



Tools For Tomorrow

An on-site after school literacy enrichment program integrating writing, drama, art and music for Coachella Valley elementary school children grades 3 -5 at no cost to the children.

NONPROFIT 501(c)(3)

Fall 2013

ART • MUSIC • DRAMA • WRITING

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DONNA MACMILLAN 2014 VISION FOR THE FUTURE HONOREE



Donna MacMillan

Tools For Tomorrow is honored to present the 2014 Vision for the Future Award to art collector and desert philanthropist, Donna MacMillan.

Celebrated for the donation of the extensive Donna and Cargill MacMillan art collection to the Palm Springs Art Museum, Donna is also known for her generous support of and contributions to worthwhile charities throughout the Coachella Valley. Through her participation on various boards, including the Palm Springs Art Museum, the McCallum Theatre, and College of the Desert, Donna exhibits her commitment, not just with financial support, but with a generosity of energy and time. She is an outstanding example of what is finest in this desert community.

“As the recipient of last year’s Vision for the Future Award, I am so delighted that Donna MacMillan has accepted this year’s honor. She is an amazing advocate for the arts, for children, and for the importance of education in our culture.” Janice Lyle, Director of Sunnylands Center & Gardens.

The Vision for the Future luncheon will take place Thursday, March 27 at the Rancho Las Palmas Resort in Rancho Mirage. Actor and writer Joyce Bulifant will produce the event with the assistance of The VISIONARIES of Tools For Tomorrow. In keeping with tradition, the children of Tools For Tomorrow will perform and their art and creative writing will be exhibited.

TFT RECEIVES SPOTLIGHT GRANT



In April 2013, TFT received a grant from the H.N. and Frances C. Berger Foundation in association with the CBS Local 2 Coachella Valley Spotlight Award. Christopher McGuire, Vice President of Programs for the Berger Foundation, presented the check at a brief ceremony in a TFT classroom. The grant made possible the funding of three additional programs.

BOARD EXPANDS

Three outstanding community leaders have joined the TFT board: **Judy**



Morley, partner (retired), investment banking firm Willis Blair & Co, Chicago; formerly Director of Research and Development at Northeastern Illinois University –

Andrew (Andy) Jessup, President, Plaza Motors, Palm Springs; Past President P.S. Chamber, United Way, Inland Council, Boy Scouts of America, P.S. Covention & Visitors Bureau, American Cancer Society – **Jennie Inch**, retired Public Relations executive, active in valley nonprofits, including boards of Muses, COD and founding board of Hidden Harvest.

Tools For Tomorrow provides an on-site, integrated “hands-on” arts literacy programs to “at risk” children at no cost to the children. The program is designed to supplement the children’s daily educational experience, nurture their creativity, enhance their self-esteem, build character, expand their intellectual and cultural horizons, providing a coping mechanism for the future, and a vision of what their lives can become.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Jim Reed

Because of our loyal supporters, Tools For Tomorrow is gradually recovering from the effects of the economic downturn. Four more TFT programs have been added for the 2013 - 2014 school year in Rancho Mirage, Coachella, Palm Springs and Indio. We now have the potential to serve 800 to 1000 children in the Coachella Valley this-year. Our unique curriculum integrates the arts - art, music, drama and creative writing - as the vehicle to develop children's cognitive skills, enjoy the rewards of self-actualization and character development, and broaden their vision of what their futures can become.

Especially important for enhancing our growth is the creation of the "Visionaries". This group of dynamic women has volunteered to devote their time and efforts to serve as a fund raising arm of Tools For Tomorrow. We are especially pleased that they have made this commitment to the TFT program and will do everything possible to support their efforts. You can read more about them in this newsletter.

And as usual, we thank the members of our staff, Ed DiNicola and Andrea Hecht, and our Board of Directors for their continued hard work and devotion to the TFT program.

