



# 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 2014

ART • MUSIC • DRAMA • WRITING

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## HAROLD MATZNER 2015 VISION FOR THE FUTURE HONOREE



Harold Matzner

"Harold Matzner: Mister man-about-town, not just in Palm Springs but the whole Coachella Valley. A heart big enough for a giant, a true passion to give back, a man for all reasons," so says Donna MacMillan, the 2014 Vision For the Future Honoree.

Harold Matzner is, indeed, an icon in the desert community. Entrepreneur, humanitarian, philanthropist, he is famous not only for rescuing and reviving the Palm Springs Tennis Club and transforming it into Spencer's, one of the hottest restaurants in the city; for revitalizing the Palm Springs International Film Festival and serving as Chairman of its Board; for being Chairman of the Board of the McCallum Theatre, on the boards of the Palm Springs Art Museum, the Eisenhower Medical Center and Barbara Sinatra Children's Center; he is as famous and even more revered for his generous support of just about every worthwhile charity in this Coachella Valley.

When invited to be the Vision For The Future honoree by Visionary Chairman, Jennie Inch, Mr. Matzner responded in typical fashion. "I can't wait to hug all those little kids."

The Vision For the Future Luncheon will take place Thursday, March 5, 2015, at the Westin Mission Hills Golf Resort and Spa, Rancho Mirage. The children of Tools For Tomorrow will participate and their art and creative writing will be exhibited.

## TFT RECEIVES ANDERSON GRANT

Tools For Tomorrow has been selected by the Anderson Children's Foundation for the 2014-2015 grant cycle. Their seven-member review team determined that the **Adopt-A-School** program meets their criteria for discretionary partial funding in the amount of \$10,000.

This grant provides funding for the program in one additional school.

## SUMMER SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED



Elizabeth



John



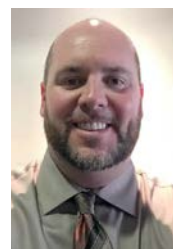
Elaina



Isabella

received Idyllwild Arts Academy Summer Scholarships.

## EDUCATOR JOINS BOARD



Ryan Saunders

Ryan Saunders, Education Administrator and Adjunct Professor at Brandman University, joins the TFT Board of Directors. With his Doctorate in Organizational Leadership and 15 years as an educator, Ryan's experience and expertise will add an important component to the TFT Board.

Tools for Tomorrow is grateful also to the Palm Springs Art Museum (seven scholarships) and the Artisan Old Town Studio in La Quinta (four scholarships) for making this a beautiful summer experience for our deserving students.

**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 PRESIDENT



Jim Reed

In September, I attended a Tools for Tomorrow teachers' meeting at which our Executive Director, Ed DiNicola, welcomed new teachers, reviewed goals and procedures, and outlined plans for the school year. In reviewing the curriculum, I was impressed with how well it addresses our basic goal of reaching, teaching and inspiring children through the arts. I was also impressed with our cadre of dedicated and involved teachers who are fully capable of achieving these results.

Although Tools For Tomorrow is back to pre-recession teaching levels serving 15 schools in the Coachella Valley, we still have many students - and teachers - waiting in line to participate in our program. Let's hope that we continue to grow to serve their needs."

Jim Reed



*It is with sadness that Tools For Tomorrow bids goodbye to a treasured friend and benefactor. Katherine Andrews died in August.*

*Katherine was a behind-the-scenes player who sought neither notice nor aggrandizement, more often than not insisting on giving anonymously. When there was a need Katherine quietly met it, adopting a school each year and providing the start-up-funds for the Visionaries.*

*A truly kind and lovely lady, she will be missed, for her charm, her humor, and her generous spirit.*



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

### Explaining the Curriculum

Stefania Ford, TFT teacher, was asked to describe how she implements the Tools For Tomorrow curriculum for a recent grant application. Her narrative eloquently illustrates the process, value and quality of the program.



