

FALL 2017



BROOKLYN WALDORF SCHOOL

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*Annual Report*



## A MESSAGE FROM THE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

To the parents, students, faculty and Board of Trustees: welcome to the 2017/18 school year! This marks our wonderful school's 13th year in operation. It's exciting to see all of the familiar faces returning to our community, and to welcome so many new arrivals into the fold. We wish you and your families a year of prosperity, health and fulfillment.

The Development Committee is made up of parents, faculty and administrators from the school. We serve on the committee out of love for our unique school, and to support its dedicated community. Our main focus is on fundraising through the Annual Fund, but we also play a role in promoting various events here such as the Winter Fair and the May Fair & Scootathon.

The Development Committee is inspired by the extraordinary culture of giving which permeates the entire Brooklyn Waldorf School community. We will continue to nurture this vital aspect of our still-young school's growth and financial strength; to that end, we'd like to share with you a recap of our efforts from the previous year.

Development activity during the 2016/17 year was robust, underscoring the strength and dedication of our community. Our major fundraising events, Winter Fair in December and Scootathon in May, both exceeded their financial goals. Grandparents & Special Persons Day, so important for building wider connections and organically extending our community as we share the important work taken up in a Waldorf School, was well and enthusiastically attended.

### ANNUAL FUND

Each year, we set an ambitious target goal for the Annual Fund, and last year was no exception. The goal that we set was \$350,000. And while we fell well short of that goal, we were able to bring in \$288,433 through the Annual Fund, for our second highest total to date.

Another goal of ours is always to achieve 100% participation in the Annual Fund across our entire community, from parents to faculty & staff to the Board of Trustees; this year, we are exceptionally proud to say that we did just that.

Several times over the year, various families felt compelled to make larger donations, which we were able to offer as matching funds for various challenges (including our first ever #GivingTuesday push and the year-end Participation Challenge, both of which were quite successful). We give our hearty thanks to everyone who gave any amount, but would especially like to recognize these larger donors, without whom our successes would be greatly diminished.

### WINTER FAIR

Our annual Winter Fair continued its legacy as a magical experience for all. It really shows off our school operating at its full resplendent strength and beauty, and it is a cornerstone of our annual fundraising efforts. This year, the Winter Fair netted a remarkable \$57,874 for the school - more than \$15,000 higher than in 2015/16, which had previously been our highest-performing Winter Fair to date. This was thanks in no small part to the expertly-run and successful silent auction, and also to some clever new classroom attractions which made their debut there. To everyone who put their talent, creativity and hard work into making this event such a tremendous success: we cannot thank you enough. We look forward to building on last year's success at this year's Winter Fair, which is to take place on Saturday, December 2.

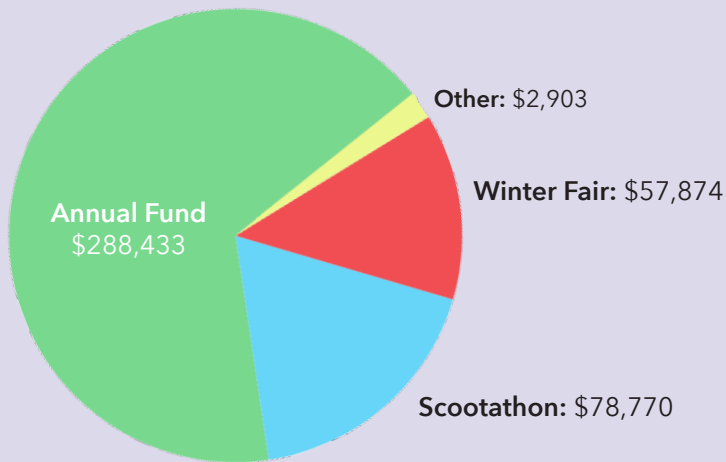
### MAY FAIR & SCOOTATHON

Our entire community gathered once again in Prospect Park in early May for this lovely tradition, in which we celebrate the arrival of spring through the May Fair and its Maypole dance, and we raise money for the school through the Scootathon. And as with Winter Fair, the Scootathon had a record-breaking year, raising \$78,770 for the school - surpassing our previous year's donations by more than \$20,000. Thank you to all who helped to organize the event, and to those who volunteered at it. This coming year's May Fair & Scootathon will take place on Cinco de Mayo: Saturday, May 5.

