

Annual Report & More 2022/23



WASHINGTON
Waldorf School

2022/23

Faculty Chair/Head of School

Lelia True

Advancement

Jane Christenson

High School Co-Chair, High School Theatre Arts

Laura Cox

4th Grade Class Teacher

Alia Goodyear

Director of Communications and Marketing

Torie Gorges

Director of Enrollment

Stephanie Hanson

Director of Development

Meg Kneisl

Assistant Director of Development and Events
(April 2023)

Lelia True

Faculty Chair/Head of School

Miriam Zarin

Director of Community Relations and Alumni
(July 2022 – January 2023)

Design

Catalone Design Co.

Photography

Aglaia Benni

Rodolfo Castro

Alia Goodyear

Dave Hanson

James Kegley Photography

Glennys Kramer

Landon Photo and Design

Eli Turner

OUR MISSION

Washington Waldorf cultivates each student's capacity to think clearly, feel compassionately, and act purposefully in the world. We are committed to the education movement inspired by the pioneering work of Austrian philosopher Rudolf Steiner and advanced by Waldorf teachers worldwide.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT

The Washington Waldorf School is committed to educating children in a welcoming school community that reflects the rich diversity of the greater Washington metropolitan area. WWS is an inclusive community of students, families, faculty, and staff that strives to maintain diversity of race, color, ethnic background, religion, economic status, gender, age, and sexual orientation. We educate our students to respect the dignity of all people.

TRUSTEES COUNCIL

Vanessa Beckman, Chair

Lisa Pitillo

Michael Danzansky

Tove Elfström

Tom Holmberg

Maria Monteverde-Jackson

Marilyn Noguera, Secretary

Taisto Saloma

Lelia True, Faculty Chair/
Head of School

James Wise, Treasurer

COLLEGE

Lisa Pitillo

Wendy Jackson

Barbara Buchmann

Jane Christenson

Torie Gorges

Judith Graff

Linc Kinnicutt

Julian Paine

Taisto Saloma

Gabriele Schilz

Lelia True

Lynn Wenning-Adelmann

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained on these pages is accurate and complete. If you were a contributor to the Washington Waldorf School in 2022-2023 or to the Room to Move campaign, but find that your name has been omitted, misspelled, or listed under an incorrect category, please contact the Development Office at 301.229.6107x127 so that we may correct our mistake.

Washington Waldorf School is a non-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions may be deducted as stated in Section 170 of IRS Code. The School's federal tax identification number is 23-7003486.

To maintain our 501(c)(3) status, WWS files an annual report, updating the IRS on its current activities, income and financial status. We take this opportunity to share information with our supporters about the past year's achievements and to recognize our generous donors and community.

MESSAGE FROM THE FACULTY CHAIR/HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear Friends,



I am enormously proud of all we accomplished during the 2022–2023 school year. Daily, we witnessed tangible growth and change as our long-anticipated Gym took physical form.

It was thrilling to watch as we crossed major milestones: the pouring of the concrete slab, erecting the frame, enclosing the structure, laying the floor, all of the finishing work, and—perhaps most exciting—imagining this new space brimming with life and exuberance as we gather, cheer, and celebrate as a community.

The 2022–2023 school year was a time of returning to in-person events and festivals. I am particularly grateful for the work of the Parent Leadership Group and the Parent/Family Organization in bringing back our in-person Fall Bazaar. The Bazaar is a touchstone for our community—a time to gather and celebrate, to create and to enjoy the fruits of our labors together. It is also an important way that we connect with the wider community and give others a chance to experience the joyful heart of our school. Being back together for parent/guardian evenings, teas, adult education events, and so much more left me with constant reminders of why I feel so fortunate to be a part of this community.

As I've shared, this year had particular meaning for me, as my son graduated in June of 2023. I was first drawn to WWS for his Kindergarten experience, and my love for the school and my understanding of the benefits of a Waldorf education have grown over the years. At WWS, he grew and developed into the fine young man who is now in his freshman year at the US Naval Academy, studying engineering. As the parent of a WWS "lifer," I can attest to the many skills this community fostered in my son. His knowledge of himself and the world are already serving

him well as he moves into this next phase of his journey.

I appreciate the commitment we have all carried to creating a safe and healthy environment for our children as they learn and grow. Together, we navigated the transition from strict health and safety policies to practices, with more reliance on each family to be wise and considerate members of the community. Thank you for your commitment to staying at home when sick and for holding the wellbeing of our whole community in your hands and hearts.

I want to thank our faculty and others who have kept us engaged and wrestling with the challenging questions that come from striving to provide an education for our students that is aligned with the ideals of Waldorf education and creates a welcoming community that supports our rich diversity in the greater Washington area. I am particularly encouraged by our faculty's work to broaden the windows on the world that we present in our curriculum. This work will continue as we grow and evolve in accordance with our 5 year strategic plan that was outlined this year.

The generosity of this community throughout the Room to Move campaign continues to inspire me. The gift of a Gym for our community is immense. I cannot wait to cheer at home games, and for us all to come together for our annual Fall Bazaar, Gala, and other important community events in this beautiful space. Thank you for all you gave during the 2022–2023 school year. Without your support and engagement in our community life, we would not be the school we are today.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Lelia True".

Lelia True
Faculty Chair/Head of School



Dear Friends of Washington Waldorf School,



On behalf of the Trustees Council, I would like to thank you for your continued support of Washington Waldorf School. Serving as the Chair of the Trustees Council these past two years, I have had the opportunity to see the many ways that our dedicated and generous community have helped our school to continue to thrive. I am pleased to report that our school is financially sound and on solid footing.

