

STERNE ALUMNI BULLETIN

Spring 2015

Sterne Alumni Association

The Sterne Alumni Association is here to bring together our diverse and exceptional group of Sterne Alumni for events, to share news, and to be a part of the next chapter of Sterne's history. Our goal is to keep you updated about what's going on at Sterne.

Visit the Sterne website at sterneschool.org and view the alumni page, devoted to alumni in an effort to keep you *connected*. Join us on Facebook, and to receive our eNewsletter just send us your current email address.

We love to hear about what you're doing and we want to stay in touch! For all alumni communications please contact Alie Berka at aberka@sterneschool.org

Save the Date

Book Talk at Book Passage

June 6, 2015 2:00-4:00pm

Book Passage, Ferry Building, SF

Come to a lively and informative presentation tailored just for our Sterne Community featuring hot topics in reading and suggested summer reading lists for kids and adults.

Sterne Graduation

June 12, 2015 11:00am, Valencia Street Campus

Sterne Homecoming

September 26, 2015 11:00am-2:00pm

Jackson St. Campus

Come Visit Us

We love it when alumni drop by to say hello and give us an update on what they are doing. These past few months we were visited by:



Chris Kelly '14

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Chris attends College of San Mateo, majoring in Biochemical engineering, and participating on the cross country and track & field teams.

Seamus Hodgkin '00 – Seamus is a police officer with the San Francisco Police Department.

Paul Austin – Paul is the Recreation Director at Marin City Community Services.



The Brown Family looks over the silent auction

Sterne Spring Fling

Celebrating our Students in the Arts

Student Art Showcase & Auction

Our third annual Spring Fling event on March 21st proved to be the largest event in Sterne's history with close to 350 in attendance from the Sterne community. Students, families, teachers, staff, alumni, and board members filled the gym at our High School campus. Alumni families included the Browns (Caitlin '09), the Dunlaps (James '13) and alumna Mary Ronstadt '10.

The extravaganza was a resounding success, complete with fun fare, student performances, and a silent auction to benefit the Arts programs at Sterne. Entertainment included games, a fortune teller, and live music. For the third year in a row, Sterne parent and chef, Barry Applebaum provided a delicious light supper.

The Spring Fling has become a wonderful opportunity for our students to showcase their fine art and musical talents. In addition, it is a chance for everyone to learn about the fantastic Arts programs we have at Sterne. The walls were decorated with paintings, and the tables were covered with sculpture proving the creativity of our students. On the stage there was a bit of everything, ranging from rap to rock, all with rhythm and soul.

To top it off, the event raised over \$40,000 for the arts at Sterne – 30% more than last year! Our students will benefit with increased funding to the visual arts, theater arts, film, and music. Thank you to everyone who participated and donated. We are so proud of our talented students and their wonderful, supportive families.



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Development News: Annual Fund

This year we surpassed our Annual Fund goal by bringing in over \$200,000. As we end the school year we want to thank all the parents, former parents, alumni, and friends who so generously donated. The Annual Fund supports Sterne's crucial operating costs. These gifts enable us to maintain the wealth of programs that make Sterne such a unique and specialized school. This past year, the Annual Fund supported field trips, extra-curricular programs, school supplies, textbooks, computers, and financial aid. To learn more about the Sterne Annual Fund contact Alie Berka: aberka@sterneschool.org.

The Campaign for Sterne School *Great Minds, Thinking Differently*

Thanks to the generosity of our community, Sterne has successfully exceeded the \$2,000,000 goal of the Expansion Campaign. To observe the conclusion of this landmark initiative, the Board of Directors and Sterne's dedicated supporters celebrated with a party hosted by the Rigo family. We are grateful for the many alumni families who partnered with us on this campaign.



Masha Chyette '10 and Genna Hahne '14

Faculty/Staff vs. Student/Alumni Basketball Game March 28, 2015

The annual Sterne Basketball game is always a rousing face-off pitting our current and former students against our faculty, staff and parents. We had a surprise visit by former teacher, Pat Yalon, to aid the faculty team. Alumni, Masha Chyette '10, Genna Hahne '14, and Jake Weir '15 joined the student team.

Once again, Larry Milburn led the students to victory with a score of 40-38, securing the trophy for yet another year.



Zoila Lara-Cea '07 and Sebastian Eikhof '05

Inside LD Speaker Series: Zoila Lara-Cea

Our third Inside LD presentation featured our very own Sterne alumna Zoila Lara-Cea '07. Zoila, who was diagnosed with Dyslexia and ADHD in kindergarten, walked us through her journey of educational and personal change. At the core of her message was an emphasis on personal empowerment, academic success, and self-advocacy.

Zoila stressed community building and the importance of having "safe places." When establishing your support system, develop strong allies: family, friends and teachers. We are in the midst of an exciting educational revolution for people who think differently and self-advocacy is key— *you* are the best representative for your own needs and interests.

Zoila has been active in helping kids with LD. She is a *Think Different Diplomat* from Project Eye to Eye, a national organization dedicated to mentoring students within the LD/ADHD community. Project Eye to Eye is an interactive program where high school kids mentor middle school kids with art based projects. The program was successfully implemented at Sterne this year.

Zoila is poised to graduate from UC Berkeley with a degree in Native American Studies this spring. She will be attending NYU in the fall to pursue a graduate degree in Art Therapy and ultimately a career helping kids with LD. She'd love to return to Sterne to teach, and we'd love to have her!

What Dolphins are doing...

- Teen Ventures camping and rock climbing at Castle Rock State Park in Saratoga.
- Volleyball at the High School.
- Futsal at the Middle School.
- Live theater! Macbeth at the Middle School.

