



2020-2021 ANNUAL REPORT



BRIDGE PANTHERS TEXAS DIVISION 3 CHAMPIONS





**BRIDGE EAGLES
TEXAS CLASS D STATE CHAMPIONS**



**Our mission is to use the
sport of lacrosse to
broaden the horizons of
our community's youth.**



Reflecting on the last 12 months, I think about the full spectrum of challenges and accomplishments that took place for us. From the unreal joy of winning two high school championships to the heartbreaking losses of close friends and family, we have experienced more than we could have ever imagined. And even in the midst of an ongoing pandemic, we remained resolved in continuing to help close the opportunity gap and opening wonderful new doors for kids.

As we move past some of the largest hurdles around COVID-19, we are more focused than ever on how the mission of Bridge can be a positive catalyst for youth and communities. Our supporters continue to help us advocate for kids of color and movements around equity and justice. We are proud of the ongoing work to create a safe and inclusive environment for all student-athletes, and it is our diversity and family culture that drive our successes, on and off the field.

Looking ahead to a new year, we hope to deepen the relationships that got us through the last 18 months and expand our reach to new neighborhoods and kids. In addition, the growth and the potential that our new alumni association has is incredible to witness. Kids that I once coached in elementary have returned to Bridge as young professionals eager to support and strengthen the organization that first brought them a lacrosse stick.

None of this, of course, happens without the more than 200 donors and partners of Bridge. We thank you for the opportunity to provide and serve southern Dallas, and we hope that this annual report is a testament of how culture, relationships and a stick can change lives. Thank you.

David Higbee

Executive Director | Master Zoom Manager | Keeper of Extra Masks



Who We Are

We know that sports can be an incredible tool in closing the opportunity gap that exists in many areas of Dallas. Often times, the ZIP code you grow up in will dictate many of the outcomes of your life. For those in under-resourced areas, there is a lack of high-quality opportunities that develop the social and academic skills of our community's youth.

We exist to provide academic, enrichment and relationship opportunities that otherwise may not exist in many neighborhoods of southern Dallas. And, through the unique sport of lacrosse we can provide a wide range of these opportunities. What first begins with a lacrosse stick grows into lifelong relationships, positive learning experiences, joy and a culture around family.

While we had to modify and adapt many of our regular programs this year, the end goal always remained the same and we saw immense social and emotional growth in our kids. Using the tools provided by Hello Insight, a youth development evaluation company, we now have amazing data that helps us guide our organization and measure the impact of our programs. In addition, we continue to support each outgoing senior class with scholarship funding and are excited for the development of our alumni association.



Our Numbers

840 Student-Athletes

10,771 Individual Hours of Programs

92.5% BIPOC Student-Athletes

82% Free & Reduced Lunch Status

54% Male & 46% Female

45 ZIP Codes Represented

80 Schools Represented

Our Programs

We are fortunate to operate year-round programming, both on and off the field. From Kindergarten to 12th grade, we use lacrosse to reinforce valuable social and emotional intelligence, such as self-efficacy, positive identity and goal setting. Sports are an excellent vehicle for building an array of character skills and every year we get to work with hundreds of kids to help them develop those skills.

In the fall, we oversee a nine-week fall ball season and afterschool program at area middle schools. In addition, we operate two elite teams for our more advanced high school student-athletes. During the fall we also launch our Playbook series, a variety of academic workshops and college prep resources for our families. During the shorter winter season, our older student-athletes participate in conditioning workouts and we host an alumni weekend for our many alums on winter break. Our spring season is the largest of our programs, and our student-athletes participate in competitive league play, lasting between January and May. With teams for boys and girls of all ages, we get to take part in the larger North Texas lacrosse landscape. Finally, in the summer we host our outreach series with the goal of introducing lacrosse to a wide number of kids through a great network of community partners. We are also proud to host an in-house summer league and our marquee event, our overnight Summer Academy camp.

All of our programs are overseen by trained staff and volunteers, with the same goal of helping our youth broaden their horizons. Our coaches build wonderful relationships with their teams and serve as mentors as our kids grow up through the organization. As we look ahead to a new year, we hope to further the opportunities we can build for each member of our family. We are focused on expanding our support of our alumni, many of whom are first generation college students. And, lastly, we are looking forward to the expansion of our off-field programs that further academic and enrichment avenues for all.





