



# MISSION DOLORES ACADEMY

In partnership with the Megan Furth Memorial Fund



## 2017 ANNUAL REPORT



# Contents

---

- 01 Welcome
- 02 Our Year in Review
- 03 Our School at a Glance
- 04-05 Program Update
- 06-09 Our Benefactors



Mission Dolores Academy is an independent Catholic K-8 school in San Francisco's historic Mission District. With a history that dates to 1852, the Academy is the oldest K-8 school in San Francisco. We serve students whose families would otherwise not be able to afford a high-quality private education.

# Welcome

Dear Friends,

It is our sincere hope that the following pages will fill you with a sense of joy and fulfillment. The beaming faces and wonderful programs offered at MDA are a celebration of your generosity and commitment to providing an engaging, affordable education for all. Each and every one of you has been an inspiration, and your collective voice has had a direct impact on making MDA one of the best schools in San Francisco!

Thanks to you, we have been able to both offer and accomplish so much:

- 83% of our 2017 graduating class went on to attend a top Catholic, Independent, or College Preparatory Charter school
- 90% of our young scholars received financial aid
- Enrollment is strong, bolstered by 34 smiling faces in Kindergarten
- 14:1 Student to Teacher ratio
- 2:1 Chromebook to Student ratio
- Inaugural Outdoor Education trip to the Marin Headlands
- Introduction of Latin into the curriculum to fortify vocabulary development
- Expansion of our Literacy Program to offer a Mathematics Specialist
- 20 students received the Sacrament of Confirmation, 23 students received the Sacrament of Holy Communion, and 6 students received the Sacrament of Baptism

It has truly been a wonderful year at Mission Dolores Academy, and we are blessed to have such a thoughtful teaching staff, a caring parent body, and a community of generous benefactors. On behalf of the MDA faculty and staff, we offer a heartfelt - **thank you.**



Paul Recktenwald  
Head of School

**I am MDA!**



Fr. Charles Gagan  
Founder

**I am MDA!**



Meredith Essalat  
Principal

**I am MDA!**

**We are committed to keeping tuition affordable for our families:**

**2<sup>nd</sup>** lowest tuition charged among K-8 schools in Archdiocese of San Francisco.

**0%** tuition increase in last 6 years. Only school in Archdiocese of San Francisco not to have raised tuition.

**\$1.3M** amount we have provided in scholarships in the last 6 years.

## MDA Board of Directors

Alex Adamson  
Sr. Anne Bertain, O.P.  
Tiffany Bohee  
Jerry Brooner  
Kendel Qvale Duford  
Sara Duryea (Chair)

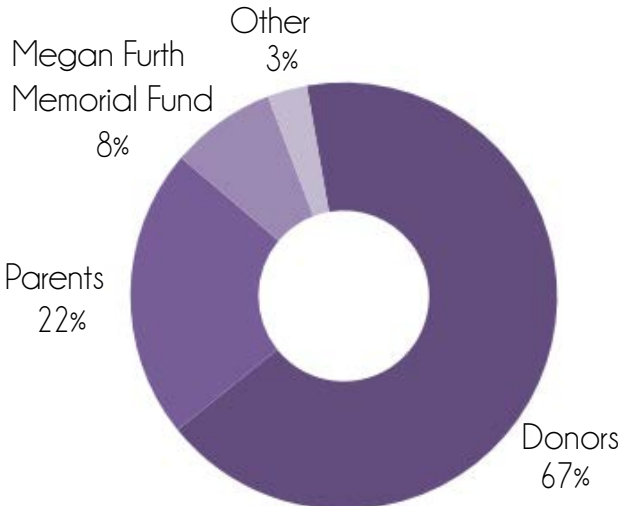
Margie Ellis  
David English  
Rob Flowers  
Frederick P. Furth  
Fr. Charles Gagan, S.J.  
Keith Giarman

Paddy Dailey Hayes  
Jon Keehn  
Bob Lalanne  
Michele Meany  
Reed Minuth  
Joy Misteale

