



# The Elisabeth Morrow School

ANNUAL REPORT *2022–2023*



# The Elisabeth Morrow School

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## LETTER *from the* PRESIDENT *of the* BOARD of TRUSTEES

*Dear EMS Community,*

While I have loved this school for many years as an EMS alumna and now parent, I could not have foreseen how much my pride in this special place would deepen thanks to the support and dedication of so many families, alumni, faculty, staff, and friends across our remarkable community.

There is a tremendous sense of energy and momentum as we begin the year, and seeing our school revive several beloved traditions, such as the handshake, brings me great joy. This is one of many ways that EMS helps our students develop into confident and curious scholars, ethical leaders, and global citizens — personal growth that goes hand in hand with the resounding success of our secondary school placement program.

So many of you contribute to making students' years at EMS so special. The EMS Board of Trustees ensures that our school stays true to our mission and vision through their leadership, engagement, and generosity. The visionary Dr. Beck and his dedicated leadership team continue to deliver on their promise of a transformative education. The wise and patient faculty and staff, including some who have been with the school for over three decades, consistently bring the best of the research-backed approaches, old and new, to the classroom. Our families reinforce students' learning at home and further our mission through their engagement.

It was indeed a community effort that, last year, led to a rise in giving to the Apple Tree Fund and a record-breaking spring benefit — the most ever raised at an in-person event! I look forward to seeing what we can accomplish together this year.

On behalf of the EMS Board of Trustees, I want to express our gratitude to all of you in the community for believing in our school and giving generously. Your active engagement helps keep EMS thriving and prepares our students for the brightest futures. We look forward to your continued support and a promising 2023–2024 school year!

Warm regards,

*Elizabeth Gabbay*

**Elizabeth Gabbay '93; P: '30, '27**  
President | Board of Trustees





## A NOTE *from* OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL

*Dear EMS Community,*

Building off our continued successes, we begin the year in a position of great strength. EMS has continued to make great strides in innovation and design by upgrading curricula, offering new courses, and establishing new partnerships with industry leaders. When combined with the talents of our dedicated teachers, who nurture each child's unique spark and innate creativity to engage them in learning, these measures ensure that our students receive the best possible education.

It's no wonder that our students graduate ready to lead the way with empathy and innovative thinking in a rapidly changing world. During their time with us, our faculty and staff strive to inspire students to lead, learn, and thrive. As learners, they are empowered to discover new possibilities and solutions, supported by teachers and mentors who see their infinite capabilities and encourage the reach of their imagination. Of course, all of this is in service to our ultimate shared goal — to act with our impact at heart, leaving the world better than we've found it.

Thank you for supporting our mission. Whether you have given your time, talent, treasure — or all three — we are profoundly grateful for your help in educating the next generation of curious scholars, global citizens, and ethical leaders.

With gratitude,

**Marek Beck, Ph.D.** | Head of School





## A NOTE *from* OUR DIRECTOR *of* INSTITUTIONAL STRATEGY & ADVANCEMENT

*Dear Friends,*

Last year was a year of growth for The Elisabeth Morrow School. With the help of our parents, alumni, faculty, staff, grandparents, and trustees, we raised more than \$1 million!

Our current parent participation increased by 11%, compared to our previous fiscal year. Total giving to the Apple Tree Fund increased by 10% — a testament to how much this school means to our community and students. Thanks to all of you, our 2023 Spring Benefit was a huge success! Sponsorships, tickets, journal ads, donations, auctions, and underwriting combined made this our highest-grossing in-person event to date. Nearly 200 guests attended, helping us raise more than \$250,000.

***Thank you for your engagement and support!***

I am so excited about everything we have planned for this coming year. Our community's commitment is evident in the support and engagement of our donors and volunteers.

Once again, I'd like to express my sincerest gratitude for your generosity and friendship! I look forward to seeing you soon.

Warmly,

*Hanita Walia*

**Hanita Walia** | Director of Institutional Strategy and Advancement



## BOARD *of* TRUSTEES 2022–2023

### Officers

Elizabeth Gabbay '93, President  
Greg Amerkanian, First Vice President  
Joseph Agresta, Jr. '78, Second Vice President  
Robin Dillard, Second Vice President  
Dana Ranawat, Second Vice President  
Oliver Lennox, Treasurer  
Wendi Hoeben Thompson, Secretary

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### Trustees

Victor Alvarez '93  
Candace Gonzalez '94  
Jason Kim  
Simona Korik-Barrett  
Jamil Myrie  
Jennifer Ostfeld  
Jeffrey Rowbottom  
George Staphos  
Alfonso Waller

---

### Trustees Emeriti

Sandra Borg (deceased)  
Joan Van Alstyne Johnson '34 (deceased)  
Graham O. Jones  
Emily Mann  
Rosemary Mills Russell  
Jayanne Tedesco  
William Van Ness  
Hanita Walia  
Frank Zhang



## NEW TRUSTEES INTRODUCTION



### Lauren Ciancia Apgar

Lauren Ciancia Apgar is an attorney, specializing in commercial real estate development as a fourth generation member of her family's company. She graduated summa cum laude from Villanova University with an interdisciplinary B.A. from the Honors Program and holds a J.D. from Fordham University School of Law. She and her husband, Greg, live in her hometown of Leonia, N.J., with their daughter, Ruth ('32).



