



The Southwest Foundation News is published twice a year. To receive a copy either by mail or email, please sign up in the News section of our website:

SouthwestFoundation.org

LAKER LEGACY JUNE 20

The Southwest Foundation is delighted to host the second annual Laker Legacy fundraising event at the Minikahda Club. Attended by more than 100 alumni, parents, staff and community members, the Laker Legacy is the Foundation's biggest fundraising event of the year. This year's soiree will feature musical performances by Southwest students, savory delights created by Minikahda's renowned chef, hand-crafted pastries by Rose Street Patisserie, a silent auction and a myriad of fun activities. We hope you'll join us; all proceeds benefit academics, arts and athletics programs at Southwest High School.

Rose Street Patisserie Partnership

John Kraus and Elizabeth Rose dreamed of creating a neighborhood bakery that paired the finest baked goods with a down-to-earth atmosphere, where people could connect with friends, family members and neighbors. Their vision came to fruition with the creation of Rose Street Patisserie (the sister brand to Patisserie 46), the perfect destination for conversation and respite.



Rose Street Patisserie owners John Kraus and Elizabeth Rose.

In addition to offering sweet and savory delights to the Linden Hills community, John and Elizabeth are providing Southwest students with an opportunity to explore the culinary field. In partnership with the Southwest Foundation, Rose Street Patisserie developed an apprenticeship program which enables students to experience hands-on learning within the food industry. This summer, Rose Street will host two student apprentices, who will learn all aspects of running a bakery.

John and Elizabeth feel strongly about the importance of experiential learning and exploring trade opportunities. As John explains, "I'm delighted to provide an opportunity for Southwest students to experience the culinary field before they commit to a traditional college education or trade path. If an apprentice shows a passion for baking, we can open up a whole world to them that will change how they view their future."

If you know a Southwest student who may be interested in the Rose Street Patisserie apprenticeship, please contact us at info@southwestfoundation.org.

THE SOUTHWEST FOUNDATION INVITES YOU TO

OUR ANNUAL LAKER LEGACY

A FUNDRAISING EVENT AT 7PM ON JUNE 20, 2019
AT THE MINIKAHDA CLUB
3205 EXCELSIOR BLVD MINNEAPOLIS, MN

Tickets can be purchased at
southwestfoundation.org, Donate now
\$75 Per Ticket

info@southwestfoundation.org
The Minikahda Club has a no blue denim policy

From our Chair



Adam Barrett, '00

*Inquirers;
Knowledge-
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Communica-
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Reflective - The International Baccalaureate "Learner Profile".

Dear Southwest Community,

The Southwest Foundation (SWF) and our supporters possess lofty expectations and goals, but also many achievements to celebrate.

The 2018-2019 school year saw the SWF establish partnerships with neighborhood/community councils, the Minnesota Orchestra, local businesses, civic leaders and Southwest stakeholders. We welcomed our new administration and thanked our interim with a "first of its kind" red-carpet ceremony. We continued to fund classroom programs, scholarships, experiential/service learning opportunities and over 50 teacher/staff/student identified initiatives through our annual grant process. We collected one of our largest gifts from Dr. Betsee Parker and proceed with strong due diligence to ensure that money is spent equitably and with maximized impact toward the women's athletics department and teacher development per her wishes.

"Southwest has the highest graduation rate in Minneapolis."

When I graduated from Southwest in 2000, the IB Program was strong but the school as a whole suffered from a glaring divide between the "haves" and "have nots". Student programs were non-existent (we didn't even have a choir) and academic expectations/accolades

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Over ten years strong, the Southwest Foundation Charity Golf Tournament is Friday, September 6th with a shotgun start at 1:00pm. The annual tradition is organized by Paul Roach ('88) and Mike Roach ('84). Location is being finalized.



This is one of the Foundation's signature events and is an integral fundraiser to support athletics at Southwest High School. We hope you can join us for a day on the links.

were centered on all those who tested into the IB magnet (it was not a "World IB School"). Even then, scholarship money for the financially burdened who chose to engage in the world's most challenging curriculum was beyond scarce and deepened segregated cliques within our community. We were the "#1 ranked academic school in the State of Minnesota" but only a small percentage of the population was served.

In 2019, we have: over 60 student organizations; an entire school population immersed in the World IB Curriculum; programs designed to support the most underserved and raise their ability to succeed in courses; an inclusive morale that embraces diversity; symbiotic

"Southwest High School is better than when I graduated; in large part attributed to the equitable distribution of IB and financial resources through its partnership with The Southwest Foundation."

community partnerships for service learning; and scholarships (during high school and post) funded by the SWF helping students participate in activities and preparatory academic opportunities.