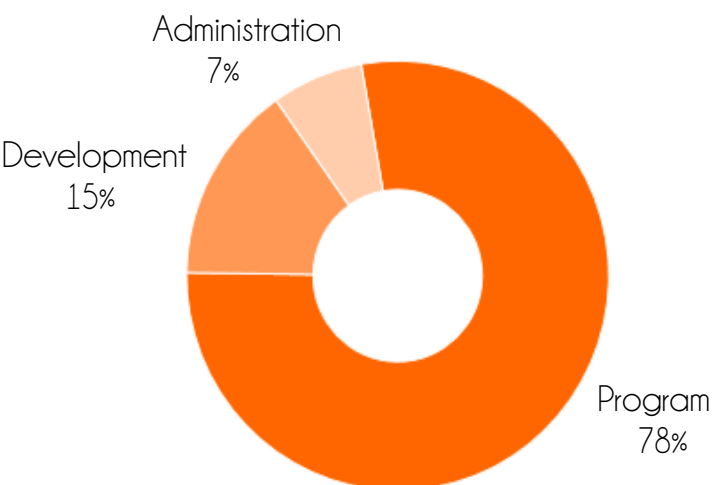
Susan Oberndorf  
Timothy Alan Simon  
William Terheyden  
Gregg Wurster

# Our Year in Review

**Revenue: \$2,717,524**

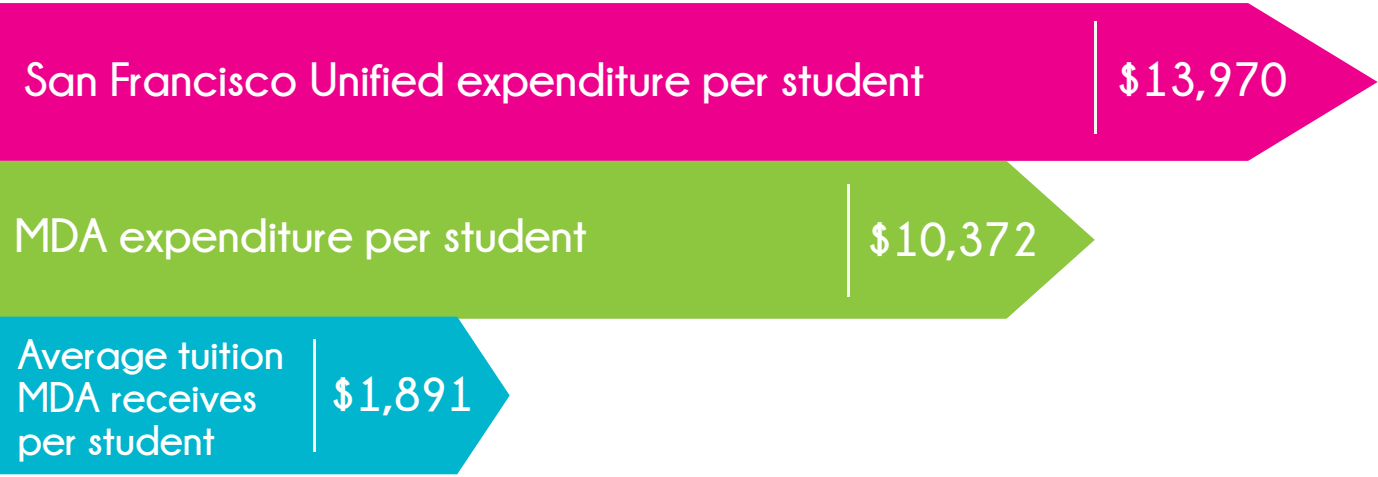





**Expense: \$2,717,484**



Results are for the fiscal year starting August 1, 2016 and ending July 31, 2017

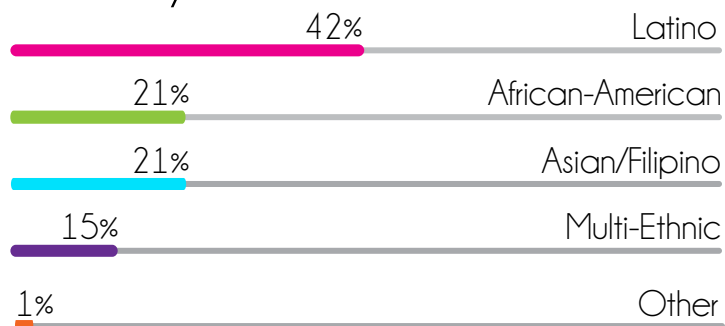
## Per-Student Financial Metrics



-  MDA delivers outstanding academic results at a lower cost than local public schools
-  Even with the second-lowest tuition in the Archdiocese, 90% of our families required some form of tuition assistance in 2017.
-  MDA relies on community investment to help fund the gap between what it costs to educate a student and what our families are able to afford.

# Our School at a Glance

## Ethnicity



## Where our students live

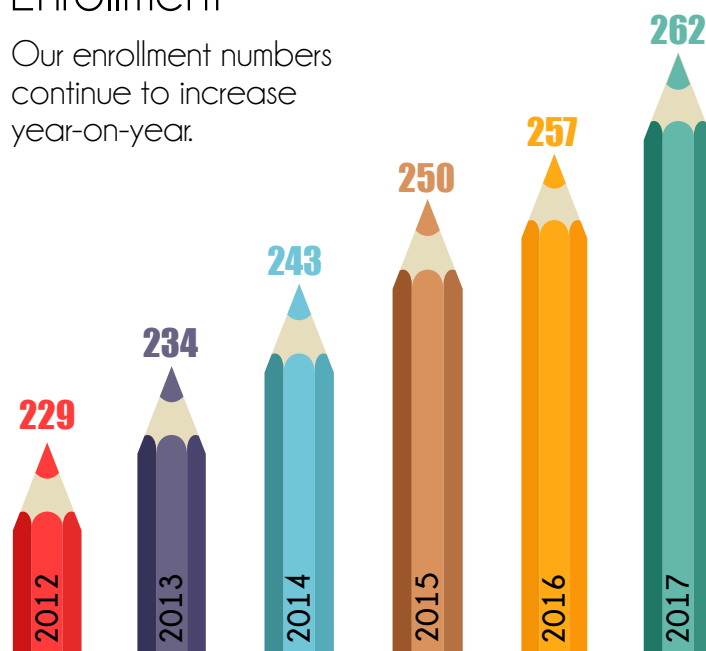
**78%** of our students live in San Francisco. MDA families live in neighborhoods including the Mission, Tenderloin, Western Addition, Bay View, Hunters Point and Visitacion Valley.

**16%** live in San Mateo County

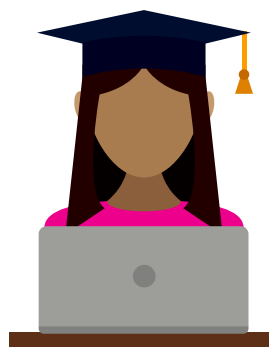
**6%** live in the East Bay

## Enrollment

Our enrollment numbers continue to increase year-on-year.



## High school acceptance



**83%** of our Class of 2017 went on to attend top Catholic, independent, and charter college preparatory high schools. Our students are consistently accepted into the Bay Area's most prestigious college preparatory high schools, including:

Archbishop Riordan  
The Bay School  
City, Arts & Technology  
Convent of the Sacred Heart  
Drew School  
Immaculate Conception Academy  
KIPP  
Lick Wilmerding

Lowell High School  
Mercy High School  
Sacred Heart Cathedral Prep  
Saint Ignatius College Prep  
Stuart Hall High School  
The Urban School  
University High School



## Our academic results

In demographic comparisons, Mission Dolores Academy students outperformed those in public schools by:

**Mathematics + 36.6%**

**Language Arts + 18.9%**



# Program Update

## English Language Arts

In an effort to continually improve the communication of all Mission Dolores Academy students—both orally and in the written word—the school's English Language Arts (ELA) Program has been broadened to provide a more rigorous platform to enable student growth and achievement.

