



HBA

High Bluff Academy

A PRIVATE COLLEGE
PREPARATORY HIGH SCHOOL
GRADES 9 - 12

ABOUT HIGH BLUFF ACADEMY

Accredited by
the Western
Association of
Schools and
Colleges (WASC)

Approved by
the University of
California (U.C.)

College Board
Capstone
School



Approved by
the National
Collegiate
Athletic
Association
(NCAA)

Authorized to
admit students
on F-1 visas



HBA FOUNDED ON A CULTURE OF CARING

High Bluff Academy is a small school with big opportunities for all types of learners. In our warm, supportive atmosphere, students rediscover the joy of learning. Founder, Jill Duoto, created the school for her own son, Bryan, who went on to do stem cell research at Stanford University and a PhD in Nanoengineering at the University of California, San Diego.

The secret to his success in the past still holds true today: Jill personally selects great teachers who are experts in their fields and limits the number of students per class so that every student is front and center. The entire team at HBA creates a personalized plan for each student to prepare them for admission to the college of their dreams.



#1 PRIVATE SCHOOL

HBA has been voted the Best Private School every year since 2014 in the North Coast Reader's Poll



100% OF HBA STUDENTS ARE COLLEGE-BOUND

HBA students gain admission to incredible colleges and are prepared for success upon arrival.

- Harvard
- Princeton
- Stanford
- UC Berkeley
- U.C.L.A.
- Emory
- Northwestern
- U.S.C.
- UC San Diego
- University of Virginia
- UC Santa Barbara
- NYU
- Tufts
- UC Santa Barbara
- UC Irvine
- Boston College
- UC Davis
- Pepperdine
- Northeastern
- Univ. of Michigan
- Georgetown
- Ohio State
- Santa Clara
- Syracuse
- University of Miami
- Purdue
- Penn State
- University of Washington
- George Washington
- Tulane
- SDSU
- Cal Poly SLO



LOCATION: SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

HBA is located in the wealthiest and safest neighborhood in San Diego County in the city of Rancho Santa Fe. Los Angeles airport is only a ninety-minute drive, yet San Diego is a very relaxed resort town far from the noise and crowds of L.A.

San Diego has many famous tourist destinations including Sea World, Legoland, the San Diego Zoo, Safari Park, Birch Aquarium and beautiful beaches. San Diego is also known as a cultural center with its many art galleries, theatres, symphonic and popular music concerts, as well as history, and science museums.



ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

HBA offers an outstanding English language program that allows students to begin their studies at a comfortable level and gradually work towards college-level proficiency. Most students improve their reading and writing by two to three grade levels per year.

Classes specifically designed for ESL students are provided in English and History as well as a daily ESL support class where students receive individual assistance in completing their assignments.



SMALL CLASSES WITH PERSONALIZED INSTRUCTION

Our customized program challenges students to reach their highest potential without overwhelming them. Our small class size allows students plenty of opportunities to practice speaking English, build their confidence, and receive support in all of their classes.

HBA teachers are dedicated to helping each student achieve good grades by teaching them effective study strategies and time management skills. Our staff conducts weekly progress checks and creates a customized study plan to keep students on track.



HOMESTAY PROGRAM

Homestay is an alternative to traditional on-campus boarding. The advantage for the student is that they live and learn with an American family, accelerating their English skills and knowledge of American culture.



HBA assists in placing students with homestay families in local neighborhoods. Each family is carefully screened and selected based on the individual student's needs. The families provide all meals, transportation, help with homework, and weekend activities - just like a real family. The school communicates with the homestay parents on a regular basis to ensure the students are well cared for and successful in school.

ADVANCED CURRICULUM

HBA has successfully guided students in the college admissions process since 2002 with impressive results. Our advanced courses give students an edge over students from other high schools. HBA students report that when they begin college they are better prepared and more successful than their peers.

