

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.

TFT TO HONOR BARBARA AND JERRY KELLER

NONPROFIT 501(c)(3)

ART • MUSIC • DRAMA • WRITING

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Barbara and Jerry Keller

The VISIONARIES of Tools For Tomorrow are privileged to present the 2017 Vision for the Future Award to philanthropists and restaurateurs, Barbara and Jerry Keller, for their enthusiastic personal involvement and generous support of countless charities throughout the Coachella Valley.

Fall 2016

Former NY theatre director and producer, agent and author, Barbara has taken an active role on numerous charity boards, including the Palm Springs Art Museum, The Desert Aids Project, McCallum Theatre, Jewish Family Services, and Sunshine Circle.

Jerry, president of Keller International Publishing Corporation, has also served on local boards, including CV Repertory Theatre, the Israel Cancer Research Fund, and Game On. Along with Barbara, he is involved in the Desert AIDS Project and the Palm Springs Art Museum. In addition, LULU, their California Bistro in Palm Springs and Palm Desert, continues to benefit numerous desert charities, notably, the reception before the

premiere performance of *Grande Ole Dame*, a benefit for Tools For Tomorrow on November 16th at the Indian Wells Theater, CSUSB Palm Desert Campus.

The love and appreciation for this devoted couple is reflected in the scores of honors and awards they have received both together and separately throughout the years. To add to the impressive list, in October, the Kellers received the Friends of Pride Award and, in 2017, Barbara will be receiving the Steve Chase Humanitarian Award from the Desert Aids Project.

The Vision for the Future Luncheon honoring the Kellers will take place at the Renaissance Hotel, Indian Wells Resort and Spa. The event will again feature an original presentation by the TFT children, written, produced and directed by Joyce Bulifant; assisted by her husband, Roger Perry.

DIRECTOR RETIRES



For the past eleven years Ed DiNicola has been the face of Tools For Tomorrow. His background in education, his creativity, and his love and understanding of children are reflected in Tools For Tomorrow's unique curriculum.

Under Ed's direction, Tools For Tomorrow has grown in strength and in depth. He leaves a legacy of which he and TFT can be very proud, a strong foundation on which to build for the future. Ed will continue on a consulting basis.

Ed wrote, "Tools for Tomorrow has been a life changer for me. To have had the opportunity to touch so many young lives with a vision for their future, has been the capstone of my educational and personal life.



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 them with a coping mechanism for the future and a vision of what their lives can become.

A MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN & CEO



Though Ed DiNicola retired in August, his impact on Tools For Tomorrow will extend far beyond his eleven-year tenure as executive director. He will be remembered not only for making the program work, but most notably for the imaginative curriculum he created.

Jim Reed

Ed will continue to consult with Tim Martin, newly

elected president of Tools For Tomorrow, to provide a seamless transition and to identify and evaluate candidates to fill the position of program director. Tim also has a strong, program specific background in education, having been an elementary school teacher and vice principal during a 38-year career. His foresight and enthusiasm for the program were apparent during a recent staff meeting to review the curriculum and get feedback from the teachers regarding the program and it's future.

On behalf of the TfT Board of Directors, I wish a fond farewell to Ed and a warm welcome to Tim.

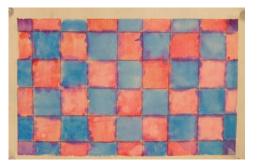
Jim Reed

TFT WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBER



Robin Nugent, graduate of Stanford and University of Virginia, and retired EVP from US Bank, brings 41 years of experience in all areas of banking and in nonprofits including The American Red Cross and United Way boards and LA Junior League (president). She is currently serving on the Vestry of St. Margaret's Episcopal Church.

Robin Nugent



SUMMER SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

Tools For Tomorrow is grateful to the Idyllwild Arts Academy for again awarding four summer scholarships to the following deserving Tools For Tomorrow students:

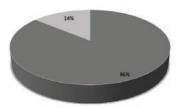






Julieta Maryam Fernando Jamie We also thank the Palm Springs Art Museum for offering seven additional scholarships for their summer program.

