

# GATEWAY

GATEWAY SCHOOL



2006  
2007  
ANNUAL REPORT

# our mission

*challenge*

to challenge students with a rich and engaging academic program.

*prepare*

to prepare students for future success — in school and beyond

*encourage*

to encourage students to give their personal best

*develop*

to develop character and a commitment to personal, social and environmental responsibility

*inspire*

to inspire the passion for lifelong learning

# 2006-2007 letter from the head

Our year started off with a flurry of activity to finish the remodel on the West Cliff Room, which is used primarily for the Music and After Care programs.

It also enables us to present plays more effectively than before and is used for assemblies, board meetings and other larger gatherings. We are very grateful to the anonymous family who was the primary donor on the project. We also received support from parents and current grandparents to help us complete that remodel.

Following last year's work by the board on school identity, this school year we focused on communicating the key features of a Gateway education to various audiences. You can read the key features on page 3. The faculty continually works to ensure these key features come alive in our classrooms every day. In addition the faculty continued their work on further delineating and documenting the exit goals by grade.

Mid-year, we launched our revised web site making much more information available to parents through this on-line resource. The move to an expanded, improved web site reflects the school's

environmental principles of reducing paper consumption and waste.

Our Life Lab Garden was highlighted this year on the Annual Ecological Farming Conference's Bus Tour. Forty-five people from the conference visited selected gardens throughout the region and ours was the only K-8 school garden on the tour. Visitors were toured by our student guides through nine stations giving them an overview of how the garden functions as an outdoor classroom.

Fundraising efforts were very successful this year. We reached a record 92 percent parent participation in Annual Giving. A revitalized group of event volunteers brought us back to the Cocomanut Grove for a full silent and live auction dinner event in March. The 2007 "Beach Ball" event tied into the school's environmental values, highlighting environmental awareness and protection. A portion of our proceeds

were given to the local organization, Save Our Shores, to assist in their ocean conservation work.

Following on the spirit of that event, we held an All School Beach Clean-Up at Cowell's Beach. I also have proposed the creation of an Environmental Advisory Panel of faculty and parents to be formed for the new school year. This EAP will review ways our institution can move toward greater environmental sustainability and hopefully develop a plan for guiding the school in areas such as consumption of resources, use of green building materials and leading students to realize the possibilities and benefits of sustainable lifestyles.

As the school year drew to a close we marked some milestones. Kindergarten teacher Pat Minsloff retired after 18 years with Gateway. Pat wanted to celebrate quietly, so we honored her work and contributions at the year-end faculty party. Susan Thornhill completed her final year as the Gateway Parent Association President and we are all grateful to her tremendous work and



dedication to our school over recent years.

On the personal side, I am not sure whose news was bigger at year end — mine or Jeannine's. We both set our sights on completing a long journey. I announced my retirement after a 40 year career in education. Jeannine completed the San Francisco to Los Angeles AIDS Ride, 545 miles on her bicycle over six days. The school began a national Head Search process in May and we expect to have a new Head of School on board as I leave in June 2008.

I wish to thank everyone involved with Gateway School — students, faculty, staff, parents, grandparents, alumni and friends of Gateway — who helped make our 2006-07 year another great success. It is only through everyone's support and efforts that we have such a vibrant educational community.

David Peerless  
HEAD OF SCHOOL



## reasoning and communication skills

Gateway strives to graduate exceptional thinkers and communicators across disciplines. Our students learn to listen carefully and to speak articulately; to read and to think with a critical mind; to write fluently and creatively; to make and defend a logical argument; to formulate and express quantitative concepts; to develop and test a hypothesis; and to present their work publicly with skill and confidence.

## a passion for learning

At Gateway, we want our 8<sup>TH</sup> grade graduates to be as excited about learning as they were when they came to us in kindergarten. Our curriculum and teaching methods are designed to support and fuel a child's natural curiosity to understand the world. Our faculty is sensitive to the individual and developmental learning needs of our students and presents each student with the appropriate level of challenge. Research shows that these practices result in the most effective and long-lasting motivation for achievement and support a life-long love of learning.

## a rich and challenging academic experience

Gateway's core academic subjects of language arts, math, science, and social studies are integrated with specialty programs in the arts, life lab science, Spanish language and culture, physical education and technology.

