



Wellsprings Friends School

“THE LITTLE SCHOOL WITH THE BIG HEART”

Spring, 2014

Newsletter No. 23

3590 W. 18th Ave, Eugene, Oregon 97402

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AN EVENING TO REMEMBER

by Roger Durant, Director of Development

On Thursday, March 13th, Wellsprings Friends School held our Second Annual Toast ‘N’ Roast, honoring and roasting Susan Ban, Executive Director of ShelterCare and Tom Ewing, Executive Vice President and Chief Medical Officer of PacificSource. About 150 people including community and business leaders gathered at the Lane Community College Center for Meeting and Learning.

The evening opened with a reception and background music provided by the Armstrong Quintet, with our own Bob Schlicting on bass. An elegant Mediterranean dinner prepared by Guest Chef Ib Hamide (Café Soriah) was served. While enjoying the delicious meal, attendees heard brief remarks from a Wellsprings alumnus (Keegan Gormley), a current parent (Kari Baumer), and our teachers (Paul, Chanci, and Bob).

The Toasting and Roasting entertainment was guided by Matt Templeman (KEZI 9 news anchor) as the evening’s Emcee (at podium, top photo). A panel of “All-Star Roasters” that included Bob Brasted, Gerry Gaydos, Priscilla Gould and Ron Stock, offered a plethora of accolades and barbs.

During a brief intermission in the Roasting, the audience got the opportunity to listen to current junior Emily Brick, who shared a heartfelt story about her transforming experiences at Wellsprings and then sang a beautiful song to the delight of all the evening’s guests.

Charming caricatures of Susan and Tom created by James Cloutier, illustrator and graphic artist, were auctioned off to gleeful friends of the Roastees.



Emily (class of 2015)



*Ron, Tom, Susan, James, Priscilla (standing);
Dennis, Bob, Gerry (seated)*

One of the evening’s big surprises was that a couple in the audience, who wished to remain anonymous, announced a “challenge pledge”...willing to match all donations \$1 per \$1, up to \$50,000! As emcee Matt Templeman asked the audience for their support of Wellsprings and this generous challenge, well over \$18,000 (which will be matched) was pledged on the spot!

We are grateful to our sponsors—KEZI 9, Lane Forest Products and PacificSource—and everyone who attended for making this event so successful. Be on the lookout for an invitation to our third annual Toast ‘N’ Roast in the spring of 2015!

PROM



Each year, the Wellsprings prom is organized by the students themselves. This year's Prom, with the theme of masquerade, was held at the school on May 10th. A couple months back, senior Sierra Williams happened to contact the One Spark Foundation just for advice regarding the prom. To her surprise, David Hill, founder of One Spark, contacted the school and told us they would donate \$500 towards the prom expenses! We are very grateful to him and the foundation. "One spark" refers to an act of kindness that can "start a fire" of multiple acts of kindness and "change the world." You can learn more at their website, www.1spark.net.

WATCH FOR US AROUND TOWN

Wellsprings was one of twelve non-profit winners in Imagine Group's "Great Giveaway" of a free marketing booster early this year. We chose to have decals placed on our vehicles: one on the back door of each bus, and one on each side of the Suburban. Displaying our logo with phone number and website address, they look great and definitely will help enhance our profile in the community. We are deeply grateful to Imagine Group for this wonderful gift!



A Note from the Head of School

As we put together information and ideas for this issue, we noticed a theme developing: our gratitude to the many individuals and businesses who provide the support that allows Wellsprings to be the creative, exciting, and holistic environment so important to the academic and personal growth of our students. A broad community supports us, and our well-rounded, well-grounded graduates go out into that community ready to give back. *Thank you* to all our supporters and to everyone who reads this newsletter twice a year and shares our journey!

ARTIST HEROES

Wellsprings has always been fortunate to have many talented artists among our students, and their handiwork is visible throughout the school any day of the year. Some of them have gone on to four-year art colleges or careers in tattooing!

Two professional artists who have given much to the school need to be publicly thanked: James Cloutier and



Peter Anthony. James created the wonderful caricatures of our 'Roastees' that helped to make our Toast 'N' Roast events this year and the year before such good fun. Earlier this year, James visited our Art Class and wowed them with turning out a spot-on caricature of each student in less than 5 minutes apiece! James also talked with them about the challenges and joys of making a living as a free-lance artist.

