

Mater Dei High School (Orange County)

Santa Ana, California



MATER DEI
HIGH SCHOOL

Global Confidence. Guaranteed.

Real confidence isn't built just by getting accepted to a university. It's built through every challenge overcome, every friendship formed, every new experience embraced, and every milestone achieved.

At MDHSOC, students graduate with more than an acceptance letter—they leave prepared to succeed academically, personally, and globally.

The Amerigo 360° Promise

The Amerigo 360° Promise ensures every MDHSOC international student is supported academically, personally, and throughout the university admissions journey. From dedicated advisors to expert guidance and pastoral care, students have the support they need to grow with confidence from day one.

- A dedicated team on every campus, every day. **Guaranteed.**
- Proactive wellbeing & academic check-ins. **Guaranteed.**
- Personalized coaching & university prep. **Guaranteed.**
- Total parent transparency, every step. **Guaranteed.**

The Amerigo 360° Promise

Our International Student Department provides more than academics, offering comprehensive support every step of the way.

Continuous on-site personalized support.

Dedicated International department staff are embedded directly on campus to provide daily guidance, emotional care, and logistical assistance.

Academic advising and GPA management.

We work closely with school counselors to support course planning and track graduation readiness, ensuring students stay on the right path academically.

Proven outcomes, empowered futures.

Our international students achieve standout university acceptances, even when starting with modest GPAs or English levels.

Flexible accommodation with structure and comfort.

Students can live in a modern, staffed residence or with a vetted host family. Regardless of their accommodation choice, they will receive seamless support from the International Student Department.



Our Amerigo team at MDHSOC



Oscar Castaneda
Director, Student Services



Charles Ko
Student Services Manager - Academic



StudyStudyGo

One platform where parents see everything: monthly progress reports, class schedules, school announcements and direct access to the campus team.



