Generosity Inspires Greatness

We are reminded every day that we are on the leading edge of a technology tsunami. This wave of change creates great uncertainty and great opportunities. In this new “connected age,” it is no longer just about you or me. It is about us.

University of Virginia professors Edward D. Hess and Katherine Ludwig’s research suggests that people who are less self-absorbed will be positioned for greater success in the future. Unleashing our ego allows for a more open mind, acceptance of our mistakes and weaknesses, an outward focus, and an openness to enlist others to help us think, innovate, create and continually learn.

We are not saying that a complete loss of self-interest or ambition is advisable. Certainly not. We recognize, however, that success in life is coming more often to those who value relationships and are willing to be emotionally engaged, and generously help others. In his book Give and Take: Why Helping Others Drives Our Success, Adam Grant argues that helping others regardless of what you get in return (i.e., generosity) is the foundation of effective collaboration, innovation, quality improvement and excellence. Grant’s book highlights research indicating that higher rates of giving are predictive of higher profitability, productivity, efficiency and lower turnover rates in organizations.

In this edition of 1926, we focus on alumni who understand the value and importance of generosity. “Generous” is a term that describes who we have been, who we are, and who we will be in the future. La Jolla Country Day School is known not just for our academics, arts and athletics but also for our commitment to developing citizen leaders who are inspiring greatness for a better world by leading with dignity. As part of that development, we recognize that generosity of time, talent and treasures are the keys for a remarkable community, as well as a happy, successful and healthy life.

Gary Krahn, Ph.D.
Head of School
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Social @LJCDS

FOLLOW LJCDS /LaJollaCountryDay /LaJollaCountryDay /LJCDS /TorreyAthletics /LaJollaCountryDay
We welcomed back 1,120 Torreys for the first day of school. We are so happy to have all of your bright, smiling faces back on campus. Here’s to a great year!  

POSTED ON AUGUST 22, 2018

Rose Schindler was sent to the Nazi death camp Auschwitz-Birkenau and was unable to finish school. Students were so moved by her story, they decided to recognize Mrs. Schindler with an LJCDs diploma.  

POSTED ON JUNE 4, 2018

Congratulations to the 5/6 boys’ lacrosse team for winning their Central Division playoff championship game!  

POSTED ON MAY 15, 2018

Evie Calderon ’29 presented her Line and Color painting to Dr. Krahn. This new artwork is going to make his office look great!  

POSTED ON JANUARY 11, 2018
In spring 2018, the Upper School cleared the typical academic schedule and dedicated a full day to the Hope Conference: a student-led opportunity for education and inspiration to embrace diversity with dignity.

Alongside Upper School humanities teacher and inclusivity coordinator Robin Stewart, a team of students spent several months planning a meaningful conference filled with affinity group work, panel discussions, a documentary film screening, a guest speaker and a special performance.

In its fourth year, the LJCDS Hope Conference is modeled after the National Association of Independent Schools’ People of Color Conference (PoCC) and the Student Diversity Leadership Conference (SDLC), both of which faculty, staff and students attend annually. Many of the student leaders on the Hope Conference planning committee are past attendees of SDLC.

“One of our main goals is to foster dialogue about diversity because our school is very homogeneous, and it’s important to us to bring attention to the diversity that is present at our school and to create a sense of community for people who may have more trouble finding it,” says student leader Syd Schlafman ’18.

“I also think it sheds light on the diversity we have,” adds student leader Jami Guzman ’18. “A lot of students, when they come here, think we have no diversity. And we have a lot of diversity in this school in terms of people’s interests, where they come from, their backgrounds [and] their passions.”

In the student-facilitated affinity groups—where adults were not permitted—participants shared candid conversations surrounding race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religious affiliation, family structure, shared passions and more. Affinity groups bring together people with common interests, goals or purpose. Students selected from 19 various options based on which group they best self-identify with, including Jewish students, international students, nontraditional families, Middle Eastern heritage, multi-racial heritage and LGBTQIA+.

Students are encouraged to lean in to discomfort. “I share that this represents some of the discomforts that the world holds right now, and these are the types of conversations that you may find yourself in at your first job or your first boardroom,” explains Stewart.

After meeting in affinity groups, students selected from a variety of peer-facilitated panel discussions featuring topics ranging from the history of queer people in America to discrimination based on skin color, otherwise known as colorism, to effects of mental health on the community and society.

Planning such a conference doesn’t come without challenges. “We have a lot of students for whom race and ethnicity, for instance, isn’t a driving factor in their identity journey quite yet,” says Stewart. “I think one of the greatest challenges for our student organizers is meeting resistance from students who are just not ready, or who don’t understand where they are in their journey or how it fits into their education.”

Schlafman, who led the white European heritage affinity group, shares that she’s seen great progress in the community throughout her four years in the Upper School. “Historically, it has been a very
difficult group to lead because a lot of people are very resistant to this kind of dialogue,” she shares. “But this year was one of the first years where it was actually a very solid discussion about race and privilege. We discussed whether there is white culture, does white privilege exist, and do white people have a responsibility to use white privilege for positive action.

“[The conference] is very tangible evidence that growth as a community is possible,” adds Schlafman. “I think that we’ve become more willing to have these kinds of discussions. The climate surrounding these kinds of discussions and the ideas that are promoted through the conference have changed wildly.”

As a student leader of diversity and inclusivity work for several years, Guzman has witnessed her own growth: “I learned that you have to take everyone’s experiences into account and explore that with them. I think that’s why sometimes the whole conference can be emotionally charged because not everyone has the same experience and the same knowledge, but it helps provide that knowledge, and it fosters that community we want.”

Attendees were also treated to a screening of the documentary film *The Homeless Chorus Speaks*, which depicts a timely issue in our society, specifically in San Diego: homelessness. After the screening, the community was invited to attend performances by Voices of Our City Choir, a San Diego homeless choir.

Guest speaker Onaje Woodbine, the author of *Black Gods of the Asphalt*, delivered a powerful and moving talk on sports as a space of inequity. He challenged the community to look at basketball differently, sharing that urban basketball courts serve as a sacred space where young black boys and men go to “claim their humanity”—a place of healing and community. Woodbine’s personal narrative about growing up in the inner city of Boston, playing and quitting basketball at Yale, and studying street basketball and religion gave the LJCDS community pause to consider a new perspective. Because as Woodbine pointed out, “How do you change something you are not even aware of?”

“Providing hope, inspiring hope and cultivating hope—that is the work of the Hope Conference,” says Stewart. “With the conference, we support student-led curriculum to hear what students want to know about the world and themselves. We support their efforts in an environment that pushes them but also provides a foundation and a community that they might not find elsewhere.” —TIFFANY TRAN

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**CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS**

**Noteworthy**

**SCIENTISTS IN THE MAKING**

Madison Held ’19 and Sameeran Das ’19 were named award recipients of the Emperor Science Award program hosted by PBS and Stand Up To Cancer. The program is designed to empower high school students to become the next generation of scientists as they explore careers in cancer research. Award recipients work with an esteemed university scientist on a multiweek cancer research project.

**REALITY TV STAR**

Evan Estrada ’23 competed on the reality cooking show *MasterChef Junior* Season 6, hosted by award-winning chef Gordon Ramsay on FOX. He advanced to the top seven!

**OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR**

Upper School history teacher Jonathan Shulman was honored as the 2018 Educator of the Year by the La Jolla Golden Triangle Rotary Club. Shulman was recognized for his compassion and dedication to his students as well as his leadership roles with the Torrey Mock Trial team and as the director of La Jolla Country Day School’s Center for Excellence in Citizenship. —JENNIFER FOGARTY
COMMUNITY SERVICE

Astute Altruism

LJCDS students are well versed in giving back to the community and volunteering their time; however, a new program is teaching them about philanthropy. Fourth-graders and Upper Schoolers were part of the inaugural year of the school’s Philanthropy Partners, a program developed to educate students about the integral role that philanthropy plays in bettering the community and the world at large. Students were given a sum of money, donated by two generous LJCDS families, and charged as a group to assess and then donate funds to a nonprofit of their choice.

Serving as a philanthropic board, fourth-graders evaluated three nonprofits. They listened to presentations from representatives of each organization and conducted extensive research on their programs. They evaluated each nonprofit’s operating budget, social and financial impact, and greatest challenges, and based on their mission, whether they inspire greatness and show dignity.

After a long and thoughtful process, the fourth-grade class elected to support Sherman Academy Garden, determining the donation would make a significant impact. Sherman Academy is a local elementary school that serves 700 low-income students in Pre-K through Grade 5. The $2,000 donation supports the garden program and affords additional garden instruction and an outdoor classroom for more students.

“We took a vote and chose Sherman Academy,” shares fourth-grader Delilah Shulman. “We thought they could use the money because healthy foods cost a lot, and this way, kids can take vegetables home for dinner.”

Ten Upper School students engaged in the same process, however, they took a deeper look into the social, financial and emotional impact of each organization.

After months of analysis and discussion, the students chose to donate to four local organizations: $600 to San Diego Habitat for Humanity’s Camp Habitat; $1,400 to Words Alive’s Family Literacy Program; $970 to Second Chance’s youth garden program; and $1,030 to Just in Time for Foster Youth.

“Participating in Philanthropy Partners transformed my perception and awareness about how nonprofit organizations function,” shares Natalie Pellette ’19. “I learned about the different careers within the nonprofit industry, the variety of ways nonprofits operate in communities, and the many factors to consider when assessing nonprofit organizations. My experience has made me more conscious about which organizations I choose to volunteer at, and more enthusiastic about the amazing organizations to get involved with in San Diego.”

The program was developed thanks to donated funds for the 2017–2018 year by the Goldman family (Nano ’22 and Maddy ’23) and the Fukumura family (Emi ’17, Takeo ’20 and Akio ’25). —JENNIFER FOGARTY

On Genesee Ave
Accolade

Well Deserved

Upper School Administrative Assistant Jennifer Boock earned the 2018 BAK'D Apple Award.

Jennifer Boock has been a part of the La Jolla Country Day School community for more than 20 years. She began her role as the main school receptionist and later became assistant for the development office. For the past 19 years, she has been the first point of contact, a helping hand, and a bright face for students, faculty and parents in the Upper School administrative office. No matter whom she’s supporting, Boock considers each encounter to be important and meaningful.

“She is the most modest and most selfless member of the LJCDS community,” says Head of Upper School Joseph Cox, Ph.D. “She is so deserving of this award because of her eternal optimism, her never failing to be part of a team solution to any problem, and her genuine efforts to give every person in every situation the benefit of the doubt. She comes to work every day focused on how she can solve problems and do her absolute best to treat everyone she meets with true dignity. There is so much that Jen does that goes unrecorded and unappreciated.”

The BAK’D Apple Award recognizes a faculty or staff member who makes special contributions to students’ total personal growth. The award was established in 1997 by the Rubenson family, whose two sons graduated from LJCDS (Aaron ’92 and Ben ’95). “BAK’D” is a combination of the first letters of each of their first names (Ben, Aaron, Kathie and David) and “apple” refers to the apple orchard at their home in Julian, where they have invited faculty to join them to harvest apples over the years. The family has generously funded the award for 21 years. —Tiffany Tran

“She is so deserving of this award because of her eternal optimism, her never failing to be part of a team solution to any problem, and her genuine efforts to give every person in every situation the benefit of the doubt.”
On Genesee Ave
Middle School students and faculty members participated in a 10-day global experiential learning program in Ollantaytambo, Peru, as part of the World Leadership School program. It was a chance to disconnect from technology and experience cross-cultural immersion in a world that is outside of their everyday routine to gain independence, responsibility and confidence.

In addition to discovering the wonders of the Inca ruins and Machu Picchu, the group of 18 students worked on community projects with three local nonprofits: Kuska School, Sacred Valley Health, and Awamaki, a women’s artisan cooperative. They built lockers and taught children English, participated in wilderness first aid training, and learned about traditional methods of collecting, dyeing and spinning wool, as well as observed and participated in the meticulous process of weaving scarves, wraps and other items by hand. Students gained a unique perspective on the culture when local families welcomed them into their homes to cook traditional Peruvian foods, play games and join in celebrations.

“I had the privilege of witnessing the curiosity, determination and openness with which these young people approached this adventure,” shared Meghan Edwards, Middle School world language teacher. “Students were challenged daily to step outside of their comfort zones, confront prior assumptions, break through language barriers, and work together as a cohesive unit. They built relationships and were exposed to an incredible array of leadership styles, and were able to learn directly from strong local leaders who are effecting change in their own community.” —Jennifer Fogarty
Thank You for Your Service

Tom Perrotti
Upper School Science Teacher
Joined LJCDS in 1985

Tom Perrotti’s goal as a teacher was to help students understand the multifaceted science and technology issues society faces today. Since most current science-related problems have ethical, political and economic aspects, he wanted students to be able to decipher the barrage of information in this connected world that requires us to be scientifically literate.

One example was his class Science and Society, a discussion-based, paperless course that he developed while on sabbatical. This unique course covered scientific topics with a broad scope and an emphasis on current science-related events such as fracking, gene editing, GMOs, global warming, evolution, atomic/clean energy, water and pollution.

“He was more concerned about his students understanding the concepts than the regurgitation of information,” shares Ryan Watt ’11. “It was very refreshing and helped me immensely. We talked about concepts in his class that I remain fascinated by today.”

Perrotti’s first taste of teaching was in the Peace Corps/UNICEF in India. After running two businesses in Ohio, he moved to San Diego with his wife, returned to teaching, and earned a Master of Arts in science education.

