

THE GAVEN STREET

FALL 2023

GAZETTE

THE SAN FRANCISCO SCHOOL MAGAZINE



A photograph of a teacher and a student examining a flower together. The teacher, a Black woman with curly hair, is wearing a red jacket over a black polka-dot top. She is holding a yellow flower and using a pair of tweezers to carefully remove petals. A young girl with braided hair, wearing a grey sweatshirt, is leaning in to observe the flower. They are outdoors, with a wooden structure and greenery in the background.

The San Francisco School

cultivates and celebrates
the intellectual, imaginative,
and humanitarian promise
of each student in a
community that practices
mutual respect, embraces
diversity, and inspires a
passion for learning.



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The Gaven Street Gazette is published twice annually by the Office of Advancement of The San Francisco School. We always welcome feedback and story ideas at advancement@sfschool.org.

Accreditation and Membership

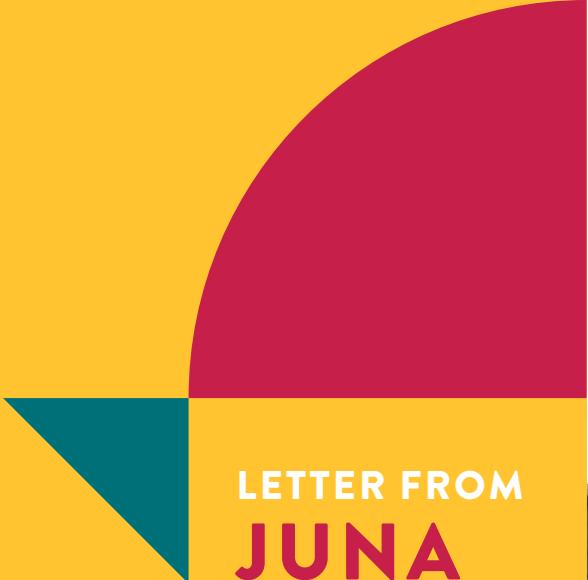
The San Francisco School is accredited by the California Association of Independent Schools (CAIS) and is a member of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS).

PHOTOS CREDITED TO (OR COURTESY OF): Jeanie Chang, Alison Gass, Mark Johann, Sofía López-Ibor, the Morris Family, Carly Reiter, Steve Rubin, Sarah Schoellkopf, and Mugsy Clicks

ON THE COVER: 6th Grade students at lunch under the old willow tree

INSIDE FRONT COVER: Elementary STEAM teacher Ami Sciarrillo with 2nd Graders Jacob, Sartaj, and George

INSIDE BACK COVER: 4th Grade mathematicians Dylan, Hannah, and Troy with their teacher Damon Allswang



LETTER FROM JUNA



As the 2023 Fall Gazette goes to press, I am struck by how much has happened in a year. Last October, I was thrilled to learn that I would be returning to the Bay Area as the Head of The San Francisco School. From that moment, the work of getting to know the community and the school began, but as informative as the phone calls and virtual meetings were, they could not compare to actually being here within the gates. I was delighted to enter this incredible school both professionally and as a 4th grade parent, where my son Troy would benefit from all that SFS has to offer.

I've been taking the time to be intentional in learning everything I can about this magical school and this community has been bringing me along with care and thoughtfulness. The month of July afforded me a slower pace to get my bearings but the real work of supporting people began when staff returned in August and students arrived on campus. Talk about a collective exhale! The anticipation of our new beginning finally transformed into reality, and we were able to start our journey together side by side. So much magic has already been created at SFS in big and small ways — our intellectual scholars are stretching their thinking in every classroom, student humanitarians are engaging in neighborhood partnerships, student athletes are competing, and middle school musicians are rehearsing for a performance in a national conference.

I knew in general what to expect in my first Opening Ceremony, but to be here in the midst of it — the red Tibetan flags and a cartwheeling bear; rituals of water pouring and gongs; exuberant students, their families, and staff singing and marching to *siyahamba* — was utterly exhilarating. This community gathering set the tone for me, and I haven't stopped smiling since. I greet students at the white zone in the morning and chat through car windows in the afternoon. I visit classrooms daily and crash singing time any chance I can. I've shared coffee and pastries with parenting adults at Community Cafes hosted by the Family Association. I've planted shrubs, attended events for new families, rolled up my sleeves for a work day in the Adventure Playground, and welcomed Gaven St. neighbors to campus. In September, members of our teaching staff presented their intellectually challenging curricula to parenting adults during Back-to-School Nights. They were dazzling and impressive, making me proud to be a colleague.

Every interaction has enriched me professionally and personally, and I look forward to spending even more time getting to know all of you. My family and I are beyond grateful to have found our way back to our chosen home in the Bay Area and to this welcoming and generous SFS community.

Cheers to a fantastic year!



JUNA McDAD
Head of School

WELCOME LAURA, RAQUEL, & FARNAZ!

We are excited to introduce these three new strategic leaders to The San Francisco School and our extended community.