Monthly progress reports



English, GPA & attendance tracking

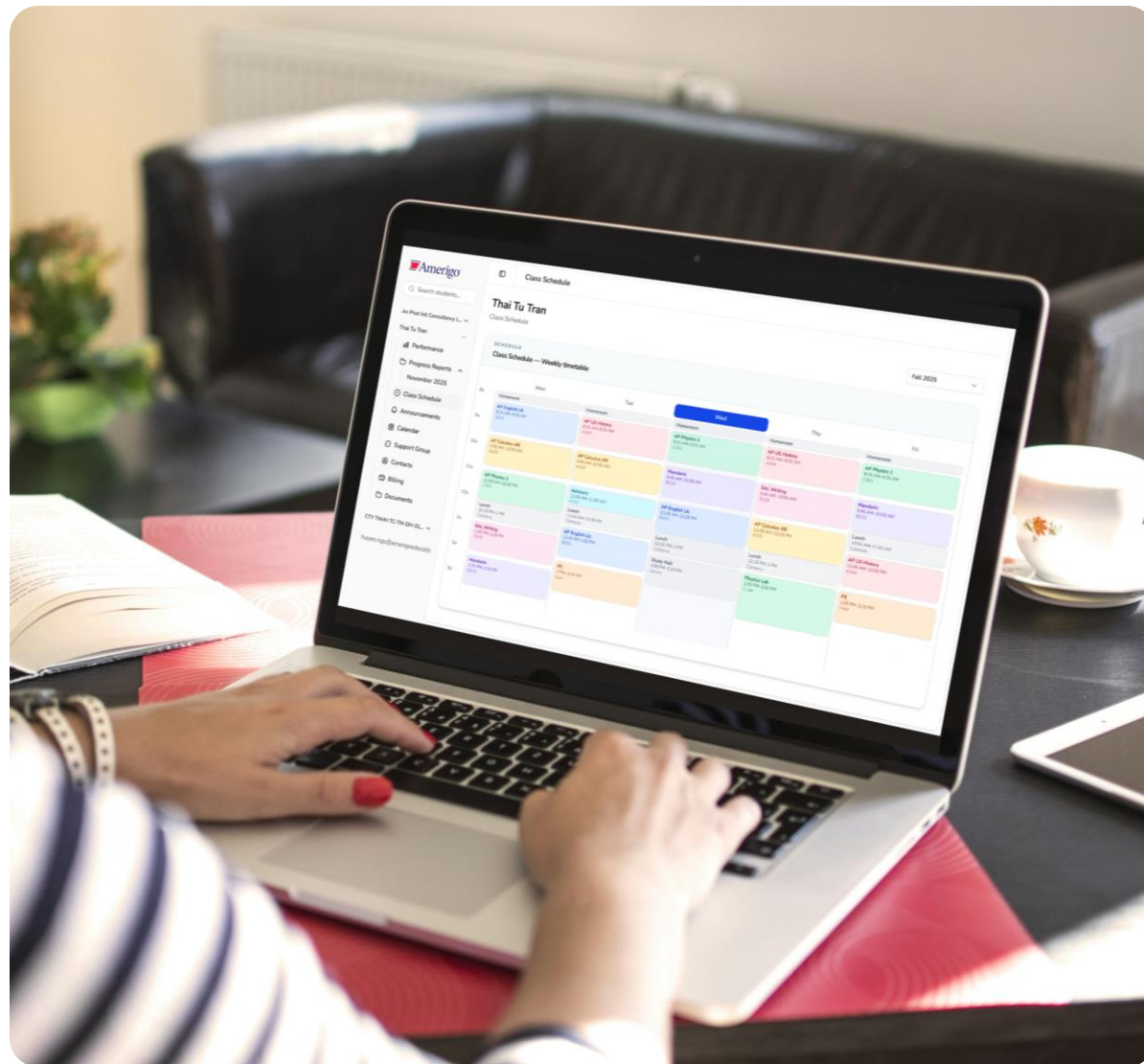


Class schedule & announcements



Medical card, billing & campus contacts

Available on desktop today; mobile apps coming.



From ambition to acceptance. Guaranteed.

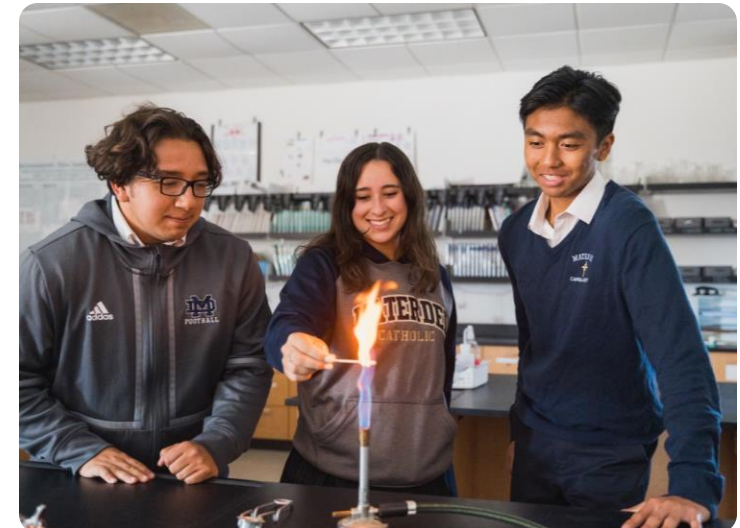


Top 100 Guaranteed

All international students admitted MDHSOC to are eligible for this exclusive pathway. Designed for students committed to steady academic progress and personal accountability, this path ensures Top 100 university admission for those who meet program expectations.

Top 50 Track

For ambitious students who meet higher entry standards and follow a structured pathway this track includes additional academic, extracurricular, and soft-skill criteria designed to secure Top 50 outcomes.





Admissions results that speak for themselves

Mater Dei High School's international students consistently gain admission to top U.S. universities — a reflection of the school's strong academics and dedicated support.

UC DAVIS
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

RUTGERS
THE STATE UNIVERSITY
OF NEW JERSEY

UNIVERSITY of
WASHINGTON

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
MERCED

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

*Out of those who applied.



Class of 2026

International students accepted to
Top 100 universities.*

100%

International students accepted
to Top 50 universities.*

100%

Trusted by families. Proven.

Insights from Amerigo 2026 Parent Satisfaction Survey

4.84/5 Average parent satisfaction rating

92% Parents witnessed real personal growth in their child

What parents noticed most

92%
Independence

32%
Confidence

24%
Maturity



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School Address	1202 W Edinger Avenue, Santa Ana, CA 92707
Niche Ranking	A+
Year Founded	1950
Campus	21 acres
School Type	Co-ed
School Grades	Grades 9 -12
Grade Accepted	Grades 9 – 11 (Grade 12 only for US transfer)
# of Students	2000
# of International Students	5% (Vietnam, China, South Korea, Japan, Ukraine, Germany, Poland, Norway, Mexico, Brazil, Guatemala, etc.)
# of AP and Honors Courses	75+
University Acceptance Rate for those who applied	100%
# of Athletics	35
# of Clubs	85+

ACCREDITATIONS

 NICHE

 NACAC
National Association for
College Admission Counseling

 Fully Accredited by
OWASC
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
WEDDING COORDINATORS FOR SCHOOLS

 WCEA Western Catholic
Educational Association

 Apple Distinguished School



Mater Dei High School, the largest and oldest Catholic high school in Orange County, California, is renowned for its excellence in academics, technology, the arts, faith and service, campus life, and athletics.

Founded in 1950, Mater Dei is a co-educational college preparatory high school, nationally known for its strong sports program. The school is an Apple Distinguished School with a 1:1iPad program.

