their home. We have graduated leaders in all areas of society, including scientific research, law, medicine,



manufacturing, and academia to name but a few. We have graduated those dedicated to serving those in need be it physical, spiritual, or emotional. From these walls have come those who hold elected office on local, state, and national levels. Some have served in the military, prepared to make the greatest of all sacrifices for our country. We have an alumna teacher who became a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor. We have graduated tremendous athletes who have competed both at the college and professional level and one outstanding Olympic gold medalist. Some of our graduates have stayed local, including twenty-one who currently have students enrolled today, while others live and work throughout the United States and around the globe. In all, we have 1,960 graduates who have left our community to forge their place in this world. All of the success our graduates have attained is built upon the legacy of that initial community meeting in 1962.

Having a past so rich in growth and achievement is wonderful, but it begs the question, "What is next?" The world has changed so much in the past sixty years, and the next sixty are sure to bring changes



David J. Noone
Head of School

as dramatic. The future of Donoho is centered upon our mission where humility, honor, passion, and delight are words we use to both inspire and guide and where our students are taught not just to be a follower on that path to the future but to be a citizen of the world who LEADs. Since our humble beginnings sixty years ago, providing the young people of today with the tools and understandings that enable them to be as successful as their predecessors and instilling them with the confidence to embrace their future in that ever changing world has been the purpose of Donoho. This charge falls on all in the Donoho family and community: the parents who instill values and responsibility, the alumni who serve as models of excellence and achievement, and the school staff who give their all to their students every day. After all, it is not the physical makeup of the school, the bells and whistles of modern technology and pedagogy, or the trophies and plaques and scholarships won every year that make a school great. It is the quality of the community and the support provided for each other that truly identify a great school. For sixty years Donoho has been a tremendous school built upon that legacy of our founders. It is our time now to continue that legacy for sixty more.





COMING FULL CIRCLE

Our Senior/Kindergarten Buddy tradition creates such precious memories and relationships. This tradition replaced the Senior/6th Grade group meetings of Teen Involvement in the early 2000s. It has proved to be a fantastic way of connecting our oldest with our youngest Falcons.

It was especially neat to see this tradition come full circle last year with Tyler Sherer '11 who stopped by while in town to see his Kindergarten Buddy Sean Keel '23 who was then a Senior himself. Tyler had also stopped by after graduate school to check on Sean while he was in 6th grade.

Tyler Sherer'l I

Tyler earned his Bachelors in Mechanical Engineering in Spring 2015 and his Masters in Mechanical Engineering in Spring 2017, both degrees earned from Auburn University.

What is your current position and how did Donoho prepare you for your career path?

I am currently an engineer at Parsons Corporation in Huntsville, AL. Donoho was very instrumental in preparing me for college (most importantly on how to study). No high school can teach you everything you need to know for college/ career, but a great one like Donoho, can teach you how to study in order to learn new abilities and apply new methods to solving tough problems.

Any advice you would give current Donoho students?

I would recommend to any students at Donoho not to take it for granted and to take it seriously. When you learn as much as you can in high school, it makes college easier and much more enjoyable. I am grateful for teachers like Mrs. Senter who taught me Chemistry at Donoho. I'm glad I paid attention because at Auburn, basically everything we covered, I had learned back in 11th grade. Mrs. Senter made freshman year at Auburn much easier for me. I thank her for that!

Sean Keel '23

Sean is currently attending the University of South Alabama. He is a freshman majoring in Biomedical Sciences (BMD).

What are your future plans / career goals?

I want to be a part of the medical field one day possibly as a family or general practitioner.

What was your favorite part of the Donoho Senior/Kindergarten tradition?

My favorite part was being able to leave a little bit of an impression on a younger generation when I was a senior. As a kindergartener, I was able to make a friendship that would last and was able to use Tyler as an example.

Any advice you would give current Donoho students?

I would advise you to do your homework and try to not procrastinate.