From across the country, **Laura Bridges-Pereira** arrived from Tampa Preparatory School into the fog with her sunny demeanor, limitless energy, and infectious enthusiasm. As the Director of Special Programs, she draws on her childhood love of making and crafting; her love of languages, extensive travels, and experiences living abroad (with her masters in French and Language Acquisition from Penn State, Laura speaks French, Portuguese, and Spanish); and her passion for teaching and learning. She has infused fun and delight into Extended Day as well as the Curriculum and Program team. Laura brings 20+ years of teaching experience to create meaningful ways to extend teaching and learning into the after-school hours.



From across the bridge, **Raquel Vizcaíno** arrived from the Escuela Bilingüe Internacional in the East Bay where she served as the 2nd - 8th Grade Principal. A native Spaniard, Raquel studied Elementary Education and Teaching as well as Educational Psychology in Madrid, and she pursued additional instruction in second language acquisition and teaching in the Bay Area. She has held different positions as an educator and administrator in Spain and in California before arriving at SFS as Head of Middle School — and preschool parent! With patience and a sense of humor, Raquel brings calm and understanding into her relationships with 6th to 8th graders. She says earnestly, "I love the middle school years!"



From across the city, **Farnaz Devitt** came from Drew School where she was the business manager to become our Director of Finance and Operations. But she is no stranger to the Portola — a longtime neighbor of the school, SFS is "close to [her] heart" and she is delighted to "make a difference in not only students' lives but the community as a whole." Originally from Iran, Farnaz studied Business Management at Azad University in Tehran and Managerial and Financial Accounting at UC Santa Cruz. As a small business owner, she worked in floral design and ceramics, and she has more than 20 years of experience in non-profit finances from her work at Drew, ODC Dance, and Menlo School.

We are so fortunate to have this trio of new members on our administrative staff. Each of them has a unique perspective and an international background to add to the School's cultural diversity, global curriculum, and passionate leadership.

SUMMERTIME!

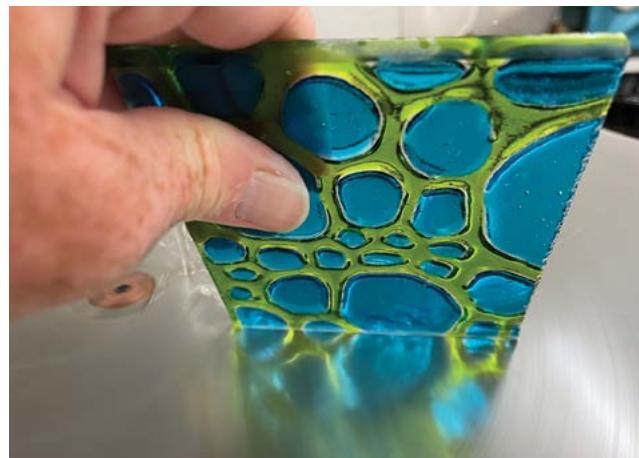
Many of our staff members spent their summer break balancing relaxation with academic, artistic, or altruistic pursuits.

Teachers College at Columbia University is renowned for supporting writing development and has served as an important resource for our humanities curriculum. Based in the science and research of advancing literacy, the Writing Workshop's mission is to help young people become avid and skilled writers and inquirers. As of this semester, we are proud that all SFS elementary and middle school teachers of writing have participated in this impactful workshop. In the past, humanities teachers **Paige Sandoz (4th)**, **Talia Goodkin '98 (5th)**, and **Erika Liedke (6th)** have attended the workshop. This summer, a contingent from SFS studied in NYC on the Columbia campus, including division heads **Kate McElvaney (Preschool and Elementary School)** and **Raquel Vizcaíno (Middle School)** and teachers **Dolores Elkin (K)**, **Chris Roncal (3rd)**, **Adele Madelo (7th)**, and **Michelle Yi-Martin (8th)**. In September, teachers **Jenny Bernstein (K)**, **Molly Treadway '99 (1st)**, and **Angelica Faustino (2nd)** attended the training locally.

Reflecting on the value of the continuum of teachers instructed in the program, **Kate McElvaney** shared, "Writing Workshop focuses on expressing oneself in the written word. Especially in the age of artificial intelligence, I love that our students will see themselves as writers before tools like ChatGPT are even an option for them. They'll have the love of writing and skills to express themselves in their own original words before using tech to supplement or edit their work."

Carly Reiter is not your average tech geek. During the week (and many nights and weekends), she's the SFS Director of Design, Engineering, and Technology. But every Sunday in a local studio, she blissfully combines her love of creativity, art, science, and engineering into mixed media stained glass creations. And this past summer, she was able to combine her personal love of glass art with her passion as a maker educator by attending a summer session at the legendary Pilchuck Glass School (founded by Dale Chihuly in the 1970's).

Carly spent two weeks this summer in the Pilchuck studios in the San Juan Islands experimenting with the relationship between glass, sound, and kinetic movement; engaging in team projects in blown glass and complex mechanical and waterjet prototyping; and creating mixed media sculptures from cast-off materials and natural objects found on the rural Pacific Northwest campus. The lone educator in a class of professional artists, she brought a unique perspective to the conversations in the various studios and at the communal meals shared with a mix of artists and makers who had traveled to Pilchuck from around the world. (Pictured above, her work "Bubbles on bubbles on bubbles" are waterjet cut and kiln-fused prototypes that mimicked the hexagonal pattern bubbles make when they are confined in nature.)





