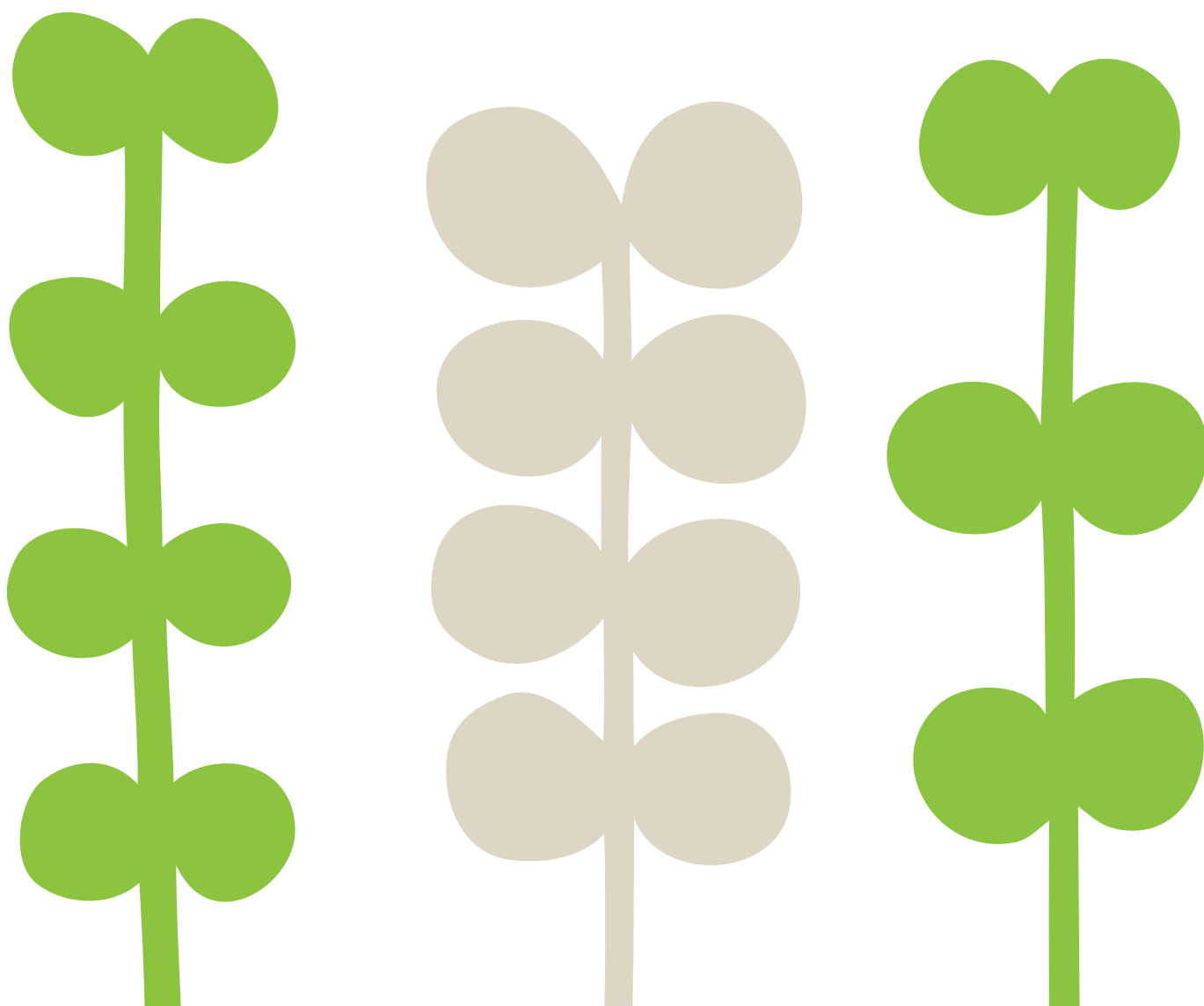


2020-2021 ANNUAL REPORT and MAGAZINE

STERNE SCHOOL



start with strengths

bring joy to learning

Sterne School's mission is to build on the
foundation of individual strengths to discover and
nurture each student's version of greatness.

