

2022-2023

ANNUAL REPORT



OAK
KNOLL
MONTESSORI
SCHOOL



**OAK
KNOLL**
MONTESSORI
SCHOOL

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Letter from the Board President

Dear Oak Knoll community,

As I look back at our experiences of the past few years, I realize we are extremely fortunate. In June, we said goodbye to Kira Donnelly, Head of School (HOS), who left to lead a Montessori program in her beloved hometown. Kira came to Oak Knoll at the height of the pandemic. Thanks to her clear leadership, we were able to weather the resulting drop in enrollment and to greatly improve our online learning model.

During the 2022-2023 school year, we continued to rebound from the impact of Covid, growing our enrollment and opening a new primary classroom at the Loma Alta campus. And without missing a beat, we transitioned to our Interim HOS, Martha Georgie. As Program Coordinator last year, Martha was able to shadow Kira closely and to become familiar with the OKMS strategic plan. At the same time, she developed her own, unique vision for our school. We all benefit from this seamless transition and from her thoughtful guidance.

The economic impact of the writers' and actors' strikes are unavoidable, but our future still looks bright. By growing our primary program last year, we gave ourselves a larger base of younger students who may ultimately transition to our excellent elementary and adolescent programs.

Within the global Montessori community, OKMS emerges more and more as a leader through a partnership with AMI/Montessori Stoppani. This past summer, 32 adult learners attended a five-week training at the Loma Alta campus for ages 0-3. The students came from different parts of the country, and classes were held in Spanish. This is the only such training program of its kind in Los Angeles. Our role as host furthers our reputation as a leader in the Montessori teaching community, and it gives our school a huge advantage when recruiting AMI-certified guides.

The Trustees are grateful for the work of the guides, administration, staff, and HOS towards educating our children on every level: academic, emotional, and social. The innovative environment they provide nurtures independence, personal responsibility, and a deep-rooted love of learning.

To our community—we say “thank you” for partnering with all of us in our work to help our children become the thinkers and leaders of tomorrow.

Rupert Grant



SUPPORT



Donate Today



My favorite thing about Oak Knoll is that it's really small and you get to develop close relationships. You've got lots of creative freedom to express yourself in ways you can't in other environments. [You also have the] opportunity to reach beyond our community and do work in other spaces beyond the classroom.

— *Isha, class of 2023*

My favorite thing about Oak Knoll

is that everyone is so nice and all my friends.

— *Santiago, 7*



My favorite thing about Oak Knoll

is math. It feels calming to do it. I also like the large bead frame.

— *Leona, 9*



Each year at Oak Knoll brings a deeper appreciation of how unique our child's educational experience is. The beginning of the school year is a time of great optimism and excitement, where our community comes together as one and we collectively link arms in support of the best year possible. The end-of-year celebration always includes poignant looks at the remarkable young people the Oak Knoll graduates have become. And everything in between is a study in how greater awareness and empathy help prepare our children for the challenges and opportunities that surely await them all.

— *David and Somsara Rielly
(son Felix, Upper Elementary)*



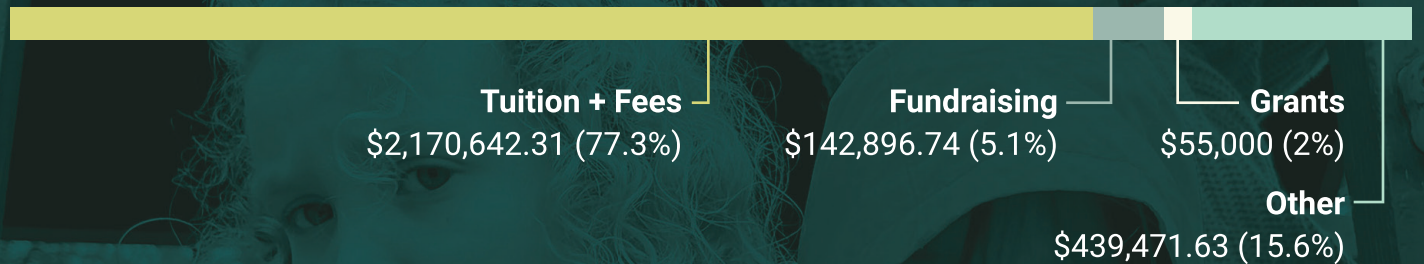
This year marks 20 wonderful growth-filled years for me at Oak Knoll! We continue to provide an authentic Montessori education as we did when this school was founded. It has been a privilege to grow as the school has grown.

