

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

LA SCUOLA
International School • Preschool - 8th Grade

**Inspiring brave learners
to shape the future**



Inspiring brave learners to shape the future

Cari Amici,

Grazie di Cuore! Thanks to the generosity of our families, faculty, staff, Board of Trustees, alumni, grandparents, and friends of La Scuola, we raised over \$1.4M for our school community last year!

The 2023-24 school year filled us with gratitude, at the heart of which is the incredible generosity of the La Scuola community. Thank you all for giving your time and financial support to our very special school: they are equally important and appreciated. Your commitment to La Scuola is reflected in the joy, beauty, and energy that exude from our campuses as we inspire brave learners to shape the future.

Last school year was filled with meaningful, in-person opportunities for community connection, from our on-campus curriculum nights in the fall to our Grandparents + Special Friends Day and Concert in the winter to our Insieme art exhibit in the spring. The end of the school year was also a time to celebrate our fifth graduating Grade 8 class heading off to the many public, independent, and private high schools across the San Francisco Bay Area, and to congratulate Grandissimi students making their way to Kindergarten.

We held our most successful La Dolce Vita gala ever, and celebrated as a community while supporting our exceptional art, music, design, and science ateliers. And, in a new record, we raised almost half a million dollars committed directly towards the school's Sliding Scale Tuition Fund that supports our Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging goals. Over 30% of our students benefit from our sliding scale tuition program.

Our Annual Fund had an incredible 99.7% participation from our families, providing essential support to our faculty, staff, and students, and the programs that make La Scuola unique like robotics, environmental science, design, music, art, and more. Additionally, our Silicon Valley campus completed its second school year, all with the generous support of a local donor, and we have loved watching this campus flourish and grow.

As you have no doubt heard, we have been hard at work on the campaign for our new building on our Mission Campus, the first Reggio Emilia, Italian Immersion, and International Baccalaureate K-8 school in North America, and we are thrilled to begin construction on this historic project in October. The new building, designed by our partners and friends in Italy, ZPZ partners, and Jensen's architects, will not only be the centerpiece of our Mission Campus, but an environment that transcends mere space and setting—a third teacher that plays an essential role in your child's education and in their future. We cannot wait for our entire community to hear more and to be a part of this incredible milestone.

"The environment should act as an aquarium which reflects the ideas, ethics, attitudes, and culture of the people who live in it. This is what we are working towards." — Loris Malaguzzi

We take great pride in the community that La Scuola has fostered. The extra special magic of La Scuola would not be possible without the dedication of our committed volunteers—including PALS, the La Dolce Vita Committee, the Annual Fund Chairs and Ambassadors, and all parent committees—and the financial support of our fundraising initiatives, ensuring our community continues to thrive and be open to the world.

Grazie di cuore for your invaluable support!

Niente Senza Gioia! Nothing without joy!

Con Stima,



Valentina Imbeni, Ph.D.
Head of School



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Board Chair Emeritus



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Board Co-Chair



Susan Lyon,
Board Co-Chair

LA SCUOLA STRATEGIC GOALS 2018-2023



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Finance Committee

Loring Sagan

Facilities Committee; Finance Committee

Eric Tokstad

Facilities Committee; Embrace Committee

Marsanne Weese

Governance Committee

(*) ex officio

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Katy Long, Elementary School Chair

Courtney Minick, Middle School Chair

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Sophie Smith
Kristina Scarpulla

PICCOLI VERDI

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Grace Reller

GRANDI AZZURRI

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GRANDI VERDI

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Anne Costin

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GRADE 3 VERDI

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GRADE 4

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Melinda Winter

GRADE 5

Andy Janowski
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GRADE 6

Veronica Gomez
Michelle Hammar

GRADE 7

Shellie Kitchen
Carol Rock

GRADE 8

Harry Sterling



“

Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as you ever can.

