

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

IS AT THE  OF
OF EVERYTHING WE DO



West End
Day School

more than
a school



THE WEST END DAY SCHOOL TEAM

Omar Afzaal, M.S. Ed., Co-Head Teacher

Robert Aitchison, B.F.A., Art Specialist

Andrew Barnes, Business Manager

Marielle Berger, M.S. Ed., Head Teacher

Marley Carhart, M.B.S. Ed., STEM Teacher

Carrie Catapano, L.C.S.W., Head of School

Jessica Chambers, M.A. Ed., Co-Education Head

Emily Cotton, M.S.W., M.S. Ed., Associate Teacher

Vanessa D'Auria, M.S., CCC-SLP, Speech-Language Pathologist

Sara DiBona, Associate Director of Advancement

Liza Gershen, L.M.S.W., Social Worker

Casey Halper, M.S., OTR, Occupational Therapist

Emma Henry, B.A. Ed., Co-Head Teacher

Leon Hoffman, M.D., Psychiatrist/Psychoanalyst

Katy Jenkins, M.S. Ed., Co-Education Head

Brett Kassel, M.P.S. Ed., Senior Head Teacher

Brendan Kelly, M.S. PE, Physical Education Specialist

Greg Kinsey, M.A. Ed., Technology Specialist

Nicole Kronfeld, M.A. Ed., Co-Head Teacher

Anastasia Manes, L.M.S.W., PE Group Social Worker

Emma Marks, M.S. Ed., Associate Teacher

Aiyana Matondo, COTA/L., Occupational Therapy Assistant

Madeleine McGowan, B.S. Ed., Co-Head Teacher

Sharon Michilovich, M.S. Ed., Head Teacher

Abigail Page Moore, M.S., CCC-SLP, Speech-Language Pathologist

Courtney Moss, M.S. Ed., Head Teacher

Katie O'Keife, L.M.S.W., Group Social Worker

Florence Perry, Bookkeeper & Payroll Manager

Melissa Putterman, M.S., OTR, Occupational Therapist

Karla Roman, Administrative Clerk

Felix Rosa, Building Custodian

Jennifer Rothman, L.C.S.W., Social Worker

Alyson Rumley, M.S., CCC-SLP, Senior Speech-Language Pathologist

Alexandra Scacalossi, Administrative Assistant and Receptionist

Hannah Steinfeld, M.S. Ed., Head Teacher

Joseph Stella, M.S. Ed., Associate Teacher

Jenna Stogsdill, L.C.S.W., Head Social Worker

Jennifer Greene Susser, L.C.S.W., Admissions Head

Juan Vernaza, Handyman

Emma Yovanoff, L.C.S.W., Social Worker

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Eric J. Sheridan
Chairperson

Carrie Catapano

Ryan M. Stark

Keith L. Krasney
Treasurer

Walter Drobenko, Esq.

Debbie Zlotowitz

Emily Pennington Boucher
Secretary

Albina Miller

Luis A. Miranda, Jr.,
Trustee Emeritus

MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL

When it comes to the way children learn, their feelings matter. Their relationships matter. At West End Day School, the importance of social-emotional learning has always been important to us. In fact, it's been deep-rooted in our mission since we opened our doors more than 30 years ago. And social-emotional learning isn't just something we talk about—it's a principle that's woven into every aspect of our program.



This focus on feelings and the role they play is yet another aspect that makes West End Day School "More Than a School," and it's our goal to make sure everyone—every child, parent, and faculty member—understands their meaningful role as well. To that end, over the years, we have tripled our clinical team and devoted vast resources to truly support social-emotional learning on every level.

While we've grown our abilities within the social-emotional learning space, our small size and individualized approach have remained very much intact. Our focus on the right kind of growth can be attributed to the generosity of our incredible community of donors. They have made so many positive enhancements possible, and it's been an honor to experience firsthand the impact they've had on our school—and the impact they will continue to have in the future.

Speaking of the future, our community is already working hard to raise funds for our next big transformation: shaping up our Gymnasium and performance space! I, for one, can't wait to add this improvement to our growing list of our amazing accomplishments. It just goes to show, when we all join together to realize a shared vision, there is simply no limit to what we can do.



Each day, I'm honored to be a part the most loving school, and I feel so much gratitude for our students, faculty, alumni, trustees and friends. When you read through the pages ahead, you will get a glimpse of all the dynamic events happening here every day.