He taught AP and general chemistry for more than 33 years at LJCDS, where he served as a mentor to both students and colleagues alike in the science department. “Tom was my mentor from the first day I arrived at LJCDS,” shares former Upper School science department head Susan Domanico, Ph.D. “I was mesmerized by his plan of having the students prepare for class by reading the chemistry text and then sitting among them in a circle while he coached them on how to solve difficult problems on the board. His method was hard, but after a year of chemistry-in-the-round, the students were far better off. Thank you, Tom, for loving chemistry, the art of teaching, vocal citizenship, and spreading that passion to countless students and colleagues.”

Many students went on to major in science thanks to his influence, passion and enthusiasm as a teacher. “Mr. Perrotti’s AP Chem class left a mark on me. I always remember his class and his style when thinking about how to make learning a difficult concept more interesting and tackle-able.”

“Mr. Perrotti touched my life by reminding me of the connections and support I could receive if I just asked,” says Jessica Lewis ’13. “He was always so kind and welcoming to me. Even though I didn’t necessarily find myself drawn to chemistry, he showed support and joy that was not just the result of a common interest in a subject. Instead, he helped me and provided a space for me to succeed. I’ll never forget that and how meaningful it was to have someone help me in that way.”
Judith Gross
Associate Director of Admission
Joined LJCD in 2008

Relationship building was a treasured part of Judith Gross’s job as associate director of admission. The best part of her day was when Lower School students joyfully embraced her with a hug. Over the past 10 years, Gross shared the school’s philosophy and vision with prospective families in the Early Childhood Center and Lower School. She saw the youngest Torreys mature into ambitious and bright young adults—a truly special opportunity to witness.

“Her commitment to the well-being of young children is clear. She cares deeply about each and every family she encounters, and her recognition of the importance of an independent school education as a transformative force in their lives drives her work life.”

For the past 15 years, Rose Ann Wooldridge served as the executive assistant to four heads of school and six board presidents while additionally providing continual support and assistance to the board of trustees, board committees, administration, faculty and staff, parents, students and visitors.

“Rose Ann’s cheerful demeanor and ability to keep the board on track and on schedule cannot be underrated in its impact on the school and its board,” shares Board President Chris Richey. “She saw it all and handled various situations with great aplomb. Rose Ann joins a long line of amazing individuals who moved the school forward in its mission to inspire and educate its students. I know I speak for the entire board, past and present, when I say we were absolutely blessed to have worked with Rose Ann.”

Rose Ann Wooldridge
Executive Assistant to Head of School and Board of Trustees
Joined LJCD in 2003

Raised in Michigan, Wooldridge worked at General Motors while attending community college before starting a family. When her children started school, she volunteered in the school office, which began her journey in education administration.

“Rose Ann is a person of integrity and intelligence with a great work ethic. She made LJCD a better community by creating smiles on our campus every day, and she will be missed.”

Retiring won’t slow her down: Wooldridge and her husband, George, will remain active in their community in Carlsbad. She is volunteering at the San Diego Botanic Garden, the Flower Fields at Carlsbad Ranch, the Leo Carrillo Ranch Historic Park, the Agua Hedionda Lagoon Foundation, the Carlsbad Charitable Foundation and the Moonlight Cultural Foundation. She also looks forward to spending time with her grandchildren and gardening.

“Rose Ann is a person of integrity and intelligence with a great work ethic. She made LJCD a better community by creating smiles on our campus every day…”

Jennifer Fogarty

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Surprise Yourself

By Danielle Franger ’18

Nineteen and navigating my way through the treacherous roads called high school, here I am. The truth is, I have never been asked to share my whole story aloud. I usually avoid the topic in hopes that the pain and suffering it has caused—and still does—will be swept under my imaginary rug. To be honest, I have never truly let myself be vulnerable enough for those details to be verbalized aloud.

The past five years have felt as if I were riding a bicycle downhill with faulty brakes. There isn’t an easy transition from healthy to sick. I was healthy one day and the next I was in a coma. I almost died the night of October 25, 2014.

I was a healthy little girl. I grew up the book-loving only child of a blue-collar family. According to the hagiography, I began reading at the age of 3, rattling off names of condiment bottles in the fridge.

I started school at 5 and immediately fell in love with learning. I quickly discovered reading was my favorite subject. I would spend hours on end devouring the classics: Austen, Dickens, Malory, Steinbeck and a handful of Brontës.

Fast forward to age 12: I still loved school. I visited La Jolla Country Day School for the first time to watch my cousin, Grant, play Pop Warner football for the Torreys. That afternoon is a day I will never forget; I fell in love with the school of my dreams. For the first time in my scholarly career, I felt as if I belonged. I loved the atmosphere, the campus and the faculty alike. I applied and began my scholastic career at LJCDS as a freshman the following year.

Unfortunately, I was barely into my second year when I experienced one of the scariest nights of my young life. It’s almost impossible to describe the feeling that overcame my body within a week. All of a sudden I was sick with the flu—or so I thought—the week of my sophomore homecoming.

There aren’t words that clearly sum up how it feels to be in DKA. By definition, DKA, or Diabetic Ketoacidosis, is a “life-threatening condition that develops when the cells in the body are fully unable to produce the glucose they need for energy because there is no insulin in the body.” My body went into a coma because it was not producing a hormone that it needed to live.

I do not remember much from that night. I do remember feelings; the pain I felt in my chest is the worst pain I have ever experienced in my life. I tried to talk but my words came out slurred. I remember telling my mom I was going to take a nap before homecoming because I felt so terrible. Little did I know that I wasn’t going to wake up.

The next memory I have is being at the nurses’ station in the Temecula Valley Hospital in my homecoming dress. My blood pressure was 200/105. I was rushed onto a gurney, taken to another room in the ER and given oxygen. Even though I do not remember seeing what was happening around me, I do remember hearing and feeling it. I felt the pinch of needles; I heard the sound of the oxygen tank and the sobs of my mother. In and out of consciousness, I was there. I remember hearing a doctor tell my mother, “You have a very sick little girl. The helicopter will be here soon. Your daughter’s blood has the acidity of a battery.”

The last thing I remember from that night was hearing the doctor tell my mother that she needed to be prepared if I didn’t wake up out of the coma. I wanted to scream. I remember what I thought was going to be my last prayer and my last goodbye to my mother.
Three days later, I opened my eyes. I was in a different room, with different doctors and nurses. Dr. Gottschalk diagnosed me as a Type 1 diabetic who had fought through a severe diabetic coma. The next person I saw was Mr. [Todd] Ballaban. I was amazed by how one teacher would be so kind to come and visit me first thing. That is the kind of genuine love Country Day faculty have shown me.

Despite the doctors saying I could resume a normal life, I was back in the hospital two days later. Eight months went by—in and out of the hospital—as I continued to experience severe health complications. My doctors did not know why I was repeatedly having anaphylactic reactions. Finally, I was diagnosed as a Type 1 diabetic with a severe allergy to the one thing every Type 1 diabetic needs to live: insulin. Rady Children’s Hospital called in a doctor from Columbia University to desensitize me to insulin. Every 15 minutes for 48 hours I was given a diluted shot of insulin. It was explained that this process was an experiment previously tried on mice. If successful, I would be the first human ever to be desensitized to insulin. If it wasn’t successful, I would either have to live a life of eating only protein, or I would pass away from further complications.

By the grace of God, the experiment worked.

I wake up every morning to fight the same demons that left me so tired the night before.

I talked with one of my favorite teachers and late advisor Mr. [Glen] Pritzker on the day I decided to repeat the 10th grade due to my illness. He took my shoulder as I sat in his office and shared one of his favorite quotes with me. “Danielle,” he said, “the paradox of our time is that we have taller buildings, but shorter tempers; wider freeways, but narrower viewpoints. We spend more, but have less. We have more degrees, but less sense; more knowledge, but less judgment. Danielle, we have more medicine, but less wellness. We talk so much, but love too seldom. We’ve done larger things, but not better things. We’ve cleaned up our air, but polluted the soul. We write more, but learn less. We’ve conquered the atom, but not our prejudice. We’ve built computer and social media to hold more information, but we communicate less. And lastly, we laugh too little, get up too tired, read too little, and pray too seldom. Think about your story and how it can change you. Danielle, think about how your story can impact others.”

Mr. Pritzker wanted me to realize that we can get lost in the music of life. We need, just for a moment, to be still. The days are turning into months, and the months are turning into years. We should all slow down and realize how truly blessed we are to live the life we live—whether we have trials or not.

La Jolla Country Day School, I want to thank you for being there for me through my trials. Thank you for giving me the education that many cannot say they were blessed with. Thank you for understanding when times were tough. Thank you for seeing museums in me, when all I saw were empty hallways. Thank you to my teachers who have inspired me more and more, and who have truly made me who I am today.

A longer version of this speech was delivered in assembly in spring 2018.

Even though I have been through more than my fair share of trials, I have learned that it’s through my struggles that I have stumbled across my strengths.
**GOVERNMENT**

**Paying It Forward**

JARED POLIS ’93

After years of success as an entrepreneur and state representative, Jared Polis ’93 is hoping to become the next governor of Colorado.

Jared Polis has always been passionate about government and politics. While a student at LJCDS, he founded the school’s Young Democrats Club and counted Model U.N. as one of his extracurricular activities. Now, after serving nine years as a Colorado State Representative, Polis hopes to take on even more responsibility for his home state, this time as its next governor. If elected, Polis hopes to usher in an era marked by equal access to quality education for all, affordable health care and building a renewable energy future for the country.

Education has always been an important cause for Polis. “LJCDS helped prepare me for success,” explains Polis, and he wants all children to benefit from a high-quality education. As chairman of the Colorado Board of Education in the early 2000s, Polis worked to start two schools: the New America School and the Academy of Urban Learning. After becoming a congressman in 2009, Polis continued his focus on education—“I helped write a number of parts of the Every Student Succeeds Act, which replaced No Child Left Behind as the main federal education law of the land”—but has dedicated himself equally to the issues of labor, health care, criminal justice reform and the environment. Polis counts his efforts to pass paid family and medical leave, his founding of the Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition, and his work with President Obama to pass the LGBTQ-Inclusive Hate Crime Law, as some of the highlights of his congressional tenure.

Polis’s journey into politics was inevitable, if not immediate. He began his career as an entrepreneur while still a student at Princeton, and later went on to found and sell several successful businesses. But serving his community was never off his radar. “I really liked business growing up, but I also knew I wanted to give back and to help others realize their potential,” says Polis. “I’m honored that I am now in a position to pay it forward and make a difference for the next generation.”

In the June 26 Colorado primary, Polis secured the Democratic nomination for governor with 44.43 percent of the vote. If elected, Polis will become the first openly gay governor in the United States. He’ll go into the job well aware of the challenges of serving his state but is more focused on his passion for the work, the rewards of which can have a tremendous impact on the entire community. “We live in a diverse society with lots of conflicting ideas and values. As elected officials, we have to do our best to encourage everyone to get along and promote equality,” says Polis.

You can find out more at polisforcolorado.com.

—MICHELLE CHOATE

*Editor’s Note: Shortly before 1926 went to print, Jared Polis ’93 was elected the 43rd governor of Colorado.

WWW.POLISFORCOLORADO.COM
RESOURCES

Classic Journeys
www.classicjourneys.com

Backroads
www.backroads.com

Ciao Bambino!
www.ciaobambino.com

Viator
www.viator.com

Twist Travel Magazine
www.twisttravelmag.com
ASK THE EXPERT

Traveling with Children

NANCY SOLOMON ’90

In the past, vacation meant the kids got shipped off to the grandparents. Today, families bring their kids everywhere, says Nancy Solomon ’90. This provides an opportunity for deeper connection and learning. But where do you begin? As a Boston-based mom of four (ages ranging from 10 to 19) and writer for Ciao Bambino!, a family travel agency, Solomon knows how to plan a trip with minimal meltdowns and maximum memories. She lovingly compares her family to a “traveling circus” and says she wouldn’t have it any other way. She has been to 39 countries—23 with children—and 39 states. Here are her tips for traveling with children and raising global citizens.

Be Prepared
This begins with selecting your destination. You start with “when,” then pick the “where.” Be aware of global issues; avoid areas of civil unrest. If you’re traveling with newborns (up to a year old), don’t choose anywhere too remote, because when babies get sick, you need quick access to medical care. I’m always prepared with Advil, antibiotics and medical info.

Alter Your Expectations
You cannot book kids into an adult itinerary; it’s a recipe for disaster. You have to work in downtime. If you’re traveling to a big city, you need open spaces for them to play. They can’t continually go from site to site. Everyone needs to be well-fed and well-rested. Check those primary boxes and remain flexible.

Focus on Immersive Activities
With kids, it’s less about the physical space and more about the activities. Think: glass-blowing, cheese-making, pasta-making, cooking. When planning our recent trip to Israel and Petra, we asked our children what they wanted to do. One is really into archaeology and wanted to go on a dig, and another wanted an in-home experience, so we made those requests happen. You’re creating memories that they’ll cherish. When my kids write an essay for school, they’re referencing their travels.

Work with a Travel Agent
Most of the travel agents I work with have a formula. Push to find the unique opportunities. It may take more back and forth on the front end, but you’ll get a customized trip. And there are some countries in which an agent is especially helpful because it’s hard to understand the logistics otherwise. If you’re staying in one place, say, Madrid, you can get by with the city guides. But if you’re traveling to three locations in Spain, it’s essential to work with a professional; those transitions can be difficult to plan out. There typically isn’t a cost for working with a travel agent. They’re paid commissions from the properties and services they book. Oftentimes, they are aware of promotions and can actually save you money.

Save Money and Rent a House
VRBO and Airbnb allow you to travel in a way that’s authentic and less expensive. In Europe, they’re strict about occupancy in hotels. You’re not permitted to put six people in one room, and it’s pricey to reserve three. So we prefer renting houses and villas.

