



THE
WILLOW
SCHOOL

**Philanthropy
Report 2020-21**

The Willow School Mission

Learn with purpose. Lead with character.

The joy of learning and the wonder of the natural world inform every aspect of The Willow School, an independent school for students in preschool through eighth grade. Willow students strive to excel academically and develop a strong work ethic through our mindful, integrated curriculum. By embodying the virtues, Willow maintains an environment where respect for the individual and an understanding of place fosters independent thinking, interconnectivity, creativity, responsibility, and integrity.

The Willow School education empowers children to develop an ethical approach to all relationships and to believe in their power to effect positive change.

Board of Trustees 2020-21 School Year

David Wolfe
President

Kamran Rafieyan
Vice President & Treasurer

Leslie Plumeri
Secretary

Blake Ellman

Pearl Johnson

Glenn Likus

Rob Pritchard

Blake Silverman

Francisco Ayala
Head of School



With your support in the 2020-21 school year, we raised

OVER \$840,000





Letter of Gratitude

Dear Parents, Grandparents, Alumni, Parents of Alumni, and Friends of The Willow School,

No one compares to you, our Willow community! In a year when it would have been easy to do less, you did more. You found new ways to give back despite all of the challenges that came your way. Teachers juggled in-person and virtual students, striving to meet everyone's needs with compassion and flexibility, often organizing individualized take home packets or extra Zoom time for those who were remote. Parents reimaged our traditions and started new ones to ensure that no one felt alone. With creativity and inspiration, parents brought the Holiday Bazaar outdoors, connected children through garden and art projects, and instituted Student Fun Day and the Golf Classic so that we could support each other through otherwise difficult times.

With the support of our exceptionally involved community, Willow is proud to provide an unrivaled education committed to character, collaboration, and the joy of learning. The dedication of Willow families and faculty to our students' well-being is inspiring. The community support of our annual fundraiser, The Willow Fund, is remarkable. Your contributions allow us to provide a virtues-based education, focused on ethical relationships between individuals and the natural world, to as many children as possible. Your financial support allows us to respond quickly to current needs, while closing the tuition gap between operating costs and tuition revenue. For example, your 2020-21 donations made it possible for us to purchase additional furniture and supplies to meet the needs of our growing student body, offer additional training for our faculty on progressive teaching techniques, adopt a new math curriculum, and improve our security systems.

On behalf of The Willow School, we thank you for your generosity and ask for your continued support. Thank you for all of the ways you invest in Willow and our students, whether that be through your time, talent, or finances. Thank you for believing in an education that empowers ethical and compassionate students to continue to care for their community and the world.

With gratitude,

Francisco Ayala
Head of School

David Wolfe
President of the Board of Trustees

The Willow Tree Society

Thank you to the following donors who have contributed for the past five years or more, consecutively:

Jackie & Scott Alfieri
Casey Conti
Gayle & Greg DiGioacchino
Christy Johnson
Gretchen & James Johnson
Pearl Johnson
Jan Cailles & Glenn Likus

Jennifer & Kamran Rafieyan
Cynthia & Andrew Richards
Deborah Herman & Jeffrey Steinhorn
Suzanne & Roger Witt
Dominique & David Wolfe



Celebrating our generous community

This year, we were deeply moved by the generosity, flexibility, and creativity of our Willow Community. Together, we built on the foundation of our virtues, the strength of our community, and our commitment to outdoor learning to meet the challenges of a very different school year. In a difficult year, Willow students thrived. It would not have been possible without the support of our caring, dedicated, and generous teachers, parents, grandparents, alumni, and friends. Thank you for your contributions!

The Willow Community of Donors

Wonder

CAPE Branch Foundation
Dominique & David Wolfe

Hope

Pearl Johnson
Peter R. & Cynthia K.
Kellogg Foundation
Jennifer & Kamran Rafieyan

Wisdom

The Kalkin-Blanc Family
Jan Cailles & Glenn Likus
Cynthia & Andrew Richards
Tracy & Blake Silverman
Skoloff & Wolfe, PC

Responsibility

Dana & Bradley Carroll
Elizabeth & Robert Durden
Erin Kiernan & Jason Frigerio
Josie Yousef & Richard Higgs
Kimberly & Andrew Hill
Nivia & Joe Santagata
Jennifer & Kurt Vonderahe
Lee & Chris Wolfe
Roberta & Saul Wolfe

Stewardship

Samara & Justin Alboum
Christy Johnson
Gretchen & James Johnson
Ellen & Todd Malosh
Elena & Frank Schwab
Jin Ryu & Samir Sherif

Loyalty

Jackie & Scott Alfieri
Emily & Bill Carifa
Tiffany Crawford & Keenon Clayton
Jennifer & Michael Grieci
Susan & David Hellmuth
Eugene Kalkin
Rosalia & Richard Libretti
Elizabeth & Zac Pessin
Wanda & Adam Shoer
Bonnie & Ashley Steinhart
Sai Janani Seetharaman & Vaidyanathan Subramanian
Helena & Andrew Watson
Sandra McBeth & James Wilkes
Renée & Jon Wolfe



The Virtue of Giving: Giving Circles

Thank you for participating at any of the following levels. Your gift benefits our community and inspires others to give!