First, a school-wide Vocabulary series has been added to the curricula — **Wordly Wise 3000** which enables student exposure to highly rigorous, academic language. Secondly, students in Grades Two through Eight are immersed in studying the mechanics of the written word through the inception of the **GUM: Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics** series by Zaner-Bloser. Students are able to better understand the foundation of sentence structure and word choice, leading them to successfully craft longer narratives with detail and fluency.



## New Latin Program

The study of Latin offers students the ability to not only learn an ancient language but also the culture, history, ideas, and more of the Ancient Romans. Students will improve their listening, writing, and reading abilities in Latin. Students will read and translate to improve their skills in searching for main ideas, reading comprehension, and acquiring vocabulary. Students will participate in listening and oral reading to learn the correct pronunciation of Latin. Students will be able to compose short sentences into Latin independently. The daily life, ancient history, and culture of ancient Romans will be taught so that students make connections between the language and life of the Romans to their own lives.



## MDA Summer Academy

The Mission Dolores Summer Academy was a huge success with 46, 1st-5th Graders engaging in five weeks of academic and enrichment programs. The main goal of the Summer Academy continues to be the elimination of the "summer slide" that so often occurs when children are not challenged over the summer. Before the program began, faculty and administration spent weeks designing a data-driven curriculum that would meet each student's academic needs. The mornings were designed to look like the school year with small group rotations through Mathematics and Language Arts. The afternoons were designed for fun! Our young scholars rotated through enrichment activities like Art, Dance, Spanish, P.E. and Youth SF "Tech Rec". Students kept their minds active and engaged, while managing to squeeze in some fun!



# Program Update



## Updated Math Program

MDA is now in year two of our new math curriculum, and we are very excited about the results to date. Both *Pearson Investigations* (K-5th Grades) and *Singapore Math* (6-8th Grades), focus on the visualization of real-life concepts and uses concrete, pictorial, and abstract methods to teach foundational math. Studies have shown that this approach to mathematics instruction is far more effective than simple rote memorization and drill work.

The combination of this new curriculum and our innovative blended learning model allows MDA to design individualized learning paths to specifically address any concept weaknesses and allows students to explore and deepen their understanding of critical concepts.

## Extended Literacy Support

MDA's Reading Education and Development (READ) Program, which has been supporting struggling readers since 2013, took a big step forward this year and became the **MDA Literacy Program** with the addition of **Math Specialist, Christina Lancaster**. True literacy is not only the ability to read and write, but also the ability to work with numbers. Alongside **Reading Specialist, Elizabeth Faherty** who continues to work to increase the reading achievement of our below grade-level students, focusing on early-intervention, Christina is creating a **Math Lab Program** that meets the math needs of diverse learners. Together, the goal is early intervention and grade-level literacy.

Math Lab debunks the myth that we are born either a math person or not. It is an inclusive environment, where small group instruction prioritizes individual needs of students. Students exit the program and return to the classroom empowered to use tools that work for them, strengthened by a deeper understanding of math.

The MDA Literacy Program classroom continues to house the **MDA Bookroom**, an over 3000-book collection of fiction and non-fiction books in support of the kindergarten-fourth grade reading workshops- a curriculum built on research about what causes readers to grow: time for voluminous reading, lessons that model and practice deep comprehension, and self-selection of appropriately leveled texts. The bookroom provides the students the opportunity to fill their weekly book bins with books they are motivated to read as they grow in their skills.