Our Impact

97% of our grads enrolled in college
Compared to 62% of HS grads nationally &
54% of Texas HS grads

78% of HS participants grew in college readiness social emotional learning

89% of HS participants grew in core social emotional learning*

69% of MS participants grew in sports social emotional learning

65% of MS participants grew in core social emotional learning*

60% of elementary-age participants grew in core social emotional learning*

85% Overall program satisfaction

\$20,000 Scholarship funds to the Class of 2021

*Group developed at a greater rate than 75% of similar groups nationally

Kenia Rico

I have been with Bridge for seven years now. During this time, I have learned many things such as perseverance, self-confidence and most importantly the meaning of family. This has allowed me to grow and become the strong person I am today. I began playing lacrosse because there were no other sports at my high school, but I fell in love with everything about it. From the moment I held my first stick, all I wanted to do was improve. That quickly would show in every other aspect of my life as I managed work, school and lacrosse.

My freshman year all I would talk about was wanting to make Varsity. I believed I had worked hard enough the past years to make it. But when the rosters came out, I was put on Junior Varsity. Confused and looking for answers, I called my coaches. They then told me that I was a great player but that I needed to improve as a team player. Although I wasn't very fond of the idea, that year I told myself I would prove I was an outstanding team player and give everything I had not only to achieve my personal goals but of the entire team. I was selected team captain and that year I led my team to playoffs and the most wins in Bridge history. I was able to see what my coaches told me, I unlocked a potential I didn't know I had to drive not only myself but others. The way we came together and relied on each other was something I will never forget.

It is my senior year and we are Division 3 champions. We are truly the proof that anything is possible if you persist, believe in your family and yourself. I'm so grateful for everything I have learned and it will forever be a part of who I am.

Kenia Rico | Class of 2021 | UNT-Dallas





Ke'Von Day

Being one of few Black players that play lacrosse has taught me many life lessons along the way. For instance, it's okay not to fit in. Meaning that just because I might not look like everyone else, I will not let that stop me from working hard. When I walk onto a field it can be a bit discouraging being the only person of color. However, I then realize that no matter what creed or race I am, everyone on the field has the same goal, which is to win. Knowing that, in some ways, eases the pressure and helps clear my mind. This lesson also applies off the field in life. I will not always be surrounded by people that all look like me and that's okay. I have learned to embrace people from all backgrounds. Dr. Martin Luther King once said, "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character." I look to be a part of a generation that helps change societies ways and work towards Dr. King's dream.

Another lesson that I learn by playing lacrosse at Bridge is that it's okay to speak up when I see something happening that's not right. In today's society, sometimes people are criticized for speaking up for themselves or others. When playing lacrosse many things are "swept under the rug". For example, many players of color have been called racist names because it is seen as a way to agitate them and make them lose focus. Just because it might give someone a competitive advantage, does not mean its right. This is a situation where I have learned to be a leader. I have learned that where help is provided, use it. Referees and coaches are there to help regulate the game, so when a situation arises it is always better to bring it to them instead of trying to handle it on my own. This lesson can also be taken into the real world. I have learned to open up more and talk to close friends and family rather than holding in my anger and frustration.