### Heesun Lho

Heesun has spent her career in the entrepreneurship world as a founder, investor, and connector and is now supporting women entrepreneurs as the Director of Programs for the Tory Burch Foundation in New York. Heesun received her B.A. in Human Biology and M.A. in Education from Stanford University. She remains on the Board of Advisors for the Business Association of Stanford Entrepreneurial Students and additionally serves on the Board of Governors for the Center for Creative Leadership, a global nonprofit provider of human-centered leadership development and research. Heesun is a proud alumna of the Elisabeth Morrow School ('98) and is grateful to have rejoined the EMS community with her husband, John, and two children, Caroline ('32) and Austin ('35). She looks forward to further contributing to this special community in her new role.



### Lillian Pien

Lillian Pien is an entrepreneur with multiple business ventures in the restaurant industry and commercial real estate. Prior to establishing herself as an entrepreneur, Lillian was an attorney in the financial industry specializing in equities financing. Lillian holds a B.A. in Economics from Wellesley College and a J.D. from Rutgers University. Lillian has been a part of the EMS community since 2019 as a parent and as a volunteer with the Parent Association as well as the Office of Advancement for the 2023 Spring Gala. Lillian lives in Leonia with her husband James, their daughter Ali ('30), and their very energetic dog, Riceball.



## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

2021–2022 approved operating budget

(Net of discounted tuition)

\$15,646,746

### Revenue

Tuition

Contributions

Auxiliary Programs & Other

Endowment Draw

6.5%

5%

8%

80.5%

### Expense

Salaries and Benefits

Plant Operations

Instructional Support/Supplies & Materials

General & Administrative

78.8%

6.3%

7.7%

7.2%





## OUR MISSION

The Elisabeth Morrow School's shared purpose is  
——— *to provide exemplary academics and character development* ———  
in a diverse and inclusive child-centered community,  
**inspiring students to become curious scholars,  
ethical leaders, and global citizens.**



### THE 4 C'S

Courtesy

Consideration

Cooperation

Compassion



# THE APPLE TREE FUND

*The Apple Tree Fund is the foundation of our fundraising efforts at EMS.*

Parents and grandparents of our students, along with trustees, alumni, and friends, give generously, providing a significant portion of the school’s budget, which allows tuition to remain steady and empowers the school leadership to spearhead new initiatives that benefit our students.

*We thank all of our donors for their commitment and generosity during the 2022–2023 school year.*

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## THE APPLE TREE FUND HELPS EMS:

- Attract and retain the best teachers and provide ongoing professional development.
- Maintain small class sizes and individualized learning.
- Support an innovative STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics) curriculum.
- Offer a wide variety of athletics, as well as exemplary performing and visual arts programs.
- Purchase state-of-the-art technology, supplies, and materials for teaching and learning.
- Advance our Community Life, Equity, and Belonging curriculum.
- Support our financial aid and tuition remission program.

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## APPLE TREE FUND AMBASSADORS

**We are grateful for all the support of our Apple Tree Fund Ambassadors!**

2s	Jill Jefferies	Third Grade	Alyssa Hackel
3s/4s	Sarah Lee	Fourth Grade	Annie Lee
3s/4s	Lauren Apgar	Fifth Grade	Alisa Wadell
Kindergarten	Maria Klink Bridge	Sixth Grade	William and Catherine Woo
First Grade	Candace Gonzalez	Seventh Grade	Beth Thomas Cohen
Second Grade	Diana Maganuco	Eighth Grade	Ly Huang



## APPLE TREE FUND ANNUAL GIVING

### Founders

(\$20,000.00+)

Elisabeth Reeve Morrow  
Morgan Foundation  
Hogene Chae and Jae-shin Noh  
Andrew Fein and Hitomi  
Ichimura Fein  
The Jin Hua Foundation  
Zhigang Wang and Yujie Dong

### Leaders

(\$12,500.00+)

