HOW CAN I SUPPORT MARK DAY SCHOOL?

A VOLUNTEER & GIVING GUIDE





WHY GIVE TO MARK DAY?

As a non-profit, our mission is to develop well-rounded critical thinkers in a program that fosters academic excellence and responsible world citizenship. Your giving has an exponential effect; Mark Day graduates are transformed by this education, and in turn they go on to transform the communities in which they lead and live. To do so, we invite all families to volunteer and participate in school life. We understand that some will give more and some will give less, but all can give something - our most important goal is 100% participation.

You might be wondering - my family is already paying tuition, so why are we being asked to make an extra gift? Put simply, tuition does not cover the full the cost of educating a child at Mark Day School, and the school relies on philanthropy to close the gap. Small class sizes, outstanding teachers, state-of-the-art learning spaces, and other offerings that make Mark Day special rely on the support of our community.





WAYS TO VOLUNTEER & GIVE

Support from the extended Mark Day School community is instrumental to the ongoing academic and financial health of the school, and assures that Mark Day will continue to nurture what is finest in each child now and for generations to come.

HERE ARE SIX WAYS YOU CAN BECOME INVOLVED:

- 1 Volunteer
- 2 The Mark Day Fund
- 3 Parents' Association Fundraising
- 4 Special Gifts
- 5 Capital and Endowment Campaigns
- 6 Legacy Society

VOLUNTEER

Since our founding, a hallmark of the school has been the close partnership between parents and the school. Volunteering at Mark Day School is one important part of that partnership, and the benefits are wide ranging. Parents and guardians gain the opportunity to get to know one another, learn about the school more deeply, share their expertise, and express commitment to their child's education.

The Parents' Association improves the quality of overall school life by offering and organizing programs and activities that encourage participation from the entire school community. Volunteers are a key ingredient in the life of Mark Day School. There are many opportunities for parents to become involved, whether through classroom activities and celebrations, an annual event like Grandparents and Special Friends' Day or an ongoing activity like the hot lunch food program. For more information, visit the Parents' Association page on the school's website.







MARK DAY'S ANNUAL FUND

The Mark Day Fund, the school's annual fund, directly supports people and program. Every donation is put to use in the current school year to support faculty professional development, media literacy education, outdoor education, school plays, and more.

The annual fund launches in the fall and is a tax-deductible way for families to support a Mark Day education. We seek 100% family participation during the month of October as we ask families to make the annual fund their **first** giving priority each year. More than 450 members of our community—including trustees, alumni, faculty and staff, grandparents, parents of alumni, and friends—support the annual fund. Our goal for 2018-2019 is \$760,000.



ANNOUNCING GIVING DAY: OCTOBER 12, 2018

On Giving Day, we will celebrate our campus community and encourage gifts in support of The Mark Day Fund. Join us as we support students, faculty, and programs. It's incredible what we can accomplish together!

GIVING LEVELS

Sponsors Circle

Benefactors Circle \$25,000 and up
Partners Circle \$15,000 to \$24,999
Eighth Pillar \$10,000 to \$14,999
Leadership Circle \$7,500 to \$9,999
Founders Circle \$5,000 to \$7,499

Skylion Circle

Challenge Circle \$1,000 to \$3,899

Trellis Circle \$500 to \$999

Blue and Gold Circle up to \$499

All gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

\$3,900 to \$4,999

Eighth grade families whose only or youngest child is graduating from Mark Day are asked to contribute to the Eighth Grade Endowment Fund in lieu of the Annual Fund. Our Eighth Grade Endowment Fund goal for 2018-2019 is \$30,000.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION FUNDRAISING

The school's largest fundraising event is the Spring Fundraiser, which will take place this year on March 16, 2019 at Terrapin Crossroads in San Rafael. There are many ways to be involved, including: volunteering, donating to the online auction, hosting a social, becoming a corporate or family sponsor, and more.

We invite families to participate as they are able in the additional PA fundraising initiatives each year, which include the Fun Run, the Bocce Tournament (new this year!), and eScrip/AmazonSmile. Our fundraising goal for 2018-2019 is \$175,000.





SPECIAL GIFTS

Members of the community may wish to support specific aspects of Mark Day program via designated gifts.

Several of the areas of support include:

- Funding for Indexed Tuition
- Technology
- Sustainability
- Global and local partnerships (South Africa, Beijing, Costa Rica)
- Professional development
- The Organic Garden and Butterfly Garden
- And others

Past donations have gone toward: summer professional development workshops for teachers in the area of Media Literacy, a chicken coop in the organic garden, bringing a delegation of educators and students from Kliptown Youth Program (KYP) to teach and learn at Mark Day School, and more.

CAPITAL & ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGNS

Periodic capital campaigns provide additional funds for buildings, special projects and the school's endowment. Endowment provides long-term financial stability.

Past campaigns include:

- We Create: The Campaign for Mark Day School supported the construction of the Learning Commons and Creativity Lab as well as the renovation of the outdoor quad and amphitheater in 2016-2018.
- The Campaign for Teaching and Learning, benefitting endowments for professional development, faculty salaries, funding for Indexed Tuition, and unrestricted funds in 2005-2007.
- Construction of the gym and Arts/Science buildings in 1999-2001.

Capital contributions are typically paid over a three to five year period while donors continue to support the annual fund. All members of the extended Mark Day School family are invited to participate in major campaigns.





MARK DAY LEGACY SOCIETY

The Mark Day School Legacy Society recognizes and honors those who have included the school in their estate plans through their will, trust, retirement, or life insurance plans.

Is your estate plan complete? Estate planning is an important aspect of planning for the future for your family. Please consult your attorney when considering such a gift.

If you have named Mark Day School in your estate plans or would like more information, please contact Wendy Levine, Director of Development, at 415.472.8008.



Cycle of GIVING

Mark Day School thrives because of community members' support throughout the year.