Think Outside the Box
For the same amount of money you’d spend on a trip to Disney, you could go to Paris! —WENDY SIMARD

Nancy Solomon ’90 is a Boston-based mom of four and a writer for Ciao Bambino!.

WWW.CIAOBAMBINO.COM
Savannah Dowling ’12 and Sidney Karesh ’12 both earned the prestigious Fulbright scholarship to teach English in Jordan and Belarus, respectively. The Fulbright U.S. Student Program is a highly selective international exchange program that provides grants for overseas study, research or English teaching assistantships and is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State. Grants are awarded to the most qualified students following a rigorous application and approval process. More than 11,000 applicants from more than 140 countries compete for approximately 1,900 awards annually. Evaluation is based on a variety of factors including proof of high academic achievement and evidence that the candidate will advance the Fulbright mission to collectively address global challenges and work toward world peace. Fulbright alumni have gone on to earn 59 Nobel Prizes and 84 Pulitzer Prizes, and 37 have served as a head of state or government.

Savannah Dowling

When she started high school, Savannah Dowling ’12 was certain that she wanted to be a physician, but by the time she graduated, she knew life had a different plan. After graduating from La Jolla Country Day School, Dowling attended Cornell University, where she earned a bachelor’s degree in Near and Middle Eastern Studies and China and Asia Pacific Studies in 2016. That same year, Dowling was awarded a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship in Amman, Jordan, where she spent the 2016–2017 school year teaching English to seventh-graders at Al-Asriyya School. Dowling describes her time in Jordan as the culmination of many years of learning Arabic and studying Middle Eastern politics at LJCDS and in college. “I learned so much from the experience—particularly what it’s like being on the ‘other side’ of the language learning equation,” she reflects. “As a passionate language learner, I am deeply familiar with the difficulties that come with learning a foreign language. Learning a second language isn’t easy, and teaching a language isn’t either.”

In addition to teaching, Dowling interned at Endless, a company that produces software and computers for people who do not have reliable access to the internet. As the ground team liaison, she helped facilitate Endless’s partnership with UNICEF in the Middle East and North Africa region. She also worked for a law office in Amman that focuses on protecting and upholding the rights of migrant workers in Jordan.

Dowling is currently a reporter at Crunchbase News, where she writes about the intersection of money and technology. Her research is focused on startups and venture capital in Asia.
Sidney Karesh

Imagine standing in front of a classroom where you’ve prepared an 80-minute English lesson for a group of college students who are the same age as you—except they are non-native English speakers. For Sidney Karesh ’12, it’s just another day at the office.

Karesh was awarded a coveted Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship to guest lecture at Minsk State Linguistic University in Belarus. She spent the 2017–2018 academic year covering a variety of topics from Mass Media to American Studies, teaching up to 16 different classes, delivering a new lesson every two weeks.

In addition to her regular lessons, Karesh developed “English Walk and Talks,” informal meetings at a local park where students could practice English in a more casual setting. These meetups also allowed her to build relationships with students that she would otherwise have seen only a couple of times. She additionally set up an online classroom to share articles, book recommendations, English resources and even some memes.

Outside of the university, Karesh led weekly conversation clubs at the international library, worked with the public affairs department of the United States Embassy, and traveled to other towns and cities in Belarus where she led activities.

Before the Fulbright opportunity, Karesh graduated from Brown University in 2016 and served as a City Year AmeriCorps Member for one year, working with sixth-graders at Lee Mathson Middle School in San Jose, California.

Since her earliest memories, Karesh has wanted to be a teacher. “I could not be more appreciative for the education I have had,” she says. “And I fundamentally believe that every child should have access to the opportunities, resources and support to flourish in their educational careers and beyond.”

—ADRIENNE SIGETI ’11
“Overheard”

To build community in my classroom, I have the same expectations and consistency for every child. Instead of using the term ‘boys and girls,’ I use the term ‘friends.’ This subtlety adds to the feeling of community.

Terri Zimmerman, Kindergarten teacher, Lower School faculty interview

Life is a great adventure, and you really never know what’s going to happen from one day to another.

Lynne Cox, American long-distance open-water swimmer and writer, speaker series talk to Grade 9 students

With age comes wisdom, and with wisdom comes responsibility.

Lisa Bennet, Grade 3 teacher, Lower School faculty interview

From the moment I step on campus until the moment I leave, I’m surrounded by people who really care about me and I’m never alone.

Alexandra Ledford ’18, Lifer profile

In my three years at Country Day, some of my greatest memories and passions have been spawned by just saying yes to opportunities that I didn’t really think I was going to end up doing.

Mark Endo ’18, senior video
As educators, we make investments when we work with adolescents. We are forever stewards of their well-being.

Colleen O’Boyle, assistant head of school for academic affairs, in leadership conversation

We created a classroom community where differences are celebrated and students feel free to take risks.

Alisa Ronis, Grade 2 teacher, Lower School faculty interview

LJCDS gave me a second chance, and through its resources and extracurriculars, I was able to start over.

Jorly Chang ’18, senior speech

Our students will need to be adaptable and embrace learning throughout their lives to find success in an ever-changing world.

Rachel Clouser, Upper School dean of academics and student life, Country Day Connection newsletter

One of the greatest gifts we can give our children is the opportunity to be around people with divergent experiences and perspectives. Beyond what happens in the classroom, children are shaped by the people around them.

Inez Odom, assistant head of school for enrollment management and outreach, Country Day Connection newsletter
LIVING A PROMISE

BY TIFFANY TRAN & ADRIENNE SIGETI '11
INSPIRING GREATNESS FOR A BETTER WORLD isn’t a tagline for La Jolla Country Day School; it’s a promise. Those words represent both truth and aspiration: the truth our alumni are living out in the world and an aspiration for our current and future students. In the next series of stories, we shine a light on four of the countless alumni who are living the LJCDS promise every day, who, through their dedication and commitment, their careers and volunteerism, their personal passion projects and global activism, are truly helping to better the lives of others.
KATY FOLTZ HASTINGS ’03

It began with following a calling. In 2009, Katy Foltz Hastings ’03 made an intentional career move from sports therapy to nursing. The new path paved the way for her to volunteer on global medical mission trips.

AFTER GRADUATING with a degree in health and sports studies from Miami University, Hastings began her career as a strength and conditioning coach and personal trainer. After two years, however, she was eager to travel overseas and make a more meaningful difference. To turn this aspiration into a reality, Hastings sought out a profession where her skill sets would be essential and transferable. “I needed to do something more impactful,” she says. “I was thinking, ‘This is not the service I want to provide to my community,’ and I asked myself, ‘How am I going to continue my life of mission work?’”

In 2009, she returned to college to pursue a second bachelor’s degree—this time in nursing—from the University of Oklahoma. Today, Hastings is an operating room registered nurse at Scripps Health Hospitals. Now, she not only serves her local community but also is able to provide medical support to those in need around the world.

Medical Relief and More

WHEN A 7.8 magnitude earthquake shook Nepal in 2015, killing approximately 9,000 people and injuring nearly 22,000, Hastings and two friends, Amber, a nurse, and Gupri, who’s in public relations, pulled together a group of volunteer medical professionals from around the nation to immediately begin fundraising for a service trip.

In the swift, monthlong planning process, the group reached out to their networks to gather necessary supplies, purchase medications, fundraise, and network with local organizations in Nepal. “We did a lot of grassroots fundraising through GoFundMe and solicited donations from surgeons, family and friends,” Hastings shares. “We also had a yoga studio in Encinitas donate profits from a class. If we had more time, we would have done more, like corporate fundraising or events.”

The team arrived in Nepal in June, a month after the earthquake. The group of surgeons, anesthesiologists and staff were briefly stationed in a hospital in Kathmandu before proceeding into the Himalayas. There, they set up a medical clinic to perform checkups, surgeries for earthquake victims and other non-earthquake-related medical care.

While there, they also visited a school damaged in the earthquake, East Point Academy. “A lot of the kids were orphaned because their family members had been killed,” Hastings shares. “What’s most amazing is the principal of the academy adopted all of the schoolchildren who had lost their families.” In addition to offering health screenings, the team donated funds to support the school’s rebuilding efforts. The relationship continued after the trip with fundraising efforts to support the school’s upkeep and collection of winter coats for the students.
Life-Changing Plastic Surgeries

IN 2013, Hastings and her friends Amber and Gupri accompanied a team of surgeons, medical students, other nurses and staff with the American Society of Indian Plastic Surgeons on a trip to India. In four days, the team performed 104 life-changing surgeries, including cleft lip and palate repair, and hand and facial reconstruction, among others. “[Nurse] Amber and I were helping with suturing and getting patients into post-op in the next room,” she says. “The doctor would literally finish one surgery, wash his hands in between and go to the next room. One doctor would do all hands because that would be really fast. And one doctor would be doing full neck burns.”

The doctors had to avoid performing multiple surgeries on a patient due to time constraints because many families traveled far distances. As a result, the major surgeries were done in a single operation. And recovery time was unlike anything in the United States. “The children were so scared, and you’re able to communicate somehow non-verbally to get them calm enough to do the procedures,” she says. “And you see just how strong they are. They wake up and all they need is their moms to come hold them, and they’re OK. We don’t have heavy-duty narcotics. We’re doing these with minimal post-op. They get anesthesia, but postoperatively, it’s just a little Tylenol and mom’s hug, and that’s all.”

Commitment to Service

PURSUING MEDICAL missions as a passion comes with its challenges, requiring intense pre-travel preparation and commitment. Hastings’s son was 11/2 years old when she traveled to Nepal. “Not only are you gone from your family and your job, but it takes a lot of time beforehand to prepare,” she says. “Hours and hours to set up fundraisers, call people on the phone who don’t speak your language, and organize everything.”

It’s been three years since her trip to Nepal, and Hastings is beginning to get the travel bug again. Now with a newborn and a 4-year-old son, she hopes to return to medical missions in a few years. “I get to live my passion for service and travel at the same time, all while having a family and working full-time. It can be done; you find ways to make it happen. There’s never a good time. You just do it. My family and my husband have always been so supportive.”

In the meantime, Hastings’s son, James, is getting a lesson on the importance of giving back and understanding different cultures. “When you have kids, you just incorporate them,” Hastings says. She and her family are currently supporting a refugee family from the Congo. “I wanted something for James to get involved with. They have a young boy who’s 3; James is 4. When we go over to their apartment, James always wants to bring over a bag of toys and clothes. It’s been great for him. He’s asking a lot of questions and thinking about the world outside of the United States. It’s something that is important to me, so hopefully, it becomes important to him too.”

—Tiffany Tran
“I look at being born with one hand as a blessing,” says Danny Gabriel ’92. This positivity and gratitude is the way Gabriel leads his life. As a former high school and college athlete, he has spent nearly 15 years dedicated to supporting and advocating for athletes with physical challenges.

Gabriel was born limb deficient—with his left hand—and he’s viewed this challenge as advantageous to developing the grit and work ethic that has helped him achieve excellence throughout his life, including as a lifelong athlete.

At La Jolla Country Day School, Gabriel competed in three sports: soccer, tennis and cross country. He excelled in all three and received numerous accolades, including the player of the year in both soccer and tennis in 1992. LJCDS honored his achievements and contributions to the athletic program by inducting him into the LJCDS Athletic Hall of Fame in 2009.

After graduating from LJCDS, Gabriel took his talent and tenacity to the University of California, Berkeley, where he played soccer and earned bachelor’s degrees in economics and business administration.

Giving back to the community with his time and talent has always been important to Gabriel. “It surprises me how few adults do charity work today,” he says. “I feel like there’s a small group of people who are extremely philanthropic with their time.”

Instilling Fight and Inspiration

A BIG PART of Gabriel’s philanthropic endeavors involves serving as a voice and an advocate for the Challenged Athletes Foundation (CAF), a nonprofit dedicated to providing opportunities and support to people with physical challenges so they can pursue active lifestyles through physical fitness and competitive athletics. Gabriel is a reassuring voice, mentor and ally to families with physically challenged children: “I often meet with families with young children that are either amputees or born with a defect. As the kids are getting older, and trying to deal with it, they come to me.”

Mindset and attitude are the focus of his conversations. “We’re all dealt cards,” he says. “People are inclined to feel sorry for themselves, and we feel sorry for others. We’re raising kids that don’t have a fight in them. I meet a lot of people, and I say, ‘Stop feeling sorry for yourself as parents that you have a kid with one leg, and stop feeling sorry for your kid because they will figure it out, and eventually, they will inspire you. Start feeling like the glass is half full and the door is half open.’ You watch these kids who are so inspiring because they have to have grit and perseverance to overcome challenges.”

Not only has Gabriel served as an advocate since his first introduction to CAF in the early 2000s, he has also been an active participant and fundraiser. In 2017, Gabriel and his family pledged to support a six-month fundraising campaign for CAF from August 2017 through February 2018. They raised more than $120,000 for the foundation across three events, kicking off with Gabriel’s participation in a 300-mile cycling challenge in Northern California.

Several years ago, he introduced the LJCDS student Community Service Board to the Challenged Athletes Foundation. Now, the school holds an annual soccer tournament benefiting CAF: Fly’s Four-on-Four, named in honor of Upper School history teacher and men’s varsity soccer coach Jerry Fleischhacker. Fleischhacker was Gabriel’s soccer coach his senior year.
Getting More Than You Give

GIVING BACK is an important priority for the Gabriel family. As part of their campaign pledge, the family participated in the 14th annual CAF Triathlon Challenge in fall 2018. Gabriel’s wife, Dana, and their three daughters, Sadie (10), Zoe (8) and Vanessa (5), participated in the 5K run, while he and son Jake (12) combined forces to tackle a one-mile ocean swim before Gabriel finished off the challenge with a 40-mile bike ride and a 10-mile run.