— Corrina Vasquez, Toddler Guide

FINANCIAL REPORT FY 2022-2023

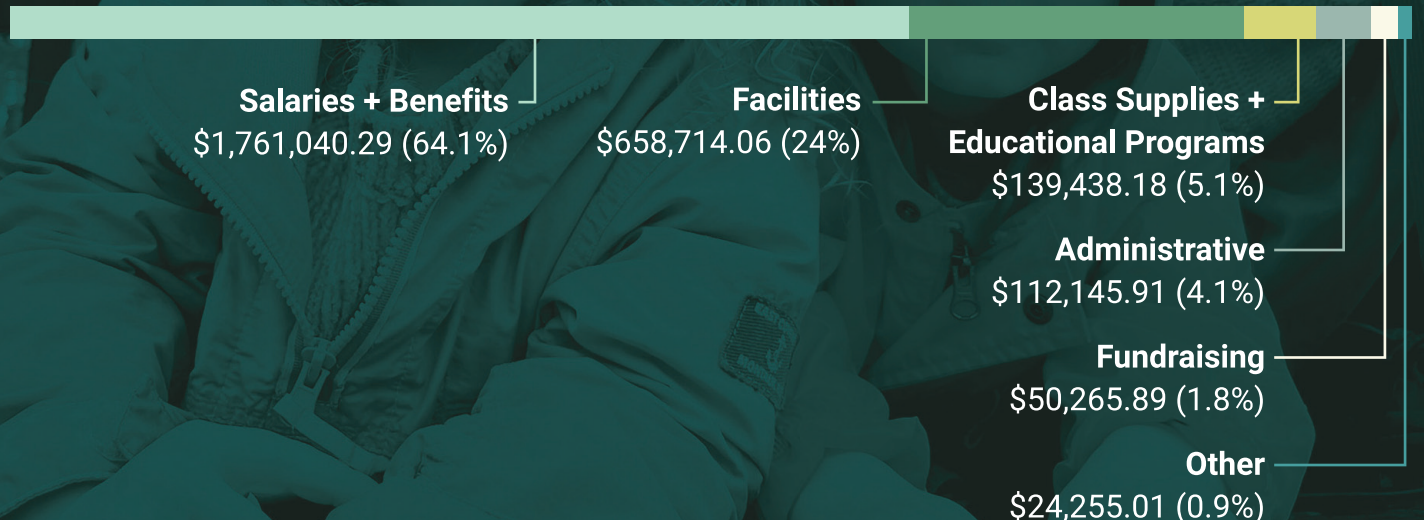
INCOME

Total: \$2,808,010.68 (100%)



EXPENSES

Total: \$2,745,859.34 (100%)



Looking Back



Elf Owls Classroom Opening:

On February 24th, 2023 we opened a new primary classroom at our Loma Alta campus. This represented our third primary classroom, but the first at Loma Alta. Members of the community joined in the festivities with a behind-the-scenes tour of the Elf Owls class and a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

Opening this classroom allows Oak Knoll to provide a high quality Montessori education to more children in the Pasadena/Altadena area. The new classroom springs directly from our deeply held belief and passion for the Montessori philosophy. We are thrilled to be able to share our work with more of the wonderful Pasadena/Altadena community.



Montessori Stoppani Training:

Beginning June 15th, 2023, we hosted a Montessori Stoppani training at our Loma Alta Campus! There were 32 adult students eager to gain their 0-3yr Montessori training. Oak Knoll Montessori School is the only school in Los Angeles to host a Montessori training center. This new partnership with Montessori Stoppani allows us to connect with trained guides, send our own staff to training, and make our school known worldwide!



Oak Knoll Honor Roll

We want to express our deepest gratitude for your financial support of Oak Knoll Montessori School. The list below includes donations made between 7/1/22-6/30/23

Legacy Circle: \$10,000+

Sonya & Michael Cook • Norman and Joan Kinsey Foundation

Innovation Circle: \$5,000—\$9,999

David & Jina Choi • Jennifer MacLean & Aaron Lee, *Claudia '20* • Ben Karakunnel & Treasa Davis • Karyn Kohl & Silas Dilworth

Sustainability Circle: \$2,500—\$4,999

John James & Scotty Goldbeck • Arthur & Faye Teller • Sarah Wolf & Jason Conaty • Mike & Rukmani Jones • Grace Chon & Luis Hoffer • Trey & Jessica Harrison • Karen Banzuela • Brandi Young & Tony Lunn • Roxanne Bartlett & Tao Urban

Leadership Circle: \$1,500—\$2,499

Amanda McIntosh & Christopher Still • David & Somsara Rielly • Andrew & Jessica Smith • Derek & Michelle Hibbs • Vanessa Salas Castillo & Osiris Pérez • Kira Donnelly • Arnd & Carrie Stockhausen • Tiago & Rossanna Wright • Guenhwa Lee & Taewook Kang • Hillary Bleecker & Christopher Williams • Jennifer Marotta & Tom Hooten • Cindy Chao & David Edsall • Greg & Darcy Wiatroski • Shannon Houston • Joe & Fernanda Tarr

