



## FY 23 GIFTS IN ACTION

A robust annual fund gives our Head of School, Mark McKee, the power to say YES to new ideas and new initiatives across the pillars of our operating budget. It is our pleasure to report to you on the kinds of activities in which Viewpoint School has recently engaged thanks to catalytic gifts from donors to the Viewpoint Fund.

### ARTS

Art is not a luxury; it is a necessity. When you choose to support the Arts at Viewpoint, you are enriching the myriad opportunities for artistic engagement that we offer across all four divisions of the School—from music and film, to theater, dance, and the visual arts. Gifts to this pillar help bring the creative process to each student, opening up the kinds of pathways for self-discovery and self-expression that are essential to a liberal arts education. Recently, Viewpoint was able to accomplish exciting new pathways in the Arts, such as:

- Create and launch Viewpoint's very first Lower School Theater Program.
- Revive Artsfest, a festival presented free of charge to the Viewpoint community in celebration of our School's signature strength in TK-12 arts programming. It gives our young performers and producers the opportunity to showcase their talent while attracting new students to try the disciplines of music, art, dance, theater, and film.
- Bring guest artist Monica Hannush to co-produce the Upper School production, *Vosovos*. Our ability to bolster signature programs with locally and nationally recognized experts elevates the student experience and builds their artistic networks.
- Recruit Hannah Lande, our new Primary School Music Teacher, from UCLA's program for Music Education and Music Performance.

### ATHLETICS

Teamwork produces peak performance—and exceptional results. When you choose to support our Athletic Program, you are investing in our belief that physical education and athletics play a meaningful and necessary role in the overall education of our students. Gifts to this pillar help us provide critical resources for our student-athletes to excel on the more than 150 teams we coach. The success of the Viewpoint Fund allows us to accomplish the following kinds of things:

- Install brand new artificial turf on Ring Family Field during the summer of 2023. The existence of a robust annual fund gave Viewpoint the ability to shoulder this \$800K cost without having to



decrease operations elsewhere in the organization.

- Augment the student-athlete experience with specialized courses and resources, such as the creation of a Sports Media course led by coaches Greg Bisheff and Sheldon Sheehy.
- Host Winter Sportsfest, an all-community event for Patriots' fans.
- Continue to provide free entrance to all Viewpoint hosted sporting events, including the Homecoming game and family festival, as well as many other athletics events on campus.

## **STEM**

Viewpoint's academic program is virtually unmatched in the breadth and depth of course work available to students. When you designate a gift to STEM education, you are supporting our robust offerings in this cutting-edge area of the curriculum. From Robotics to Computer Science to Mathematics and Engineering, every student across all four divisions has multiple opportunities for innovation thanks to support that is designated here. The following curricular and co-curricular developments are possible thanks to the generosity of our donors:

- New courses, such as Jennifer Garrison Ross's Advanced Studies Seminar in Environmental Science, which was requested by students and is now a UC approved honors level lab science course.
- More regional travel opportunities for our robotics teams (Vex and FRC).
- Additional Vex IQ robot kits for the MS team, which cost between \$500-\$750/each.
- The Upper School STEM club's purchase of a model Hydrogen Car Kit.
- Expansion of the Engineering and Design course sequence from 2 to 3 courses.
- Revival of Earthchella, a student-led festival that has been dormant since the pandemic
- Host an Under the Sea themed Girls in STEM day.
- Recruit Ariel Daniel to teach myriad STEM courses, including Physics, Computer Science, Coding, and potentially Astronom, helping us fulfill the growing demand for STEM courses in MS and US.

## **FACULTY DEVELOPMENT & RECOGNITION**

Our greatest asset is people. To deliver on our promise of ensuring our students are exceptionally ready for extraordinary futures, we must have the very best faculty in the classroom with them every day. When you choose to support faculty development and recognition, you are helping Viewpoint maintain an edge in recruiting and retaining top talent. Each year, our faculty apply to travel to conferences, take courses, and engage in specialized workshops that fuel their pedagogy and bring fresh approaches to our curriculum so our students are always learning new content in new ways. Below is just a small sample of the exciting opportunities Viewpoint has recently made possible for its faculty.

- The International Documentary Film Association Conference - our faculty attended with the purpose of doubling down on the documentary film courses we provide.
- The Learning and the Brain Conference - an opportunity for our Upper School counselor to stay ahead of the curve on neuroscience research.
- The Blackfriars Conference - a meeting of English teachers focused on new ways to approach Shakespeare.
- The All American Film Festival in New York City - an opportunity for our Advanced Film IV teacher to travel and represent our School's nominations and wins in several categories.
- Institute for Multi-Sensory Education - a hands-on, interactive, and personalized class for Lower



School teachers that provides a complete understanding of morphology, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension and how to apply it in the classroom.

- National Outdoor Leadership School - Risk Management Training course for the faculty leading our growing Outdoor Ed program.

## **FINANCIAL AID**

Gifts to Financial Aid help open the door to a Viewpoint education, bolstering our School's ability to break down socioeconomic barriers and provide access to the best and the brightest students. Viewpoint's commitment to broadening socioeconomic diversity is key to our ability to carefully shape a student body that represents a broad range of interests, abilities, and backgrounds. This is key to fulfilling our world ready promise.

- 20% of our student body receives financial aid from a budget of more than \$6 million.

## **AREA OF GREATEST NEED**

Each new school year presents opportunities for continued growth and improvement. When you choose to designate your Viewpoint Fund gift here, you are providing our Head of School with nimble resources, allowing our leadership to seize exciting new opportunities or address pressing needs as they arise.

Last year we encountered very heavy rains that flooded our campus in the canyon, but we reacted swiftly to mitigate the problem and engage restoration services for the following:

- Replacement of the floor in the Paul Family Athletic Pavilion.
- Refurbishing ground floor classrooms and offices in the Behrens, Gates and Dworkoski buildings, most notably our College Counseling Office, which suffered extensive damage.