Kindergartner Wake '35 May 2023

MEET THE DONOHOTEAM





David Noone Head of School 7 Years of Service



Maggie Henderson Head of Middle and Upper School First Year of Service



Jean Jaudon '78 Head of Lower School 17 Years of Service



Katie Newton
Head of Enrollment
Management &
College Planning
15 Years of Service



Stephonn Ammons
Upper School
Administrative Assistant
7 Years of Service



Katrina Andrews Lower School Librarian 2 Years of Service



Monica Baker Third Grade Teacher 2 Years of Service



Tanya Barnes
Computer Science,
Director of Technology
7 Years of Service



Lana Brooks Middle School Administrative Assistant First Year of Service



Ashley Burrage Latin, Drama, & Lower School Art Teacher 18 Years of Service



Sharon Burt
Assistant to the Head
of School and Registrar
29 Years of Service



Claire Caballero
Marketing and
Communications
3 Years of Service



Christi Chandler First Grade Teacher 2 Years of Service



Kady Curvin Upper School English Teacher 3 Years of Service



Beth DearPreK Teacher Assistant
2 Years of Service



Emily Dewberry
Upper School
History Teacher
7 Years of Service



Carly Edwards
Second Grade
Teacher
3 Years of Service



Cody Elliott PreK Teacher 7 Years of Service



Kaleigh Ford '17 Kindergarten Teacher First Year of Service



Kevin GeeterBand Director
First Year of Service



Steve Gendron
Baseball,
Lower School PE,
& Athletic Director
9 Years of Service



Amy Golden Middle School Science Teacher 7 Years of Service



Carol Hagan '90 Finance Manager 9 Years of Service



Amber Harrell '94 Second Grade Teacher 13 Years of Service



Deedee Henderson Upper School Math Teacher 6 Years of Service



Missy Hicks Lower School Administrative Assistant 11 Years of Service



Betty Hoke Kindergarten Teacher Assistant 10 Years of Service



Carol Howell Fifth & Sixth Grade Math Teacher 15 Years of Service

"The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires." – William A. Ward



Kendall Howell
First Grade
Teacher
29 Years of Service



Maxine Jenkins
Building and Grounds
5 Years of Service



Angie Kelley
Fifth Grade History
& Lower School
Technology Teacher
6 Years of Service



Kenneth McBeeBuilding and Grounds
9 Years of Service



Gina Mangum Middle & Upper School Math Teacher 8 Years of Service



Carol McNew Fifth & Sixth Grade Science Teacher 3 Years of Service



Alyson Mims '98
Director of
Development and
Alumni Affairs
5 Years of Service



Kristie Minish
Lower School Academic
Support Teacher
6 Years of Service



Stacy Morrison Kindergarten Teacher 5 Years of Service



Carlie Olivas
Upper School
Art Teacher
2 Years of Service



Lauren Pollard School Nurse 4 Years of Service



Amanda Prickett
Fourth Grade
Teacher
First Year of Service



Mattie Proper
Middle & Upper School
English Teacher
2 Years of Service



Hannah Reynolds
Upper School
Math Teacher
2 Years of Service



Jeremy Satcher
PE and Football Coach
2 Years of Service



Jennifer Senter
Upper School
Science Teacher
15 Years of Service



Rebecca Sims
Admissions Associate
2 Years of Service



Kristy Stone
Fifth & Sixth Grade
Language Arts Teacher
7 Years of Service



Yvonne Swift Lower School After School Care Director 6 Years of Service



Kelsey Tankersley Lower School Music Teacher & Choir Director 2 Years of Service



Anna Taylor Upper School Science Teacher 15 Years of Service



Cynthia Thompson
PreK Teacher
2 Years of Service



Jeff Tolbert
Director of Building
and Grounds
10 Years of Service



Laney Twigg
PreK Teacher Assistant
& After School Care
2 Years of Service



Zineb UnderwoodFrench Teacher
4 Years of Service



Julie Whisenant
Middle & Upper School
History Teacher
7 Years of Service



Mandy Whitson Study Hall Advisor First Year of Service

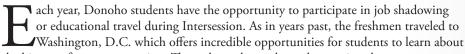


Jenniffer Whyte Spanish Teacher 8 Years of Service



INTERSESSION 2023





the history of our young nation. Throughout the week, students enjoyed walking tours of the city which included seeing the United States Capitol as well as the Library of Congress and Supreme Court Buildings. While students enjoyed walking along the streets of DC, tours of the nation's capital would not be complete without visiting the National Mall which includes monuments and Smithsonian museums.

Throughout the tour, we had several stops along the national mall. As luck would have it, the city was not very crowded during our visit so we were able to enjoy visiting the monuments and museums with limited capacity. We watched the sunset at the World War II Memorial. We enjoyed an early morning tour of the Lincoln, Vietnam, and Korean War Memorials. Students also enjoyed looking at several different artifacts in the American History Museum, International Spy Museum, Natural History Museum, and the National Museum of African American History and Culture. Each individual student is able to have an individual experience in a new learning environment.