Ed DiNicola

*The children receive instruction in visual art, creative writing, music, and drama. The curriculum is written in a way that introduces each art form, seamlessly moving from one to the next through the use of an all encompassing topic, such as learning the famous works of a composer, or author/illustrator, or the Native American culture.*

*The curriculum is explored over the course of fourteen weeks, generally starting with visual art basics: line, form, self-portraits, landscape, still-life, etc. We then talk about illustration and images as a form of storytelling, which leads us into exploring creative writing, first by reading (my favorite is the Mysteries of Harris Burdick), then by writing our own stories. These stories are compiled into an anthology. As a class we then work together to combine our best ideas into a script.*

*We talk about drama on the stage and drama on film. Both benefit from music to further tell their story. We talk about how music helps convey emotions, learn about a composer and the different parts of the orchestra, listening for different pitch and tone to identify each instrument. Time allowing we will paint (generally abstractly) how the music makes us feel.*

*We then turn our script into a play/short film, learning that a production takes more than just actors. Each student is given a different very important task as either scene designer, sound, lightning, costumes, director, camera man, and of course actors and actresses.*

*The students are left with an amazing collaboration and a huge sense of accomplishment, not to mention all the smiles and laughter in between. The Tools for Tomorrow curriculum is a beautiful and invaluable experience in the arts.*



# ARTISTS & WRITERS GALLERY

Fall 2014

A potpourri of poetry and art from the students of TFT teacher,  
NANCY NISHIGUCHI



*Reading more takes us  
down a track  
A track to many places  
It takes us to the past  
To explore with our imagination  
It might take us to the future  
Or to a place where all are free  
Where everyone is educated  
A track to freedom  
To a peaceful world  
A negative track means a negative life  
So always think positive and read more books*

*Alexander K., age 10*



*Halloween, the big night of fright  
Costumes galore  
Witches, vampires, princesses  
and more  
Tricks are nothing but a treat to  
young hooligans  
Come back next year, and try  
to fool them again*

*By Mia M, Age 9*

*Since the day I met you  
My world turned upside down  
Your smile is as bright as the sun  
You make me feel special whenever I'm blue  
I need you the same way a dog needs an owner  
I shouldn't have said goodbye  
Now the only thing I think about...  
Is being your friend*

*By Priscilla V, Age 9*



*Artist & poet, Jubilee, age 9*

## WOLF

*The wolf creeps up in the woods  
He sees the little bird  
But he doesn't bother to eat the little bird  
because he just ate a cricket*

## VISIONARIES TAKE FLIGHT!!



Jennie Inch

The VISIONARIES of Tools For Tomorrow had an exciting first year!

360 attended our "kick-off" event in November, the "Fiddler on the Roof" Movie and Sing Along celebrating Phyllis Eisenberg, at the Cinemas Palme d' Or in Palm Desert. The Annual Game Day in

February, another huge success, generated enough money to fund one school for a year. And finally, the 8th Annual TFT Vision for the Future Award Luncheon was a sell out, with over 200 guests attending to honor Donna MacMillan, our Vision For the Future Honoree. We ended the year with over 70 members and raised almost \$130,000!

In addition to fund raising, we worked hard to raise awareness about the Tools For Tomorrow program: participating in the Rancho Mirage Cultural Festival, the Annual Opera Arts in the Park and we were recognized and rewarded by the Rancho Mirage Woman's Club with a check to TFT for \$8,000!

Now, get ready to celebrate!

It's Tools For Tomorrow's 15th Anniversary.

November 20th we'll kick off the 2014/2015 Season with a champagne reception for Founder Rachel Druten at the Heather James Fine Art Gallery.

December 8th, plan on joining us at Vicky's of Santa Fe for a Cabaret Supper Show at 6:30pm.

January 30th, will be our Annual Game Day.

March 5, 2015 is the TFT Vision for the Future Award Luncheon, honoring Harold Matzner with "LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!"

As you can see, it has been a super successful first year for the VISIONARIES thanks to our hard working VISIONARIES Board, to each of you who attended our events, and to all of you who gave us your support!

Jennie Inch, VISIONARIES Chairman



## DONNA MACMILLAN HONORED WITH “ART IN THE AFTERNOON”



TFT Rancho Mirage School Players



Jennie Inch, Donna MacMillan, Joyce Bulifant



Children’s art lined the ballroom of the Rancho Las Palmas Resort & Spa as guests passed between columns of swaying red balloons to find their places at tables decked with baskets of bright geraniums and mini-canvases painted by young TFT artists. Large screens on either side of the stage proclaimed: “Art in the Afternoon” honoring Donna MacMillan. Welcoming remarks and the singing of “God Bless America” and an invocation by TFT students, was followed by a delicious lunch that carried out the theme.

As dessert was being served, the children performed a program written and produced by Luncheon Chair, Joyce Bulifant and Roger Perry. In a set designed as an artist’s studio TFT actors took the parts of famous artists and models, breaking into dance and song and ending their performance by trooping off the stage and singing “You are our sunshine,” directly to Honoree, Donna MacMillan. In a touching and spontaneous response, Ms. MacMillan rose and thanked each child with a warm hug. Following a video by Clark Duggar and Joyce Bulifant, “Presenting Donna MacMillan,” Dr. Janice Lyle presented the honoree with the Vision for the Future Award to a standing ovation.

