



To protect and enrich quality  
public education in Claremont

# CEF News

Claremont Educational Foundation

[www.claremonteducationalfoundation.org](http://www.claremonteducationalfoundation.org)

## Message from the new CEF President -- Jessica Marchant

As we begin another school year, CEF and the Claremont community have an impressive list of accomplishments to be proud of. Together we have raised approximately \$100,000 in each of the past two fundraising years. Still, each year CEF has been called upon to gift more money to our schools than has been raised that year. In order to preserve the services and programs that are vital for all of Claremont's students, CEF has utilized its reserve funds which will soon be depleted. You - Claremont's citizens, students, parents and teachers - have given CEF a clear and necessary mandate. CEF must work to provide funding for valuable programs and services which are not funded by the state. Without CEF's annual grants, those programs and services will not continue. Yet, CEF cannot maintain the level of annual giving Claremont currently needs unless we can increase the amount of contributions made in our annual fundraising campaigns. YOU - the CEF donor - can ensure that CEF can continue to fulfill its important mission for the children of Claremont. You will soon be receiving our 2007-2008 Annual Fundraising Campaign request letter. Please help us with your generous donation to CEF's annual fundraising campaign! With your generous support, all of Claremont's students can succeed.

*Jessica Marchant*

## An Exciting Transportation News Update

With our most recent grant earmarked for transportation needs at Claremont High School, CEF pledged to purchase a large van for use in transporting students, sports teams and extra-curricular clubs to their field trips, games and events. During the summer break, we worked to find just the right van at just the right price. We are pleased to announce that, through CEF's efforts, there will soon be two new vans available to meet our students' transportation needs - one will be purchased with CEF grant funds and another with CUSD matching funds! It is the generosity of our donors, including our corporate sponsor Foothill Ford, and CEF's advocacy efforts that made this purchase possible. We extend thanks to our friends at Foothill Ford for their financial support and practical help with the van project!

## A Recap Of Last Year

The Claremont community supported CEF in another successful fundraising campaign for the 2006-2007 school year. With your donations, CEF was able to grant \$149,450 to the Claremont Unified School District for various programs to enhance education in all of our public schools.

\$70,000 was donated to maintain Art and Music programs at all seven elementary schools. Many of our elementary school children would not be exposed to art and music during regular school hours were it not for the financial support provided by CEF annually.

\$11,100 was donated to upgrade technology at El Roble Intermediate School. Six new iMac computers, four LCD projectors and two overhead projectors were purchased and will enhance and augment the classroom learning experience for our intermediate students.

\$8,500 was donated to San Antonio High School. New last year, CEF funded an art program designed to give San Antonio students a creative and engaging way to enhance their learning experience through art education.

\$50,000 was gifted to Claremont High School to improve technology and provide transportation. CEF funds were used to purchase 25 LCD projectors to help CHS teachers provide a better and more complete learning experience for their students. In addition, a portion of this grant was used to purchase a new van to provide transportation for the smaller CHS sports teams and extra-curricular organizations.

\$9,850 was gifted to the Elementary After School Music Program. CEF matched funds raised by parents in the amount of \$2,850 and gifted an additional \$4,150 to provide new instruments so that more elementary students can participate in this vital, and free, after school music program.

## 2006-2007 Annual Campaign Kick-Off

In November '06, CEF held its annual campaign kick-off party, generously hosted by best selling author Ivan Misner and his wife Beth, in their Claremont home. The event showcased art created by children representing all of our elementary schools, using the lessons learned in art programs funded by CEF. In addition to funding the kick-off event, the Misners also offered to match any donations received that evening. Donations received in the amount of \$7,850 were matched for a total of \$15,700 raised in one evening! CEF extends a warm thank you to Ivan and Beth Misner for their constant support.

## Annual Phone-A-Thon

The annual CEF Phone-A-Thon was an incredible success. Parents, teachers and principals from every school, including Superintendent Dave Cash, spent three evenings calling community members to raise funds for the annual campaign. Thanks to Pomona and Pitzer colleges for donating their phones and facilities. The total raised over the three evenings was \$20,500.

# \$149,450!!! Thank you!

With your support and generosity, CEF continues to protect and enrich quality public education in Claremont.

## THANK YOU TO OUR 2006 - 2007 DONORS

In addition to the contributions listed below, CEF also receives many donations in-kind, while countless volunteers give their time processing donations, managing the website, and participating in Shop & Dine and other functions. CEF would especially like to recognize Pomona College's contribution of Renwick House for our use during CEF's 2007 Phonathon.

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## 4th Annual Shop & Dine Raised Over \$25,000!!!

CEF's annual Shop & Dine event has become one of Claremont's most anticipated community-wide fundraisers. With the expansion of the event throughout the day and into Village West, over 54 businesses and restaurants participated. In addition, we had 42 non-merchant corporate sponsors and many volunteers participating to make the day a success. Hundreds of elementary children were delighted to perform "Music at the Depot," and the CHS Jazz Band serenaded shoppers throughout the evening. Our raffle included coveted items such as jewelry valued at \$1,600 from the Diamond Center, a painting valued at \$800 from Three French Hens, and a timeshare vacation in San Diego donated by teachers Bob and Loretta Gromo. Also added this year was participation from hair stylists and estheticians at various local salons who donated a portion of their profits for the entire week following Shop & Dine when customers mentioned the event. Thanks to Lori Paley of Aromatique for organizing that new portion of the event. CEF urges all community members to frequently patronize those local businesses that support our schools!!! A full list of participants can be found on our website at [www.claremonteducationalfoundation.org](http://www.claremonteducationalfoundation.org).