The 2022–2023 school year began with the excitement of the gym groundbreaking ceremony at our back to school picnic. This event set the tone for a year where we were able to bring back many of our beloved in-person festivals and other community events. After the separations necessitated by the pandemic, it was such a delight to be back together celebrating our students, faculty, and the whole school community. Seeing our community return for our Fall Bazaar was a joy, and the unprecedented number of prospective families who visited our campus was encouraging for the future of our school. Throughout the year, we had the thrill of seeing the long awaited gym take shape and become a reality.

Tuition alone does not cover the cost of an independent school education. Like other schools, Washington Waldorf School relies on the generosity of our community members to help meet annual expenses, including financial assistance for 36% of our families. In 2022–2023 we exceeded the \$7,000,000 Room to Move campaign goal by raising over

\$7,127,000. Over \$1,000,000 of that total was raised in the last year of the campaign, during the 2022–2023 fiscal year. In addition, we achieved success for the One Fund by raising over \$300,000 for operating expenses and financial aid. These financial highlights reflect the health and well-being of our school and community.

The trustees spent much of 2022–2023 actively engaged in shepherding the final stages of the Room to Move campaign and in solidifying our five year strategic plan. The scope and outcomes of the Room to Move campaign will have a profound impact on our school and we thank each and every one of you for your generous support. The strategic plan defines and furthers our mission by promoting changes that will have a pervasive and persistent effect on the school and propel it forward while maintaining its core foundational elements. It gives shape and structure to the ambitious aims of the Washington Waldorf School trustees and the highest aspirations of Washington Waldorf School parents, faculty, and alums.

The Trustees Council is grateful for your steadfast support of the Washington Waldorf School and our shared commitment to inspiring a lifelong love of learning in every student. We hope you'll continue to support all of our school's efforts to continue to make Waldorf education thrive at our school and in the Greater Washington, DC community.

Blessings on our school.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Vanessa Beckman". The script is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized 'V' at the beginning.

Vanessa Beckman
Trustees Council Chair

MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

The 2022–2023 school year was a transformative period for our school administration, characterized by significant changes and exciting projects. As the Business Office, we have a central role of supporting these initiatives and managing transitions throughout the year. This report provides an overview of key developments, projects, and personnel changes that shaped the past academic year. Please note that these numbers reflect an unaudited report. A full audited report and financial statements can be made available upon request.

Key Projects and Initiatives

Financial Aid

Community need necessitated that we increase our financial aid budget by 10%, resulting in an average award of \$14,177 per student receiving aid. This reflects our commitment to continuing to provide access to quality education for all students, regardless of their financial circumstances.

Resumption of Support Programs

In 2022, we brought back essential support programs, including the afternoon program, lunch services, bus transportation from Acorn Hill, and summer camps. These programs have been instrumental in enhancing the educational experience of our students. These initiatives have played a vital role in fostering the holistic development of our school community.

Gym Construction

A highlight of the year has been the remarkable progress made in constructing the John and Mary Brauer Gym. By the end of the 2022–2023 school year, we achieved an impressive 75% construction completion rate. We eagerly anticipate the enhanced learning experiences and cherished memories that the John and Mary Brauer Gym will provide for our students.

Revenue Diversification

In our ongoing effort to support our programs, we pursued alternative revenue sources. The introduction of Money Market Accounts during the past year has generated nearly 50% of our “other” income. This diversification strategy has supported our financial foundation.

Faculty Salary Increase

In July 2022, we were able to increase faculty salaries by 8%.

Challenges and Operational Results

While we celebrate our achievements in many areas, it is essential to acknowledge that some of our support programs faced challenges during this transition year. Factors such as adapting to the post-Covid era, inflationary pressures, increased supply costs, and salary increases contributed to unexpected increases in expenses. It is important to continue a review of existing and potential revenue streams to enable WWS to offer enhanced programs and improve salaries and benefits for faculty.

Due in part to the transitional return of our support programs, and the factors outlined above, Washington Waldorf School's net financials show a loss for 2022-2023, for the first time in many years. We are fortunate to have a small reserve fund that can be drawn on this year, and we actively worked to minimize expenses going into the 2023-2024 school year. These challenges make our fundraising initiatives all the more important. In order to avoid increasing tuition substantially for all families, we need to ensure that we have a successful enrollment season and continue to meet our fundraising goals each year.

The 2022-2023 school year has been marked by notable accomplishments and transitions within our school administration. We remain dedicated to transparency and responsible financial stewardship as we look ahead to the future. We extend heartfelt appreciation to all staff, past and present, for their contributions and dedication. We look forward to the exciting developments that await us in the coming academic year.

