

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.





# **THIS** ISSUE

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- **HAPPENINGS**
- **SUMMER AT SFS**
- **2017-2018 ANNUAL REPORT**
- **SFS GRADUATES ALUMNI NEWS**

The Gaven Street Gazette is published two times annually by the Office of Advancement of The San Francisco School. We always welcome feedback and story ideas through this email address: 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).

Photo credits: Hannah Denmark, Petrina Grube, Mark Johann, Steve Rubin

ON THE COVER: Malia '20 and Caroline '20



**FROM** 

**STEVE** 

The new school year started off with a gong! Students were excited to pass through the red flags and be back on campus and in a routine. This year, however, is anything but routine as we continue to implement initiatives from the Strategic Plan.

As you will read in the subsequent pages, our spring and summer were filled with professional development and innovation that has brought new momentum and vigor to our classrooms. Our staff worked in an incredibly focused and persistent manner this summer to move our dynamic 21st century program and curriculum further.

Our current Strategic Plan, Fulfilling Our Humanitarian Promise, combined with focused effort from our community, is fueling minor and major changes to classrooms, schedules, and curriculum.

As part of the "Flexible and Innovative Campus" initiative that you heard about in the last issue of the Gazette, we swapped some classrooms to create more collaboration among our teachers and continued to install more flexible furniture into classrooms this summer. Inspired by the "Reimagination of Time and Communication" initiative, we introduced a new home-school communications platform and a new student learning management system. Both of these have improved our home-school partnership as well as allowed us to better share our classroom news and accomplishments with our community.

We also continue our work with the "Empathy in the Age of Acceleration" initiative. We've dedicated the most time, resources, and enthusiasm to STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics). Yes, SFS has always strived to do great work in these fields, but our Strategic Plan tasks us to build and expand on what we are already doing with more intention and deeper curricular integration. In addition to the tech integration work that we began last year, we also vetted and selected a new elementary math curriculum, Contexts for Learning Mathematics. This rigorous and compelling program aligns with the Common Core Standards for math and the middle school math curriculum that we adopted the year before, Illustrative Mathematics. Over the summer, our teachers participated in intensive professional development in preparation to fully dive into the program this year. This work has given our teachers some exciting new tools that ultimately will better prepare our students to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

The remaining pages of this edition of the Gazette will shed more light on the deep work our school is doing. It also takes the generosity of our volunteers and donors, like those included here in our Annual Report, to help a community thrive. It is with tremendous gratitude that I thank each of you for sharing your time and resources to help make SFS the incredible school that it is — and the ever more amazing school it will continue becoming.

# **HAPPENINGS**















## SUMMER AT SFS

# **Professional Development**

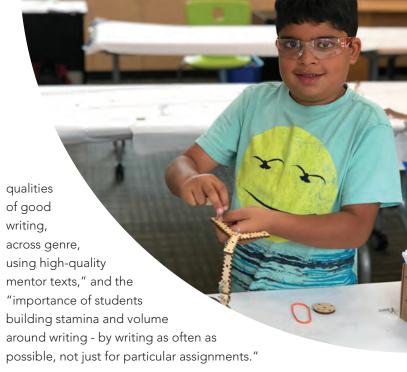
Over the summer, faculty and staff continued to deepen their professional learning in many ways. Per the "Lifelong Learning for Staff" initiative in the Strategic Plan, the School increased the professional development budget by 30% for the 2018-19 school year. The initiative aims to ensure the ongoing quality of the curriculum and instruction at SFS and the professional learning of teachers. This increase allowed nearly the entire faculty to engage in some kind of professional development over the summer.

Elementary teachers conducted coursework with the new math curriculum, *Contexts for Learning Mathematics*. Other teachers traveled to the East Coast for nationally renowned workshops. Some faculty stayed local to study at the World Language Program at UC Berkeley while others continued in-depth and meaningful work on classroom technology integration with our partner, Knowing Technologies.

4th Grade Teacher Paige Sandoz and 5th Grade Teacher Talia Goodkin joined 1,200 other educators at Teachers College at Columbia University to study writing pedagogy with Lucy Calkins, the founding director of the Reading & Writing Project, and one of the pioneers of the "workshop" model for teaching literacy. This approach is built around the concept that writing is a process, with steps and phases, and that all children can learn to write well and enjoy writing.