## meaningful, engaged learning

Gateway's faculty uses inquiry-based methods to help our students formulate and investigate their own questions. Together they participate in hands-on, minds-on, project-based learning. These teaching practices facilitate exploration of ideas, mastery of concepts, and in-depth understanding. Gateway students learn how to learn, to research, to reason, to solve problems and to communicate their ideas effectively.



## a supportive and collaborative learning community

Gateway's classrooms and staff rooms are filled with the spirit of cooperation and collaboration. Staff and teachers work together to provide a well-integrated and well-articulated curriculum and share successful teaching practices. Students frequently work in teams on projects with peers and with older and younger students. Parents are partners in the educational process and serve as leaders on our governing board and as volunteers in our classrooms. Gateway's school culture promotes honesty, empathy, and respect for the uniqueness and dignity of others. This culture, our optimal size, and our excellent student/teacher ratio ensure that every member of our community is known and valued. Research shows that all of these practices improve learning for all.

## character education

At Gateway, we believe that the purpose of education goes far beyond teaching academics and preparing students for the world of work. We prepare our students to become responsible, contributing members of our world community. We foster self-awareness, self-confidence, and self-discipline; the ability to cooperate, collaborate, and resolve conflicts; a desire to excel, to create, and to contribute; and a commitment to personal, social and environmental responsibility.



# key features

Twenty-two years ago, Lydia Parker brought her son Delaney to Gateway kindergarten. She was looking for a school with small classes and a sense of community.

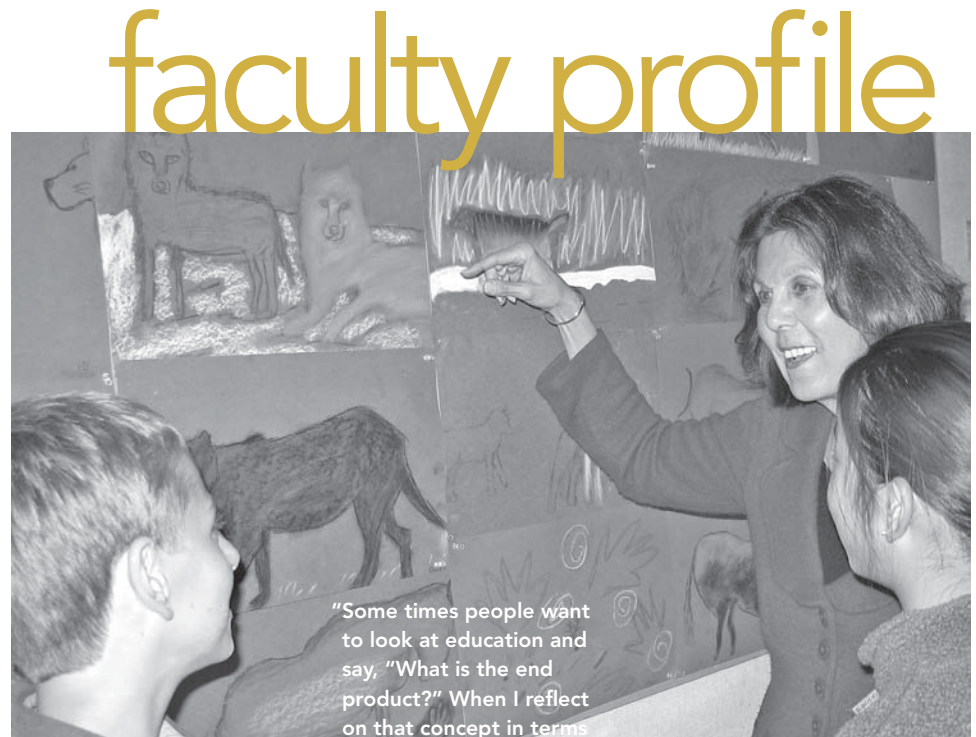
Gateway seemed a lot like the small school where she had taught a 3-4-5 grade combination for several years. She let then-Director Hannelore Herbig know she was available to substitute and so began her long association with Gateway School. Like many of her faculty colleagues, Lydia has had the experience of being both a parent and a teacher at our school. Distinctively for Lydia, she has also worked as an administrator, adding another layer of depth to her experiences at Gateway.