# Our Benefactors

---

## \$500,000

Dorothy and John Shea

## \$100,000+

The BASIC Fund  
Susan and Bill Oberndorf

## \$50,000+

In honor of Sara and Paul  
Recktenwald  
James Irvine Foundation  
Joy and Tom Mistele  
The Robert Stewart Odell and  
Helen Pfeiffer Odell Fund  
Kostas Pantazopoulos  
Viragh Family Foundation

## \$25,000+

Anonymous  
Archdiocese of San Francisco  
Celebrate Foundation  
Dana and Robert Emery  
Louise M. Davies Foundation  
Dignity Health  
Mara Fritz  
The Guardsmen Foundation  
The Herbst Foundation  
Kate Kelly and Tom Klein  
Millicent and Bob Lalanne  
Michele and Chris Meany

## \$15,000+

Anonymous  
Gail L. Baird Foundation  
Joey and Bill Buckingham  
Sue and Todd Carter  
Dominican Sisters of San Rafael  
Barbara & Jay Fritz Foundation  
Alicia and Philip Hammarskjold  
George H. Sandy Foundation  
Yvonne & Angelo Sangiacomo  
Family Foundation  
Jessica and Matt Verrochi  
Lisa and Todd Zabelle

## \$10,000+

Bank of the West  
British Motor Car Distributors  
Angela and Christopher Cohan  
Heidi Cortese  
Lyda & Rico DeLuca Foundation  
Josephine Hardin  
Cecilia and James Herbert  
Mary Jo and Richard Kovacevich  
George and Mary Kremer  
Foundation  
Margaret Mak and David  
Lichtman  
The Joseph and Mercedes  
McMicking Foundation  
Anna and Mason Morfit  
Cristina and Robert Morris  
Dona and Peter Newell  
Stacy and Matt Perry  
Janet and Clint Reilly  
Maureen and Craig Sullivan  
Deborah and Jeffrey Weber

## \$5,000+

Raul Arriaza  
Jeanne and William Barulich  
Anne Brennan  
Amber and Jerry Brooner  
Laura Brugger and Ross  
Sappenfield  
Build Group  
Annette Carrel  
Albert Ceresa  
Children of Shelters  
Comcast California  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Cosgrove  
Anne and Scott Davison  
Doug Dossey  
Sharon Doyle  
The Drum Foundation  
Sara Duryea  
Kate and David English  
Steph and Dick Fredericks  
The Carl Gellert & Celia Berta  
Gellert Foundation  
Casey and Keith Giarman  
Michelle and Scott Gill  
Susan and Sidney Goodwill

## \$5,000+ (cont)

Erica and Ken Gregory  
Kathryn Holmes  
Monica Landry  
Denise LaPointe  
Rebecca and Robert Loback  
Maura Markus  
Maverick Capital Foundation  
Carrick Andrew C. McLaughlin  
Mary and Thomas Mellon  
Megin Scully and Reed Minuth  
Narrowback Construction  
Karen and Joe Niehaus  
Pacific Union Development Co.  
Leslie and Nick Podell  
Nonie Ramsay  
Joan Siboni  
Greg and Ann Swart  
Jean and Bill Terheyden  
Mary and Joe Toboni  
Elizabeth and Gregory Vaughan  
Webcor Builders  
Wells Fargo Foundation  
Bobbie and Michael Wilsey  
Diane Wilsey  
Janice and D. Edward Wohlleb  
Brenda Wright

## \$2,500+

AT&T CA  
Mary and Ted Arbuckle  
Chetna and Sarabjit Baveja  
Georgia Bennicas  
Jamie and Philip Bowles  
Pat and Jay Cahill  
Marjorie and Bill Campbell  
Katherine and Jeffrey Congdon  
Mary and Lawrence Del Santo  
Margie Ellis  
Michael Ermer  
Lynn Phelps and Richard Finch  
Marie and Jack Fitzpatrick  
FivePoint  
Wynne and John Ford  
Nanette Gordon  
Paddy Dailey Hayes and Richard  
Hayes  
Jean MacCurdy and William Hogan



## \$2,500+ (cont)

Leslie and George Hume Fund  
Sally and Jim Klingbeil  
Jackie and Tom Longust  
Connie and Haig Mardikian  
June and Jim McCarthy  
Ellen and John Miller  
Ann C. Miller  
Pacific Western Foundation  
Steve Piuma  
Patty and John Pizza  
Timothy Alan Simon, Esq.  
Andrea Soria  
St. Ignatius Church  
St. Ignatius Jesuit Community  
Kerry and Brendan Swords  
Paul Vogelheim  
Alyson Voltmer