Sandoz and Goodkin found the Writing Institute invigorating and inspirational. "One of my big takeaways was how important it is to teach the writer, not the writing," Sandoz said. "Instead of only giving feedback that's

specific to one piece of writing, I give
feedback that can transfer to other
writing as well, thinking about
things that writers usually do
as they write." Goodkin
added that she learned
a great deal about
helping students
"hone in on the



Araceli Quezada (7th Grade/Interim 8th Grade Humanities Teacher) received grants from SFS as well as the National Endowment of the Humanities to participate in two intensive seminars at Rutgers University focusing on current themes in American history: 9/11 and American Memory and Internment, Migration, and Resettlement in the WWII Era. The first seminar, produced jointly with the National September 11 Memorial and Museum, examined the historical background and causes as well as the shortand long-term impact of the September 11, 2001 attacks and has already been incorporated into an early unit in the 8th Grade Humanities curriculum.

The second seminar looked closely at the Japanese-American experience after being interned during World War II. Quezada learned about Seabrook Farms in southern New Jersey, which recruited and received 2,500 Japanese Americans paroled from their forced incarceration in internment camps. With Seabrook as a case study, teachers developed curriculum about immigration, internment, and refugee resettlement.

Quezada noted, "These programs provided me with cuttingedge research in history and pedagogy that emphasized the use of primary sources, connecting students to local history sites, guiding students in conducting oral history projects, and using digital resources to improve learning outcomes. I learned so much, and I developed units that will enrich my 8th Grade curriculum this year!"

Araceli Quezada and Frank Ono, survivor of the Manzanar War Relocation Center (a Japanese-American internment camp)



# Camps: A World of Imagination and Creativity

The campus was abuzz with activity and full of...shall we say...STEAM this summer! SFS hosted a variety of summer camps that inspired creativity, explored the unknown, and challenged the campers to become innovative thinkers.

The youngest campers in Preschool/Kindergarten explored the campus and the Portola neighborhood. With daily activities like field trips to St. Mary's and McLaren Parks, cooking, arts and crafts, building cities and rivers on the Adventure Playground, and even woodworking, there was never a dull moment!

Elementary and Middle School students had a wide range of camps to choose from. "Makers' Studio" campers experimented with new techniques like printmaking, pendulum painting, and birdhouse construction; "Splat! Art" campers got messy with paint, clay, chalk, tie-dye, recycled materials, and found-object art; and "Play With Your Food" campers got creative by using everyday kitchen ingredients to make everything from batteries to volcanoes to scratch-and-sniff watercolors.

"River Camp," a perennial favorite, took students on a journey through principles of architecture, storytelling, science, and engineering by collaborating to design a county fair, carnival, and circus - all with a 35-foot river running through it. "Tinkering Lab" provided even more opportunities in engineering and design, in which students used Electric Motors Catalyst™ kits to explore circuitry, motion, stability, balance, and simple machines.

Last, but certainly not least, campers in two levels of "Robotics" camps learned about robotics design and programming using the VEX IQ robotics platform. Kids from rising Third Grade through Sixth Grade focused on the engineering design process and participated in collaborations and challenges using robots they designed and constructed themselves.

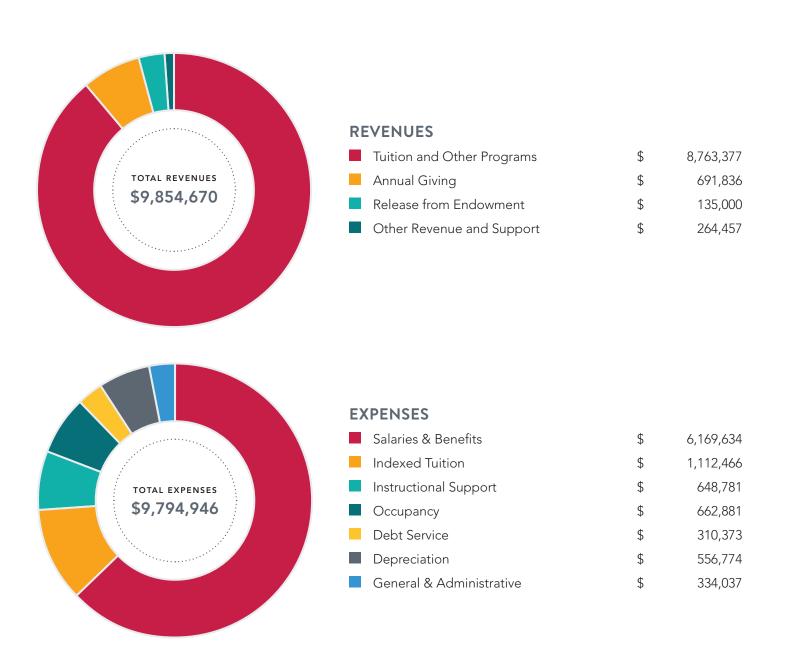
For campers of all ages, these play- and design-based learning opportunities made for an engaging summer of fun!

