THE ACADEMY ASKS...THE WA FOUNDATION ANSWERS!

WESTLAKE ACADEMY FOUNDATION

WA ASK:
Raise funds for grants, gift cards and end-of-year awards to support the Academy's efforts to recruit, retain and develop its quality faculty.

The Foundation answers with Gala Benefit Auction

Unrestricted net proceeds from the Foundation's spring Gala provide up to $227,500 annually to fund key teacher-focused initiatives identified by the Academy.

These include:

- Grants – up to $100,000
- Gift Cards – up to $120,000
- Teacher/Staff of the Year Awards – up to $7,500

Together, these investments support the recruitment, retention, and development of outstanding educators.

WA GALA 2025 A Night at the Improv

WA ASK:
Raise pre-determined amount of unrestricted funds to support the Academy's annual operating budget.

The Foundation answers with Blacksmith Annual Fund

Each year, the Foundation Board works in partnership with Town and Academy leadership to set the Blacksmith campaign goal and ensure resources align with institutional needs. Unrestricted donations to the Blacksmith Annual Fund are transferred quarterly from the Foundation to the Academy to support day-to-day school operations.

Quarterly financial reports are available on the WAF website for community review.

BLACKSMITH GIVING DAY

WA ASK:
Raise funds for an unbudgeted, "all-campus impact" project selected by the Academy.

The Foundation answers with Gala Fund-an-Item

During the Gala live auction, guests can contribute to the Fund-an-Item (FAI), a tangible "love to have" capital project (up to $100,000) selected by the Academy that will benefit every student. These donor-designated funds are restricted to the FAI project; any unused monies carry forward to support future items aligned with the original project's spirit and intent. Ideally, the FAI project is scalable and can be accomplished regardless of how much is raised.

WA GALA 2025 A Night at the Improv

The Foundation also manages and stewards numerous donor-designated funds (e.g., theatre, literacy support) and endowment funds (i.e., general unrestricted, Quinn Teacher Fund, Bradley Travel Fund), as well as supports special projects and events as requested (e.g., Athletics Field Renovation, 9/11 Run to Remember). The Foundation also receives and manages grants from private foundations for the benefit of WA.