Dr. Samuel Cho and Sunny Cho  
Daniel Gabbay and  
Elizabeth Gabbay '93  
Adriel Gonzalez '94 and  
Candace Gonzalez '94  
Oliver Lennox and Maria Lennox  
Carolyn Milne  
Scott Ostfeld and Jennifer Ostfeld  
Dr. Jae Park and Hye Eun  
Lindy Park  
Dr. Anil S. Ranawat '86 and  
Dr. Dana Ranawat  
Jeffrey Rowbottom and Francine  
Rowbottom  
The Wiseheart Foundation

### Benefactors

(\$7,500.00+)

Joseph Agresta, Jr. '78  
Victor Alvarez '93 and Gia Alvarez  
Young Cho and Eun Hwa Song  
Artur Ferreira and  
Catherine Ferreira  
Kaibo Hu and Angela Cheng  
Fadi Kaddoura and Yaeko Kaddoura  
Dr. Michael Kim and Dr. Susan Park  
Yanzhu Liu and Doreen Liu  
David Perla and Jody Perla  
The Douglass Gordon Potts Trust  
Steve Yoon and Annie Lee

### Patrons

(\$5,500.00+)

Eunhyuk Do and Clara Kim  
The Grossman Family  
Dr. Brandon Huang and Ly Huang  
Hyun Seok Lee and Ju Y. Park

Wendi Hoeben Thompson  
Jung Yun and Janice Yun

### Sponsors

(\$3,500.00+)

Gregory Amerkanian and  
Dr. Natalie Amerkanian '84  
Gregory Apgar and Lauren Apgar  
James Barrett and  
Dr. Simona Korik-Barrett  
Seth Bridge and Maria Klink Bridge  
Nelson Chen '80  
James Du and Lillian Pien  
Ran Eliasaf and Isabelle Bichler  
Mikhail Gurevich and Julie Gurevich  
Eli Hackel '97 and Alyssa Hackel  
Christopher Kim and Christina Kim  
Jason Kim and Sarah Lee  
SJ Kim and Eunran Kim  
Samuel Mann and Emily Mann  
Jose Antonio Marquez and  
Ania Lipka-Marquez  
Kaan Onur and Hande  
Cuhruk-Onur  
Dr. Anne Pierson  
Jeffrey Russell and  
Rosemary Mills Russell  
Gaurav Sharma and Jasleen Batra  
Weiming Shi and Chenxiao Du  
Dr. Michael Shohet and  
Raina Wallens  
The Trout Family  
James Tu and Cheryl Zhao  
Dr. Alfonso Waller  
William Woo and Catherine Woo  
Pengfei Zhao and Xingzhe Gong

### Green & White Club

(\$2,000.00+)

Anonymous (2)  
Earle Allen '80  
Albert Baik and Wonnice Baik  
Katherine Shadek Boyle '71  
Kieran Byrne Sr.  
Jinwen Chen and Vivienne Zhang  
Woosung Cho and Pamela Sohn  
The Jeremiah and Yolanda  
Ciancia Family Foundation  
Steven Cohen and Dr. Sharyn Lewin

Jonathan Goodman and  
Danielle Goodman  
Amey Hutchins  
Ilung Jung and Jieun Kim  
Dongwook Lee and Suhyun Kim  
Paul Lim and Amy Lim  
Jill Malesardi  
Robert Pildes and Frances Pildes  
Zachariah Rosenberg and  
Hailee Gregory  
James Song and Christina Song  
Kimberly Sun  
Steven Victor and Christine Victor

### Chilton Circle

(\$1,000.00+)

Anonymous (4)  
The Alexander Family  
Nihat Altintas and Jiwon Paik  
Christopher Anderson and  
Adrienne Anderson '79  
Malcolm A. Borg  
John Calvaruso and Diana Sands  
Michael Camarinos and  
Lauren Camarinos '96  
Sea Chang and Tae Young Son  
Han Cho and Jooyoun Cho  
Jason Choi  
Hye Sun Chung and Young In Chung  
Peter Cincia and Christine Cincia  
Berkay Demircioglu and  
Sophia Warsame  
Emin Eker and Esma Eker  
Enzo Fata '15  
Francesca Fata '17  
Cheng Gan and Yin Jin  
David Hertz and Sharyl Hertz  
Bharath Jannu and Jyothi  
Panchumarthu  
Starling Lawrence '52  
John Lee and Heesun Lho '98  
Renee Liu '84  
Jose Lopez-Perez and Denise Smikle  
Dr. Frank Lu and Flora Chung  
Mikkel Matsoukas and  
Olivia Matsoukas  
Sam Misir and Nisha Latchman