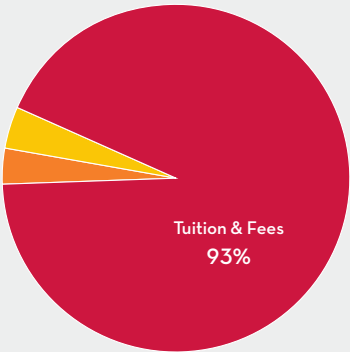


Chiedza Mazonde
Business Manager

OPERATING REVENUE AND EXPENSES

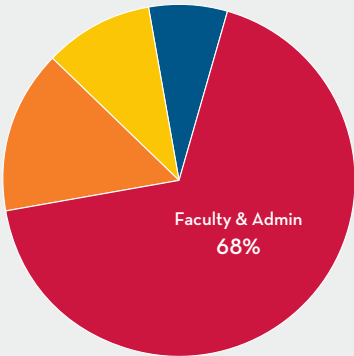
REVENUE

Tuition	\$ 8,553,409	93%
Fundraising	\$ 329,366	3.7%
Other Income	\$ 298,765	3.3%
Total Revenue	\$ 9,181,540	



EXPENSES

Faculty & Admin	\$ 6,306,743	68%
Financial Aid	\$ 1,417,178	15%
Facilities	\$ 860,094	10%
Programs	\$ 624,434	7%
Total Expenses	\$ 9,208,449	
Net	(26,909)	



Note: the above financial statements are prior to the annual audit.

STRATEGIC PLAN

In the spring of 2022, the Washington Waldorf School's Trustees Council announced the 2023–2028 Strategic Plan for our school. The plan centers on four goals:

- **Academic Development & Excellence**
- **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging**
- **Organizational & Community Engagement**
- **Financial Sustainability**



The full plan is outlined on our school's website, and we are glad to share a printed copy with anyone who requests one.

[washingtonwaldorf.org/23-28-Strategic-Plan](https://www.washingtonwaldorf.org/23-28-Strategic-Plan)

PARENT LEADERSHIP GROUP

The Parent Leadership Group (PLG) is pleased to have contributed to the return of a full slate of community events during the 2022-23 school year, all with the help of our community. Your involvement in the life of the school supports all of our children and offers the opportunity to form meaningful connections with each other. We are grateful to all who have contributed their time, talent, and treasury.

Entrusted with the Parent/Family Organization budget, the PLG spent funds on some of the initiatives listed below. Highlights of the year include:

- Producing the first in-person **Fall Bazaar** since 2019, with robust attendance and vendor participation. Dedicated help from the WWS community made it happen!
- Supporting ongoing **anti-racism and inclusion** efforts in the community.
- Proposing to the administration the formation of a group of volunteers known as the “Lunch Team” **to discuss constructive changes to the WWS lunch program**, including research into alternative structures. This was followed by submission of a report with suggestions for the future of the lunch program at WWS.
- **Recognizing the dedication of faculty and staff** through the Faculty Appreciation Lunch and other gestures of gratitude throughout the year.
- Providing opportunities for parents and families to connect by helping **produce school-wide events**, hosting **Craft & Conversation sessions**, encouraging class captains to plan **social opportunities for classes**, and hosting **two open meetings** of the P/FO.
- Continued operation of the **WWS Gear Shop**, reselling gently used donated outdoor gear to other WWS families at reduced prices, with proceeds going to the One Fund.



Jenia Beer, Jesse Travis, and Susan Fuller
Parent Leadership Group Members





We were thrilled to be able to bring back our annual Fall Bazaar as an in-person event this year. The Bazaar was a full day of crafts, activities, puppet shows and stories, artisan vendors selling their wares, and the popular Waldorf School Store. On the evening before the Bazaar, adults were invited to attend a preview night to shop the vendors. In all, the Bazaar raised \$49,000 for the One Fund, providing critical support for our school's operating expenses.

OPPOSITE PAGE: 1, 2, and 3 Rose Ceremony • **4, 5, and 6** Maypole and Grandparents & Special Friends Day • **7** Day of the Languages • **8, 9** Michaelmas • **10** Whole High School Musical • **11** Senior Play • **12** Opening Assembly • **13** Senior Eurythmy Performance

VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP

The following is a list of individuals whose gifts of time and talent served the advancement efforts of Washington Waldorf School during the 2022-2023 school year. The school’s continued growth and community strength depends on such committed, energetic, and generous individuals.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Maria Monteverde-Jackson, Co-Chair
Marilyn Noguera, Co-Chair
Vanessa Beckman
Stephanie Hanson, Staff
Kimiko Lighty
Kate Mueller
Lelia True, Faculty Chair/Head of School
Sarah Wester

PARENT LEADERSHIP GROUP

Jenia Beer
Susan Fuller
Jesse Travis

**PARENT ORGANIZATION
CLASS REPRESENTATIVES**

The P/FO Class Representative serves as each class’s liaison to the Parent/Family Organization, disseminating information and coordinating parent participants to facilitate school-wide events.

Seedlings, Cara Llewellyn
Nursery, Whitney Schwartz
Songbirds, Jesse Travis
Sunflowers, Carlos Burgos
Waldorf in the Woods, Dawn Beckman
Grade 1, Jenia Beer
Grade 2, Tamara Minor
Grade 3, Aimee Duncan
Grade 4, Susan Fuller
Grade 5, Adrienne Gallo
Grade 6, Danielle Kozlowski
Grade 7, Sylvia Szankay
Grade 8, Melissa Wilets
Grade 9, Sarah Langham
Grade 10, Sarah Vakkur
Grade 11, N/A
Grade 12, N/A

CLASS CAPTAINS

The class captain provides support to the class teacher as a communicator and coordinator of parent involvement in the individual class.