Jim Reed

TFT SUPPORT GROUP FORMED



L. to R. Jennie Inch, Nancy Bleiweiss-Nevil, Madeline Zuckerman, Claire Smith, Dr. Janice Lyle

Claire Smith seeing the need for a TFT support group gathered a group of like-minded ladies that included Jennie Inch, Nancy Bleiweiss-Nevil and Madeline Zuckerman. Meeting with board member, Dr. Janice Lyle, and thanks to seed money donated by Katherine Andrews, in June 2013, The TFT Visionaries became a reality, their mission: to raise awareness and assist in fundraising. Bylaws were developed and Jennie Inch became the first chairman.

"How lovely to think that no one need wait a moment; we can start now, start slowly changing the world!"

Anne Frank (diary entry, 1944)



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

I am happy, pleased and proud to be a part of Tools For Tomorrow. I have watched as TFT weathered the financial crisis emerging intact and continuing to provide Title 1 elementary school children, grades 3-5, with an original, integrated art curriculum unlike any other.

Not only did the TFT curriculum follow the core art curriculum of the California Department of Education, but it went one step further. TFT **integrates** the arts.

We are the first after school arts program to do so. Now the state of California, specifically the Los Angeles School District, has been asked to create a new core curriculum for arts education, and the main thrust of their focus is that it be an integrated art curriculum.

The fact that we did it first, and it has been so successful in teaching our children arts literacy and the necessary skills to achieve success in the academic classroom, is indeed something to be proud of. By integrating the arts Tools For Tomorrow has given Coachella Valley children a valuable "tool for tomorrow" and providing for them a vision of what their lives can become.

Ed DiNicola

SUMMER SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TFT



Idyllwild Arts Summer Program Scholarship students: L. to R. Z'Ara Williams, Katie Dolan, Myasia Torres and Kristin Hernandez. TFT also thanks the Palm Springs Art Museum for offering seven additional scholarships to deserving TFT students.



ARTISTS & WRITERS GALLERY

Fall, 2013

At the end of the school year 2013, TFT teacher, Stefania Ford, organized exhibits of the students work in venues throughout the valley. Below are examples from those exhibits.

Venue: Old Town Artisan Studio, La Quinta



A poem is like a
 Word spoken once with many meanings
 A voice whispering in your ear
 A word that has a meaning only you can hear
 A special feeling a compliment gives
 The sun through clouds of black and silver
 The last word in a book before the end

Carlos, age 10



Refreshments at Palm Desert exhibit



I will put in the box the words I heard in Despicable Me
 The colors I saw in the movie about Alaska
 The last thing I said to him before my dog got lost
 The roar of the propeller on the first plane that flew

Edgardo, age 11

I opened a planet and star fell out
 I opened a star and cloud fell out
 I opened a cloud and a raindrop fell out
 I opened the raindrop and a tear fell out
 I opened the tear and out fell a heart
 Broken in two

To never be fixed

Louisa, age 10





The effectiveness of the TFT program can best be illustrated by a memo I received from Stefania Ford, one of our excellent teachers, in which she told of a favorite classroom experience.

Ed, DiNicola, Executive Director

To incorporate music and visual art during a Native American Unit with my Indio Van Buren Elementary

3rd Grade Tools for Tomorrow Class I planned a maraca making lesson.

I opened the class by sharing a book about Native American pottery called "When Clay Sings." After flipping through the pages and pointing out the different shapes of pottery and animal drawings adorning the pieces I began to explain the migration Native Americans in our Desert Valley made into the cooler mountains during the summer months. Pointing out the window to the snow in the mountains during our December afternoon class, I explained that as the snow melts the water runs into the streams taking along bits of the granite rock and sediment. The minerals flow into the streams, and the Native Americans would dig into the streambeds where these minerals mix together with other dirt and turned to clay.

The children stared into the mountains wide-eyed, "Cool!" they murmured, and I began to pass out clumps of clay. Focus turned to the clay and a hand rose; "How do you know all of this?" one child asked. Another answered: "The Internet!" I laughed, "Good guess." Immediately I hear an outburst from one of the shyest kids in the class: "NO, you learn that stuff in College."