**Continued on page 10...**

# 2016/17 FINANCIAL RESULTS

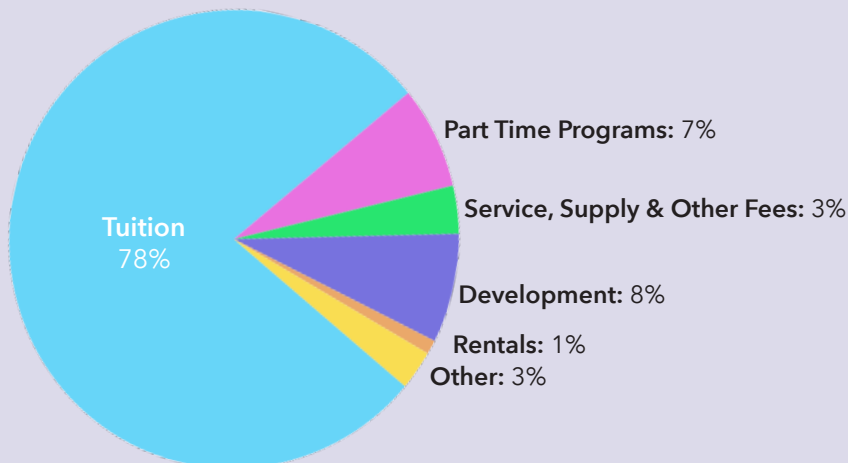
## Development



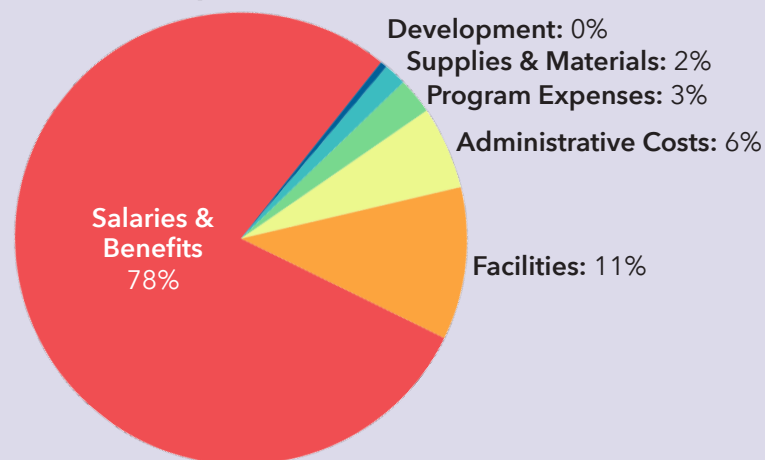
## Annual Fund Giving Circles



## Revenue



## Expenses



## 2016/17 ANNUAL FUND DONORS - 100% PARTICIPATION!

Heartfelt thanks goes out to everyone who helped us reach 100% participation in our Annual Fund. Participation at this level is a clear indication that the school is held in the hearts of all members of our community. Thank you for your generosity! We have made every effort to present a complete list. If you notice an omission, please contact the Development Office.

Aakash Mittal

Abrahamsson Family \*\*

Ai Isshiki

Alexandra & Jonathan Miller \*\*

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\* = Donated Last Year    \*\* = Donated for the past 5 years    \*\*\* = Supported BWS for more than a decade





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## 2016/17 ANNUAL FUND DONORS (CONTINUED)

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Maxwell Ryan\*

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Megumi Ito and Ataka Narumi

Michael Katz

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## 2016/17 ANNUAL FUND DONORS (CONTINUED)

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Sarah Hill \*\*

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## 2017/18 NEW FAMILIES

*We are pleased to welcome these new families to our community!*

### **Sophia 'Willow' Anderson** | Grade 1

Parents: Thea Anderson, Jed Wexler  
Willow comes to us from PS 11 via a friend in our Grade 3.

