GUIDE TO

Giving and Volunteering

NEWMAN
ISIDORE NEWMAN SCHOOL
DEAR NEWMAN FAMILIES,

We are delighted that you have chosen to be a part of the Newman community. The Isidore Newman School of today is a school built and cultivated over eleven decades by people who care about children, who are passionate about teaching and learning, and who inspire individual growth in students daily.

The relationships formed at Newman last a lifetime. First and foremost, the trusting relationships among students, teachers, advisors, and coaches set the stage for critical thinking and academic excellence. Parents routinely invest meaningfully in our school community. Connections are reinforced through a variety of community-building events on our campus. Each year, approximately 1,000 alumni return to campus to relive memories and to reconnect with friends.

We are fortunate to be a part of a community of hardworking and committed professionals, engaged and energized students, passionate and supportive parents, and dedicated and devoted Governors. Our common bond is a drive to make Newman its very best.

We are always mindful of the tremendous trust you place in us. As partners in the lives of Newman students, we work together to ensure that they thrive as they learn resilience and responsibility while being prepared for the path beyond our gates.

Whether you’re a fourth-generation Newman family or your family is new to New Orleans and Newman, we hope this guide is helpful to you. Please feel free to contact the Advancement Office or one of us directly if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Dale M. Smith
Head of School

Kim Wargo
Associate Head of School
Our History

Isidore Newman School began as just one building in Uptown New Orleans, and was founded to educate children living at the Jewish Orphans’ Home on St. Charles Avenue. From the beginning, the School’s benefactor, Isidore Newman, stipulated that neighborhood children could also attend. Newman quickly became one of the most revered and respected independent schools in the city. It remains so today. As we enter our 116th academic year, one thing has stayed constant in Newman’s rich history — philanthropy is at the core of everything we do.

Our Mission

Newman inspires individual growth and academic excellence within an inclusive community committed to strong relationships and high expectations.

Governance & Financial Model

Newman is a nonprofit organization overseen by a Board of Governors. At Newman and at most independent schools across the country, tuition does not cover the full cost of educating each student. Our annual budget is approximately $29 million, of which tuition provides $26 million. Each year, the difference is filled by approximately $1.5 million from our endowment draw, and the remaining support comes from the generosity of our community through annual NEWMANfund gifts.

Ways to Give

Newman is supported by parents, alumni, grandparents, and friends in many meaningful ways. However you choose to support the School, your generosity is appreciated. Giving at Isidore Newman School falls into these five categories:

1. NEWMANfund
2. Capital Projects
3. Endowment and Scholarships
4. Charles Keller III Legacy Society
5. Gifts in Kind
6. Matching Gifts
The NEWMANfund is our most important annual fundraising effort. In order to sustain our high academic standards and offer a wide array of extra-curricular activities, we rely on the continued generosity of our community — parents, alumni, grandparents, and friends. Gifts to the NEWMANfund elevate the educational experience for each student from Green Trees to Upper School by supporting the arts, athletic programs, classroom and materials, faculty salaries, financial aid, library resources, professional development, and technology resources. Annual gifts to Newman are tax-deductible and are reinvested immediately to support and enhance the current-year operating expenses. With each gift to the NEWMANfund, we are building a strong community of giving.

DESIGNATED GIVING

While NEWMANfund dollars are generally put towards the area of the School where they are most needed (unrestricted), you may designate a gift to a program that is particularly important to you and your family. NEWMANfund designated gifts may be spent only for a specific purpose, which the donor designates, such as academics, arts, athletics, faculty, or scholarships. That said, unrestricted gifts are the most powerful gift a donor can make.

100% PARTICIPATION GOAL

Participation is the percentage of parents who give a gift of any size to Newman. We understand that families have a range of capacity for giving, and we are overwhelmed by the generosity of our parent community. High participation is a vote of confidence, a sign that parents invest in their children’s success and support the School’s mission. This percentage can also have an impact on gifts from outside sources. Gifts of $100 or less, on average, generate over $50,000 for Newman each year — every gift makes a difference!

“Each year I am humbled by the generosity of so many members of our School community. Philanthropy is critical in supporting our students and securing a stable and vibrant future for Newman.”

DALE M. SMITH, Head of School

TIMELINE

While an individual’s tax year coincides most often with the calendar year, Newman operates on a fiscal year of July 1 – June 30. Donors who support the School during our fiscal year will be listed in the Report of Gifts.
WHAT DOES THE NEWMANfund SUPPORT?

Our talented and dedicated faculty and staff who establish a rigorous learning environment for students and provide the support they need to achieve. Each year, 100% of our faculty and staff benefit from professional development from industry leaders in their discipline.

Our robust Department of Student Support Services which includes a Health and Wellness Programs Coordinator and Health Educator, three full-time counselors, and a new Social Emotional Learning Specialist for Green Trees and the Lower School.

Seven learning specialists who facilitate the individualized learning of Lower, Middle, and Upper School students. The Math Lab and Writing Center are also available for Upper School students.

Membership in the Global Online Academy, which expands course offerings in the Upper School.

Global Studies courses which are available to seniors and include courses taught in French and Spanish. More than 20% of our graduates complete an advanced Global Studies course in a non-native language.

Student collaboration and real-world problem solving in the Innovation Lab and new state-of-the-art Makerspace.

Extensive arts program featuring partnerships with several local arts organizations and visits by nationally recognized artists.