Lydia first co-taught a 5TH/6TH combination with George Merilatt. She later moved to third grade, where she stayed for 13 years, many of those years teaching alongside colleague Tess Weisbarth. “Lydia is a model teacher who inspires and motivates the children who pass through her classroom to be the best they can be, with grace and humor. She is open minded and open hearted, allowing each child to reveal their gifts, and

challenges. She shares her knowledge and wisdom with each student in ways that allows them to discover how to stand strong within themselves,” says Tess, who now teaches fifth grade.

While Lydia taught class after class of third graders, Delaney was growing into a confident student as he progressed through the school. As a parent, Lydia appreciated what Gateway offered her son. “At Gateway, Delaney was encouraged to grow into the person he was. He needed to be acknowledged in a small environment where his — and all the students’ — strengths were encouraged.”

Lydia served as a parent representative on the Middle School Committee, which helped launch Gateway’s Middle School program, eventually adding 7TH and 8TH grades to the school. Little did she know at the time that one day her focus would be on the Middle School, first, as an interim Assistant Head of School, overseeing the Harvey West



“Some times people want to look at education and say, “What is the end product?” When I reflect on that concept in terms of Gateway students, I see our students as people who develop an attitude of openness, curiosity and enjoyment in learning. There really is no end product — it is an ongoing process; it is a way of approaching life that creates thoughtful, engaged, caring citizens.”

LYDIA PARKER  
GATEWAY TEACHER

campus and later in teaching sixth grade. She also spent two years as Admissions Director when David Peerless started as Head of School.

“As Admissions Director, I had the luxury of seeing *all* the classrooms. I was delighted to see how creative everything was in every classroom and how exciting the student projects were, such as the California maps in 4TH grade and the Japanese unit in kindergarten.

When you’re teaching in one grade, you aren’t always aware of what happens in the whole school, so it was fantastic to see how many rich experiences there are for the students throughout the grades,” Lydia says. After three years in administration, Lydia missed the contact with children and parents and she took an opportunity to teach sixth grade, where she applies her talents today teaching language arts and history in the Core units.



“Lydia is wonderfully thoughtful about the process of teaching and learning. She infuses the academic with the emotional and ethical in a way that can illuminate the childrens’ learning, giving it dimensions that are rarely explored in school,” Head of School David Peerless tells us. Asked about what has been special to her about working at Gateway these many years, she says, “Gateway has at its core, a creative, energetic spirit. Over the years, while some of the people have changed — some faculty left and new ones started — the school has evolved in to a solid program that is not dependent on certain personalities. We have a strong, creative curriculum and the school continues to maintain a sense of community and communication. I have gained something from every partner teacher with whom I have worked. Everyone has consistently been open to exchanging ideas and supporting one another.”

Lydia reflects on the value of a Gateway education, “The way we layer our curriculum in units of study is really remarkable — teachers weave reading, writing, art and presentation skills in one project. Students therefore learn in multi-dimensional ways. As a school which has developmentally appropriate challenges, the children have time to explore, discover, and learn about themselves as their responsibility grows. Over the years students gain a confidence that is a hallmark of Gateway graduates. Our students are proud of their work — they don’t just hand it in to meet a deadline, they want to talk about their work and show it to you.”

# community



## The Berg family

Erica and Rusty Berg first came to Gateway when their son Casey (Class of 2008) entered kindergarten. Erica says, “When we walked around the school we could see that the kids were engaged in their classes and the teachers were committed to fostering a love of learning and inquiry. We liked the informal and friendly environment —

the kids seemed happy and the teachers we encountered were inspired by their work. The staff knew each child and the children knew kids from all different grades. It reminded me of my childhood school which was also an independent school.” Their daughter Madison (Class of 2011) followed into kindergarten three years later.

Erica and Rusty have found Gateway School to be a place that supports the individual growth, development and strengths of each of their children. Many outstanding teachers have helped their children develop a love of learning. Erica tells us, "With encouragement for his curiosity, Casey's talent and interest in science blossomed and took him all the way to the State Science Fair. The teachers' flexibility in allowing Casey the academic support he needs have enabled him to maintain his love of learning and his creative inquiry. Madison's teachers have helped to reinforce her love of writing and art. Gateway has helped her with her social development through teachers encouraging her to speak up for herself and explore new things."