Even though the monuments and museums are always on any DC itinerary, we also enjoyed some sites on the outskirts of the city. We visited Mt. Vernon, George Washington's home. We also visited Arlington National Cemetery where students were able to witness the "changing of the guard" at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Overall, students took in many of the nation's famous sites and enjoyed taking time away from traditional classroom learning.

- Ms. Emily Dewberry, D.C. Trip Chaperone



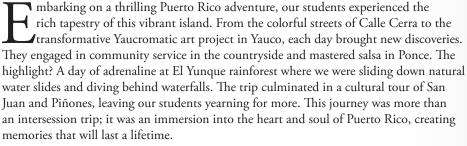
INTERSESSION 2023



Puerto Rico







- Señora Jenniffer Whyte, Puerto Rico Trip Chaperone





MS INTERSESSION 2023

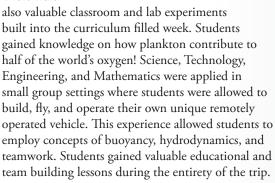




▼ he seventh and eighth grade students attended an adventure to Dauphin Island Sea Lab. The lab and education center provided a unique, hands-on learning experience nestled in the natural resources of an estuary and surrounding marine habits. Students were allowed to gain valuable field experience from the moment they arrived on campus. The first adventure of the trip, students dipped into the salt marsh equipped with seines and sieves to catch and identify various plant and animal species. Throughout the action packed days students experienced guided tours along beach, dunes, and into the maritime forest while exploring an educational opportunity centered around the







- Mrs. Julie Whisenant, Middle School Trip Chaperone



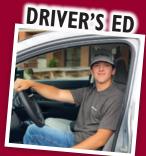








We had twelve great weeks of Camp Donoho this past summer with five of those being Driver's Ed classes. We are looking forward to another fun-filled summer in 2024 at Camp Donoho. Registration will open February 1, so make sure to watch our social media for the unveiling of the 2024 day camps. You will also find them listed at donohoschool.com/summer-camps.































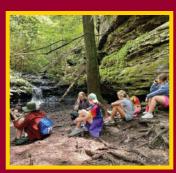


LOWER SCHOOL TRADITIONS

From Fall Fun Day to Field Day, from Pioneer Day to the Medieval Luncheon, from Elf Training Camp to Camp McDowell, and all the special days in between, our Lower School experience creates sweet memories!







































































he Donoho Arts Collaborative proudly presented sold out performances of *Moana Jr.* at JSU's Ernest Stone
Performing Arts Center. Under the direction of Mrs. Ashley Burrage, our actors and studentled stage crew brought the courage and power of Moana's story to life. Seventy-one Donoho students contributed to the success of the show.

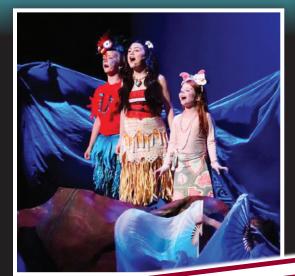
















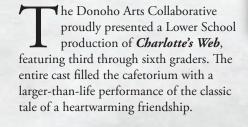






charlottes



























































































































ALUMNI SIGHTINGS

We always love when our falcons return to the nest!



Mrs. Senter and Alexis Fink '20



Mrs. Newton and Dorien Johniken '22



Amarion Smedley '21 and Ms. Dewberry



Anastasiya Budrevich '22 and Mr. Noone



Charlie Johnson '78, Jean Jaudon '78, and Mr. Noone



Current senior Estella Connell and Dena Musa '22



Ms. Taylor and Rhett Rigsby '19



The Thompson kids - Madelyn '19, Aiden '27, The Simmons sisters - Taylor '21 and Macey '21



and Ansley '23



Members of the Class of 2023 -Garrett Orth, Ben Carr, and Logan Melton



Mississippi State Bulldog alumus Coach Scott Frame '70 and Mr. Noone Gendron with current MS State student Braxton Barr '23



#DonohoAlumni

Mitchell Upchurch '93 kneeling on right pictured with his Survival Flight team and kindergarten classes during Career Week



Mrs. Burt and Sallie-Grace Hodge '19



Mrs. Mims, Mrs. Newton, Mrs. Barnes, and Mrs. Burrage with Amarion Smedley '21



AJ Long '20 and Mihir Patel '22 at a Donoho track meet



with Donoho summer baseball camp



Dean Harrell '22 and Lucas Elliott '23 helping Edwin Connell '20 with Mrs. Henderson