So, I will close with a big thank you to the whole WEDS community for always staying true to our roots and forever growing in the right direction.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carrie Catapano".

Carrie Catapano, LCSW
Head of School



OUR MISSION

WEST END DAY IS "MORE THAN A SCHOOL":

it is a community of students, staff and parents who have a shared vision. We create a safe haven for learning, strive to be a trusted partner for parents and foster the development of resiliency in children to build a strong foundation for their lifelong success.



TOGETHER WE:

-  Establish an individualized and challenging educational program that supports our bright students and their unique learning styles.
-  Cultivate our students' inner strengths by recognizing the impact emotions have on learning.

Provide a flexible atmosphere, where children feel comfortable meeting high expectations.



Promote, nurture and engage relationships, because they are central to our well-being.

Ensure that families feel valued, supported and understood.

SHAPING UP FOR BIG CHANGES

With the transformation of our ground-level classrooms complete, we are eagerly embarking upon the next phase of our Capital Campaign, which we are calling: "Gym Renovation: Shaping Up for Big Changes." This two-year campaign will enable us to renovate and maximize our gym space by modernizing its flooring, ceiling, and the performance area. We'll add natural light, as well as additional sources of innovative lighting, protective wall cushioning; and we'll also enhance the technology within our performance area.

Physical Education that goes way beyond being physical.

West End Day School's athletic program is more than a Physical Education program. Our Physical Education team has a dual focus on both physical and emotional development. In fact, our staff is comprised of a Physical Education teacher and a School Counselor. Through sports, games, skills, balance, hand-eye coordination, gross motor movements, cooperation, sportsmanship, self-control, and healthy behavior, our students have a very well-rounded experience that has a positive impact both physically and emotionally. When it comes to competition in class, we are very aware that competitive situations (no matter how well-planned) can bring up a lot of feelings for students. This is where our School Counselor can step in to address group dynamics, self-confidence, effective problem solving, growth mindset and more.





Adding even more Drama!

Like all programming at West End Day School, collaboration and the importance of understanding others is a focus of our Drama program. Now featured as a weekly class activity, Drama helps our students build on their creativity, confidence, and communication skills. To bring their dramatic stories to life, students write scenes, craft monologues, act, and perform improv! They use their knowledge of different genres, poetry, history, and science to bring it all together—as a team. At the end of each year, our drama program collaborates with our art and music program for our big June Show, which showcases our students' strengths while celebrating the arts. Watch the drama unfold for yourself at our next show!

TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY



Giving back to our veterans who give so much

Our students are innately kind and generous, and we try to build on this by teaching philanthropy in many ways. For the third year in a row, we held our Annual Community Thankfulness Day. This year, we had the honor of “giving back” and expressing our gratitude to our veterans and active military members—and their four-legged friends! Aptly titled “Caring for Vets and Pets,” our students worked hard by baking for a bake sale to raise money for America’s Vet Dogs, which provides service dogs to our veterans. In addition, our community was thrilled to have the opportunity to write and design postcards of appreciation to our active service members through the organization A Million Thanks! We hope our work helped veterans see—and feel—just how much we appreciate all they give to us.





PA Bookfair: Reading plays the biggest of roles

Reading is a cornerstone of our curriculum, and so is collaboration. Our Annual “I Love to Read Day” is an event where we can bring the two together and truly share our collective love for reading as a community. To celebrate our love of reading, we did a few things. We started by having a special faculty member read aloud to each classroom. Then our oldest class visited our younger students to be their reading buddy for the day.



We also hosted a bookfair which had an exciting selection of literature, giving our teachers the opportunity to recommend new books and broaden our students’ tastes. And last but not least, we were visited by therapy dogs from New York Therapy Animals and our students had the opportunity to read to some adorable pets. Of course, it was a day that was loved by all—humans and furry friends alike!

Art Exhibit: The Cultural Kaleidoscope

This year's Art Exhibit focused on the concept of "The Cultural Kaleidoscope," exploring how many different ideas and images can come together to create a single beautiful environment. As a community, we explored how diversity enriches all of our lives. Each class focused on different aspects of this theme to showcase a wide variety of art and writing that reflect the richness of culture in the United States. This was a wonderful example of cross-curricula collaboration between Mr. Robert, our Art Specialist; our Speech and Language Pathologists, Ms. Rumley and Ms. Moore; our teachers; and of course, WEDS' wonderful artists.