Seedlings, N/A
Nursery, Paige Black
Songbirds, Jesse Travis
Sunflowers, Tai Smallwood-Thibodeau
Waldorf in the Woods, Emily Bliss
Grade 1, Jenia Beer
Grade 2, Tamara Minor and Miki Yoshimura

Grade 3, Jesse Travis
Grade 4, Shena Ashley and Paul Hirsch
Grade 5, Jana Vandergoot
Grade 6, Lindsey Simpson
Grade 7, Jessie Sincavage
Grade 8, N/A

BAZAAR COORDINATORS

Dawn Beckman
Jenia Beer
Susan Fuller
Cara Llewellyn
Jesse Travis

**CRAFT AND CONVERSATION
SESSION LEADERS**

Vanessa Beckman
Lilli Kuth
Maria Monteverde-Jackson
Jesse Travis

GALA COORDINATORS

Jenia Beer
Aglaia Benni
Maysoun Freij
Tamara Minor
Maria Monteverde-Jackson
Jesse Travis

**FACULTY APPRECIATION LUNCH
COORDINATORS**

Aimee Duncan
Danielle Kozlowski
Rina Studds

**GRANDPARENTS & SPECIAL FRIENDS DAY
COORDINATORS**

Jenia Beer
Susan Fuller
Alison Yeich

MUSIC PROGRAM VOLUNTEER

Daniel Abraham

COMPOST CHAMPIONS

Danielle Kozlowski
Laura McCoy
Whitney Potter Schwartz
Sarah Vakkur

A Call to Action for Family Participation in the 2023–2024 School Year

We look forward to seeing you all as active participants in our vibrant community this year. Getting involved not only benefits the school—it also benefits you! Contributing to the Parent/Family Organization offers you the opportunity to:

- **form meaningful connections with others, which research shows is one of the primary contributors to happiness and social well-being;**
- **model for your children that their school and education is an important priority for your family;**
- **create a web of supportive adults, as you form connections with the faculty and the other families in your class; and**
- **demonstrate and develop passions that you may not otherwise use on a daily basis, whether it is arts and crafts, organizing, communicating, or simply spreading joy and smiles!**

We ask that each family member contribute seven hours throughout the year to support our events and gatherings. The Parent Leadership Group hopes you will join us in planning the Fall Bazaar, staffing Grandparents & Special Friends Day, or helping beautify our campus with the Broom Brigade!

Volunteer!

There are many ways to be involved, and we'd love to partner with you to find out how you'd like to contribute to WWS. You can reach us at: plg@washingtonwaldorf.org.



Dear Friends,

The 2022–2023 school year brought significant milestones for Washington Waldorf School. Our collective success is due to the individual efforts and generosity of many in our community, and demonstrative of the leadership of our Trustees Council, Faculty, and Parent/Family Organization. Current parents, alums, parents of alums, grandparents, faculty and staff, and friends of the Washington Waldorf School came together in support of our mission, and achieved long-term goals that we can all be proud of celebrating today. The following are a few highlights and celebrations of the year, from a development and fundraising perspective:

- We began the year by kicking off the public phase of the Room to Move capital campaign to build the John and Mary Brauer gymnasium on our school’s campus. We had a goal to raise the final \$1,000,000 of the \$7,000,000 goal. By the end of June 2023, we had raised an impressive \$7,127,000 from 403 donors, exceeding our goal by 1.8%.
- In addition to the Room to Move campaign, we raised \$325,000 for the One Fund, helping to bridge the gap between tuition and operating expenses.
- The Development Committee led an impressive effort to conduct a dual-ask strategy for both the Room to Move campaign and the One Fund, inviting current parents to support both initiatives. In May 2023, the committee launched a participation campaign, “Be Counted: Add Your Name,” thus doubling our current parent participation. By the end of the year, 75% of parents and 80% of faculty and staff gave to the Washington Waldorf School.

- Maria Monteverde-Jackson and Aglaia Benni co-hosted the “Views of Splendor” Gala at Top of the Town in Arlington, Virginia. This beautiful event raised \$95,000 for the One Fund, to support financial aid at our school.

We are tremendously grateful to all of our donors and volunteers, who made the 2022–2023 school year so successful. Your generosity supports every student, teacher, program, and every grade, every day. Our One Fund and event fundraising provided \$1,300 of additional educational value per student, and accounted for 5% of our school’s operating budget. Because you gave your time and valuable resources, we were able to build upon the sturdy foundation created by those who came before us. I can’t wait to see what we build together next, not only for our current community of students, but for those who will come after us.

Warmly,



Stephanie Hanson

Director of Development and Alum Relations

The One Fund benefits every student, every teacher, in every program and every grade, every day. All members of the Washington Waldorf School community - parents, alums, faculty and staff, parents of alums, grandparents, and friends—are asked to participate.

Your gift to the One Fund
supports the school’s mission,
and directly impacts every student
and teacher, enhancing the
education that every child receives.

CONTRIBUTED SUPPORT FUNDS:

- » Athletics
- » Adventure Outdoor Education
- » Curricular And Service Learning Trips
- » Faculty Professional Development
- » Financial Aid

YOUR IMPACT 2022–2023
One Fund By the Numbers

\$325,000 Gifts Contributed to the operational budget

 **221** DONORS



Bridging the gap in the budget between tuition and actual costs

- Supporting **5%** increase in salaries for faculty
- Supporting need based aid for **36%** of students, averaging **\$13,674** per student
- **\$75,000** spent on class trips
- Shuttle transportation support to and from Silver Spring, MD
- New drainage system on Lower School play area



One Fund and Event Fundraising provided **\$1,300** of additional educational value per student, and accounts for **5%** of our operating budget.