Dr. Emmanouil Pappou and  
Dr. Smrita Sinha

Rita Rodin

Ming Shao and Helen Sun

Dr. Siddhartha Sharma and  
Dr. Shital Sharma

Michael Shaulov and  
Dr. Fanny Shaulov Vainer

Gary Singer and Candida Avalos

Dr. Jason Song and Katie Song

Dr. Kevin Song and Lillian Yoo-Song

The Staphos Family

Sarabjit Walia and Hanita Walia

Weiping Wang

Yao Zhao and Ran Liu

### **Next Day Hill Club** *(\$500.00+)*

Anonymous

Daniel Aminetzah and  
Dana Aminetzah

Cyrus Amirsaleh '96 and  
Deena Amirsaleh

Youngsun Baik and Moon Ki Baik

Chunlei Bao and Tina Chang

William Bethea and Jennifer  
Dixon Bethea

Vivek Bhandari and  
Namrata Bhandari

Andrew Bonanno '81 and  
Dorinda Bonanno

Dr. Ronald Brenner and  
Dr. Nereyda Brenner

Robin Brown

Zhonghua Chang and Zhilin Qin

Peter Cho and Youni Cho

Alexander Choi and Jessica Choi

Sumeet Chordia and Riya Chordia

William Chun and Julie Chun

The Dillard Family

Sotirios Drossos and  
Ioanna Drossos

Dr. Julie Endo and Dr. Youichi Endo

Esen Ersoy and Gorkem Tuna-Ersoy

David Gettenberg '81 and  
Dr. Erica Gettenberg

Phyllis Gettenberg

Ronald Grant and Ashley Grant

Stephen Imundo and Lauren James

Robert Irving and Meni Marinakis

Fred James and Patricia James

The Kantardjian Family

Dr. Frederic Kass and  
Betty Jeanne Kass

Dr. Paul Kim and Karen Kim

Janghyun Kim and Ann Shin

Tae Hwan Kim and Hye Jin Noh

Roger Lang and Gloria Lang

Dr. Kevin Lieu and Kay Lieu

Prateek Lodha and Urmi Lodha

Lauren Mactas

Neil Maganuco and Diana Maganuco

The Nuñez Family

Bhavin Patel and Nidhi Bali

James Pazhavila and Angie Kiehne

Dr. John Schullinger and  
Nancy Schullinger

Richard Soar and Dr. Pinar Kayaalp

Jonathan Swope and Lindsey Swope

Michael Vargas and Nicole Seretis

Mark A. Vogel and Barbara Vogel

Dr. George Vratsanos and  
Dr. Joanne Vratsanos

Chao Yang and Yin Liang

Bernard Yoo and Grace Cho

Tong Zhang and Yingli Xie

### **EMS Friends** *(up to \$499)*

Anonymous (20)

