

# **Tools For Tomorrow**

Free, after-school and online arts literacy programs integrating creative writing, art, music, and drama for children grades three through five in elementary schools throughout the Coachella Valley.

NONPROFIT 501(c)(3)

# ART • MUSIC • DRAMA • WRITING

FOUNDER -TOOLS FOR TOMORROW Rachel Bryant Druten

FOUNDER - VISIONARIES Claire Smith

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SCAN ME



200 Premier Artists from 32 States and Five Countries Invite You to the Largest Celebration of Art in the Coachella Valley. *A portion of the proceeds supports* 

FALL 2021

A portion of the proceeds suppo Tools For Tomorrow.

For more information or to BUY TICKETS, go to: **laquintaartcelebration.org** 



Suzanne Fromkin, TFT Board Member, La Quinta Art Celebration Volunteer

## SUCCESS!! THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS! TFT'S FIRST VIRTUAL GALA & AUCTION



Former TFT Student Abigail Carter Entertained May 2021, despite Covid challenges, the Tools For Tomorrow VISIONARIES raised funds with "*Keep Their Dreams Alive*" a virtual Gala and Auction Chaired by Judith Antonio, co-produced by C.J. Westrick-Bomar, with Chris Metz chairing the successful live and silent auctions. The Gala showcased an appearance by Richard Dreyfuss and a performance by the Tools For Tomorrow's Theatre Troupe. Former teacher Kaitlyn Farley performed Board member Joe Giarrusso's original song

"*Keep Their Dreams Alive*" with lyrics by TFT Program Director David Hirsch. Special thanks to all our sponsors, especially The Auen Foundation and David W. Bryant.



HONORING Sandy C. Woodson SAVE THE DATE!

For our 2022 Vision for the Future Award Gala

A MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA Dinner Show February 28, 2022

To Reach, Teach and Inspire Children through the ARTS

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



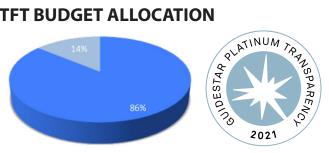
For 22 years, we at Tools For Tomorrow have been raising funds to bring an integrated arts program to the children of the Coachella Valley. TFT gives all the children the equipment and supplies they will need for their projects. In addition to providing a rich arts experience,

Robin Nugent

our dedicated teachers answer the children's social and emotional learning needs.

The TFT Board is watching the pennies and has raised funds through generous donations, grants and at our successful Virtual Event and Christmas in July celebration at The Roost Lounge. My deepest and heartfelt thanks go to all who work so hard, who donate and who volunteer to make Tools For Tomorrow so successful. Robin Nugent

### **TFT BUDGET ALLOCATION**



86% TFT Program 14% Overhead

Tools For Tomorrow maintains an investment fund started by our Founder, Rachel Druten and her family. It is Rachel's dream that the investment fund will one day cover TFT's adminstrative expenses.

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR TREASURER



Tools For Tomorrow is in a strong financial position. This is a result of two successful fundraisers, grants and generous donations from our supporters, and the two Paycheck Protection Program loans from the federal government which have since been forgiven.

We are looking forward to a great coming year, getting back into the classroom, and the addition of a Zoom class for those students whose school does not provide the program. Judith Antonio





Alexa - Grade 5

Heidy - Grade 4

### A REPORT FROM OUR PROGRAM DIRECTOR



The true test of any person or group's character is how they respond when challenged by adversity. At Tools For Tomorrow we were suddenly presented with a situation beyond our control which threatened our mission at a time when the students needed us more than ever.

David Hirsch

When it became clear last fall that

schools would not reopen we had a decision to make. Throughout the summer of 2020 we trained teachers and reworked our systems in order to offer our program online. Many of our procedures had to be reimagined, and with a few small glitches we were able to continue classes at all of our schools. Response was better than we hoped as we registered well over three hundred students. We also found that by providing online classes we can make Tools For Tomorrow programs available to students throughout the district, thus serving more children than ever.

