



LOS ALAMITOS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

# LAEF

## 2022 NEWSLETTER

## How is LAEF improving mental health in our schools?

### 1 LAHS WELL SPACE SET TO OPEN IN DECEMBER



Thanks to the very generous support of LAEF donors during the 2022 Fundraising February for Los Al Kids campaign, LAEF donated \$245,000 in September to fully fund the construction, furnishings, and décor for the new Los Alamitos High School Well Space. The space is currently being decorated and projected to open to students before the holiday break.

*Representatives from LAEF present the LAHS Well Space donation check to LAHS Principal Christiana Kraus and Los Al USD representatives.*

### 2 ENRICHMENT CLASSES FOR ALL



LAEF's Fall After School Programs are impacting more than 1,300 students across Los Alamitos USD. Each class offers the opportunity for students to learn new skills that build confidence, creativity, cooperation, and improve social skills and wellness. LAEF continues to award class scholarships for students with financial hardship. This Fall alone, over 100 scholarships were granted, totaling over \$12,000!

*A McGaugh Sea Lion enjoys her Full STEAM Ahead enrichment class.*

### 3 FURNISHING THE ELEMENTARY WELL SPACES



LAEF donated \$18,000 this Fall to furnish and decorate the new elementary school Well Spaces. Each of the six elementary schools received \$3000 to help transform a classroom into a comfortable, inviting space where students can reset and seek counseling support. Los Alamitos USD has three elementary level Wellness Counselors who will work in the Well Spaces and provide mental health lessons – Stacy Eatmon at Los Alamitos and Weaver, Tina Heeren at McGaugh and Rossmoor, and Priscilla Jara at Hopkinson and Lee.

*Students practicing mindfulness in Los Alamitos Elementary School's new Well Space.*

**LAEF Has Donated Over \$2.24 Million to Los Al Kids Since 2013!**

# LAEF ENRICHMENT CLASSES ARE AWESOME!



LAEF's Summer Enrichment Institute (SEI) is an essential part of summer for Los Al students. This year, Lee Elementary School was full of TK-5th grade students engaging in fun and enriching learning opportunities. Over 400 students participated in Jumpstart classes, It's STEAM-tastic, Wonderful World of Science, Computer Literacy and Coding, Musical Theater, Summer Food Exploration, Spanish, French, Cheerleading, Sports Wheel, martial arts, sports and so much more over the four-week program. LAEF also offered classes to older students at Oak and LAHS. Sports and Arts camps with LAHS coaches and directors also took place.



During the school year, LAEF provides FREE virtual World Language classes to 1st-5th graders. This Fall, over 300 students enrolled in 14 classes in Mandarin, Japanese, Spanish, French and American Sign Language. LAEF's goal is to immerse children in languages they can further pursue in their secondary education. Parents and students alike are delighted with the free program and excited to see it continue.

## STEAM NEWS ACROSS THE DISTRICT

LAEF continues to prioritize STEAM support across the district. For the second year in a row, LAEF reviewed STEAM grant requests from all nine principals based on the specific needs for each school site. 2022 grants are being awarded right now for a total of over \$74,000!

In December 2021, LAEF awarded \$75,700 for STEAM to district schools. Pictured to the right are students with items purchased with 2021 STEAM grant funds. Oak Middle School purchased a 3D printer, McAuliffe Middle School purchased electric drum sets for music classes, and LAHS purchased new pottery wheels for ceramic classes.

LAEF continues to support STEAM Fairs for schools choosing to participate. Last year, LAEF supported four STEAM fairs by funding a teacher stipend and expense budget. LAEF looks forward to seeing all of the great projects at this year's STEAM fairs!



**LAEF STEAM GRANTS NOW TOTAL \$450,000 SINCE 2016!**



# COMING SOON - FUNDRAISING FEBRUARY



During the 2022 Royal Gala, Dave Appling was crowned as our King! He served as LAEF President from 1995 to 2008 and is a Board Member Emeritus. We are grateful for his commitment to Los Al Kids!



Fundraising  
February  
for LOS AL KIDS

Please support the 2023 campaign!  
Funds raised will help to maximize  
Well Spaces district wide!



SAVE THE DATE!

Royal Gala

Learn more at:  
**LAEF4Kids.org/FundFeb**

Friday, Feb. 3, 2023  
The Grand, Long Beach

## THANK YOU TO OUR 2022 LOS AL LEADERSHIP CIRCLE MEMBERS

### — \$10,000 LEVEL —

Scott & Marci Ferguson  
Christine & **Brian Leibl\***  
Justin & Cassie Sinnott

### — \$5,000 LEVEL —

The Cotter Family\*  
Marty & Jennifer Hayes  
Geoffrey and Catherine King\*  
The Mingham Family\*  
Michael Maiter & John Savittieri  
Drs. Mohinder & Gurjit Sethi

\* = Founding Member

**Bold** = Board Member/Emeritus

### — \$2,500 LEVEL —

Austin & Christine Coxhill\*  
Matt Herrick\*  
Jeanny & Michael Hwang  
Bob & **Ruth Anne Kurkjian\***  
Deann & **Thomas Lent\***  
John Osborn & Dr. Avani Patel\*  
Neil & **Farnaz Pardasani\***  
Amy & **Sean Payne\***  
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Lorie & **Mike Tannourji\***  
Kirsten & **Jon Theriault\***  
Susan & Aaron Tout\*  
Aaron & Heather Tuomala\*  
George & **Leanne Voigt\***



### — \$1,000 LEVEL —

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