Emma Obermaier '23 with Mrs. Mangum

very decade is a milestone worth celebrati









CHEERS TO 15 YEARS! REUNION 7.29.2023





CLASS OF

2008

Founders Day and Alumni Celebration











~ CELEBRATING 60 YEARS ~

In September, we hosted a luncheon for all our Outstanding Alumni recipients, Retired Faculty, Board Members, and Founders in the Fargason Fine Arts Center. During this luncheon we honored our special guests: 2023 Director Emeritus Mrs. Cherri Morgan and 2023 Outstanding Alumnus Mr. George W. Connors, IV '78. We are so thankful to be able to recognize them for their hard work and dedication to The Donoho School. Former Head of School Dee Gorey reminisced about his time with former student, George, while another former Head of School Jan Hurd spoke of her friendship with Cherri Morgan. How very special to have these and many others present for our two honorees.

After our luncheon, we loaded the Donoho bus for guided tours to see all the changes around the campus. Then we proceeded to the cafetorium for an assembly with students in grades 7 to 12 to hear from our newest Outstanding Alumni. That evening, we hosted an Alumni Tailgate prior to the football game with a catered meal from Jim 'N Nicks, Falcon cheerleader spirit, as well as sounds from the Donoho pep band. We always enjoy having our alumni back on campus!

Congratulations to

2023 Director Emeritus Mrs. Cherri Morgan &

2023 Outstanding Alumnus Mr. George W. Connors, IV '78























2023 OUTSTANDING ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

The Donoho School selects Outstanding Alumni of the Year annually to recognize graduates who have distinguished themselves through achievements since graduating from Donoho. Previous honorees have excelled in business, academia, medicine, and service. Our recipients epitomize the values of our mission, and we are very proud to announce this year's honoree,

2023 Outstanding Alumnus Mr. George W. Connors IV '78.

hile at Donoho, George was very involved. From running track and playing soccer to participating in clubs such as Hi-Y, the Science and French Clubs, National Honor Society, and Mu Alpha Theta, he excelled across campus. His senior year, he was the recipient of the Thespian Award. George graduated from Donoho in 1978 and then from Centre College in 1982 with a B.S. degree in Economics. After college graduation, he moved to Washington, D.C. to pursue graduate studies and begin a career in commercial banking. George continued his studies at George Mason University in Virginia, graduating in 1990 with an MBA in Finance.

George has held a career in the commercial banking industry in the Washington, D.C. area for forty years. In 2019, he was named President and Chief Credit Officer of Trustar Bank, located in Tysons Corner, Virginia, serving the greater D.C. area. He is founding director of Trustar Bank, the largest bank in the U.S., chartered since 2019. He has a very impressive history in his banking career.





Congratulations!



His nominator shared that in addition to George's many accomplishments throughout his career, he is a man of high integrity and high moral fiber. He was said to be the type of person that The Donoho School would be proud to name as Alumni of the Year. George shares that he would not be where he is today if not for the discipline and attention that he received from the Donoho community.

George's advice for our Donho students and family is this, "Make room in your daily schedule to keep up with assignments and test preparations and ask for help when in doubt or stuck with reaching completion. Think of each task, whether homework or making it through an exam, as a building block that propels you forward along the academic journey. To succeed in the environment we face today, you have to work hard, set goals, and arrive at your scholastic achievements that result from an accumulation of these building blocks."

George and his wife of 34 years, Liz, reside in Arlington, Virginia, where they've lived all their married life. They have three adult children: George V in Louisville, Scott Davis in Chicago, and Caroline in Nashville. Two of George's sisters are also proud Donoho graduates: Grazier Connors Rhea '70 and Claire Connors Wharton '72. Please join us in congratulating Mr. George W. Connors IV, Class of 1978, as The Donoho School's 2023 Outstanding Alumnus of the Year.

For George's Full Bio as well as a complete list and bios of all Outstanding Alumni recipients, scan this code.