**Mark Your Calendar Friday April 25th  
Shop & Dine 2008 – See You There!**

## Summer Enrichment Program

The 2007 CEF Summer Enrichment Program served 285 students in 22 different classes. Students had a great time learning cooking skills, art, computer survey, foreign language and various sports activities. Look for next year's schedule of useful, fun and exciting Summer Enrichment classes in early 2008.



## Diversity in Our Donors

### Why Do Teachers Give To CEF?

**Krista Carson Elhai, Claremont High School Teacher**

*"As a teacher, you need to have buy in where you are teaching. Everyone has his or her cause to support. I believe in Claremont schools and that is why I support them."*

Krista, herself a CHS graduate, also has had three children attend Claremont public schools including Claremont High School. Krista is currently the theater teacher at CHS.

"I feel there is a myth among parents about what the state is covering. They think everything you see in a classroom is funded by the state. Not true.... What CEF did was educate parents that there aren't always funds for everything. CEF helps parents understand the costs and why. If everyone understood why the schools need their support, I think more people would contribute." Krista always knew about CEF's involvement in the After School Music Program, but it was the Save Our Schools Campaign in 2004 that really sparked her involvement in CEF. As a teacher, Krista has seen a tremendous benefit from the LCD projectors CEF funded last year. "I have 75-80 kids in my class

*continued on back page*

## CEF Grants Two \$1000 Scholarships

Congratulations to Joseph D'Emilio and Kenia Reyes, CEF's David L. Rose Instrumental Music Scholarship and Teddie Warner Community Outreach Scholarship winners, respectively.

Joseph plays the piano, vibraphone, marimba, guitar and various percussion instruments. He has been a member of the percussion ensemble at El Roble Intermediate School, the Jazz Band, Jazz Combo, Chamber Singers, and Jazz Choir, as well as a pit musician for musical productions at Claremont High School. CHS Theatre Director Krista Carson Elhai says Joseph "leads by quiet example, is generous with his fellow technicians, and develops a strong working relationship with his director. He is creative, efficient and always brainstorming for a better way to solve a production dilemma." CHS guidance counselor, Sally Condon, notes, "Joe is a friendly,

conscientious, and dependable young man who takes his music seriously." Joe will continue to pursue his musical interests while attending the University of San Francisco.

Kenia Reyes will be attending University of California at Riverside this fall. After emigrating from El Salvador just six years ago, Kenia has given over 120 service hours to Mount San Antonio Gardens Assisted Living Facility, where they found her to be "creative, deeply conscientious, professional, and hard working." No task was too great for her as she volunteered with "office help, computer help, food service, arts and crafts, and decorating the facility for special events." Kenia also works as a tutor in the El Roble Homework Helpers program. Her CHS guidance counselor, Patricia Maddox, told us, "Her exuberance for any task she undertakes is contagious. Kenia appreciates the small but essential life lessons that fall in each of our paths with regularity --e.g., the satisfaction that comes from brightening another's day with simple conversation."

Please encourage the High School Seniors you know to look for CEF Scholarship applications in the spring of 2008.



Front L-R Brent Hunter, scholarship recipients Kenia Reyes and Joe D'Emilio, Liz Weigand; Middle L-R CUSD Superintendent Dave Cash, Holly Stott, Karen Kellner, Monika Curlin; Top L-R Amy Mathieson, Jessica Marchant, Sheryl Gorchow-Stuart, Ken Corhan



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and for them to all be able to see any visual aids on the big screen is invaluable. The Theater Department was able to save \$5,000-\$8,000 by using the LCD projector in the production of Thoroughly Modern Millie rather than rent the equipment from an outside company."

*CEF would like to thank the Elhai Family for their continued generous support!!*

**Why Do Business Owners Give To CEF?**

**Randy Prout, State Farm Agent and Owner**

Randy and his family have been an integral part of the Claremont community for many years and Randy's volunteer efforts are well known -- so well known, in fact, that Randy was named Volunteer of the Year by State Farm. State Farm awarded Randy a \$500 grant, which he gifted to CEF. Randy, a former CEF board member, has always demonstrated a dedication to public education and the children of Claremont. Randy states, "CEF has come a long way since it's beginning as Ed Net. In appreciation for all they do to raise funds and awareness for unfunded school programs, I felt this was the best place to ask my company to send this grant. Keep up your wonderful efforts for the children and community of Claremont." In addition to his State Farm grant to CEF, Randy is also a proud corporate sponsor of CEF's annual Shop & Dine.

*CEF congratulates Randy Prout on his distinguished award of State Farm Volunteer of the Year.*

**Why Should YOU Give To CEF?**

CEF is the only local all-volunteer organization working to raise funds to benefit all Claremont public schools. As a CEF donor, you can be proud of the contribution you are making to protect and enrich quality public education in Claremont. You can appreciate that every penny you donate goes directly to our children, and you can share in the increased value our community derives from creating top caliber public schools. Please be a part of CEF's important mission by contributing generously to our 2007-2008 annual fundraising campaign.