HBA offers 23 Advanced Placement (AP) college-level courses as well as our BEYOND AP college-level classes that are UC-approved honors courses. These courses include:

- Molecular & Cell Biology
- Genetics
- Machine Learning/Artificial Intelligence
- Computer Engineering
- Multivariable Calculus
- Advanced Research in Science



AP CAPSTONE PROGRAM

HBA has been selected by The College Board as an AP Capstone school. Two research courses: AP Seminar and AP Research offer opportunities for students to select a topic of interest for in-depth study. Students who complete the two courses will be issued an AP Research Certificate, and if combined with any four other AP exams, will be awarded the prestigious AP Capstone Diploma.

TOEFL & SAT PREPARATION

We also include in our curriculum preparation courses for the TOEFL and SAT exams. Students can fit these classes into their regular school week and it is included with tuition.

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

HBA students are involved in many clubs, competitions and extra-curricular activities. Each year students are encouraged to start clubs of their own. With help from our staff, they develop the leadership and organizational skills valued by colleges.

- Student Government (ASB)
- National Honors Society (NHS)
- Quiz Bowl
- Biology Olympiad
- Community Service Club
- Science Club
- Chess Club
- Environmental Club
- Yearbook Club
- Art Club

SPORTS PROGRAM

- Volleyball
- American Football
- Cross Country Running
- Tennis
- Basketball
- Track and Field
- Golf

SAN DIEGO IS A LIFE SCIENCES RESEARCH HUB

San Diego is also known as the Silicon Valley of Southern California because it is home to a broad base of technology sectors including biotech, cybersecurity, aerospace, software, health IT, bioinformatics, and pharmaceuticals. San Diego is also home to the following well-known companies: Qualcomm, Illumina, Apple, and Google.

HBA graduates have found rewarding careers in these fields.

Many HBA parents work in these institutions and corporations. HBA can provide tours, internships and career exploration of these.

Over
1,225
life
sciences
companies

Over
80
independent
and university-
affiliated research
institutes

In 2020,
San Diego
received
\$1 Billion
in
research grants

STUDENT **SUCCESS** STORIES



ROBERT W.

was our first international student from China. After only two years at HBA, he earned all A's his freshman year and went on to pursue an MBA at Columbia University.

KONSTANTIN A.

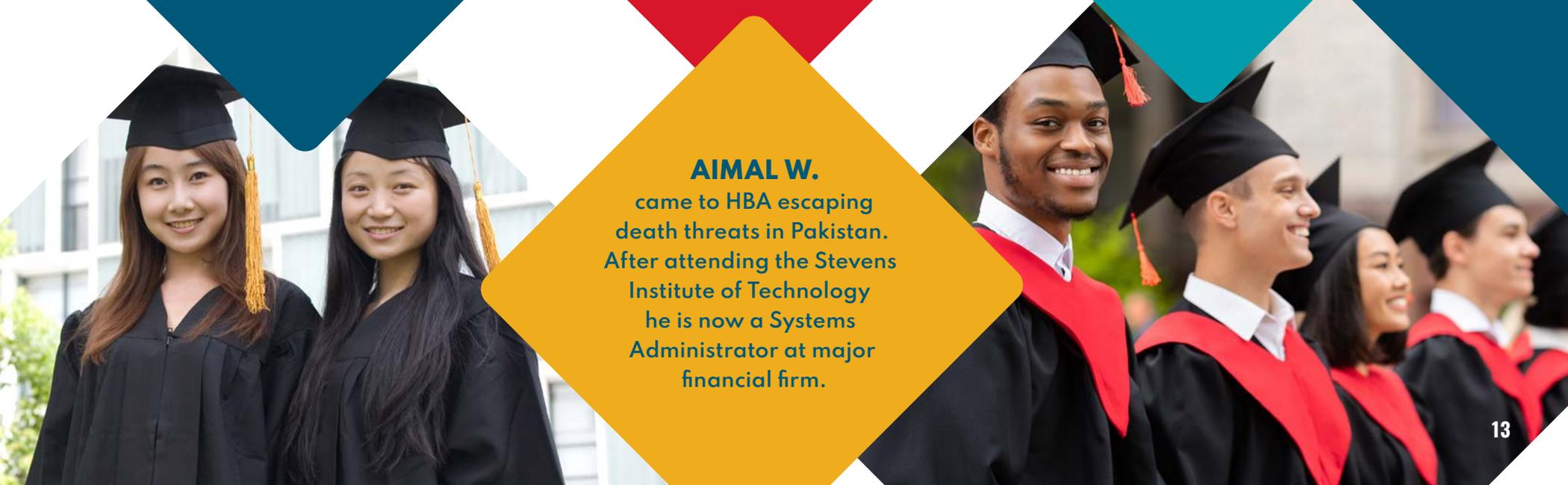
was our first international student from Russia. He graduated from UCSD and is a Software Engineer at Qualcomm.