## \$1,000+

Anonymous (2)  
Nicole Ayaz  
JoAnn and Jack Bertges  
Darby and Tom Bonomi  
Boys & Girls Club of San Francisco  
Jane and James Buckley  
Ann Cami  
Kris and Howard Case  
Catholic Kolping Society of America  
Barbara and Arthur Cecchin  
Karin and David Chamberlain  
Lisa and Jim Considine  
Jane and Con Doherty  
Kathryn Duryea and Matt Wyndowe  
Cecile Ehrmann and Rolando Castro  
Emily English  
Meredith Essalat  
Sonia and Farro Essalat  
Mary and Donald Foree  
Myrna and Henry Fourcade  
Brian Gagan  
John Gooch  
Clare and Robert Gordon III  
Kathryn Hahn  
Laurette Hartigan  
Maria and Chris Hemphill

## \$1,000+ (cont)

Natasha Kohne and Lawrence Groo  
Allison and Steven Lang  
Elizabeth Larned  
Brenda and Don MacLean  
Janet and Tom McKinley  
Claudia and Greg Myall  
Lois and Frank Noonan  
Janet Pasha  
Anna Payne  
Kate Qvale  
Bridget and Sean Schickedanz  
Christy and John Shea  
SMART  
Tom Smith Ph.D  
Alice Phelan Sullivan Corporation  
Cindy and Dan Thomas  
Patty and Nicholas Weber  
Cheryl and Jerome Williams  
Frances and J. Michael Wilson  
Julie and Gregg Wurster  
Mary Ellen and John Zellerbach

## \$500+

Shannon and Dan Aja  
Joe Amato  
Diane Balch  
Elizabeth and David Birka-White  
Gwyneth Borden  
Charlotte and Henry Bowles  
Michael Buich  
Wynn Burkett  
Rose and John Casserly  
Ellen Chaitin and V.Roy Lefcourt  
City and County of San Francisco  
Herbert and Arville Damner  
Kris and Gregg Dawley  
Elizabeth and Robert Dondero  
Kate and John Faust  
Pamela George  
Cece Giarman  
John Grealish  
Kareem Guilbeaux  
Amanda Hamilton  
Joan and Michael Heffernan  
Carolyn Holt  
Nancy Hooper  
Jewish Community Endowment Fund  
Junona and Bruce Jonas

## \$500+ (cont)

Donna and Donald Kelleher  
Jackie Lalanne  
Kelsey Lamond  
Lawrence Lanctot  
Carol and Mark Lerdal  
Pamela Linke  
Mitch Lowe  
Maggie Mack  
Robin and Tom Mattimore  
Matt McGuinneess  
Jennifer and Brian McNamee  
Stacey and Jose McNeill  
Marisa and Robert Mizono  
Joe Moore  
Joseph Gartland Moore  
Marissa Moran  
Alan Morrell  
Carey and Joseph Muscat  
Christine and Vincent O'Gara  
Ann and David Papale  
Tucky and John Pogue  
Anne and Kevin Ryan  
Carolyn Saade  
Maureen and Michael Samson  
Christine Russell and Mark Schlesinger  
Alicia and Patrick Shepherd  
Robert B. Thompson and Dr. Anita Demas  
Margaret Walden

## Under \$500

Anonymous  
Sharon Allen  
Kathleen Anderson  
Marylou Anderson  
Anonymous  
Emily Arbuckle  
Tracy M. Austin  
Mary and Richard Austin  
Deborah and John Avakian  
Lorraine Bader  
John Balson  
Stacey and Gary Barnes  
Leslie and Ernst Bauer  
Kristen Beckwith  
Delores and Clarence Bennett  
Carol Benz  
Mary and Thomas Bersot  
David Bezanilla