TFT BUDGET ALLOCATION



TFT Program - 86% Overhead - 14%

A portion of the overhead is covered by the income from the Noël Bryant Endowment Fund.

A MESSAGE FROM TFT PRESIDENT



There is so much news to share about our Tools For Tomorrow program as we begin this new school year. Here are the highlights.

I am privileged to be consulting with Ed DiNicola as we transition into the new semester. We continue to offer after school programs in fifteen Coachella Valley schools from Desert Hot Springs to Coachella. The

demand was so great at Mecca Elementary School last year that we expanded our program to two classes and, are grateful to "TFT Angel," board member Diane Fox, for continuing to adopt and fund a Mecca class each year. We will continue to offer a class for special needs kids, and thanks to the Irene W. & Guy L. Anderson Children's Foundation grant, rhythm instruments will provide an additional musical component to our program. This makes a total of 17 classes in the fifteen schools! With more support like this we will continue to expand.

Sunday, October 2, we held our teacher training with three new staff members joining experienced teachers. Two local expert teachers gave workshops in music and writing. Five Girl Scouts from Troop 774 also shared their kid-centered projects. The enthusiasm in the room was contagious. "Motivated" is the word I would use to describe the teachers as they left the meeting.

Teachers are planning! Schools are creating TFT classes! Kids are standing ready!

Let's go have some fun!! Tim Martin







ARTISTS & WRITERS GALLERY Fall 2016

This newsletter features Harry S. Truman Elementary Teacher: Kathy Olearnick

Native American Unit



<u>My Raven, Angel, Guardian</u>

Over the mountains, there was a bright glistening light. A light of hope, a light of love from a mother holding her child. I was born on a day where the wind slaps so hard on the ocean that sounds of loud bears were not to be heard. The ravens' loud, death-like caws were the only thing you could hear besides the ferocious roar of thunder.

Then the enlightening cry of a beautiful baby being born had begun. The night sky began twinkling with starry wonder and blazed with the eyes of angels. The ravens began singing

a wondrous tune and their death-like caws became the sound of elegant chirps. They circled around me, while I awoke from my slumber. My mother says that I have the eyes of a raven, but the soul of an angel.

I grew up with a raven always by my side. The leader of the ravens protected me and cared for me. He was there on the day I was born, watching over me, waiting to be my guardian. He took care of me from that day on.

One day I stumbled upon a wild dog. He growled at me with a look of hatred and had the eyes of a devil. He pinned me to the ground tearing into my skin. A loud caw came from the horizon and then a swoosh of a shadow appeared on the ground. Then swoosh again, but this time the devil's roar faded away. My guardian had come to my deafening cries. He truly was angel. Julieta Ramos

My Horse Story

Sitting in my room I heard the neighing of a horse. I peered out of my window and saw a dark swoosh of a shadow. I blinked only for a moment, and it disappeared in the sunlight. A day later, as I was taking a walk by the mountains, I noticed a horse. The mighty guardian led me to the path of destiny. Instead of taking it against its will, I led it to my ranch. His golden blonde mane flowed in the wind as it gracefully galloped in the pasture.

The horse has always led me home for the past years. Until one day, I heard the roar of the mighty stallion fade away and nothing was to be heard. Sometime later, however, I was in danger until the horse's spirit saved me. After that, I believe I would never see the horse again. But my horse guide lives on in the stories I tell my children. Then my son said that the horse should allow me one last ride before my heart fades away.



The stallion graciously allowed this. Then after this ride, the mighty stallion and I were gone and off to another adventure. Ryan Kestell



The Hummingbird

Lost in a dark and dreary forest, I was filled with fear and dread. I hoped that someone or something would help calm my nerves. Then suddenly, I hear a flittering sound and thought to myself what a butterfly can do to help me, but it is not a butterfly.