“CAF has become a way of life for our household,” he shares. “We continue to find great strength in this incredible organization that helps athletes with disabilities from all over the world get back into sports.”

Each year, Gabriel commits to raising $75,000–$100,000 for the organization to support programs, including camps, clinics and grants. In 2018, the foundation offered $4.3 million in grants to more than 2,000 individuals for adaptive equipment, coaching, mentoring and competition expenses.

Gabriel balances his philanthropic commitments with his job as the CEO of ColRich Multifamily, a real estate development and investment firm. In addition to supporting CAF, Gabriel serves on a board at Scripps Memorial Hospital. He and his family also support nonprofits in Tijuana, building homes and helping in orphanages, among other service work.

“Nonprofit and community service work is a priority for our family,” he explains. “We do these things because we want to feel good about who we are and our impact on this planet. Sometimes we get so focused on ourselves and the rat race that we forget that when you go out and help others, in the end, the person you’re helping out is yourself, and what you get out of it is more than you give.”

—TIFFANY TRAN

Paying It Forward

One Act of Kindness at a Time

MILES HIMMEL ’10

For Miles Himmel ’10, following in his father’s footsteps is not just a goal but a lifetime mission. As co-founder of the Larry Himmel Neighborhood Foundation, Miles hopes to continue his father’s legacy by paying it forward.

“DON’T EVER underestimate the power of a rose or the joy of a random act of kindness.” Those were Larry Himmel’s concluding words on a special news segment on CBS News 8 on Valentine’s Day 2014, just a few months before his passing. Himmel spent that day greeting strangers and handing out roses on the streets of San Diego. Fast-forward four years, and Himmel’s son, Miles, has picked up right where his dad left off with the founding of the Larry Himmel Neighborhood Foundation, roses in hand.

Larry Himmel was a San Diego icon, a legendary reporter, a man of humor and a friend to all. But to Miles, he was Dad. While San Diegans remember Larry, the reporter and entertainer, Miles remembers his number—one fan, faithfully cheering from the sidelines at La Jolla Country Day School sporting events and play productions. Everything changed when Himmel was suddenly diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and passed away a few months later, in November 2014, leaving a hole in the collective heart and soul of San Diego.
A Surprise Visit

MILES REFLECTS on that difficult period with a sadness that reveals the unique bond between father and son. “He was 68 at the time, still working,” he shares, “[He] literally worked until a month before he passed away. He had lost 30 pounds, his pants didn’t fit him, but he kept wanting to work because he enjoyed it so much.” But even through the painful memories of his dad’s final weeks, Miles remembers the moments of joy and random acts of kindness that his dad created for others.

He describes one memorable occasion in 2013, when Himmel transformed an ordinary Wednesday into an unforgettable “hump day” with the surprise appearance of an unexpected guest: a camel from Ramona’s Oasis Camel Dairy. Barely squeezing through the front door, the camel took a tour of the building, greeting staff from the halls of Channel 8’s newsroom, later renamed the Larry Himmel Memorial Newsroom.

From joyful memories like these, the Larry Himmel Neighborhood Foundation was born.

Recognizing Local Heroes

AFTER HIS dad’s passing, Miles and his boss from KFMB-TV brainstormed ways to celebrate Larry’s legacy and honor his commitment to the San Diego community. In February 2015, they founded the Larry Himmel Neighborhood Foundation. Three years later, the foundation has flourished with Miles spearheading the way.

To accurately reflect the work they planned to pursue, Miles and the board of directors adopted a mission for the foundation stemming from Larry’s personal motto: “To make people feel better about the place they call home.” In that spirit, the foundation created the Good Neighbor Award, recognizing individuals who have dedicated their lives to the greater good of San Diego.

The foundation presented the inaugural Good Neighbor Award to Barbara “Sister Pee Wee” Harris, founder and owner of Pee Wee’s Soul Food Kitchen, a favorite gathering spot of Larry and Southeast San Diego residents for over five decades. Due to health issues, Sister Pee Wee closed its doors in October 2017 after 63 years of business. Following the restaurant’s closing, community members gathered to celebrate Sister Pee Wee’s generous spirit with the presentation of the foundation’s Good Neighbor Award and the proclamation of Sister Pee Wee Day by Councilman David Alvarez.

Community Partnerships

THE LARRY HIMMEL NEIGHBORHOOD FOUNDATION responds to a variety of local needs, from literacy to haircuts and everything in between. One of Miles’s favorite projects is a collaboration between the foundation and the Riley School, a special education school that offers children intensive social and emotional support. In 2017, the foundation adopted the school and donated two 55-by-9-foot hand-painted murals to adorn the exterior walls of two classrooms. The aquatic scene evokes a larger-than-life aquarium to welcome Riley students, faculty and staff, and usher in an exciting new partnership. Miles hopes that the school’s new look will foster a greater sense of school spirit and community for all to enjoy.

Another notable partnership led to the creation of the foundation’s most popular event, the annual Back-to-School Haircut Drive. The drive takes place before school starts in late August, inviting more than 300 San Diego students to the California Barber & Beauty College to get a fresh new do to start off the school year. In partnership with local organizations, students in attendance also receive school supplies and free tickets to local attractions.

The Legend Lives On

MILES HAS also followed in his father’s footsteps behind the microphone. With a bachelor’s degree in communications from Bradley College in Illinois, he now serves as the producer of KFMB radio station in San Diego, a play-by-play announcer for Tritons TV at the University of California, San Diego, and a freelance videographer.

Miles credits LJCD with instilling in him a belief in the inherent goodness of people. “I never felt that I was the best or the smartest, but I was always looking up to others thinking, ‘I want to be like him or her.’ That’s a really cool part of being here,” he shares. “The people, the relationships, the teachers like Ms. [Katey] Alexander and Mr. [Bruce] Fayman and the people who believe in you... Country Day really helps with your foundation, building your roots, and that’s way more important than testing well.”

When asked about the overall objective of his foundation, Miles dons an infectious smile and circles back to his dad. “I would love for a kid or someone who never knew my dad to get to know him through our foundation. That’s been a goal of mine.” It is that goal that drives Miles and his foundation to continue his father’s legacy, to turn sadness into joy and to make San Diegans feel great about the place they call home.

— ADRIENNE SIGETI ’11
Pam Wesley Omidyar ’85 is an active philanthropist, humanitarian and social justice advocate. She and husband Pierre, founder of eBay, are partners in leading global change for a better world. To fulfill their mission, they founded the Omidyar Group, a collection of organizations with a shared goal of catalyzing social impact.
**THEIR FOUNDATIONS** include the Omidyar Network, a philanthropic investment firm; Humanity United, committed to developing solutions to intractable global challenges like modern-day slavery and mass atrocities; and Hopelab, a health-focused research and development organization.

Even before signing onto the Giving Pledge, Omidyar and her husband had committed to giving away the vast majority of their wealth during their lifetimes. Their social/humanitarian causes include poverty alleviation, human rights, health technology advancement, sustainability initiatives, and governance and citizenship engagement. Her dedication to improving lives and communities has earned her several awards, including the Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy and being named one of the World’s 7 Most Powerful Philanthropists by *Forbes*.

Omidyar earned a bachelor’s degree in biology from Tufts University. She later studied molecular genetics at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and worked as a management consultant in the biomedical industry.

**1926** magazine editor Tiffany Tran talks to Omidyar about her global impact.

**How did you arrive at LJCDS?**
My family moved from Hawaii to California while I was in high school, and I attended LJCDS during my junior and senior years with generous financial assistance, an opportunity for which I’m deeply grateful.

**Why did you choose to study biology?**
I recall that upon graduation, we were asked to share our aspiration for the future. Mine was to cure cancer, as it was a great source of suffering for my family and so many others. At LJCDS, I worked in the school’s chemistry laboratory where I experienced what it was like to work in a scientific environment—and I loved it. So much so, that at Tufts University, I pursued a degree in biology.

Tell us how your studies inspired your vision for Hopelab.
I channeled the aspiration I had as a senior at LJCDS through my philanthropic work. In 1999, I founded Hopelab, and with the help of a talented and dedicated team, brought to life an idea to create a video game called Re-Mission, which helps empower young cancer patients to take control of their treatment and fight their disease. To this day, Hopelab is still exploring the role technology can play in addressing the unique experiences of teens and young adults with chronic illness.

**Among all the causes that you support, why is education so near and dear to your heart?**
There are many people around the world who do not have access to quality education. I believe that through education, a young person has the opportunity to create the life they want for themselves. It’s one of the reasons we’ve helped support the financial aid programs at LJCDS and Tufts University. Beyond funding scholarships, we invest in different facets of education, from early childhood education programs globally, to innovative school models and education technology.

**Tell us about the work you’re doing that focuses on empathy.**
Another passion of mine is the integration of social-emotional learning programs in the classroom, such as Roots of Empathy, an evidence-based program that increases children’s social/emotional skills and empathy. I believe that having access to quality education sets children on a path that can positively impact the lives of their families and communities, and ultimately leads to a flourishing world.

**You’re actively engaged with the Polynesian Voyaging Society; tell us about their work.**
While on sabbatical, I had the incredible opportunity to sail as a crewmember of Hōkūle‘a, a traditional Hawaiian voyaging canoe. Upon Hōkūle‘a’s arrivals in Australia and South Africa, I was incredibly fortunate to witness exchanges of stories of collective pain, hope, and how to use indigenous wisdom to heal communities and our environment. In a world where we are so divided, to see people learning from one another was a powerful reminder of the importance of respect, deep listening and human-to-human connection.

In a world where we are so divided, to see people learning from one another was a powerful reminder of the importance of respect, deep listening and human-to-human connection.
You’ve been on sabbatical. What inspired you to do so?
No one teaches you how to be a philanthropist, and after nearly 20 years of diving in, I decided to take a sabbatical to reboot the overstructured, hyper-busy life I was leading. Thanks to the great leaders across our teams, I have been able to step away from the day-to-day work of our philanthropies for the last two years.

How did you spend your time on sabbatical?
I am spending more time on (and in) the ocean and reading more books that elevate the human spirit rather than define how it is being destroyed through violent conflicts and enslavement. Quilting has become a source of joy and contentment, especially when I am able to give my quilts and pillows away.

—TIFFANY TRAN

PAM OMIDYAR’S BOOKSHELF

THE BOOK OF JOY: LASTING HAPPINESS IN A CHANGING WORLD
By His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu, with Douglas Abrams
This book was written through observations of a weeklong visit I attended between His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu in Dharamshala, India. I don’t think anyone grows up thinking they will have the opportunity to spend time with two of the greatest teachers and spiritual leaders of our age, but when it presented itself, I jumped at the chance. It was the gift of a lifetime to witness the loving friendship of these two men and to listen to their wisdom on cultivating the conditions for joy despite life’s challenges.

Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants
By Robin Wall Kimmerer
I recently listened to this book while quilting—a newfound source of creativity for me. I felt humbled learning about these beautiful stories and teachings on how Native Americans revere and care for Mother Nature. It gave me a renewed sense of gratitude for the many ways our earth provides for us and the immense duty we have to care for our planet for future generations to come.

Wayfinding Leadership: Groundbreaking Wisdom for Developing Leaders
By Dr. Chellie Spiller, Hoturoa Barclay-Kerr and John Panoho
This book draws upon ancient wisdom and puts it in the context of modern leadership challenges. Indigenous wayfinding practices have much to offer beyond navigation, and this book illustrates the interdependence across them all.

Mālama Honua: Hōkūle’a – A Voyage of Hope
By Jennifer Allen
This story describes the inspiring people who have been transformed by Hōkūle’a, Polynesian wayfinding, and the Polynesian Voyaging Society’s three-year journey across oceans to raise awareness and highlight solutions around climate change.
THERE’S MORE THAN FUN IN GAMES
If you tell your friends or co-workers that you spent 13 hours of your weekend binge-watching the latest “it” television show, you’ll likely be greeted with understanding nods, and peppered with questions about your thoughts on the plot and characters. But if you told those same people you spent 13 hours playing video games, their reactions would likely be markedly different. Less curiosity, more judgment. Probably a few looks that clearly indicate, “What a useless waste of time!” It’s unfair, of course, but outside the bubble of the gaming world, video games—and those who play them—don’t get a lot of respect.
Spend a little time talking to Dave Rohrl ’81, however, and you’ll begin to see video games in an entirely new light. Rohrl has spent the past 24 years designing and producing online games for a mass audience. “Games, at least as I practice them, are an entertainment medium. By and large, what’s good and bad about games largely overlaps with what’s good or bad about movies and television,” explains Rohrl. “Games are media that allow for some interaction, for players to make decisions and have an impact on their experience. Games can also enlighten, edify and uplift. I have friends that are working on health-oriented games and games that teach disaster preparedness. Games can also be used for training simulations. But the vast majority of games are focused on entertainment.”

THE DISCIPLINE OF DESIGN

While games are entertaining for those who play them, the work of designing them is detail-oriented and laborious. Coming up with a cool idea for a game is an important first step, but, as Rohrl explains, “Coming up with cool ideas isn’t that hard; making cool ideas work is incredibly hard and involves a great deal of effort and painstaking work.”

Rohrl performed that painstaking work for 20 years for a handful of gaming studios, before striking out on his own with Mobile Game Doctor in 2013. Mobile Game Doctor is a boutique design consulting firm that works with mobile game developers worldwide to improve their games, teams and processes.

With Mobile Game Doctor, Rohrl has brought together a freelance team of about half a dozen game design experts with an average of 20 years of experience. Rohrl has a very specific approach to his work, one in which he regularly communicates to his team. “I believe game design is an equal parts engineering form, driven by a design discipline, just like architecture or graphic design,” explains Rohrl. “Math and psychology are critical elements of that discipline.”

