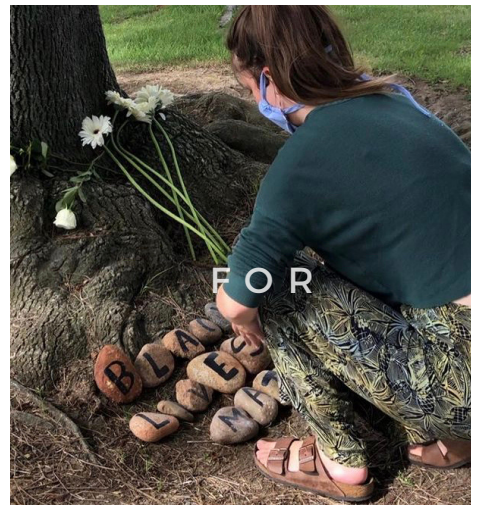


EXPLORE

ANNUAL REPORT 2020 • YEAR 39



C O N T E N T S

Mission Statement

To awaken
each
student's
capacity for
love of
learning, for
independent
thinking, and
for heartfelt
service to the
world.

OUR JOURNEY THROUGH 2020

Rachel Davis, Administrator

EVERY CONTRIBUTION COUNTS **EXTRAORDINARY GRATITUDE**

Andrew Holets, Director of Development

HOW WE LEARN, HOW WE GROW **NAVIGATING AN UNCERTAIN WORLD**

Clare Knauss, Pedagogical Director

EQUITY, INCLUSION & DIVERSITY **NO PLACE FOR HATE**

Equity, diversity and inclusion on the front
pages and on our campus.

CONTRIBUTORS AND CELEBRATIONS **THANK YOU SUPPORTERS**

FINANCIALS **WSSD FINANCIAL GRAPHS**

A PARENT ACCOUNT **THE MAGIC OF WALDORF**

A YEAR UNLIKE ANY OTHER **THE CLASS OF 2020**

PHOTOGRAPHY BY IAN CUEVAS



THE WALDORF SCHOOL OF SAN DIEGO

OUR JOURNEY THROUGH 2020

To say 2020 was a challenging year is an understatement.

On January 21st, the first reported COVID case hit the US and from there health concern grew. Around the world, businesses and schools started to shut their doors in reaction to the looming pandemic. WSSD held strong in keeping students safely learning on campus until we were forced to close our doors on March 16th. For a moment in time, the entire world stopped—children had no school to attend, jobs were shifted into individual homes or else ceased completely, and no one knew what to do next. We asked ourselves: How could a Waldorf school continue to deliver quality education when everyone was confined to their homes?

And so, amidst the stillness, the WSSD Administration and Faculty worked feverishly, devising a plan to support our students through the remaining months of the year. No one could ever have dreamed that our little Waldorf school could pivot so quickly and embrace technology, but we did it! Things were not perfect, but our teachers stepped into digital classrooms and continued to bring this beautiful education to students that were isolated from their friends and the rest of the world. During this time, we witnessed many families trying their best to navigate their own struggles—losing jobs, fearing for their health and the health of their loved ones, taking on the task of becoming a teacher assistant, or, in the case of Early Childhood, taking on the role of the teacher.

As the Administrator of The Waldorf School of San Diego, I was both proud of our employees and families and saddened by the impact on our community. But, most of all, I was grateful to be part of this brave, resilient, and compassionate Waldorf family. So many members of our community stepped up to care for both the school and each other: tuitions were still paid in full, donations were made for those families that could not continue to pay tuition, food was supplied to our co-op to feed families in need, volunteers stepped in to make sure both our 8th and 12th graders were celebrated at the end of their journeys, and steering committee members spent endless hours during summer months to plan for a successful re-opening of the school in the fall.

Although it was challenging for our teachers, administrative staff, and facilities team, the support we received from this community allowed us to be one of the only schools in San Diego County to open doors for in-person learning for the full 20/21 school year. 2020 may mark a dark year in our history, but we are fortunate to be able to look back and celebrate the amazing accomplishments we achieved together. And so, after a very long and challenging year, I sit here with a smile and offer a heartfelt thank you to every member of this amazing community.