## Under \$500 (cont)

Aldo Blasi  
Barbara and Jerrold Bocci  
Robert Bockelman  
Laurie Ann and John F. Bodine  
Karie and Gus Boosalis  
Susan and William Bowen  
Lily Bowles Leo and Austin  
Bowles Leo  
Alexander Brehm  
Ann Brennan  
Bronwyn Brunner  
Christine Brusati  
Andrea Bruss  
Henry Buckingham  
Rob Bugatto  
Irma and William Bush  
Susan and Vincent Butler  
Lauren Byrne  
Mary and Patrick Callan  
Ruth Callanan  
Colleen Callanan  
Barbara and Bruce Callander  
Tristan Cameron  
Victoria Cardenas-Hitchcock  
George Caughman  
Diana and Graziano Cerchiai  
Jennifer Cerchiai  
Annmarie Claymore  
Martha and Daniel Cliff  
Will Cliff  
Thomas Cooney  
Elizabeth Coover  
Mary Courteau  
Don Crean  
James F. Cunnie, Jr. and Sheik  
Cunnie  
Jehan Damji  
Helen Ann Davis  
Robert and Patricia Dawson  
Nicole and Paul Daze  
Carol DeVincenzi  
Karen and John Diefenbach  
John Dolan  
Cecelia and James Donahue  
Donna Mei Lin Driscoll  
Cintia and Gerard Dunphy  
Patricia Duran  
Mitchell Early

## Under \$500 (cont)

The Ehrlich Family  
The Honorable Anna Eshoo  
Patty and Jerry Evans  
Peggy Farber  
Laura and Paul Fay  
Steven Feinberg  
Felicia Fernandes  
Susan and George Fesus  
Teresa Field  
Nancy Fields  
Rebecca Figone  
Sean Figueroa  
Kelsey Finch  
Michael Franzonello  
Dorothy and James Gajniak  
Debora and Paul Gaspari  
Catherine Gee  
Anki Gelb  
Joseph George  
Amanda George  
Julie Gessow  
Clevette Gibson  
Carrie Goodman  
Kurt Gravenhorst  
Laurie and William Grayson  
Richard Greene  
Ellen and John Griffin  
Linda Grohe  
Deanna and Peter Gumina  
Jacqueline and Thomas Gumina  
Diane and Eddy Gutierrez  
Megan Hamilton  
Michelle Harris  
Brad Hedrick  
Nuria and Charles Higuera  
Christine Bartlett Hinckley  
Hadley Hindmarsh  
John S. Howett II  
Helen Hughes  
Cat and Matt Hunter  
Joel and Laurie Isenberg  
Kim Jamison  
Lillian Jenks  
Paul Johnson-Calderon  
Anne Marie and John Jordan  
Andrea and John Joyce  
Cathy and John Kalin  
Shauna Kashyap

## Under \$500 (cont)

Laura and John Keady  
Kathy Keehn  
Mark Kelly  
Aileen Kelly  
Colette and George Kelly  
Kathleen Anne Kelly  
Katherine Kemiji-McDonald  
Denise and Thomas Kemp  
Suzanne and James Kenney  
Charlene Kiley  
Moira Kimball  
Dylan Kordic  
Maureen and Kevin Kosewic  
Kula Foundation  
Michaela Lalanne  
Suzie Lalanne  
Jane and Victor Lampe  
Sheila and Thomas Larsen  
Yannie Lee  
Christina Lee  
Monica and Peter Lee  
Jane and Richard Leider  
Roger Lewis  
Catherine Littlefield  
Luaren Livingston  
Aimee Logan  
Augusta Lyon  
Candice Macario  
Lynda and John Mahoney  
Simon Manning  
Katie and John Mardikian  
John Martin  
Walt McCall  
Sally and John McInerney  
Melanie and John McKenna  
Michele McLaughlin  
Maureen and Michael  
McLaughlin  
Hannah Meany  
Marilia Mercader  
Kristy and William Miller  
Husnain Mirza  
Ann Mizel  
Lee Ann and Jim Monfredini  
Sophia Montano  
Gisele and George Monteverdi  
Heather Morado  
Milton Mosk

