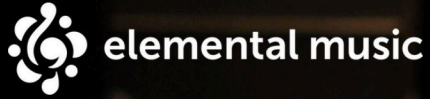


2022/2023 IMPACT REPORT



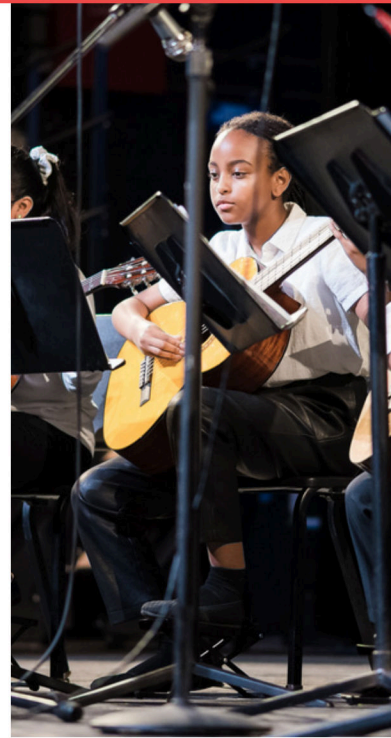


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A message from our leadership

Dear friends,

As we look back at the 2022/2023 season, it is truly humbling to realize all that we have been able to achieve in the span of a single year. As parents, educators, and administrators, we have all witnessed our students still recovering from a year of isolation and remote learning due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Despite, or rather because of that, we at Elemental Music were all the more driven to make a difference in our community. Week after week, month after month, our team worked tirelessly to create memorable and impactful experiences for our quickly growing community. As a team, our teaching staff regularly prioritized socioemotional development along with developing musical and technical skills, and we are proud to see that reflected in the feedback that we received from students at the end of the school year.

We launched new afterschool programs at LAUSD's Broadway Elementary School and our first-ever in-school program at LAUSD's Westminster Elementary School, both located in Venice. Our choir students had the opportunity of a lifetime performing on the stage of the Hollywood Bowl as part of Encanto Live.

We were also determined to continue making equity and diversity a priority, and launched the inaugural season of our Teaching Fellowship, aimed at providing college students from underrepresented communities with the opportunity to gain valuable, hands-on teaching experience alongside our wonderful staff.

All of this was made possible, in part, by our first-ever gala. Tasting Notes would not have been possible without our amazing gala committee, sponsors, donors and guests who helped make this a huge success.

For an organization that has been around for nearly 2 decades, we found ourselves experiencing many firsts this past year, thanks in large part to the generous support of our donors, both old and new.

We are grateful that you are part of our community and for helping make all of this possible!

Warmly,

Josephine Moerschel
Executive & Artistic Director



Marcia Capparella
President of the Board of Directors



Measuring Impact

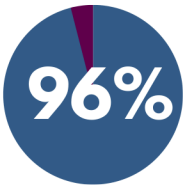
At the end of each season, we survey our ensemble families to help review the impact of our programs. Respondents rated statements on a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree). Average responses from parents/guardians are below, indicated with stars:



STUDENT STATS



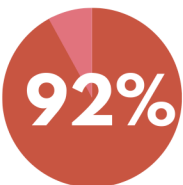
of respondents believe that no matter who you are, you can always become better at music



of respondents report increased enjoyment when singing/playing their instrument



of respondents report making friends from other schools



of respondents plan to continue to play their instruments/sing in the next school year

TESTIMONIALS

"I cannot say enough great things about our first year with Elemental Music. Every teacher is a talented musician who cares deeply about the kids. Elemental Music is organized in their communications and provide real performing opportunities in which the kids can participate."

- Elemental @ Broadway family

"Elemental Music has been a wonderful supplement to our daughter's musical education. With Prelude in 4th grade and Elemental Strings in 5th grade, she was able to get a head start on practicing and performing, which served her well as she auditioned for the SMMUSD middle school orchestras. Academy Philharmonic also gave her more opportunities for instruction and performance. Finally, playing in the Chamber Music Institute has made her senior year in high school so special and the positive experience cemented her desire to continue playing cello in college next year."

- Chamber Music Institute family

"I am very happy to have joined my son in this music and guitar program. It does him good to play music and I see that he is sincerely excited to have learned to play. Thank you for all the teaching and patience!"

- Elemental Guitar family

Measuring Impact

Before our Class of 2023 graduated, we asked these high school seniors one question... **What has Elemental Music meant to you?** Here are a few of their answers.