Wonder	\$50,000+
Hope	\$25,000-\$49,999
Wisdom	\$10,000-\$24,999
Responsibility	\$5,000-\$9,999
Stewardship	\$3,000-\$4,999
Loyalty	\$1,500-\$2,999
Courage	\$500-\$1,499
Service	\$250-\$499
Gratitude	up to \$249

Courage

- Beth & Darrick Anderson
- Nina & Tres Arnett
- Kate Riordan & Francisco Ayala
- Suzanne Lemieux & Henric Bjarke
- Susan Stevenson & Jeffrey Bravstein
- Campbell Foundation
- Nicole & Tony DiPetrillo
- Kaitlin & Simon Einspahr
- Kim Myrtle & David Greenberg
- Cindy Heath
- Patricia & Parker Hill
- Kathleen & William Hoffman
- Nileem & Salil Jani
- Sandra & Michael Keegan
- Olivia & Atilla Paladi
- Katherine & Scott Parker
- Elaine Wold
- Suzanne & Roger Witt

Service

- Rebecca Cain & Sam Baldwin
- Barbara & John Carroll
- ConnectOne Bank
- Leslie & Adam Fischer
- Kim & Marco Harmaty
- Erin & Carl Klemme
- Amanda & Christopher McGrath
- Vilma Naveira
- Amy Wiehl

Gratitude

- Matthew Adriance
- Gail & Anthony Angioletti
- Dana & Larry Bailey
- Tracey & Scott Biedron
- Elizabeth & Miller Bugliari
- Nicole & Nicholas Cabral
- Michael J. Chodroff
- Kristen & Peter Davis
- Georgiana & Scott Depew
- Gayle & Greg DiGioacchino
- Cathy & Blake Ellman
- Mary & Edwin Hartman

- Lorraine & Monty Kiernan
- Alicia Mills & John Lavin
- Erin Cotrone & Loren Linscott
- Katie & Joe Lombardo
- Tina Mastrodomenico
- Christine & Jack Meyer
- Corinne de Palma Molloy
- Frederick Mueller
- Barbara & Joseph Murphy
- Kerri O'Malley
- Corey Abate & Scott Peters
- Pam Nardone & William Paladini
- Elizabeth & Michael Riordan
- Linda Ritthaler
- Meredith & Cory Rothman
- Noelani & Mary Scotton
- Sara & Brian Sorenson
- Deborah Herman & Jeffrey Steinhorn
- Kelly Traudt
- Zuzana & Richard Van Orden
- Lisa VanderVeen
- Thomas Williams



Special thanks to our corporate sponsors Johnson & Johnson and Chubb and the families that secured their matching gifts!



Willow's First Golf Classic

Thank You to Our Spring Sponsors

Thank you to the sponsors that made this year's virtual Green Gala and our first Golf Classic possible!

Prudence Sponsor
Skoloff & Wolfe, PC

Joy Sponsor
Tracy & Blake Silverman

Respect Sponsors
Jackie & Scott Alfieri
Christy Johnson
Sandra & Michael Keegan
Jan Cailles & Glenn Likus

Thank You for Supporting Our First-Ever Golf Classic, in Honor of Mark Biedron

Thank you to everyone who joined us to honor and celebrate Willow's co-founder, Mark Biedron, with our first annual community golf outing at Hamilton Farm Golf Club! The warmth of our community shone through the cloudy day. Especially after a year where we've had to be apart, it was a joy to be together! Your generosity and care helped us support both the important work of the ALS Association Greater New York Chapter and The Willow School, the embodiment of Mark's vision to teach others about the importance of ethical relationships with each other and the natural world.

With your support, we were able to raise \$7,600 for the ALS Association!

Event Sponsors

Emily & Bill Carifa
Gretchen & James Johnson
Jennifer & Kamran Rafieyan
Cynthia & Andrew Richards
Bonnie & Ashley Steinhart

Special Event Donations

Cathy & Blake Ellman
Kim & Marco Harmaty
Josie Yousef & Richard Higgs
Suzanne & Roger Witt







Annual Green Gala

Giving Tree Donations

Thank you to everyone who donated directly to our classrooms by purchasing items from our Giving Tree. This year's Giving Tree items were chosen by students. Thanks to you, all were purchased!