Our program has been blessed with the support of an incredibly generous network of volunteers, mentors, and donors whose help was crucial. I see the fruits of our labor every day in the faces of the students we serve. I thank you from the bottom of my heart. David Hirsch

### A REPORT FROM OUR OPERATIONS DIRECTOR



Your donations, grants and in-kind services have enabled TFT to update our computers, donor management system and bookkeeping software. We are more efficient in the office, allowing us to focus more time and resources on our students. When COVID shut us down, TFT got to work

Andrea Hecht

building a stronger framework, including a new website and new curriculum units. Thank You to our board members, volunteers, youth and students who all strive to "Keep Their Dreams Alive". Andrea Hecht

# TEACHER FEATURE - Jose P. Silva Villa, Musician & Teaching Artist



Jose P. Silva Villa

Born in Mexico, Jose was raised in the Coachella valley in a Hispanic community. His interest in music grew at a young age from his father, a Mariachi trumpet player. At 14 he began making music of his own. Because of music Jose developed a passion for the arts, and learning.

Jose is currently at The Coil School for the Arts pursuing a bachelor's degree in Audio Engineering. During his time in college, he has done studio work, played trumpet and toured professionally throughout the country. He has also

taught music from elementary students through high school. "Teaching at Tools for Tomorrow has given me a blessed feeling in giving back to the community that has taught me so much growing up."





Dear Tools For Tomorrow,

I just want to say thank you for making this program. I learned things that my mom did not even know. I got to learn things that I would of never learned for years. Plus I made new friends.

I had lots of fun. We got to write stories, learn about people, and art. I was new this year and I only knew people. in my class. Since I came here I know more people. There's alot of cool things in this program and I'm happy I was in it.

> Your student, Analysia

Dear Tools For Tomorrow.

I'm glad to be in this class. Mr. Silva is the best teacher ever! I like how we do art, learn about peoples lives, and how we do fun activities. I like all the students are kind in this class. I just got to say I love Tools For Tomorrow.

Sincerely, Kayla

"It even helped me in class. Thank you so much!" Love, Kai

### SURREALISM & MAGIC REALISM

A lesson, discussion and hands-on art project



Hayden, Grade 5





Isabella, Grade 5

Vanessa, Grade 3







Yizeth, Grade 4

Ilana, Grade 3

**DIA DE LOS MUERTOS** 

Online with Giovanna Silva, Teaching Artist and Sister



Bella, Grade 5

Ilana, Grade 3

# **CHRISTMAS IN JULY** AT THE ROOST LOUNGE, CATHEDRAL CITY



The fabulous in-person brunch and dinner "*Christmas in July*" celebrations were hosted by The Roost Lounge co-owners Jeff MacDonald and Charles Thomas to a sold-out, in-person crowd. It featured an All-Holiday Wreath Decorating Contest/Auction and

Suzanne Fromkin

performances by Divas on the Dance Floor, Eve Holmes, Bill Lohnes, Sean Taylor Jackson and Bill Ramirez. A resounding success both financially and fun! *Suzanne Fromkin* 































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# TFT TO HONOR SANDY WOODSON



### Drum Roll Please!

The **VISIONARIES of Tools For Tomorrow** are thrilled to present the **2022 Vision** for the Future Award to Sandy C. Woodson, a well-known, charismatic leader and philanthropist in the Desert's nonprofit world.

### Sandy's philanthropy extends far and wide.

Sandy's charitable experience began when she was working for Bank of America in San Francisco. As a Group Vice President, in Credit Card Marketing, Sandy was proactive in encouraging the bank hierarchy to support the local charities. She was actively involved in spearheading fundraising events and serving on the Board of the California Pacific Medical Center.

After retiring Sandy moved to the Desert in 2002. Since then her commitment to nonprofits increased significantly. She generously committed her time, talent and financial support to numerous charities throughout the Desert, including consistently supporting **Tools For Tomorrow**.