Over the years, the Bergs have been involved in many aspects of the school, and have even worked with the school to initiate new learning opportunities for students. Several years ago, Rusty was asked to help out in building a few benches around the trees adjacent to the picnic tables. From that simple project several more creative building projects evolved.

Jade's Ranch, Rusty and Erica's property on the north coast, seemed the perfect place to enable outdoor learning experiences. The Bergs approached Head of School David Peerless about having faculty bring classes out to the property for hands-on learning. Many classes went to the ranch to learn about native animals, local history, and even to study Spanish. Eventually, two unique Middle School electives, "Ranch Builders" and "Horsemanship" were created.

"For both of us, the Ranch Builders and Horsemanship classes and the building projects at school have been the most gratifying way we have helped both the kids and the school.

Some children are truly kinesthetic learners, and some have limited themselves to book learning. The ranch provides a place for them to experiment with doing, creating and building things with other kids their age. We give them an environment where they need to be responsible around power



tools, animals and heavy equipment, and they rise to the challenge. We can see some of them bursting with pride about what they accomplish," explains Erica.

She goes on to say, "We never would have guessed that the way we would help Gateway would be with power tools! We'd like to encourage other parents to think about ways that they can share their talents, interests and creativity with the school. There are so many talented parents at Gateway. We have seen the dedication, thoughtfulness, generosity and friendliness of the parents in many events, but there is also tremendous talent and skill in our parent community."

"Gateway has helped develop a love of learning and a sense of community for our children and our family. In a very fragmented world, it is wonderful to know that our school is a place where each child is accepted and seen for who he or she is."

ERICA BERG,  
GATEWAY PARENT



Over 300 guests enjoyed the 2007 Beach Ball Auction event on March 23 at the Coconut Grove.

The Beach Ball theme emphasized the school's environmental principles and commitment to teaching children about respecting and protecting the environment, and, in particular in our coastal community, understanding the importance of ocean conservation.

Guests were greeted at registration by four Gateway alumni, Alayna Manor, Arria Dabir, Rachel Sunberg (Class of 2004) and Elena Rowell (Class of 2005). Crossing the threshold of the ballroom guests entered a spectacular

underwater world, complete with giant jellyfish. The tables were decorated simply and elegantly with sea grasses and lights. Coordinated by Auction Chair Jane Henry and a fabulous parent volunteer team, the evening sparkled with wine tasting, silent and live auctions, dining, and dancing to the band Napata and the Kisses.

This annual winter fundraising event supports the school's financial aid program and educational opportunities for all the children. Additionally, a portion of proceeds from the Beach Ball went to support the work of a community non-profit, Save Our Shores. "Through the focus of this year's event we found we could have a fabulously fun evening and help people think about these important environmental issues in an evocative way. The goal of the event

was to raise funds to support the children and faculty, and we are so grateful that everyone came together with such a great spirit to do that!" said Jane Henry, Auction Chair.

The Beach Ball Coordinating Committee included parent volunteers: Jane Henry (Chair), Angela Chesnut, Sheri Corona, Virginia Ganley, Amy Jensen, Brooke Johnson, Carmen Kubas-Stark, Lara Marotta, Erin Murphy, Molly Slete, and Marty Wiseman.



2007  
**Beach Ball**  
*celebrating our coastal community*

# 2007 beach ball

Thanks to donations and underwriting from many Gateway families and the business sponsors and donors listed below the event raised over \$159,000.

