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VISTA SCHOOL

SUMMER 2020

FOUNDATION QUARTERLY



Enhancing, Enriching, and Extending the Quality of Education Provided to Vista School

Welcome!

The Vista School Foundation was created to raise funds to enhance, enrich, and extend the quality of education provided to Vista School students. The Foundation board allocates these funds to student scholarships, teacher excellence awards, professional development, performance facilities, and an endowment.

Still in its infancy in 2018, Vista Foundation was able to give scholarships to three strings students. After a very successful fundraiser in 2019, we are excited to expand our allocations for scholarships this school year to students in technology, voice, dance, and band, enhancing the education of many more Vista students. Many thanks to our generous and amazing donors for making this possible!

-Laney Onarheim

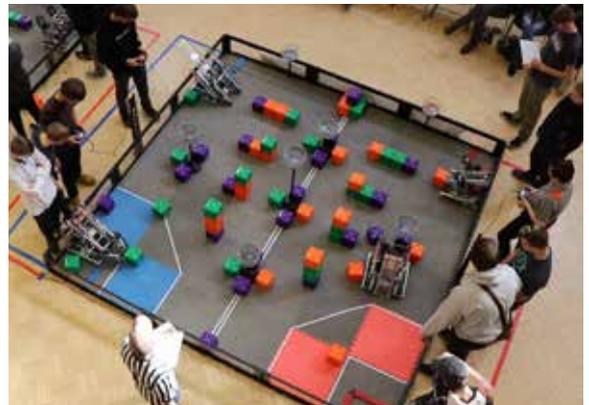
Technology Dept Growth

Vista School's technology department has been progressively expanding the past few years. They offer classes in coding, 3D printing, robotics, and music production. This department has been competing in Vex Robotics for only two years, and this year 3 teams not only went to state finals; but qualified for the World Championships.

The teachers in this department put their heart and soul into their school and their students. Next year they hope to expand their offerings of robotics classes to the younger grades. The passion of these instructors

at Vista School will further the educational opportunities needed for preparing any student wanting a competitive edge in the emerging fields of technology.

-Dee Wilson



75 Current number of foundation donors

\$16,936

Amount raised in funding this school year

100%

of donations go directly to benefiting Vista Students

Distance Learning

Vista School has been using Canvas as its learning platform for the past two years. With the nation wide school dismissals due to COVID-19, teachers' proficient use of Canvas has made the transition to digital learning a relatively smooth process at Vista School. Teachers continue to provide a meaningful, rigorous curriculum through Canvas chats, conferences and modules. Students explore dance with Mrs. Wainwright, Mrs. Jones, and Mrs. Thomas through live video sessions. Coach Barben, Vista School's PE teacher, has sent students out to explore their communities on a hunt for "Vista Rocks" painted with positive phrases and hidden along trails, parks and walkways throughout the St. George area. Students



continue reading decodable texts in their language arts classes, researching embryos in Mrs. McConnell's science class to discover how we are all from a common ancestor, competing in the Code Camp Challenges in Vista technology classes and many more engaging topics. Vista teachers are committed to student learning, even if it must happen at a distance!



-Kelly Geary



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Foundation Board Meeting

If you would like to join the Foundation board, please contact Dana McConnell at danalou.old@gmail.com



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First Day of School

Vista students will be welcomed back to begin a new school year whether in person, online, or a hybrid of the two.

Vista Teacher Excellence Awards

The Vista Teacher Excellence Awards were established to recognize distinction and merit in teaching children, as well as to honor creative, quality instruction in a collaborative, positive classroom environment. We respect Vista teachers as life-long learners who constantly seek ways to grow professionally for the benefit of our students. We appreciate all who participated in the nomination process as well as the nomination committee for their review and selections.

The Foundation proudly acknowledges the recipients of the 2020 Vista Teacher Excellence Awards. Congratulations to:

Abe Nickle: Performing Arts Department

Sue Eyring: Science and History Departments

Thank you, teachers, for your continual impact on the lives of our children with your daily generosity, exemplar professionalism, unconditional love and example.

-Dana McConnell



Peter and Phyllis DeLuca Scholarships



The prestigious Peter and Phyllis DeLuca Scholarships are provided to Vista students in the "strings" division of our music department. There were twenty-one outstanding applicants this year who diligently created written applications as well as individual performances. Nine finalists were selected from these twenty-one incredible talents, who then performed for Mrs. Linda DeLuca



and a panel of judges. Out of those nine finalists, five winners were selected. The recipients of this year's Peter and Phyllis DeLuca Scholarships are:

Shandelle Webb – Cellist – 8 th Grade

Bella Gillette – Violinist – 7 th Grade

Rachel Burton – Violinist – 8 th Grade

Preston Densley – Violinist – 6 th Grade

Eliza Larsen – Cellist – 7 th Grade

Congratulations to our winners as well as all students who participated in this process.

Each winner will be receiving \$400 to use toward an instrument purchase, repairs, or private lessons.



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2nd Annual Brunch Fundraiser

Save the date for a covid-style brunch with Vista-style entertainment at our annual Foundation fundraiser! If you attended last year, you know you won't want to miss it! To host a table, please contact Laney Onarheim at laneynlarson@gmail.com.



Scholarship Provides New Tuba for Band

While orchestra and choir have been strong programs for years, Vista has been working more recently to expand the availability of musical options to include a Vista School band. With the help of Christopher Clegg, a newly hired band instructor, the band program is beginning to flourish! Vista is pleased to have a greater variety of options for its students, better fulfilling its mission as a technology and arts school.

Mr. Clegg said, "I think it's important to note that we're building great people, not just musicians. Sure, I like to have kids in my ensembles that work hard and play well, but the most important thing to me is that we're creating people who are patient, have strong work ethic, and are thinking about what they can do for the group, not for themselves. It's a learning process for

everyone, including me. I want to teach better every day."

Vista Foundation is excited to aid this program by expanding the number of instruments available for learning. Due to our generous donors, Vista's band program has been extended a \$2500 scholarship in order to purchase a tuba and some other needs. Many thanks to our donors for helping to enhance the learning of Vista's rising generation!

-Laney Onarheim