In community,

Rachel Davis

Administrator

The Waldorf School of San Diego





EXTRAORDINARY GRATITUDE

*COMMUNITY PHILANTHROPY
MAKES THE WALDORF SCHOOL
OF SAN DIEGO STRONGER*

Your belief in what we do and your love for our school are reflected in our strong culture of philanthropy and community engagement. Your financial contributions support each and every student, so that they may one day fulfill their unique purpose in this world.

When you make a gift to the Waldorf School of San Diego, you help us welcome talented new students; regardless of economic circumstance; enable current families to complete their grades journey; make possible innovative professional development opportunities for our teachers and staff; and care for our award-winning campus.

Your gifts over 2019-2020 raised over \$350,000 toward our \$4 million+ operating budget.

Because of YOUR generosity, we are able to continue the good work we do preparing our students to enrich their communities with creative critical thinking, compassion, and purpose. Our school may be small but the love and community that embraces it goes well beyond these historic walls.

Andrew Holets
Director of Development

DID YOU KNOW?

The first Waldorf school was founded in Stuttgart in 1919. Today there are over 1,100 Waldorf schools and almost 2,000 Waldorf kindergartens in some 80 countries around the globe.

For more information, visit
waldorfsandiego.org/giving/ways-to-give/

NAVIGATING AN UNCERTAIN WORLD

*IN A YEAR THAT CHALLENGED
SO MANY IN SO MANY WAYS,
WALDORF EDUCATION ASPIRES
TO RISE TO THE CHALLENGE*

There is no doubt that 2020 has been a year of struggle.

The struggle for justice with #Black Lives Matter and the refusal to allow this injustice to go on any longer, the devastating impact of wildfires and climate events, the struggle to vote under demanding circumstances, the struggle to survive in the face of Corona virus, and the struggle to believe in a better future for America. What happened to the land of freedom and possibility? Is there still hope?

Here at the Waldorf School of San Diego, we are talking more about race, about current events, and future hopes. Many of the teachers are learning more about social justice, implicit bias, and racial equity in enrichment workshops over Zoom. This is one advantage we have gained this year, the ability to attend events using technology. It does not replace the human, personal experience, but has allowed us to undertake many more educational journeys without leaving home.

The school has been transformed almost into a farm school with outside classrooms. Everyone has adapted and risen to meet the challenge even through heat, rain, and cold. Teachers and students are truly happy to see each other. The magic of learning is possible under the most unusual circumstances. For who could have known that we would be teaching in tents in 2020?

Yes, there is hope for humanity. We are adaptable and we will find a way through adversity.

CLARE KNAUSS
PEDAGOGICAL DIRECTOR

NO PLACE FOR HATE

AWSNA STATEMENT OF EQUITY & INCLUSION - JUNE 2020

Today we acknowledge societal injustice and the resulting anger that has escalated throughout the United States this past year.

We offer our thoughts to the communities of City of Lakes Waldorf School and Minnesota Waldorf School, so near the epicenter of the protests spurred by the murder of George Floyd. We grieve for the family of George Floyd and are outraged by the unjust acts perpetrated by police officers whose very task it is to protect their communities. We are once again reminded of the systemic racism that exists within the United States. Yet we recognize that sadness and outrage are not enough.

At the foundation of Waldorf education lies the mission of social renewal. As Waldorf educators, we hold the dignity of life and the human being at the center of our work. It is our responsibility to bear witness to what is happening in the world, to elevate the voices of marginalized people, to change the course of inequities, and to break down structural prejudice in all forms where it exists, particularly in Waldorf education.

We know many of you have taken up the work of DEI in meaningful ways within your communities. We invite you to join us in exploring these questions and in elevating your school's commitment to social justice initiatives.



THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

THE WALDORF SCHOOL OF SAN DIEGO

The Waldorf School of San Diego is grateful for our generous donors, listed here. We depend on our partnership with the community to enable us to meet our goals. Gifts of all sizes directly impact the lives of our children. They promote the development of our students as scholars and as human beings of character.
THANK YOU!