Among the over two hundred attending guests were major sponsors: Harold Matzner, Donna MacMillan, JoAnn McGrath, Harold & Arlene Schnitzer, John Shane, Faye & Herman Sarkowsky, Rebecca Benaroya, David W. Bryant, Judy Morley & Bob Willams, Bill & Fran Anderson, Barbara & Gene Berlanti, Mary Ellen & Cooper Blanton, John Conboy, Robert Dau & Jean Viereck, Susan DeNoewer & Richard Hedwall, Rachel & Charles Druten, Cheryl & Robert Fey, Helene Galen, James R. Houston, Jennie & Bob Inch, Linda & Manny Rider and Sandra Cooper Woodson.

Prior to lunch Recognition Awards were presented to: Anne Hopkins and Nancy Shuma (Volunteer Award), Stefania Ford (Teacher Award), and student Miguel Luna (Daryl Timmons Bryant Art Spirit Award).



## GAME DAY

**Save Friday, January 30, 2015**  
**SURPRISES - PRIZES - FUN - FOOD**

Bring your friends and join us for Bridge, Mahjong, Canasta, Bunco, Mexican Train and lunch, in the private homes of our members and friends. Or...put together a game day party in your own home. We'll provide the food & prizes.

**BE PART OF THE GAME DAY TRADITION**  
 Chairmen: Nancy Shuma and Anne Hopkins  
 For information call: 760.601.3954

### A few photos and many thanks from Game Day 2013



Especially and always.....  
 Joni Maltzman & Friends



At Rachel Druten's: *The winners!* *Hostesses at work*



We thank the following for also offering their lovely homes: *Phyllis Brock, Marilyn Smythe, Gloria Guttman and Donna Martin.*  
 ....and all the hardworking VISIONARIES hostesses.

### SNIPS & SNAILS

**We are grateful to the following:**

**Most Recent Media Support:**

**Betty Francis**, Desert Sun  
**Gloria Greer**, Palm Springs Life

**Photographers:**

**Lani Garfield**, [lanigarfield@mac.com](mailto:lanigarfield@mac.com) (760.567.6396)  
**Sherri Bryer**, [smbreyer@aol.com](mailto:smbreyer@aol.com) (760.799.5921)

**In Kind Services**

**Irma and Robert Smith**, MSA Consulting, Inc,  
 for providing space for VISIONARIES monthly meetings  
 and a multitude of other kindnesses.  
**Chico's**, El Paseo, for producing VISIONARIES Fashion Show  
**Mitre & Bevel Framing**, 760.202.2333

### VICKY'S OF SANTA FE SUPPORTS TFT

VICKY'S OF SANTA FE  
 2014/15 JAZZ/CABARET SUPPER CLUB SERIES  
 in association with BILL LANESE ENTERTAINMENT  
 is giving a portion of the proceeds to TFT

Join us for the first in the series  
**MONDAY, DECEMBER 8**  
**ANDREA MARCOVICCI, "A WWII CHRISTMAS"**

For reservations: 760.345.9770 [vickyofsantafe.com](http://vickyofsantafe.com)

### BEHIND THE SCENES



*Chico models*



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Rancho Mirage Womans Club  
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**Adopt - A - School Angel**  
**\$10,000+**

Donna MacMillan  
Harold Matzner

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**IN MEMORY**

Hal Haver  
Rachel Druten  
Alan H. Salzman  
Dear Sister  
Bruce & Inez Cohen

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, Old Town Artisan Studio**



**\*\* NEW ADDRESS \*\***  
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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 Cathedral City, 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.

## ***! TFT KIDS NEED YOU !***



**SEND YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS TO**  
**[andrea@toolsfortomorrow.org](mailto:andrea@toolsfortomorrow.org)**  
**TO GET YOUR NEWSLETTER ONLINE**

### **Tools For Tomorrow Programs are in the following schools:**

#### **Cathedral City:**

Rio Vista Elementary

#### **Coachella:**

Palm View Elementary

#### **Desert Hot Springs:**

Bubbling Wells Elementary School  
Two Bunch Palms Elementary School  
Julius Corsini Elementary School

#### **Indio:**

Andrew Jackson School  
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

## **SAVE THE DATES**

### **November 20, 2014**

Founders Celebration

### **December 8, 2014**

Vicky's Santa Fe Cabaret

### **January 30, 2015**

Game Day

### **March 5, 2015**

Vision for the Future  
Award Luncheon