



SOUTH WESTERN
MUSTANG TREE
COMMITTEE

ROOTED IN HISTORY.
CARVED FOR THE FUTURE.
PRESERVING A TRADITION
FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.

This fall, South Western has an opportunity to preserve one of its most enduring traditions for generations to come. We are inviting local businesses and community members to become part of that legacy by helping fund the next chapter of the Mustang Tree.

For more than four decades, South Western's Mustang Tree has stood as a lasting symbol of pride, tradition, and school spirit for generations of students and alumni. Originally known as the "Smoking Tree" because of its location just off school property, the large white oak served as a gathering place where students celebrated achievements, shared school spirit, honored lost classmates, and commemorated important moments in South Western history. In 1985, after the original tree was struck by lightning, master chainsaw carver Dennis Beach transformed the damaged white oak into the iconic Mustang sculpture that has since become one of the school's most recognizable landmarks. When a tornado severely damaged the carving in 2002, Beach returned to create **Mustang II**, which proudly watched over the campus for more than a decade. Then, in 2013, years of exposure to the elements made another replacement necessary, leading to the creation of **Mustang III**.

Today, the time has come once again to preserve this treasured tradition. Dennis Beach, now a world-renowned, award-winning chainsaw artist, has agreed to return for a fourth time to create the next Mustang Tree. His work will ensure this beloved symbol continues to inspire future generations of South Western students. To make this vision a reality, the South Western Mustang Tree Committee has launched a capital campaign with a goal of raising **\$12,000** through private donations. Funds raised will support:

- The carving and installation of the new Mustang Tree
- The preservation and permanent display of Mustang III inside South Western High School
- The creation of an interpretive plaque sharing the history of the Mustang Tree
- Protective sealants and future treatments to help preserve the new carving
- The planting of a new living red oak Mustang Tree on campus

With the support of generous donors like you, we hope to dedicate the new Mustang during this fall's Homecoming festivities and preserve one of South Western's most cherished traditions for decades to come.

Donations of every amount make a difference. Businesses and individuals contributing **\$250 or more** will be receive a commemorative donor plaque honoring their generous commitment to make this project possible.

Please make checks payable to:

Mustang Tree Fund
South Western High School
225 Bowman Road
Hanover, PA 17331

Thank you for helping preserve **our pride in the past and the promise of our future.**

Sincerely,

Matthew Baile '02
Fundraising Chair

Email: mbaile1984@gmail.com