Math is essential for the creation and execution of a game’s economy. A game’s economy can best be explained as the stakes and pace of the game. Most games have resources that players earn through some activity and then expend to help them reach toward some goal. The player will kill monsters or complete missions, which will earn the player experience points or a monetary reward within the game. An important part of the game designer’s job is figuring out how the game is going to price out these rewards. Making sure the player has to play a particular amount of time to reach a specific goal—rather than racing through the game too fast or getting frustrated and abandoning it—is critical to a game’s success.

In recent years, video games have evolved from something that players paid for once—like traditional console games on a PlayStation or Xbox—to something known as free-to-play, like Candy Crush, Clash Royale and Game of War. These games can be downloaded from an app store and played for free but also offer players the option to pay for elements within the game. Free-to-play games, which make up the majority of Mobile Game Doctor’s workload, require an exceptionally complex set of math skills.

“Whenever my company gets an inbound lead, the first thing I do is look at the skill sets of my team members to see who will best fit that project,” says Rohrl. “Then I make them play the game, at whatever stage of development it’s in at the time, to make sure they connect with it, feel that they can improve it, and that they understand the audience.” Understanding the audience is where the psychology comes in. To stay sharp and tuned in to consumer behavior and motivation, Rohrl asks the designers on his team to read books on marketing psychology, like Influence, by Robert Cialdini. He also recommends behavioral economics books, like Steven Levitt and Stephen Dubner’s Freakonomics, so that the team can better comprehend how and why people make purchasing decisions.

But no matter what expertise and disciplines are necessary to produce a game, Rohrl believes that at their core, games are art, and game designers are artists.

“Designing a game is a lot like writing or directing a movie,” explains Rohrl. “You’re trying to provide people with a particular experience, to take them on an emotional journey. Game design is about your ability to move players into this toy world and get them invested in it. Get them to make choices and see their impact, and gain learning and mastery from that.”
THE DOCTOR IS IN—AND HE’S VERY GOOD

For Rohrl, the project that best exemplifies the work of Mobile Game Doctor is a free-to-play game called Trailer Park Boys: Greasy Money. The game’s developer hired Mobile Game Doctor to assess the state of the game after having worked on its development for almost a year. Rohrl and his team took a look and pronounced the game unplayable in its current state. The developer then decided to reboot the game and take it in a new direction, with Mobile Game Doctor running the design.

“The game is very easy and fun to play, but it was very, very hard to do the math for,” says Rohrl. Despite the many successful projects Rohrl has overseen, the one that has made him most famous—at least in gaming circles—is Plants vs. Zombies. He was head of the studio that built the game, and at the end of development, a character was needed to host the game and teach the players. The character of “Crazy Dave” was born, and gamer Rohrl has the honor of being immortalized in his favorite medium.

GAMES AND ALL THEIR FORMS

Rohrl has the knowledge and experience that comes from working in the industry for over two decades. He also has a passion for playing, finding joy in gaming. “I’ve loved games since before video games existed,” says Rohrl. “I was a little kid who wouldn’t let his parents go to bed without one more game of gin rummy. That passion was very much present in my Country Day years. I used to play games with my schoolmates, had some Dungeons and Dragons sessions at school, the occasional low-stakes poker game by the library. I’ve loved games in all their forms for a long time.”

At LJCDS, Rohrl also honed another skill that would be essential to his current career. “I had a real aptitude for computers and ended up teaching the school’s first-ever computer programming class as an after-school elective during my senior year,” says Rohrl. “Because LJCDS is small and intimate, it was really easy for any individual to have a big impact. If you took the initiative to do something—like teach a computer class—you were supported and encouraged to do it.”

“Designing a game is a lot like writing or directing a movie. You’re trying to provide people with a particular experience, to take them on an emotional journey.

THE IMPORTANCE OF PASSION

The international nature of gaming has allowed Rohrl to work for companies around the world, including in Germany, Finland, Poland, Brazil and the United Kingdom. But today, his actual workplace is virtual, allowing him to stay put in the San Francisco Bay Area with his family. His three daughters don’t have much interest in what their father does for a living, but his stepson is a passionate gamer. “He’s more of a console guy, and I’m more into mobile,” says Rohrl, “but we occasionally find middle ground and play Mario Kart together.”

After almost a quarter of a century, Rohrl is still as passionate about games as he was when he was a little boy, begging his parents for one more game of cards. “I love my work, and I wake up excited about it every day. I know I’m at my best when I’m really passionate about the products I’m working on. For me, having that passion is the most important part of my job.”
Milestones

ENGAGEMENTS, MARRIAGES & BIRTHS

1

Jessica Wilson-Jones ’10 married Justin Jones on January 6, 2018, in Boston, Massachusetts.

2


3

Kirsten Dorr Hurst ’06 married Jeff Hurst on March 22, 2018, in Temecula, California.

STAY CONNECTED

We want to hear from alumni! Are you celebrating a life event? Have news to share? Send us a class note. All class notes will be published online.

LJCDS.ORG/ALUMNI
Christina Martin Hasslinger ’10 and husband Kurt Hasslinger welcomed son Paul Nathaniel Hasslinger on May 7, 2018.

Agnes Chu ’98 and husband Tom Gilmore welcomed daughter Elle Gilmore on April 29, 2018.

Catherine Race ’10 is engaged to Luke Remley ’10. They plan on a 2019 wedding.

Ashley Hinrichsen Soto ’04 and husband Christopher Soto welcomed daughter Madison Glynn Soto on March 13, 2018.
Between La Jolla Country Day School’s full accreditation with its first graduating class in 1964 and the groundbreaking for the Fayman Library that same year, the school’s growth was inevitable. Head of School Don Leavenworth and the board’s original envisioning of the new campus had to expand—and quickly.

The Land Rush of 1970 helped double the school’s acreage, providing the footprint of the school as we know it today.
By 1970, LJCD had only a few months before the land between Genesee Avenue and Kipling Drive (now Torrey Walk), which was leased by the City of San Diego, would lose its purchasing option. The sticker price to buy the land was a steep $176,000.

Unfortunately, the school didn’t have the extra funds readily available, so board member William G. “Dusty” Pollock led an urgent development campaign called “The Great Land Rush.” Head of School Don Leavenworth kicked off the campaign by gathering parents and friends of the school to celebrate its successes and share its future plans and commitment to founder Louise Balmer’s vision. As the sun went down and the community sang “This Land Is Your Land,” students outlined the 14-acre expansion and switched on handheld flashlights to dramatically illuminate the school’s future.

Only a few weeks after forming fundraising committees, Board of Trustees President Harold P. Field proudly presented the director of San Diego’s property department with a check for the full amount.

The campaign was one of the most successful fundraising initiatives in the school’s history and has helped shape the campus we know today. While buildings and layouts have changed, it’s where we are and our shared history that has defined us as a school. —RAFAEL EATON

While the buildings on campus have changed, the land remains the same. Only one of the original “long house” structures remains, which is currently the Upper School administration building.
My Inspiration!

My inspiration as a teacher and connoisseur of history is the progress of humankind. By this, I don’t mean a romanticized past—as much as I enjoy historical novels and Hollywood epics. I refer to awe of real human achievements. Of course, this is constrained by how tough life was and ‘the evil that men do.’

For seventh-graders, the argument should be framed as an investigation of greatness within the context of an appropriately filtered understanding of human tragedies. I make a point of studying this ‘tough history,’ so I never lose perspective.

At the same time, however, the facts demonstrate incredible moral and material progress. Even as early as ancient times, truly inspiring individuals and groups worked to improve not only their own lives but ours. Thus, history tells us, while we can’t be certain about predicting the future, there is room for optimism as we face the daunting challenges before us.

Richard Nelson
Grade 7 History Teacher
Celebrating 40 years at LJCDS
LA JOLLA COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL
Report on Giving
2017–2018
LA JOLLA COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL PREPARES INDIVIDUALS FOR A LIFETIME OF INTELLECTUAL EXPLORATION, PERSONAL GROWTH AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.
Dear LJCDS Community,

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THIS YEAR’S ANNUAL FUNDRAISING REPORT. If you are receiving this, you have likely been a donor and supporter of La Jolla Country Day School, perhaps over many years. Our annual report provides us with the opportunity not only to acknowledge and thank you but also to keep you current on our continued commitment to excellence in teaching and learning.

The best schools are comprised of remarkable educators serving passionate students. The Country Day Fund (CDF) encourages alumni, faculty, staff, parents, grandparents and friends to renew their commitment to the school by making annual gifts. Their collective support enables the school to respond to immediate needs, unexpected opportunities and new ideas. Faculty members are well-informed in ways that create and enhance learning experiences for all students. Our educators are skilled in managing innovative classroom environments that support individual students and high academic achievement.

LJCDS’s culture of shared leadership allows educators and administrators to bring fresh ideas to the educational dialogue, building on the bedrock of our challenging curriculum and co-curriculum in academics, the arts, athletics, outdoor education, and health and wellness. It was indeed gratifying to witness the commitment of last year’s Country Day Fund chairs, Laura and George Irvin, who reached out to our entire community to successfully exceed our CDF goal. Along with the astuteness and support of the board of trustees and our faculty and staff, we completed the 2017–2018 school year with a well-balanced budget and a robust overall financial picture.

Excellence in education is expensive. With your continued support and involvement, LJCDS continues to provide unique and important opportunities in Pre-K-12 education. On behalf of all of us at LJCDS, thank you for your generosity and commitment. Your involvement makes a truly significant difference in the life of our school and the future of our students.

Gratefully,

Gary Krahn, Ph.D.
Head of School

Chris Richey
Board of Trustees President
Dear La Jolla Country Day School Community,

It is an honor to serve La Jolla Country Day School as the assistant head of school for development. I feel an overwhelming sense of gratitude for all this community has given me. My life has been so powerfully impacted by my experiences with students, parents, faculty, staff and alumni.

I am pleased to share with you the 2017–2018 Report on Giving. The following pages highlight you, our generous donors, who understand the importance of philanthropic giving. Last year, we reached a new milestone with the Country Day Fund raising $1,229,916. Your support and participation generate enthusiasm and inspires others to join you in giving back to the school.

We also acknowledge our volunteers who selflessly give of their time, expertise and talent. We are grateful for our board of trustees and their committee members, our Parents Association, Country Day Fund ambassadors, grandparents and alumni who are dedicated to helping us advance our mission of preparing students for a lifetime of intellectual exploration, personal growth and social responsibility. Together, we are modeling philanthropy for generations to come.

Your support is vital! We are a better, stronger school because of your involvement. I hope you share my pride in all that we have accomplished.

With gratitude,

Susan Nordenger
Assistant Head of School for Development
## Financial Highlights 2017–2018

### Income*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Operating Income</td>
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<td>Tuition and Fees</td>
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<td>Gifts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment and Other Income</td>
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*Based on Audited GAAP Financial Statements, Excluding Gains/Losses

### Expenses*

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<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Financial Assistance</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Based on Audited GAAP Financial Statements, Excluding Gains/Losses
Together we are modeling philanthropy for generations to come.

Susan Nordenger, assistant head of school for development

Country Day Fund

For nearly 100 years, La Jolla Country Day School has provided meaningful opportunities and experiences for our students. Thanks to the confidence and commitment of our community, we have been able to meet challenges, exceed goals and set the pace for excellence.

These unrestricted annual contributions made by alumni, parents, grandparents, faculty, staff, friends and students guarantee a future for our school. They build and sustain a culture of philanthropy and continue to inspire greatness for a better world.
### 1964 Society

**$50,000–$99,999**

- Sara Browne and Chris Richey*
- Nicole and Michael Kelly*
- Lisa Bicker Martin and Jeffrey Martin
- Harriett Robinson
- Candice and Joshua Schimmer

### 1926 Society

**$25,000–$49,999**

- Yuriko and Philip Anton
- Nicole and Michael Kelly*
- Lisa Bicker Martin and Jeffrey Martin
- Harriett Robinson
- Candice and Joshua Schimmer

### Donald Leavenworth Society

**$10,000–$24,999**

- Anonymou
- Lara Saft and Marty Beard*
- Lisa Kanetake and Charles Bergan
- Nikoocoeh and Jack Chi
- Lesley and David Cohn
- Luc Smith Conroy ’90 and Ambrose Conroy*
- Sujata Guharoy Das and Sugata Das*
- Hilary and Warren Dun
- Jessica and Michael Feinman*
- Paula and John Gambs*
- Therese Collins and Byron Georgiou
- Kim and Douglas Harrison
- Patricia and Michael Hoffman*
- Tatianna and Hugh Hotson
- Edwina and Wyatt Johnson
- Denise Kaplan and Andrew Kaplan*
- Tammie and Daniel Kramer*
- Jennifer and Robert Lang
- Linda and Robert Luddy
- Linda Robertson and Roger Mills*
- Shital and Himanshu Parikh*

### Torrey Pines Society

**$5,000–$9,999**

- Anonymous
- Christine Cernosia and David Alberga
- Romy and Arlyn Asch
- Vida and Behnam Badiee
- Suzanne Bovsh
- Alan Brayn
- Rebecca and James Brewer*
- Sun Hee Kim and Moon Sun Ch
- Laurie and Matthew Coleman*
- Ronald Coughlin
- Jill Robinson Forsey and Alan Forsey
- Rosanna and Doug Forsyth
- Angela and Joseph Glyn
- Kimberly and Jeffrey Goldman*
- Lynn and Richard Gordon*
- Elena Goutnova and Rou
- Elizabeth and Frank Grasso*
- Rachel Gras and Shaun Greager
- Miriam and Michael Haughy
- Xiaomei Zhang and Yongquan He
- Wendy and David Hefland*
- Liz and Steve Holli
d
- Alejandro Serrano and Andres Icaza
- Laura and George Irvi
- Samantha and Devetus Jones
- Ranelle and Robert Kain