It's Game On at WEDS



WEDS has a new favorite tradition: Family Game Night—an evening where we bring our families in for a night of "Games Group." It's all fun and games for our families and faculty—with lots of delicious food to feed all of the hungry competitors! We added new jumbo games into the mix, which can now be seen throughout our play areas. The night was a total win-win!

Planting the seeds of conservation

In honor of Earth Day, our students learned about the importance of plants and the integral role they play in their habitats. They talked about what they could do to help the environment and how planting gardens or trees is just one great way they can have a positive impact on their community. Our PA-led garden committee saw this as a great opportunity for the students to get involved in the rehabilitation of our courtyard garden and organized a special activity for Earth Day. With the help of Trish Jackson and Ed Sowder, they enlisted the students to help to plant pachysandras in the garden. The students will see their work in full bloom in the spring!



OUR SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAM: SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING YEAR ROUND

Social-emotional learning takes place all year long at West End Day School. Our six-week Summer Learning Program helps children improve upon their learning and social skills through a combination of academic curriculum and social activities. Campers are engaged in multi-sensory reading, writing, math, science and social studies groups, as well as swimming, playing in the park, and going on field trips. We definitely fill those long summer days with lots of fun—and learning!



This past summer, our Summer Learning Program went on an exploration around the world with the theme, Passport Around the World. Each week, students focused on a different continent, learning about multicultural events that take place there, unique aspects about different country's cultures, famous historical landmarks, and much more.

And because summer is the perfect time to get outside, most Language Groups, Cooking Groups, Arts & Crafts Groups, and Social Skills Groups are run outdoors so our kids can enjoy learning in the perfect summer setting.



INDIVIDUALITY IS AT THE ROOT OF EVERYTHING WE DO

We have so much gratitude for the support West End Day School receives each year from our generous community of families, alumni, trustees, faculty, and friends. Our Giving Tree continues to become greener and fuller each year! "Together we" raised \$111,070 which has helped our students blossom in so many ways! Thank you all for your tremendous support. Your commitment to our mission and students is what makes us "more than a school!"

Annual Fund

The Trunk \$20,000

Anonymous

Branches \$7,500

Anonymous

Anonymous

Anonymous

Doug and Kristin Peta

Gold Leaves \$5,000

Amy and Chris Gilbert

Jon and Rachel Lowy

Gregory and Amanda Robbins

Sandra Seligman

Silver Leaves \$2,500

Ron and Sarah Collins Justin and Jill Fried Elena Hagopian and Armand Ceccarelli

Bronze Leaves \$1,000

Murray and Maryanne Butler

Ivan Ciment and Karen Heilig

David Clark and Caitlin Thomas

Beth Clarke and Brian Whaley

Stefan Geiringer



Mark Josephson and Marika Kocerha

James Kaplan and Amy Egger

Gregory Kennedy and Victoria Reese

Jonathan Melmed and Shoshana Quint

Gudio Mosca and Maria Grazia Bruschi



Green Leaves \$500

Michael and Erica Barrish
Carrie Catapano and Karl Benware
Joe and Jill Gall
Barbara LaVallee

Susan Ramer and Mark Coleman
Erica and Brian Schierman
Jonathan Stutz and Jean Clarke
Debbie Zlotowitz and Rick Greenberg

Friends of WEDS

Anonymous
Andrew Barnes and Mary Fitzmaurice
Peter Bloom
Nancy Walbridge Collins
Laura Diaz
Elizabeth and David Dishman
Linda Guzzo and John Curry
Leon and Anne Hoffman
Herman and Gail Jakubowski
Myron and Karen Jenkins
Ferris Kneile
Karen and Stewart Lantner
Wallis Lawrence
Robert and Cookie Leaf
Molly McEnery
Albina Miller
Nicole Miller

Richard and Jessica Morris
Alison Muney and Elise Keppler
Ken and Jane Newman
Karen and Daren Orzechowski
Lucius Palmer and Sloane Lederer
Florence Perry
Regina Reilly
Cynthia Rodriguez
Neal Rosenberg
Deborah Sack
Lynn and Daniel Schau
Beth and David Shaz
Davida Sherwood
Michael and Paige Shmuley
Brenda Stern
Adele Ursone and Geo Matteson
Kule-Korgood & Associates