“Elemental Music has been more than just a program. It has been a support system and even a family. I have met so many teachers who have pushed me to be my best version of myself not only as a musician but as a person. I have also met peers that have become my closest friends.”

“Participating in Encore and the Bergmann Program has been a transformative experience for me, not just in terms of my musical growth, but also in forging a deep and meaningful bond with my music teacher. My mentor has been an exceptional role model, guiding and inspiring me along my musical journey. Through Elemental Music, I have cultivated a profound passion for music and my instrument... I carry these treasures with me into the future, knowing they will shape my path in remarkable ways.”

“Elemental Music has been a really crucial part of what's made music so important in my life! It's made me look past what I used to see as the inconvenience of cutting out so much time for music, and learn to appreciate and value every minute I get to spend playing some really great repertoire with interesting and amazing people. Most importantly, it's a space where I've been able to connect with other musicians who see it as more than an obligation, and just genuinely love playing.”

“Elemental Music means everything to me. Since joining the program as an elementary schooler, I've grown with the community through middle school and high school and have gained crucial skills in perseverance, communication, hard work, leadership, and service. Mentoring younger students in the program is so fun and I always love exploring the magic of ‘musicking.’”

2022/2023 At a Glance

QUICK STATS

647 students received instruction through Elemental Music

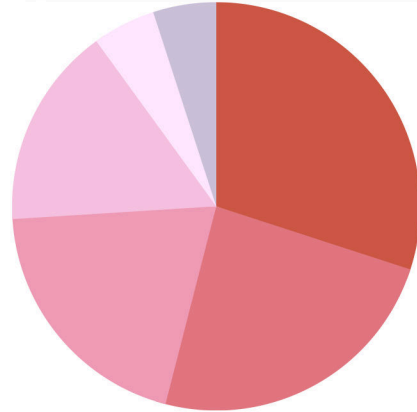
90 students were enrolled in Bergmann Program/Encore

12 students received support through our Scholarship Lesson Program

39% of students received need-based tuition reduction

1,115 free private lessons provided through Encore

STUDENT ENROLLMENT



30% White
24% Hispanic/Latinx
20% Mixed Ethnicity
16% Asian/Pacific Islander
5% Black/African American
5% Other/Declined to State



2022/2023 At a Glance

ENSEMBLE PROGRAMS

- **Prelude Program**, for beginning strings, grades 3–5
- **Elemental Band**, full concert band, grades 3–5
- **Elemental Choir**, vocal ensemble, grades 3–5
- **Intro & Elemental Guitar**, multi-level guitar ensembles, grades 3–8
- **Elemental Strings**, intermediate string orchestra, grades 3–5
- **Academy Philharmonic**, full orchestra for advanced musicians, grades 6–8
- **Chamber Music Institute**, small instrumental chamber groups for intermediate and advanced musicians, grades 6–12
- **Elemental @ Broadway**, choirs for grades K–5 and beginning violin/cello for grades 3–4 for LAUSD's Broadway Elementary School
- **Workshop for Winds**, 8-week workshop for beginning wind students, grade 4

NEW!

NEW!

LESSON PROGRAMS

- **Bergmann Program**: 18 thirty-minute private (one-on-one) lessons funded by the Santa Monica Education Foundation's Peggy Bergmann Arts Endowment Fund. The lessons give qualifying students an opportunity to excel in SMMUSD's nationally recognized music program. Elemental Music is honored to work with the Santa Monica Education Foundation to provide free music lessons for qualifying students in SMMUSD.
- **Encore**: extended instruction for Bergmann students to receive longer lessons, as well as free private lessons through the remainder of the calendar year (including summer months)
- **Scholarship Lesson Program**: need- and merit-based scholarships to partially subsidize the cost of private lessons for current and alumni students

IN-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

- **Elemental @ Westminster**: Core music classes during the school day for grades 3–5 at LAUSD's Westminster Elementary School

NEW!

