

JACK GONZALEZ

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EDUCATION

Duke University, Class of 2030, Durham, North Carolina

Bishop O'Dowd High School (BOD), Class of 2026, Oakland, CA

- Cumulative GPA: 4.43
- AP and Honors Courses include: AP Calculus AB, AP Government, AP Literature, AP Biology, AP Statistics, AP English Language, AP U.S. History, AP Environmental Science, AP Pre-Calculus, AP Computer Science Principles, Honors Spanish 3, Honors Chemistry, Honors English 2, Advanced Spanish 2

ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH & ACTIVISM

Founder, Stop the Caps Organization (www.stopthecaps.org)

2023 - present

- Led efforts to revive tethered cap legislation in California.
- Built coalitions with multiple conservation organizations and non-profits
- Became a youth spokesperson for Senate Bill 45, organizing statewide advocacy campaigns, including letter-writing initiative targeting major beverage CEOs.

Science Crew Researcher, CA Collaborative Fisheries Research Program (CCFRP)

2024 - present

- Conducted field research with UC Davis's Bodega Marine Lab. Surveyed fish populations by catching, identifying and tagging rockfish aboard research vessels, and analyzing data.
- Performed lab research including otolith dissections, gonad analysis, and kidney evaluations. Data sent to NOAA and the CDFW to guide state policy
- Supported graduate-level genetic research by collecting fin clips from Vermillion Rockfish.

Habitat Restoration Intern, Salmon Protection and Watershed Network (SPAWN)

2024-present

- Conducted research using "fish trap" installation to measure, weigh and tag smolt to determine numbers, size, and quality of endangered Coho salmon population.

Intern/Steering Committee Member (sole youth member), Save the Albatross Coalition

2024-present

- Partner in a campaign to combat marine debris and help save the albatross.

Youth Leader, Zero Waste Youth Organization - San Diego Chapter

2023-present

- Flown in to speak at 12th Annual Zero Waste Symposium, advancing efforts to reduce plastic waste in CA.

Member, Keep California Beautiful Advisory Board

2023-present

- Attend monthly meetings to collaborate and discuss important environmental initiatives.

LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

Founder and President, Bishop O'Dowd Fishing Appreciation and Conservation Club

2022-present

- Planned and executed fishing outings and community service events.

Partner, CA Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW) & South Bay "Fishing in the City Program"

2022- present

- Formed partnership between Bishop O'Dowd Fishing club & CDFW.
- Secured donation from CDFW for fishing gear (22 rods & tackle boxes).
- Coordinated volunteers to participate in South Bay "Fishing in the City" service clinics.

Youth Leader, National Ocean & Atmospheric Administration Ocean Guardian Program

2024-present

- Named youth ambassador, as a leader in the field of ocean conservation & stewardship.
- Attended monthly meetings & collaborated on national ocean and climate literacy efforts.

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Bishop O' Dowd Varsity Tennis Team, Grades 9-12

2022-present

- Played doubles for team that won the '24 & '25 West Alameda County Conference League.
- Took second place in WACC individuals (doubles) 2025
- Served as Team Social Media Manager promoting team news & building spirit.

Co-President and Member, National Honor Society Executive Board

2024-present

- Co-President during senior year. 1 of 3 juniors chosen to serve on Executive Board '24-'25.
- Organized and hosted a schoolwide blood drive, shoe drive, & school supply drive.

Associated Student Body (ASB) & Class Student Council Secretary

2022-present

- 1 of 6 students elected to ASB Executive Council, serving as liaison between 1200+ peers and school administration. Completed year long advanced leadership course.

Member, Bishop O' Dowd Latinos Unidos Club

2022-present

- Spread awareness about Latin culture and social issues. Organized Multicultural Week.

Bishop O' Dowd Dragon Ambassador

2022-present

- Represent Bishop O'Dowd High School through tours, panels, and events.

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Counselor In Training, Optimist Volunteers For Youth (OVY Camp)

July 2024

Supervised cabin of 8 elementary school boys. Assisted with planning and directing camp activities.

Counselor In Training, Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center Leadership Program

June-August 2023

Directed and supervised outdoor activities for groups of 10+ children.

Site Volunteer, Ploughshares Nursery Alameda Point Collaborative

June - August 2022

Volunteered at non-profit nursery whose profits support the homeless population.

AWARDS

National Merit Commended Scholar 2025 - Awarded to top 3% of PSAT test takers nationally.

AP Scholar with Distinction 2025 - Award given to students for achieving an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP exams and a score of 3 or higher on 4 or more AP exams.

National Honor Society (NHS) Scholarship National Semi-Finalist - Selected as 1 of approximately 600 semi-finalists out of nearly 17,000 nationwide.

201 Service Award 2024 - Award given for demonstrating ongoing commitment to service and volunteering over 200 hours of community service.

Bishop O'Dowd Academic Excellence Award - Award given for maintaining a 4.0 GPA or above. Received award in 2023, 2024, and 2025.

NCS President's List Award - Awarded to varsity athletes with GPA over 3.8. Awarded this in 2023, 2024, and 2025.

CA Scholarship Federation - Scholastic membership for academic excellence and community service; member every semester 2022 - present