



Parents' Association of
Montclair Kimberley Academy

Fostering a Strong MKA Community

Volunteer Opportunities

2019 – 2020

PAMKA 2019- 2020 Events and Programs

PAMKA'S MISSION

PAMKA is a parent volunteer organization established to provide opportunities for parents to participate in the support and enhancement of the students' educational experience at Montclair Kimberley Academy (MKA). PAMKA pursues its mission in cooperation with the school administration through activities consistent with the policies and goals established by the Board of Trustees of Montclair Kimberley Academy.

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

PAMKA events and programs enhance the student educational experience, build connections among parents, support the faculty and staff, and raise funds to enhance our campus and programs.

All students' parents and guardians automatically become members of PAMKA. We want each of you to share your time and talents with the MKA community, both in helping with events, as well as attending activities and meetings. You'll be glad you did!

If you'd like to volunteer, please visit www.mka.org/pamkavolunteer.

PAMKA Boutique - October 24 - 25, 2019

Every other year, PAMKA hosts a Shopping Boutique fundraiser showcasing high quality vendors to kick off your Holiday shopping. Approximately 35 vendors offer a wide array of merchandise and a portion of the proceeds benefit PAMKA programs.

Please contact Event Chair, Nancy Wolk (npwolk@aol.com) with questions or to volunteer.

Scholastic Book Fair – November 1 - 6

MKA is proud to host the largest annual Scholastic Book Fair in the country. This tri-campus event has become a highlight of school and community life among students and parents, in addition to opening its doors to the general public.

In addition to book sales, the Book Fair includes author visits and signings, and has become a vehicle for tri-campus community building, teacher appreciation efforts, and outreach to MKA's partner charter school, KIPP NJ, in Newark.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Tri-Campus Book Fair Chairs Becki Hirsh (beckihirsh@gmail.com) and Valerie Puryear (vphernandez3@yahoo.com).

Parenting Workshops – February 22

PAMKA volunteers organize a Saturday morning parenting conference and educational event each February for the entire MKA parent community. Local experts discuss a variety of parenting topics of interest.

Committee members help select topics and speakers, and plan, organize and publicize the event. Recent workshops have included a wide-range of topics for the whole community, including Adolescent Anxiety, Cultivating Grit and Navigating Relationships in a Digital World.

For more information or to help plan this school year's event, please contact Event Chair, Erica Urquhart (Erica.urquhart@gmail.com).

Spring Fundraiser – April 17

The Spring Gala is PAMKA's largest fundraising event, and the proceeds raised support MKA's faculty endowment, campus "wish list" items and Faculty Trust Grants – PAMKA-funded travel opportunities for teachers to pursue their academic passions around the world.

The event features opportunities to bid on auction items, buy tuition raffle tickets, and win basket raffles - all while enjoying an evening of fun, friends and good food. For more information, to volunteer, or to donate an item for the auction, please contact Event Chairs, Shruthi Kinkead (shruthireddy@gmail.com) or Anya Barrett (anyabarrett@verizon.net).

Cougar Pride Day – May 9

Cougar Pride Day provides an opportunity for the entire MKA community - students, parents, faculty and friends - to come together for a Saturday of fun in the spring. Rain or Shine, a carnival atmosphere, varsity games, live music, crafts, contests and lots of food ensure a great turnout. Questions or interested in helping? Contact Event Chairs, Megan Flick (meganflick@gmail.com) or Melissa Montemuino (montemely@gmail.com).

Community Outreach Drives

PAMKA Community Outreach initiatives impact the broader Montclair and local community. There is a Community Outreach Chair for each Campus, and each leads a Tri-Campus Drive to support area organizations. The entire MKA community is invited to participate. Look for information on your campus about donation locations and recipient organizations. If you have questions, please contact Community Outreach VP, Monique French-Brown (mofrenchbrown@gmail.com).

