



## **"Reach for the Stars" Capital Campaign**

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# **"REACH FOR THE STARS" CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

**OVERVIEW:** The Lamar High School Alumni Association is seeking to raise \$3 million to renovate, repair, construct, and improve its 70 year old facilities. The facility in greatest need of improvement is the school Auditorium at a cost of \$1.27 million. The Auditorium is no longer functional or adequate to accommodate the school's outstanding performing arts program, where stars like Tommy Tune, Jaclyn Smith, Paula Prentiss, and Robert Foxworth got their start. The remaining \$1.73 million will address areas of building refurbishment, the creation of a Horticulture Center, security fencing, landscaping, signage, membership development, and an endowment to provide scholarships and future improvements.

**HISTORY:** Built in 1936, Lamar High School (Lamar HS) was named for the second President of the Republic of Texas, Mirabeau B. Lamar. What began with an enrollment of 1,341 students and a teaching staff of 58 in 1937, is now educating over 3,400 students per year in grades 9 – 12, with over 175 faculty members. Through the decades, Lamar HS has maintained a high academic standard, living up to its motto "Reach for the Stars," which was adopted from the Lamar Family crest.

Our "Star" graduates have gone on to become leading citizens in Houston and across the nation: a governor, lieutenant governor, mayor, congressman, senator, port commissioner, Nobel prize winner, city attorney, several district attorneys, federal judges, actors, directors, artists, financiers, professional sport figures, distinguished professionals, and many community leaders. Lamar HS has always encouraged its students to see their opportunities for success and embrace them – thereby helping them to "Reach for the Stars."

## **ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS**

Lamar boasts a 75% college attendance rate. Graduates have attended all major U.S. universities including Stanford, Princeton, Yale, Harvard, Notre Dame, University of Virginia, University of Texas, Texas A&M, U.S. military academies, and many others across the U.S. Lamar students average 1079 on their SATs, exceeding all three averages, including the national average of 1026, the Texas average of 993, and the overall Houston ISD average of 942. Last year, Lamar seniors received more than \$8 million in scholarships to attend college.

## **INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM**

Lamar has the largest International Baccalaureate Program in North America. Headquartered in Switzerland and available in only 700 schools in the world, this program presents a rigorous, intensive four-year academic honors curriculum that offers a pre-university course of study. Students fulfill course requirements that prepare them for international examinations at the end of their junior and senior years. Students successfully passing their exams, graded by international

educators, can achieve between 15-45 hours of college credit toward their college career. *As a result, some students can complete college within 3 years.*

**LAMAR MAGNET BUSINESS PROGRAM**

This program draws students from all over the city to compete for the 250 annual available slots. This innovative college preparatory course of study prepares students who want to pursue a career in business administration. It complements existing curricula while offering specialty business courses. The Houston business community is an active partner sponsoring business internships and college scholarships for seniors.

**AUDITORIUM RENOVATION**

The Auditorium in which acclaimed individuals such as Tommy Tune, Jaclyn Smith, Paula Prentiss, and Robert Foxworth got their start is no longer functional, keeping future star students from having an adequate place in which to perform the arts of theater, dance, choir, and orchestra. These future stars of Broadway and film have to rent space in other venues to demonstrate their talents.

The structure of the Auditorium is sound and is in good condition, but it is the interior and equipment that fails to meet today’s performance requirements. HISD recently spent \$300,000 for auditorium improvements, whereby the roof was repaired, the interior was repainted, the control booth was rebuilt and the electrical system was rewired. However, there are no additional funds available for capital improvements. For Lamar HS to continue maintaining its history of excellence in the fine arts area, these improvements are essential. Included in this need are large ticket items such as sound and lighting systems, seating, stage, and interior renovations.



Conceptual View of the Renovated Auditorium



Fountain and Reflection Pool

**Auditorium Renovation:**

- Stage and House Lighting** **\$127,000**

  - Supplement stage and house/lobby lighting with more fixtures and wiring
  - Install new electrical panel on stage to serve all fixtures
- Sound System & Room Acoustics** **\$142,000**

  - Add speakers to bring the system up to current musical and theatrical standards
  - Add acoustical panels to improve sound distribution

<b>✿ Theater Seating</b>	<b>\$480,000</b>
✿✿✿ Remove wooden seats and replace with comfortable theater seating for 1,000	
✿✿✿ Repair flooring, carpet aisles, and install aisle lighting at row end seats	
<b>✿ Stage Curtain and Stage Floor</b>	<b>\$126,000</b>
✿✿✿ Install new fireproof stage curtain and operating mechanism	
✿✿✿ Repair stage floor and add composition floor overlay for dance presentations	
<b>✿ Interior Improvements</b>	<b>\$292,000</b>
✿✿✿ Close off theater space from balcony to the lobby and re-finish doors and hardware	
✿✿✿ Renovate and modernize public restrooms with accessibility for those with disabilities	
✿✿✿ Create donor recognition wall	
<b>✿ Landscaping</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>
✿✿✿ Enhance the exterior appearance with greenery, stonework, pavers, lighting, benches, a fountain and additional donor recognition area	
<b>Subtotal-Auditorium .....</b>	<b>\$1,267,000</b>

**AUDITORIUM IMPROVEMENTS AND BENEFITS:**

Lamar High School has more students in theater, dance, choir, and orchestra than many of the surrounding area high schools, including HSPVA. The performing arts program has truly provided the foundation for many students throughout its history giving them confidence to become the stars they were meant to be.