SFS music teachers **Sofía López-Ibor** and **James Harding** traveled with retired SFS teacher **Doug Goodkin** to be instructors in the fourth Orff-Afrique course to be offered in Ghana. As instructors and organizers, they collaborated with course director and ethnomusicologist Dr. Kofi Gbolonyo to train international teachers interested in bringing Ghanaian (and particularly Anlo Ewe) culture to their schools around the world.

Sofía met Kofi in Ghana more than 20 years ago. They discovered their common passion for music education and she introduced him to the Orff pedagogy. They have collaborated around the world ever since.

Kofi is a professor of Ethnomusicology at Capilano University and the University of British Columbia. His dream was to establish a music academy in Dzodze, his village in Ghana. With the help of Sofía and other supporters (including James and Doug), he established the Nunya Music Academy in 2013. For many years, classes were held outdoors. Through enormous fundraising efforts (including benefit concerts at SFS), a two-story building was constructed to house the 120 students. They learn creative arts like music, dance, and drama as well as math, information and computer technology, indigenous knowledge, and language.

Sofía, crowned Dzodze's Queen of Development in 2016, is deeply committed to the development of Nunya Academy. In anticipation of the dedication ceremony in June 2023, she organized a successful campaign to purchase a school bus for the students who walk up to three or four miles to school each day.

Read more about Sofía's work and Nunya Academy at bit.ly/nunya2023.

STRATEGIC BRIDGE INITIATIVES

The San Francisco School is deep in the introspective process for re-accreditation by the California Association of Independent Schools (CAIS). We anticipate that this self-assessment along with the recommendations of the visiting CAIS accreditation team will inspire us in creating our next visionary strategic plan, which will be drafted during the 2024-25 school year.

Until then, the Board of Trustees has approved six bridge initiatives to guide the School in the interim. These short-term initiatives are extensions of The Strategic Plan 2017-2022: Fulfilling Our Humanitarian Promise. They stem from input provided by school families, staff, and trustees solicited during the 2022-23 school year at the All School Meeting, staff discussions, and Board conversations. Intended to be ambitious but achievable, they will help advance the work focused on people, program, and place initiated over the past several years.

PEOPLE

- Strengthen our systems of support for staff so that SFS is a place where staff can thrive in the long term.
- Assess and sustain the school's diversity, equity, inclusion, justice, and belonging efforts in order to attract and retain a diverse community of staff and students.

PROGRAM

- Effectively structure and sustain continuity in all programs from PS-8th grade so that we have the most relevant curriculum, and our teaching becomes even more interdisciplinary, collaborative, consistent, and resilient to turnover.
- Scope and sequence our cross-disciplinary literacies for students, staff, and families across the PS-8th grade years.

PLACE

- Maximize efficiency of campus resources by optimizing footprint and identifying ways to reduce environmental impact.
- Enrich our engagement with the Portola so that our campus and community can serve as a resource to the neighborhood.

These initiatives provide support and opportunities for staff and safeguard the diversity of our community. They provide guidance for creating the best interdisciplinary, collaborative, and consistent program for our students. And acknowledging the importance of our surroundings — from our neighborhood in the Portola district to our place on the planet earth — the initiatives inspire us to be good neighbors and stewards capable of making an impact.

ANNUAL REPORT



Dear SFS Families and Friends,

The annual report is an opportunity for us to recognize and celebrate The San Francisco School community's continued commitment to philanthropy. Throughout the 2022-2023 school year, volunteers and donors contributed time, treasure, and talent to help make SFS the best that it can be. We are incredibly grateful for the generosity of our trustees, parents, grandparents, alumni, alumni parents, staff, former staff, and friends.

Last year marked the beginning of a new approach to philanthropy at SFS. With the goal of creating greater equity and inclusion, we shifted from hosting multiple fundraising campaigns or events to a single annual fundraising campaign. We made this change so everyone can meaningfully engage in school-sponsored activities throughout the year, thoughtfully plan their giving, and participate at a level that works best for them. And our community responded with trust and generosity.

We received annual gifts totaling \$838,328, surpassing our goal of \$806,000 by 4%. We accomplished our financial and community objectives with the leadership of the Board of Trustees, the dedication of many annual fund volunteers, the partnership of the Family Association, and the support of the entire community.

Through countless donated hours, volunteers helped host admissions tours, Community Cafes, a Fall Festival, Movie Night, an amazing inaugural PechaKucha event, a Spring Social in the park, and heartfelt farewell events appreciating outgoing Head of School, Steve Morris. Parenting adults created affinity spaces for families and generously donated "Sides by Sides," community-building events (see pg. 17).

These various investments in SFS make The San Francisco School a place where intellectual, imaginative, and humanitarian promise grow. Thank you!

With appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jen".

