

## **Duc In Altum Schools Collaborative Hosts Ninth Annual Summit in Washington, DC**

*Thought-leadership and Innovation in Catholic Education top 2023 DIA Schools Summit topics at  
The Catholic University of America, October 16-18.*

**Washington, DC, September 20, 2023** – Duc in Altum Schools Collaborative (DIA) announces its annual Catholic education Summit to be held at the Catholic University of America, October 16-18. Now in its ninth year, the 2023 DIA Summit will host more than 175 Catholic school leaders, diocesan superintendents of education, teachers, and campus ministers, as well as vendors and professional presenters from 25 US states, all united in the mission to infuse the faith into Catholic institutions.

[Endorsed by Ordinaries](#) throughout the US, the purpose of the DIA Schools Summit is to create a national network of collaboration and idea-sharing to further the fruitful formation of students as authentic disciples of Jesus Christ. Committed to providing professionals in Catholic education the opportunities to work together, brainstorm, and collaborate, the Summit's 2023 central themes include thought-leadership and innovation as pathways forward in providing authentic and vibrant educational experiences. Sessions will be presented by experts in education, leadership, and youth ministry, with an [agenda](#) focusing on personal and professional growth.

Kyle Pietrantonio, DIA Executive Director, states, "This year's Summit—DIA's ninth—will be extraordinary. From being hosted by one of our fantastic Catholic higher ed partners in our nation's Capital to a special Night at the Museum event with the legendary Jesuit scholar Fr. Robert Spitzer, we will convene some of the most entrepreneurial and evangelizing Catholic school teams and strategic partners from all over the country. As we seek to be beacons of light for the future of the Catholic Church, this annual gathering will provide the needed inspiration, nourishment, and fellowship to accomplish this mission-critical work of the New Evangelization."

The Summit is slated to begin with Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception's Crypt Church celebrated by Bishop Thomas Daly of the Diocese of Spokane and Chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Catholic Education. This year's keynote line up includes Tim Busch, Catholic Philanthropist, Businessman and Lawyer; Dr. Helen Alvaré, Robert A. Levy

Endowed Chair in Law and Liberty at Antonin Scalia Law School, George Mason University; Fr. Robert Spitzer, President of the Spitzer-Magis Institute of Reason and Faith; Dr. Peter Kilpatrick, President of Catholic University of America; and Dr. Richard Ludwick, President of University of St. Thomas - Houston. In addition, more than 20 breakout sessions will be offered targeting Catholic school administrators, campus ministers and teachers, in addition to an after-hours event at the Museum of the Bible.

Founded in 2017, the DIA approach to Catholic education is holistic, specifically designed to engage, educate, and evangelize the whole family with the aim of building up the individual, the family, schools and parishes, and the entire Catholic Church in the United States. The mission is to continue connecting, equipping, and enlivening Catholic schools, families, and children everywhere.

“The genesis of DIA sprang from a belief that we need to rethink the paradigm of Catholic schools as vibrant communities of faith,” said Pietrantonio, one of the founders of DIA now serving as executive director. “DIA is an intentional, international collaborative that brings together entrepreneurial administrators to bolster the faith formation programming of our schools in new and exciting ways.”

After experiencing past DIA Schools Summits, participants were seeking connections beyond the annual event. In response, the organizational leadership launched Duc In Altum Schools Collaborative memberships three years ago. DIA recognizes the enthusiasm educators have to “cast out deeper” for our Catholic schools, so several membership benefits are now available to schools and dioceses. Members represent 44 US states and thousands of students. In addition, DIA’s larger network of thousands of Catholic educators influences who interface with DIA and its bank of innovative resources and opportunities.

For more information about DIA and the upcoming Summit, visit [diaschools.org](https://diaschools.org); or find the Press Kit at <https://diaschools.org/press-kit/> Media are welcome to attend for free. A representative will be on-site to set up interview requests. Contact [summit@diaschools.org](mailto:summit@diaschools.org) to register.

Kyle Pietriantonio is available for comment. To request an interview contact [diaschools@gmail.com](mailto:diaschools@gmail.com).

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