Ke'Von Day | Class of 2021 | Harford Community College

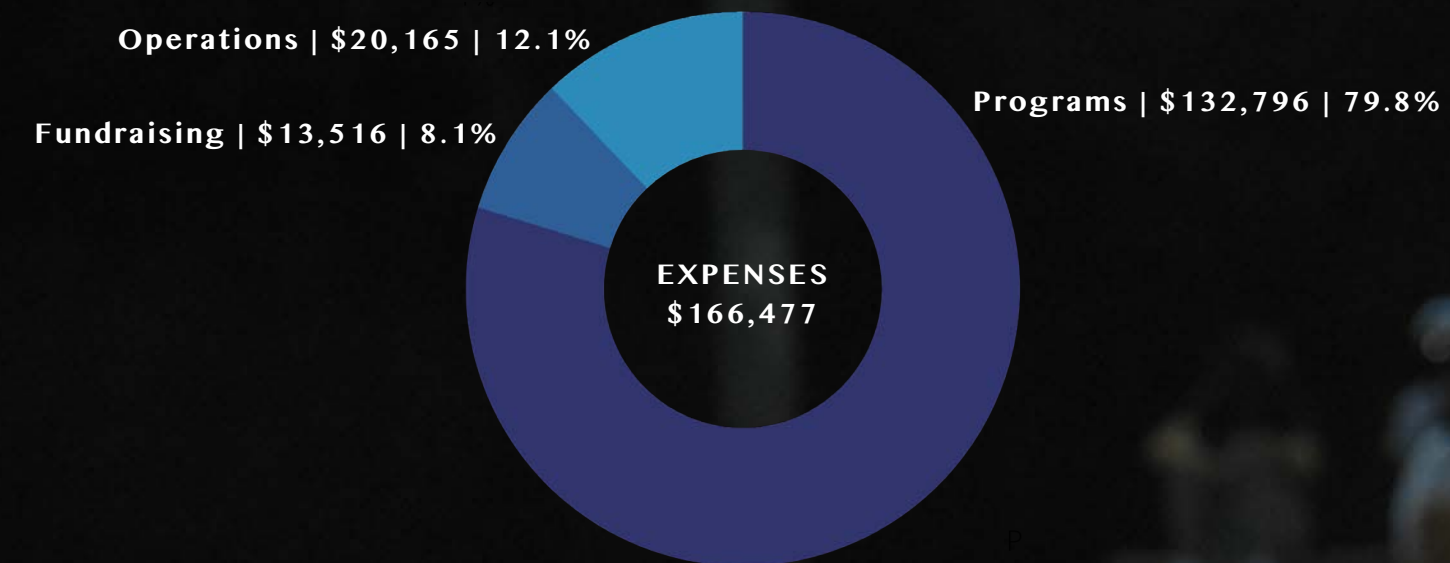
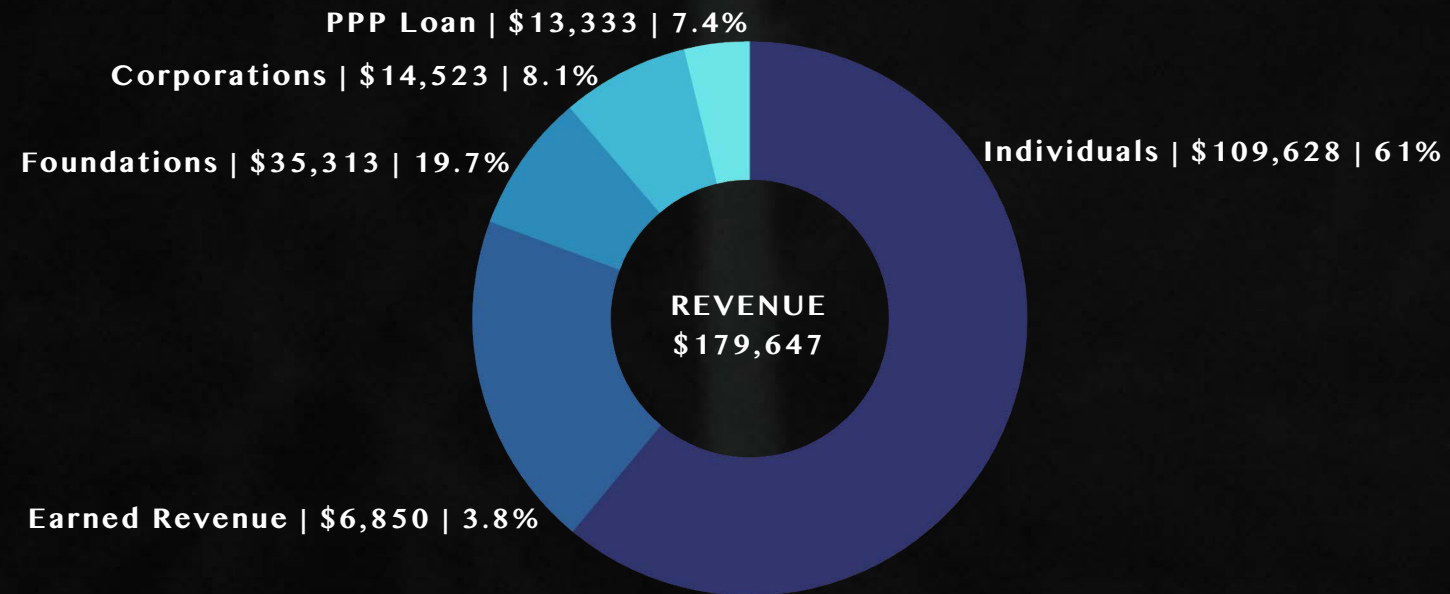