## Under \$500 (cont)

Ann and Vincent Mulroy  
Philip Musto  
Mary Lou Myers  
Liza Nebel  
Nixon Peabody LLP  
Marilyn Norton  
Lisa and Charles Oertel  
Renee and DJ O'Neil  
May-Yin and John O'Neill  
Diane and Donald Onken  
Dana Pace  
Ron Pacheco  
Joan Padia  
Kathy Perez  
Doug Person  
Will Peterson  
Sarah and Kenneth Petrilla  
Steve Phelps  
David Philpott  
William Picchioni  
Dawn and John Pickering  
Theresa Potente  
Jane and Nicholas Prior  
Neel Rane  
Justin Rapp  
Patricia and Joseph Reilly  
Grace Reyes  
James Reynolds  
Noelle Rich  
Stephanie and Paul Riehle  
Pollie Robbins  
Sue Albritton Robbins  
Marilen McIntyre and Donald  
Rogers  
Jo-Ann M Rose  
Loretto and Michael Rossi  
Ernest Sabini  
Matt Safranek  
Joanna Saribalis  
Jeff Schindler  
Marty Schuh  
Meghan Schwartz  
Rita Semel  
Claire and Gilbert Shea  
Colette Sheehan  
Carola Shepard  
Mark Sherman  
Jennifer Smith

## Under \$500 (cont)

Felicia and Chris Snow  
Benita and Al Sodini  
Richard Sonnershein  
Sujatha Srinivasan  
St. Dominic's Catholic Church  
St. Stephen School  
Morgan and Justin Starrett  
Cheryl McCloskey and Paul  
Steigerwald  
Sara and Craig Stephens  
Erin and Matt Stephenson  
Katharine Stilley and Urs Leonhardt  
Steiner  
Michelle Tapia  
Teresa Ternan  
Vivian Tero  
Conner Thomas  
Diane and David Thompson  
John Tira  
Anita T. Woo and James E. Topinka  
Barbara and Gene Trainor  
Stephanie Tuttle  
Umpqua Bank  
Jennifer Kim and Peter Van Meighem  
Blanche Virk  
Kathleen Volkmann  
A.J. Von Massenhausem  
Ramsey Walker  
April and Mike Ward  
John Wasaff  
Lauren Weber  
Herman Wendel  
Debra West  
Katy Congdon Williams  
Janelle and Wayne Wilson  
Richard Wise  
Catherine and Tobias Wolff  
Korey Wong  
Kathleen Woody  
Mary and Robert Zaletel  
Dan Zelen  
Zur Institute, LLC

## In-Kind Donations and Special Thanks

Bi-Rite Market  
Tom and Darby Bonomi  
British Motor Car Distributors  
Classic Wines  
Dandelion Chocolate  
Don Ramon's  
The Four Seasons Hotel  
Hard Water  
Lillian Mosier  
Mourad  
Piperade  
Steve Puma  
Price Family Vineyards & Estates  
Lee Ramirez  
Rodney Strong Vineyards  
Robert Scavullo  
The Slanted Door  
Spruce  
Maureen and Craig Sullivan  
Margaret Walden  
Wilson-Meany

---

**Every effort has been made to publish names correctly, but if we have made an error, please contact us at [development@mdasf.org](mailto:development@mdasf.org) or 415.638.6213.**





Save  
the  
Date



Mission Dolores Academy  
2018 Top Chefs Benefit Luncheon

Honoring our beloved Reverend Charles R. Gagan, S.J.  
on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his ordination

Thursday, April 19th, 2018

The Four Seasons, San Francisco

To maximize cost savings the  
2017 Annual Report was printed in-house.



**MISSION DOLORES ACADEMY**  
In partnership with the Megan Furth Memorial Fund  
3371 16th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114  
[mdasf.org](http://mdasf.org) | 415.638.6213