



# The Elisabeth Morrow School



*2024-2025 Guide to Giving*



## The Elisabeth Morrow School

## A NOTE *from* OUR HEAD of SCHOOL

Dear EMS Families, Friends, and Colleagues,

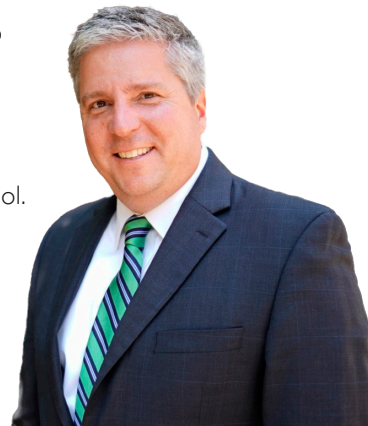
Each year, we are fortunate to witness the incredible generosity and dedication of The Elisabeth Morrow School community. It is through your unwavering support that we continue to provide our students with an education rooted in our mission and core values — our 4 C's. As we embark on this new school year, we once again turn to you, our EMS family, to help sustain and further our mission by making a personally meaningful gift to the Apple Tree Fund.

Your contributions have a direct and immediate impact on every student at EMS. From enhancing classroom resources to supporting innovative teaching practices, your generosity touches every aspect of the student experience. I am deeply grateful to the families, friends, and colleagues who have already contributed to this year's Apple Tree Fund. Your support is essential to our mission.

For those who have not yet had the opportunity to contribute, I warmly invite you to join us in making a difference. Every gift, no matter the size, amplifies our collective impact and helps ensure that all EMS students can benefit from the outstanding opportunities we offer.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to The Elisabeth Morrow School.

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



## A NOTE *from* OUR CHIEF STRATEGY *and* ADVANCEMENT OFFICER

We believe that when every member of our community participates in the Apple Tree Fund — no matter the size of the gift — it demonstrates a shared commitment to our children's educational experiences and the future of our school. Together, we are fostering a community where students learn, grow, and rise to new challenges. Your gifts also directly support the programs, opportunities, and amazing educators that make EMS stand out.

Through your generosity, we can ensure that EMS continues to flourish. Thank you for your continued support.

*Hanita Walia*

**Hanita Walia**  
Chief Strategy and  
Advancement Officer





## WHY GIVING MATTERS

Your annual gifts  
to the  
**APPLE TREE FUND**  
are the single most important source  
of non-tuition revenue at  
The Elisabeth Morrow School.

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### *Did you know?*

Tuition at EMS doesn't cover the full cost of education. There's a \$5,500 gap per student each year between tuition and the actual cost of an EMS education. The Apple Tree Fund helps bridge this gap, ensuring every child can thrive in a well-rounded, nurturing environment.





## YOUR GIFT *to the* APPLE TREE FUND HELPS EMS:

### **Attract and retain the best teachers and provide ongoing professional development.**

Just like our students, our teachers are infinitely capable! We strategically invest in our faculty members, supporting their ongoing professional development to help them grow as educators. EMS provides funding for faculty to attend professional conferences, complete continuing education courses, enroll in graduate programs, and collaborate with colleagues on projects that inform their work in the classroom.

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### *Did you know?*

- Associate Head of Lower School Natasha Pronga earned her certification as a trainer in Restorative Practices, a field within the social sciences that studies how to strengthen relationships between individuals as well as social connections within communities.
- World Language Department chair and Spanish teacher Valeria Bonasorte traveled to Salamanca, Spain, as part of a language and cultural immersion program sponsored in part by the University of Salamanca, the premier institution in Spain for Spanish language teaching and learning.



## Support an innovative STEAM curriculum.

The Elisabeth Morrow School is a leader in STEAM education — integrating projects that span science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics — which we balance with humanities. Through the curriculum, our students uncover new passions and explore the world around them.

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### *Did you know?*

- Our commitment to STEAM education empowers students to turn their passions into real-world innovations. For example, one of our students designed and built a prosthetic arm with the guidance and support of his teacher, Samantha Morra.
- Robotics Coordinator Jesse Samuel uses The LEGO® Education SPIKE™ Prime Sets to teach complex computer science concepts, combining hands-on building with advanced programming in an engaging and accessible way. The sets introduce students to key coding concepts through a user-friendly, block-based interface that can transition to more advanced languages like Python.