Southwest has the highest graduation rate in Minneapolis. Our students accomplish this

feat while learning from the strongest curriculum and pedagogical approach in the world and through holistic engagement with the community.

Southwest High School is better than when I graduated; in large part attributed to the equitable distribution of IB and financial resources through its partnership with The Southwest Foundation.

The nonprofit sector is filled with ebbs and flows. This is natural but also incredibly stressful and frightening as realities of budget cuts continue to confront Southwest.

Perhaps a result of successful investments in the school, our fundraising is in an "ebb phase". When optics don't project "imminent disaster", financial support is tough to encourage however, for us to fulfill our obligations to students and teachers, we need help.

As we prepare for the 2019-2020 school year, we are way behind necessary balance targets. The SWF must raise \$150,000 to fund essential grant requests and our minimal operations (we are currently fueled by volunteer participation).

Your contribution is necessary for us to maintain this positive pattern and momentum for all of Southwest.

Thank you,

Adam Barrett, Board Chair

SW Foundation Grantees

The Southwest Foundation supports a wide variety of initiatives at Southwest High School, focused on academics, arts and athletics. Every spring, the Foundation encourages administrators, teachers and student groups to apply for grant funding. The Southwest Foundation Board of Directors, in collaboration with administration, reviews grant applications and allocates funding for the proceeding academic year. A few examples of initiatives that received financial support during the 2018-2019 school year include the following:

MN Orchestra Partnership



SW Orchestra Students perform at Orchestra Hall on March 2nd.

“Bringing students to perform at Orchestra Hall is a wonderful opportunity and having musicians from the Orchestra come to work with our students has been spectacular.”

The Southwest Foundation was delighted to partner with the Minnesota Orchestra, to enrich the musical experience of Southwest High School students. Throughout the 2018-2019 academic year, Minnesota Orchestra musicians mentored Southwest students and further inspired their love of music. Southwest oboist Siobhan Dietz was thrilled with the experience,

saying, “when I was in the third grade, I went to a Minnesota Orchestra concert and was inspired to learn to play the oboe after hearing principal oboist John Snow. Meeting him now as a senior in high school is amazing and it all came full circle.” In addition to working with professional musicians, Southwest students had the opportunity to perform in the Target Atrium at Orchestra Hall on Saturday, March 2nd.

Reid Wixson, Director of Instrumental Music at Southwest, is pleased with the partnership. “Bringing students to perform at Orchestra Hall is a wonderful opportunity and having musicians from the Orchestra come to work with our students has been spectacular. But the real benefit, from my perspective, is to cultivate a meaningful relationship between the students in our band and orchestra program, myself, and the Minnesota Orchestra. Through this relationship, we will be able to continue to connect with our community partners in the future.”

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is a nationally recognized program that supports students who have shown academic promise but would benefit from additional preparation for college success. The mission of AVID is to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness. AVID students must meet one or more of the following criteria: will be the first in their family to attend college; identify as a member of a racial/ethnic group that is underrepresented on college campuses; qualify for free or reduced lunch; or have special circumstances that may be obstacles to success.

All seven Minneapolis Public High Schools offer the AVID program. However, Southwest boasts the largest program, with more than



AVID students at their annual retreat.

“The AVID program at Southwest has various elements to it, but one of the most important is the sense of community that it provides for participants.”

200 participants. As AVID teacher Brian Meyer explains, “The AVID program at Southwest has various elements to it, but one of the most important is the strong sense of community that it provides for participants.” To facilitate this positive communal element, the AVID team hosts a fall retreat in partnership with Project Success. Students are divided into small teams and participate in both small group and large group challenges. Project Success does an excellent job of creating activities that facilitate relationship-building, cultural-sharing, reflection and trust.

Caroline Hooper, a Southwest AVID teacher, expressed her gratitude for the Foundation’s support, saying, “my colleagues and I are incredibly grateful for the Foundation’s financial support. Although we have the largest AVID program in the district, we receive the same amount of funding as other schools with much smaller enrollment. Foundation funds allow students to participate in a fall retreat, which builds trust and a sense of community.” In addition to the retreat, Southwest Foundation funding allows AVID students to participate in college visits, which motivate and inspire them to plan for a bright and successful future. *[Continued on P.4]*

SOUTHWEST KUDOS

The Graduating Class of 2019!