learn from everyone's
uniqueness

honor the educator

never give up

LETTER FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

December 2021

Carol S. Dweck, author of *Mindset: The Psychology of Success*, is a big influence around here, whether we are talking with a student about a poor grade on an Algebra test or considering how to move forward as a school during a global pandemic. At the core of the growth mindset is an idea that we can find strength and an opportunity to learn when faced with immense challenges. Over the past year and a half, Sterne School (like all schools) has encountered some setbacks: a quick pivot into distance learning put a screen between teachers and students and threatened to break down our relationships-based model; a time of great economic and healthcare instability created incredible stress on members of our school community; waiting for a vaccine and a beacon to light the way back felt like a lifetime. After all of this, we learned that this community of students, teachers, families, staff, and board **never gives up**. That growth mindset is deeply rooted in this school, and it is most evident in the work we have done already this year to improve our literacy instruction, re-establish and refresh scopes and sequences in all core subject areas, move to a new and more transparent report card system, staff up our post-secondary and college advisory programs, more deeply engage in DEI work, and provide the type of social-emotional support that all students across the country and the world should have at their fingertips, especially in the current climate. We do not rest now. We do not stop creating, improving, and building as we go back to a place where we can once more **bring joy to learning** and get that much closer to putting the finishing touches on our forever home. Thank you for supporting Sterne School through thick and thin, through setbacks and new opportunities to grow and learn. Thank you for believing in Sterne as much as we believe in your children.



Melissa Myers, Head of School

Sterne alumna Katia Bernstein, class of 2018, left an indelible mark at Sterne; her art had a fan following, and you can still see her illustrations here and there around campus. She went on to study art and character design at CCAC, and this fall we commissioned her to create a large-scale piece of art for our lobby — one that would capture both her story-telling illustration style and the spirit of Sterne.

#bringjoytolearning



ALUMNI NEWS

CLASS OF '21

Sterne's class of 2021 was the largest graduating class in our 45-year history, with 25 seniors walking across the stage for their diploma and a pandemic-appropriate elbow bump. This was our first in-person gathering with families, and even though we were wearing masks, the smiles shone through. It was a poignant moment for everyone after a long haul with distance learning.

#nevergiveup

Eleanor Becker
Loyola University

Miles Catmull
College of Marin

Taylor Cole-Frieman
Berkeley City College

Christopher Dean
UC Berkeley

Luke Dougherty
University of Oregon

Michael Dozier
Holy Names University

Grace Ekdale Hoch
California Lutheran University

Ever Franklin
Community College & Music
Composition

Daniel Karp
San Jose State University

Ryan Kelly
Gap Year

Isabella Leach
Community College

Mollie Low
Pace University

Logan Marx
Four-year University

Kieran Jewel Metzler
Pyramid Music & Audio
Production Institute

Zachary Mink
Humboldt State University

Karina Parish
University of Denver

Laura Phelan
High Point University

Denis Reich
Entered the workforce at the San
Francisco International Airport

Taylor Sharp
Colorado State University

Jackson Smith
San Francisco State University

Queen Thomas
San Francisco State University

Charles Wetherall
Curry College

Luca Wylie-Petruzzello
San Francisco State University

Niko Zernik-Traxler
University of Cincinnati

Valedictorian Luke Dougherty spoke at Commencement: "If there's one thing this pandemic has taught us, it's that we need to keep fighting for justice and equality, and I'd like to thank Ms. Saussy for being a part of that ... In the fall, I will be going to the University of Oregon for college, just like my older sister. I will be continuing to learn Spanish, and I would like to give credit to Mr. Benson and Ms. García for making Spanish classes enjoyable. I'd also like to credit Mr. Benson for organizing fun days where we'd go biking, which is something I love doing ... I plan on majoring in something related to art and computers, and I'd like to give another shout out to Ms. Kerry for being a great teacher and supporting my art interests."

#nevergiveup #honoreducator #bringjoytolearning

THE YEAR IN PHILANTHROPY

The Sterne community has a strong and thriving culture of philanthropy.

The combined generosity of parents, alumni, alumni parents, and friends strengthens the unique, personalized learning experience we are able to offer each student at Sterne. Below are just a few examples of how your contributions have made a big impact.