Capital Campaign Donation

Glenda Shasho

Gifts in Kind

Ivan Ciment and Karen Heilig Amy and Chris Gilbert Alfie Walters Karl Benware

General Donation

Alice + Olivia LLC Amy and Chris Gilbert





CELEBRATING A DECADE OF GROWTH

Our Spring Benefit is always an incredible night for our community, and this year did not disappoint! Our venue, The Atlantic Grill, was the perfect space for our amazing community to celebrate all of the milestones and achievements from the past year. The room was filled with excitement as we launched Phase Two of our Capital Campaign, "Gym Renovations: Shaping Up for Big Changes." Together we raised a gross total of \$131,384 towards this project. We are endlessly grateful for the commitment and generosity of our community of parents, faculty, board, alumni, and friends on this night—and every other day throughout the year.

We also took this opportunity to honor our long-time Trustee and Treasurer, Keith Krasney, for his incredible decade of service here at WEDS. Like many of our parents, Keith became part of our community as an active parent. His passion and commitment for our school led him to our board, where he has served as a Trustee and Treasurer for 10 years! Keith has continued to be a great champion of West End Day School and has worked tirelessly to secure resources that have ensured our students have the tools they need to be successful. As Treasurer, he has provided knowledge and insight that has ensured we maintain our strong financial position. His passion, innovation, and support have brought great things to WEDS.



2019 BENEFIT COMMITTEE

Trish Jackson
Item Committee Chair

Beth Clarke
Journal Committee Co-Chair

Blu Toth,
Journal Committee Co-Chair

Angela Dirks
Amy Gilbert
Erin Hussein
Mark Josephson
Christine Kattan
Rebecca Kobrin
Marika Kocerha
Amanda Robbins
Brian Schierman
Erica Schierman



BENEFIT DONORS

Fund-A-Wish

Michael and Erica Barrish
Carrie Catapano and Karl Benware
Susan Ceccarelli
Ivan Ciment and Karen Heilig
Angela Dirks and Ron Dooley
David and Elizabeth Dishman
Amy Egger and James Kaplan
Richard Gershan
Amy and Chris Gilbert
Ellen Hagopian and Armand Ceccarelli
Keith Haller and Randi Hirschberg
Quiara Hudes and Ray Beauchamp
Erin and Samir Hussein
Beth Jurewicz and George Tasolides
Christine Kattan and Tom Bergen
Steven Kokin
Keith and Megan Krasney
Barbara LaVallee
Jon and Rachel Lowy
Sheryl Lupowitz
Charles Milite
Luis and Luz Miranda
Mollie Maxwell Myers
Jennifer and Par Olsson
Shoshana Quint and Jonathan Melmed



Amanda and Greg Robbins
Cindy and Rich Sher
Eric Sheridan and Trish Jackson
Ryan and Emily Stark
Jennifer and Robert Susser
Blu Toth
Vicklyn Vincent
Brian Whaley and Beth Clarke

Ticket Sponsorship

Karla Alfonso and Jeremy Tennis
Michael and Erica Barrish
Murray and Maryanne Butler
Angela Dirks and Ron Dooley
Amy and Chris Gilbert
Ellen Hagopian and Armand Ceccarelli
Quiara Hudes and Ray Beauchamp
Beth Jurewicz and George Tasolides
Rebecca Kobrin and Kevin Feinblum
Law Offices of Neal Rosenberg
Law Office of Regina Skyer
Barbara LaVallee
Jon and Rachel Lowy
Matthew and Deirdre Miller
Nicole Miller
Guido Mosca and Maria Bruschi
Jennifer and Par Olsson
Adam Perlmutter
Kristen and Doug Peta
Shoshana Quint and Jonathan Melmed



BENEFIT DONORS

Amanda and Gregory Robbins
Deborah Sack
Eric Sheridan and Trish Jackson
Edward and Zahra Sowder
Ryan and Emily Stark
Brian Whaley and Joan Clarke

Benefit Donations

Reed and Adrienne Auerbach
Elyse Buxbaum
Stefan Geiringer
Lawrence Gross
Ellen Hagopian and Armand Ceccarelli
Leon Hoffman
Jeffrey and Solange Ross
Eric Sheridan