Peter Anthony, a graphic designer, has had a long relationship with Wellsprings. For many years, Peter has prepared Graduation invitations for us and also done the design and calligraphy of our diplomas. A few years ago, we asked Peter to create a new logo for us. He came up with two designs which we liked so much we adopted both of them! One logo appears on the front page of this newsletter; the other can be seen in the photo of our Suburban sporting its new decals.

CYBER HERO

We are extremely grateful to John Hartman, who has been volunteering for over two years as our unofficial webmaster. Our website requires continual updating, and as soon as we notify him of a needed change, John quickly takes care of it.

AN INSPIRATIONAL WEEK IN D.C.

by Emily Brick ('15)



Over spring break, senior Natalie Kilmer and I, along with two students from Network Charter School and South Eugene High School, had the privilege of going on a trip to Washington D.C. to learn about lobbying through a training offered by the Friends Committee on National Legislation. Lisette Ewing, a Wellsprings trustee, volunteered to be our chaperone. It took quite a while to raise all the funds, but thanks to some very generous donors, we did it! This was an amazing experience. We learned so much about different political issues, how things work in the government, and much more.

The main topic that we discussed was the repeal of the 2001 Authorization for the Use of Military Force (AUMF). Originally the AUMF was intended to bring those who were a part of the 9/11 attack to justice. But now it's being used to go after groups that didn't even exist at that time, and the way it's being used is quite flawed. Innocent people are dying due to drone strikes in high population areas. The people in Guantanamo Bay are being held without the chance to prove their innocence, which is a very important right in our country. I believe this overly vague bill needs to be reformed.

To be frank, the training was a little long-winded, but as soon as that was over, the important part began. We scheduled a meeting with Representative Peter DeFazio, and were invited to go along with another constituent from Oregon to see Senator Ron Wyden. The differences between the meetings we had in the office of each member of congress were quite interesting. When we met with some of the interns in Sen. Wyden's office, they mostly just talked at us. In DeFazio's office, the intern we spoke with listened to what we had to say, and asked great questions when we were finished. We also got to meet Rep. DeFazio. Although we didn't get to talk much, it was still nice to be able to meet someone so vital in the political stance of our state.



Overall, it was a great experience and we all learned a great deal about political topics that some of us weren't even aware were an issue. We were also able to visit important monuments such as the Vietnam War and World War II memorials, and several awesome museums. My personal favorite was the Smithsonian American Art Museum. On behalf of myself and my fellow students, I want to thank Lisette for all the ways she helped us, and all the people and organizations whose financial support made this life-changing trip possible.



NOT THERE YET!

The good news about the matching gift offered at the Toast 'N' Roast was that immediately that evening nearly 40% of the goal was pledged! We had hoped that by the time this newsletter went to press, we would be able to report that we had reached or surpassed that \$50,000 goal. But the news so far is that we have reached only a little over the half-way point....Please don't let this opportunity slip by! "Lightning struck twice"—last year and this year—but we know we cannot count on such good fortune continuing. **Your donations are needed now!** Please use the enclosed return envelope to send a contribution, which will be doubled, dollar for dollar—but only until June 30th. At the Toast 'N' Roast, current student Emily and '08 alum Keegan shared their stories of transformation thanks to their education at Wellsprings. You can help other young people benefit from this unique community asset. **Please mail your contribution in today, or donate online by going to our website, www.wellspringsfriends.org. Thank you!**

Congratulations to the

CLASS OF 2014



Isha Caitanya
Baldwin-Hamer



James Jean Jenks



Jules Jeremiah



Kainalu P. Quitzow



Katherine Parazzoo



Natalie Erin Kilmer



Nicolas E.
Ortiz-MaCauley



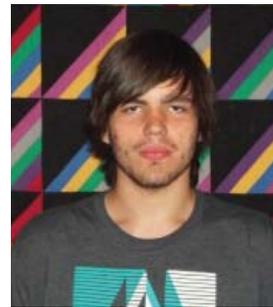
Quanah Star
Donohue-Tyrrell



Rachel Jean
Brasted-Maki



Sierra R. Williams



Zack Eugene
Sebastian

You Are Invited!

Please join us for this very special morning where we honor each student for her/his unique journey from adolescence to young adulthood.



2014 Graduation Ceremony

Saturday, June 21

10:00am

First Christian Church, 1166 Oak St., Eugene