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

ANNUAL GIVING	
Annual Fund	\$ 506,629
Auction/Walkathon/Other	\$ 185,207
Total Annual Giving	\$ 691,836

CAPITAL GIVING	
Other Gifts	\$ 18,525
Endowment	\$ 8,789
Total Capital Giving	\$ 27,314

TOTAL GIVING \$ 719,150
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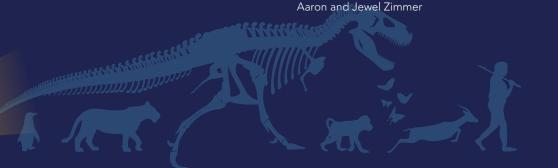
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The San Francisco School has an active and growing endowment. The school's endowment was established in 1982 and has grown to \$3,400,000. Currently, the endowment totals \$12,000 per student with the longer-term goal of having an endowment that equals \$25,000 per student. A strong endowment provides essential income that is consistent and reliable. It provides an ongoing source of funds that complements and supplements both annual fundraising and tuition income.

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Donors who made gifts to the school between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018 are listed in this annual report. We have tried to provide complete and accurate information for this report. Our apologies to any persons inadvertently omitted. Please let the Advancement Office (415.239.1475) know if we need to correct our records.

- 5 Year Donors
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#### WHAT IS THE FUND FOR SFS?

"The Fund for SFS" is The San Francisco School's Annual Fund. It is our most important annual fundraiser as it is the largest source of nontuition revenue. The School relies on these unrestricted contributions to provide educational resources for students and faculty not necessarily covered by tuition. Last year, five percent of our budget came from your gifts to the Annual Fund.

Your generosity ensures an exceptional environment for teaching and learning, allowing our students to explore, discover, and grow. The largest portion of our budget goes toward teacher salaries, because nothing is more important than ensuring that our students are taught by the highest quality educators available.

The Annual Fund takes place in the fall, running from October to December, and includes gifts from parents, trustees, grandparents, faculty, staff, alumni, alumni parents, former staff, and friends. Gifts of all sizes are welcome and appreciated! Please join us with your gift and help make a San Francisco School education even more extraordinary.

Giving is simple: Visit: www.sfschool. org/giving-to-sfs/annual-giving/ annual-fund or call: 415,239,1475.















PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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#### **ONLINE**

You may donate to The San Francisco School online at www.sfschool.org/ donate.

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Gifts are gladly accepted over the phone with a credit card at 415.239.1475.

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Gifts can be mailed to The San Francisco School 300 Gaven Street San Francisco CA 94134 attn: Advancement Office

#### **SECURITIES**

A gift to the school of appreciated securities are gladly accepted. For more details and information, please contact the Advancement Office at 415.239.1475 or advancement@ sfschool.org.

#### AS A MATCHING GIFT

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#### AS A BEQUEST

For more information about including The San Francisco School in your estate plans, please contact the Advancement Office at 415.239.1475 or advancement@ sfschool.org.

THANK YOU **FOR YOUR** SUPPORT.

# SFS **GRADUATES**

#### CLASS OF 2018 HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

With heartfelt pride and congratulations, we bid the Class of 2018 goodbye. Off to high school they go!

The Bay School

Drew School

Eastside Prep

Gateway High School

Groton School, Massachusetts

Gunn High School

International High School

Lick-Wilmerding High School

Lowell High School

Marin Academy

McCallie School, Tennessee

Piedmont High School

Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory

Ruth Asawa School of the Arts (SOTA)

Sterne School

University High School

Urban School

Villanova Preparatory School, Ojai



#### CLASS OF 2014 COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ENROLLMENT

We had the pleasure of welcoming many members of the SFS Class of 2014 and their parents back to campus in June 2018 for a reunion picnic. We celebrated their high school graduation and reconnected before the graduates headed off on their next adventure. Congratulations and best of luck!

Bennington College

Berklee College of Music

Georgetown University

Kettering University

Lewis and Clark College

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

McGill University

New York University

San Jose State University

Syracuse University

UC Santa Barbara

UC Santa Cruz

**UC Los Angeles** 

University of Oregon

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Vassar College

Yale University

This is a partial list. If you don't see your school on the list, please let us know. We'd love to hear from you!