### **Benjamin Barclift** | Kindergarten

Parents: Faye Brown Barclift, Amiy Barclift  
Benjamin's family comes to us from Little Sun People Preschool and are looking forward to becoming part of this new community.

### **Milo Besnard** | Nursery

Parents: Thomas Besnard, Sara Besnard  
Milo's parents are drawn to Waldorf education for their son's first school experience and were part our Parent Child classes.

### **Samantha Bijur** | Nursery

Parents: Jason Bijur, Melissa Bijur  
Samantha's family was part of a Park Slope childcare co-op and is eager to start their Waldorf journey.

### **Cypress Bodhi** | Kindergarten

Parent: Priscilla Qi  
Cypress' family comes to us from the Philadelphia Waldorf School and is pleased to continue with Waldorf education.

### **Niko Cain** | Nursery

Parents: Ana Mise, Brendan Cain  
Niko's parents were excited to find a Waldorf school in their neighborhood.

### **Lilac Ciancolo** | Grade 4

Parent: Susan Ciancolo  
Lilac comes to us from the Co-Op School. Her family is familiar with our school through friends.

### **Kenzo Cummings** | Nursery

Parents: Michelle Andre, Steven Cummings  
Kenzo's family learned about Waldorf education via friends at Our Sons and Daughters School, a Waldorf-inspired early childhood center in Long Island.

### **Kaden Evans** | Grade 3

Parents: Rondai Evans, Cora Daniels-Evans  
Kaden comes to us from PS 29. His family first entered our school years ago when participating in a weekend Capoeira Batizado event.

### **Mila Forsblum** | Grade 1

Parents: Alexandra De Gedeon, Markus Forsblom  
Mila comes to us from PS 133. Her mom was introduced to Waldorf education by former Waldorf alumnae roommates.

### **Jazlyn Fuentes** | Grade 5

Parents: Angelica Diaz, Vicente Fuentes  
Jazlyn comes to us from PS 50 in Staten Island. We are excited to welcome her from another island.

### **August Gonzalez** | Nursery

Parents: Jennifer Gonzalez, Mario Gonzalez  
August's family found out about our school through friends.

### **August 'Augie' Kelley** | Nursery

Parents: Emily Thompson, Austin Kelley  
Augie's grandmother has been an Early Childhood mentor for our school since the early years. We are happy to have the youngest family member join us.

### **Daniel Karim** | Nursery

Parents: Amanda Oprysko, Muqu Karim  
Daniel's parents heard about us through a Park Slope neighborhood blog and through their pediatrician.

### **Fox Henson** | Nursery

Parents: Laurie Savage, Garette Henson  
Fox's father is a Waldorf alumnus, and his family is thrilled to have found a Waldorf school in Brooklyn.

### **River Hilt McNeil** | Nursery

Parents: Cameron McNeil, Eric Hilt  
River's family attended our Parent Child classes, and they are excited to have a 'full-time student' at our school.

### **William Hudgins** | Nursery

Parents: William Hudgins, Mine Tezuka  
William's family was part of our Parent Child program and the Saturday Japanese program held at our school.

### **Henry Jones** | Kindergarten

**Elias Jones** Grade 1  
Parents: Michael Jones, Joyce Engebretsen  
Henry and Elias' family come to us from the Pasadena Waldorf School.

### **Abraham 'Avi' Kohan** | Nursery

Parents: Oleksandra Chorna, Kostiantyn Kohan  
Avi's family heard about us through friends at the Rudolf Steiner School.

### **Maximilian 'Max' Masterson** | Nursery

Parents: Adam Masterson, Anna Gabriel  
Max's family is coming to us from New Amsterdam School after moving to Brooklyn.

### **Mitra McAteer** | Kindergarten

Parents: Lani Callahan, Michael McAteer  
Mitra's parents know about BWS through friends.

### **Ama Mister** | Nursery

Parents: Carl Mister, Mimi Kim  
Ama's family researched our school online and were hooked after attending an Open House.