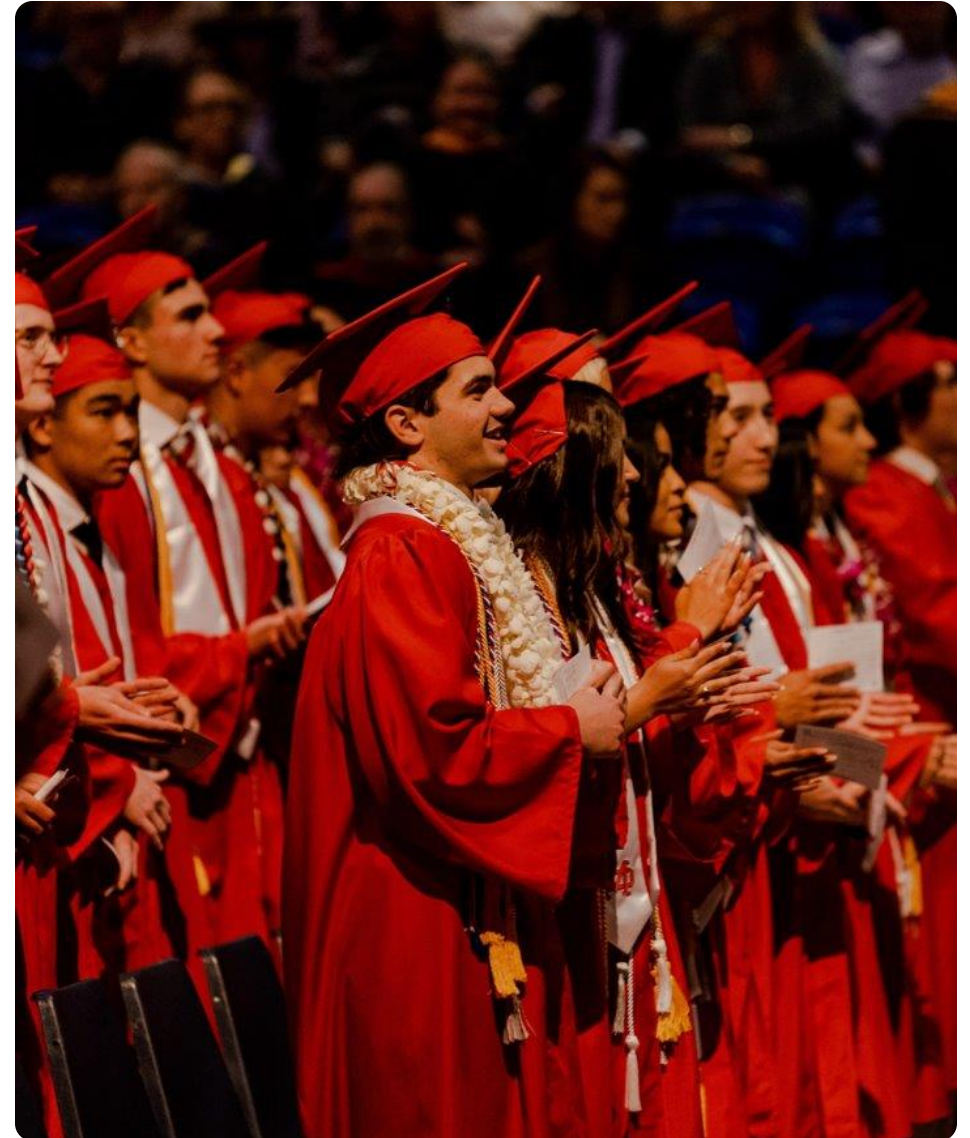
For more than 70 years, Mater Dei alumni have been achieving incredible things. Alumni have gone onto top universities and have been National Merit Finalists, county-wide science fair winners, scholarship recipients, award-winning performers, artists, athletes and so much more.

Niche Ranking

Top 10% Best Private High Schools in America

Top 3 Best Private High Schools in America for Athletes

Niche A+



Mater Dei High School is located in Santa Ana, California – an affluent community just 33 miles (53 km) from Los Angeles.