John Wesley

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Lead: Kristina Scarpulla
Kamal El-Wattar

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Grandissimi Verdi: Aubrey Santo
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Kindergarten Verdi: Diane Chang
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Grade 1 Verdi: Adela Montemurro
Grade 2 Arancioni: Bridgett Lanza
Grade 2 Verdi: Margaux Axelrod
Grade 3 and Grade 7: Simona Agnolucci
Grade 4: Katie Gobbo
Grade 5 Arancioni: Andy Janowski
Grade 5 Verdi: Laura Terlouw
Grade 6: Nicole Stewart
Grade 8: Claudia Volpi
Silicon Valley: Aya Ovezova

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Lead: Fiona Brandon

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Ariel Brumbaugh
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Andrew Carl

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Esther & Doug
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Co-Chair: Lorraine Mulvihill
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Talia Kennedy
Kelsey McNellis
Melissa Stephens

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Lead: Jason Goldman
Rosella Barry
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Sasha Silveanu
Shira Carver

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Jo Gazzaley
Natalie Engmann
Ruddick Lawrence
Jordan Moncharmont
Taylor Reller

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Shira Carver
Jennifer Ramirez
David Balaban

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Charles Huber
Luke White
Julia Lawrence

KONSTELLA

Dean Lacap

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Sarah Kang

VIDEOGRAPHY

Enrica Cavalli
Jorge Salgado

“

As we work
to create light
for others,
we naturally
light our own way.

Mary Anne Radmacher

SILICON VALLEY CAMPUS
2023-2024

Our beautiful Silicon Valley campus continues to shine through the generous support of our donors, and we remain deeply grateful.
Grazie dal profondo dei nostri cuori.