All **SW Athletes** who signed with colleges in their respective sports!

Orchestra Students for their performance March 2 at Orchestra Hall!

SW Guitar teacher **Ruth LeMay** and her '**3 Strings**' students for being selected to perform in Orlando, FL at the National Association for Music Education Convention in November.

Tommy Walsh on winning the 'Top Performer' awards in Boys Hockey.

Swimmer **Jeremiah Totall** for advancing to State in the 100' free style and 100' back stroke.

Math Team for winning their thirteenth consecutive division title!

Newly formed Spanish Debate Team's **Emi Gacaj** for earning the 5th place speaker award; **Maria Benito Correa** & **Gabe Vargas Alvarado** for the 8th place team award!

Japanese students **Josephine Spanier**, **Oliver Lee** & **Nathan Wilson** for placing in the Mpls citywide Haiku contest organized by Ibaraki, SW's sister city in Japan. **Noah Hunsicker** & **Maura (Alex) Nafziger-White** who placed second (and missed first by only one point) in the Japanese bi-state competition.

Dance Co. 2 for participating in Master Classes at the Cowels Center.

Junior **Ben Stiles** and Sophomore **Nick Flaskamp** for advancing to the State Wrestling Title Match. Sophomore **Dontez Hubbard**, for going 4-0 to win his JV City Wrestling Championship bracket.

SW English Teacher **Megan Marsnick** on the release of her book, *Unabridged*.

Senior Swimmers **Fiona Schultz**, **Camryn Simmons** and **Ophelia Washington** for being recognized as Academic All Americans by the National Interscholastic Swim Coaches Association.

Guitar students **Louie Thares**, **Silvia Miller**, **Peter Lindholm**, **Ian Lee**, **Gracia Zachman**, **Sophia Stordahl**, **Mia Nelson**, **Charlotte Zahn**, **Olivia Case**, **Taylor Lambert**, **Seamus Lavine**, **Austin Trevathan**, **Leo Carnes**, **Carson Kindred**, **Nico Bacic**, **Claire Blum**, **Eve Broeker**, **Renee Lambas** and **Kacy Selje** who won at the MNHSL statewide guitar contest.

SW Artists for participating in the annual *Young Artist Party* at the Minneapolis College of Art & Design.

[Continued from P.3]

Japanese Exchange Program



Students **Honoka Yamamoto** (left) and **Himeka Miyoshi** (center), of **Kasugaoka High School** in **Osaka, Japan**, perform in a skit March 1 at Southwest.

Kyoko French, a native of Japan, founded Southwest High School's Japanese program in 1991. The program has expanded significantly during the past 28 years to include seven levels of Japanese (from beginner to International Baccalaureate), which is enjoyed by 140 students annually. Additionally, Kyoko established an annual exchange program with Kasugaoka Senior High School (Southwest's sister school since 2013), in Osaka, Japan in 2006. Approximately 12 Kasugaoka students visit Southwest each spring, and a group of South-

west students visits Kasugaoka each summer.

To help cover the costs associated with the exchange during the 2018-2019 academic year, Kyoko relied on a grant from the Southwest Foundation. "Without financial support from the Foundation, I would not have been able to create such rich and meaningful experiences for the both the Japanese and Southwest students. From the bottom of my heart, I really appreciate your support!" The grant allowed participants to enjoy quality time together exploring the Twin Cities, attending a Japanese class at the University of Minnesota, and creating a performance that was enjoyed by 400 Southwest students.

During their stay, Kasugaoka students stay with Southwest host families and spend quality time inside and outside of school with Southwest students. These interactions provide an exceptional opportunity for everyone involved to refine their language skills, gain a greater understanding of the similarities and differences between Japanese and American culture and benefit from an authentic immersion experience.



The Southwest Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to work with Southwest High School and its alumni to create an exceptional educational experience for all Southwest students. The Foundation raises money to support academic, athletic, and artistic opportunities for students and to provide scholarships to graduating seniors.

There are many opportunities to become involved with and support the Southwest Foundation. To learn more, please visit our website: www.southwestfoundation.org.

2018-19 Board Members

Adam Barrett '00, Chair
Una Edwardson, current parent
Dan Froehlich '75, Dir. of Alumni Engagement, staff and graduate parent
Allison Krueger, current parent
Kirsten Mair, Dir. of Operations, alum, and graduate parent
Stamatka Platikanova, Southwest Faculty
Dave Premack '04
Paul Roach '88, Treasurer
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