Community members gave to either or both the One Fund and Room to Move campaigns last year:

3 out of 4
Current Parents



66
Alums

110
Parents of Alums

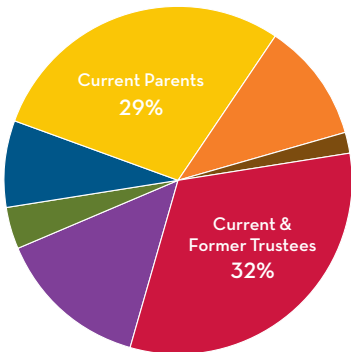
4 out of 5
Faculty and Staff

22
Grandparents

Gift Range of **\$5 to \$35,000** 

ONE FUND GIFTS BY CONSTITUENCY

● Current & Former Trustees	\$ 105,897	32%
● Alum	\$ 5,074	2%
● Faculty	\$ 35,340	11%
● Current Parents	\$ 95,060	29%
● Parents of Alum	\$ 27,995	8%
● Grandparents	\$ 12,825	4%
● Former Faculty & Friends	\$ 47,175	14%



Leadership Giving Circles

VISIONARY SOCIETY

\$25,000 +

Susan and Joel Fuller
Maria Monteverde-Jackson and
Jon Jackson

1969 SOCIETY

\$10,000 TO \$24,999

Vanessa and Jon Beckman
Susannah Goodman and Ted Zegers
Chrissie and Lex Sant
Dan and Yon Wacker
Waldorf Schools Fund

STEWARD SOCIETY

\$5,000 TO \$9,999

Anonymous (1)
Jack Benson and Cecilia Berg-Benson
Florenca del Villar and Micah Bump
Erica and Andrew Girvin
Torie Gorges and Todd Manchester
Phillip and Jill Lighty
Kate Mueller and Mike Gibson
JJ and Sonu Singh
The True Family

PARTNER SOCIETY

\$2,500 TO \$4,999

Anonymous (1)
Jim and Chrissie Bryla
Michael Danzansky
Susan and Eric Holdsworth
Allison Fultz and Steve Langer
Jennifer and Rob Liebreich
Maria Poli de Michele and
Roberto de Michele
Rebeccah and Eric Sensenbrenner
Whiting-Turner
James and Pamela Wise

SUSTAINER

\$1,000 TO \$2,499

Dave Alsop and
Marianne von Oven-Alsop
Shena Ashley and Paul Hirsch
Claudia Berg and Daniel Trainor
Cully and Sara Brownson
Zeina Chouman and Houssam El Eid
Eli Lilly and Company
Dan and Adria Foster
Katie and Charles Fox
Rocío Gomez Botero and
Felipe Muñoz Gómez
Alia and Trevor Goodyear
Malvery Henry

Patricia King Jackson
Danielle and Matthew Kozlowski
Laurelle Lo and David Talbot
Mary Ann MacKenzie
Chiedza Mazonde and
Kevin Mtandwa
Katie and Brian McCarthy
April McDowell
Greg Mueller and Patty Deuster
Francesca Munzi and
Kent Brokenshire
Marilyn Noguera
Adrienne Paiewonsky and
Paul Girdzis
Carol Parsons
Melissa and Todd Phillips
Dini and Anju Rao
Jennifer Robinson and Eben Kaplan
Jerry and Claire Rupert
Taisto and Abby Saloma
Colette and Michael Silver
Abel Smith
Chiz Tamaki and Michael Nakamoto
Jesse Travis and Greg Heltzer
Travis Family Memorial
Endowment Fund
Sarah and Shay Wester
Wilets Architecture
Zantzinger

Community Giving Circles



FRIEND

\$500 TO \$999

AmazonSmile
Anika Binnendijk and
Nathaniel Hoopes
Anya Bartlett and David Clissold
Anja and Bill Caldwell
Lisa Catalone-Castro and
Rodolfo Castro
Jane Christenson and Tom Nastick
Carolyn Crouch
John F. Dammann, Jr.
Tania Delgado and Franz Gerner
Jim Epstein
Jim and Susan Evans
ExxonMobil Foundation/Mobil
Retiree Matching Gift Program
Fidelity National Title
Insurance Company
William and Nancy Foster

Mary and Yaser Freij
The Gallo Bruner Family
Jamesen and Zachary Goodman
Barbara and Larry Hoover
Kimiko and Phillip Lighty
Laurelle Lo and David Talbot
Macmillan Charitable Book Donations
Chiedza Mazonde and
Kevin Mtandwa
Dawn and John Pace
Kellye and Eric Quirk
Samson Energy Company
Sandy Spring Bank
Charles and Lynn Schusterman
Family Philanthropies
Debbie and Chuck Spitulnik
The Tran-Mattis Family
Carla Wheeler and Jeff Naimon
Wilets Architecture