Alumni In College & Military

Northeastern | Notre Dame | St. Edward's University
University of Southern California | Loyola New Orleans
Texas A&M Commerce | Texas Women's University
United States Air Force | United States Navy
University of Colorado | Denver University | UT-Dallas
MIT | University of Oklahoma | University of Texas
Texas A&M | UC Santa Clara | UT-Arlington
Whittier College | Iowa State University | SCAD
Claremont McKenna | Hampton University
Clark Atlanta | Prairie View A&M | Tarrant County CC
University of Dallas | University of North Texas
UNT-Dallas | Eckerd College | College of Holy Cross
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute | Scripps College
University of Pittsburgh | Louisiana State University
Southern University | Centenary College | Texas Tech
Drew University | Tennessee State University
Southern Methodist University | Harford CC
Coastal Carolina University | University of Houston
Emory University

Our Financials

Sept 1, 2020 - Aug 31, 2021



Board of Directors

Sean Duffy - Board President | Omar Martinez - Board Treasurer 2021
Lee Burton - Board Treasurer 2020 | Sean Browne | Chris Creedon | Jason Detweiler
Channie Hopkins | Macy Jagers - In Memorium | Bob Jones | Rob Landin | Pam Pluss
Rose Rangel | Lottie Taylor

Alumni Association Officers

Jacob Gonzalez - President
Dom Colbert
Karem Digno
Maddie Nayfa
Roderick McNeely

2021 Spring Coaches

Byron Bailey | Jocelyn Buford | Chantal Castillo | Payton Climer | Dom Colbert | Tom Cook
Jonah Danziger | Jason Detweiler | Andrew Fawkes | Alessia Fitzpatrick | Andrew Gibson
Jacob Gonzalez | Jack Gorman | Greg Henderson | Malcolm Herod | Kyle Lamb | Kat Larios
Emily Lazor | Maddie Nayfa | Gunnar Rawlings | Johnny Santos | Tucker Szybala
Tyler Thompson | Mike Torres | Clint Townson | Demarich Wesley

Class 10 Leadership Board

Tripp Black | Henry Boykin | John Charest | Maddy Charest | Alex Chen | Reagan Chen
Blake Dickey | Tyler Doyle | Max Fernandes | Mercer Fernandes | Tilt Fernandes
Jack Gordy | Anna Gum | Emma Jerrier | Hudson Johnner | Whit Johnner | Lizzie Kelley
Minje Kwun | Ian Mize | Billy Robertson | Ty Roberston | Katie Stone | Lexie Stone
Ava Tribolet | Caiden Vlasimsky



Our Supporters

Tewaaraton Supporter \$10,000+

Anonymous Family
Kate Risley Foundation
Steven & Pam Pluss

All-American Supporter \$5,000+

The Browne Family
Dekelboun Family Foundation
The Duffy Family
North Texas Cares 2.0
Michael Gary Scott aka
Jay Jerrier
United Way of Metro Dallas

All-State Supporter | \$2,500+

Ann & Chris Mahowald
Dallas City of Learning
HLax
Edie & Bo Lycke
Megan & Casey McManemin

All-District Supporter \$1,000+

Brian Lowrance
Cindy & Kevin Gould
The Creedon Family
DFW Youth Lacrosse
Dick's Sporting Goods
Oncor Energy
Patricia & Brian Morris
Richard Moses
The Roberston Family
The Sheehan Family
Sheila & Meade Detweiler
Triad HR