## Embrace cultural diversity.

The Elisabeth Morrow School celebrates cultural diversity within our community, and our students develop a global perspective with a focus on equitable and inclusive practices. From the earliest ages, our students expand their capacity for creativity in collaboration with students and teachers across diverse backgrounds and perspectives.

## Engage in experiential and integrated learning.

Students at The Elisabeth Morrow School investigate challenging concepts and construct meaning by engaging in experiential and integrated learning at every level. Providing fluid learning, both indoors and out, our school environment is engineered to build confidence and self-awareness in our students so that they can become thinkers and leaders in an increasingly interconnected global community.

For example, kindergarten students recently explored the world of animals through a project-based learning unit. After studying non-fiction books and visiting Turtle Back Zoo, they created their own animal habitats and presented their research to the EMS community, including Dr. Beck and first-grade students.

Project-based learning immerses students in collaborative problem-solving, empowering them to guide their own learning.

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### *Did you know?*

Field trips like Turtle Back Zoo, Ellis Island, Washington, D.C., and Carnegie Hall are made possible by gifts to the Apple Tree Fund. These contributions support enriching experiences that bring learning to life beyond the classroom.



## WAYS to GIVE

### Matching Gifts:

See if your company will match your gift by visiting [elizabethmorrow.org/donate](https://elizabethmorrow.org/donate). Matching gifts help make an even greater impact for EMS as they often double or triple your gift amount!



### Give Online:

Visit [elizabethmorrow.org/donate](https://elizabethmorrow.org/donate) to make a gift online.

**Your Donation**

\$20,000    \$12,500    \$7,500

\$5,500    \$3,500    \$1,000

\$500    \$250    \$100

Custom

I want to make this a recurring donation ⓘ

Search to see if my company will match this donation ⓘ

**CONTINUE**

### Securities:

Gifts of appreciated securities can be among the most cost effective ways to support EMS. Usually, donors receive credit for the full market value on the day the gift is made and may save capital gains tax on donated assets held long term. Gifts of securities may be transferred electronically to The Elisabeth Morrow School by your broker. Please contact the Advancement Office with gift details (date of the gift, number of shares, and name of the stock). We must have this information to give appropriate gift credit to the donor.

#### **Account Name:**

The Elisabeth Morrow School

#### **Account Number:**

8767-0414 Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.  
155 Route 17 South, Paramus, NJ 07652  
800-435-4000



## Planned Gifts:

Through planned giving, including bequests, gifts of life insurance, gifts of retirement plan assets, and IRA distributions, donors can make a transformational impact at EMS.

Donors who make this extraordinary investment in the future of EMS are invited to join **The 1930 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. If you have already included EMS as a beneficiary in your will or trust, please let us know so we can properly acknowledge your generosity.

Please contact Hanita Walia at [hwalia@elisabethmorrow.org](mailto:hwalia@elisabethmorrow.org) to learn more.

## LEVELS of GIVING

### Morrow Society and Head's Council

The Elisabeth Morrow School deeply appreciates the support of its community of parents, alumni, faculty, staff, trustees, and friends. Leadership giving through the Morrow Society and the Head's Council plays an especially important role in fulfilling the vision of our school.

#### THE HEAD'S COUNCIL

**Founders:** \$20,000 and up  
**Leaders:** \$12,500 to \$19,999

#### THE MORROW SOCIETY

**Benefactors:** \$7,500 to \$12,499  
**Patrons:** \$5,500 to \$7,499  
**Sponsors:** \$3,500 to \$5,499

#### GIFT CLUBS

**Green and White Club:**  
\$2,000 to \$3,499  
**Chilton Circle:**  
\$1,000 to \$1,999  
**Next Day Hill Club:**  
\$500 to \$999  
**EMS Friends:** Up to \$499

*Please note that the giving societies listed above reflect total combined giving to The Elisabeth Morrow School within one fiscal year. All applicable IRS exclusions may apply.*

## ENDOWMENTS

Endowment funds contribute to the long-term financial stability of The Elisabeth Morrow School. A portion of the annual income generated by the fund is used, while the principal remains intact and continues to grow. **To learn more about contributing to an existing endowment or establishing a new one, please contact Hanita Walia at [hwalia@elisabethmorrow.org](mailto:hwalia@elisabethmorrow.org).**