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Carmen Kubas-Stark and  
James Stark  
Tamah and Eric Swenson  
Col. and Mrs. Walter Terry  
Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Thaler  
Kathy Cytron and Shmuel Thaler  
Mr. and Mrs. John Thole  
Angelica Glass and  
Ellen Timberlake  
Lani Giovanetti-Tozier and  
Douglas Tozier  
Mr. and Mrs. Harry A. Trueblood  
Mary and Robert Tucker  
Kimara Vann

Kathryn and Daniel Veditz  
Alison Russell and  
Walt Wadlow  
Mr. Larry Warns  
Tess Weisbarth  
Caprice Potter and  
Terence Welch  
Wilma and Christopher  
Wentzien  
Carolina Martinez and  
David Werlin  
Ms. Mildred Zanker  
Cindy Zimmerman

## SPONSORS

\$ 2 5 0 - \$ 4 9 9

4 Anonymous families  
Adobe Systems Matching Gift  
Susan Dahlgren and  
Michael Arenson  
Judy Boemer  
Jonathan Brandt  
Maria Gaura and Brad Brereton  
Michel McMahan and  
Jason Camara  
Darlene Zanker and Tye DePeña  
Driscoll Strawberry Associates  
Matching Gifts  
Rima and Lynn Dunton  
Aven Switzer and Gregg Herken  
Mr. and Mrs. Stan Hemmen  
Lori and Brian Hofstetter  
Mr. and Mrs. Victor Honig  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kline  
Susan and Steven Kurtz  
Veronica Robinson and  
Joe McGlynn  
Cornelia and Wolfgang Meier  
Morgan Stanley Matching Gifts  
Program  
Ilene and Doug Morrison  
Mr. and Mrs. David Newton  
Corinne and Michael O'Connell  
Cathy and Don Oster  
Melanie DuPuis and  
Carl Pechman  
Lynn Drummond and  
W. Scott Pollard  
Lynn and James Reno  
Stephanie and Michael Rudolph  
Laurel Andres and Howard Salvay  
Nada Duna and  
Raymond Samaha  
Colleen and Michael Sullivan

## GIFTS TO THE TECHNOLOGY FUND

3 Anonymous families  
Dr. John Astin and  
Katherine Trueblood-Astin  
Kelly and David Bernard  
Ricardo Berrios  
Holly and Christopher Bolling  
Mari and Ryan Brandt  
Cindy Smith and  
Harold Brockman  
Martine Schlag and Pak Chan  
Angela and Robert Chesnut  
Kathy and William Cleary  
Elizabeth Clifton  
Laura and Philip Cook  
Sheri and Steven Corona  
Jill and Bill Duran  
Sally and Svein Fauske  
Katherine Crowley Folger and  
Nick Folger  
Christina Falco and  
Michael Frumkin  
Donna Barr and Harvey Halperin  
Minoo Nasser and Bijan Hamzehi  
Karen Hanlon  
Leah Hanson  
Marie Hebeler

Lyndsay Campbell and  
Cullen Jennings  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kline  
Katharine Martin and  
David Laurits  
Carla Christensen and  
Thomas Mader  
Lara and Richard Marotta  
Merc Martinelli  
Molly Slete and Luen Miller  
Sally Christine and  
Randy Repass  
Mrs. Alrie Middlebrook and  
Mr. Barry Slater  
Patty Haymond and  
Paul Stone  
Lisa Williams and Lloyd Tabb  
Lauren and Tom Tobin  
Sandy and Keith Wells  
Ginny Troyer and  
David Zicarelli  
Tamara and Steven Zuniga

*We make every effort to have an accurate listing and apologize if there are any errors or omissions. If you find an error, please contact the Development Office to correct the listing.*

# ways to contribute



## annual fund

Gifts to the Annual Fund go toward supporting school operations in the current fiscal year. Because tuition does not cover the entire cost of a Gateway education, we ask families and friends to support the school's Annual Giving Campaign each year.

## targeted giving or restricted gifts

In making these special gifts, donors go beyond their annual gifts to make a substantial contribution to a specific program or purpose. Our student computer labs, our comprehensive Arts program and our multi-purpose room remodel are examples of how targeted gifts can transform the school.

## endowment

Gifts to endowment are a way to protect the future of Gateway. The principal of such gifts remains intact and, in fact, grows while some of the interest income, or earnings, supports school programs and needs. You may choose between the Hannelore Herbig general endowment fund, named after the school's founder and the Financial Aid endowment fund. You may also contact the Development Office if you have an interest in establishing a new endowment fund.

## how to give cash

The most straightforward gifts are tax-deductible gifts of cash to our Annual Fund. These gifts may be given all at one time or on a monthly or quarterly basis. We ask for annual fund gifts and pledges each fall and gifts and/or pledge payments are accepted at any time during our September 1 to August 31 fiscal year.