#startwithstrengths

Technology

We were able to pivot in a pandemic year to robust hybrid learning, with a full complement of equipment and faculty training. Our assistive technology program got a big boost with new Chromebooks for every high school student.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Programming

Donations made specifically for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion enabled a teacher to attend the Personal Approach to Change and Equity workshop, which has benefited both his colleagues and his curriculum.

Faculty and Staff Professional Development

Sterne expanded our faculty and staff professional development offerings to include regular monthly programs.

We also introduced the Strength & Leadership Project which has empowered faculty and staff members to grow their professional skills and give back to Sterne with special passion projects such as creating a new math intervention program, furthering our local Eye to Eye chapter, and developing a new science scope and sequence.

Tuition Assistance

Your gifts allowed us to offer financial assistance to 74 students last year.

2020-2021 Annual Fund

(includes unrestricted and restricted giving)

\$369,200

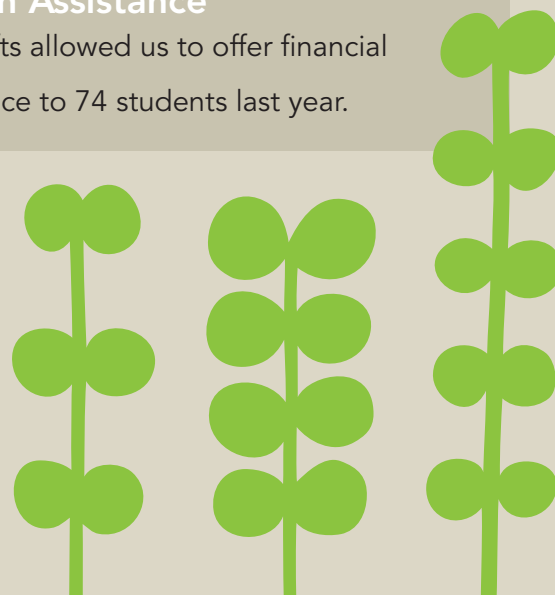
2020-2021 Gala & Yogathon

(combined net proceeds)

\$153,479

Total Annual Fundraising

\$522,679



2020 – 2021

DONOR LISTINGS

2020-2021 ANNUAL FUND

With thanks, we recognize the following donors for their generous support of the 2020-2021 Sterne Annual Fund.

VISIONARY \$25,000 and Above

The Kunze Family

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Bothin Foundation
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Janet and Ed Chen
Kirven-Morse Family Fund
George H. Sandy Foundation
Lee and Ann Schweichler
Gregory Underwood

CHANGEMAKER \$5,000 – \$9,999

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BUILDER \$2,500 - \$4,999

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LEARNER Up to \$999

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Gregory Guttmann and Shauna Wilkie
Laurie Harden
Brenda Henderson
Jill Hernandez
Christina Herubin

Continued on next page

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Kim and Ken High
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Guy and Monica Yalif
Glen Yamaguchi and Barbara Goto
Helena Younossi
Sandra Zovod and Norman Davis

The preceding donor list reflects both unrestricted and restricted gifts to the Annual Fund, received between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021. Sterne School's fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30. If you have already made your gift to the 2021-2022 Annual Fund, thank you. If not, you can make your gift online at sterneschool.org/give. You may also give via check, stock gift, or cash. The 2021-2022 Annual Report will be published in December 2022.

Every effort has been made to confirm the accuracy of these donor lists. If you suspect an error, or if you wish to change your donor listing in future publications, please contact the Development Office at 415.922.6081.