### Louise Balmer Leadership Society

**$2,000–$4,999**

- Anonymous (5)
- Laura Podkolozina and Anuar Akhmejanov
- Gulshara Akhmejanova and Meiram Akhmejanov
- Karen Deschaine Anderson*
- Omar Anzar
- Elizabeth and Bradley Ausmus*
- Jill and Ryan Bogan*
- Tracy and Charles Brymer
- Randi and Scott Castan

### Donald Leavenworth Society

**$10,000–$24,999**

- Anonymou
- Lara Saft and Marty Beard*
- Lisa Kanetake and Charles Bergan
- Nikoocoeh and Jack Chi
- Lesley and David Cohn
- Luc Smith Conroy ’90 and Ambrose Conroy*
- Sujata Guharoy Das and Sugata Das*
- Hilary and Warren Dun
- Jessica and Michael Feinman*
- Paula and John Gambs*
- Therese Collins and Byron Georgiou
- Kim and Douglas Harrison
- Patricia and Michael Hoffman*
- Tatianna and Hugh Hotson
- Edwina and Wyatt Johnson
- Denise Kaplan and Andrew Kaplan*
- Tammie and Daniel Kramer*
- Jennifer and Robert Lang
- Linda and Robert Luddy
- Linda Robertson and Roger Mills*
- Shital and Himanshu Parikh*
- Jennifer and Stephen Pingyi*
- Liz Anne and Anthony Potamianos
- Crystal ReVeal
- Leonard ReVeal
- Tammy and C. Cameron Rouke*
- Feng Zhou and Hang Sun
- Jamie Resnik Wechter and Kevin Wechter*
- Xueq Li and Yongjian Xiao
- Jennifer and Jim Kelly*
- Janna Smith Lang and Kurt Lang*
- Eunju and Hyungjae Lee
- The Levine-Gaffney Family*
- Ann and Tim Lindian*
- Louise and Christopher Lischewski*
- Michelle Lord
- Dana and Carter Meiselman
- Lalani and Aram Mirkazemi
- Stacey and Steven Pacelli*
- Stephanie and Tom Pellete*
- Janice and John Rooney*
- Marilyn and Michael Rosen*
- Emily and Timothy Scott
- Veena and Naveen Singh*
- Heather Muns-Socol and Randy Socol*
- Tracy Warren St Amour ’88 and Stephen St Amour’
- Gaby and Richard Sulpizio
- Jane and Robert Toll
- Janet McVeigh and Philip Trubey
- Robbi and Steven Wade*
- Joanne Warren
- Ariel Lang and Thomas Weik*
- Qi Li and Lixin Cheng
- Sarah and Po-Jen Cheng
- Farrah Golchin-Cohen and Larry Cohen*
- Karen Bergan and Peter Corrigan
- Gabriela Romo and Sergio Cortes
- Becca and Jason Craig
- Lihong D"ai
- Ladan and Said Daneshmand
- Elise and Augustus Denis*
- Robert Douglass
- Lynn and George Douspsas
- Mark Duval
- Cambra and Philip Finch
- Amy and David French*
- Angela Hansen Fukumura and Koji Fukumura*
- Agnes Chu ’98 and Thomas Gilmore*
- Laurie and John Green
- Lisa and Scott Hackman*
- Angela and Guy Hart
- Sherry Bahrambeygui-Hosey ’82 and Patric
- Hosey*
- Marina Ivanova and Igor Ivanov
- Karol Shekhter Jacobs ’98 and Eric Jacobs*
- Amy and William Koman*
- Paula and Gary Krahn
- Amanda Smith Latimer ’95 and Troy Latimer
- Yim and Ken Lew
- Shate Guzaimuer and Ming Li
- Paulina and Jeffrey Lin
- Xianhao and Xuchuan Liu
- Wendy and William Love
- Dona and Craig MacKinder
- Susan and John Magee
- Barbara and Ken Majid*
- Sue Pidgeon Mandel and David Mandel
- Michelle and Roger Mansukhani*
- Patricia and Michael Mogul*
- Carla and William Nolan*

* Indicates 5+ years of consecutive giving  
* Indicates 10+ years of consecutive giving  
Deceased
Wisteria Cottage Society
$1,000–$1,999

Anonymous (6)
Reiko and Steven Atshar
Omnid Asbaghi
Elena Atchikova*
Zhenping Zhang and Michael Atlass
Susan Barrera and Hugo Barrera ’84*
Judy Benson
Laura Mabee Boswell ’94 and
Michael Boswell
Vanessa and Robert Bowman
Christina and Richard Boynton
Susan Touzi and Randall Camp*
Sharon and Joseph Camey
Ellie Samadani and Harbinder Chadha*
Seetha Gangadharan and
Pratap Chandran
Stephanie and Scott Chaplin
Heather Raymon and Mark Chapman
Stacy and Gary Chiang*
Seung and Chris Choi*
Linda and Jeffrey Church
Wendi Diamond and Darrel Cohen*
Kathy and John Collins
Elf and Turgut Derman
Gordana Djordjevic and Zoran Djuric
Blair Overstreet and Matt Dunn*
Linda and Kent Erickson*
Joy Atienza and Greg Ferguson
Tanya and Iain Finlay
Gerry Fontanini*
Wendy and Timothy Gibbons*
Irene Wolley and Steven Gordon
Zoraya and Richard Griffin
Muriel and Andrie Grimaud
Anu and Sumerv Gujral
Eunha Lee and Suwook Ham
Akemi and Ed Harbach*
Ingrid and Alfred Harrison
Caryl and Bill Hiliard
Barbara and H. Paul Hirshman*
Brian Hirshman ’02
Gregory Hirshman ’07
Michael Hirshman ’04
Nellee and Lawrence Holmes
Christina and Curtis Horton*
Angelica Garcia-Ibarra and Javier Ibarra
Kirsten Harrison-Jack and James Jack
Fiona Mackin-Jha and Sanjay Jha*
Colleen O’Boyle and Isaac Jones*
Fiona Kaper and Reza Kasnavi
Lisa and Gunnar Kaufmann
Allison and Billy Kim
Kong Tsui and Wing Suen Kwan*
Sandra and Chanwoo Lee
Jingjing Wu and Guanglong Li
Sara and Kevin Lind
Catherine and William Luetzow
Tamar Elkeles and Larry Michaels
Christine Perry and David Michaelson ’86*
Amy Glass Mischler ’91 and
Robert Mischler*
Allison and Michael Mowrey
Marylee and Edward Muns
Amy and Marcelo Muzquiz
Jin Zhang and Qiang Ni
Hyen Yoo and Jhongsoon Park
Shirley and Harold Pidgeon
Karen Calfas and Thomas Polarek
Eun Hee and Young Pyo
Karen and Patrick Rawlins
Chantal and Michael Reed

Support — COUNTRY DAY FUND

Susan and Dutch Nordenger*
Inez and Clifton Odom*
Kathryn McCoy-O’Neill and
Jeffrey O’Neill
Hyeryun Hwang and Jongsu Park
Angela and Christopher Peto
Brian Pidgeon
Leigh and Gary Pierce*
Allison and Robert Price*
Pia Skarabis-Querfeld and Uwe Querfeld
Nada Vukovic-Radic and Stojan Radic
Sharon and Joe Risse
Jacqueline and Jose Romo*
Cristina and Richard Rosenberg*
Jacqueline Chang and
Ross Schwartzberg
Christine and Roland Schwilinski
Mattiie and Michael Sepidghi
Alaleh Miremadi and
Abolghassem Sheikhzadeh
Elizabeth and David Sigal*
Lucy and Sidney Smith
Amy and Charles Spielman
Angelica and Eric Spielman
Laura Spielman*
Jennifer O’Brien and David Stickney*
Bin Su
Bussaraporn and Robert Taylor*
Karim and Anthony Toranto*
Leyla Borovik and Yevgeny Tuchinsky
Rebecca and Chris Twomey
Isabella, Lindsay and
Matthew van Winkle
Jean and John Vukotich*
Jodi Feinstein Wallace ’88 and
Brian Wallace*
Carlie and William Ward
Eve Strauss West and Thomas West
Li Zheng and Fan Yang
Yingchao Wang and Huaxing Yang
Naxin Yang*
Han Zheng and Changqing Ye
Xuejun Zhang and Huijuan Yin
Jing Zeng
Yuelian Zhu and Yi Zhao
Jiming Li and Hong Zhou
Judith and Howard Ziment*

COUNTRY DAY FUND
AMBASSADORS
2017–2018

Laura and George Irvin
Country Day Fund Chairs
Karen Bergan
Traci Carpenter
Randi Castanon
Therese Collins
Elese Denis
Lynn Doupas
Jessica Feinman
Wendy Gibbons
Dan Gizzo
Tyler Hales
Nate Heppner
Karol Shekhter Jacobs ’98
Alina Katz
Kathryn Lindlan
Todd Lineback
Amy Glass Mischler ’91
Heather Muns-Socol
Stacey Pacelli
Gary Pierce
Sharon Risse
Karim Toranto
Carlie Ward
Christopher Rhodes
Sharon Rhodes
Alejandra Ancona and Gregory Rianhard
Michelle O’Donnell and Mike Royal
Gail and Tim Salter
Katherine and James Sampson
Jodi and Marc Schnoebelen
Claudia and Jacob Shaw
Margo and Samrat Shenbaga
Jenna and Frederick Stein
Alexandra and Paul Taconne
Clara and Shaffer
Christa and William Shaffer
Claudia and Jacob Shaw
Margo and Samrat Shenbaga
Jenna and Frederick Stein
Alexandra and Paul Taconne
Amar Thakur
Lisa Thakur
Emma Du and Shui Long Wang
Kristen and Simon Williams
Kristina Wilson
Yaqin Ma and Dong Yang
Van Mai and Justin Yeh
Song Hao and Shiqing Zhang
Chunying Xie and Yi Zhang

Blue and White Society
$1–$999
Anonymous (56)
Heather and John Ace
Leyhda and Sandy Acol
Maria Coppel and Abelardo Acosta
Patricia Altahi
Maite Benito Agahnia ’85 and Kayvon Agahnia
Kim and Darren Aires
Sheila Akavan ’18
William Allford
Spencer Alligood ’18
Orly Lobel and On Amir
Makena and Kyle Archer
Patricia Stickels and Arthur Arnett
Alexandra Attari ’18

2017–2018 was a record breaking year for Country Day fund giving.

* indicates 5+ years of consecutive giving  
* indicates 10+ years of consecutive giving
GIVING SOCIETIES

$100,000+
HONORARY FOUNDERS

$50,000–$99,999
1964 SOCIETY

$25,000–$49,999
1926 SOCIETY

$10,000–$24,999
DONALD LEAVENWORTH SOCIETY

$5,000–$9,999
TORREY PINES SOCIETY

$2,000–$4,999
LOUISE BALMER LEADERSHIP SOCIETY

$1,000–$1,999
WISTERIA COTTAGE SOCIETY

$1–$999
BLUE AND WHITE SOCIETY

$4.7M*
TOTAL TUITION ASSISTANCE AWARDED
IN 2017–2018

* indicates 5+ years of consecutive giving  
* indicates 10+ years of consecutive giving

Patricia Klingenberg and Larry Manuel
Merydeth and Mark Marcus
Rebecca Margetts ’18
Ashley Marlow
Dana and Griffin Marquardt
Clement Martel ’14
Donna and Douglas Martel
Elizabeth Martel ’14
Jason Martel ’15
Courtney Byrne and Gregory Martin
Elvia Martinez
Lisa Umekubo and Nick Mascola
Shirin and Tom Massarat
Betsy and David McCallum
Theresa McCarthy
Yonghong Ying-McElroy and
Edward McElroy
Catherine Nolin and Barbara McLeod
Maya McLeod ’18
Patricia McMillin
Dolores Meanley and John Meanley ’67
Kimberly and Ryan Meier
Vida Melroy
Bettina and Michael Melvin
Tina Zainia and Arturo Mendoza
Mesman-Hallman Family
Shelley and Paul Michelson
Susan Middleton
Martha and Albert Migdal
Micki and David Mighdoll
Lauren Mikunia ’18
Vanetta Fisher and Andre Miller
Eleni and William Miller
Lisa and Scott Miller
Jared Mindel ’18
Julie and David Mindel
Andrea Leverant Minor ’01 and
Mark Minor
Ara and G. Diego Miralles
Shirin Parvizpour and Reza Mirkhani
Christine Mitchell
Geell and Todd Mitchell
Rosalinda and William Mukuau
Barbara Monsees and
Thomas Monsees ’67
Samantha Moothart ’17
Krista Roybal and Jimmy Moreno
Ian Mottale ’18
Alexander Mow ’17
Rachael Mow ’17
Austin Mowrey ’18
Ishaq Muhammad ’18
Jean and Brian Murphy
Gene Murray
Trish and Andrew Narwold
Lisa and Mark Needle
Cindy and Kevin Nelson
Jean and Richard Nelson
Kathy and Kenneth Nelson
Jennifer Jones and James Newland
Lindsay Newland ’18
Rosemarie Newland
Tiffany Nonwood
Elizabeth Beringer and Rafael Núñez
Breann and Kupono Nu’uhiwa
Suiko and Michael Nyman
Greta O’Brien
Tracy and Daniel Padgett
Alana Bianco Cruz and Allen Park
Danielle and Bernard Parker
Roseann and Scott Parry
Freia Canals-Cisteró and
Anthony Pastore
Mary Pastore
Huji and Douglas Paterson
Nancy and Gary Peritz
Phyllis and Tom Perrotti
Mike Peveich
Lys and Robert Plotkin
Max Plotkin ’18
Marsha and Tristan Pohn
Glenda and Lon Poliner
Christina Wong and David Poon
Joe and Richard Power
Malik Power ’17
Shelley Pressman ’06
Jessica and Danie Pride
Corbin Prychun
Caroline Przynus
Chad Przyms
Dick Przyms
Francis Radford
Rodolfo Ramirez
Lillimari Andresen and
Alexander Rassey
Janet and Kevin Reaume
Wendy and Michael Remington
Lecie and Jack Resneck
Lauren and Robert Resnik
Jeremy Reya ’17
Carol Lee Rianhard
Gwyn and Mark Rice
Sallie Richard
Jennifer Richards ’17
Nancy Richards
Laila Rida
Theresa and Scott Rights
Carol Ritter
Tomas Robinson
Julia Castles and Joseph Rohn
Amy Dinger Rohrbach ’97 and
John Rohrbach
Alisa Rons
Kelly and Matthew Roosevelt
Gina and Ian Rose
Diana and Michael Rothenberg
Joseph Rowling
Renata and Sumit Roy
Rebecca and Jeremy Rudy
Lillian Ruiz
Maj and Brian Rundlett
Julia Ruth
Victoria Sack
Molly and Brad Saenz