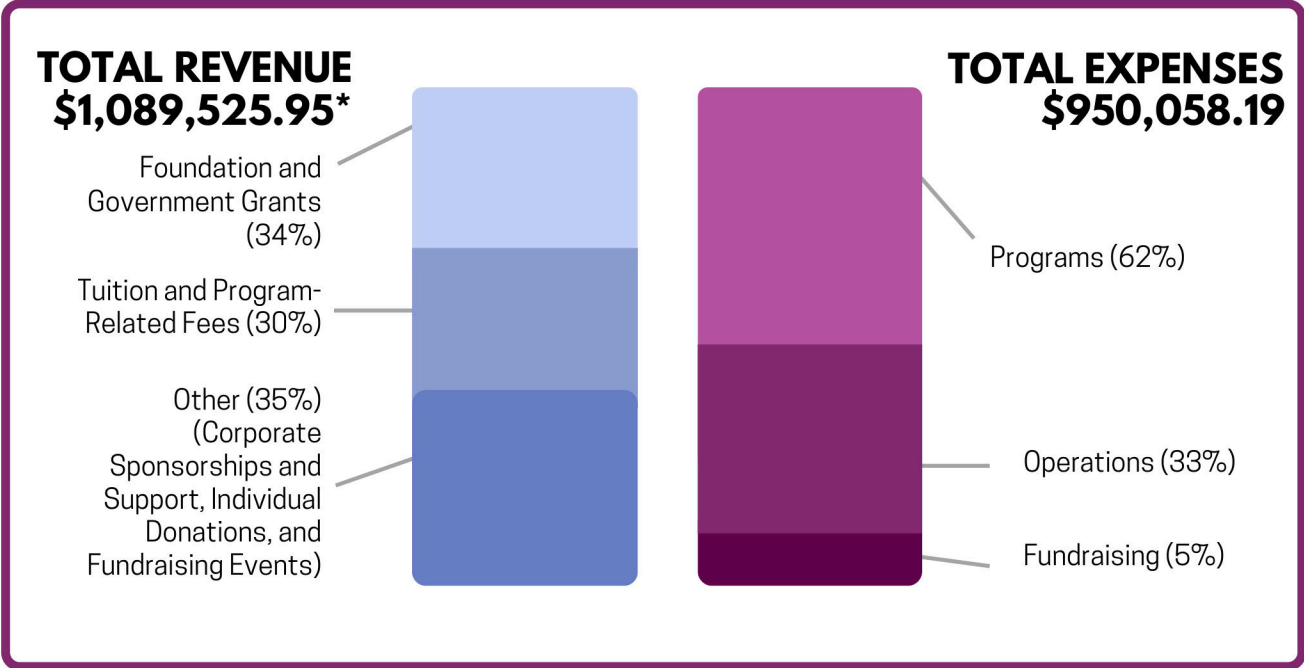
CAREER DEVELOPMENT

- **Teaching Fellowship**: Paid fellowship for undergraduates from marginalized backgrounds to receive hands-on teaching experience and professional development

NEW!



Revenue & Expenses



***\$148,147.50 (14%) of the Total Revenue is restricted to fund a new brick and mortar space for Elemental Music.**

This brings total unrestricted revenue to \$941,378.45, resulting in a true net loss of \$8,679.74





Elemental in Venice

The 2022/2023 season was a year of extraordinary growth for Elemental Music, as we launched our first programs based in the westside community of Venice. Invitations from principals at Broadway Elementary School and Westminster Elementary School, both part of the Los Angeles Unified School District, spurred the development of two new programs.

The Elemental @ Broadway program was our first afterschool program designed for a specific school community. We offered two separate choirs, one for students in grades K-2 and another for students in grades 3-5, as well as beginning violin and cello classes for students in grades 3-4. Interest in these programs was so strong that we had to cap our enrollment, with a total of 99 students participating in the first season.

The Elemental @ Westminster program was another first for our organization, as we developed in-school curriculums to provide core music classes in the community. Classes were offered free of charge to students and were incorporated as part of the school day. Students in grades 3-5 participated in our programming at Westminster, which included performances at the school's Black History Month concert as well as the 5th Grade Culmination ceremony at the end of the school year.

Both programs were so successful in 2022/23 that we have expanded our offerings for the 2023/24 season.



Inspiring Our Future Music Educators

Our Teaching Fellowship, a brand new program for 2022/23, expanded Elemental Music’s reach to college-aged students. With the understanding that children of all backgrounds should be able to look to the front of the classroom and see themselves reflected in their teachers, our Teaching Fellowship program was developed as a pathway for musicians from backgrounds traditionally underrepresented or excluded in classical music to become teaching artists.