JESSICA V.

is from Vietnam and was the first in her family to attend college. She was elected President of the Student Body and interned for the Vice President at U.C. Berkeley.

AIMAL W.

came to HBA escaping death threats in Pakistan. After attending the Stevens Institute of Technology he is now a Systems Administrator at major financial firm.

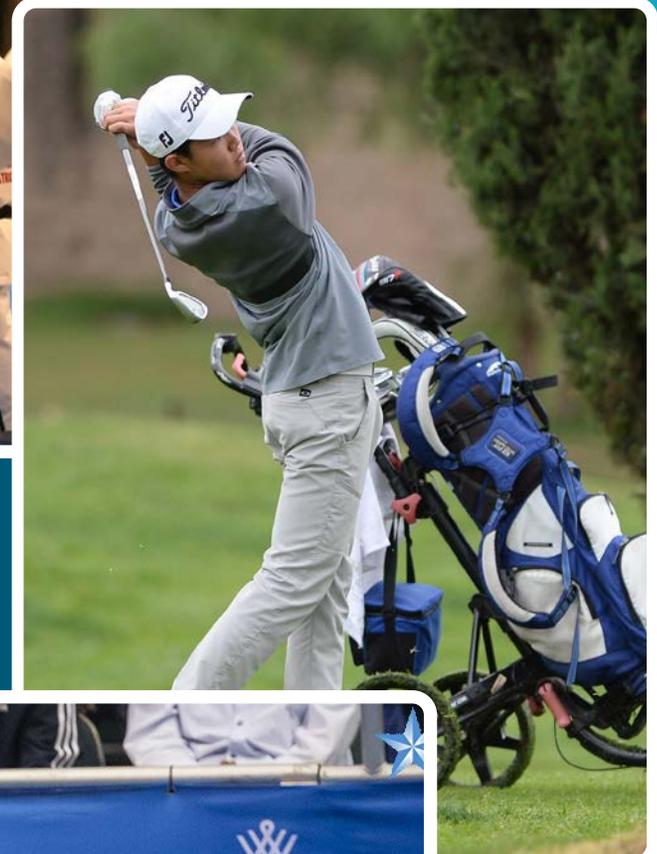


THE PERFECT HIGH SCHOOL FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES

Top-level high school athletes have rigorous training schedules that don't always allow them to participate in a regular school program. HBA can provide flexible schedules and one-on-one tutoring to keep student-athletes up-to-date on their assignments. Our teachers understand the challenges student-athletes face and they help them balance their demanding practice schedules with their study time.

Student-athletes that have excelled at HBA

- **Brandon Nakashima** - University of Virginia Top 65 World Ranked men's professional tennis
- **Krando Nishiba** - USC golfer
- **Andrew Heiati** - 3-time world champion Taekwondo (juniors and adult)
- **Tomohiro Kawada** - men's gymnastics Ohio State University Junior National Olympics finalist in rings



ABOUT OUR FOUNDER: JILL DUOTO

International education has been my passion for over thirty years. I began my teaching career in South America where I met my husband. The two of us spent the next 14 years in Japan, Singapore and Brazil as teachers, dorm parents and school administrators.

When we returned to San Diego with our three children, I started HBA and began admitting students from all over the world. In 2012, we opened an international program in Zhejiang, China, which has been preparing Chinese students for admission to highly ranked colleges in America.

After working with students from over fifty countries, my experience has taught me to value the strengths that each culture contributes to the fabric of High Bluff Academy.



The name "High Bluff" comes from the beautiful cliffs that surround the beaches of San Diego.



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