Tools For Tomorrow is not only building self-confidence, we are helping children set goals for the future. When children succeed in art, they believe in themselves, when they believe in themselves, the sky is the limit. I encourage my students to pursue their goals. After the maraca lesson, multiple children in the class shared with me what they would like to study in college. Whether the goal is to be a famous musician or a doctor or a member of our military, confidence built through success will get them there.

MECCA ELEMENTARY



Rain stick Art



Medallion Art



Gourd Art



DR. JANICE LYLE HONORED WITH WORDS AND MUSIC



Honoring Dr. Janice Lyle, the ballroom of the Rancho Las Palmas Resort & Spa was bright with swaying balloons and centerpieces brimming with art supplies for the children, gifted by decorations chairman, Kay Bell. After a welcome by M.C. Patrick Evans, TFT students in yellow hardhats and t-shirts danced and sang to the syncopated beat of original music composed for the occasion by Roger Perry in a program choreographed and directed by Joyce Bulifant. Introduced by her friend and Board member, Lee Appel, Dr. Lyle spoke eloquently of her dedication to the arts and education, and her commitment to the mission of Tools For Tomorrow. Following her inspirational remarks TFT Board President, Jim Reed presented Dr. Lyle with the Vision For the Future Award.

Among the over two hundred attending guests were major sponsors: Dr. Joseph Lund (chairman of the event) and Dr. James Kelley, Katherine Andrews, John and Lynn Shane, Joyce and Joe Stein, Harold Matzner, Lilo Cooper, James Houston, Donna MacMillan, Judith Morley, Susan DeNoewer and Richard Hedwall, Kevin Parker, Barbara Platt, Robert and Eileen Pollock and Donna and Douglas Martin.

Prior to lunch Recognition Awards were presented to: Joni Maltzman (Volunteer Award), Ellen Brenner Makuta & Billy Makuta (Teacher Award) and student, Lizbeth Luevano (Daryl Timmons Bryant Art Spirit Award).



1



2



3

1-James Reed, Rachel Druten, Dr. Janice Lyle, Kay Bell, Dr. Joseph Lund

2-Patrick Evans, Joyce & Joe Stein

3-Janet McNeil, Ginger Ludwick, Lizbeth Luevano



4



5



6

4-Ellen Brenner, Billy Makuta, Ed DiNicola, Lizbeth Luevano, Joni Maltzman

5- Lee Appel, Dick Victor

6-Kevin Parker, Donna MacMillan, Harold Matzner



7



8

7-Bob Hopkins, Diane Fox, Judy Morley, Douglas Martin

8-Joni & Don Maltzman at one of three tables of family and friends

GAME DAY

2013 brought another successful TFT Game Day, having fun and raising enough funds to provide the program a teacher (and a half). Special thanks again to Mary Ellen Blanton, Rachel Druten and, as always, Joni Maltzman, as well as Donna Martin, Gloria Guttman and Wanda Stein for sharing their lovely homes.

Save Friday, February 28, 2014

Plan to bring your friends and join us for Bridge, Mahjong, Canasta or Dominoes and lunch, again in the private homes of our members. Or...put together a game day party in your own home and be part of TFT's Game Day tradition.

Chairmen: Nancy Shuma and Anne Hopkins



"WHAT GOES AROUND COMES AROUND"

The Palm Springs School Board honored Executive Director, Ed DiNicola with their Shiny Apple Award in October 2012. This special award is given to community leaders who have promoted the welfare of children in the Palm Springs School District. Ed received the award for his work and dedication to the children of Vista del Monte Elementary through the TFT program.

TFT Teachers "Show & Tell"

In November 2012, some seventy TFT supporters gathered in the home of Founder, Rachel Druten and husband, Charles, for wine & cheese, to see an exhibit of the childrens art and writing, and experience a lively demonstration of what happens in the classroom by teachers Nancy Nishiguchi, Stefania Ford, Billy Makuta and Ellen Brenner Makuta. (seen below with hostess, Rachel Druten)



Join the **VISIONARIES** of Tools For Tomorrow and **Cinémas Palme d'Or** to celebrate

Phyllis Eisenberg

Movie and sing along "Fiddler on the Roof"