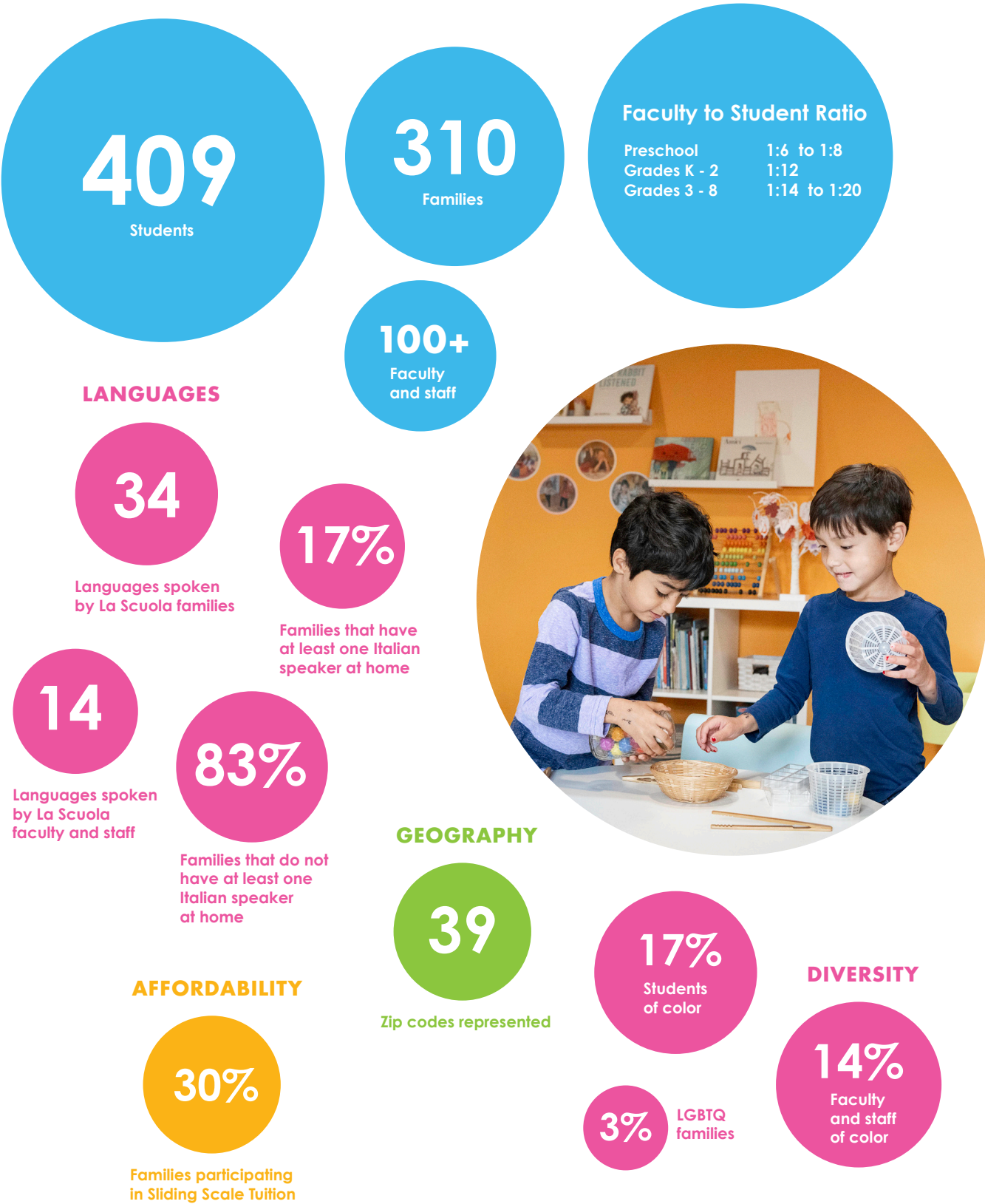
SILICON VALLEY CAMPUS DONORS

Nathalie Dompé and Chamath Palihapitiya



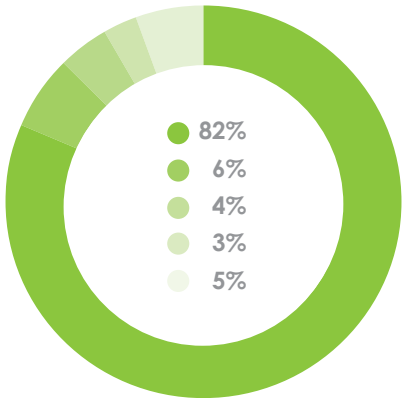
LA SCUOLA AT A GLANCE

2023-2024

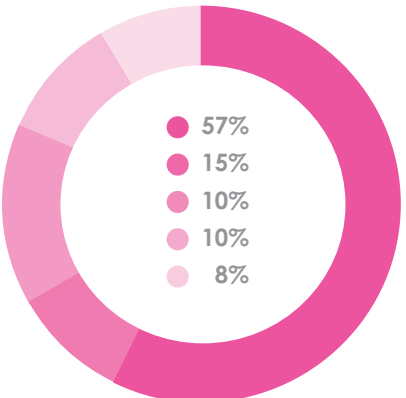


FINANCIAL REPORT

2023-2024



Revenues	\$ 20,519,590
Tuition	\$ 16,729,768
Auxillary and Fees	\$ 1,240,680
La Dolce Vita	\$ 853,839
Annual Fund	\$ 592,118
Grants & Other Income	\$ 1,103,185



Expenses	\$ 19,332,315
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 11,075,489
Sliding Scale Tuition	\$ 2,850,281
Instruction	\$ 1,941,613
Facilities	\$ 1,836,623
General Operating & Administration	\$ 1,628,309

* Financials are subject to audit by Business Office, and are inclusive of outstanding pledges.

ANNUAL FUND DONORS

2023-2024

Thanks to the following individuals, foundations, and corporations for their generous support of La Scuola International School’s annual fundraising:

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Maria Maximov Giudice
and Giovanni Giudice
Katherine and Eddie Gobbo
Whitney Wright and Thomas Goetz
Crystal and Jason Goldman
Carmen Gomez and Randy Schwartz

“

The true meaning of life
is to plant trees
under whose shade
you do not expect to sit.

Nelson Henderson

Veronica Gomez

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Anna Del Castello and Alessandro Zorzetto

“

Never doubt that a small group
of thoughtful committed citizens
can change the world: indeed,
it’s the only thing that ever has.

