



Giving and Getting Involved



Welcome to the new school year at Parkside. Here your child's learning style and passions will be nurtured through our program of interdisciplinary teaching, individualized attention and collaborative problem solving. We strive to establish strong partnerships with parents in order to strengthen our connection to your child and family.

These partnerships take many forms, and we are indebted to the many donors and volunteers who support the school with their time and resources year after year. This pamphlet provides information about all of the ways you may be asked to support the school and get involved during your family's time at Parkside.



THE PARENT ASSOCIATION

The Parents Association (PA) is led by a committee of dedicated parent volunteers who organize activities that benefit Parkside students and the entire community. Whether you can commit a few hours a year or a few hours a week, the PA can find the right volunteer opportunity for you.

The PA holds meetings each month, and works to build a sense of community among parents. They organize the school's New Family Cocktail Party, Parent Coffees, Holiday Party, Staff Appreciation Party, and other community service and community building events. They rely on the involvement of Class Representatives and other parent volunteers throughout the year.

Each family is asked to pay dues to the Parent Association to cover costs for events, staff appreciation efforts, graduation gifts, the yearbook and other expenses throughout the year. For 2017-2018, PA dues are \$150 per child, payable directly to the PA.

In addition, the PA leads the planning of several fundraising events throughout the year, including the Book Fair in December, Swerve for Parkside in January and the Spring Auction, which is typically held in March. Each of these events supports Parkside's overall fundraising efforts, and families are asked to support each of these events at a level that is comfortable for them.

THE ANNUAL FUND

The Annual Fund is the foundation of Parkside's fundraising initiatives. It supports Parkside's operating budget and helps to bridge the gap between funding received from the State of New York and the cost of educating each child. Parkside parents, grandparents, alumni families, staff, and friends give to support the Annual Fund each year. We are very proud to have had 100% of our current families support the Annual Fund in recent years; a statistic that strengthens Parkside's case when applying for grant funding and accreditation.

The Annual Fund is Parkside's fundraising priority, with gifts ranging from \$50 to \$50,000. Many companies offer matching programs that allow donors to double the size of their contribution, and credit card gifts may be paid in installments over time. A small team of parent volunteers serve on an Annual Fund Committee. These crucial volunteers help educate fellow parents about the Annual Fund and encourage participation from every family.

THE SPRING AUCTION

Independent of the Annual Fund, the Spring Auction raises money in support of Parkside's Art and Movement programs, which include music, library, drama, yoga, gym and sports. Working in tandem with the school's Director of Development, the PA organizes an event that includes a live auction, silent auction and online auction, each of which offer terrific items and amazing experiences for the Parkside community to bid on. The live auction features the glorious artwork of Parkside students and is the highlight of the event.

The PA will seek volunteers to help with event planning, solicitation of auction items, décor, publicity, ticket sales, and a host of other event elements. The event is a great opportunity for Parkside to come together as a community while raising important funds for the school.

PARKSIDE BENEFIT GALA

In some years, Parkside hosts a Benefit Gala to raise funds in support of a specific effort at the school. Past benefits have supported the endowment, the Fund for Teacher Excellence, or the Renovation and Restoration Campaign, and have featured stellar entertainment. In years past, Joy Behar, Tracy Morgan, Donna Summer, Billy Crystal, Paul Simon, John Legend, and Bette Midler have performed at the gala.

Parkside is currently gearing up to celebrate its 30th Anniversary on November 16, 2017, and will be raising money for a new rooftop playground. Look for more information this fall.

MAJOR GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

During your time at Parkside, there may be other ways you will be asked to support the school. Such efforts often represent a transformative moment for Parkside and are opportunities for our community to come together to make necessary changes while staying true to our mission and founding principles.

To learn more about giving and getting involved at The Parkside School, visit www.parksideschool.org/giving or contact Anthony Kapp, Director of Development, at akapp@parksideschool.org or 212-721-8888 x153.



www.parksideschool.org

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