# Due to her boundless energy, passion, creativity and outstanding leadership ability, Sandy was sought after for numerous board positions and honors. They include the following:

Member of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee with the Virginia Waring International Piano
Competition including taking on the role of President for two years
Secretary of the Board for Living Desert Board of Trustees, and Board Nominating Committee Chair
Board of Directors, Living Desert Zoo and Gardens
Board of Director of the McCallum Theatre Muses and President for two years
Board of Directors with ACT for MS
Board of Directors with Coachella Valley Alumnae Panhellenic (President, Treasurer, Membership Chair, Newsletter Chair and Executive Committee),
Lifetime member at College of the Desert, Member of President's Circle and Academic Angels Board Member
Appointee of Rancho Mirage Cultural Commission
The Association of Fundraising Professionals 2017 Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser

**Congratulations** Sandy and thank you for giving your ALL in everything you do for our community. Your leadership serves as an outstanding example of what one can do to Make a Difference!

# SAVE THE DATE!

For our 2022 Vision for the Future Award Gala

# A MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA

Dinner Show at the Agua Caliente Casino Resort in Rancho Mirage February 28, 2022

# \* REEP THEIR DREAMS ALIVE The ARTS Make A Difference! \*

## **VIRTUAL GALA & AUCTION - MAY 2021**

**Keep Their Dreams Alive - Performers:** 

Ciera Carr - Singer Abigail Carter - Singer Bennett Creighton -Tap Dancer Kaitlyn Farley - Singer Joe Giarrusso -Composer, Title Song Carson Tanner - Singer Zoe Herrara-Rodriguez,



Freddie Silveria, FSA Auctions

**Cari Koch, CJ Wealand** -Tools For Tomorrow Theatre Troupe **Richard Dreyfuss** - Academy Award Winner, Special Guest Appearance

### Keep Their Dreams Alive - Auction Donors:

Karen & Tony Barone **BIGHORN Country Club** Brandini Toffee Cafe Aroma Jean C. Carrus Castlewatch Wealth Ameriprise Financial Ken and Sharon Clay Coachella Valley Repertory The Current Entertainment Rachel Druten Eddie V's Prime Seafood Eight4Nine El Cordova Hotel Ferro Restaurant Jasmine Forman Christine Metz-Gennet & Michael Gennet The Grand Idyllwild Lodge Ann Greer Grill-A-Burger Kay Hanson Andrea Hecht Hike Local Palm Springs Hope Family Wines iCreative Il Corso Palm Desert June Hill's Table Kaiser Restaurant Group La Spiga Ristorante Italiano

Lavender Bistro Le Cuvier Winery Le Paon Restauran The Living Desert Zoo & Gardens Marquis Los Cabos Judy Mathes Mezzo Mondo Trattoria Middle Ridge Winery Mitch's On El Paseo Modern Hacinda Design The Nest Niner Wine Estates Robin Nugent O'Caine's Irish Pub Palm Royale Collective Rancho Relaxo Ristorante Mamma Gina The Rowan Palm Springs The Ritz-Carlton Rancho Mirage Si Bon Belgian Bistro Silver Pines Lodge Irma Smith **Billy Steinberg** Still Waters Vineyards Thai Smile on El Paseo Tim Turner Landscape Design Tommy Bahama Trio Restaurant Wally's Desert Turtle Wildest Restaurant & Bar

# VISIONARIES MEMBERSHIP 2021-2022



Have you joined the VISIONARIES or renewed your membership? If not, now is the moment! You wouldn't want to miss the wonderful events planned for this coming season.

Two membership levels are available

**Picasso: \$250 pp/Couples \$500** (Includes invitation to a private membership party)

### General: \$150 pp/Couples \$250

Thank you all for your generous support and advocacy. You are partners with Tools For Tomorrow in making a difference in our Valley: one child at a time.

> Linda Rider Membership Chair

# **BOARD MEMBERS VOLUNTEER**

No job is too small.



THANK YOU to all of our Volunteers who helped assemble Art Kits.

# **TERRI CHILDS RETURNS TO LOS ANGELES**



Robin Nugent

Terri Childs was a member of the Tools For Tomorrow Board of Directors. She was also the consummate Visionary, volunteer, enthusiastic supporter and advocate. Her leaving has left a hole in the TFT family. We will miss her greatly.