"Those who carve their own paths have a greater appreciation for the road of life"



DONOHO ALUMNI

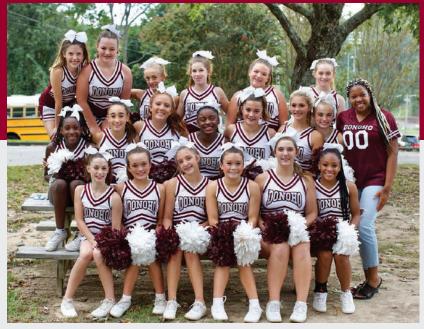


Thank you to our alumni and retired faculty and staff for spending their Friday night with us at the annual alumni tailgate event prior to the football game. We enjoyed a catered meal from Jim 'N Nicks, Falcon cheerleader spirit, as well as sounds from the Donoho pep band. We always love having our alumni back on campus!

REMEMBER ...

Once a Falcon, Always a Falcon!

















#DonohoFalcons





The Donoho School

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

he Donoho Parents' Association (DPA) partners with teachers and staff to enhance the already outstanding activities that our school provides throughout the year. Being a part of the DPA is a wonderful way to meet more parents, get involved with school activities, and gain a better understanding of all that Donoho offers. We have an amazing school with gifted faculty and parents that dedicate their time, effort, and talents.

Fundraising events and DPA-sponsored activities for the 2023-2024 school year are underway, and we have many more to look forward to! Falcon Pride, an entity of the DPA, works directly with the Athletic Director, coaches, and community to enhance our sports programs year-round.

The fundraising efforts of the DPA help support and fund initiatives that enhance the experience at Donoho, such as:

- Funded the Security Resource Officers (SROs) for all campuses in April and May
- In the third year of a 5-year commitment to fund the Air Conditioning in the Lower School gym
- Annual Professional Development
- Senior graduation ad in *The Anniston Star*

SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Donoho Daughter Dance (2/2)
- Lower School Book Fair (2/21-2/28)
- Donoho Spring Auction (3/2)
- Mother/Son Event (4/12)
- Spring Fern-raiser
- Teacher and Faculty Appreciation













CHECK OUT THESE PHOTOS BELOW FROM CASINO NIGHT at the Anniston Country Club Saturday, March 11, 2023.









ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS

Spotlights on the Six Donoho Alumni at UAB's Heersink School of Medicine - Class of 2027



he Donoho School currently has six alumni who are in their first year of Heersink School of Medicine at UAB. We have two other graduates from the Donoho Class of 2018 who are in their second year as well at the UAB HSOM. The Donoho School has had many graduates over the years who have continued their education in medicine and research. We agree this year is especially unique with six graduates going through this experience together. Two of these graduates from the Donoho Class of 2019 were also members of the UAB Early Medical School Acceptance Program (EMSAP), following in the footsteps of Donoho Alumni such as Jason Lott '98, Eric Wallace '98, and Anand Iyer '03. We urge you to Google any of their names to see the greatness that has also come over the years from their drive in medicine.



Anna, Lili, Ameen, Alysse, Bryant, and Lily at their 2023 white coat ceremony.

Alysse Lalonde '16



Alysse earned her degree in Public Health from the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 2020.

How did Donoho prepare you for your career path? I believe Donoho prepared me well for college by sharpening my writing and critical thinking skills.bI believe the reason I've gotten this far in my schooling is because of the support and motivation my science teachers, Ms. Taylor and Mrs. Senter, provided to me in high school. They were the reason I loved science and wanted to follow a career in medicine. They helped me build better study skills and encouraged me to work hard to follow those passions.

What is your favorite Donoho tradition? My favorite tradition was Homecoming every year. I loved the dress up days, homecoming court, senior homecoming parade, and even the homecoming dance!

Have you decided what you are specializing in and what are your future plans/goals? I am still undecided. After I finish my formal training and become a physician, I want to take some of my work outside the clinic and work on public initiatives to improve health outcomes in my community.

Any advice you would give current Donoho students? Take advantage of the resources you get from Donoho to your best ability. You have such a great community built where everyone there wants you to thrive and succeed. That community can help you become the most genuine version of yourself if you take the opportunities available. Join the team, take the art class, complete the volunteering, get to know the teachers better, and take in every experience you can - while you can!

Ameen Salame '17



Ameen earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Biomedical Science from the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 2021.

Ameen is pictured above at graduation with his brother Adam '25.

How did Donoho prepare you for your career path? Donoho helped me by fostering a mindset of hard work and raising the expectations I set for myself. In a lot of high schools especially outside of metro areas, people who plan to further their education through college/graduate school can be few and far between. A mindset of being a lifelong learner can be hard to maintain in such an environment. The faculty/parents/students at Donoho set the bar high and the rates of students who go on to attain higher education reflect this expectation. The benefits of maintaining early friendships also cannot be overstated, both inside and outside my career. I consider myself fortunate to have made the friendships I did during my time at Donoho and still maintain close communication with many of them.