Peter Abitante and Debra Abitante

George Abitante '08

Laura Adams Stiansen

Gerard Allen and Lauren Allen

Byron Allen '74 and Tami Allen

Deborah Apgar and Jim Apgar

David Aronberg and  
Natasha Aronberg

Alycen Ashburn

Ion Badulescu and  
Ana-Maria Badulescu

Lorra Baylis

The Bazin-Winston Family

Dr. Marek Beck and Jacklyn Beck

Gaylen Bent '54

Albert Berman

Kunal Bhojawala and  
Leena Bhojawala

Sandra Bonnick

Emmanuel Breton and Yeny Breton

Millie Castano

Jackson Chang '21

Dr. Constantin Chassapis and  
Marina Chassapis

Gregory Chassapis '08

Dr. Rahul Chauhan and  
Dr. Vanita Kumar

Alexander Chew and Jill Chew

Jay Cho and Gloria Kim

Edward Cho and Kyung-mi Jung

Abhinav Chopra and  
Shreeya Shekar

Cindy Cohrs-Brandt

Aaron Cooper and Kara Cooper

Corliss Darge '49

Christopher Davis and  
Christine Davis

Roland Davis and Catherine Davis

Alexander Diaz and Desere Diaz

Bill Eickelberg and Tricia Eickelberg

Dr. Charles Ekstein and  
Nicole Ekstein

Mohamed El Ghazzali and  
Nicolle Seinige

The Hr. Gerald Escala and  
Edith Escala

The Estrada Family

Melvin Evans, Jr. and Woon-Ok Kim

Leeor Farhadian and Julie Farhadian

Trish Felix

David Feltenberger and  
Dr. Megan Feltenberger

Michael Ferchak and Ita Huang

Dr. Michael Fu and Janine Sun

Joseph Gaier and Antoinette Gaier

Sergio Galvis and  
Lee White Galvis '77

Eleanor Fay Gambee '50

Andrew Garcia and Carissa Garcia

Debra Goldman

Mitchell Goldstein and  
Lisa Goldstein

Michael Goodwin and  
Amy Goodwin

Jason Graciolett and  
Sheri Graciolett

The Graham Myrie Family  
Emily Gruber '11

## APPLE TREE FUND ANNUAL GIVING *continued*

Maura Gruber  
 Dr. Michele Gruner and  
 Brandon Gruner  
 The Gurunathan Family  
 Meredith Halpern '73  
 Stephen Hards and Liza Hards  
 Elizabeth Harriman  
 Dr. Kevin Heaney and  
 Dr. Leila Moore  
 Michael Heath and Mary Lou Heath  
 Jillian Henthorn  
 Christopher Hernandez and  
 Laura Quintano  
 Fran Hertzberg  
 Howard Homonoff and  
 Susan Tuchman  
 Inpyo Hong and Min Joo  
 Michael Hong and Jeewon Paik  
 Tom Hur and Annie Hur  
 Imran Javaid and Safia Hussain  
 Maya Joseph  
 Nicole Kaufmann  
 James Kim and Sharon Kim  
 Adam Kirsch '07  
 David Kloman '73  
 Dr. Shailaja Koppolu '89  
 Puja Kothari  
 Sallie B. Schullinger-Krause '79  
 Cortez La Palme and  
 Wijayanti Hartono  
 Stewart Lask and Jill Nadler-Lask  
 Michael Laurence and  
 Sherri Laurence  
 David Lee and Nan Hyoun Lee  
 Daniel Lee  
 Peter Lee and Anna Lee  
 So Young Lee  
 Helga Lemke '52  
 Dr. Tom Li and Dr. Grace Kuo  
 Jimmy Lim and Sheri Lim  
 Taylor Lindsey and  
 Natasha Pronga Lindsey  
 Yael Linker '02  
 Ronnee Press Lipman  
 Vito Liza  
 Lori Lowell  
 Elsie Lowell  
 Kathryn Tondel Lundy '93  
 Pamela Krug Maloof '59

Daniel Mao and Monica Liu  
 Luis Marin and Marylyn Marin  
 Robert H. Maurizi '87  
 Robert McCabe '70  
 The McCrosson Family  
 Kathleen McGowan  
 Dr. Emalinda McSpadden and  
 Linda Romano  
 Ankit Mehta and Puja Mehta  
 Gerard Mekjian and  
 Nadine Yavru-Sakuk '89  
 The Merino Avilés Family  
 David Messler  
 Dr. Michael Michelis and  
 Dr. Mary Ann Michelis  
 Erin Minks  
 Alexa Modugno '02  
 Dr. Stephanie Nebel  
 Samuel Negin '98  
 Ron Noe and Jenifer Grant  
 Seth Odei-Danso  
 Elizabeth Osder '76  
 Edirin Owhojeta and Peng Zeng  
 Richard Pagano and Lynn Pagano  
 Joy Perla  
 Keila Pernia  
 Jennifer Mugler Peterson '74  
 Samantha Pianko  
 Dara E. Picard  
 Josh Pinchuk and Dr. Jingdi Zeng  
 William Pollak and  
 Dr. Samantha Brenner '94  
 John Pollick and  
 Dr. Dana Alpern '67  
 Fernando Cruz and Cheyenne  
 Pronga Cruz  
 Samantha Rahmin '09  
 Caitlin Read  
 Melanie Reich  
 Steven Richman and Judith Richman  
 Christopher Riley and  
 Jacqueline Riley  
 Julia Rios  
 Dr. Max Rodriguez and  
 Gisela Ramirez-Rodriguez  
 Sarah Rolle  
 Jesse Roth '09  
 Peter F. Rousselot '51

Adam Rudes and  
 Lucy Riederer-Rudes  
 James Ruff  
 Caroline Russell '03  
 Julia Russell '07  
 Claire Saal  
 Ramon Santiago and  
 Maria Manuel-Santiago  
 Sheafe Satterthwaite '48  
 Laura Schwartz  
 Aditya Sharma and Sudarshna Mani  
 Donna Sherry  
 Nicholas Siderias and Eleni Siderias  
 Dr. Jed Silverstein  
 Ji Austin Song and Christina Song  
 The Spaeth Family  
 Hong Su  
 Michael Sullivan and Anne Sullivan  
 Thomas Taccetta '81  
 Tommy Tanyag and Kelly Lati  
 Tallie Taylor and Corey Taylor  
 Geoffrey Taylor  
 The Theberge Family  
 Susanne Trachtenberg '08  
 Shakira Valdez  
 Hamilton Vazquez and  
 Analia Alvarez  
 Dr. Timothy Vogel and April Vogel  
 Carole Moore and John Wagner  
 Joel Wagoner '69  
 Jeremy Warren and Monica Warren  
 Allen Wein and Janis Wein  
 David Weinraub and  
 Melanie Weinraub  
 Drew Wilkins and Gail Wilkins  
 Colin Williams and Nicole Abissi  
 Dr. Joseph Yoon and Jaywon Yoon  
 Bilge Yuksel  
 Nicole Zdanowski  
 Jose Zenon and Angela Zenon  
 Chris Zhu