WWS SPIRIT CLUB
UP TO \$499

John and Natalie Adams
Ali Alwahti
Eliana and Alfred Amado
American Family Insurance
Laurent André
Samrawit Aragie
Evgeniya Sebastian Beer
Joy Beluzzi
Aglaia and Karim Benni
Helmut Billenstein
Eva Binamu and Julian Paine
Kate Black and Paige Contreras
Bronwen and Deryck Brown
Christine Bruns
Barbara Buchman and John Verleun
Bill Bunting and Ginny Tarris
Isabel Castillo
Eddie Chang
Jenni Chaves and Gregory Willits
Gurumeet Cheng and Sat Nam Khalsa
Class of 2030
Ayesha and Randolph Court
Laura and John Cox
Galena Cox
Barbara Cuthill and David Nebiker
Kevin and Andrea Daney
Tina Daub
Dulce Maria de Guadalupe Govea
Aguilar and Remy Rosan Ali Jokhoe
Ashwini Deshpande and
Christopher Goldman
Kathryn Dudding
Tove and Susan Elfström
Yukiko and Brett English
Deborah and Alan Feinberg
Maysoun Freij and Atsushi Iwai
Kate Gage
Julie A. Garcia
Laur and Jesse Garner
Elsa Gomez and Andres Echeverri
Tammy and Nicholas Gompper
Svetlana and Alexey Gorokhov
Jessica Gottlieb
Judith Graff and Jeff Caudill
Lisa and Tom Gray
Cindy Guayante
Shelly and Andre Hackman
Frank and Anna Hall
Nick and Katrina Hampton
Linda and Bill Hanson
Stephanie and Dave Hanson
Janet Johnson and Rudolf Heirman
Sheila Harrington and James Symons



Penny Heltzer and Hal Helzter
Susan Henry
Michael Herman
Dave Hightrink
Thomas Holmberg and
Alison Southall
Marie-Christine and Mark Hoover
Virginia Ibarra and Kumait Jawdat
Wendy Jackson
Janet Johnson and
Rudolf Heirman
Susan Joplin
Jolie Kai
Cecelia and Peter Karpoff
Lincoln Kinnicutt
Katharine Knuth
Michael and Glennys Kramer
Wally and Mechelle Kulesza
Camilla Lake
Valerie LeBlanc
Jessica Lee and Kenneth Brevoort
Christen Leonard
Mary Kay Liss
Caitlin MacKenzie and Noel Bicknell
Jodi Macklin
Anne and David Manchester
Margaret and Robert Mansker
Victoria P. Mansuri
The Maurer Family
Bonnie McClelland and
Wade Morefield
Bill Merkel and Family
Craig Middlebrook and
Stacey Helberg
Miranda Monkhurst-Prenger and
Joseph Prenger
Susan and Miguel Monteverde
Bailey More

Joaquin Moreno
Adam and Erica Mutschler
Nauticon Imaging
Ursula Nottmangel
Catherine Padley
Jane Panagis
Mary Peckham and Steve Johnson
Jack and Carol Petrash
Lisa M. Pitillo
Politics and Prose
Justin Pyles
Karen Radermacher and
Stephen Sugg
Jennifer Saloma
Joseph Sandman
Betty-Ellen Shave and Michael Wolf
Hannah Shaw
Helen Simon
Gary and Shannon Skowronski
Kathryn Ann Smith
Iris Smorodinsky and Eiichi Ito
Allysun and David Sokolowski
Solar Gardens, Inc.
Anna E. Sommerfelt
Aliandra Starre
Dawn Tanner and Emily Siegel
Ulrike Thorn
Sarah Vakkur and David Kirby
Vanessa Vargas and Pablo Santa Cruz
Barbara Vellmerk Halpern
Mara Viksnins
Susan E. Walsh
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In Honor of Stephanie Evans Hanson
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In Honor of Izumi Iwai
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In Honor of Jean and Aboul Mansuri
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*In Honor and Memory of
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Dan and Yon Wacker

In Memory of Stacey Kornegay
Deborah and Alan Feinberg

In Honor of Lynn Wenning-Adelmann
The Class of 2030

Thank you to the many parts of our community, who came together to continue to support our school. Together we are furthering Waldorf Education in the greater Washington, DC area.

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Claire and Jerry Rupert
Jennifer Saloma
Kathryn Ann Smith
Judith Travis
Mara Viksnins





VIEWS OF Splendor

The WWS 2023 Gala, Top of the Town, brought the WWS community together for a truly meaningful celebration. Current and alum parents, faculty, staff, supporters, and friends of WWS gathered against the backdrop of the breathtaking views of Washington, D.C. offered by Top of the Town. The evening included silent and live auctions, a raffle, and a delicious strolling dinner, courtesy of Foxhall Catering.

The success of the evening was due to the fabulous leadership of Maria Monteverdere-Jackson and Aglaia Benni, who co-chaired the Gala Committee. The Committee's outstanding volunteers included Jenia Beer, Maysoun Freij, Tamara Minor, Jesse Travia, and Miki Yoshimura. They hosted an elegant and fun-filled evening to support our school's One Fund.

The evening was hosted by Athletic Director, High School teacher, and WWS alum, Taisto Saloma. He graciously shared the stage with the evening's comedic relief, provided by the

cacophony of a rubber chicken choir. A touching talk about the wonder and impact of a Waldorf education was given by WWS alum, Sandy Wacker.

The Spring Gala raised a total of \$159,572 for the One Fund and financial aid. It was truly humbling to see everyone participate so generously. The "Raise the Paddle" appeal supports the One Fund's awards of financial aid and scholarships to WWS students, ensuring more children have access to the many benefits of a Waldorf education.

