

# GreatHearts

## Irving

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CLASSICAL EDUCATION. REVOLUTIONARY SCHOOLS.



Did you know that the Texas Legislature meets once every two years to make important decisions that affect our state, including public education? And are you aware that YOUR voice as a Texas citizen and a parent in a public charter school is influential? The Texas Legislature will convene again in January 2019 thru May

2019 at the Texas Capitol, and Great Hearts parents have an opportunity to let your support for public charter school education be known to your elected officials.

As a founding family of Great Hearts Monte Vista and a parent of three students (grades 2, 5 and 8), I became involved in parent advocacy during the 2017 legislative session. Since then, helping other parents advocate to their elected officials has become a personal passion! I realized that many elected officials don't know that charter schools are indeed public schools and worthy of the same public resources! I've learned the basics about how to advocate - how reach out to my State Representative and State Senator, how to write a persuasive letter or make a phone call to their staff to share my family's story and ask them to support equitable funding for public charter school students, and how to invite them to my school campus for a tour. And I am seeking to recruit a large coalition of other Great Hearts Texas parents to share your stories with your elected officials and ask them to support policies that benefit our public charter school children. Will you join me? Please email me at [adanary.advocates@gmail.com](mailto:adanary.advocates@gmail.com) to share your interest and I will respond with advocacy training opportunities and ways to engage your elected officials. With your help, we can be a powerful parent voice for public education options!

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Open Enrollment for the 2019-2020 school year is November 1 through November 30. Visit [GreatHeartsAmerica.org/Enroll](http://GreatHeartsAmerica.org/Enroll) to apply!

Current GHI parents - you do not need to re-apply for your currently enrolled GHI students at this time -- re-enrollment will take place in the spring. All students new to GHI in the 2019-2020 school year, including rising Kindergartners and other

siblings not attending GHI, need to apply during Open Enrollment. Please share this information with friends interested in attending GHI!

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## Upcoming Events to Remember

- November 5th - 7th Grandparents Week
- Thursday, November 8th - 7:00pm - 8:00pm - Upper School Evening with the Classics
- Saturday, November 10th from 1:00pm to 4:00pm - Fall Festival
- Friday, November 16th, - Coffee with the Headmaster for 1st and 6th Grade parents. Please see below for details.
- Wednesday, November 28th - Window into Wonder Tour



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## Fall Festival

Great Hearts Fall Festival is **this Saturday, November 10th from 1:00pm - 4:00pm here on campus!** We look forward to sharing this day of fun with our scholars and their families.



Children (and adults!) are welcome to come dressed as their favorite literary character; it can be from one of the Classics to Keep titles or other selections such as a classroom read-aloud book, a book from a classroom library, or a book or work studied or referenced in the curriculum. If you have a question about a costume, please let Eva Klassen know and she will get you an answer!

There will be a Photo Booth, Games and Activities Booths, Bingo, Face Painting, Cupcake Walk, Inflatables, Concessions, Music and Dancing, and more! Information on the games and booths being offered can be found [here](#).

Admission will be paid upon entering the event or by clicking [here](#). Cost is \$5/person with a \$25 family maximum (children 2 and under are free). Admission includes most games, activities and events. Concessions and any paid activities can be purchased separately. All proceeds will go to the PSO operating budget which supports teacher appreciation activities and hospitality at school events.

If you are interested in helping, please email Eva Klassen at

## PSO Information

### Upcoming dates:

- November 10th from 1:00pm - 4:00pm - Fall Festival

Fall Festival tickets are on sale now! Click [here](#) to learn more about all the fun activities that we will be hosting and to sign up for games and booths. We hope to see you all there on Saturday!

As always, feel free to email PSO anytime at [psa@greatheartsirving.org](mailto:psa@greatheartsirving.org).

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## Lower School Clubs

Lower School Parents,

## STUDENT CLUBS

Lower School clubs are now open for registration. Please take a look at the selection below and sign up your scholars for a fun and educational after school experience!

### Horticulture Society

Open to grades 1-5. Horticulture Club will meet Wednesdays. The organizing teachers work together with club members to care for, observe and cultivate plants on campus and within the building. This can include special lessons about insects observed on plants, soil and general plant care. Students can water, tend and observe the GHI grade level garden beds. Maximum enrollment 15 students. Dues are \$15 per student.

### Archery

Open to grades 3-5 Archery Club is an on-campus outdoor archery range will be set up in the far corner of the parking lot. Students will learn archery safety and mechanics and practice target shooting. Maximum enrollment 15 students. Dues are \$100 per student. **DATES AND TIMES TBD**

### Arts and Crafts

Arts and Crafts Club will be open to grades 3-5 and will meet on Thursdays. Organizing teachers plan month by month craft skills to learn and practice such as sculpting, origami, cross stitch, knitting and decoupage. Dues help buy materials. Dues are \$45 per student.