## CURRENT PARENTS

### **Class of 2023 (Grade 8)** *75% Participation*

Anonymous (2)  
Sandra Bonnick  
Sea Chang and Tae Young Son  
Dr. Samuel Cho and Sunny Cho  
Young Cho and Eun Hwa Song  
Artur Ferreira and  
Catherine Ferreira  
Christopher Hernandez and  
Laura Quintano  
Dr. Brandon Huang and Ly Huang  
Tom Hur and Annie Hur  
Fadi Kaddoura and Yaeko Kaddoura  
Dr. Michael Kim and Dr. Susan Park  
David Lee and Nan Hyoun Lee  
Peter Lee and Anna Lee  
Paul Lim and Amy Lim  
Gerard Mekjian and  
Nadine Yavru-Sakuk '89  
David Perla and Jody Perla  
Keila Pernia  
Ramon Santiago and  
Maria Manuel-Santiago  
Jason Spaeth and Emily Spaeth  
Chris Theberge and  
Kristen Theberge  
Dr. George Vratsanos and  
Dr. Joanne Vratsanos  
Zhigang Wang and Yujie Dong  
Drew Wilkins and Gail Wilkins  
Pengfei Zhao and Xingzhe Gong

### **Class of 2024 (Grade 7)** *55% Participation*

Joseph Agresta, Jr. '78  
Hogene Chae and Jae-shin Noh  
Dr. Rahul Chauhan and  
Dr. Vanita Kumar  
Peter Cho and Youni Cho  
Sotirios Drossos and  
Ioanna Drossos

Dr. Matthew Grossman and  
Dr. Katalin Frisch-Grossman  
Dr. Rajan Gurunathan and  
Laura Gurunathan  
Inpyo Hong and Min Joo  
Kaibo Hu and Angela Cheng  
SJ Kim and Eunran Kim  
Daniel Lee  
So Young Lee  
Dr. Tom Li and Dr. Grace Kuo  
Victor Nuñez and  
Michelle Rodriguez-Nuñez  
Dr. Jae Hong Park and Hye Soo Eun  
Dr. Anil S. Ranawat '86 and  
Dr. Dana Ranawat  
Tallie Taylor and Corey Taylor  
Shakira Valdez  
Hamilton Vazquez and  
Analia Alvarez  
Weiping Wang  
Jeremy Warren and Monica Warren  
David Weinraub and  
Melanie Weinraub

### **Class of 2025 (Grade 6)** *59% Participation*

Anonymous  
Victor Alvarez '93 and Gia Alvarez  
Kunal Bhojwala and  
Leena Bhojwala  
Dr. Samuel Cho and Sunny Cho  
Edward Cho and Kyung-mi Jung  
Jay Cho and Gloria Kim  
Ran Eliasaf and Isabelle Bichler  
Esen Ersoy and Gorkem Tuna-Ersoy  
Stephen Hards and Liza Hards  
Michael Hong and Jeewon Paik  
Maya Joseph  
Ara Kantardjian and  
Jennifer Kantardjian  
Dr. Paul Kim and Karen Kim  
Dongwook Lee and Suhyun Kim  
Luis Marin and Marylyn Marin

Scott Ostfeld and Jennifer Ostfeld  
Josh Pinchuk and Dr. Jingdi Zeng  
Adam Rudes and  
Lucy Riederer-Rudes  
Jason Spaeth and Emily Spaeth  
Wendi Hoeben Thompson  
William Woo and Lixia Wang Woo  
Tong Zhang and Yingli Xie  
Pengfei Zhao and Xingzhe Gong

### **Class of 2026 (Grade 5)** *72% Participation*

Anonymous (3)  
David Aronberg and  
Natasha Aronberg  
Fadi Kaddoura and Yaeko Kaddoura  
Dr. Tom Li and Dr. Grace Kuo  
Gerard Mekjian and  
Nadine Yavru-Sakuk '89  
Erin Minks  
Lindy Park  
David Perla and Jody Perla  
Gary Singer and Candida Avalos  
Dr. Kevin Song and Lillian Yoo-Song  
Ji Austin Song and Christina Song  
Jonathan Swope and Lindsey Swope  
Michael Vargas and Nicole Seretis  
Hamilton Vazquez and  
Analia Alvarez