Honorable Mention Supporter | \$500+

Brijetta & Parker Waller
Bruce Wohlfeld
The Charest Family
Craig Schenkel
Dana Strong
The Davenports
Exelon & Constellation Grant
The Fernandes Family
GRIT Lacrosse
The Henigsman Family
Hunt Cares Employee Program
Kathy & Harlan Crow
Kerri & Po Chen
Kim Spivey
Margaret & Michael Rawlings
Michelle & Matt Johner
PLL Assists
Racine Reid
Richard O. McCall
The Smiths
Thomas Goolsby
Thomas Scovic
Travion Smith
USA Lacrosse Texas

All Remaining

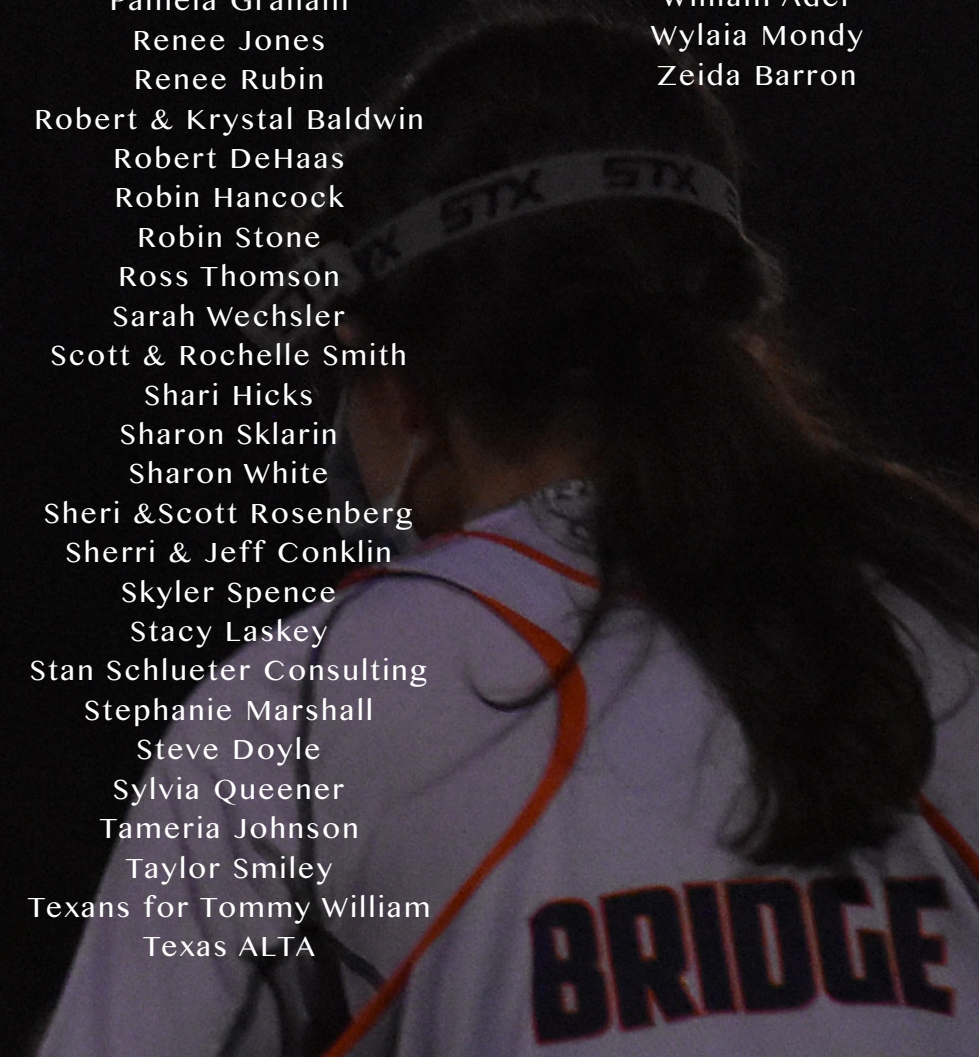
Aaron Richardson
Al Ellis
Alessia Fitzpatrick
Alex Cross
Alexis Soria
Alicia Ordonez
Amalia Ortiz
Anel Lua
Anika Maiden
Anonymous x7
Antonio Lopez
Ashley Biagas