Close to many Fortune 500 companies

Disney | Amgen (Biopharmaceutical) | Molina Healthcare | Aecom (Engineering) | Edison International | Pacific Life Insurance | Reliance Steel & Aluminum | Live Nation Entertainment | Activision Blizzard | Avery Dennison | Mattel

Close to top ranking universities

California Institute Of Technology (#7) | University of California - Los Angeles (#15) | University of Southern California (#27) | University of California - Irvine (#33) | Pepperdine University (#80) | Pomona College (#5, Liberal Arts Colleges)

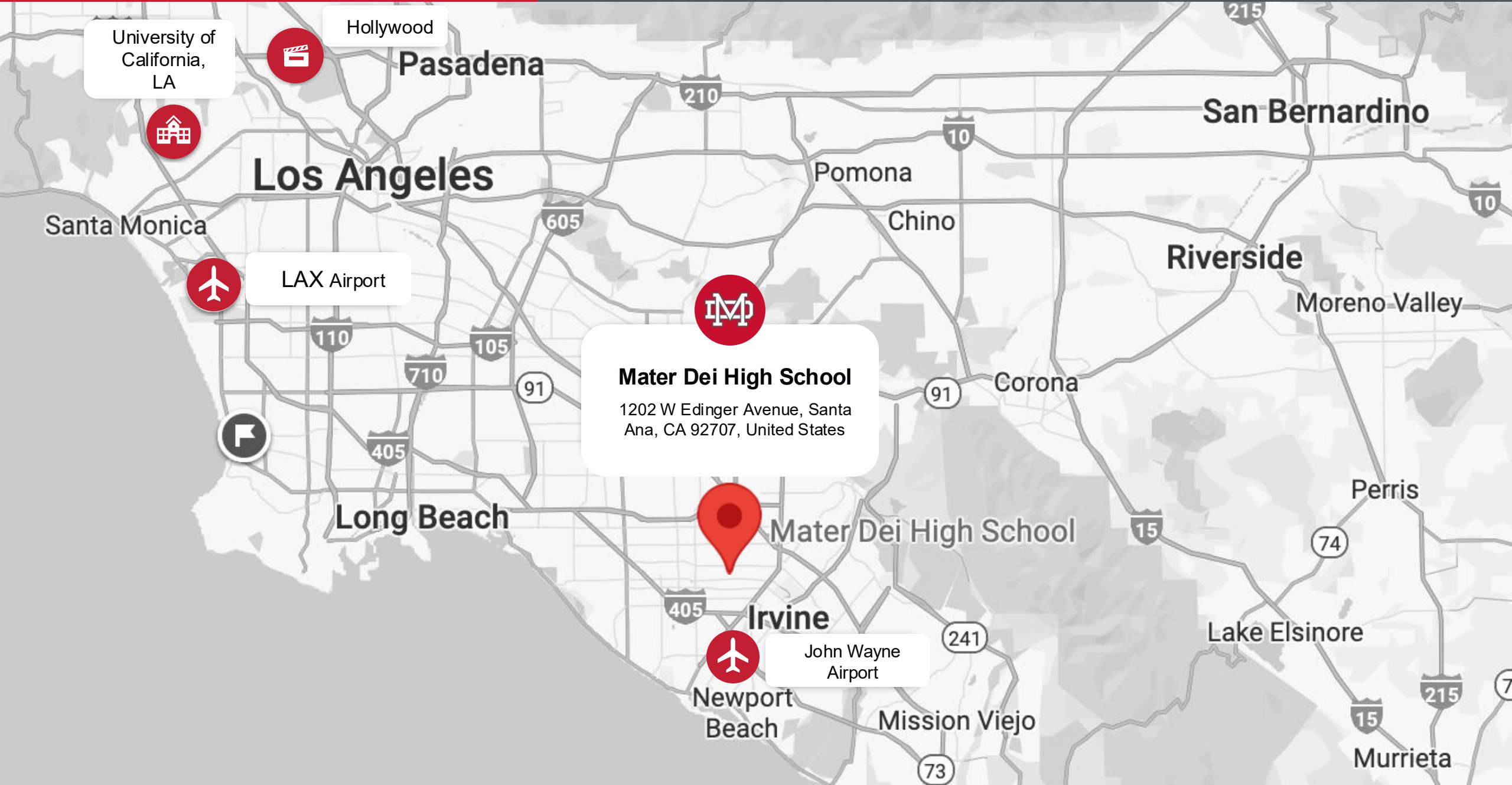
Home to world-renowned attractions

Hollywood | Disneyland | Beaches | Universal Studios | Griffith Observatory | Petersen Automotive Museum | The Grove

Close to 2 major airports

Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) | John Wayne International Airport (SNA)





Mater Dei High School

1202 W Edinger Avenue, Santa Ana, CA 92707, United States

Advanced Courses

Mater Dei offers a comprehensive academic program with **75 AP & Honors Courses** and **109+ Electives**. Academically-motivated students find success at Mater Dei and beyond.

