GUIDE TO GIVING AND GETTING INVOLVED





A CULTURE OF PHILANTHROPY

“The Grauer School campus was built and developed almost entirely by parents and grandparents.” – Dr. Stuart Grauer

The Grauer School, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, began in a borrowed storefront and has been under constant development by parents, grandparents and community members who have chosen to advance our unique and vibrant vision. Gifts to the school, in any amount, support the mission and are tax-deductible.

Approximately fifteen to twenty percent of The Grauer School budget is covered by philanthropic giving. Parents are our most important and active members of our school and there are many ways to give back, including with your **time, treasure** and **talent.**

Non-financial giving at Grauer is also vital and includes a wide range of services: board governance, legal services, marketing, volunteerism, and more. We honor the countless hours and acts of generosity given by school parents every year.

FINANCIAL GIVING:
Your Gift Matters.

We ask every family to make Grauer a philanthropic priority while your child is here. There are three opportunities during the school year to participate and support financially: Annual Fund (fall), Endowment Funds (winter), and Gala (spring).

ANNUAL GIVING

- **ANNUAL FUND**
- **ENDOWMENTS**
- **SPRING GALA**

Another area of critical importance is providing need-based financial aid: our **Access to Grauer Endowment Fund.**

Currently, 15% of our students receive financial aid and approximately $420,000 has been awarded for the 2026-2027 school year. The most important work that we can do is provide equitable access to this school, and this year's Gala will support that.



PARENT ASSOCIATION:

Your Support Matters.

As a Grauer Parent, you are automatically a part of the Parent Association. Our goal is to support the entire school, including students, families, teachers and staff, along with offering community-enriching events.



EVENTS

- Summer Grade-Level Parties
- Back to School Social
- Succulent Pumpkin Decorating
- Grauer Giving Day
- Grandfriends' Lunch
- Winter Social
- Teacher Appreciation
- Grauer Gala
- Plus monthly teacher lunches, literary society, hiking clubs, and cooking classes

VOLUNTEER

- Serve as a Room Parent or on the Parent Association Board
- Participate in the Career Fair
- Speak in your students' classes
- Drive on field trips
- Help in the garden
- Join a committee: Gala, Marketing/PR or Development
- Donate your services or expertise



GRAUER GIVING DAY:

November 19, 2026

The Annual Fund is our top priority and we ask that every Grauer family give meaningfully. In fact, it is so important that we dedicate one full day to giving!



Unrestricted funds allow us to enhance the teaching and learning that takes place at Grauer. Essentially, it allows us to do what we do best, even better.

Last year, we had 77% family participation on Giving Day, with an average gift of $1,175 and $307,000 total raised. Help us reach new heights this year!

GRAUER GALA:

May 8, 2027

Each spring, The Grauer School hosts a Gala in support of the school and to celebrate our community.

Last year, we gathered at the Alila Marea Resort for *Le Dîner en Blanc* Gala in celebration of our dedicated teachers. This year, we'll come together on Saturday, May 8, to raise funds for the Access to Grauer Endowment Fund, helping make a Grauer education accessible to more students and families.

Let us know if you are interested in building our culture of philanthropy by joining the Development Committee or Gala Planning Committee. Reach out to lindsayzickler@grauerschool.com.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why should my family give?

Here's the bottom line: your gift supports the people and programs that make Grauer so special. As a non-profit, tuition covers the school experience but philanthropy allows us to do amazing things like hands-on projects, expeditionary learning, support professional development and prioritize face-to-face connection.

Does a small gift really make a difference?

Absolutely! When participation rates are strong, it is an indicator of our school's collective commitment to inspire each student's unique potential and also inspires giving from the outside community.

How many times will I be asked to give?

Grauer has three opportunities to give:

- Annual Fund - Fall
- Endowments - Winter
- Gala - Spring

Our top priority is the Annual Fund, and we ask for 100% participation on Giving Day. Many families may choose to make multiple gifts throughout the year.

How much should I give?

We ask that you make Grauer a philanthropic priority, and we know that this looks different for every family.

- Average annual giving in 2025-2026 was $1,175 per family.
- Leadership gifts of $5,000+ really transform our school.

How can I donate?

Online:
grauerschool.com/giving

Mail:
Mail your check to:
The Grauer School
Advancement Office
1500 S. El Camino Real
Encinitas, CA 92024

Phone:
760-274-2115

How can I learn more?

We would welcome the opportunity to meet and learn more about your interests and philanthropic passions.

Please contact Dana Abplanalp-Diggs or Lindsay Zickler:

dana@grauerschool.com
lindsayzickler@grauerschool.com

Is my donation tax-deductible?

Yes! The Grauer School is a 501(c)3 and our EIN # is 33-0708902. Donors who contribute gifts to The Grauer School will receive a tax receipt from the Development Office.

What is the matching gift program?

Many corporations match charitable gifts made by their employees. Ask your employer if they offer a matching gift program, and you can double your gift to Grauer!

When is the fiscal year?

Our fiscal year runs from August 1 to July 31.



1500 S. El Camino Real
Encinitas, CA 92024

grauerschool.com/giving
development@grauerschool.com