Jennifer Keese-Powell
Director of Advancement

2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT

FINANCIAL REPORT*

ANNUAL GIVING		CAPITAL GIVING	
The Fund for SFS Annual Fund	\$ 838,328	Forge Our Future*	\$ 130,320
		Endowment	\$ 85,987
Total Annual Giving	\$ 838,328	Total Capital Giving	\$ 216,307
TOTAL GIVING			\$ 1,054,635
TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET			\$ 12,312,650

* Read more about *Forge Our Future: The Campaign for SFS* on page 14.

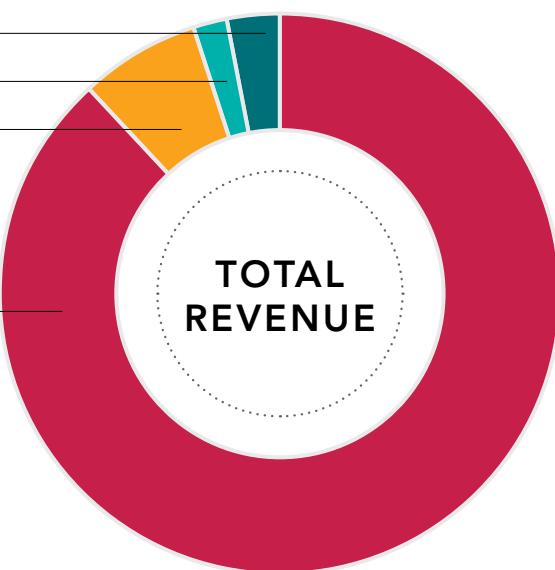
3% Other Revenue and Support

2% Release from Endowment

7% Annual Giving

89% Tuition and Other Programs

TOTAL REVENUE



3% General & Administrative

6% Depreciation

2% Debt Service

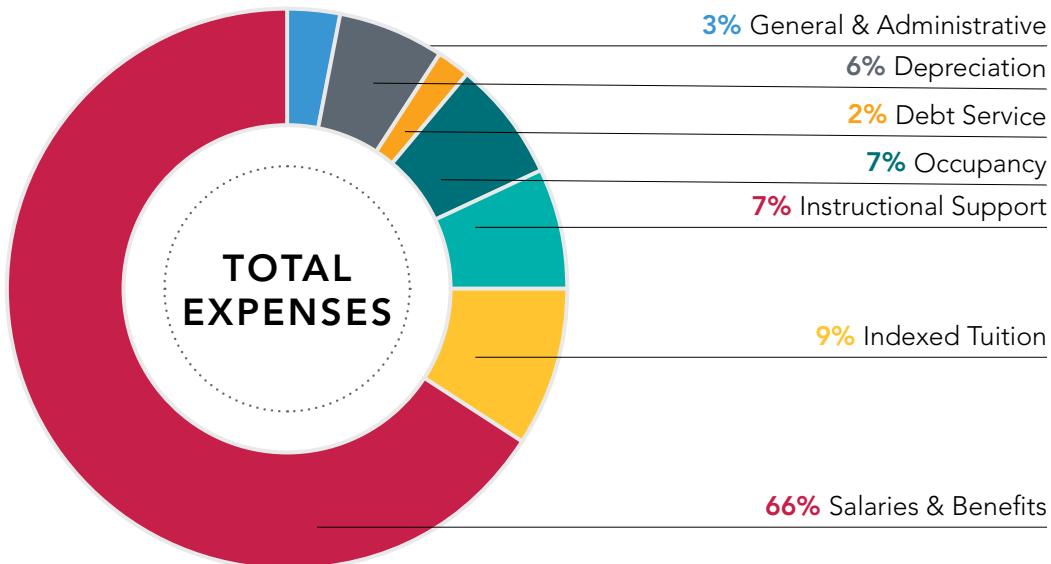
7% Occupancy

7% Instructional Support

9% Indexed Tuition

66% Salaries & Benefits

TOTAL EXPENSES



Audited Financials. Excludes outstanding and/or uncollectible pledges.

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2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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in honor of Charlie and Maggie Whitelaw

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Chan Zuckerberg
Chevron Corporation ▲
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State Street
The Walt Disney Company Foundation
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Visa ♦



ENDOWMENT & LEGACY SOCIETY

The San Francisco School Endowment provides essential income that is consistent and reliable. It ensures long-term security for the school and is a perpetual source of annual revenue that complements both annual giving and tuition income. Established in 1982, it was valued at \$8.0 million as of June 30, 2023, with an additional \$1.1 million in pledges receivable from *Forge Our Future: The Campaign for SFS*. Through the collective generosity of the community, the campaign, which closed in June 2021, doubled the value of the endowment and brought it closer to the recommended benchmark of one year of tuition revenue.

In the 2022-23 school year, the School received an additional \$100,000 of endowed gifts and pledges from more than 50 donors to the Morris Family Fund for Equity & Justice in honor of Steve Morris' 19 years of leadership at The San Francisco School. The fund, originally established when Steve became Head of School in 2008, was established by then SFS parents Dottie and Craig Mattison to support Steve's efforts in the realm of diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging. These new gifts and pledges combined with previous gifts have brought the fund's total gifts and pledges to \$136,000.

