



One Heart in Community

A Message from President J.D. Childs

Now more than ever, O’Dowd remains a strong, consistent presence for good in the East Bay—offering families a unique combination of stellar academics and spiritual development, as well as co-curricular experiences that include service opportunities, athletics and arts programs adjusted this year to address our current realities. We pride ourselves on offering young people numerous opportunities to explore, expand, and express their interests and values.

In today’s world, I recognize with even greater clarity the power of community—how relationships, connection, and belonging with and among students and alumni, parents, alumni parents, and friends shape our identity and contribute meaningfully to our continued growth.

As O’Dowd continues to learn and grow, it is imperative that we uphold the same culture of care for each student that has always defined us. That includes ensuring our students are seen, known, and valued for their diverse perspectives, talents, and character. And as we continue to grow the O’Dowd family of students and alumni, it is essential that we have space that enhances and accommodates our whole community.

“Nothing is hard to a [person] whose will is set on it, especially if it be a thing to be done out of love.” -St. Ignatius of Loyola

When I think about the spirit of the *Cor Unum* Campaign and the O’Dowd Center, I’m enlivened by our commitment to put people and relationships at the center of our campus and community. And providing the space where we may experience our fullest expression, celebrating learning, performances, events, and relationships as one community. That is why the O’Dowd Center has been so intentionally imagined and designed to address a range of community needs.

We are delighted to invite our whole community to support the Cor Unum Campaign. Our community’s generosity is an expression of love and I am humbled and grateful to share “one heart in community.”