### **Class of 2027 (Grade 4)** *70% Participation*

Anonymous (2)  
Gregory Amerkanian and  
Dr. Natalie Amerkanian '84  
Daniel Aminetzah and  
Dana Aminetzah  
Chunlei Bao and Tina Chang  
Kunal Bhojwala and  
Leena Bhojwala  
Michael Camarinos and  
Lauren Camarinos '96  
Han Cho and Julia Cho  
Sumeet Chordia and Riya Chordia



## CURRENT PARENTS *continued*

William Chun and Julie Chun  
 Mohamed El Ghazzali and  
 Nicolle Seinige  
 Edison Estrada and  
 Michelle Mercado  
 Daniel Gabbay and  
 Elizabeth Gabbay '93  
 Adriel Gonzalez '94 and  
 Candace Gonzalez '94  
 The Graham Myrie Family  
 Kaibo Hu and Angela Cheng  
 Dr. Brandon Huang and Ly Huang  
 Tom Hur and Annie Hur  
 Nicole Kaufmann  
 James Kim and Sharon Kim  
 Oliver Lennox and Maria Lennox  
 Jimmy Lim and Sheri Lim  
 Miguel Merino and Sofia Avilés  
 Gaurav Sharma and Jasleen Batra  
 Dr. Siddhartha Sharma and  
 Dr. Shital Sharma  
 Dr. Michael Shohet and  
 Raina Wallens  
 Richard Soar and Dr. Pinar Kayaalp  
 Tallie Taylor and Corey Taylor  
 Dr. Joseph Yoon and Jaywon Yoon  
 Steve Yoon and Annie Lee  
 Bilge Yuksel

### **Class of 2028 (Grade 3)** *62% Participation*

Anonymous (5)  
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### The Potts Gift

A bequest of \$10,000 was gifted to The Apple Tree Fund by the late Douglas Gordon Potts. As a former board member, Mr. Potts invested his time and talent into the heart and soul of EMS.

Planned gifts provide unique ways for donors to have a transformational impact at EMS. Planned giving includes bequests, gifts of life insurance, gifts of retirement plan assets, and IRA distributions. Donors who make this extraordinary investment in the future of EMS are invited to join the Linden Legacy Society. Please consult with your attorney or financial advisor about the tax benefits of a planned gift and what the best plan is for you and your family.





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## SUMMER STRING FESTIVAL ENDOWMENT

Our Summer String Festival, a renowned music program for deeply engaged and experienced young violin, viola, and cello students, can now help even more musicians with the creation of The Kirjner Family Endowment, established in 2022 in memory of Carlos Kirjner. The endowment will provide financial assistance to students selected to attend EMS' Summer String Festival whose families are experiencing financial hardships.

*“One of the great joys of Carlos’ life was sharing his love of classical music with his children, whom he passionately supported on their path toward becoming classically trained violinists,” says Ester Kirjner, noting that for their younger son, the Summer String Festival was an irreplaceable part of the journey.*

This endowment was established in the hopes that those in need would be able to go on their own classical music journeys.

---

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## SPRING BENEFIT: MAY 18, 2023

We welcomed more than 200 EMS parents, trustees, alumni, grandparents, faculty, staff, and friends to our annual spring benefit. It was a fabulous night of socializing, fundraising, and celebrating our honorees: Physical Education teacher Gene Love, who has given 36 years (and counting!) of service to the school, and Betsy Puchner P: '82 '85, '88, a past parent and longtime volunteer who served for 29 years as a trustee. The evening also included a paddle raise, fueled by a \$25,000 challenge gift from the Puchner family, which inspired \$75,000 being raised for a newly unveiled environmental education expansion project. A special thank you to 2023 Spring Benefit co-chairs Lauren Apgar P'32; Catherine Ferreira P: '21, '23; Candace Gonzalez '94, P: '27, '30; and Lillian Pien P'30.

We are thrilled to announce that through the generosity of our community, we raised more than \$325,000, the highest amount ever raised for an in-person event!



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## GRADE 8 GIFT *in* HONOR *of the* CLASS OF 2023

Parents of our 2023 graduation speaker Norah W. generously made an unrestricted gift of \$20,000 to the Apple Tree Fund in honor of the Class of 2023. What a wonderful way to celebrate the graduates and celebrate our community! If you feel inspired to contribute in celebration of the Class of 2024, please reach out to Hanita Walia.

The Morrow House student government led fundraising for the eighth-grade class gift — a set of new professional-grade, cordless microscopes for the STEAM lab!

---

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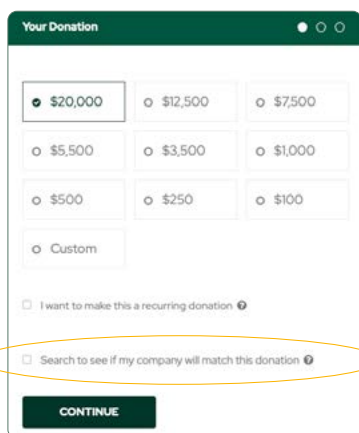
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## FAQ

### Q: Why do we have an annual fund? Why should I make a gift?

A: The Apple Tree Fund is EMS' annual fund. This fund helps "fill the gap" between tuition and the true cost of an EMS education. This gap is about \$5,500 per student.