Lorri McCune & Chris Metz

Terri Childs

# **Drama, Music & Performance** 2018, 2019, 2020





















### **VISION FOR THE FUTURE AWARD RECIPIENTS**

Susan Stein - 2020 Lucie Arnaz - 2019 Linda Rider - 2018 Barbara & Jerry Keller - 2017 Charlie Pasarell - 2016 Harold Matzner - 2015 Donna MacMillan - 2014

### **VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR**

CJ Westrick-Bomar, Esq - 2019 Irma Smith - 2018 Joyce Bulifant - 2017 Nancy Bleiweiss-Nevil - 2016

Janice Lyle, Ph.D. - 2013 Michael Childers - 2012 Carol Channing - 2011 Mary T. Roche - 2010 Steven Nash - 2009 Jackie Lee Houston - 2008 Lee Appel - 2007

Claire Smith - 2015 Anne Hopkins & Nancy Shuma - 2014 Joni Maltzman - 2013 Marge Dodge - 2012



HONOREES Phyllis Eisenberg 2020 - Vision Event Honorary Chair 2013 - Fiddler on the Roof Sing Along

**Joyce Bulifant** 

2017 - Up Close & Personal Book Signing, "My Four Hollywood Husbands" Jennie Inch 2016 - Musical Memories Dance Party

**Patty & Arthur Newman** 2015 - Sunday in the Park

**Rachel Druten** 

2014 - Founder Tools For Tomorrow's 15th Anniversary Celebration

# **BEHIND THE SCENES**



**Teacher's Meeting 2021** Making good use of our office space.

# **IN MEMORY OF**

Lee Appel died June 9, 2020. She served on the Board of Tools For Tomorrow from January 2007 to June 2016. Named by Palm Springs Life Magazine as one of the 20 most dynamic women in the Coachella Valley, Lee was deeply involved in supporting many worthwhile causes.





**Dennis Gilmore**, passed away on January 26, 2021. Dennis was a valued Tools For Tomorrow board member from September 2018 to August 2020. During that time he brought his background in theater and advocacy to bear in establishing a speaker's bureau to present the Tools For Tomorrow

story throughout the Coachella Valley.

Arthur Newman, retired film executive, community and civic leader and known philanthropist, died December 7, 2020. Since the beginning Arthur and his wife, Patty, have been generous supporters and advocates for the Tools For Tomorrow program. Photo by Marc Glassman courtesy McCallum Theatre



# **CVRep Theatre**

Board member Joe Giarrusso gives TFT Theatre Troupe Students a behind the scenes tour.













Art Inspired by Tim Burton, Animator and Film Maker with Teaching Artist Sallé Kirby



Samantha, Grade 4



DJ, Grade 5



Blanca, Grade 3



Carlos, Grade 3

# Artists & Writers Gallery - Fall 2021



Carving a pumpkin Happy moments created Fun memories made

Emma Lynn, Grade 4

Bees are beautiful Working hard for their honey In the flower field

Keily, Grade 4

Emily, Grade 4

The fresh leaves fall off Like colorful gems from trees Coloring the ground. Flor, Grade 5



Chelsea, Grade 4

Good night daytime sky It's your turn to say farewell Until tomorrow Christian, Grade 5



Ava, Grade 4

A beautiful leaf Flutters to the ground Waiting for snowflakes Eden, Grade 5



Nevaeh, Grade 4



**ZOOM Program Inspiration** *Things you like about yourself.* 



Samantha, Grade 4



Alexa, Grade 5



Audrey, Grade 4



Carlos, Grade 3



Christian, Grade 4



Camila, Grade 3



Kiara, Grade 3



Roman, Grade 5

# **SNIPS & SNAILS**

We are grateful to the following: **Media Support:** 

Winston Gieseke, Julie Makinen, Darby Wright, **Christine Carrera, Denise Fleig** - The Desert Sun Pat Krause, Max Lieberman - Desert Star Weekly Susan Stein, Franklin Jones, Derrik Lang - Palm Springs Life

Joe Smith, Sandie Newton - KMIR Patrick Evans, Brandon Iriarte - KESQ Joey English, jimi FITZ and Wendy Jane - Radio Jasmine Forman, Lani Garfield, John Antonio - Photographers

**O'Bayley Community Calendar** 



Isaac, Grade 4

# IN LOVING MEMORY OF MR. BINGO



Throughout his life Mr. Bingo Druten was an ambassador for Tools For Tomorrow. Mr. Bingo died of congenital heart failure in April of 2021. In addition to supporting TFT, he was a therapy dog who assisted in the testing of other dogs, and for many years volunteered at Eisenhower Hospital Alzheimer's unit.





