



THE  
SAN FRANCISCO  
SCHOOL



BE INVOLVED  
AND INVESTED





### Mission Statement

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.





### **Philanthropy at SFS**

The word philanthropy is derived from the Greek word "philos" which means loving, and "anthropos" which means human.

At SFS, philanthropy is a joyful commitment to the community. Whether it's a gift of time, talent, or resources, philanthropy is an investment in our people, place, and program. It is a school-wide effort that benefits all community members. By volunteering time and contributing financially, you make a positive impact on the school, advancing the mission, vision, and values.





*Opening Ceremony*

## BE INVOLVED

The San Francisco School was founded in 1966 by a spirited group of preschool teachers and parents who were committed to creating a diverse community to raise adventurous, compassionate children. For more than 50 years, this tradition of community and collective dedication has remained strong and one of the defining characteristics of the School.

Volunteerism is key to the ongoing success of SFS. Parents and guardians are strongly involved in many different ways. Their generous gifts of time and effort not only strengthen our community, but provide role models for our students as they learn the importance of being involved and giving back.

*Families volunteering to clean up the neighborhood*



## We invite new and returning family members to be involved in any number of ways, such as:

**Be a Family Association Lead.** All SFS families are members of the Family Association (FA), and parenting adults can be participants or leaders! From organizing school-wide events to coordinating Affinity Group activities, the FA relies on its team of volunteers to create and organize events that are fun, educational, and community building.

### **Volunteer in School.**

From shelving books in the Learning Commons to supporting students on a field trip, volunteers experience the excitement and fun alongside staff and students.

### **Attend a Family Association Event.**

Get to know families from your student's class and the rest of the school while learning, engaging in a service project, and having fun.

### **Be an Admissions Ambassador.**

Whether it's your first or eleventh year at the school, share your experience with prospective students and families on campus tours and online in informational sessions.

### **Be a Room Representative.**

As the liaison between the School, the FA, and the families in your child's grade, share important information, coordinate grade-specific or school-wide events, and foster class connections.

**Be a Trustee.** Share your professional expertise on the Board or one of its Committees. The School appreciates help from parenting adults experienced in health, legal, matters, real estate, finance, fundraising, or insurance.

### **Share Your Cultural Heritage.**

Present a meaningful custom, tradition, or holiday with students in their classroom or at a heritage assembly.

### **Share an Interest or Professional Skill.**

Share your cooking, carpentry, knitting, hosting, artistry, or professional talents. Whether it's your professional skill or a hobby, in the classroom or on a hiring committee, there are many ways you can contribute to the community.

### **Host or Attend a Side by Side.**

Build community among families by hosting cross-grade social events outside of school such as progressive dinners, mezcal or wine tastings, picnics in a park, or giraffe feeding at the zoo!

### **Join an Affinity Group.**

The Family Association hosts Affinity Groups for community members with common identities such as LGBTQIA+, Asian Pacific Islander, Jewish, and adoptive families.

To learn more about getting involved, contact:

**Family Association**  
fa@sfschool.org

**Admissions**  
sdorsey@sfschool.org

**Advancement**  
jkeesepowell@sfschool.org

**Board of Trustees**  
chair@sfschool.org



# BE INVESTED

The San Francisco School educates children to become engaged, curious, and confident learners. Tuition alone does not cover the full cost of educating each child.

*Learning Commons made possible by Forge Our Future Campaign*



Every gift to SFS strengthens the mission and benefits each member of the community — especially our students.

Personally meaningful and given with joy, donations allow the School to thrive and hold true to its priorities of hiring and retaining talented teachers, having small classes, being an economically diverse community, advancing the learning environment, having a world-class music program, delivering top-notch learning services, and providing individualized attention for every student.

Opportunities to give range from supporting the current school year through Annual Giving, particular initiatives through major gifts, and long-term investments in campus improvements, programs, or the endowment.

## ANNUAL GIVING

The Annual Fund, known as the *Fund for SFS*, is the cornerstone of the School's fundraising efforts and our only annual giving campaign. Funds raised through the annual fund bolster the annual budget, impact every aspect of the school, and make the extraordinary possible. The School relies on these contributions to provide educational resources for students and staff not covered by tuition alone.

Each fall, we ask all members of the school community, from current trustees, families, and staff to alumni and other friends of the school, to participate in the *Fund for SFS*. The funds ensure an outstanding academic program for our students and future humanitarians; professional development, competitive salaries and benefits for our teaching and administrative staff; and maintenance of our beloved campus. We know that everyone has different abilities to give, so we simply ask that everyone participate at a level that is meaningful to them. Annual gifts can be made as one-time or recurring donations or pledged and made in installments throughout the school year.

Donors who make an annual gift of \$10,000 or more are invited to attend the Head's Circle Dinner in the fall.

## STRATEGIC GIVING

**+ MAJOR GIFTS.** Families interested in making a major financial investment can support projects and initiatives that require funds in addition to the Annual Fund. These opportunities may include facilities improvements, technology, and academic program enhancements.

**+ CAPITAL GIVING.** Periodically, the School holds Capital Campaigns in an effort to secure gifts for a particular initiative such as site improvements, buildings, scholarships, tribute funds, or growing the endowment. In 2021, the School completed *Forge Our Future: The Campaign for SFS* which raised \$7 million to deepen the STEAM program and double the endowment. In 2013, the school raised \$5 million through the *Community at the Center* campaign to build the Community Center which consists of a gym/theater as well as offices and classrooms.

**+ ENDOWMENT.** Gifts to the endowment are a gift to the school's future, supporting the school in perpetuity. The principal is never spent while the annual investment earnings provide critical, sustainable non-tuition revenue. The School aims to have an endowment equal to at least one year of tuition revenue.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

All gifts to the school are appreciated and honored. Unless otherwise requested, the school recognizes every donor, not amounts, in the Annual Report.

**+ Naming opportunities** are available in recognition of extraordinary capital gifts—for example, a classroom may be named for the donor or in honor of another person of the donor's choosing.

**+ Named endowed funds** can be established with a cumulative gift of \$50,000 to the endowment. These contributions can be directed to support the general fund or a particular program or initiative.

**+ The SFS Legacy Society** honors those whose bequest intentions include the School in their will or trust. In recognition of their contribution, these donors become members of The San Francisco School Legacy Society, an honorary giving society.



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

## WAYS TO GIVE

The San Francisco School is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization (#94-1629702) and gifts are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by the law. The School accepts various methods of support, including:

**Via credit card, Venmo, PayPal, ApplePay, or GooglePay** online at [www.sfschool.org/donate](http://www.sfschool.org/donate).

**By personal check or donor-advised fund** to The San Francisco School, 300 Gaven Street, San Francisco CA 94134, Attn: Advancement Office.

**With Securities, Cryptocurrency, or Bequests** by contacting the Advancement Office at 415.239.1475.

As a **Matching Gift** via an employer's matching gift program.

Please visit the Ways to Give page on our website under the Support SFS menu for more details.

[www.sfschool.org/giving-to-sfs/ways-to-give](http://www.sfschool.org/giving-to-sfs/ways-to-give)