### Q: Why is participation important?

A: Participation is important because it illustrates that the community is aligned with the mission and vision of the school. When everyone in the community gives, no matter what the amount, it shows their investment in the future of the school. Ultimately, participation helps the advancement team to reach its fundraising goals.

The goal for each year is 100% current parent participation. Any gift amount can and will make a difference! Each and every student benefits from gifts to the Apple Tree Fund. Your gift to the Apple Tree Fund will help to provide transformative student experiences and support the work of our dedicated faculty.

### Q: How much should I give?

A: We encourage families to make a thoughtful gift within their means. Some families may be able to make a gift at a leadership level (\$3,500 and up) while other families may be able to contribute less. Gifts of all sizes are welcomed and appreciated.



## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

The Elisabeth Morrow School is grateful to our donors who have made donations and pledge payments in support of our school's Capital Campaign.

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### **The Kirjner Family Fund**

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## A NOTE *from* OUR PARENTS ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

*Dear EMS Community,*

The 2022–2023 school year was a great success in building community through the Parents Association! Our dedicated volunteers collaborated to further the school’s mission, bond families, and express gratitude and appreciation to the wonderful faculty and staff.

Highlights through the year included our Fall Festival, with an impressive turnout of families enjoying pumpkin decorating, service dogs from Canine Companions, and traditional pony rides and field games; our Book Fair & Storytelling Festival, with visits from authors such as Jen Calonita, and our popular cafe for Morrow House students; and our newly launched Cultural Fair, where our diverse community shared musical performances and cultural artifacts.

Our four standing committees, Community Service, DEI, Green, and Health & Wellness, were active in engaging our families and parents in fun activities and important initiatives, such as our annual ice skating event at Englewood Field Club, Valentine for Veterans letter writing, and All Wrapped Up donation drive to local families of Bergen County. Importantly, we furthered our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion development through our partnership with Dr. Sandra Chapman of Chap Equity.

As the 2022–2023 academic year concluded my term as PA president, I would like to thank the entire executive board, our PA leadership, and our class parents for their tireless hard work throughout the year. As an alum and parent, it has been a true honor for me to lead this wonderful PA community for the past few years. Every parent is a member of the PA. The dedicated effort and consideration of all EMS parents, along with the guidance and support of the school administration — especially Associate Head of School and Director of the Arts Amelia Gold — is such a special recipe for success here at EMS. I would like to welcome Sarah Lee as the new PA president and Cheyenne Pronga Cruz, director of community life, equity, and belonging, as the new PA liaison.

Kindly,

Lauren Camarinos '96 | Parents Association President



## PARENTS ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEERS

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Haritomeni (Meni) Marinakis  
Lauren Apgar  
April Vogel  
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Christina Kim  
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Marlene Taveras  
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Jennifer Davis  
Sharyn Lewin  
Ana Badulescu  
Christina Song  
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Cheryl Zhao  
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Leena Bhojawala  
Vered Frumer  
Min Joo  
Melanie Weinraub  
Catherine Ferreira  
Gail Wilkins

## PAN VOLUNTEERS

The Parent Admissions Network (PAN) is a group of parent volunteers that supports Admissions by attending events, speaking with applicant families, and reaching out to their communities.

Thank you to our PAN volunteers!

Lauren Apgar  
Ana Maria Badulescu  
Lauren Camerinos '96  
Jennifer Dixon  
Tara Erol  
Lauren James  
Nicole Kaufman  
Neel Khairzada  
Simona Korik-Barrett  
Sarah Lee  
Jason Lee  
Diana Maganuco  
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Hackley School\*  
Horace Mann School  
Immaculate Heart Academy  
Kent Place School  
Loomie Chaffee School  
Loyola School\*

Millbrook School  
Montclair Kimberly Academy  
Mother Seton Regional High School\*  
Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child  
Paramus Catholic High School  
Phillips Academy Andover\*  
Phillips Exeter Academy\*  
Pomfret School  
Ramaz School  
Regis High School\*  
Riverdale Country School\*  
Saddle River Day School\*  
St. Paul's School\*  
The Hotchkiss School\*  
The Masters School\*  
The Peddie School  
The Spence School  
Trevor Day School  
Woodberry Forest School

(\*student enrollment)



## The Elisabeth Morrow School

435 Lydecker Street  
Englewood, NJ 07631

Returned Service Requested

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