

# Peninsula Heritage Connects

Peninsula Heritage School Newsletter



Jan./Feb. 2025

Peninsula Heritage School's  
CHARACTER QUALITIES:  
Caring, Attitude, Respect,  
Gratitude, Perseverance, and  
Self-Control. Hint: Remember  
as CAR, GPS!

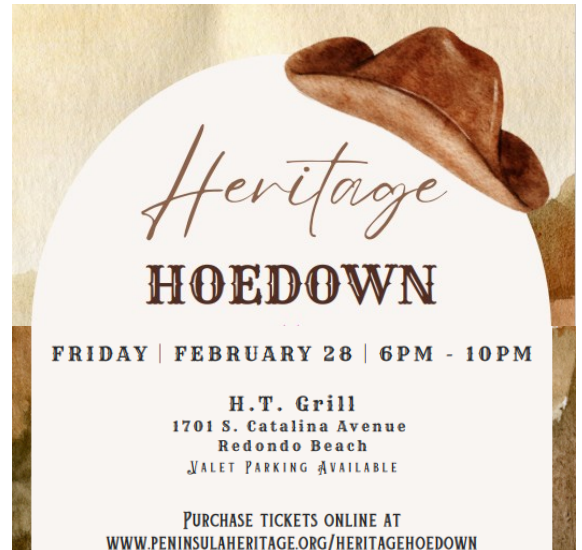
Howdy, cowgirls and cowboys! Dust off your boots and spurs, grab your tickets online, and hitch up your wagons for the H.T. Grill on **Friday, February 28, from 6 to 10 PM** for a rootin'-tootin' good time. Don't miss this **Heritage Hoedown—our PHS GALA 2025!**

Co-chairs Anna Perry and Devon Hennessey Smith, the masterminds behind last year's incredible PHS Gala at H.T. Grill, are back and working hard to make this year's event even more spectacular! Hayley Tumanjan is coordinating the Silent Auction and encourages parents to reach out to her with auction items. Ashley Carlin is leading the effort on Class Baskets, while Michelle Cobb will be crafting the decor and centerpieces. Once again, the Live Auction will be hosted by the ever-charming and witty Suzanne Krainock, whose expertise and humor as a professional auctioneer made last year's event unforgettable.

Personal invitations to Heritage Hoedown have been mailed to current parents, trustees, faculty, staff, and friends of the school. These printed invitations (thanks to PHS parent Omar Khan at iColor Printing & Mailing) outline the many additional activities that the evening will feature: a 3-Course delectable dinner, complimentary drinks all evening (wine, beer, cocktails), an exciting Live Auction with professional auctioneer, live Music from Cobra Cowboy (90's music with a cowboy twist), Whiskey Tasting, plus mixing and mingling with our PHS community!

In years past, proceeds from our Gala have provided enriching educational experiences for our students. However, this year we would like to assist the five independent schools who lost their campuses in the recent fires and are re-opening in rented facilities. The proceeds from our Hoedown auction and paddle call will assist these five schools with funds for supplies, books, and other needs. Hopefully our assistance to these five schools will enable their students to regain some sense of normalcy during their upcoming days at school.

See you at our Heritage Hoedown on **Friday, February 28** at H.T. Grill, Redondo Beach!





This academic year we welcome **Claire Litchfield** to PHS as 6th Grade Associate Teacher, working with Mrs. Eileen Mahoney. Claire calls Palos Verdes “home,” growing up here and graduating from PV Peninsula High School. Then she was off to Texas Christian University (TCU) in

Fort Worth, where she earned a bachelor’s degree in English and a master’s degree in English literature. She also set the family college tradition for her younger sisters, two of whom are also TCU “Horned Frogs.”

Claire has ridden horseback since the age of seven, and arriving at TCU she deeply missed the sport. While searching for alternatives, she made the marvelous discovery of the TCU women’s club polo team where she competed and served as team captain her senior year (wearing # 4 in purple).

Mrs. Mahoney relates that Miss Litchfield’s contagious passion for reading captivates the 6th Graders, making “First Chapter Fridays” one of the highlights of the week! Her creativity, professionalism, and heartfelt compassion are invaluable.