### Fitness and Conditioning Club

Fitness and Conditioning Club is open to grades 3-5 and will meet on Thursdays. Students gather with organizing teachers after school to learn and practice body weight conditioning exercises and play outdoor games. Dues are \$20 per student.

### Math Olympics

Math Olympics club is open to grades 1 - 2. Students practice math skills with math crafts and games once weekly. Not a substitute for tutoring, but enrichment and fun!

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## **Coffee with the Headmaster**

Dear 1st and 6th Grade Parents,



We hope that you will join us for Coffee with the Headmaster. There isn't a specific agenda for this event- more than anything else, it is an opportunity for us to connect about whatever is most important from your perspective. We feel deeply fortunate to enjoy the community around Great Hearts Irving, and hope that you can join your fellow parents Friday 11/16 at 8:00 AM. The 1st Grade parents will meet with Ms. Perkins, and the 6th Grade parents will meet with Mr. Althage. You're welcome to drop by for a cup of coffee and leave, or join us for a lengthier discussion as your schedules permit.

Warm regards,

Tami Perkins - Headmaster, Lower School

Philip Althage - Headmaster, Upper School

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## **Help Market GHI - Get a Yard Sign!**

Did you know? 60% of new GH families heard about Great Hearts from one of you! With that in mind, would you be willing to place a marketing sign in the yard of your residence or business from November 1 - November 30? The yard signs will be available for pickup at the front desk beginning October 29 - November 2. We would like the signs to be placed in various neighborhoods and where there is high visibility. The limited quantity of signs will be available on a first come, first served basis. We ask that you please return the yard signs to the school during the first week of December, so we can reuse them for future enrollment events. For a glimpse at what the sign will look like, click [here!](#)

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## **Upper School Evening with the Classics**

Upper School parents:

Please join us on campus from 7:00-8:00pm on 11/8 for an *Evening with the Classics*. The discussion will center on the theme of **Student Culture: Peace and Joy**. You'll hear about the environment we strive to cultivate in the classroom, the ways we have for students to engage with each other, and some of the means that parents can employ to help strengthen this culture. This event is not designed for student attendance, so please coordinate childcare accordingly.

## Window into Wonder Tour

Mr. Althage and Mrs. Perkins will host a Window Into Wonder Tour. This is a great opportunity to get a glimpse into the sense of wonder our scholars experience each day in our classrooms.



Our next tours will be hosted on Wednesday, **November 28th**.

**Upper School** tour will be hosted from **1:20 - 2:00pm** sign up [here](#).

**Lower School** tour will be hosted from **2:00pm - 2:40pm** sign up [here](#).

Parents are welcome to attend both tours. If you would like to be apart of both, we ask that you please RSVP for each event. Thank you.

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## Great Hearts Athletics

Congratulations to our Volleyball athletes for their historic performances last week! Previously our teams have not made it past the quarter final round of the playoffs. Our Middle School A Volleyball team made it to the regional semi-finals with victories in the round of 16 and quarter finals. Our High School team made it to the regional finals and were this year's runners up in the JV division! Congratulations to all Vollyeyball athletes!



Our Rugby boys also wrapped up their season with final matches on Saturday against Timber Creek and Cristo Rey. Congratulations to the boys for a great season!

### **Upcoming events:**

#### **Basketball try-outs**

Middle and High School Basketball Season begins November 5th. Try-Outs for all are November 5th and 6th at Drive Nation Athletic Facility. Athletes must go to both days of try-outs to be considered for a team. Athletes must have all athletic forms up to date before they can try-out for Basketball. More information on Athlete Registration Process can be found [here](#).

**Middle School practices** are **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday** from 4-5:30.

**High School practices** are **Monday through Thursday** from 4-5:30. All practices are at Drive Nation Athletic Facility

**Drive Nation:**

**2550 Rental Car Dr, Dallas, TX 75261**

### **High School Soccer Interest Meeting**

For any High School athletes interested in playing Soccer this Spring, there will be an interest meeting on Wednesday, November 14th during Lyceum.

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### **Athenaeum Sneak Peek**

Dear Great Hearts Families,

We are excited to announce that we are going to offer a "Sneak Peek" of Athenaeum Monday and Tuesday, November 12th and 13th. These two days will be free of charge but do require registration. Space is limited and is on a first come, first serve basis.



If you are interested having your child(ren) participate in this Sneak Peek day for Athenaeum, you will need to contact Lindsey Diaz-Gonzalez at [Programs@GreatHeartsTX.org](mailto:Programs@GreatHeartsTX.org) to obtain a registration packet. You will then return it to her upon completion.

We are looking forward to this!

3350 W. Story Rd., Irving, TX 75038 | 469-759-3030 | [greatheart Irving.org](http://greatheart Irving.org)