### Faculty Endowments

#### *GRAHAM-JOHNSON ENDOWMENT FUND*

Established in 1976 with a donation from an anonymous benefactor, the Graham-Johnson Endowment honors former EMS teachers Susan Graham and Janet Johnson. Miss Johnson was a founding teacher at EMS and is remembered as one of the “pioneers” of the time. She taught nursery for more than 40 years. Miss Graham was appointed in 1930 by the school’s founder, Elisabeth Morrow. She was head kindergarten teacher and Chilton House librarian and began the “cocoa parties,” a tradition that continues today. On their retirement, Constance Chilton commented, “These two teachers won the admiration and affection of their colleagues through their dedication and talents. Their understanding and skill with 4- and 5-year old children endeared them to hundreds of students. They will always be held in the highest esteem by all who know them.” This fund appropriately benefits faculty compensation.

#### *ED AND NANCY BARR FUND FOR FACULTY DEVELOPMENT*

Nancy and Ed Barr, parents of Christopher '88 and Andrew '91, established this fund in recognition of our excellent teaching staff and to support ongoing faculty development.

#### *RICHARD A. DAVIES TEACHING ENDOWMENT*

Established in 1988 to honor former Head of School Richard A. Davies, this endowment provides faculty development funds to foster the values he so cherished: the love of learning, sense of self-worth, and commitment to community.

#### *STEPHEN P. JONES ENDOWMENT FOR FACULTY AND STAFF COMPENSATION*

Parents, students, faculty, alumni, and friends of former Head of School Stephen P. Jones established this endowment fund upon his retirement. The fund supports faculty and staff compensation.







## **Financial Aid Endowments**

### *MOLLY ANDERSON FUND*

The Molly Anderson Fund was established in memory of this wonderful woman, who was Miss Chilton's right hand at Morrow House. The fund provides financial aid for children of faculty members who attend our school.

### *MARY HAWKINS MEMORIAL FUND*

Mary Hawkins was a Chilton House teacher for 24 years and was revered for her dedication to young ones and their education. Her family established this fund in her memory to provide tuition aid for faculty children at EMS.

### *DARRYL ANNE BURNHAM MEMORIAL FUND*

The Darryl Anne Burnham Memorial Fund was established by the Burnham family in 1999. It provides annual tuition aid for a fourth-grade student who would otherwise not be able to share in the EMS experience. The school thanks the Burnham family and those who honor Darryl's memory.



### *GEORGE PENNY FUND*

This endowment fund was established in 2000 to honor sixth-grade teacher George Penny, who taught at EMS from 1981 to 2013. Students referred to Mr. Penny as a friend and an incredible teacher who challenged them through his unique instructional style. This fund provides financial aid for faculty children at EMS.

### *TERRY AND ALEX SHIOTA MEMORIAL FUND*

Michael and Jane Murphy have established and named the Terry and Alex Shiota Memorial Fund for financial aid in memory of their nephews.

### *ANNE MOLONEY BLACK '57 ENDOWMENT*

Anne Moloney Black '57 established this endowment in 2014 to provide tuition assistance for up to two children. Special consideration will be given to qualified students who have lost a parent. Anne, who lost her own father in World War II, believes EMS' focus on the joy of learning and the 4 C's helped form the cornerstones of her life and served her well over the years. She hopes this fund will provide others with a similar experience.

### *MICHELE BOWER SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT*

Established in 2013 by the Scherl family, this endowment recognizes the influential role that Mrs. Bower, then director of secondary school placement and director of curriculum, played in students' successes during her time with EMS. It supports tuition aid.

### *THE KIRJNER FAMILY 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.

## Information Services Endowments

### *LEE STARR TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION ENDOWMENT*

Established in 1999 by the Toback family to celebrate the life of their cousin, teacher Lee Starr, this fund provides resources for the school to acquire cutting-edge technology in support of student learning.



**FOR QUESTIONS,  
PLEASE CONTACT *our* TEAM**

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**SAFETY  
FIRST**

**GOGGLE  
STORAGE  
CENTER**

**FLINN  
SCIENTIFIC**





## The Elisabeth Morrow School

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