# What’s Happening Next?

- Fri., Jan. 31—8:30 AM Assembly, 2nd & 3rd Grades present “Perseverance” - All parents are invited
- Wed., Feb. 5—8:30 AM, Parent Association Meeting, in Library
- Mon., Feb. 10—PHS Re-Enrollment concludes
- Tues., Feb. 11—Thurs., Feb. 13—Book Fair in School Library
- Wed., Feb. 12—Parents invited to Book Fair and picnic lunch on campus with their children on campus
- Fri., Feb. 14—Mon., Feb. 17—NO SCHOOL, Presidents’ Weekend
- Tues., Feb. 18—School resumes at usual time
- Wed., Feb. 19—100th Day of school at PHS!
- Fri., Feb. 28—6:00 PM, PHS Gala 2025, “Heritage Hoedown” at H.T. Grill, Redondo Beach
- Thurs., Mar. 20—NOON DISMISSAL, Parent-Teacher Conferences in afternoon
- Fri., Mar. 21—NO SCHOOL, Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Mon., Mar. 24—Mon., Apr. 7—Spring Break
- Tues., Apr. 8—School resumes at usual time
- Sun., Apr. 27—Fri., Apr. 2—8th Grade Washington, DC trip
- Fri., May 23—Mon. May 26—Memorial Day Weekend
- Tues., May 27—School resumes at usual time
- Thurs., June 5—NOON DISMISSAL, Last Day of 2024-2025 academic year
- Fri., June 6—10:30 AM, 8th Grade Graduation on campus
- Mon., June 16—Summer Day Camp begins!

Eighth Grade students recently took a *mathematical* field trip to the nearby Robinson Helicopter Company at Zamperini Field in Torrance to learn how mathematics is used in every part of the manufacture and assembly of Robinson helicopters. Entrepreneurship was also discussed, as the company founder, Mr. Frank Robinson, began designing and building a helicopter in his garage in Palos Verdes before founding the company in 1973.

Students toured the entire manufacturing facility and enjoyed a Q&A with a Robinson engineer about mathematics in the design of the 2-person, 4-person, and 6-person helicopters manufactured at this facility.



# 8th Grade Service Learning Opportunity

Each year, our PHS families generously donate toys to the LA County Fire Department's pre-holiday "Spark of Love" Toy Drive. Our students meet the firemen here on campus and see their donations taken by the fire department. But how do these gifts of toys actually reach the children for whom they are intended?

Assistant Head of School, Mr. Jimenez, provided a service learning opportunity for PHS 8th Graders to see first-hand how the toys collected by the firemen are organized and allocated to families who will receive these gifts.



For the Long Beach area, the process begins when teachers in the Long Beach Unified School District submit the names of families facing difficulties. These families are contacted and additional information about them is gathered.



As our PHS 8th Graders arrived at the Community Services warehouse of the Long Beach Fire Department this past December, they began sorting the donated "Spark of Love" toys by age and interest. Then they took the names of families, which included details of their children, and using large green bags our students selected the ideal gift item for

each child. Later, when families came to a special "Spark of Love" event hosted by the Fire Department, they received the green bag of carefully selected toys for their children, completing the process of love and service!



Exploring perspective in art, the 4th Graders created stunning "Looking Up at Trees" paintings under the direction of Mrs. Jennie Kim. They painted soft watercolor night skies, then placed a dot in the center of their paper and added lines going out

to the edges. On these lines they painted various species of tree silhouettes with black acrylic paint and dotted the sky with white acrylic stars! The result is a striking blend of creativity and technique that captures the beauty of nature from a very unique perspective—"Looking Up at Trees"!





# Heritage HOEDOWN



Peninsula Heritage School

FRIDAY | FEBRUARY 28 | 6PM - 10PM

**H.T. Grill**  
1701 S. Catalina Avenue  
Redondo Beach  
VALET PARKING AVAILABLE

# Heritage HOEDOWN

THE EVENING WILL INCLUDE:

- COMPLIMENTARY DRINKS ALL EVENING INCLUDING WINE, BEER & COCKTAILS
- AN EXCITING LIVE AUCTION
- WHISKEY TASTING & OTHER FUN ACTIVITIES
- LIVE MUSIC FROM COBRA COWBOY
- 3-COURSE DELECTABLE BBQ DINNER
- MIXING & MINGLING WITH THE PHS COMMUNITY

PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE AT  
[WWW.PENINSULAHERITAGE.ORG/HERITAGEHOEDOWN](http://WWW.PENINSULAHERITAGE.ORG/HERITAGEHOEDOWN)



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Peninsula Heritage School

Kindergarten—8th Grade

Phone 310.541.4795

26944 Rolling Hills Road

Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274