Isabelle Adame

Lynzie Allyn

Liza Alvarez-Delso and Juan Delso

Lucila and Alonso Ancira

Teri Antti

Catherine Arena

Barbara and Dominick Arena

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The Touchton Schooley Family

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Samantha Serrano

Otilia Garcia & Dmitry Shapiro

Bhairvee Shavdia & Amar Shah

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David & Naomi Sobo

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Susan Starr

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Kate and Stephan Vance

Kathleen Vancura and Jeffrey Powell

Jodi Varner

Karina Vega

Mark Vega

Fernanda Vega

Joyce Velez and Daniel Canning

Jenafer and Nicholas Vespucci

Edgar Herrera and Adriana Villagrana

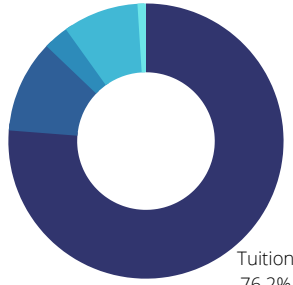
Monica Villarreal and William Marshall

Sherina Walker

FINANCIALS

UNAUDITED INCOME STATEMENT JULY 2019 - JUNE 2020

Merchandise Sales
8.9%



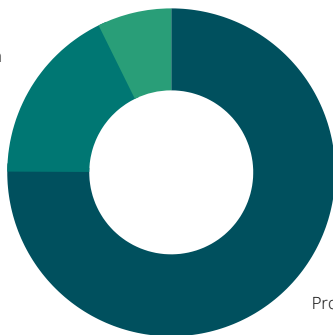
REVENUE

Tuition & Extended Care	\$4,047,811
Field trip income	\$157,866
Merchandise & Scrip Sales	\$282,787
Grants	\$45,000
Donations	\$338,812
Special Events	\$170,657
Rental Income	\$38,162

EXPENSES

Educational Instruction	\$3,945,105
Supporting Service & Admin	\$929,121
Marketing/Community Events/ Fundraising	\$386,529
Other Expenses	\$38,162

Fundraising & Marketing
7.3%



Program Services - Educational Instruction
75.1%

On March 16th, 2020, our school made the difficult yet necessary decision to close our campus for the remainder of the school year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

At the time, no one had any idea of when or how we could welcome students back on campus in a safe manner. And like many organizations, the pandemic affected the economics of our school, our community and our families in ways that remain. Admittedly, one can see the decrease in revenue -- predominately from philanthropic donations and decreased enrollment -- that can be directly tied to the harsh realities of pandemic economics.

Since that time, we organized a COVID-19 Response Task Force, reduced class size, adapted to outdoor classrooms and virtual lessons, implemented daily health protocols, and **invested** in safely providing every Waldorf child an education focused on head, heart and hands. 2020 was a difficult year. We are so thankful for everyone's commitment and perseverance as we forge ahead.

Board of Trustees 2019-2020

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Dominic Arena - Vice Chair
Leigh Elkolli - Treasurer
Jessica Kraus - Secretary
Suzy Bramzon
Mary Carmichael
Rachel Davis
Katherine Giglio
Clare Knauss
Kate Vance



THE MAGIC OF WALDORF

One of the greatest attractions for me of WSSD is the magic which resides here - so apparent as we move through celebrating the saints and turning toward inner reflection as the days darken.

The magic we felt upon joining the Waldorf School of San Diego 14 years ago in Morning Glory is part of what keeps us here as a family. Along with the warmth and welcome feeling, we love the focus on healthy nutrition, social health perspective and the expansive curriculum. The rich curriculum provided is designed to educate through building a sense of wonder and imagination. Academic subjects are woven into a greater fabric with the universal language of music, rhythm, and art. History is taught through the shared human experience found in myth and social history. Purposeful work: knitting, cooking, building, and gardening inform mathematics, science, and respect for our natural world. Working together, respecting each other... It's not a race. We are here for the journey in full color and dimension. As a parent, the more I am involved, the more I grow and appreciate this school.