### **Cullen Mulvihill-Gilligan** | Grade 4

Parents: Jemilla Mulvihill, Brendan Gilligan  
Cullen comes to us from New Amsterdam School. They are looking forward to continuing with Waldorf in our school.



**Olivia Polynice** | Kindergarten  
Parents: Elsie Lyons, Reginald Polynice  
Olivia's older sister is an alumna from the Waldorf School of Garden City. Olivia's family is happy to have Waldorf so close to them in Brooklyn.

**Lucy Ratliff** | Nursery  
Parents: Maggie Siff, Paul Ratliff  
Lucy was part of our Parent Child program, and her family heard more about us after speaking to a current family at their local dog park.

**Finn Schonfelder** | Grade 8  
Parents: Jyoti Schonfelder, Vismai Schonfelder  
Finn's family joins us from Bali, Indonesia. They are looking forward to living in Brooklyn.

**Greta Shetrone** | Nursery  
Parents: Jason Shetrone, Gina Liberto  
Greta's family attended a Parent Child Tea and Play and also heard about our school through friends.

**Aiko Van de Roer** | Nursery  
Parents: Maris Van de Roer, Carlo Van de Roer  
Aiko's mom is an alumna from Hawthorne Valley Waldorf School and his grandmother handles publications at the Research Institute for Waldorf Education.

**Frankie Webb** | Grade 5  
Parents: Jack Webb, Annelise Phillips  
Frankie comes to us from the Brooklyn New School. Her father is a Waldorf alumnus from the UK.

**Stellan Weeks** | Nursery  
Parents: Yuli Weeks, Japhet Weeks  
Stellan's family immediately joined our Parent Child classes after moving here from California.

## Continued from page 1...

### GRANDPARENTS & SPECIAL PERSONS DAY

In May we welcomed many special guests to our school for a morning of education, entertainment and making new connections. Our visitors were delighted to see the benefits of a Waldorf Education firsthand, through classroom visits and interactions with our wonderful students, teachers and administrators. This coming year's GP&SP Day will happen on Friday, May 11.

In June, we celebrated our fourth graduating class - the Class of 2017 - led by Ms. Betsy Giminez. Our heartfelt thanks goes out to all of the teachers, parents and friends who helped shape this class into a group of remarkable young adults! While it is bittersweet to see them move on from our school, we are proud of them all, and are confident they will achieve great things and make us all proud in all they accomplish.

This year, we hope to build on all of last year's successes. Our fundraising efforts are used primarily to cover the gap between how much the school receives in tuition and in what it actually costs to educate a student at The Brooklyn Waldorf School. But our goal is always to garner more than that bare minimum amount; any surpluses we receive will always service the school's most urgent needs, from augmenting teacher salaries & benefits, to facilities and infrastructure updates, to classroom improvements, to bolstering our school's ability to provide financial aid and promote diversity.

Please join us in our efforts to help our wonderful school grow and mature.

In gratitude,

The BWS Development Committee  
Alex Blades, Denese Giordano, Mary Handerhan, Lisa Hargus Julian Katz, Leecia Manning, Yvonne Perez-Zarraga, and Susan Short

## RETURNING FAMILIES

*We are thrilled that these families are returning to our community!*

**Luca Mancuso** | Grade 2  
Parent: Elizabeth Burgueno  
Luca comes to us from PS 133. He attended BWS summer camp and Parent Child classes.

**Ilya McCutcheon** | Kindergarten  
Parents: Julia Pak, John McCutcheon  
Ilya's family was part of our Parent Child classes and returns to us for Kindergarten.

**Sky Newbegin Knopke** | Kindergarten  
Parents: Katherine Newbegin, Todd Knopke  
Sky's family returns to us for Kindergarten. They were part of our Parent Child program.

**Rafael 'Rafa' Rowley** | Nursery  
**Leila Rowley** | Kindergarten  
Parents: Jacqueline Soohen, Richard Rowley  
The Rowley family is joining us again after spending a year upstate, this time with Rafa.

**Pia Srivastava** | Kindergarten  
Parents: Penny Knops, Bhaskar Srivastava  
Pia's family was part of our Parent Child classes and is happy to be back as part of our Kindergarten.