DIRECTED GIFTS, AND GIFTS IN MEMORY / IN HONOR

The following donors offered program-specific funding to the 2020-2021 Annual Fund in the past year.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Programs

Janet and Ed Chen
Kirven-Morse Family Fund
Ed and Linda McManis

Technology

Bothin Foundation
The Crowley Family
Lea Wood

Reading Programs

George Archer Memorial Foundation
for Literacy

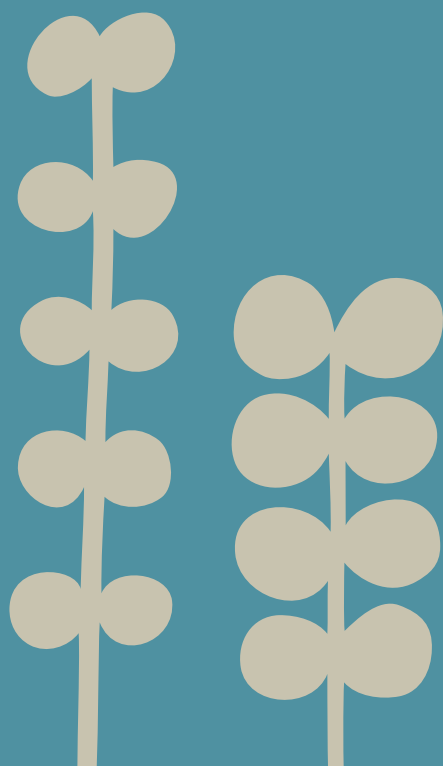
Tuition Assistance

George Archer Memorial Foundation
for Literacy
George H. Sandy Foundation
Carolyn Shuman
Patricia White Wilson

Gifts Made in Honor

Kirk Jones and Brenda Ng, in honor
of Colin Jones

Susan and Martin Plotkin, in honor of
Langston Bealum's 20th birthday





THE 838 KEARNY PROJECT

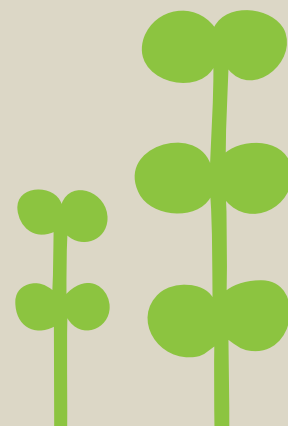
THE HOME STRETCH

In the past year, the following donors made contributions to the final phase of Sterne's campaign to build out the school's 10,000 square foot lower level for athletics, performing arts, music, movement, and film.

Cassie and Jim Bahan
Peter Bershatsky and Amy Scheffler
Hali Croner and Eugene Palmer
David and Susan Dossetter
Jeannie and Christophe Fraise
Jamen Howe and Roderick Jones
Jack and Barbara Hug
The Kunze Family
Eric and Martina Lauterbach
Ed and Linda McManis

Carrie Messina
Naheed and Dayton Misfeldt
Evelyn Nussenbaum and Fred Vogelstein
Nigel Ray and Leslie Anglada
VMWare Foundation

The 838 Kearny Project is a multi-year initiative.



THE 2021 STERNE GALA

On March 6, 2021, Sterne families gathered for the first — and we hope the last — Zoom Gala. The theme was “Tropical Vacation” and everyone rose to the occasion with tropical dress and decorations on their screens. A successful Fund-a-Need paddle raise benefited the Community Wellness Initiative, an 18-month plan focusing on stress reduction and resiliency within our community. Thanks to you:

- We hosted a COVID support group and several social-emotional learning (SEL) workshops.
- The Sterne Joy Club staged numerous wellness activities, including a Chair Yoga workshop and the Fruit Guys healthy eating program.
- We engaged Liberation Consulting as our partner for the 2021-2022 year, with comprehensive Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion workshops and programming for faculty, staff, board, and students.
- We partnered with Parent’s Place for parent education and support.

[#celebrateuniqueness](#)

FUND-A-NEED DONORS

\$10,000 and above

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Jason Yurasek

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Chris Hart and Micaela Heekin
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Diane Parish and Paul Gelburd
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\$500 - \$999

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FUND-A-NEED DONORS, cont'd

Up to \$499

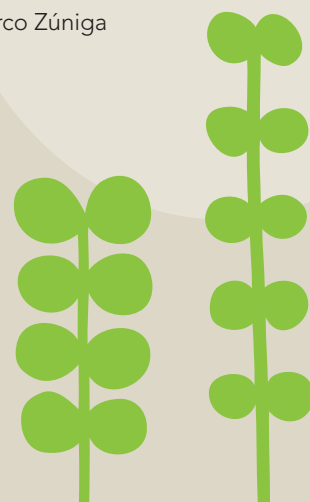
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