From Morning Glory through High School my children have developed a sense of openness, curiosity, and delight in learning. They pause in awe as they witness the depth of a moment, the meaning of a headline. In today's world of speed and detachment, I appreciate their ability to stop, connect, take notice and ultimately know and speak their truth.

At our pioneering school, a gap exists in the tuition and the actual cost of a child's annual education. Many of us log countless hours volunteering, driving and giving in many ways which help to close that gap. Still, the cost of educating a child is more than full tuition provides. Grants and donations are critical to close this gap. Through the Annual Giving and End-of-Year Campaign, we strive to celebrate 100% participation and to raise important funds. Thank you to everyone supporting our school, teachers and community through donation of volunteer time and crucial philanthropic dollars. Every gift helps Waldorf move forward and maintain the magic for many years to come.

SUSAN FRAZEE, WSSD PARENT

STUDENT PROJECTS



MAYA VU

Animal Acupressure

Hi, my name is Maya and I studied animal acupressure for my eighth grade project. I worked for several months with my mentor Dr Lisa, an animal acupuncturist and veterinarian who introduced me to the basics of animal acupressure and taught me how the meridians and pressure points affect the animal's body. Animal acupressure is a part of a healing technique that follows traditional Chinese medicine ways, which I studied as well throughout my process.



SABINA ANCIRA

Mural Painting

My name is Sabina and for my 8th Grade Project I painted a Mural. I worked with my mentor for a couple of months to create a Mural I can see everyday when I drive through City Heights! I learned a lot about the process of making a Mural and the hardwork and effort that goes into making such a large scale painting. Fortunately, my project went very smoothly but was delayed due to rain and the on-going pandemic but I'm very happy with how it went. Through this experience I learned how to properly use materials and how to add texture to create life-like paintings. I absolutely enjoyed this project and see it as a big milestone in my life.



SAMUEL ROMESBERG

Nature in Miniature: An Ancient Chinese Artform

For my project, I learned about the Chinese practice of constructing miniature landscapes. I worked throughout the school year with my mentor to visit Asian gardens and develop a sense of their traditional design and aesthetic. I learned about what is needed to keep plants alive with little soil and foliage, and how to cultivate different mosses and plants. This project also provided me with the opportunity to practice patience and to experience the importance of process over output.

For more info on our 2020 8th Grade Projects, visit:

<https://sites.google.com/waldorfsandiego.org/eighth-grade-projects/home#h.w9mdzqzesge6>

 THE WALDORF SCHOOL
OF SAN DIEGO





THE CLASS OF 2020



Every Waldorf School of San Diego class can claim a unique journey to graduation, but the Class of 2020 may well have one that stands out for a long time. While most memories of Senior year harken to the shared experiences of Prom, Senior Class trips, hugs, tears, yearbook signings, etc., the initial start of the COVID-19 Pandemic in March 2020 forced all of our students to leave campus, adapt to virtual learning and live the adage, "Working Together, Separately."

Despite this challenge, the Class of 2020 leaves a reminder how resilience, creativity, and a commitment to community can override any sense of loss. We proudly celebrate our graduates and share their respective institutions of higher education as of Fall 2020, below.

Daichi Caverly
International Christian University, Japan

Kennedy Galvin
San Diego State University

Lulu Garczynski
Santa Barbara City College

Danile Gutowski
The Eurythmeum Stuttgart

Marin Hull
George Mason University

Tallulah Keenan-Lee
Mills College

Chiyuan Liu
University of California, San Diego

Andrea Marshall
Cine Creatis Lyon, France

Makenna Mobley
University of California, Davis

Nicholas Morales
MenschMusik, Hamburg, Germany

Ziru "Tony" Niu
University of California, Irvine

Cassandra Priebe
Santa Barbara City College

Taylor Rae Sampson
San Diego State University

Madeline Scarafone
Franklin University, Switzerland

Sapar Shayanov
University of Denver

Magnolia Wilcox
Earlham College





OUR CAMPUSES

Lower School
Preschool - 8th Grade
3547 Altadena Avenue
San Diego, CA 92105



High School
9th - 12th Grade
4135 54th Place
San Diego, CA 92105

WWW.WALDORFSANDIEGO.ORG