Benefit Contributors

Carrie Catapano and Karl Benware
Ivan Ciment and Karen Heilig
Angela Dirks and Ronald Dooley
David and Elizabeth Dishman
Amy Egger and James Kaplan
Jill and Justin Fried
Amy and Chris Gilbert
Ellen Hagopian and Armand Ceccarelli
Quiara Hudes and Ray Beauchamp
Erin and Samir Hussein
Mark Josephson and Marika Kocerha
Beth Jurewicz and George Tasolides
Rebecca Kobrin and Kevin Feinblum
Jon and Rachel Lowy
Nicole Miller
Luis and Luz Miranda
Mollie Maxwell Myers
Jane and Ken Newman
Shoshana Quint and Jonathan Melmed
Amanda and Gregory Robbins

Raphael and Sharon Sasson
Erica and Brian Schierman
Debbie and Ethan Semmel
Peter and Rachel Shapiro
Lucinda and Richard Sher
Eric Sheridan and Trish Jackson
Ryan and Emily Stark
Blu Toth
Brian Whaley and Beth Clarke

Benefit Gifts-In-Kind

Beth Clarke
Classic Kids Photography



Club & Country
Elite Island Resorts
Enshrine Health Massage Therapy
Equinox
Exhale Spa
Jim Fantaci
Flat Fix Taco and Tequila Bar
Fullerton Inn
Amy and Chris Gilbert
Sylvia Golden
HeyDey
Hunt & Fish Club
Inscape

BENEFIT DONORS

Italian Wine Merchants



Investors Bank
Christine Kattan
The Late Show Audience Department
Let's Eat LLC
L'Occitane
Margo Morrison NY
Nicole Miller
Miss Lily's
Missoni
MoMa
Nespresso
NYC Children's Theater
NYC Elite Gymnastics
Shoshana Quint
The Richardson
Amanda and Gregory Robbins
Ethan Semmel
Richard and Cindy Sher
Sports for All
Bill and Maureen Stewart
Vicotria Krassa Pilates

Journal Contributions

Allcom Electric
Asher, Gaughran LLP
Austin & Co.

Bar Velcoe
Erica and Michael Barrish
Emily Boucher
Linda Bjork
Stephanie Bloom
Maryanne and Murray Butler
Carrie Catapano
Ivan Ciment and Karen Heilig
Normand and Joan Ciment
John Clarke
Mary Clarke
John Curry and Linda Guzzo
Elizabeth and David Dishman
Angela Dirks and Ron Dooley
Amy Egger and James Kaplan
Extra Virgin
Jill and Justin Fried
Ileana Futter
Joseph and Jill C. Gall
Michele Gaton
Amy and Chris Gilbert
Ellen Hagopian and Armand Ceccarelli
Keith Haller and Randi Hirschberg
Samir and Erin Hussein
Mark Josephson and Marika Kocerha
Rebecca Kobrin and Kevin Feinblum
Vicki LePage
Albina Miller
Emily Moyer & Eric Jensen
Alison Muney & Elise Keppler
Law Offices of Adam Dayan, PLLC.
Law Offices of Neal Rosenberg
Law Office of Regina Skyer
Jon and Rachel Lowy
Lynx Mortgage
Barbara McGlamery
Michael Schmitt Architecture
Deirdre and Matthew Miller

BENEFIT DONORS

Nicole Miller
Ken and Jane Newman
Adam Perlmutter
Kristin and Doug Peta
Shoshana Quint and Jonathan Melmed
Ann Dustman
Amanda and Gregory Robbins
Solange and Jeffery Ross
Jeanette Kallan Roth
Deborah Sack
Sharon and Raphael Sasson
Erica and Brian Schierman
Ethan and Deborah Semmel
Peter Shapiro and Rachael Philipps-Shapiro
Eric Sheridan and Trish Jackson
Paige and Michael Shmuely
Edward and Zahra Sowder
Ryan Stark
Blu Toth
Vicklyn Vincent
Charles and Helen Whaley
Debbie Zlotowitz

Staff Contributions

Omar Afzaal
Robert Aitchison
Marielle Berger
Marley Carhart
Carrie Catapano
Jessica Chambers
Erik Crapella
Liza Gershen
Emma Henry
Brett Kassel
Brendan Kelly
Gregory Kinsey
Nicole Kronfeld
Madeleine McGowan
Katy Jenkins
Sharon Michilovich
Courtney Moss
Alyson Rumley
Hannah Steinfeld
Joseph Stella
Jenna Stogsdill
Emma Yovanoff





255 West 71ST St, New York, NY 10023

TEL 212-873-5708 • FAX 212-873-2345

www.westenddayschool.org