I realize the flutter is different, because it is a magical flutter. A hummingbird appeared and its bejeweled body sparkled like a rainbow in a dark, forbidding sky. From

its height, it can see all the creatures of nature and found me. It led me to a place where I could rest for the night. Meanwhile the day darkened into night and the blackness spread and the hummingbird, like me, prepared for

slumber. I shut my eyes and fell into a deep sleep filled with dreams. In the morning, I came out of my tent and looked. No one was there except a hummingbird. Somehow I know how to find my way home. I named my guide Hope because it gave me hope and I also hope it will stay with me forever.

Addison Johnson

VISIONARIES . . .



Judith Antonio

The third year of the VISIONARIES started with a bang: *Picnic In the Park with Patty and Arthur Newman* at the beautiful Marrakesh Country Club, a tribute to Patty and Arthur Newman for their support of TFT as well as many other charities in the valley. We enjoyed wonderful picnic food and a fantastic evening of entertainment that included McCallum

Theatre's Open Call winners: The DeKock Trio; Kaitlyn Farley, singing Sondheim; violin and piano performances by Lilly Milcheva and Helen Lai of Idyllwild Arts Academy; and last but not least, the amazing AquaNuts synchronized swimmers, seven boys, kindergarten through 5th grade, choreographed by TFT operations manager, Andrea Hecht.

Our second event was the 50s & 60s *Musical Memories Dance Party* honoring our own Jennie Inch. Jennie and her husband Bob started the festivities by dancing their love song to music by the duo, *The Carmens*. Then the floor was crowded for the dance lesson by Chris Perry. Everyone loved the swing dance demonstration by Lisa and Ken, while they enjoyed the fare at Spencers at the Mountain. The prize for best costume went to Chris Metz.

The final event of the season was the 10th annual *Vision for the Future Award Luncheon* where the Visionaries honored Charlie Pasarell. Once again a highlight of the afternoon was the TFT children performing a skit of Charlie's life, written, produced and directed by the talented Joyce Bulifant, which brought the audience to their feet.

So, not only did we have a fun year, but were able to raise \$110,000, thanks to those generous donors who have supported us.

The Visionaries are looking forward to another great year and hope you will join us and our fundraising efforts, to sustain and expand the Tools For Tomorrow program in schools throughout the Coachella Valley.

Judith Antonio, VISIONARIES Chairman





SUNDAY IN THE PARK

















MUSICAL MEMORIES....













HONORING CHARLIE PASARELL ...

The Crystal Ballroom of the Renaissance Hotel was bright with crystal globes of blue and white chrysanthemums, colors reminiscent of Charlie Pasarell's years at UCLA where he rose to fame as an all star in tennis and met his beautiful wife Shireen. She, their two children, and his 97 year-old father were there to see Charlie receive the 2016 Tools For Tomorrow Vision for the Future Award.

Hosted by the amazing Visionaries under the direction of cochairwomen for the luncheon Irma Smith and Louise Escoe, the event was produced, written and directed by actor/writer Joyce Bulifant, with music composed and performed by her husband, actor/composer, Roger Perry.

The program began with the presentation of the colors by the La Quinta High School ROTC, followed by a video of Charlie's life created by Clark Duggar and Joyce Bulifant. Beneath a gazebo ringed with flowers, brightly costumed TFT students sang and danced their way through a performance reflecting Charlie's memorable career. Darci Daniels sang a moving rendition of Roger Perry's beautiful and inspirational composition, *Follow Your Star*, to the young actor "Charlie" who then stepped from the stage, took the honoree's hand, leading him to the podium beneath a double line of crossed tennis rackets.

The iconic Harold Matzner, with his usual eloquence and wit, presented the beautiful Vision for the Future Award, created by Karen and Tony Barone, to his friend Charlie, followed by brief remarks from the honoree, himself.

Prior to lunch, recognition awards were presented to: Benjamin Lopez (Rachel Druten Founder, Teacher of the Year), Julieta Ramos (Daryl Timmons Bryant Art Spirit Award), and Nancy Bleiweiss-Nevil (Volunteer Award).