53 Honor & 22 AP Classes

AP Courses: Art History, Biology, Calculus AB/BC, Capstone Research, Computer Science A/principles, English Lang/Lit, European History, Macroeconomics, Music Theory, Physics 1/C, Spanish Lang/Lit, Statistics, Studio Art 2D/3D/Drawing, US Government, US History

Honors Courses: Academic Decathlon, Acapella, Advanced Mens Ensemble, Algebra 1, Algebra 2/Trig, Anatomy/Physiology, Animation 2, Art III, Bilingual Spanish, Biology, Ceramics III, Chamber Singers, Chemistry, Chinese 4, Cultural Geography MUN, Dance Company, Digital Photo III, English, French, Geometry, Latin, Marine Biology, Musical Theater, Newspaper, Pre-Calculus, Robotics/Eng. II, Spanish, Theatre, US History, Wind Ensemble, World History, Yearbook

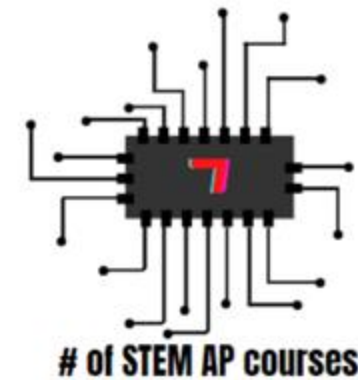
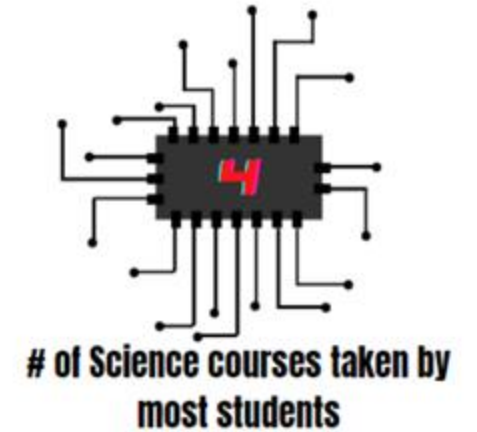
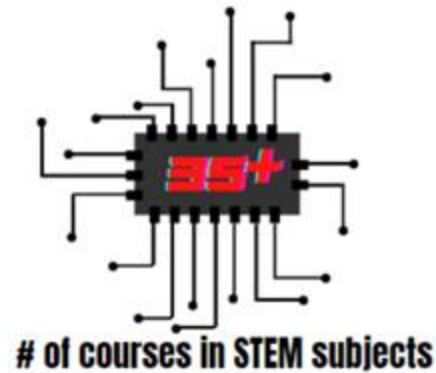


STEM

Mater Dei's Science and Math Departments offer a wide variety of STEM courses to meet students' individual needs and interests. All Science and all Math courses include STEM projects to prepare students for success in college and future careers in both STEM and non-STEM fields.

Mater Dei has designed the following sample pathways to help students plan their progression through STEM courses at the school:

- Animals (e.g. Zoology or Veterinary)
- Aviation
- Chemistry
- Coding and Computer Science
- Crime Scene Investigation or Criminal Law
- Engineering
- Environmental Science
- Marine Biology
- Medical
- Physical Science



Some sample science & STEM pathways

*The pathways are considered samples- Mater Dei can plan unique course progressions for students with different needs and interests

Path	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior	Recommended
Designed for students interested in engineering or Computer Science	Biology ^{CP, HN}	Chemistry ^{*CP, HN}	Physics ^{CP, AP}	- Physics ^{CP, AP (AP can be taken after CP)} - AP Biology - AP Chemistry - Anatomy & Physiology ^{CP, HN}	- Robotics competitive team - STEM Distinction Program
Elective	Intro to Coding Robotics & Engineering	Robotics & Engineering Hn Robotics & Engineering 2	Hn Robotics & Engineering 2 AP Computer Science Principles	AP Computer Science Principles AP Computer Science A	
Designed for students with an interest in the medical field	Biology ^{CP, HN}	- Chemistry ^{*CP, HN} - Anatomy & Physiology ^{CP, HN} - Sports Medicine	- Chemistry ^{*CP, HN} - Physics ^{CP, AP} - Anatomy & Physiology ^{CP, HN} - Sports Medicine	- Physics ^{CP, AP} - AP Biology - Anatomy & Physiology ^{CP, HN} - Sports Medicine	- Pre-Med Club - Athletic Training course offered through Athletics Department - STEM Distinction Program
Designed for students with an interest in Marine Biology , careers with animals , or environmental science	Biology ^{CP, HN}	- Chemistry ^{*CP, HN} - Marine Biology ^{HN} - Zoology - Anatomy & Physiology ^{CP, HN}	- Chemistry ^{*CP, HN} - Zoology ^{CP, AP} - Physics - Anatomy & Physiology ^{CP, HN}	- Physics ^{CP, AP} - Marine Biology ^{HN} - Zoology - AP Biology - Anatomy & Physiology ^{CP, HN}	Many environmental and animal-related clubs are offered
Designed for students with an interest in Biotechnology	Biology ^{CP, HN}	- Chemistry ^{*CP, HN} - Anatomy & Physiology ^{CP, HN}	- Chemistry ^{*CP, HN} - Biotechnology ^{CP, AP} - Physics ^{CP, AP}	- Biotechnology - AP Biology - Physics ^{CP, AP}	- Biotechnology Certificate Program - STEM Distinction Program - Intro to Coding/Robotics & Engineering
Designed for students with an interest in crime scene investigation or criminal law	Biology ^{CP, HN}	- Chemistry ^{*CP, HN} - Anatomy & Physiology ^{CP, HN} - Sports Medicine	- Chemistry ^{*CP, HN} - Physics ^{CP, AP} - Anatomy & Physiology ^{CP, HN}		Mock Trial team
Designed for students with an interest in Chemistry or a Physical Sciences concentration	Biology ^{CP, HN}	Chemistry ^{HN}	AP Chemistry	Physics ^{CP, AP}	
Elective classes designed for students with an interest in STEM fields (science, technology, engineering & math) *Students may take each class once	Robotics & Engineering Intro to Coding	Robotics & Engineering Hn Robotics & Engineering 2 Intro to Coding AP Computer Science Principles	Robotics & Engineering Hn Robotics & Engineering 2 Intro to Coding AP Computer Science Principles AP Computer Science A	Robotics & Engineering Hn Robotics & Engineering 2 Intro to Coding AP Computer Science Principles AP Computer Science A	Robotics competitive team STEM Distinction Program Biotechnology Certificate Program