## appreciated assets

Gifts of appreciated assets, such as stock, may, through their tax-advantaged status, allow a donor to make an even greater impact on school programs than would be possible by writing a check. Some of our larger gifts to the annual fund, as well as substantial targeted gifts, come in this form. Contact the Development Office if you wish to learn more.

## gifts-in-kind

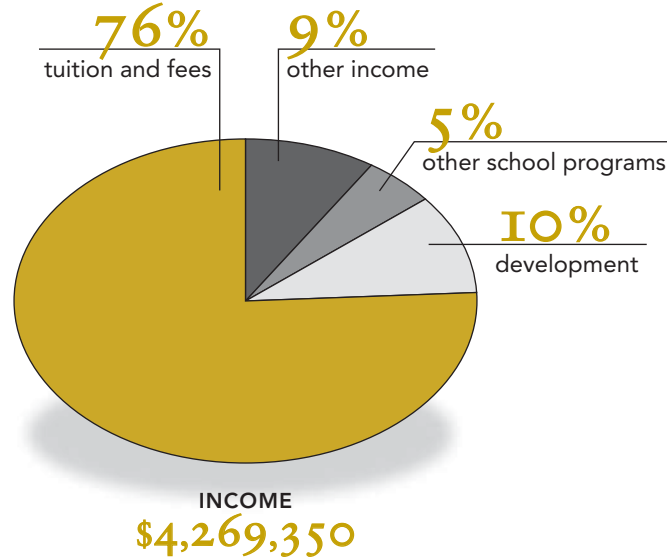
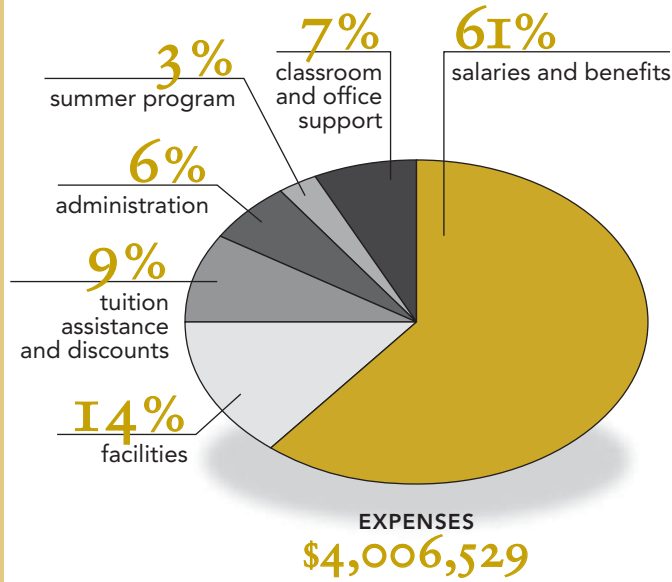
Items or professional services that are necessary to the operation and advancement of the school are considered gifts-in-kind. Past gifts include auction items, computer software, and services such as architectural planning. Gifts-in-kind are appreciated throughout the year.

### planned giving

Bequests are the simplest of planned gifts. By naming Gateway School in your will, you can make a gift which assures the future of independent school education. Bequests can be placed into endowment so that their impact is a legacy to the future. There are many planned giving vehicles by which a family can donate funds for Gateway. Please notify the Development Office at any time if you want to include Gateway in your will or discuss planned giving.

### for more information

Call the Development Office at (831) 423-0341, extension 312.



Each year the School's revenue comes from two primary funding sources: tuition and fees, and charitable donations.

# financial statement

Without the generous contributions of families and friends, the School could not provide the quality of educational program that Gateway students enjoy. We are grateful for all the donations made to Gateway School during the 2006-07 year. The School sold its preschool property on the east side of Santa Cruz and this financial statement includes a one-time GAAP gain of \$286,531.