Among the attending luminaries:

Donna MacMillan and Harold Matzner - honorary chairpersons; Sherrie Auen, Becky Benaroya, Sabby and Wendy Jonathan, Janice and Richard Oliphant, Mary T. Roche, Barbara Stabler, Joey English, Van Tanner, Sandy Woodson and Marjorie Victor.

Thanks also to the following donors who helped make this event a huge success: Donna McMillan, Harold Matzner, JoAnn McGrath and the Highland Street Foundation, David and Gail Bryant, The Coeta and Donald Barker Foundation, Louise Escoe, Lita Heller, Janice Lyle, Judy Morley, Irma and Robert Smith, Robert Wernick, Pacific Western Bank, and Wells Fargo Bank.





_____SNIPS & SNAILS _

We are grateful to the following:

Media Support:

Pattie Daly-Caruso, Television Joey English, Radio **Betty Francis**, The Desert Sun Mary Perry, The Beacon -A publication of DSUSD Susan Stein, Palm Springs Life



Photographers:

Lani Garfield, lanigarfield@mac.com (760.567.6396) Marc Glassman, marcophoto@aol.com (760.568.1635) John Antonio, official VISIONARIES photographer

Sunday in the Park with Patty and Arthur Newman

Marrakesh Country Club, Palm Desert Donated for the Live Auction: Karen & Tony Barone, artisits -Fantasies, Elixirs, and Magic Treats for 16 at their studio Alaina Bixon - Wine tasting for 10 in your home Catalan Restaurant, Rancho Mirage, Chef Drew Davis -Suckling Pig Dinner for Six

2016 Vision for the Future Luncheon - Silent Auction Donations

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Nothing Bundt Cake Private Party Maven **RV Adams Family** Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa La Quinta Resort & Club PGA West **Renaissance Indian Wells Resort & Spa**

ISIONARIE Luncheon Join the fun!!

January 30, 2017 • 10AM to 2PM at La Quinta Country Club

Bridge • Mahjong • Mexican Train • Canasta • Dice • Spite & Malice

Co-Chairs Anne Hopkins & Nancy Shuma Call for more information or to make your reservation • 760 601-3954

GRANTS & GIFTS 2015-2016

Tools For Tomorrow gratefully acknowledges the following foundations and community organizations for their generous support:

Anderson Children's Foundation

Aqua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians

The Auen Foundation City of Indio

City of Palm Desert

City of Rancho Mirage

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The Coeta & Donald Barker Foundation

The Coachella Valley Fund at The Community Foundation Strengthening Inland Southern California

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The Manilow Music Project/Manilow Fund for Health and Hope

McCallum Theatre

Newman's Own Foundation - Patty & Arthur Newman Pacific Western Bank

Wells Fargo Foundation



TFT Display at Front & Center, Desert Sands Unified School District Board Meeting

of the bidding war for Brunch at the Barones, posing with their Volkswagen Bug.

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

DONATIONS - 10/2015 - 9/2016



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



This newsletter is designed, written, and edited in-house by volunteers and staff.

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 !



SUSTAINABILITY IS CRITICAL to maintain the program and qualify for grants

Tools For Tomorrow Programs are in the following schools:

Cathedral City: Rio Vista Elementary School

Coachella: Palm View Elementary School

Desert Hot Springs:

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

Indio:

Andrew Jackson Elementary School Lyndon Johnson Elementary School Martin Van Buren Elementary School

La Quinta: Harry S.Truman Elementary School

Palm Desert: Abraham Lincoln Elementary School Ronald Reagan Elementary School

Palm Springs: Cahuilla Elementary School Vista del Monte Elementary School

Rancho Mirage: Rancho Mirage Elementary School

Mecca: Mecca Elementary School

SAVE THE DATES

<u>November 16, 2016</u> Christmas at the Grande Ole Dame <u>January 30, 2017</u> Game Day <u>March 24, 2017</u> Vision for the Future Award Luncheon <u>April 21, 2017</u> VISIONARIES members reception

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