* indicates 5+ years of consecutive giving  
* indicates 10+ years of consecutive giving
Support

COUNTRY DAY FUND

Maria Esther Riera Mestre and Roger Ingles Sanabre
Brandon Sanchez ‘18
Gail Tominaga and Eric Sandberg*
Lisa Morikado and Scott Sanders*
Elaina Sassine ‘18
Anita and John Savides
Michael Savides ‘18
Wendy Buchi and Thomas Savides*
Diane and Lee Sawyer
Steve Scandurro*
Alice Thornton Schilling and Don Schilling
Carolyn Mulroney and Jonathan Schleimer
Ruth and John Schmid
Patricia Schneider
Monica and Keith Sedlund
Ruth and Floyd Sedlund
William Shanks ‘18
Mateen Sheikhizadeh ‘22
Angus Shen
Monique and Jack Shevel
Margaret Futrell and Anthony Shimkin*
Zahra Ali Shojainia*
Julie and Jonathan Shulman*
Roberta and Lawrence Shulman
Adrienne Sigeti ’11
Linda Davis and Joel Sigeti
Katelyn Sigeti ’06
Gretchen and James Simpson
Joan Diener and Rik Sivula*
Nancy Dickerson Solomon ’90 and Josh Solomon
Roselynn and Ryan Song
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Terri Zimmerman

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2017–2018

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Upper School
Laura Spielman
Middle School
Liz Holliday
Lower School
Vanessa Bowman
Lower School

Support
I give because it is an investment in our future. Our students are the future leaders of this world, and it is my responsibility to help shape their educational journey.

Colleen O’Boyle, assistant head of school for academic affairs

Facility and Staff

Thank you to all of our generous faculty and staff members who invest in our community.

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Indigo Dow  
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John Edman*  
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William Doerge*  
Susan Domanico*  
Indigo Dow  
Jaquelin Dutson*  
John Edman*  
Emlyn Edquilang  
Meghan Edwards*  
Catherine Ellison*  
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Jamie Fong  
Gerry Fontanini*  
Karen Frischwasser  
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Alicia Deatz*  
Joan Diener*  
Kathy Dinwiddie*  
William Doerge*  
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Catherine Ellison*  
Bruce Feyman ’77*  
Anna Fennessey*  
Deborah Fine*  
Andrea Flaggiello  
Jerry Fleischhacker  
Jennifer Fogarty  
Conor Foley  
Jamie Fong  
Gerry Fontanini*  
Karen Frischwasser

* indicates 5+ years of consecutive giving  
* indicates 10+ years of consecutive giving  
* indicates faculty and staff no longer at LJCDS
My LJCDS education was the greatest gift my parents ever gave me. The annual fund helps maintain the caliber of excellence that LJCDS provides for our children. Every dollar counts, and tuition does not cover the extras that go into making our children’s education truly exceptional.

Jodi Feinstein Wallace ’88 and Brian Wallace, parents of Driver ’19 and Peyton ’21

Sally Krause*  
Jean Ah Lee*  
Beth Levin  
Jocsan Leyva  
Pamela Madigan*  
Ken Magid*  
Mark Marcus*  
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Katelyn Sigel ’06  
Ryan Song  
Judy Spoelstra  
Emily Stevenson  
Robin Stewart†  
Patricia Stickels**  
Julie Strong†  
Courtney Sullivan†  
Tami Taylor†  
Susie Thorpe  
Jana Tilley  
Ay Tohidi ’03  
Laura Tonini  
Maya Torres  
Tiffany Tran  
Steven Traverso†  
Felicia Tripoli*  
Diana Vahedi*  
Debbie Valentine*  
Diana Valji  
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Lauren West  
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Kevin Worth*  
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Terri Zimmerman*  

93%  
FACULTY AND STAFF GIVING  
IN 2017–2018
Grandparents

LJCDS is incredibly grateful for our community of grandparents who support their grandchildren’s educational experience.

Anonymous (3)  
Gulshara Akhmejanova and Meiram Akhmejanov  
Kathleen and Howard Babcock  
Concepcion Bandayrel  
Judy Benson  
Nada Borsa  
Beverly and Frederick Boynton  
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Gaby and Richard Sulpizio  
Gayl and George Taylor  
Mary Sue and J. Donald Thornburgh  
Jane and Robert Toll  
Barbara and Richard Toranto  
Jean and John Vukotich*  
Joanne Warren  
Sylvia Wechter*  

Total Grandparent Contributions in 2017–2018

$150,947

* indicates 5+ years of consecutive giving  
* indicates 10+ years of consecutive giving

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Thank you to our community partners who support the LJCDS mission.

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Without a Paddle, LLC
La Jolla Country Day has played an important role in the person I am today. I met some of my closest friends there, and the teachers instilled a love of learning that I’m lucky enough to share with students now as a teacher. By giving back to the school, I hope to ensure that current and future students have a similar experience to the one I had all those years ago.

Jason Drogin ’96, LJCDS lifer

Blue Bash Giving

Every spring, the Parents Association, in partnership with the development office, hosts an evening fundraising event. Blue Bash raises money for tuition assistance, professional development, endowment and future Parents Association activities. Donors contribute in many ways, which include purchasing sponsorships or tickets to the event, participating in the silent and live auctions, and raising paddles in support of our funding priorities. We thank our Blue Bash Committee for their leadership and dedication to furthering our mission.
Support

BLUE BASH GIVING

Tuition Assistance

FULL TUITION
Mingqing Yang and Qichang Feng
Xiaomei Zhang and Yongquan He

HALF TUITION
Yuniko and Philip Anton
Lucy Smith Conroy ’90 and
Ambrose Conroy
Therese Collins and Byron Georgiou
Fiona Mackin-Jha and Sanjay Jha
Sara Browne and Chris Richey

$5,000+
Diane and John Berol
Rosanna and Doug Forsyth
Amy and William Koman
Linda and Robert Luddy
Rebecca and Chris Twomey
Jamie Resnik Wechter and Kevin Wechter

$2,500+
Nikoochehr and Jack Chitayat
Hilary and Warren Dunning
Yvonne and Gerald Gollin
Ranelle and Robert Kain
Xianhao and Xuchuan Liu
Elizabeth and David Sigal

$1,000+
Alan Braynin
Randi and Scott Castanon
Angela Hansen Fukumura and
Koji Fukumura
Miriam and Michael Haughhey
Paula and Gary Krahm
Michelle Lord
Kelly Greenleaf and Michael Magerman
Margaret Cargioli and Philippe Martin
Dana and Carter Meiselman
Leigh and Gary Pierce
Katherine and James Sampson
Jennifer O’Brien and David Stickney
Armando Yee ‘08

$999 AND BELOW
Anonymous
Jessica and Matthew Abbondanzio
Laura Mabee Boswell ’94 and
Michael Boswell
Vanessa and Robert Bowman
Christina and Richard Boynton
Katrin Engel and Jeff Brooker
Kathalynn and Douglas Bryant
Corinna and Patrick Casey
Suzanne Cohen
Gabriela Romo and Sergio Cortes
Kathy Stevenson and Joseph Cox
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Susan and Dutch Nordenger
Jennifer and Stephen Pingyi
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Li Zheng and Fan Yang
Susan and Burt Yaszay
Jing Zeng
YueLian Zhu and Yi Zhao

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$5,000
Kathalynn and Douglas Bryant
Sara Browne and Chris Richey
Song Hao and Shiqing Zhang

$2,500
Farrah Golchin-Cohen and Larry Cohen
Lucy Smith Conroy ’90 and
Ambrose Conroy
Rebecca and Chris Twomey
Li Zheng and Fan Yang

$1,000
Christina and Richard Boynton
Ladan and Said Daneshmand
Angela Hansen Fukumura and
Koji Fukumura
Paula and Gary Krahm
Ann and Tim Lindlan
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Dana and Carter Meiselman
Kathryn McCoy-O’Neill and
Jeoffrey O’Neill
Leigh and Gary Pierce
Wendy Buchi and Thomas Savides
Jenna O’Brien and David Stickney

$999 AND BELOW
Anonymous
Jessica and Matthew Abbondanzio
Laura Mabee Boswell ’94 and
Michael Boswell
Vanessa and Robert Bowman
Susan Tousi and Randall Camp
Traci Carpenter and Kimberly Carnot
Corinna and Patrick Casey
Randi and Scott Castanon

$512,532*
TOTAL BLUE BASH GIVING IN 2017–2018
*Less paddle raises
## Sponsorships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsorship Level</th>
<th>Sponsor(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gold Sponsor</strong></td>
<td>Mesa Rim, LLC (Ranelle and Robert Kain)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Silver Sponsor</strong></td>
<td>Jing Zeng Financial &amp; Insurance Services (Jing Zeng), Neosho Capital, LLC (Sara Browne and Chris Richey)</td>
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<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

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2017–2018

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Jing Zeng

DECOR
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Christina Gustin
Alaleh Miremadi
Rebecca Twomey

FOOD
Charlie Hein
The relationships between students and teachers go beyond the classroom. Teachers become mentors, a strong voice and a positive influence, fostering an invaluable learning experience. We are grateful to all those who have been so passionate and dedicated and have left their mark.

Maite Benito Agahnia ’85 and Kayvon Agahnia, parents of Alex ’17 and Niko ’20

Special Gifts
One of the most meaningful ways donors can make a difference is by designating their gift in honor or memory of a teacher, coach, mentor or program that has left a lasting impact on their growth and development. Others choose to highlight and recognize their children or grandchildren when giving back to LJCDS.
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ZHANGIR AKHMEJANOV '28
Laura Podkolzina and Anuar Akhmejanov
Gulshara Akhmejanova and Meiram Akhmejanov

TERRI BAMFORD
Kendal Ellenbeck '18
Jayda Rianne Villereal '18

LISA BENNET
Carlie and William Ward

MARGI BINGHAM
Alyssa Chen '18

JOANNA BRADLEY
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Anna Harrison '18

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CAMERON CHITAYAT '23
Nikochehr and Jack Chitayat

ZANE COHEN '30
Suzanne Cohen

BENJAMIN CONROY '24
Joan Maher

KEIRA CONROY '25
Joan Maher

LUCY SMITH CONROY '90
Gillian Rose-Hassell and Paul Hassell

SPECIAL GIFTS

SPECIAL GIFTS

Deceased

Deceased

Deceased

Deceased
SEDONA LINEBACK ’28
Anonymous

TODD LINEBACK
Spencer Camp ’18
Alyssa Chen ’18
Ishaq Muhammad ’18
Brandon Sanchez ’18
Christina Wang ’18

LJCDS 2ND & 4TH GRADE TEACHING TEAMS
Heather Muns-Socol and Randy Socol

LJCDS ARTS DEPARTMENT
Elaina Sassine ’18

LJCDS BASKETBALL PROGRAM
Jayda Rianne Villareal ’18

LJCDS CLASS OF 2018
Masami and David Jenkins

LJCDS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM
Alexandra Ledford ’18

LJCDS CROSS COUNTRY
Alex Hill ’18

LJCDS DEVELOPMENT TEAM: ALANA, EVE, KATIE, AND MAKENA
Susan and Dutch Nordenger

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LJCDS FOOTBALL
Spencer Alligood ’18
Jackson Brymer ’18

LJCDS LACROSSE
Chase Mangini ’18

LJCDS LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER
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Tammie and Daniel Kramer

LJCDS MOCK TRIAL
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Mark Endo ’18
Yifan Zhuang ’18

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Mckenzie Kelly ’18

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Thomas Winham ’18

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Alexis Desany ’18

WILLIAM LOVE ’18
Wendy and William Love

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Lindsay Newland ’18
Elaina Sassine ’18

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Marylee and Edward Muns

SKYLAR SOCOL ’28
Marylee and Edward Muns

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Alyssa Chen ’18
Kendal Ellenbeck ’18
Dean Ladrido ’18
Lindsay Newland ’18

ELIZABETH THORELL ’20
Mary Sue and J. Donald Thorburngh
Joanie Connell and John Thorburngh