Antonio, Grade 5

Guillermo, Grade 4



Elijah, Grade 4

# **GRANTS & GIFTS 2020-2021**

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

Aegon Transamerica Foundation Aqua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians AmazonSmile Foundation Anderson Children's Foundation The Auen Foundation Bank of Southern California The Coeta & Donald Barker Foundation Grace Helen Spearman Charitable Foundation Highland Street Foundation -JoAnn McGrath Inland Empire Community Foundation - County of Riverside Izu & Bergmann Dental Associates, Inc. La Quinta Art Celebration

Levy | Lauter LLP MSA Consulting Newman's Own Foundation Ralphs Community Rewards/ Kroger Co.

St. Margaret's Episcopal Church The Roost Lounge Walmart Indio Neighborhood Market #8958



Melody, Grade 5

**TRIBUTE GIFTS -**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO: **Terri** Childs Non-Fiction Book Club Girlfriends **Phyllis Eisenberg** Mimi Gittelson Suz Hunt Linda Rider Marge Barry **Rachel Druten** Judith Antonio Sandy Logan Louise Escoe Terri Neuman Rachel Druten **Claire Smith** Terri Parman IN HONOR OF: Andrea Hecht Ted & Kelly Frankiewicz Belinda Cortez

Anonymous

Jennie Inch Anonymous Nan Shipp & Bob Wernick **Claire Smith** Terri Parman Judy Mathes Facebook -Network for Good **Robin Nugent Bob** Nugent Melody Nishida Rachel Druten Barbara Bryant Facebook -Network for Good Marlowe Viney Tanja Wyzykowsk Margie DeKock Nan Shipp The Page Turners **Book** Club Claire Smith Irma Smith

Christine Metz-Gennet





Melody, Grade 5

### A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR DONORS - YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



ADOPT - A - SCHOOL ANGEL - \$10,000 + Sherrie Auen David Bryant Jeffrey Kramer Jeffrey McDonald Robin & Robert Nugent Linda Rider Nan Shipp & **Bob Wernick** 

### **BENEFACTOR -**\$5,000 to \$9,999

Patrick Howard Judy Mathes

### PATRON - \$1,000 to \$4,999 James Albers

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John Gooding & John Woodruff Phyllis Greenbach Ann Greer

DONATIONS - July 2020 - September 2021

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Designed, written, and edited in-house by volunteers and staff.

### How do we operate?

We employ qualified teaching artists in writing, art, music and drama using a professionally designed curriculum.

### Where are classes held?

Classes are held five days a week online and 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 Bermuda Dunes, Cathedral City, Desert Hot Springs, Indio, La Quinta, Palm Desert, Palm Springs, and Rancho Mirage.

### 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

If you would like to help underwrite the costs of printing and mailing, and be acknowledged in our newsletter call 760.601.3954 Students from the following schools have joined the Tools For Tomorrow Programs:

Bermuda Dunes: James Monroe Elementary School

Cathedral City: Rio Vista Elementary School

### **Desert Hot Springs:**

Bubbling Wells Elementary School Two Bunch Palms Elementary School

### Indio:

Andrew Jackson Elementary School Carrillo Ranch Elementary School Dr. Carreon Academy Herbert Hoover Elementary School James Madison Elementary School John F. Kennedy Elementary School Lyndon B. Johnson Elementary School Martin Van Buren Elementary School Richard Oliphant Elementary School Theodore Roosevelt Elementary School

#### La Quinta:

Benjamin Franklin Elementary School Harry S. Truman Elementary School

### **Palm Desert:**

Abraham Lincoln Elementary School George Washington Charter School Ronald Reagan Elementary School

### Palm Springs:

Cahuilla Elementary School Desert Learning Academy Katherine Finchy Elementary School Vista del Monte Elementary School

Rancho Mirage: Rancho Mirage Elementary School

# SAVE THE DATE

February 28, 2022 A MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA honoring Sandy C. Woodson