Any advice you would give current Donoho students? Learning to find time for hobbies with growing lists of obligations is a struggle everyone discovers when college hits. Then post-grad hits and it's even harder to balance. It can truly be a trying time for more people than you'd expect, but it's a necessary part of life because you'll learn what's important to yourself and be stronger for it. Listen to the adults telling you that time speeds up. They're right. It's weird but everyone notices it. Cherish your free time and spend it with your loved ones/friends, you'll be glad you did.

Right: UAB Heersink School of Medicine orientation

Lili Kaplan'17



Lili earned her Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Alabama in 2021.

How did Donoho prepare you for your career path? Probably one of the most important things Donoho did to prepare me was teaching me how to study. This was not explicitly taught in a specific class but throughout the years/curriculums was something learned, and it has been instrumental in my academic achievements thus far.

What is your favorite Donoho tradition? Senior lounge was such a fun space and gave me so many great memories. Another favorite was the Pitch. I still remember being in 5th grade looking forward to watching it every week.

Have you decided what you are specializing in and what are your future plans/goals? I am still undecided, but I do plan to stay within Alabama and provide healthcare to underserved areas.

Any advice you would give current Donoho students? You don't need to have all the answers right now. At this point in your life it isn't about knowing exactly what you want to do, instead it's about trying different things and learning what interests you. You shouldn't let the fear of failure or hardship stop you from trying. You grow the most in times of discomfort. Try not to shy away and start learning to embrace it!





Lily Wiedmer '18

Lily earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology with a minor in Food and Nutrition from the University of Alabama in 2022. She then earned a Master of Science degree in Rural Community Health in 2023 from the University of Alabama.

How did Donoho prepare you for your career path? Donoho really instilled within

me great study habits that I carried over into both college and medical school. Particularly, I believe that Donoho has an incredibly strong science department. Mrs. Senter and Ms. Taylor were always so approachable but also taught their respective subjects with firm confidence and knowledge. I still remember drawing and labeling the whole skeleton in Ms. Taylor's physiology class in tenth grade, and I have reread Genetic Rounds multiple times since reading it for summer reading. In regards to Mrs. Senter's chemistry and physics classes, I often referred back to both my chemistry and physics notebooks from her classes throughout my college experiences if needed further clarification on a topic.

Other than the sciences, Donoho also gave me ample opportunities to be involved in different clubs, organizations, sports, the arts, and volunteer programs that allowed me to see what I really liked to do. I loved the Golden Springs Tutoring Program. When I arrived at college, I found Al's Pals, which is a tutoring program between Tuscaloosa elementary schools and college students, just like Donoho's! In addition, Donoho's on campus offerings of piano lessons has been a topic of discussion in all my interviews and applications. I talked about it in one of my medical school admission essays, and my interviewer even brought it up during my medical school interview with UAB! Soccer, of course, was my greatest source of joy in high school. I just loved it. While I do not get to play it that much anymore, I joined an intramural soccer club during my freshman and sophomore years of college. Without all of these opportunities, I probably would not have had the confidence to undertake them in college and in medical school!

Have you decided what you are specializing in and what are your future plans/goals

While learning as much as I can right now is the goal in my modules, sometimes I love to think later down the road and picture myself in different phases, positions, and jobs. It keeps me going on days where the constant studying seems to get the best of me. I would love to get involved in research during medical school. I am not sure what specifically I would like to research, but it is definitely on the agenda!

In my future career, no matter what I practice or where I practice, I hope to one day be someone who my patients can confide in without harnessing the fear of being judged, ridiculed, or mocked. It is only in this way I believe that strong, open, and compassionate physician-patient relationships can be established so that I as the physician can help my patience reach their maximum health.



Anna Ulrey'19

Anna earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy with a concentration in Ethics at the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 2023.

How did Donoho prepare you for your career path? The most noticeable way that Donoho

prepared me has been in terms of my way of thinking and communication. Learning how to efficiently problem-solve is hard enough, but it's even more difficult to effectively communicate these thoughts. I think both skills are necessary in any career, but you're especially hampered if you can't think and communicate as a healthcare provider. I've considered my strong background in written communication at Donoho a major advantage through college and now during medical school.