# 2006 2007

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Lauren Tobin	PRESIDENT
Jennifer Fahrion	VICE PRESIDENT
Harold Brockman	TREASURER
Merc Martinelli	SECRETARY
David Peerless	HEAD OF SCHOOL
Liz Cass	BOARD MEMBERS
Alan Chase	
Hiram Chee	
Peggy Dolgenos	
Michael Gardner	
Carolyn Hammond	
Bob Koche	
Sara Liu	
Ray Love	
Michelle Poirier	
Susan Thornhill	
Anthony Walker	

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

David Peerless	HEAD OF SCHOOL
Roz Reymers	ASSISTANT HEAD OF SCHOOL
Kimara Vann	ASSISTANT TO HEAD OF SCHOOL
Kim Normington	CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
Kathleen Dammann	DIRECTOR OF ENROLLMENT AND MARKETING
Meg Corman-Hall	DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS
Colleen Sullivan	DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT
Rima Dunton	BUSINESS MANAGER
Laura Lucas	BUSINESS OFFICE ASSISTANT
Jeremy King	FACILITIES AND IT MANAGER
Merle Froshman	LIBRARY MANAGER
Joan Saia	RESOURCE SPECIALIST
Jenny Barnes	OFFICE ASSISTANT

## FACULTY AND TEACHING ASSISTANTS

KINDERGARTEN	Liz Cass Pat Minsloff	Toni Pinamonti Katie Benn
FIRST GRADE	Haley Cavin Rachel Sattinger	Patrick Hagan
SECOND GRADE	Cathy Oster Patricia Skowrup	Donna Catera
THIRD GRADE	Julie Foster Jennifer MacInnes	
FOURTH GRADE	Kurt Almendras Sari Mundon	
FIFTH GRADE	Laura Reeve Tess Weisbarth	
SIXTH GRADE	Bill Bryant Lydia Parker	
SEVENTH GRADE CORE	David Keister	
EIGHTH GRADE CORE	Jessica Donovan	
ART GRADES K-6	Susan Paull	
ART GRADES 7-8	Kathy DeWild	
COMPUTER SUPPORT K-8	Cindy Zimmerman	
LIFE LAB SCIENCE	Caprice Potter	
MATH GRADE 7	Jessica Donovan	
MATH GRADE 8	Kathryn Pierno	
MUSIC GRADES K-5	Michael Levy	
PE GRADES 2-8	Rajiv Martel	
SCIENCE GRADES 7-8	Kathryn Pierno	
SPANISH GRADES 1-5	Ana Peña	
SPANISH GRADES 6-8	Patricia Lucas	
THEATER ARTS GRADES 3-8	Rita Wadsworth	

## GATEWAY AFTERSCHOOL CARE

DIRECTOR	Rosemary Breedlove
ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR	Susie Anderson
STAFF	Eric Brune Audrey Garland Stephen Lindley Cynthia Manor Matt Merrill



Graduates went to these regional high schools: Archbishop Mitty High School, Empire Academy, Georgiana Bruce Kirby Preparatory School, Landmark School (MA), Santa Cruz High School, Scotts Valley High School and Soquel High School.

## college bound alumni

We heard from the following Gateway Class of 2003 alumni about their college plans:

Ari Anthony  
REDLANDS UNIVERSITY

Nathan Carver  
CABRILLO COLLEGE,  
PHOTOGRAPHY & FILM

Karalyn Dunton  
UCLA, THEATER ARTS

Zoe Folger  
SCRIPPS COLLEGE,  
CLAREMONT CA

Maya Hauer-Laurencin  
TUFTS UNIVERSITY

Michael Love  
UC SANTA BARBARA,  
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Kevin Summer  
LANDMARK COLLEGE

## alumni

Gateway alumni Alayna Manor, Rachel Sunberg, Arria Dabir and Elena Rowell helped greet guests at the Beach Ball registration table in March.



### ENVIRONMENTAL SAVINGS STATEMENT

*This annual report was printed on recycled paper made with post-consumer waste and bleached without the use of chlorine or chlorine compounds. By using this environmentally-friendly paper, we saved the following resources:*

TREES	WATER	ELECTRICITY	SOLID WASTE	GREENHOUSE GASES	HAPs, VOCs, AOX COMBINED
<b>1</b> saved	<b>90</b> gallons saved	<b>117</b> kilowatt hours saved	<b>82</b> pounds recycled	<b>148</b> pounds saved	<b>1</b> pound saved

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