LEGACY SOCIETY

We are honored to recognize the members of The San Francisco School's Legacy Society, a group of dedicated donors who have included The San Francisco School in their estate plans. Through their thoughtful vision and planning, they are providing for the future of the school.

Terry and Kathie Edeli

Head of School 1973-2008, Parents of David '91 and Joey '95, Grandparents of Lillian '30 and Louis '33

Terry Gamble Boyer and Peter Boyer

Parents of Anna Boyer '09 and Chapin Boyer

Miriam Phillips and Charles Eley

Director of Finance & Operations 1997-2010, Parents of Anna Eley Cantrell '94 and Alexander Eley '98

If you have included The San Francisco School in your will or trust or are interested in learning more about how to do so, please contact Director of Advancement Jennifer Keese-Powell at jkeesepowell@sfschool.org or (415) 287-2003.



ENDOWMENT GIFTS

Endowment gifts create a legacy that provides an exceptional education for future generations of SFS students. Monies received are invested, with a portion of the growth and interest each year spent on designated programs. There are 24 named endowed funds that support key priorities of the school such as tuition assistance, professional development, and program support. These funds supplement the operating budget for their designated areas, filling an important gap that is not covered by tuition income.

GENERAL FUND

Jason Coffer and Cecilia Chang
Melissa Lim and Leigh Kimberg

NAMED FUNDS

Chester & Clara Miltibarger Fund
Marie Bergstedt *

Edeli Family Endowment Fund
Sue Schaefer and Hale Conklin *
Terry and Kathie Edeli *

Grey Family Endowment for Academic Innovation
George Borges *

Morris Family Fund for Equity and Justice

Matt Allio
Ed Aniag and Cindy Woo
Sharvari and Rahul Apte
Marian and Hans Baldauf ▲
David and Melinda Benson ○
The Blum Cooper Family ▲
George Borges

Mitch Bostian
Dana Burd and Jeanie Chang ○
DeAndre Calhoun

Joseph Chau and Linh Ly
Diane Cho

Cisco Systems Inc.
Sam Cuddeback

Sanjeev Datar and Ellen Chen ○
Stewart Dorsey and Karla Robertson ○
Kate Dyer and Ellen Fey ▲
Terry and Kathie Edeli *

Jackie and Mike Escasa ○
Ralph Forde and Mary Jean Koontz

Elena and Peter Fuentes-Afflick ♦
Terry Gamble Boyer and Peter Boyer *
Google Inc. ▲
Jana Hattersley
Maria Hekker and Jeff Tice *
John Herman
Peter Hess and Ruth Chang Hess
Anton Honikman and Jessica Lindl ○
Ginger Jackson-Gleich '99
The Keese-Powell Family ♦
Clara Kwun and Jonathan Michael
Michael Kwun and
Sigrid Anderson-Kwun ○
Michael Lee and Amy Bricker ○
Peter Leung and Cindy Kwan-Leung
Dottie and Craig Mattison
Charlie Meade and Emily Gillingham *

Mark Mitchell
Jeanette and Kevin Moore ♦
William Neil and Sarah Schoellkopf ♦
Corrine and Michael Olague *
John and Neha Palmer ♦
Steve and Devon Rubin
Julia Russell Eells and John Eells
James and Gretchen Sandler *

Paige Sandoz
Benjamin Schrom and Poppy Alexander ♦
Chris Stori and Kelly Hayashi ♦
Jessica Tomlinson and Jen Taylor
Molly Treadway '99 and Alex Campbell ♦
Jim Watson and Davida Desmond
Dave and Sarah Whitelaw ♦
Keith Wolff and
Amelia Zimmermann Wolff ♦
Christine and Clifford Yin *

Devi Zinzuvidia

OTHER NAMED FUNDS

Ayrshire Foundation Fund for Teacher Development

Bal Villasenor Endowment Fund

Baldauf Family Fund for Sustainability

Burkhead Lau Scholarship Fund

Chrissy Bates Memorial Scholarship Fund

Gloria Darrow Memorial Scholarship Fund

Dekovic Memorial Scholarship Fund

Dekovic Memorial Scholarship Fund for Staff Development

Frank Korn Memorial Scholarship Program

Gamble Boyer Endowment Fund

Gari Grant Memorial Scholarship Fund

Hancock Fund for Teacher Development

Karen & Doug Goodkin Scholarship Fund

Maggie Weis Fund for Tuition Assistance

Pate Family Endowment

Patty Wright Memorial Fund for Performing and Visual Arts

Ryu Program for Educator Recognition

Sandler Family Endowment

Shannon Schneble Summer Scholarship Fund

Vivian Walz Fund for Visual Arts

TRIBUTE GIFTS

Elena and Peter Fuentes-Afflick
in honor of Sofia López-Ibor

Mike Lee and Amy Bricker
in honor of Nancy Nagramada and Steve Morris

2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT

VOLUNTEERS

We are deeply grateful to the many volunteers who sustain our school and community. Parents and guardians gave hours of time and talent to SFS last year in so many ways. Whether providing campus tours for prospective families; helping interview teaching candidates; sharing professional expertise on a task force or committee; hosting class gatherings, community cafes, heritage luncheons, and many other informative and social activities, SFS parenting adults were welcome and crucial contributors.