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 Jesse Travis and Greg Heltzer
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 Remy Rosan Ali Jokhoe

Kate Knuth
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 Jennifer and Rob Liebreich
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 Lynn Wenning-Adelmann and
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 Sara Heirman and Eron Picus
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 Kate Mueller and Mike Gibson
 Jennifer Robinson and Eben Kaplan
 Abby and Taisto Saloma
 Lelia True

RAFFLE / AUCTION DONORS

Pastel Painting by Tove Elfström
 Handmade Playstand by Bill Merkel
 Singer Embroidery Sewing Machine
 by Maria Monteverde-Jackson
 Weekend Away on the Chesapeake
 by Susan and Joel Fuller



WASHINGTON WALDORF SCHOOL COMMUNITY EVENTS 2023 - 2024 SCHOOL YEAR

Welcome Back Tea, Wed, Sept 6

Welcome Back & Gym Opening Picnic, Sat, Sept 9

Michaelmas Celebration - Fri, Sept 29

High School Musical - Thurs, Oct 5 - Fri, Oct 6

BIPOC Families Picnic - Sat, Oct 14

Fall Festival - Fri, Oct 27

Fall Bazaar - Sat, Nov 18 (Preview Fri, Nov 17)

Seasonal Sing-Along - Sat, Dec 16

Alum Basketball Game - Thurs, Dec 21

MLK Jr. Day of Service - Mon, Jan 15

Day of the Languages - Wed, Mar 6

Spring Gala - Sat, April 20

Spring Festival - Fri, April 26

Grandparents & Special Friends Day - Fri, May 3

Senior Play - Thurs, May 16th - Fri, May 17

Field Day (LS) & Family Picnic - Fri, May 24

Graduation - Sat, June 1

SAVE THE DATE

December 1, 2024
Gym Dedication





ROOM TO MOVE

BUILDING A GYM TOGETHER
AT WASHINGTON WALDORF SCHOOL

Dear Friends,

We did it! With overflowing joy and profound gratitude, we stand united today to celebrate the triumphant culmination of the Room to Move capital campaign, a journey that has transformed our dreams into a reality—the John and Mary Brauer Gymnasium.

This endeavor officially began in 2018, a vision that stirred the hearts of our community—a space where our students could embrace athleticism, expand their horizons, and forge lasting memories. But in reality, the seeds of this dream were planted decades ago, as former faculty member John Brauer and alum parent and lead donor Brad Clark were on a walk. During this walk, they envisioned a gymnasium for our school.

LETTER FROM CO-CHAIRS CONTINUED

Before we could initiate the Gym project, however, other initiatives had to take place first.

The Build Our Vision campaign of 2015 laid the foundational groundwork for the Room to Move campaign. Today, with Brad Clark's leadership, our dedicated and generous community rallied behind the initial vision with unwavering support. Today, we stand elated to share the remarkable story of our collective success.

The campaign initially launched with a bold fundraising goal of \$5,000,000, setting the stage for a transformative journey ahead. In 2018, Brad Clark emerged as a visionary lead donor, generously agreeing to match every gift until we reached our goal. His generosity set the course for incredible momentum and ignited the spirit of giving within our community.

Through the trials and uncertainties of the COVID-19 pandemic, we demonstrated our resilience and adaptability. Pausing the campaign momentarily, we renewed our focus on the campaign in the spring of 2021. However, we learned that summer that due to the increase in construction costs, the goal of our campaign would need to increase as well. In October 2021, the Trustees Council voted to increase the Room to Move campaign goal to \$7,000,000.

While the increase seemed daunting at the time, the school community stood firmly with us every step of the way. As we progressed through the campaign, your dedication became evident in the remarkable figures—a staggering \$7,127,037 raised from 403 donors, surpassing our initial goal by over \$127,000. With immense pride, we announce that 70% of last year's current parents and 80% of last year's faculty actively participated in this transformative effort. Furthermore, 100% of our



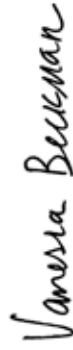
Trustees Council members rallied behind the cause, along with 63 alumni who gave, many for the first time, leaving an indelible mark on our alma mater.

The impact of this campaign stretches far beyond the bricks and mortar of the John and Mary Brauer Gymnasium. Through your unwavering support, you have unlocked a realm of possibilities for our students—a space where they can dream, grow, and discover the beauty of movement. From heart-pounding athletic competitions to vibrant gatherings of our alumni, the gymnasium stands as a testament to your dedication to nurturing a vibrant and flourishing community.

As we gather to inaugurate the John and Mary Brauer Gymnasium, we extend our deepest gratitude to every donor, volunteer, faculty member, and advocate who made this vision possible. Your contributions, both financial and through the giving of your time and talent, have illuminated the path toward this triumphant moment.

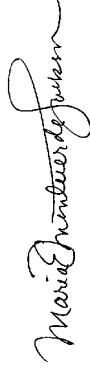
Today, as we stand in the embrace of this dream-turned-reality, we know that none of this would be possible without you—our cherished community. Together, we have shaped a legacy that will echo through the halls of the Washington Waldorf School for generations to come.

In heartfelt appreciation and with boundless joy,



VANESSA BECKMAN

Room to Move Campaign Co-Chair



MARIA MONTEVERDE-JACKSON

Room to Move Campaign Co-Chair

LETTER
FROM
DEVELOPMENT

The Washington Waldorf School is thrilled to share that the Room to Move campaign to build a gymnasium on our school's campus exceeded its \$7 million fundraising goal! Altogether, 402 donors came together to raise a total of \$7,127,037! Every dollar raised as a part of this campaign has contributed to the project. Funds raised beyond the \$7 million goal will be used by the school to replenish its reserve funds. Prior to the Room to Move campaign, a portion of the school's reserve funds were used for planning, permitting, and consulting, as well as early architectural and engineering fees.

We thank every donor and volunteer who contributed their resources and time towards making the Room to Move campaign and the John and Mary Brauer Gym possible. We especially thank our lead donor and alum parent, Brad Clark, for his transformative \$3.5 million challenge gift towards this initiative. His investment has inspired the Washington Waldorf School community to match his generosity, dollar for dollar, to reach a total goal of \$7 million dollars to finance the Gym.