Margaret Mead

MATCHING GIFTS

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Apple
Atlassian
Bank of America
Blondie's Bar
Charles Schwab Matching Gift
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Dolby Laboratories
Gap Inc
Google
Intel Foundation
Intuitive Foundation
LinkedIn
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Morgan Stanley Matching Gift Fund
Nitro Software Inc.
Oracle Corporation
Pinterest
PubNub
Rainbow Grocery Cooperative
Ripple
Roblox
Schwab Charitable
ServiceNow
Stryker
Tura Sugden Designs
Unity
Visa
Wells Fargo

“

Change will not come
if we wait for some other
person or some other
time. We are the ones
we’ve been waiting for.
We are the change
that we seek.

Barack Obama



LA DOLCE VITA 2024

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When you learn, teach.
When you get, give.
Maya Angelou

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LA DOLCE VITA 2025
SATURDAY,
MARCH 22, 2025





EMBRACE

The Campaign for La Scuola's Future

Grazie Mille to all of our Campaign Donors!

We are so grateful to our early leaders in the Embrace Campaign! Through this historic project, we are building a transformational new home for our students: the first Reggio Emilia, Italian Immersion, and International Baccalaureate K-8 school in North America. Construction on this historic project begins in October 2024 and will inspire our brave learners to shape the future locally and globally.



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YOUR DONATIONS, YOUR COMMUNITY, YOUR IMPACT

Your incredible generosity created such gioia at La Scuola!
Over \$1.4 million raised enabled us to:



- Add over half a million dollars to our Sliding Scale Tuition Fund
- Provide the opportunity for 10 SMART scholars to attend La Scuola
- Ensure that over one-third of our families are touched by Sliding Scale Tuition
- Add a full time atelierista to oversee all atelier programs
- Increase access to Spanish language for our upper elementary and middle school students
- Add a part-time counselor and neurodiversity specialist at Mission campus
- Send our sixth graders to a week at NatureBridge in Yosemite
- Create a dedicated ceramics space at Mission campus
- Send five faculty members to Reggio Emilia, Italy, for a week of incredible professional development
- Increase faculty and staff compensation across the board as we remained competitive with our peer schools in San Francisco



Grazie dal profondo dei nostri cuori!

- Sponsor our faculty and staff to attend La Dolce Vita
- Invest in enhanced software programs for our faculty, allowing more time for inquiry and collaboration with students and colleagues
- Establish the California International Reggio Center, providing professional development locally and globally
- Invest deeply in our Music Program, including the purchase of new instruments
- Receive new digital equipment such as light projectors, cameras, interactive displays, and much more for our digital ateliers
- Grow our K-8 Athletics Program
- Refurbish the gymnasium at San Carlos Hall; replace roof and flooring
- Renovate San Carlos Hall's upper floor into beautiful, light-filled ateliers
- Replace the furnace at Saint Charles to enhance heating at our Mission campus
- Replace the turf and race track at Dogpatch Campus
- Install HVAC in our Dogpatch buildings to provide air conditioning
- Establish our Silicon Valley library
- Make improvements to our overall IT infrastructure
- ...and so much more!



“

To make a lovable school, industrious, inventive, livable, documentable, and communicable, a place of research, learning, re-cognition and reflection, where children, teachers and families feel well—is our point of arrival.

Loris Malaguzzi

INITIATIVES

ANNUAL FUND • LA DOLCE VITA • EMBRACE CAMPAIGN

At La Scuola, the environment is more than a mere space or setting—it’s a teacher that plays an essential role in our education and our future. We know that environmental factors illuminate the course of our lives. That’s why we invest to create the optimal environment for education—so that all the members of our community are forever **OPEN TO THE WORLD**.

WAYS TO GIVE



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Contact the **Advancement Office at (415) 558-9006** or email advancement@lascuolasf.org for transfer instructions.



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FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Robin Bonaso
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LA SCUOLA NIENTE SENZA GIOIA!

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