



LAGUNA BLANCA

GUIDE
TO
GIVING
AND
GETTING
INVOLVED

HOW TO ENGAGE IN THE LAGUNA BLANCA COMMUNITY

At Laguna Blanca School, we are committed to inspiring a strong culture of philanthropy and community engagement, which are essential elements in supporting a high quality, independent school education and the healthy growth of our school. Our strength stems from the outpouring of support from trustees, faculty and staff, parents, alumni, parents of alumni, grandparents, and friends who enable us to fulfill our mission and expand our vision for the future.





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Giving Opportunities



Laguna Fund

WHAT IS THE LAGUNA FUND?

The Laguna Fund is the foundation of our school’s philanthropy program that is celebrated each October at the Family Festival. It supplements the operating budget, funding everything from faculty salaries and professional development opportunities to field maintenance, building enhancements, and tuition assistance. In short, the Laguna Fund provides critical support for the programs and people that make Laguna Blanca School an inspiring and innovative place.

WHY GIVE TO THE LAGUNA FUND?

Like most independent schools, tuition and fees do not cover the total cost of a Laguna education. The Laguna Fund bridges that gap, a difference of approximately \$2,500 per student each year. It also helps moderate tuition increases and keeps a Laguna education within the reach of more families. Our collective giving is a commitment to creating a community that pushes the boundaries of what an independent school experience can be.

HOW DO I GIVE TO THE LAGUNA FUND?

Every gift to Laguna makes a major difference. Whether the gift is large or small, Laguna Blanca is grateful for your support. Your gifts reflect your belief in our mission and core values. We are a 501(c)(3), not-for-profit organization, so your contributions are tax-deductible to the extent of the law. There are a number of ways to contribute: cash, check, or debit/credit card online, pledge, matching gifts, securities, or gifts through estate planning.

GIVING LEVELS

Parliament of Owls

- Great Grey Owl
\$50,000+
- Great Horned Owl
\$25,000 - \$49,999
- California Spotted Owl
\$10,000 - \$24,999
- Long-Eared Owl
\$5,000 - \$9,999
- Barn Owl
\$2,500 - \$4,999

Seeds of Laguna

- Oak
\$1,500 - \$2,499
- Torrey Pine
\$1,000 - \$1,499
- Palm
\$500 - \$999
- Olive
Up to \$499



DONATE TODAY. THANK YOU!

Spring Benefit

The Golden Oak Gala is an elegant evening for parents of students, alumni, and friends of Laguna Blanca to enjoy themselves while supporting the present and future of the school. Its success is attributed to the dedication and financial support of volunteers. All proceeds from this event allow Laguna to focus on specific needs that lie on both campuses.

The Gala features a paddle raise, a live auction, and an extensive online auction. These auctions are made possible by donations of goods and services from parents, alumni parents, grandparents, and local businesses. Equally as important are sponsorships, with more information to follow in the fall.

You can show your support for the Spring Benefit in the following ways:

SPONSORSHIP

The yearly sponsorship levels are featured on the dedicated website goldenoakgala.org, allowing you to choose your level of support. If you have a business or a foundation, they are also able to sponsor or underwrite the benefit. Your contribution will be acknowledged through various marketing channels, including event promotions, social media, and the Golden Oak Gala website.

LIVE AND ONLINE AUCTIONS

A live auction takes place during the benefit, followed by an online auction after the event. Contributions play a vital role in making the gala a resounding success while supporting Laguna Blanca. Through your donations, you have the valuable opportunity to showcase your product, service, or experience to a captive audience of eager bidders. Donations serve as a tangible representation of philanthropy and a dedication to making a difference in our community. Donations can range from unique artwork, travel packages,

luxury items, memorable experiences, or any other valuable offering. These are gratefully accepted year round, but mostly occur from December to March. In return for your generous donation, we will ensure recognition and exposure for your brand or organization throughout the auction and gala event.

PADDLE RAISE

Our annual paddle raise is held immediately following the live auction. The funds raised directly addresses changing annual needs. If you are interested in supporting these, the Development Office always appreciates a heads up. This can also be done anonymously through our website. The paddle raise allows us to say YES to our students and teachers. YES to their ideas, YES to their programs, YES to their future. The monies generated through the paddle raise go directly to support initiatives that will impact each student. It takes an entire community to make it happen, and we greatly appreciate your generosity.



TEDx

TEDx is one of Laguna Blanca School's signature programs. Students learn what it's like to run a non-profit organization by working in a collaborative team environment that creates and produces the school's annual TEDx event.

Within respective teams, students develop organizational leadership skills while managing every aspect of the event. This includes identifying a meaningful theme, curating speakers, creating a marketing plan and budget, and arranging professional-level audio and visual coverage to share on an international scale.

With significant overlap, teams coordinate in an effort to raise funds and interest before executing a one-day TEDx conference, complete with well-designed stages, inspirational talks, and interactive galleries.

Mostly funded through corporate sponsorships, fundraising begins in the fall. For more information about the different ways to support this event, visit tedxlagunablancaschool.com



Endowment

Laguna Blanca School's endowment funds provide long-term resources to support the school. The annual interest income helps underwrite the cost of running the school from year to year. With smart investment management, the principal grows to secure Laguna's future. The Board of Trustees actively manages our endowed funds to ensure healthy growth of the overall assets and to fulfill the intentions of our donors.

Endowments also help Laguna to invest in and maintain student programs and faculty development. They play a crucial role in enabling us to provide financial aid to students who would otherwise be unable to attend Laguna Blanca.