Upon the auditorium’s completion, Lamar High School students will once again have a place to present and demonstrate their aspiring talents, instilling a feeling of pride that comes from having a first class space in which to perform and assemble.



**ADDITIONAL NEEDS:**

<b>✿ Courtyard</b>	<b>\$140,000</b>
✿✿✿ Enhance the outside gathering area on south side of campus with landscaping, irrigation, and outdoor furniture for student use during lunch.	
<b>✿ Levy Park</b>	<b>\$150,000</b>
✿✿✿ Redesign/rebuild playing fields for the women’s & after-school athletic programs	
<b>✿ Horticulture Center</b>	<b>\$400,000</b>
✿✿✿ Build and equip a learning center for the science programs.	
<b>✿ Signage</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>
✿✿✿ Purchase electronic signs to display school information on Westheimer & Alabama	
<b>✿ Building Refurbishment</b>	<b>\$90,000</b>
✿✿✿ Clean and seal the outside limestone and brick of the building	

- ✿ **Fence** **\$200,000**  
✿✿✿ Build an attractive fence on the east, west, and south sides of the campus for safety and security. There are currently over 30 open entrance areas to the school that need to be addressed for safety/security.
- ✿ **Membership Development Project** **\$150,000**  
✿✿✿ Lamar HS Alumni Association is a new and growing nonprofit organization that needs help developing, maintaining, recruiting, and retaining its members. Funds are being asked over 3 years (\$50,000 per year).
- ✿ **Endowment** **\$500,000**  
✿✿✿ To establish a dedicated fund (overseen by the Lamar HS Alumni Association, LHSA) whose earnings will be used at the discretion of the LHSA for the betterment of Lamar HS and its students. Priority items are student scholarships and future improvements.

**Subtotal-Additional Needs** ..... **\$1,730,000**

**TOTAL CAPITAL CAMPAIGN BUDGET** ..... **\$2,997,000**

**AUDITORIUM NAMED GIFT OPPORTUNITIES**

<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Auditorium ( <b>reserved</b> )	\$1,000,000	<span style="color: green;">✿</span> E-Message Board (total)	\$125,000
<span style="color: green;">✿</span> First Floor	\$200,000	<i>Westheimer (\$75,000) and W. Alabama (\$50,000)</i>	
<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Balcony	\$150,000	<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Main Lobby	\$100,000
<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Stage	\$250,000	<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Cafeteria/Event Center	\$100,000
<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Foyer	\$100,000	<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Main Office	\$50,000
<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Theater Seating	\$560,250	<span style="color: green;">✿</span> College Corner	\$50,000
<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Rows 1-11 (309 seats - \$1,000 each)		<span style="color: green;">✿</span> JROTC Center	\$50,000
<b>91 seats reserved @ \$1,000</b>		<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Orchestra Room	\$50,000
<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Rows 12-20 (271 seats - \$500 each)		<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Choir Room	\$50,000
<b>2 seats reserved @ \$500</b>		<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Broadcast Journalism Studio	\$50,000
<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Balcony (463 seats - \$250 each)		<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Dance Studio	\$30,000
<b>6 seats reserved @ \$250</b>		<span style="color: green;">✿</span> FFA Classroom	\$30,000
<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Auditorium Mall/Gardens	\$150,000	<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Furniture Shop	\$30,000
<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Auditorium Fountain	\$150,000	<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Parents' Office	\$35,000

**ADDITIONAL NAMED GIFT OPPORTUNITIES**

<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Horticulture Center	\$400,000	<span style="color: green;">✿</span> 3 Art Classrooms (\$25,000 each)	\$75,000
<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Amphitheater	\$300,000	<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Registrar's Office ( <b>reserved</b> )	\$25,000
<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Amphitheater Lobby	\$20,000	<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Piano Lab	\$25,000
<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Ticket Office	\$10,000	<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Teacher's Lounge	\$25,000
<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Campus Fencing	\$200,000	<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Business Magnet Office	\$20,000
<span style="color: green;">✿</span> 2 Front Gates (\$30,000 each)	\$60,000	<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Nurse's Station	\$15,000
<span style="color: green;">✿</span> South Gate Entrance	\$15,000	<span style="color: green;">✿</span> 8 Counselors' Offices (\$10,000 ea)	\$80,000
<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Library	\$250,000	<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Endowment	\$500,000
<span style="color: green;">✿</span> South Courtyard	\$150,000	<span style="color: green;">✿</span> 9 Science Labs (\$25,000 each)	\$225,000
<span style="color: green;">✿</span> Grand Plaza ( <b>reserved</b> )	\$100,000	<span style="color: green;">✿</span> 7 Computer Labs (\$25,000 each)	\$175,000

**(2 Science Labs and 1 Computer Lab reserved)**