We also extend our gratitude to our Campaign Co-Chairs, Vanessa and John Beckman and Maria Monteverde-Jackson and Jon Jackson. They worked tirelessly throughout this campaign, hosted many events, met individually with other families, and inspired our community to give at its highest capacity.

We achieved 100% participation from the Trustees Council, 80% support from faculty and staff, and 4 out of 5 parents supported the school during this time. Many donors increased their giving over prior years, and multiple families made their largest commitments ever to make this vision a reality, including 35 gifts of \$25,000 or more. In addition, 63 alums stepped forward to support this effort, many of them giving to our school for the first time.

Every donor who contributed to this campaign will be honored on a plaque in the new Gym. It took our entire community to make this endeavor possible, and this visual representation of each donor's participation will not only recognize and honor every gift, it will also inspire future generations of WWS families.

At Mr. Clark's request, the Gym will be named after two longtime faculty members, alum parents, and grandparents of the school, John and Mary Brauer. The John and Mary Brauer Gym opened in time for the 2023/2024 school year, and now serves as an athletic facility, additional classroom space, and a community space. We have already held festivals in the Gym, students regularly participate in movement classes, and we're planning how to use the extra space during our annual Fall Bazaar. We will celebrate the first basketball game and host a plaque dedication on December 1, 2023. We hope you can attend. **There is truly more Room to Move!**

Warmly,



STEPHANIE HANSON

Director of Development and Alum Relations



“Mary and I are incredibly honored to have this Gym named after us. After decades of outdoor sports practice and away games, Washington Waldorf School finally has a Gym of its own. Thank you to Brad Clark and the entire Washington Waldorf School community. We look forward to cheering from the sidelines at as many games as we can.”

JOHN BRAUER

THE TIMELINE

11 Years of
Gratitude

**May
2012**

30-year lease signed with
Montgomery County for the
property at 4800 Sangamore Road,
commencing July 1, 2012

**November 2013 –
June 2015**

Build Our Vision Campaign



September 2015

Phase 1
School Renovation Complete



**May
2017**

Brad Clark Initiates
Challenge Gift to WWS



**December 2017 –
March 2020**

Early Quiet Phase Fundraising and
Construction Planning



April 2020

COVID pandemic requires a pause in fundraising as the
school shifted priorities to day to day needs



March 2021

Renewed energy with Vanessa and John Beckman,



Maria Monteverde-Jackson and Jon Jackson joined as Room to Move campaign co-chairs. Taisto Saloma and Lelia True also joined the campaign committee.



May 2022

Public Phase Announcement

\$6 Million raised of the \$7 million goal

WWS communicates that Brad Clark will name the Gym in honor of longtime faculty members, John and Mary Brauer



July 2022

Construction Begins



September 2022

Groundbreaking Celebration



July 2023

Room to Move Campaign concludes

WWS announces that we have raised \$7,127,000 over the goal

WWS prepares to welcome students into the Gym in the fall



September 2023

The community is welcomed into the Gym for the first time at Gym Ribbon Cutting and Celebration



Thank you

The Room to Move campaign and John and Mary Brauer Gym would not have been possible without the many volunteers and donors who came together to make this initiative possible.

ROOM TO MOVE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

Vanessa Beckman, Co-Chair
John Beckman, Co-Chair
Brad Clark, Co-Chair
Stephanie Hanson, Director of Development
Jon Jackson, Co-Chair
Pat Jackson, Campaign Counsel
Maria Monteverde-Jackson, Co-Chair
Taisto Saloma, Athletic Director
Lelia True, Faculty Chair/Head of School

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Marilyn Noguera, Co-Chair, Current Parent
Vanessa Beckman, Current Parent
Stephanie Hanson, Director of Development
Kimiko Lighty, Current Parent
Kate Mueller, Current Parent
Lelia True, Faculty Chair/Head of School
Sarah Wester, Current Parent

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Scott Wilets

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Carla Wheeler and Jeff Naimon

EVENT HOSTS

Jack Benson and Cecilia Berg-Benson
Maria Monteverde-Jackson and Jon Jackson

Thank you to the following individuals who made financial contributions to the John and Mary Brauer Gym. This Gym was truly built from the strength of our community. The listing includes both cash and pledge commitments to the campaign.

BENEFACTOR GIFTS

Gifts of \$100,000 and up

Anonymous (1)

Vanessa and John Beckman

Jack Benson and Cecilia Berg-Benson

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Jim Epstein, Justine Epstein, and Jules Feeney in honor of Lionel C. Epstein

Susan and Joel Fuller

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Jennifer Robinson and Eben Kaplan

Christie and Lex Sant

Jessie and Steve Sincavage

The True Family

Dan and Yon Wacker

Pamela and James Wise

Gifts of \$10,000 to \$99,999

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Dave Alsop and Marianne von Oven-Alsop

Doerthe and Philipp Braun

Bronwen and Deryck Brown

Anja and Bill Caldwell

The Carlton Zwicker Family

Michele and Fred Coleman

Patty Deuster and Greg Mueller

Florencia del Villar, Micah Bump & Family

Cortie and Michael Driscoll

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Elise Adelmann

Maria Alonso and Rodrigo Sanz

Dave Alsop and Marianne von Oven-Alsop

Ali Alwahti

Ayan Alwahti

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Shena Ashley and Paul Hirsch

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