# ALUMNI NEWS

#### **FALL 2018**

Layla Rao '10 moved to Brooklyn and is working for the Manhattan District Attorney's office. Liam Evans '09 graduated from the University of Colorado at Boulder, and now works as a learning & development program manager at Zynga in San Francisco. Dimitri Barton '08 became the first SFS alumnus to complete the Orff Course Certification Program this past summer! Often with ukelele in hand, Dimitri incorporates the Orff music approach into the Spanish classes he teaches at SFS. Micah Fobbs '09 graduated from Stanford and is now an associate software engineer at Riot Games.

Josy Jablons '09 is working as a digital organizer for Stand Up America and living in Brooklyn with her sister Emmy Hicks

Jablons '13, who is in her sophomore year at Pratt studying photography. Anna Boyer Gamble '09 lives in Santa Monica and works for JDP Interiors, an interior design firm. Samuel Green '07 finished his time in the Peace Corps in Kosovo, and is starting a Masters in International Law and Diplomacy at the Fletcher School at Tufts University. Bobby Conte

Thornton '07 is an actor living in New York, and appears in the upcoming feature film "If Beale Street Could Talk." Galen Rogers '04 married his high school sweetheart, Anya Rome, in May 2018. Alexander Louie '99 was married to Louise in July of 2018. Taylor McFerrin '95 is a composer, producer, DJ, keyboardist, and beatboxer who has performed with everyone from The Roots to Talib Kweli, and recently had a show at the SFJAZZ Center, where he was surprised to see SFS friends Max Corwin '95 and Joey Edeli '95 in the audience!

**Do you have news to share?** We are always interested in hearing from our SFS alumni. Let us know what's new these days! Visit www.sfschool.org/alumni/update



## **ALUMNI PROFILES**

### **GALEN ROGERS '04**



Galen Rogers '04, now a taiko drummer, Javanese gamelan, and ethnomusicology teacher as well as professional modern dancer, is never far from SFS in his thoughts. As a teacher at Marin Academy and in the World Music program at SOTA, Rogers is happy to have fulfilled an SFS classmate's joking prophecy that he would grow up to become one of their music teachers (because of his affinity for music class). He directs San Francisco-based taiko ensemble Jiten Daiko as well, and is a member of the Balinese music and dance community Gamelan Sekar Jaya, the latter of which Doug Goodkin and James Harding also used to be members — all of which make Rogers think of the "links on the chain between teacher and student."

"I was just reflecting today on something that Doug said about me at my 8th Grade graduation. He said that I was 'fire under water.' As I've figured out who I am and what I value...the image of 'fire under water' has been a sort of guiding principle. I don't panic or show stress easily, but I'm passionate and dedicated and strong - so, 'fire under water.' I think this memory of Doug's words at my graduation stands out to me so much because he saw me so clearly. It is such a privilege, and it is so grounding and so deeply validating to be seen clearly. A clear sense of self is something so valuable that we struggle for often, so it's really special when a mentor can hand you a little nugget of self-awareness. When I'm concerned that I can't do something, or when I make a mistake, I find strength in this sentiment. The idea of 'fire under water' is a foundation from which I make choices about my future."

#### **NED DEVEREUX '05**



Ned Devereux '05 spent nearly five years as an investment associate at Bridgewater Associates, a global macro hedge fund in Connecticut. Now returning to the West Coast and moving to a hedge fund in Los Angeles, he remembers, "SFS always felt like it was my kind of place. I don't have any of those 'dreading school' memories - I remember it being genuinely fun on a day-to-day basis."

Devereux loved math above all other subjects during his SFS years, and took that love to Lick-Wilmerding and Dartmouth, growing more and more fascinated with how economics and macro-economies worked. He credits SFS with helping him become a more confident, independent learner, focused on understanding things deeply rather than being satisfied with a list of facts, and highly competitive while still living by memorable lessons from all the way back in preschool: "Treat others the way you want to be treated."

"Many of my best friends come from SFS," Devereux recalls. "I always really loved the added closeness of all the families knowing each other - I think that's partially why some of the relationships have lasted so well, despite my living on the East Coast for so many years (and living near Colton Pate '05 in New York City for 4+ years after college). I still come home and can hang with them without missing a beat."







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of Upper School, at the San Francisco Pride Parade 2018