An athletic program with 98 state championships which places an emphasis on sportsmanship. The positive Coaching Alliance works with team captains on leadership through the Jeff Jansen Sports Leadership Center.

The Phillipson Health Center which staffs three athletic trainers and a Nurse Practitioner and provides AED and EpiPen stations in several locations around campus.

Endowed lectures featuring renowned authors, historians, and artists provide valuable insight to our students.

Community service activities which provide opportunities for Newman students to engage with the broader New Orleans community.

The Newman Scholarship Fund which helps support the financial aid budget each year, a critical need with over 20% of our student body receiving assistance.

GIVING LEVELS

Chairman’s Circle | $25,000 and above
Head’s Circle | $10,000-$24,999
Founder’s Circle | $5,000-$9,999
1903 Scholar’s Circle | $1,903-$4,999
Greenie Gift | $10-$1,902

There are additional giving options for alumni. Please visit NewmanSchool.org/alumni for more information.

LEADERSHIP GIVING

Gifts of $1,903 and above are considered leadership gifts. Because leadership giving accounts for over 80% of the funds raised annually, leadership donors have an important role in shaping the Newman experience for every student. Leadership donors are invited to stewardship events throughout the school year.
Capital Giving

Capital gifts support a specific program, initiative, building construction, or extensive renovation project. The Advancement team works with alumni, parents, grandparents, and friends of Newman to match their interests with the needs and priorities of the School. These can be single or multi-year commitments and address needs that are above and beyond what the operating budget covers. In recent years, the Rupa and Tarun Jolly Science and Technology Building and the Manning Family Athletic Complex have been the result of generous capital support from members of the Newman community.

Endowment and Scholarships

The Isidore Newman School Foundation is the School’s permanent investment account, which provides income to the School and its programs in perpetuity. The School spends 5% of a 12-quarter rolling average on programs, people, and plant. Donors may make gifts to the general endowment or set up specific endowments for programmatic or scholarship support. Newman’s endowment is currently $38 million, with the majority benefitting financial aid and faculty. Newman awards over $2.3 million in financial aid to approximately 21% of the student body. The average scholarship is $12,500 annually.

Charles Keller III Legacy Society

The Charles Keller III Society honors alumni, parents, grandparents, former parents, and friends of Newman who have expressed their commitment to the mission of the School by naming Newman as the beneficiary of a planned gift. Gifts may be made via a trust, annuity, IRA distributions, insurance policy, or, most commonly, a bequest. If you are interested in leaving a permanent legacy at Newman, please visit NewmanSchool.org/giving or contact Mary Hoffman at 504.896.6425 to discuss your wishes.

Gifts in Kind

On some occasions, donations of needed goods that relieve budgetary expenses are welcomed. Before donating a gift in kind, please contact the Advancement Office at 504.896.6425. There are rules and regulations about valuation and tax credits, so we suggest that donors consult with their tax advisor and the Advancement Office before giving.

Matching Gifts

As an employee benefit, over 500 American corporations match their staff’s philanthropic contributions. Matching gifts allow you to double or triple your gift to Newman. To find out if your employer matches gifts, please visit MatchingGifts.com/newmanschool. After confirming that your employer is a matching gift corporation, please consult your employer regarding the next steps (as each company is different).
Parent Organizations

There are several ways to volunteer your time in the Newman community. Serving as a parent volunteer is a great way to enrich your child’s education at Newman, feel more connected, enjoy a sense of accomplishment, and make new friends.

NEWMAN PARENTS ASSOCIATION

As a Newman parent, you are automatically a member of the Newman Parents Association. The NPA works with the School to help make wonderful things happen for all members of the Newman community. In addition to matching you with a Greenie Connection, the NPA hosts several fundraisers and community building events throughout the year. Funds raised are donated to the School. Events include: General Meetings, Carnival Under the Stars, Recycled Uniform Sales, Book Fair, Bingo and Basketball, and the spring fundraiser. Please visit NewmanSchool.org/newman-parents-association or contact Newman Parents Association President Angele Thionville (athionville@cox.net) for more information.

NEWMAN DADS CLUB

All Newman parents are automatically members of the Newman Dads Club. The Dads Club hosts fundraisers and community building events throughout the school year. Funds raised are donated to the School. Events include the Pre-K Lunch hosted by the Dads Club and GreenieFest, a school-wide road race and BBQ, which is held in the spring. Please visit NewmanSchool.org/dadsclub or contact Dads Club President Mark Vicknair (markvicknair@hotmail.com) for more information.

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The NPA, Dads Club, and Green N White Club provide platforms to connect with people who are interested in creating a positive environment at our School. I like that my kids see me actively involved in the Newman community.

VICKY SPERLING, Parent ’11, ’15, ’17, ’20

NEWMAN GREEN N WHITE CLUB

The Green N White Club is a booster club dedicated to supporting the Athletic Department. All parents are invited to become members; there are different levels of membership fees and benefits associated with each level. Funds raised are donated to the Athletic Department. Please visit NewmanSchool.org/GreenNWhiteClub or contact Green N White Club President James Reiss (jamesreiss3@gmail.com) for more information.
The Office of Advancement

The Advancement team is located on the first floor of the Jefferson Building. We are always happy to meet our new Newman families and help make connections for you in the community. Please do not hesitate to stop by or reach out to any of us.

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