STEM Distinction Program

The STEM Distinction program recognizes students who have high achievement in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) while attending Mater Dei.

This program is ideal for students considering a college major or career in a STEM-related field. Students will supplement their college preparatory coursework with an emphasis on STEM-designated classes and experiences. Students will join the program in their freshman or sophomore year. Upon successful completion of the program requirements, students will receive a special notation on their final Mater Dei High School transcript and be recognized at Senior Awards.

*Note: Students need to meet the requirements to be eligible for this program.



STEM Experiences

In this program, students must complete four different STEM Experiences. Some approved experiences are:

- Shadow a scientist, engineer, or someone else in a STEM-related job field
- Design your own app
- Design and conduct your own experiment
- Attend a STEM-related workshop or field trip
- STEM Internship
- Summer STEM experience, including the international Science trips
- Support 2 Robotics competitions (spring semester only, dates will be posted)
- Active participation on the Robotics Team
- Active participation in Pre-Med Club or another STEM Club on campus (letter of participation from moderator required)
- Take Science Lab Assistant course for 1 year

Biotechnology Certificate

Mater Dei partners with Santa Ana College and Santiago Canyon College to offer the Biotechnology Certificate, which makes a student eligible to work in a Biotechnology lab after graduating. Additionally, participating students earn college credits.

All students are welcome to apply for this program.



Academic Teams

- Academic Decathlon
- Junior State of America
- Mock Trial
- MUN – Model United Nations
- Robotics



- Speech and Debate



Academic Decathlon California State Championship, March 25-26, 2023



Robotics Varsity Team 4141 In FRC, 2023

Arts

The arts at Mater Dei High School aims to transform our student artists into more complete versions of themselves by awakening creativity, fostering collaboration, and enlivening passion and determination.

50+ electives in Visual Arts, Performing Arts, and Film & Media Arts



Film & Media Arts

From media production to filmmaking, scriptwriting to television production, and student publications, this program is designed to educate and give experience in this competitive and exciting industry.

- Film Studies: Filmmaking I, Filmmaking II, Honors Filmmaking III
- Television & Broadcast: Studio Production, Advanced Television Production I & II, Sports Broadcasting, Acting for Television I & II, Honors Advanced Television Production
- Newspaper and Yearbook: Introduction to Media

Visual Arts

Mater Dei currently offers 19 Visual Arts classes. The Visual Arts Program offers an array of classes for beginning, intermediate and advanced artists in various mediums including pencil, paints, ceramics, photography and graphic design.

Performing Arts

- Choral and Vocal Music
- Dance
- Instrumental Music
- Theatre

Sports

One of the Top Athletic Programs in the United States

Mater Dei offers one of the most reputable high school athletic programs in the United States, with **28 California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) sports teams** and **7 club sports teams**.

CIF Sports

- **Fall Sports:** Boys Cross Country, Girls Cross Country, Girls Golf, Football, Girls Flag Football, Girls Tennis, Girls Volleyball, Boys Water Polo
- **Winter Sports:** Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Cheerleading, Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer, Girls Water Polo, Boys Wrestling, Girls Wrestling
- **Spring Sports:** Baseball, Girls Beach Volleyball, Boys Golf, Boy Lacrosse, Girls Lacrosse, Softball, Boys/Girls Swim & Dive, Boys Tennis, Boys/Girls Track & Field, Boys Volleyball
- **Club Sports:** Boys Beach Volleyball, Esports, Equestrian, Ice Hockey, Roller Hockey, Sailing and Surfing.