WHAT IS AN ENDOWED FUND?

An endowed fund is an invested pool of money which earns income that Laguna Blanca can use to further its mission. As the donor, you choose the purpose of your endowed fund. The school manages the fund and is the vehicle through which your passion for helping kids is realized.

HOW TO CREATE YOUR ENDOWED FUND?

Decide the Type and Purpose of Your Fund. As the donor, you may designate your fund for a named scholarship, specific Laguna program, or for use where the need is greatest.

TYPES OF ENDOWMENTS

FACULTY AND STAFF ENDOWMENTS

Help Laguna to continue to offer competitive faculty and staff compensation and benefit packages, contribute to our professional development programs, or provide general support for faculty support and retention.

SENIOR CLASS ENDOWMENTS

Every year, we ask the senior class and their families to consider a joint legacy gift to a Senior Class Endowment. The

gift would express their lasting gratitude for the faculty who have inspired and supported them through their Laguna journey.

OTHER FUND DESIGNATION

As long as it aligns with our mission, we are happy to consider ideas.

DETERMINE WHEN AND HOW MUCH TO GIVE

You can establish a fund either with a direct contribution during your lifetime, through a legacy gift, or both. A minimum initial gift of \$250,000 in cash, appreciated securities, or other real property is needed to endow a fund. Any amount can be donated to a fund that is already endowed. Fund distribution example: Laguna bases its fund distribution on a 36-month rolling average of the fair market value of the fund. For example, a mature endowed fund of \$50,000 at a 4% distribution rate would grant or award \$2000 annually based on investment income. New endowments typically take a few years to generate enough investment income for distribution.

NAME YOUR FUND

Many donors choose to name their fund with their family name, or as a memorial to a loved one. If you wish to remain anonymous, we suggest you select a name that reflects your fund's charitable interest. We will protect your identity, if you so choose.

IT'S THAT SIMPLE

Once you complete and sign your fund agreement, we will begin to serve your charitable objectives, assuring that your wishes are met in perpetuity. We will send you fund activity reports annually (or more often) to help you keep track of your charitable fund, as well as the grants or scholarships made from it.

Contact us at development@lagunablanca.org to get started on your endowed fund!

Planned Giving

A planned gift is a gift that is planned now and realized at a future date. As the recipient, Laguna Blanca School can receive the gift during the donor's lifetime or after the donor has passed away. Most planned gifts are made as part of a person's overall financial planning. Typical planned gifts include stocks, bequests, retirement assets, personal property, real estate, trusts, and estate remainders. These types of gifts have a noble designation to help secure the future of our school. Your generosity not only impacts the lives of our current students, but also has long-term benefits for students who will pass through our doors for years to come. These gifts may also help reduce estate and inheritance taxes. We encourage you to speak with your financial planner when considering this type of gift.

Contact us at development@lagunablanca.org to get started on your endowed fund, or learn more about planned giving.



Family Association and Volunteer Engagement



FAMILY ASSOCIATION

The Laguna Blanca Family Association (FA) is an organization to give parents a voice, support faculty and staff, and create welcoming events for students and parents. Volunteerism is the lifeline of the FA, from the Board level and across many volunteer positions. Class Representatives, two from each class, will connect all the parents to the FA throughout the year.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The mission of the Board of Trustees is to ensure Laguna's strong financial health and stability, legal compliance, physical plant integrity, and implementation of long-term strategic plans, which are in alignment with Laguna's core values. It is a volunteer position with two three-year terms.

LAGUNA FUND CLASS CAPTAINS

Two parents from each class lead and communicate with other parents about our Laguna Fund goals and its purpose. This volunteer position runs from August to February.

COMMITTEES

Both our Family Festival and Spring Benefit have volunteer committees. These committees support the planning and execution of these important and fun events. They will work on logistics, marketing, outreach, and fundraising.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Beyond the committees, all of our events require many volunteers to run smoothly and succeed at high levels. Volunteer sign-ups are sent via room parents whenever opportunities arise.

GRANDFRIENDS' DAY

Every spring, grandparents and special friends are invited to our Lower School campus to spend a day with their grandchildren. The day includes a performance and a classroom visit, so guests can experience and participate in the Laguna Blanca curriculum. Visit the website for the date of the next event.

For all volunteer opportunities, please visit the FA tile on the resource board in My Laguna.



Alumni Connections

DAY OF PLAY

Alumni and their parents, current families, and students are invited to play in the Angeloff Alumni Golf Classic held each spring, benefitting Laguna's Alumni Scholarship Fund. Some years, tennis is also included. This Fund helps provide tuition assistance to more than 100 deserving students and families each year.

CLASS REUNIONS

Laguna's Alumni Association is made up of every former student of the school, including exchange students and those who left Laguna prior to graduation. Once you have attended Laguna, you will always have a place here. Alumni are welcome back on campus year-round. The Office of Development and Alumni Relations is happy to assist you in planning a reunion for your class.



HOLIDAY GATHERINGS

The Saturday following Thanksgiving kicks off our alumni holiday celebrations with our Alumni Soccer Game! Join us to compete as a co-ed player, or come to cheer and enjoy the festivities! Basketball and other sports are also offered, depending on popularity. In early December, all alumni are invited to mix, mingle, and bring in holiday cheer at the annual holiday party.

ALUMNI COUNCIL

Representatives from each class are crucial in keeping our alumni programming strong. We are working to create events and programs that will appeal to all ages, as well as offer different services to our alumni. We welcome your suggestions and involvement.



For more information, please contact:
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Cover Art by Lola Hall '23