There was an overwhelmingly positive response to the program, with over 40 students applying. Through a highly competitive application and interview process, we selected four fellows for our inaugural cohort: Carolyn Lozano Archbold (California State University, Los Angeles), Mads Knight-Weber (Santa Monica College), Emma Marie Surdilla (University of California, Los Angeles), and Daniel Young (University of Southern California).

Fellows received paid, hands-on training in our ensembles throughout the year, as well as biweekly mentoring sessions with program directors. Each fellow started the season observing our teaching artists. By the end of the year, they were conducting large ensembles and sectionals in performances and teaching special topic workshops for our young musicians! Fellows also participated in professional development trainings with guests including Dr. Jacob Sustaita (Assistant Conductor, Pacific Symphony), Jim Wang (Orchestra Director, Santa Monica High School), and Mads Falcone (Music Technology and Digital Arts Faculty, CalArts).

One fellow ended the season by saying, “This program...inspired me to invest more time in teaching, and play a part in shaping [the] future.” We can’t wait to see what the future holds for these young artists!



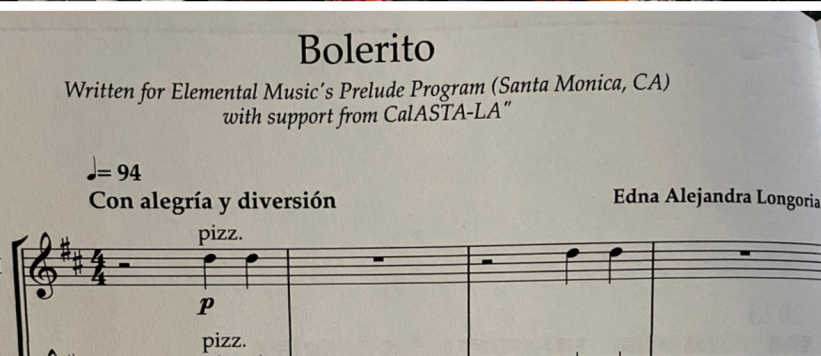
Performing at the Hollywood Bowl

Over 40 of our choir students had the incredible opportunity to sing at the Hollywood Bowl in November 2022 as part of “Encanto at the Hollywood Bowl.” The live-to-film concert experience is now streaming exclusively on the Disney+ platform!

Producers from the show found our students on YouTube singing “Dos Oruguitas” in a previous season. Impressed by our young musicians, the producers reached out to us and invited our singers to be a part of the shows at the Hollywood Bowl. With just a few weeks to prepare, our Elemental Choir and our Elemental @ Broadway Grades 3–5 Choir learned a brand new arrangement of “Dos Oruguitas” to sing in Spanish alongside Colombian musician Andrés Cepeda for two nights of performances.

This was an amazing experience for our choir students! Not only did these young singers create lifelong memories of performing at the world-famous Hollywood Bowl, rehearsing and singing with the amazing Andrés Cepeda, and even meeting Lin-Manuel Miranda backstage, but they also got to bond across choirs.

Students spent hours together in additional rehearsals, as well as backstage on each performance day, and it was heartwarming to see the camaraderie that blossomed out of this exciting weekend of performances.



Exciting Premieres

Elemental Music has a long history of supporting the creation of new music for young musicians, and the 2022/23 season was no different! Two of our ensembles presented world premiere performances over the course of the year.

In March 2023, our Elemental Strings Chamber Orchestra students gave the world premiere performance of James Wood's "Battle," the second movement from his Suite for String Orchestra, No. 1 Op. 1. While our students have premiered new works in the past, there was something different about this particular premiere...because the composer was also an Elemental Music student! At the time of the premiere, James was in fifth grade and playing violin in Elemental Strings. Students across our ensembles were inspired to see one of their peers writing music and having it performed by a live orchestra.

Our Prelude students also participated in a world premiere. With support from CalASTA-LA, we commissioned Mexican-American composer Edna Alejandra Longoria, to write a piece of music that met the needs of a first-year string ensemble. Longoria composed a piece called *Bolerito* which Prelude premiered in May 2023, and she also participated in a Zoom Meet & Greet with the Prelude students. Our young musicians were so excited to talk with a "real live composer!" We are delighted to have commissioned a fun and exciting, pedagogically-appropriate piece that adds to the diversity of repertoire available for beginning string players.



A Night to Remember

The 2022/23 season saw the launch of Tasting Notes, our first ever gala fundraiser! Generously hosted by the beautiful Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel, more than 150 music education supporters came out to celebrate the Elemental Music community and enjoy the evening.