Sports

No. 1 high school Football program in California

For more than six decades, football has been the cornerstone of the school's athletic program, leading the school to be named the #2 High School Athletic Program in America.

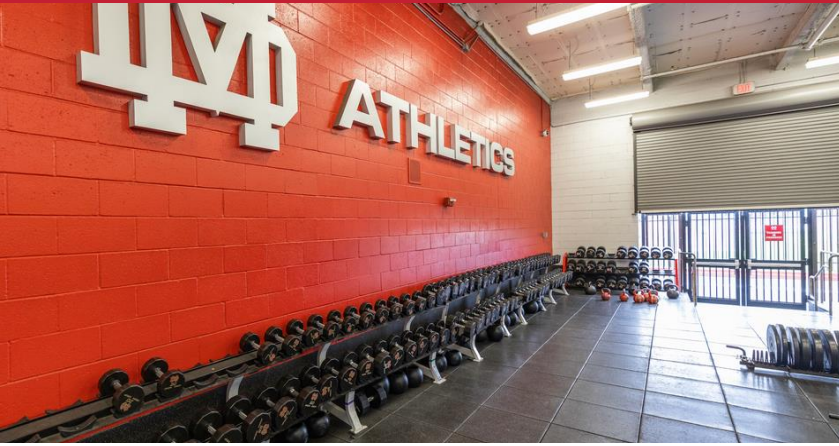
Mater Dei has compiled an enviable record for football success:

- 562 Wins
- 28 League Championships
- 12 CIFSS Championships
- 5 USA Today National Championships
- 6 Undefeated Seasons

Nationally-renowned Basketball program

The school's nationally-renowned Basketball program has won numerous championships, including a National Championship in 2013-14, 11 State Titles, 16 Southern California Regional Titles, 24 CIF-SS Titles, and 39 League Titles in 41 Years.





- 3 Heisman Trophy Winners (the only high school in America)
- 12 Olympians
- 387 League Championships
- 10 National Championships
- 120 CIF Championships
- 23 Gatorade Player of the Year



28 Sport Teams

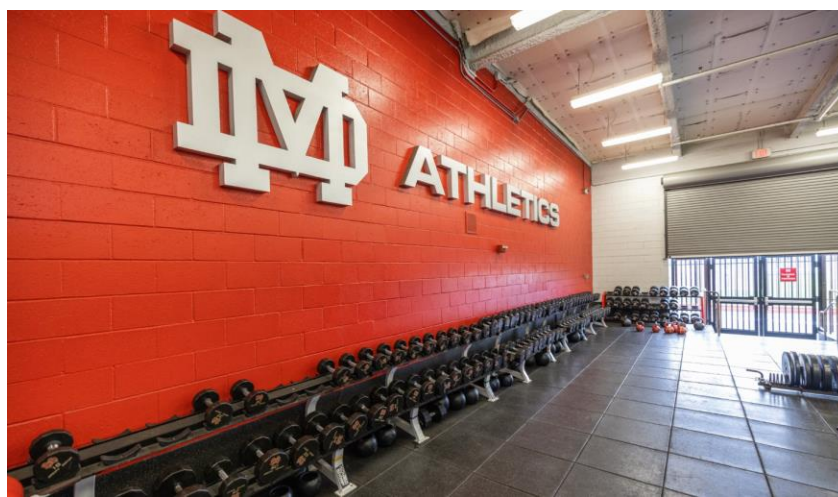
State of the art facilities

- Aquatic Center
- Gym
- Athletic Field
- Weight Room
- Baseball Complex
- Track
- Golf Practice Facility



School Facilities

The school offers students top-tier facilities, including an aquatic center, athletic fields, a track, weight room, baseball complex and a golf practice facility.



Meet **Veronika Zarovna** MDHS Class of 2024 Ukraine

Veronika committed to play tennis at Idaho State University for D1 Tennis. She also receives a full ride scholarship.

Veronika was the Girls' Varsity Tennis team captain during her time at Mater Dei High School. The team won the back-to-back CIF State Championship in 2022 and 2023.

Scan the QR code
to check out her
testimonial video:



Clubs

85+ active clubs and 70% of our students involved.