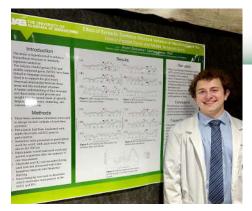
What is your favorite Donoho tradition?

My favorite tradition is probably the senior-kindergarten program. I loved all of the events with the kindergarteners as a senior, and I think it gives such sweet memories to both the seniors and the kindergarteners. I still remember hanging out with my senior buddy as a kindergartener at Donoho, and becoming a senior buddy myself was one of my favorite experiences that year.

Have you decided what you are specializing in and what are your future plans/goals?

I plan to specialize in both maternal-fetal medicine and genetics. I've always been interested in a career in ObGyn, but I've also explored genetics/palliative care for some time now (actually, since reading Bob Marion's *Genetic Rounds* in Ms. Anna Taylor's class early in high school). Anna and Bob have both been influential in my career path, and I've enjoyed keeping up with them over the years since then. I also plan to remain active in the narrative medical and ethics fields.

Any advice you would give current Donoho students and families? Take time to explore different passions now so that you can more deeply engage them later on. You should definitely continue to try new things as you grow through college and beyond, but you have abundant opportunities to try different things during your time at Donoho---take advantage of those!



How did Donoho prepare you for your career path? I remember many of my teachers mixing in

Bryant Barrentine '19

Bryant earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Neuroscience as well as a Bachelor of Arts degree in Computer Science from the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 2023.

second-order questions with standard knowledge assessment questions on tests. Based on how prevalent these questions have been during my life in undergrad and in medical school, I think gaining experience with them early has been very helpful.

What is your favorite Donoho tradition? I miss being able to go to the senior lounge between classes to play Guitar Hero and hang out with friends.

Have you decided what you are specializing in and what are your future plans/goals? I'm not

super set on any specialty just yet, but I have really enjoyed the time I've spent shadowing neurology and working in neurosurgery. For the future, I hope to continue to be able to work in research as well as practice medicine.

Any advice you would give current Donoho students? Try to enjoy the moment as much as you can. Grades are important, but nurturing your interests in other areas can really make a difference when you find yourself having much more free time after high school.

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If you have questions, please contact Alyson Mims at 256-237-5477, option 8 or alyson.mims@donohoschool.com.

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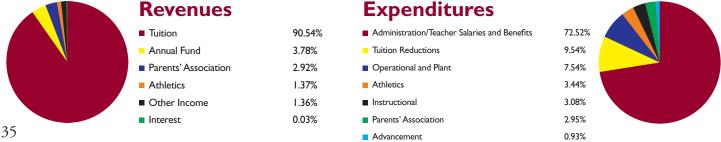
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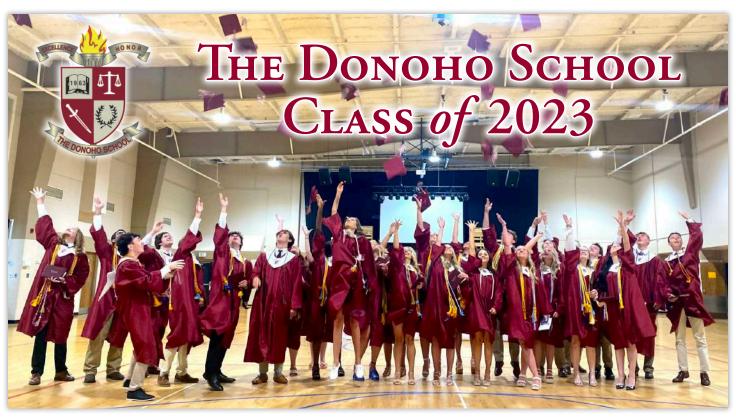
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The Donoho School Class of 2023 was accepted to colleges and universities across the country with 93% of the class accepting merit-based scholarships. The students accepted a total of 62 scholarships from their attending schools and scholarship organizations with 71% receiving half to full tuition.







Congratulations to our Graduates!

Campus Greetings from these Young Alumni



Maggie Miller '2 I Auburn University Auburn, AL

Maggie is majoring in Professional Flight with a tentative graduation date of Spring 2025. She passed her private pilot check ride in January then started training for her instrument rating at Auburn in the Spring. Over the past two years she has been a part of the Auburn 99s which is an all female pilot organization, the War Eagle Flying Team, and a member of the Alpha Omicron Pi sorority. In her downtime, she loves cooking or flying with her friends.