Music from our Chamber Music Institute students floated through the lobby as guests checked in and mingled with each other. Inside the ballroom, more than twenty incredible vendors were there to offer delicious sips and bites, and no one went home hungry! Guests enjoyed trying new flavors, seeing old friends and meeting new ones, bidding in our auction, and having the chance to do some good in the name of music education. All in all, we raised over \$50,000 to support our programs and students!

The evening's festivities were organized by our Gala Committee, led by co-chairs Victor Komlos, and Janie Docter, and several additional board members including Marcia Capparella, Brenda Benson, Kenny Burgomaster, and Christo Ritter. We also had a number of volunteers donate their time to make the event a hit, including emcee and beloved classical music radio host Rich Capparella.

With the help of our incredible sponsors and supporters, Tasting Notes 2023 was such a success that we now plan to host this gala annually. Tasting Notes 2024 will be held at Le Méridien Delfina Santa Monica on Sunday, January 28, 2024. We can't wait to see you there!



Looking Forward

As we begin our 2023/24 season, there is so much to look forward to, including:

Celebrating Our 20th Season

We are busy planning our 20th Anniversary Celebration Concert, which will be held on March 9, 2024 at Santa Monica's Barnum Hall! The concert will shine a spotlight on our incredible students and teachers, and will feature special collaborative performances across our many ensembles.

Putting Down Roots

A generous seed grant from the Santa Monica Westside Legacy Fund for Women and Girls has allowed Elemental Music to start looking for a rehearsal site of our own. After two decades of renting spaces across the city, we are looking to put down roots while expanding our offerings and nurturing our growing Elemental Music community. We hope to finalize a lease in the coming months.

Collaboration with Ballet Folklórico Flor de Mayo

Our 2023/24 season will feature an exciting cross-disciplinary collaboration between Academy Philharmonic, our advanced middle school orchestra, and Ballet Folklórico Flor de Mayo, a local folklórico dance nonprofit that has been in the community since 1994! Our musicians and their dancers will take the stage together to perform in early 2024.

Program & Administrative Staff

Elemental Strings

Josephine Moerschel, *Co-Director,
Chamber Orchestra Conductor*
Jason Aiello, *Co-Director,
Sinfonia Conductor*
Finn Bordal
Emily Call
Bernard Kane, Jr.
Erin Little
April Paik
Laila Zakzook

Elemental Band

Peter Senchuk, *Director*
Christie Glaser
Yuri Miyoshi
Emily Senchuk

Chamber Music Institute

Emily Call, *Director*
Finn Bordal
Buzz Gravelle
Betsy Rettig
Susan Rishik
Linda Szeto
Jordan Warmath

Elemental Choir

Jessi Spike Gravelle, *Director*
Basia Bochenek

Administrative Staff

Josephine Moerschel, *Executive & Artistic Director*
Emily Call, *Marketing & Communications Director*
Emily Senchuk, *Operations & Programs Director*
Laila Zakzook, *Venice Programs Coordinator &
Donor Relations Manager*
Juanita Devis, *Bilingual Community Engagement
Coordinator*
Karen Safrit, *Development Associate*
Trang Trinh, *Intern*

Academy Philharmonic

Peter Senchuk, *Director*
Sofia Kim
Betsy Rettig
Amanda Walker
Erin Wells

Encore / Bergmann Program

Emily Senchuk, *Director*
Rita Andrade
Finn Bordal
Emily Call
John Cross
Susan Feldman
Christie Glaser
Holly Hu
María Eugenia León
Erin Little
Josephine Moerschel
Chris Parise
Betsy Rettig
Susan Rishik
Caitlin Smith
Linda Szeto
Jordan Warmath

Elemental Guitar

Erin Young, *Director*
Buzz Gravelle
Giovanni Piacentini

Prelude Program

Erin Little, *Director*
Carmen Marquez

Elemental @ Broadway

Kelly Adams, *Choral Director*
Basia Bochenek
Bernard Kane, Jr.
Joanna Pascoe
Eileen Stressling
Fang Fang Xu