Honor and Academic Recognition Clubs

- CSF (California Scholarship Federation)
- International Thespian Society
- NHS (National Honor Society)
- NAHS (National Art Honor Society)
- NCHS (National Chinese Honor Society)
- Renaissance Club
- Tri M Music Honor Society

Educational Clubs

- ASL Club
- Chinese Tutoring Club
- Criminal Justice Club
- Entrepreneurship Club
- French Club
- Latin Club
- Pre-Law Club
- Pre-Med Club
- STEM Club
- Success Club
- Theater Arts Club

Humanitarian & Social Awareness Clubs

- Advocates for Autism Awareness
- Bands of Hope
- Cancer Awareness Club
- Key Club
- Project Planet
- Red Cross Club
- Teens with Disabilities Awareness Club
- Treat People with Kindness
- Youth Athletes Club

Social Clubs

- Asian American Club
- Badminton Club
- Book Club
- Chess Club
- Game Time Club
- Indoor Rock Climbing Club
- International Students Club
- K-Pop Club
- MD Baking Club
- Pickle Ball Club
- Ping Pong Club

Mater Dei international students can choose to live in a Fully-staffed Residence or a warm and welcoming Homestay, depending on their preference.

Residence



Homestay



International Residence

The residence features upscale community amenities, advanced safety features and prime locations close to the school – all with 24/7 supervision and a fun, supportive, family-like community of other international students.

The residence includes:

- On-site, 24/7 Amerigo Staff
- Spacious, Single Gender Apartments
- Shared Community Spaces For Meals
- Study Time And Recreational Activities
- On-site Laundry (Washer And Dryer)
- High Speed Wi-fi
- Large Closets
- Bright, Sun-Filled Units

Prime location:

- Safe and serene residential neighborhood, 15 minutes from Mater Dei High School.
- Close to South Coast Plaza, Tustin Legacy, Disneyland and Newport Beach.

And More!

Cultural immersion activities may include trips to:

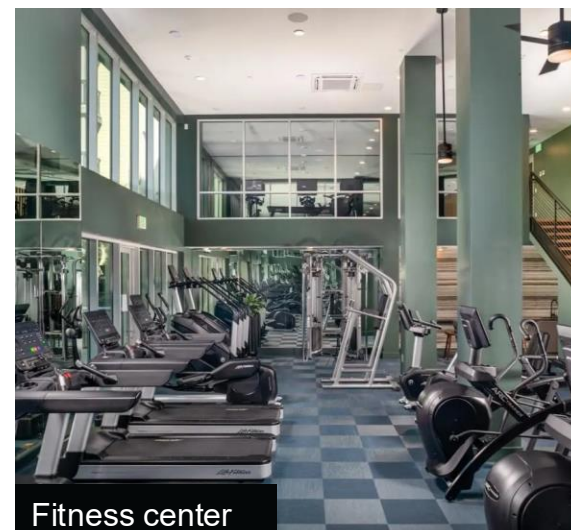
- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| ▪ Restaurants | ▪ Sporting Events |
| ▪ Shopping Malls | ▪ Amusement Parks |
| ▪ Museums | ▪ The Beach |
| ▪ Universities | And Much More! |

Safety Features Include:

- Door cameras in the apartments (not bedrooms)
- Curfew hours
- Free time rules, with both structured activities and free time opportunities
- 24/7 emergency care
- Helping students to open bank accounts and get sim cards for mobile phones
- **Reach**, a residence app that allows staff to maintain a safe and engaged experience for students.
- **Life 360**, an app that allows campus staff to track students whereabouts in real time and to see how much battery the student has left on their phone.



International Residence



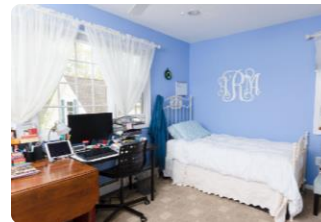
Homestay

At Mater Dei High School, international students who choose to live in Homestay not only get a great education, they also find loving homes and create lasting relationships with their host families.

Homestay family selection process

Safety is always the *#1 priority* for our students. All host families undergo a rigorous application and screening process to ensure they are a good candidate to host. This includes:

- A comprehensive application
- Background check for every adult in the home
- An interview
- An in-person home check by an international staff team member
- Matching to student interest forms to ensure a good fit for both student and host (completed after acceptance into program)



Life in a Homestay

- Students live in safe, comfortable homestays in close proximity to the school
- Students have comfortable bedrooms, including a dresser, bed, desk and closet
- Host families and students are paired through methodical matching process
- Regular acculturation activities are offered through both the host family and the school
- Our international team is in constant communication with families, including receiving monthly reports
- 24/7 team is available for emergency assistance or urgent issues
- The host family offers a full-time English language environment
- Hosts provide transportation to and from the school every day
- Family provides healthy meals every day

Open Grades for Applications: 9-11

Language Requirement:

- Accepted Tests: TOEFL iBT, IELTS, Duolingo, ELTiS
- Minimum Score: Grade 9-10: ELTiS 680+ | TOEFL iBT 60
Grade 11: TOEFL iBT 80

Application Materials:

- 2 Years of Transcripts and the progress report for the current year
- English and Math Recommendation Letters
- Passport

Interview: Amerigo Interview



Mater Dei High School (Orange County)

Thank you!



Scan this code to learn more about
Mater Dei High School