Community Circle: \$750—\$1,499

Sam Agrawal • Mike & Wendy Anderson • Candice-Leigh & Matt Baumgardner, *Leo '18* • Vanessa Bennett & John Kim • Chris Cahill & Danielle Gharst • Dustin & Carmen Delaney • Leila Fakouri & Will Bowles • Blair Hartzell & Jonathan Schwartz • Rupert & Jean Grant, *Jackson '18 & Isaiah '20* • Kevin & Lena Kelly • Doug & Tanya Lawrence • Teddie & Lindia Liu • Holly Ortiz & Mark LaVine • Georgina Pinto & Roman Gupta • Heather Robb & Dylan Dawson • Cynthia Rowand & Jason Ralph • Lei Wang & Liu Hang • Molly & Mike Yurchak, *Luca '19 & Sascha '23*

Peace Circle: \$500—\$749

Phil & Liz Barone, *Hudson '21* • Tyler & Jennifer Beveridge • Hillary & Michael Canavan • Crista Funk & Bradford Tesar • Jessica Burgwald • Benjamin & Christina Gebert • Martha Georgie • Brook Hartzell • Ari & Liz Hyman • Kishan & Rupa Kasondra • Clare Kelly & Matthew Sullivan • The Koh family, *Erika '14 & Kenta '19* • Adam & Samira Ludwin • Isamu McGregor & Amanda Lo • Jennifer Needham & Niko Philipides • John & Katie Rice • Ginny Song & Antony King • William (Yance) & LaVonna Wyatt

Friendship Circle: Up to \$499

Lucia Acitelli & Mark Acetelli • Susan Afriat • Nahid Ahmed & Halston Harris • Gaby Akana • Keri Aspegren • Jamieson Baker • Nina Banerjee & Brian Dias • Dylan Bean • Jena Beane • Sandra Bennett • Laura Berman • Susan Bowles • Alexis Brooks & Michael O'Connor • Patricia Brunwin • Molly Burnett • David Cahill • Derek & Sophia Chan • Adriana Chittuluru • Seham Constantine • Petra Cortright & Marc Horowitz • Johanna Cranitch • Mona Dehghan & Nadim Kiani • Zane & Gretchen DeVault • Alexis Disselkoen • Debbie Dixler • Star Dris • Wendy & Anthony Driscoll • John & Jessie DuBois • Marah Eakin • Lee Edsall • Patricia Edsall • Richard Edsall • Virginia Edsall • Mourad & Christine El Ouardani • Karen Fakouri • Jennifer & John Farley, *Harry '20 & Rowen '21* • Zafira Firdosy • Liliana Flores • Arsineh Ghazarian • Rex Ginder • Kathryn Goldbeck • Whitney Graham & Nate Sloan • Rowena & Robert Grimes • Christina Head • Peggy Hibbs • Krista Hickey • Deana Hight • Karine Bell Hugentobler & Daniel Hugentobler • Susan Jacob • Sonali Kolhatkar & Jim Ingalls, *Neal '22* • Tricia Lanza • Jane Lee • Erin Lettiere • Alyssa Levy • Jane Levy • Joshua Levy • Michael & Brittany Lucero • Derrick Lui & Olivia Chung • Amelia MacRae & Michael Cossimini • Katie MacLean • Alfred & Sylvia Marquez • Claudia Marquez • Terrie Marroquin • Jack Mattern • Shaun Mayor • Antony Mazzotta & Andaleeb Firdosy • Karen McClellan • Marsha McClellan • Cydney Afriat Menihan • Maritza Merlan Ramos & Brandon Hammerli • Jamie Montes De Oca •



James & Jenny Morris • Korina Navarro, *Kaycee '22 & Caden '23* • Robin O'Connor • Anna Olshevskaia & Ekaterina Svetlakova • Kate Cook Ostroski & Mike Ostroski • Tiffany Pan • Kathy Parmenter • Gildardo Perez & Zaira Zavala • Heather Reardon • LaTrenae Richard • Lexy Roy • Heathyr Ryan • Lily Saiaana • Gwendolyn Sanford & Brandon Jay • Chris Scalerio • Lauren Scalerio • Alexandra Schmidt & Jason Arkin • Frederic T Schwartz, MD • Mike & Lauren Scocozza • Dan Solomon • David & Jessica Spiker • Alexander Strubinger & Amara Barroeta • Joseph Taylor • Sally Taylor • Brandon Trapp • Daisy Tsao & Lihao Zhang • Marcus Ubungen & Ursula Tran • Melissa & Tim • Vargulish-Chow • Joan Walsh • Ryan & Erica Washburn • Diana Whitten & Tyler Measom • Sascha Yurchak, *class of 2023*

