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A Newsletter from Bishop John T. Walker School for Boys

FALL | 2019

EDUCATION IS THE DOOR TO OPPORTUNITY

BISHOPWALKERSCHOOL.ORG

ADMIN NEWS

BWS Announces New Head of School: Michael Molina

Dear Bishop Walker School Community,

It is my great pleasure to announce that the Governing Board of the Bishop John T. Walker School for Boys has enthusiastically selected **Mr. Michael Molina** as Head of School, effective July 1, 2020.

Mike succeeds our Executive Director and President, James Woody, who will retire June 30, 2020, after skillfully leading the BWS community since our school's inception. James and his team have been working closely with Mike to ensure a seamless transition of leadership this summer.

During the search process, Mike impressed us with his vision for promoting a strong academic program at BWS; developing each boy's academic, emotional, and spiritual strengths; and supporting continued excellence in teaching and learning. Currently, Mike is the founding director of the Finney-Greene Program, which supports boys from underrepresented communities at Gilman School—a pre-K through 12th grade independent day school for boys in Baltimore. He is a sought-after consultant for independent schools throughout Maryland, crafting culturally responsive K-12 curriculae. Mike

offers a broad spectrum of experience in independent school leadership, with over a decade of experience as an educator, curriculum developer, and innovator in youth development nonprofits.

Mike holds a J.D. from Yale Law School and a B.A. in English from Xavier University of Louisiana. Through his wide-ranging professional experiences, he recognizes the potential in every child, adult, and community he works with. He has advocated for investment in youth development in California; designed a program for displaced youth from his native New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina; launched a groundbreaking charter school; and directed educational programs for refugees. He shares that he is "deeply moved by the shared purpose, community, and optimism of teachers, students, parents, and board members of BWS," and he looks forward to building upon our "strong foundation, so that students and faculty can continue to demonstrate excellence that will attract and sustain the support of those who care deeply about the school's mission."



Please welcome Mike, his wife Jessy, and two children, Maya and Miles, to the Bishop Walker School and to Washington, DC. We are delighted that they are joining the BWS family.

Peter M. Lee
Chair, Bishop John T. Walker School for Boys
Governing Board





What a Day!

This October, the entire BWS student body traveled to NW Washington, DC for an afternoon field trip of learning and celebration. The field trip began at the **National Zoo**, where our scholars were able to learn about pandas, elephants, bison, kudu, condors, and more. After a long and fun afternoon at the zoo, the boys and their teachers traveled to **Washington National Cathedral** and had a bagged supper on the front lawn of the Cathedral. Afterwards, the entire BWS Village—parents, supporters, and all—gathered inside the Cathedral to celebrate the school's annual **Service of Evening Prayer**.



Washington Winter Show

FRIDAY-SUNDAY, JANUARY 10-12, 2020
Preview Night takes place Thursday, January 9
Katzen Arts Center, American University

A portion of the weekend's proceeds benefits the boys of the Bishop Walker School

1/10-
1/12

Absalom Jones Service

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 9, 2020, 4 PM
St. Andrews Episcopal Church, College Park

The offering benefits the boys of the Bishop Walker School

2/9

Annual Dinner

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2020, 6 PM
Washington National Cathedral

For ticketing and sponsorship information, please visit bishopwalkerschool.org/annual-dinner

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SUPPORT BWS BY SHOPPING THROUGH AMAZON SMILE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

We are excited to announce that you can now support the Bishop Walker School every time you shop at Amazon by participating in AmazonSmile. Register for AmazonSmile at smile.amazon.com and select the Bishop Walker School for Boys, or visit bishopwalkerschool.org/amazonsmile. Once registered, 0.5% of all your purchases made through smile.amazon.com will be donated directly to BWS. You will still find the same low prices and convenient shopping. All purchases must be made through smile.amazon.com, so please add it to your bookmarked

sites. Thank you for your continued support of our students by participating in AmazonSmile!





Celebrating the Arts on “Mr. Woody Day”

In September, BWS celebrated “**Mr. Woody Day**,” honoring Mr. James Woody’s birthday during his final year at BWS. The day was all about the arts: The boys began with a **poetry class** led by Father Tim Malone, where they learned about and wrote different types of poems. The day continued with **drip painting** with Father Tim’s wife, Leslie, and son, Ian, as well as **watercolor classes**. After lunch, Mrs. Stephanie Folarin hosted an art showcase in the library; Mr. Brian Harris shared a video of his dance troupe; 4th grader, Noah, sang a song; Mr. Gary Jared played his guitar; and Ms. Ariella Bennett led the entire school in a dance lesson to The Wobble. The day concluded with a **dance party**, DJ-ed by the 4th grade’s own DJ Fire. And, of course, there was birthday cake. Thank you to everyone who helped make Mr. Woody Day possible!



African Drum Class

This Fall, our scholars are taking music classes taught by an instructor from **Levine Music**, one of our partners on THEARC campus. Here, 3rd grade scholars are learning traditional African drumming from their instructor, Mr. John.



SPORTS



BWS Enhances Movement Lessons with New Partnerships

These two Bishop Walker School scholars are taking a break during their weekly movement class that is taught by WINNERS Lacrosse. This year, our 2nd-5th graders will each spend at least one trimester in a class taught by one of our new movement partners: **WINNERS Lacrosse**, **Washington Nationals Youth Baseball Academy**, **Swim Up**, and **Washington Ballet**.



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SCHOOL FOR BOYS



SCIENCE LAB/IN THE GARDEN

IN THE GARDEN & KITCHEN

Ms. Lynne Hines-Bogle's Garden-Art classes are off to a strong start this year! First trimester began with the boys spreading mulch from THEARC Farm's compost heap into the dedicated BWS planting beds. With Ms. Bogle's help, our 3rd-5th grade scholars planted a variety of vegetables and herbs, including garlic, onions, kale, collards, Swiss chard, and more. After watching their plants grow in the garden throughout the end of summer and into fall, Ms. Bogle brought the 5th grade inside for a cooking lesson of "Must-Go," a dish made from ingredients found in the refrigerator and pantry that "must go" into some kind of dish before they spoil. This dish included some of the vegetables that the boys grew outside in the garden. As fall turns into winter, Ms. Bogle will focus more on the art aspect of Garden-Art classes with an introduction to weaving.



Would you like to visit the Bishop Walker School and see our scholars in action? Please visit bishopwalkerchool.org/tourdates to learn more!
For more pictures like these, and to read more stories about the Bishop Walker School and its programs, please visit www.bishopwalkerschool.org.