ADMISSIONS VOLUNTEERS

Sharvari Apte
Polly Arenberg
Rachel Benson
Shveta Berry
Divya Bhat
Priya Bhatia
Nisha Birla
Elfi Chandra
Amy Davis
Lamisse Droubi
William Duff Jr.
Jen Faenza
Kelly Hayashi
Diana Jansson
Barnali Mishra
Rebecca Misner
Judy Miu
Paige Patterson
Matte Scheinker
Dan Scholnick
Mandira Singh
Michael Siou
Andy Slakoff
Dan Stanko

ANNUAL FUND CLASS CAPTAINS

Jenny Garboden
Ted Getten
Danielle Goodman
Johanna Hartwig
Kelly Hayashi
Lucija Muratovic
Sarah Schoellkopf
Paige Patterson Duff
Snuller Price

FAMILY ASSOCIATION (FA) LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Tracy Kaplan
Co-Chair
Crissy Koehler
Co-Chair
Polly Arenberg
SPEAK Representative
Jenny Bernstein
Affinity Groups Co-Lead
Meghan Davidson
Events-Spring Social
Alex de Ledebur
Events-Spring Social
Jenn Estrada
Events-Fall Festival & Movie Night
Aimee Haussler
Marketing
Michelle Gordon
Staff Appreciation
Jessica Lindl
SPEAK Representative
Johanna Hartwig
New Families Liaison
Sharon Ng
Affinity Groups Co-Lead
Neelam Noorani
Events-PechaKucha
Bethany Paves
Events-Fall Festival & Movie Night
Sarah Schoellkopf
Staff Appreciation
Michael Siou
Community Cafe Lead

FA AFFINITY GROUP LEADERSHIP

Polly Arenberg
Jenny Bernstein
Cassandra Dixon
Joey Goldman
Gaby Marin-Chacon
Judy Miu
Jacqueline Moorad
Sharon Ng
Rachel Rubin
Neeta Takhar

FA ROOM REPRESENTATIVES

Lorena Acosta
Jessica Anderson
Rachel Benson
Divya Bhat
Amy Davis
Jenn Estrada
Phil Farhi
Kelly Iura
Ethan Jacobs
Kathy Liu
Anne Lopez
Barnali Mishra
Lucija Muratovic
Vanessa Ortencio
Akash Parikh
Bethany Paves
Erin Russell
Amritा Shastri

NON-TRUSTEE BOARD COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ADVANCEMENT
Kelly Hayashi
Dan Scholnick
Amy Thompson
DIVERSITY
Bethany Goad
Paul Holman-Kursky
Judy Miu
Ana Zacapa
FINANCE
Maneesh Jain
Lori Karns
Jason Spero
Orin Wicks
PUBLIC PURPOSE
Jeanie Chang
Jennifer Faenza
Environment Lead
Danielle Goodman
Sharon Ng
Kim Oakes
Snuller Price
Libby Reder
Raveena Rihal
Sarah Schoellkopf
Heather Sullens
Amelia Zimmermann
Wolff

SITE

Sid Lakireddy
Paul McGrath
Liza Pannozzo
Prashant Sharma

HIRING COMMITTEES

Thea Anderson '90
Cassandra Dixon
Jen Faenza
Ali Gass
Dina Greenwald
Jennifer Hamilton
Kelly Hayashi
Wita Mahadi
Alex Ortiz
John Palmer
Rudy Reyes
Baljeet Singh
Dave Whitelaw

And many more volunteers who supported various events by chaperoning, baking, presenting, setting up and cleaning up, and so much more. Thank you for making these experiences that much richer with your presence and support!

SIDE BY SIDES

In the past, SFS families offered fun events as auction items — from dinners to excursions and other experiences. Now our families offer these events in a new version of the tradition. Called *Side by Sides*, these friendraisers foster relationships and build community. Combined, hosts donated more than \$10,000 in kind through progressive dinners in Upper Noe/Glen Park, Bernal Heights, and Forest Hills; tequila and mezcal tasting; Chaat & Chai at the Presidio Tunnel Tops; a Poker Night; backyard bocce and BBQ; camping; and a VIP zoo experience. Huge thanks to the parenting adults who volunteered their time, opened their homes, and shared their talents and treasure in order to host these fun friendraisers!



HOSTS

Roberto Angulo and Ana Bertran
 Sharvari and Rahul Apte
 Dana Burd and Jeanie Chang
 Sunil and Elfi Chandra
 Bruno Connolly and Nina Rosenberg
 Sanjeev Datar and Ellen Chen
 Matt and Meghan Davidson
 Christopher and Sarah Donahue
 William Duff Jr. and Paige Patterson Duff
 Arjun Dutt and Shveta Berry
 Josh and Amanda Fried
 Greg Gardner and Bethany Goad
 Sapna Gupta
 Alec Hathaway and Alison Gass
 Anton Honikman and Jessica Lindl
 Maneesh Jain and Nadya Ramsaroop
 Jonathan and Tracy Kaplan
 Nilka and Maik Klasen
 Crissy and Joerg Koehler
 Telly Koosis and Aimee Haeussler
 Michael Lee and Amy Bricker
 Justin Lovett and Margaret Backstrom
 Umang Mehta and Yume Nguyen
 William Neil and Sarah Schoellkopf
 Kim and Jon Oakes
 John and Neha Palmer
 Mehul Rawal and Asha Gohil
 David Rothschild and Serena Warner
 Prashant Sharma and Priya Bhatia
 Divya and Benjamin Silbermann
 Baljeet Singh and Raveena Rihal
 Andrew Slakoff and Nicole Wolff
 Dan Stanko and Mandira Singh
 David and Sarah Whitelaw
 Orin and Alice Wicks