LAURA TONINI
J. Stuart Garner

STEVEN TRAVERSO
Alyssa Helfand ’18
Thomas Winham ’18

CHRIS UYEDA
Chase Mangini ’18
Ishaq Muhammad ’18
Natalia Trufunovic ’18

DAN WAGNER
Andrew Bialock ’18

ROBERT WAGNER
Catherine Chiang ’18
William Shank ’18

CAITLIN WANG ’28
Angus Shen

EVE STRAUSS WEST
Anna West ’17

DANIEL WOLF ’21
Sheila and Alan Goldfarb
Shirley and Harold Pidgeon

RENTA WOLFE
Adam Brass ’18
Spencer Camp ’18
Alyssa Chen ’18
Ishaq Muhammad ’18

AUDREY WOOD
Lauren Dvorak ’18

ANDY XIAO ’20
Xueqi Li and Yongjian Xiao

BILL XIAO ’26
Xueqi Li and Yongjian Xiao

ERIK YANG ’23
Sharon Li and Liming Yang

QIANAO YANG ’22
Yaqin Ma and Dong Yang

JOSHUA YEH
Van Mai and Justin Yeh

NOAH YEH
Van Mai and Justin Yeh

HALEY ZEAVIN
Kelsey Maloney ’18

NEWLAND ZHANG ’19
Chunying Xie and Yi Zhang

TERRI ZIMMERMAN
Alyssa Chen ’18

In Memory Of

ROGER BENSON
Judy Benson

DIODENES BERTUOL
Cristiane Bertuol and Rodrigo Cunha

DEORA BODLEY ’99
Karen and Harvey Stewart

FREDERICK BORG
Jacqueline Chang and Ross Schwartzberg

EMMETT CASTLE
Jamie Kana ’18

SARA DEMETER ’03
Claia Saks Kenny ’04 and Timothy Kenny

HARRY DROGIN
Christina Drogin and Jason Drogin ’96

Dwight Fullerton
Anonymous

THOMAS GREEN
Chloe Weber ’17

DOROTHY HAVEN
Patricia Schneider

HAROLD NEWLAND
Jennifer Jones and James Newland
Rosemarie Newland

MR. AND MRS. GREG PASTORE
Mary Pastore

GLEN PRITZKER
Arcelia and Jose Casillas
Courtney Byrne and Gregory Martin
Ian Mottale ’18

JOHN QUESENBERRY
Andrew Dhus ’17

RASHAAN SALAAM ’92
Brittany Boylan Branning ’93

JOYCE SPARLING
Adrienne Sigel ’11
Kathryn and Mark Woods

BYRON WEBB JR.
Victoria Sack

THOMAS WRIGHT ’95
Cheryl Ayala
Andrea and John Bjeldanes
Gabrielle Scher Charo ’07 and Jarrett Charo ’95
William Eigner
Jan and Edward Friedman
Samantha Friedman and Jordan Friedman ’95
Dempsey and Genevieve Holder ’95
Jan Percival Lipscomb and Jeff Lipscomb
Constance and Donald McGrath
Lindsey Thompson McGrath ’96 and Matthew McGrath ’95
Susan and Dutch Nordenger
Pandol Bros., Inc
Erin Pandol and Andrew Pandol ’95
Lauren Guttman Ravitz ’96 and David Ravitz
Janet and Kevin Reaume
Susan Reed
Ryan Rivet ’95
Annette Rosthøj
Steen Rosthøj
Susanne Rosthøj
David Seidman ’96
Kamri Spanos and Alexander Spanos ’96
Rosemary Steven
Judy and Urban Thompson
Jill Tiernan and Benjamin Tiernan ’95
Lise and Raymond Wright

Deceased
The further I go in life, the more I think about who and what helped me get to where I am. No institution did more to put me on the path to success than LJCDS. There is no better investment my parents could have made in me and my brothers. It is a pleasure to give back and help more students enjoy the education that I was blessed to have.

Gregory Hirschman ’07, LJCDS Lifer
Alumni Giving

Graduates give back to their alma mater in a myriad of ways, including volunteerism, mentorship and financial contributions. Their generous donations of time, treasure and talent enhance and advance our alumni program. To our dedicated alumni community whose commitment to philanthropy strengthens La Jolla Country Day School in perpetuity, we offer our utmost gratitude.

Alumni Giving
Anonymous (2)
Maite Benito Agahnia '85
Sheila Akavan '18
Spencer Alligood '18
Alessandra Altari '18
Sherry Bahrambehy-­Hosey '82
Hugo Barrera '84
Chloe Beard '18
Andrew Bialock '18
Joshua Blake '97
Noah Blake '89
Adrian Borsa '84
Laura Mabee Boswell '94
Harold Bottomley '71
Brittany Boylan Branning '93
Adam Brass '18
Jackson Brymer '18
Alexander Burch '17
Spencer Camp '18
William Carleton '11
Michael Chandler '18
Gabrielle Scher Charo '07
Jarrett Charo '95
Alyssa Chen '18
Catherine Chiang '18
Pandelis Chryssostomides '99
Agnes Chu '98
Lucy Smith Conroy '90
Bryce Cordill '18
Ryan Dennis '18
Alexis Desany '18
Andrew Dhus '17
Jason Drogin '96
Lauren Dvorak '18
Thomas Edman '13
Kendal Ellenbeek '18
Mark Endo '18
Zachary Engfelt '18
Jaron Fabular '18
David Farley '10
Neda Fashandi '17
Jordan Friedman '95
India Glazer '18
J. Hayden Gomes '05
Christopher Goodman '18
Michele Hall Greene '85
Jane Greenip '18
Liam Greubel '18
Uri Grezemkovsky '87
Sage Hagstrom '11
Patricia Harris '81
Anna Harrison '18
Alyssa Helland '18
Alex Hill '18
Brian Hirshman '02
Gregory Hirshman '07
Michael Hirshman '04
Dempsey Holder '95
Liam Hosey '17
Peter Huffman '97
Skylar Hyat '18
Kevin Ings '07
Scott Ings '06
Karol Shekhter Jacobs '98
Keith Jones '00
Hanako Justice '06
Jamie Kana '18
Ryan Kawano '16
Mckenzie Kelly '18
Clara Saeks Kenny '04
Laine Koman '18
David Kritzik '18
Thomas Kritzik '80
Dean Ladrado '18
Amanda Smith Latimer '95
Alexandra Ledford '18
William Love '18
Kelsey Maloney '18
Chase Mangini '18
Rebecca Margets '18
Clement Martel '14
Elizabeth Martel '14
Jason Martel '15
Lindsey McGrath '96
Matthew McGrath '95
Maya McLeod '18
John Meanley '67
Gordon Merrick '76
David Michelson '86
Lauren Mikuriya '18
Jared Mindel '18
Andrea Leverant Minor '01
Amy Glass Mischler '91
Thomas Monsees '67
Samantha Moothart '17
Ian Mottale '18
Alexander Mow '17
Rechael Mow '17
Austin Mowrey '18
Ishaq Muhammad '18
Lindsay Newland '88
Kerith Michelson Overstreet '90
Andrew Pandol '95
Max Plotkin '18
Malik Power '17
Shelley Pressman '06
Lauren Gutman Ratzv '96
Jeremy Reya '17
Jennifer Richards '17
Ryan Rivet '95
Amy Dinger Rohrbach '97
Brandon Sanchez '18
Elaina Sassine '18
Michael Savides '18
David Seidman '96
William Shanks '18
Adrienne Sigeti '11
Katelyn Sigeti '06
Nancy Dickerson Solomon '90
Alexander Spanos '96
Tracy Warren St Amour '88
Molly Stewart '96
Danielle Stroh '18
Matthew Sturtevant '15
Benjamin Tiernan '95
Ary Tohidi '03
Natalia Trifunovic '18
Noor Vakili '18
Jayda Rianne Villareal '18
Jodi Feinstein Wallace '88
Christina Wang '18
Chloe Weber '17
Anna West '17
Karina Wiener '11
Sophia Williams '18
Thomas Winham '18
Cameron Wirtz '16
Armando Yee '08
Denise Yee '06
Yiqing Zhang '18
Yifan Zhuang '18
Melanie Ziment '18

$79,689
 TOTAL ALUMNI GIVING
 IN 2017–2018

* indicates 5+ years of consecutive giving  x indicates 10+ years of consecutive giving
I donate to CDF to express my gratitude and to hopefully try and change someone else’s life. I know how beneficial this school is, and I want to give that opportunity to other students. This school was the greatest thing that happened in my life. The number of opportunities, creativity and independence our school offers to us is unreal.

Cassidy Eiler ’16

Gifts with Restricted Purposes

Many donors enjoy giving to fund a specific cause, to fulfill a need or create new initiatives. Restricted gifts create opportunities for our students and enhance already existing programs.
Support

GIFTS WITH RESTRICTED PURPOSES

$397,836*
TOTAL GIFTS WITH
RESTRICTED PURPOSES
IN 2017–2018
*Includes CDF restricted giving

Arts
Artsonia

Athletics
Arthur B. McBride, Sr. Family Foundation
Barona Band of Mission Indians
BayWa r.e. Solar Projects, LLC
Sheila and Jamsheed Attari
Robin and Reid Conant
Abby and Richard Geyer
Tatiana and Hugh Hotson
Christopher Rhodes
Sharon Rhodes
Susan Lacoff and Craig Roberts

Charles Moore Memorial Fund
Anonymous (5)
Margi Bingham
Cindy Bravo
Pamela Patterson and David Comfort
Beth and Bob Cross
Jaquelin and Douglas Dutson
Elizabeth and Jerry Fleischhacker
Valencia Valentine Hamman and
Peter Hamman
Jean Ah Lee
Janet and Kevin Reaume
Robin Stewart
Diana Valji

Endowment
Geesoo Javanmardi and
Eric Reifschneider

Tuition Assistance
Lucy and Sidney Smith

Gift-in-Kind
Anonymous
Monika and Jose Achar
Puja and Rohit Loomba
Gordon Merrick ’76
Heather Muns-Socol and Randy Socol

Library
Ellen Browning Scripps Foundation
Samarth Management
Sujata Guharoy Das and Sugata Das

Scholar
Mark Duval
Ellen Browning Scripps Foundation
Friends of Nazareth
Tammie and Daniel Kramer
Ethel Marran
Laura Marran
Lisa Bicker Martin and Jeffrey Martin

Special Initiatives
Anonymous
Ellen Browning Scripps Foundation
Angela Hansen Fukumura and
Koji Fukumura
Kimberly and Jeffrey Goldman
HP, Inc.
Ghita Huffman and Peter Huffman ’97
Joseph J. Lann Securities Inc.
Leona Lann
Once Upon a Time Foundation
Sandra Pritzker
Geesoo Javanmardi and
Eric Reifschneider
Kathleen and David Rubenson
Sage Dining Services, Inc.
Betsy Miller and Stuart Sucherman
Ariel Lang and Thomas Welk

Thomas Wright Memorial Fund
Cheryl Ayala
Andrea and John Bjeldanes
Gabrielle Scher Charo ’07 and
Jarrett Charo ’95
Jan and Edward Friedman
Jordan Friedman ’95 and
Samantha Friedman
Genevieve Holder and Dempsey Holder ’95
Jan Percival Lipscomb and Jeff Lipscomb
Constance and Donald McGrath
Lindsey Thompson McGrath ’96 and
Matthew McGrath ’95
Susan and Dutch Nordenger
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 Erin Pandol and Andrew Pandol ’95
Lauren Gutman Ravitz ’96 and
David Ravitz
Janet and Kevin Reaume
Susan Reed
Ryan Rivet ’95
Annette Rosthøj
Steen Rosthøj
Susanne Rosthøj
David Seidman ’96
Kamri Spanos and Alexander Spanos ’96
Rosemary Steven
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Jill Tiernan and Benjamin Tiernan ’95
Lise and Raymond Wright

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Give the Gift of Education

Since its founding in 1926, La Jolla Country Day School has benefited from the generous support of families, alumni, friends, faculty and staff who have invested in excellence and lifelong learning. Generous, tax-deductible gifts have enabled the school to fulfill its mission to prepare students for a lifetime of intellectual exploration, personal growth and social responsibility. LJCDS is grateful for the philanthropy of the community and invites you to learn about ways to become part of this tradition of giving.

La Jolla Country Day School is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

MAKE YOUR GIFT ONLINE

give.ljcds.org/1926

SEND YOUR GIFT

La Jolla Country Day School
Country Day Fund
9409 Regents Road
La Jolla, CA 92037

Make checks payable to La Jolla Country Day School

MAKE A GIFT OF STOCK

First Republic Securities Co., LLC
LJCDS ACCT#33L-012359
Pershing LLC DTC #0443

Please notify the development office of your transfer at development@ljcds.org

REPORT ON GIVING DISCLAIMER

The Report on Giving recognizes gifts received in the fiscal year July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. Every effort has been made to avoid errors, misspellings and omissions. If, however, an error has been made, please accept our sincerest apology and notify the development office at development@ljcds.org so that we may correct our records. Thank you.
Philotropy at LJCDS: The Rosen Family

Philanthropy serves as an integral facet of the La Jolla Country Day School community. Giving back is a central tenet of the school, one that the Rosen family has epitomized for over 20 years. The Rosens have consistently and generously given to the Country Day Fund since 1997, when their oldest daughter, Merritt ’05, started at LJCDS in fifth grade. Their youngest daughter, Madison ’10, started in first grade, and their son, Max ’22, now a freshman, entered as a Tiny Torrey.

Their long legacy of giving is not only due to their commitment to the school as parents but is also a reflection of their strong beliefs in both the school and the importance of education.

When asked what philanthropy means to their family, the Rosens stated, “We believe that everyone has an obligation to give back and make the world a better place. It is unfortunate that every student is not afforded the opportunity to attend a school where excellence is not simply a lofty goal. The benefits to our local communities and the global community provided by schools like LJCDS are incalculable.”

We are deeply appreciative of the Rosen family for the dedication and generosity they have shown our community for 21 years.