October 28 - November 8 Middle School

Collection of Thanksgiving non-perishables and cash for turkey purchases. Charity: Human Needs Food Pantry

November 11 and March 2 Upper School

Blood Drives. Charity: Community Blood Services

December 2 - December 6 Primary School

Collection of Scarves, Hats, Mittens and Toys. Charity: Valley Settlement House and Toni's Kitchen

KIPP NJ Tutoring

KIPP NJ Charter Schools were founded with a goal of providing quality education for the children of Newark, New Jersey. The KIPP NJ Charter Schools in Newark have now grown to eight schools with more to come. PAMKA has been providing volunteer tutors to the KIPP charter schools for over 15 years. If you are interested in volunteering to tutor on a weekly basis with other MKA parents, please contact Natasha Malcolm (mike.natasha12@yahoo.com) for details and more information.

Special Events

PAMKA Special Events Campus Chairs oversee the hospitality for campus special events and tri-campus programs such as Campus Informational Coffees, Faculty/Staff Appreciation Day, and Conference Days. They work with the food service company as well as parent volunteers to provide beverages, food, and hospitality as needed. If you're interested in volunteering or donating baked goods to support Faculty/Staff Appreciation Day and other events, please contact Leigh Conforti (lpconforti@verizon.net).

PAMKA Community Connections

New Parent Liaison

The New Parent Liaison welcomes new parents into the MKA community and oversees our Host Family Program. If you have not heard from your Host Family please contact this year's New Parent Liaison, Lauren Kaplan (laurenhkaplan@gmail.com).

Campus VPs

There are three Campus Vice-Presidents, one each for the Primary, Middle and Upper School campuses, who serve as liaisons between the Heads of each campus and PAMKA and coordinate PAMKA projects within each

campus. Campus VPs also work with Grade Representatives to coordinate Parent Socials and other campus events.

Primary School – Margaret Wager: margaretwager@gmail.com

Middle School – Janice Jacobson: jljmoo@aol.com

Upper School – Sybil Eng: sybil.eng@hotmail.com

Grade Representatives

Each grade has a Grade Representative that is responsible for coordinating activities throughout the year with parent volunteers and serves as a liaison between class parents and faculty with regard to volunteer needs. If you have not heard from your Grade Representative please reach out to them via email.

Pre-K	Meredith Gardner	Gardner_meredith@me.com
Kindergarten	Christy Burke	cburke@burke-company.com
Grade 1	Jennie Sowers	jenniesowers@gmail.com
Grade 2	Melissa Sui	melissatuason@yahoo.com
Grade 3	Lauren Fass	ltfass@gmail.com
Grade 4	Laurie Ewing	Laurie.ewing@yahoo.com
Grade 5	Stacie Bright	Brightstacie1@gmail.com
Grade 6	Jenn Baratta	jbaratta@mka.org
Grade 7	Alexis Finkle	alexisfinkle@yahoo.com
Grade 8	Alisa Corbett	derosealisa@hotmail.com
Grade 9	Melinda Hofmann	melindahofmann@yahoo.com
Grade 10	Alexandra Okun	alexandraokun@me.com
Grade 11	Mary Hipp	Hipp.nj@comcast.net
Grade 12	Breena Fishback	bfishback@verizon.net

PAMKA Executive Board

The PAMKA Executive Board meets monthly as a group and connects separately with event chairs to oversee all the important events and programs that PAMKA organizes throughout the year.

Tina Jordan	President	tinaajordan@aol.com
Erica Amsinger	Secretary	ericaamsinger@gmail.com
Sabrina Rodgers	Finance VP	Sablagrod77@gmail.com
Suzanne Weinberg	Communications VP	suzannelweinberg@gmail.com
Monique French- Brown	Community Outreach VP	mofrenchbrown@gmail.com
Jamie Decter	Volunteer Coordinator VP	jldecter@hotmail.com
Leigh Conforti	Special Events VP	lpconforti@verizon.net
Sybil Eng	US Campus VP	sybil.eng@gmail.com
Janice Jacobson	MS Campus VP	jljmoo@aol.com
Margaret Wager	PS Campus VP	margaretwager@gmail.com
Jenn Baratta	PAMKA Liaison	jbaratta@mka.org



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