THE FUND FOR SFS

Gifts to *The Fund for SFS* are an investment in our community, benefiting each student and staff member. By contributing financially, you advance the mission, vision, and values of the School.

Like most independent schools, SFS relies on these gifts to help meet the programmatic and operational costs that are not covered by tuition. We rely on funds from annual giving to cover approximately 7% of our operating budget, supporting our people, place, and program.

Our goal this year is to raise \$850,000 through gifts and pledges to be paid by June 30, 2024. The generosity of SFS parenting adults, trustees, grandparents, staff, former staff, alumni, alumni parents, and friends helps make a San Francisco School education extraordinary.

Please consider making a gift to help us to fulfill our humanitarian promise and provide an education that inspires.

WAYS TO GIVE

Every gift is vital to the advancement of The San Francisco School. We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization (#94-1629702) and gifts are tax deductible. We welcome gifts through a variety of means, including:

CREDIT CARD

You may donate with a credit card online at



give.classy.org/annual_fund

CRYPTOCURRENCIES

A gift to the school of readily transferable cryptocurrencies is gladly accepted via every.org.

MATCHING GIFT

Many employers have established a matching gifts program that allows an employee's gift to be matched, often 1:1. Please ask your employer about their matching gifts guidelines. If available, please inform the school that the gift will be matched at the time of the donation.

ENDOWED GIFTS

Gifts to the endowment are also appreciated and can also be made online or through any of the methods described above.

CHECK

Gifts can be mailed to:

The San Francisco School
300 Gaven Street
San Francisco CA 94134
attn: Advancement Office

BEQUEST

Please consider including The San Francisco School in your will or trust.

For more details or to discuss any of the above, please contact the Advancement Office at 415.239.1475 or advancement@sfschool.org.

SECURITIES

We are delighted to receive appreciated securities.

THANK YOU!

CONGRATULATIONS!

SFS GRADUATES

CLASS OF 2019

On Memorial Day 2023, we welcomed the Class of 2019 back to The San Francisco School. Each year, alumni in their senior year of high school and their parenting adults return to SFS for a reunion. Some students could not attend this year but were there in spirit (including Cole in a photograph carried by his classmate Rowan!). Many had not been back on campus since their graduation four years ago. For all who were there, it was a happy way to spend their holiday (with special guests Talia Goodkin '98 and retired music teacher Doug Goodkin), revisiting their favorite spaces, playing xylophones in the Music Room, and remembering their time as SFS Bears. Now, as they have dispersed for college and other pursuits, we are thinking of them and wishing them well.



COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ENROLLMENT

Arizona State University
Bard College
Cal Poly SLO
Colgate University
CSU Chico
CUNY – Hunter College
Gonzaga University
Lewis & Clark College

Northeastern University
New York University
Occidental College
Ohio Wesleyan University
Pace University
Pitzer College
CSU San Jose
Santa Barbara City College

Skidmore College
St. Olaf College
UC Davis
UC Santa Cruz
UCLA
University of Washington at Seattle
Washington University, St. Louis
Wesleyan University

CONGRATULATIONS!

SFS GRADUATES



CLASS OF 2023 GRADUATION

The Class of 2023 came together as a middle school class in the greentop casitas during the COVID pandemic (and the final member of the class joined as an 8th grader). Despite this, they were deeply connected. Many of the students were lifers who had been at SFS since Preschool 3; others bonded through common interests like music, athletics (like that unforgettable Girls Varsity basketball team!), and their many passions, aspirations, and ambitions.

The graduation ceremony was full of affection, humor, and pride. After the musical performances, speeches, a final chorus of *Side by Side*, and reception in the courtyard, the Class of 2023 exited the Gaven St. gates together one last time. They celebrated their accomplishments and their new status as SFS alums with treats, a DJ, family, and friends at the Institute of Contemporary Art SF. They have left our campus but will forever remain in our hearts as they make their way in the world beyond SFS.



CLASS GIFT

The beauty and magic of The San Francisco School is enclosed behind a simple wooden fence. Thanks to the Class of 2023, the landscaping along the Gaven St. fences and buildings will soon match the beauty and magic inside the gates.

Their class donated nearly \$5,000 to fund two trees, more than a hundred native Californian plants, and the repair of the irrigation system. On a Saturday morning in August, volunteers dug, planted, and watered alongside the Goya family, the SFS family owners of SF Green Spaces who donated their time and resources to ensure a successful planting. Thank you, students and families of the Class of 2023, for a gift to the School that students, families, staff, neighbors, butterflies, and bees will enjoy for years to come!

HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

The Bay School of San Francisco
Drew School
International High School
Lick-Wilmerding High School
Los Altos High School

Lowell High School
SOTA - Ruth Asawa School of the Arts
St. Ignatius College Preparatory
University High School
The Urban School of San Francisco

COMMUNITY & ALUMNI NEWS

Holly Smith '99 has just begun her studies at Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Philadelphia. She is enjoying being a student again at 38 and excited for what this new direction holds for her. Spanish teacher **Dimitri Barton '08** earned his Master of Science in Curriculum and Instruction in August 2023. He completed his studies through Western Governors University while working full time as a teacher, coach, and advisor.



Documentary editor and producer **Hailey Gavin '10** (haileygavin.com) was nominated for an Emmy! Her recent work *The New Death*, a documentary about human composting, was selected to be in the "Outstanding Soft Feature" category for the 2023 News and Documentary Emmy. Currently, she is in Washington, D.C., working as a staff editor and producer at Scripps News Longform.

We are grateful to the alumni, current students, and parents who were on Gaven St. for a morning of gardening (see Class Gift, p. 19). **Jalen Allen '08, Kazio Uchihara '19, Cate Kellison (parent '20), Rowan Keese-Powell '21, Quinn and Troy McDaid '28, and Dan McDaid (Parent '28)** joined Head of School Juna McDaid, Director of Finance and Operations Farnaz Devitt and her son, and Director of Advancement Jenn Keese-Powell in beautifying the campus outside of the fence and gates.



Singer-songwriter **Paris Hing '18** graduated from Lick-Wilmerding High School and is studying in London's Institute of Contemporary Music Performance. Recently, Paris recorded her music for release this fall (look for her single "Good Reasons" to drop in late October). She'll be at Boston's

Berklee College of Music in the spring to continue her songwriting education. Find her music and upcoming shows at parismusic.me.



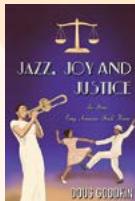
Riya Rawal '23 is an avid reader. Between 2020-23, she organized four book drives with the African Library Project, a non-profit organization that is meaningful to her family given her paternal family's roots in Africa. Each year, with the support of other students and SFS, she has collected over 1000 books to establish libraries in Ghana, Lesotho, and Kenya.



Monica Gandhi (Parent '22 and '24)

is a household name in the Bay Area, United States, and the Twitterverse. As an infectious disease expert, she was frequently in the mainstream spotlight, commenting on the COVID pandemic, responses, and policies.

She has just published *Endemic: A Post-Pandemic Playbook*, her thoughts on living with the coronavirus and its variants and considerations for the next pandemic.



If you've ever wished you were a middle school music student at SFS, immersed in the world of jazz, you'll be delighted to know that retired SFS music teacher **Doug Goodkin (Parent '94 and '98)** has published his ninth book. In *Jazz, Joy and Justice*, Doug shares the history of this uniquely American art form and the stories of its musical geniuses, and reflects on how systemic racism has hurt (and continues to hurt) us all.

This summer marked the 20th year of Riveropolis at SFS. Led by **Gregory Gavin (Parent '10)** and **Dolores Elkin (Kindergarten teacher, Parent '07 and '10)**, this year's camp theme was "The Land of the Tree People," a whimsical and creative exploration, serious design challenge, and workshop with power tools. To document the process of creating the winding watery sculpture, producer and cinematographer Todd Dayton (*The Secret Song*) was on campus to capture the magic on film.



On a beautiful day in September, retired Director of Technology **Steve Rubin** and his partner Devon hosted many fellow SFS retirees at their home in Sonoma. The reunion included a hike, food, and so many memories.

Vivian Walz (Parent '07 and '11) is loving retirement! In addition to being a grandparent to two SFS students, she is painting, nature journaling, volunteering at the Sanchez Art Center, and serving on the board of Silicon Valley Visual Arts.

REMEMBRANCES



Emily Gillingham (Parent '16, '19, '26)

passed away at home on August 25, 2023, surrounded by family and loved ones. A member of the SFS community since 1999 when her partner Charlie Meade became its Director of Development and Communications, she was a dedicated volunteer in many capacities and a stalwart, compassionate friend. Her professional life centered on social justice, creating opportunities for marginalized communities, and addressing inequities. She is survived by her husband Charlie, children **Edith, Willa, and Gus**; and her parents Pacita Moreno and Arthur Gillingham. A Celebration of Life will be held in Emily's honor later this year. Donations in her memory may be made to De Marillac Academy (demarillac.org).



BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2022-23

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David Whitelaw, Vice Chair

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Thea Anderson '90

Rachel Benson

Ellen Chen

Judy Pérez Díaz

William Duff Jr.

Josué Estrada

Jen Faenza

Talia Goodkin '98

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Ashlee Gutierrez

Lori Karns

Crissy Koehler

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Daniel Munda

Moriah Ortiz '99

John Palmer

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SAVE THE DATE!

Classes of 2016-2019
Alumni Event on January 2