Future Plans / Career Goals: Once I graduate, I hope to get my flight instructor rating to teach flight students and build flight hours to apply to a regional airline. My end goal is to fly for a major airline.

Advice for Current Donoho Students:

I would say to be flexible and open minded. I started at Auburn as a business student and quickly realized that was not the path I wanted to follow.



Maggie after her very first flight at Auburn



Right: Maggie Miller '21 and John Larkin Perry '23 at Auburn University -Professional Flight School

John Larkin Perry '23 Auburn University Auburn, AL

John is majoring in Professional Flight within the College of Liberal Arts at Auburn. He sees becoming a pilot as a challenge to himself, an opportunity to face a great fear and overcome it. He's always admired the professionalism, skill, and responsibility of pilots. His hope is that by committing to such



Flying high with John

a high standard of excellence and performance, he can improve not only his skills and life experience, but most importantly the strength of his character. John wants to be the best at whatever he does, and piloting seemed like a hard enough challenge to take up. He is currently involved in the Wrestling Club as well as ACF (Auburn Christian Fellowship). Most of his time is usually spent studying...but when he does have free time he's either lifting weights at the REC Center or hanging out with friends.

Future Plans / Career Goals: My plans are to enlist in the Air National Guard this summer, go through basic training, and continue at Auburn University for all four years of my college education. I want to graduate and fly as a tanker pilot in the Air National Guard and after three years in service, pursue a job in commercial aviation.

Advice for Current Donoho Students: I often refer back to Proverbs 3:5-6. A wonderful verse in an even more wonderful book of the Bible. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths." Other words of advice from my own lips are to keep your priorities straight. Even make a list if you have to and hold to it strictly. If you have schoolwork to do but a new football season just started and your favorite team is playing, refer back to that list of priorities and honestly ask yourself what is most important.



At the Security Council in the United Nations Headquarters in NYC

Sailor Miao '20 College of William & Mary Williamsburg, VA

Sailor is double majoring in Government and Hispanic Studies with graduation set for Spring 2024. Over the summer, Sailor completed an internship with the United Nations Development Programme in New York City. He worked as a data and communications fellow in the Crisis Bureau. This year, he is the Vice President of Omicron Delta Kappa National Honor Society. He also recently competed in the Nuclear Threat Initiative's Biosecurity Competition with two friends from the College, and their paper was selected as one of the finalists. Sailor is the recipient of the McGlennon Scholarship, awarded annually to only three students in the Government Department. The scholarship supports an independent study project focused on Chinese diplomacy with Solomon Islands, as well as crisis prevention and climate change in other Pacific countries.

Future Plans / Career Goals: I will take a couple of gap years off after graduation. I plan to study for the LSAT and go to law school in the U.S. Specifically, I want to study international law and join an international organization such as the United Nations in the future.

Advice for Current Donoho Students: I would say that it's so important to choose your passion over "practical" majors. While many STEM majors are profitable and esteemed, social sciences are typically overlooked. Hence, if you like social sciences such as political science, do take these classes in college. Understanding our complex world will make us better citizens.

December A Month of Giving to Donoho

As we continue our mission in *Celebrating* 60 Years of Excellence, gifts to the Annual Fund allow us to hire the best teachers, add new classes, and provide the whole-child education that we feel is so valuable and crucial to our mission. We ask that you remember The Donoho School in your year-end giving as Annual Fund gifts are essential to our continued growth.

Our December Giving events are our way of saying "thank you" for your continued support, and we hope you will join us at one of our events to celebrate the joys of the season and the spirit of giving!

Tuesday, December 5 -

STUDENT APPRECIATION

Donuts at break for all students and staff

Wednesday, December 6 -

PARENT & DONOR APPRECIATION Gifts at drop-off and in school lobbies until 2:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 7 -

HOLIDAY RECEPTION

5:30 p.m. - First United Methodist Church breezeway

WINTER ARTS GALA

7:00 p.m. - First United Methodist Church sanctuary





Celebrating 60 Years of Excellence

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Mission Statement:

The Donoho School empowers me to live with honor, engage my passion, act with humility, and delight in wisdom.









Notice to Alumni Parents:

If this is addressed to your child who no longer maintains a permanent residence at home, kindly notify the alumni office at alumni@donohoschool.com of the new mailing address.

If your child has made a recent move, they may not be receiving information from the school. Scan the QR Code to update contact information or it can also be submitted at: donohoschool.com/alumni/alumni-info-update