Elemental @ Westminster

Kara Dago-Clark, *Director*
Lynn Hutchinson
Joanna Pascoe

Teaching Fellowship

Mads Knight-Weber
Carolyn Lozano Archbold
Emma Marie Surdilla
Daniel Young

Board

2022/2023 Board of Directors

**new member to our Board of Directors in the 2022/2023 season*

Marcia Capparella, President

Brenda Benson, Secretary

Victor Komlos, Treasurer

Alan Alexander

Kenneth Burgomaster

Arati Desai Wagabaza

Janie Docter

Brian Driscoll

Lynn Hutchinson

Robert Pepple*

Christo Ritter*

2022/2023 Advisory Council

Rob Bailis

Artistic and Executive Director of Broad Stage

Varina Bleil

Executive Director of
The Maple Counseling Center

Rich Capparella

Veteran L.A. classical DJ

Camille Delaney-McNeil

Director of YOLA

Natalie Do

Senior Vice President, Western Alliance Bank,
Torrey Pines Bank Division

Ruth Eliel

Former Executive Director,
Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra

Buzz Gravelle

Music Faculty (CalPoly Pomona),
Founder & Director of
Santa Monica Academy of Music

Mak Grgic

Grammy-nominated musician, professor, entrepreneur

Kevin Kwan Loucks

CEO, Chamber Music America

Robin Lithgow

Retired Director of Arts Education for LAUSD

Kevin McKeown

Director of Bands, Santa Monica High School; Conductor, Santa
Monica College Wind Ensemble;
Conductor, UC Irvine Wind Ensemble

Joni Swenson

Former Director of Orchestras, Santa Monica High School

Tim Tortora

CEO of Andrews, Summitt, & Allen Management

Jim Wang

Director of Orchestras, Santa Monica High School

Jonathan Weedman

Senior Vice President, Via Care Community Health

Angela Woo

Director of Instrumental Music, John Adams Middle School Music
Director, Pacific Symphony Youth Concert Band

Victor Zaud

Senior Director, Product Design -
Disney Streaming (Disney+, Hulu, and Star+)

Supporters

Our 2022/2023 season would not have been possible without the generous support of the following individuals:

***Indicates Team Rondo Sustaining Donor*

Edward Lee Memorial Scholarship

Daniel, Janie, Jordan and Ethan Docter

Benefactor (\$1,000 and above)

Anonymous (6)

Marcia Adelstein

Jamey Anderson and Brian Driscoll**

Brenda Benson**

Boelke Family

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Kenneth Burgomaster**

Capital Group

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Jessie Chen

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Jerry and Margaretta Hausman

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Therese Kelly

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The Komlos Family**

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Kate and Bill Breslo**

Dale and Suzanne Call

Aditya N. Dhawale

Sandy Driscoll

Linda Greenberg

Allison Hart**

Teyha Kopp and Ken Little

Chris Kyriakos

Maniar Family

Josephine and

Jonathan Moerschel

Joel and Eleanore Pelcyger

Rod and Gwen Rehnborg

Jennifer Roche

Sarah Starks and Robert Cadena

J. Staley Stewart

Kay Tidwell and Rich Daniels

Maria V. Ventura and

Roberto Ballinas Veloz

Stephanie Zheng and

Davy Cooper

Patron (\$250-\$499)

Anonymous (6)

Applebaum Family

The Badelt Family

Rob Bailis

Stafford and Laurie Black

Gleam Davis

Janice Feinstein

Randy and Jannell Greene Banchik

Ruth Eliel

Evan Garcia and Anne Hiura

Geary Family

Stacy Gruenloh and Ferris Kawar

Noah H.

Elizabeth Hanson

Iris Tuesday Productions

Kristen Kaneko and

Bryan Mayeda

M.J. Kang

Mayumi Koide

Kuan Lin

The Lombards

The Lombard Family

Rita S Moerschel

Daniela Morato

Chris Kulla & Jinnahyu

Ramos Family

Steve Raymond

Christo Ritter

Karen and Jeff Safrit**

Brigitte Saidiner**

Tony Spencer and Kiersten Elliott

Lisa and Randy Starr

Trevellin Family

Mary Vallardares

Elsa Ward and Family

JD and Linda Wessling

Diana Williams and Shanghua Teng

Yesilevsky Family

We also wish to thank all families and individuals for their support this season. Every gift makes a difference in the lives of our students, no matter the size.

Our 2022/2023 Grantmakers



The Santa Monica
Westside Legacy Fund
for Women and Girls



THE MARY ALICE FORTIN
FOUNDATION

Colburn foundation



Clarence E. Heller
Charitable Foundation

Our 2022/2023 Sponsors



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