Monday, November 25, 2013

Cinémas Palme d'Or, 72840 Hwy 111, Palm Desert
Program starts promptly at 6pm

\$25 ticket includes: the film, 46 oz. bag of popcorn, 16 oz. soft drink and...an "Eisenberg" hot dog

Make your reservation by going to www.thepalme.com and click on the **Fandango link**

Or you may purchase your tickets directly at the Cinémas Palme d'Or box office
760.779.0730

For information call: 760.601.3954 501 (c)(3), Tax ID# 33-889045

If you are unable to attend you may send a donation to honor Phyllis
c/o The Visionaries of Tools For Tomorrow
75-105 Merle Drive #600, Palm Desert, CA 92211

Honorary Chairmen : Joni Maltzman & Joyce Bulifant
 Chairman: Nancy Bleiweiss-Nevil

The **VISIONARIES** purpose is to raise awareness and assist in fundraising for the Tools For Tomorrow free, onsite, after school arts literacy enrichment program, integrating music, art, writing and drama in Coachella Valley elementary schools

Special thanks for the help of **Dee Helfgott**, Community Marketing Coordinator of Cinémas Palme d'Or

SNIPS & SNAILS

We are grateful to the following:

Most Recent Media Support:

Alex Hunter, Desert Sun
Gloria Greer, Palm Springs Life

In-Kind gifts:

Virginia Hilligoss and
Pamela Price, Art supplies
Mitre & Bevel Framing

(760.202.2333)

Photographers:

Sherri Breyer, Vision Luncheon Photos
smbreyer@aol.com (760.799.5921)
Suzie Blair, photos at the "TFT Teacher Show & Tell"
Lani Garfield, photo of Donna MacMillan
lanigarfield@mac.com (760.567.6396)
Jay Hooker, Visionaries Logo
Jay@jayhookerdesigns.com (760.202.8301)

The Annenberg Foundation
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IN HONOR

Don Maltzman - 75th Birthday
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IN MEMORY

Harvey "Bud" Eager
 Adelle Tavill



Please forgive any inaccuracies or omissions. If you let us know they will be corrected in the next newsletter.

Tools For Tomorrow collaborates with: The Unified School Districts of Palm Springs, Desert Sands and Coachella, Palm Springs Art Museum, Idyllwild Arts Academy Summer Program.



Tools For Tomorrow
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This newsletter is designed, written and edited inhouse by volunteers and staff .

If you would like to help underwrite the costs of printing & mailing and be acknowledged in our newsletter call 760.601.3954

How do we operate?

We employ qualified instructors in each subject using a professionally designed curriculum.

Where are classes held?

Classes are held five days a week at individual schools, after regular school hours.

What is the cost to each child?

Classes are FREE! All supplies, musical equipment and snacks are provided by **Tools For Tomorrow**.

Which schools can we serve?

All Coachella Valley elementary schools are eligible. We are currently operating programs in Coachella, Desert Hot Springs, Indio, La Quinta, Palm Desert, Palm Springs, Rancho Mirage and Mecca.

What are the program costs?

\$10,000 supports the full program in a school for one school year.

Tools For Tomorrow Programs are in the following schools:

Coachella:

Palm View Elementary

Desert Hot Springs:

Bubbling Wells Elementary School

Two Bunch Palms Elementary School

Julius Corsini Elementary School

Indio:

Lyndon Johnson School

Martin Van Buren School

La Quinta:

Harry S Truman School

Palm Desert:

Abraham Lincoln School

Ronald Reagan School

Palm Springs:

Cahuilla Elementary School

Vista del Monte Elementary School

Rancho Mirage:

Rancho Mirage Elementary School

Mecca:

Mecca School

! TFT KIDS NEED YOU !



SEND YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS TO
andrea@toolsfortomorrow.org

TO GET YOUR NEWSLETTER ON LINE

SAVE THE DATES

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF

Movie & Sing-Along

Monday, November 25, 2013

GAME DAY

In members' homes

Friday, February 28, 2014

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

AWARDS LUNCHEON

Honoring Donna MacMillan

Thursday, March 27, 2014