Barb & Mark White
Barbara Luhrs
Betty Jo Dermon
Bond Olivo
Burgwell Howard
Carolyn & Rob Otte
Cassidy & David Wren
Cathy Haggard Chad Houser
Channie Hopkins
Chervone Hoyle
Cheryl & Aaron Drazin
Chris Blewett
Chris Gramlich
Christina & Kendall Cotten
Cindy & Kerry North
Crystal D. Jordan
Cynthia & Keith Smith
Daisy Ibarra
Debbie & Eric Harrison
Debora Gonzales
Diane & Brad Barnes
Dr. Pepper/Keurig
Elizabeth Bennett
Elizabeth Mack & David Allen
Elizabeth Welch
Emily Lazor
Emma Kaiser
Erin Hendricks
Evan Johnston
Fabiola Benavides
Fabiola Larios
Fran Berg
Gaby & Gunnar Rawlings
Grace Hochheimer
Henry Piccagli
Jack Tierney
Jackson Marvel
Jacqueline Gaona
Jasmine Ramirez
Jayda Batchelder
Jenna & Seth Woodberry
Jennifer Black

Jennifer Brown
Jennifer Lopez
Jim & Brenda Rudd
Joe Hearne
Jonathan Bowman
Joy Glover
Joyce Washington
Judy Vogler Mitchell
Julia Hayes
Julie & Adrian Acevedo
Jun II Kwun
Justin Chinn
Kassondra Ford
Kathy Carriker
Kay Wood
Keely Jackson
Kelly Cornacchia
Kendrick Crawford
Kent & Lesley Jagers
Keva Munson
Kevin Eltife
Kim & Frank Stowers
Kim & Tim Kelley
Kim Spivey
Kyle Gordy
LaTrina Wilson
Laura & Aaron Navarro
Laura Dickey
Laura Harryman
Lewis Wright & Family
Lizbeth Alvarez
LMH Properties for Texas Inc
Lori & Bob Jones
Lottie Taylor
Louann & Marion Martinez
Macy Jagers
Maggie Koch
Margaret Grady
Marilynn Hoover
Marissa & Christopher Mikoy
Mark White
Martin Osae

Mary Ann Climer
Maya Budhrani
Melissa Haydek
Meredith Oshrain
Michal Munkeby
Michaux Nash Jr.
Michelle Williams
Mignon McGarry
Mike Moss
Mike & Barbara Johnson
My Pham-Hua
Myles Lane
Nicole Musselman
Nikki Hart
Nolan Knight
Omar & Alicia Martinez
Omar Ortiz
Pamela Graham
Renee Jones
Renee Rubin
Robert & Krystal Baldwin
Robert DeHaas
Robin Hancock
Robin Stone
Ross Thomson
Sarah Wechsler
Scott & Rochelle Smith
Shari Hicks
Sharon Sklarin
Sharon White
Sheri & Scott Rosenberg
Sherri & Jeff Conklin
Skyler Spence
Stacy Laskey
Stan Schlueter Consulting
Stephanie Marshall
Steve Doyle
Sylvia Queener
Tameria Johnson
Taylor Smiley
Texans for Tommy William
Texas ALTA

Texas Instruments Foundation
The Benn Family
The Berryman Family
The Buford Family
The Burton Family
The Gum Family
The Robbins Family
The Sakuda Family
The Tribolet Family
The Van den Dyssel Family
Theda Babcock
Tori Schwarzlose
Troy Mendenhall
Tully Minoski
Vellea Lill
Waverly Wilson
Will & Dorian Melendez
William Ader
Wylaia Mondy
Zeida Barron



In Memorium

Michael Cain | Friend of Bridge Lacrosse

Coach Bill Elliot | Hillcrest Lacrosse

Macy Jagers | Bridge Board of Directors

Lucellus "Chris" Miller | Former Bridge Student-Athlete

Gonzalo Say | Bridge Father of Arnoldo Say

Wanda Strong | Bridge Mother of Sam Strong

Gene Williams | Friend of Bridge Lacrosse



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