Kate Riordan & Francisco Ayala

Dana & Larry Bailey

Rebecca Cain & Sam Baldwin

Suzanne Lemieux & Henric Bjarke

Nicole & Nicholas Cabral

Tiffany Crawford & Keenon Clayton

Nancy & James Davis

Andi & Rowland Dickens

Kaitlin & Simon Einspahr

Carol Ellis

Courtney & Jason Freund

Jackie Glass-LoFaro

Kim Myrtle & David Greenberg

Jocelyne Blanc & Adam Kalkin

Michelina LaForgia

Alicia Mills & John Lavin

Rosalia & Richard Libretti

Erin Cotrone & Loren Linscott

Ilyssa & Benjamin Maisano

Ellen & Todd Malosh

Tina Mastrodomenico

Amanda & Christopher McGrath

Amanda Doss & Borzu Mehrad

Christine & Jack Meyer

Colleen & Bud Murphy

Kerri O'Malley

Olivia & Atilla Paladi

Katherine & Scott Parker

Elizabeth & Zac Pessin

Cynthia & Andrew Richards

Meredith & Cory Rothman

Dorinda Rottenberger

Sara & Brian Sorenson

Kelly Traudt

Ji Yoon Yoo & James Tuohy

Zuzana & Richard Van Orden

Jennifer & Mark Vonderahe

Dominique & David Wolfe

Special thanks to Willow parents Elizabeth Pessin, Andrea Parado, and Ji Yoon Yoo for all of their efforts to plan, orchestrate, and assemble this year's Gala artwork!



Green Gala Auction Item Donations

Thank you to everyone who donated an item or experience for our online auction!

Artkive

Asset Advisory Group

Atelier Salon & Spa

Kate Riordan & Francisco Ayala

Rebecca Cain & Sam Baldwin

Allison Fox Barrat

Dana & Larry Bailey

Branch Home Shop

Brynn Hudson Jewelry

Dana & Bradley Carroll

The Chocolate Shoppe

COR Medspa

Erin Kiernan Photography

Jackie Glass-LoFaro

Jennifer Grieci

Gus & Bucky's Car Wash

Hamilton Farm Golf Club

Josie Yousef & Richard Higgs

Kimberly & Andrew Hill

Nileem & Salil Jani

Jamie Lee & David Leong

Jan Cailles & Glenn Likus

Luciana Skin Care

Janice Maguire

Ilyssa Maisano

Ellen & Todd Malosh

Matte Porcelain Design

Meadowbrook Day Camp

Paige Micchelli

Daria & Nicholas Minhall

Minimal Shutter Photography

New Jersey Natural Medicine

Rodan and Fields

Jin Ryu

Sanity Life Coaching

Alison Scherr

Elena & Frank Schwab

Sai Janani Seetharaman

Tracy & Blake Silverman

Stonybrook Realty

Natalie Webb

The Willow School

Webber WoodWorks

Thank you to Willow's Green Gala Committee who created such a fun virtual event! We look forward to celebrating our twenty-year anniversary together in-person in 2022.



Donations of Time and Talent

Willow is blessed with an amazing network of parent volunteers who go above and beyond to enhance the Willow experience for each of our students and welcome new families into our community. **Thank you to all of the parent volunteers who donated their time and talent to make a very different school year feel warm and joyful!**

Parents Association Board 2020-21 School Year

Tracy Silverman
Natalie Webb
Rebecca Cain
Elizabeth Pessin

PA Committee Chairs

Ji Yoon Yoo & Jocelyne Blanc (Garden)
Andi Dickens & Colleen Murphy (Service)
Jin Ryu & Lori Wagshul (Beautification)
Tiffany Crawford & Kate Riordan (Common Ground Speaks)
Todd Malosh (Grocery Cards)
Noelani Scotton (Willow Closet)

PA Event Chairs

Natalie Webb (Halloween, Wreath Making)
Ji Yoon Yoo, Jennifer Grieci & Jocelyne Blanc (Harvest Soup)
Jin Ryu, Lori Wagshul, Elizabeth Durden & Richard Van Orden (Holiday Bazaar)
Jennifer Grieci & Sarah Cox (Fun Day)
Jin Ryu, Tracy Silverman & Richard Van Orden (Spring Bazaar)
Dominique Wolfe (Golf Classic)

Green Gala Chairs

Jackie Glass-LoFaro
Dominique Wolfe
Ilyssa Maisano
Elizabeth Pessin
Ji Yoon Yoo
Andrea Parado
Katherine Caruso
Tiffany Crawford
Andi Dickens
Jennifer Grieci
Sara Sorenson

Class Parents:

Nicole DiPetrillo
Elizabeth Pessin
Sara Sorenson
Courtney Freund
Elizabeth Durden
Dominique Wolfe
Lisa Breslauer
Wanda Schoer
Jackie Glass-LoFaro
Christine Meyer
Jennifer Grieci
Noelani Scotton
Andi Dickens



Diversity & Inclusion Committee 2020-21 School Year

Noelani Scotton
Tiffany Crawford
Lori Ann Chitty Ray
Andi Dickens
Mitch Epstein
Nileem Jani
Kim Myrtle
Elizabeth Pessin
Fernanda Castroviejo Ribeiro
Sara Sorenson
Natalie Webb

Special Thanks to Glenn Likus for all that he does around campus to support the school and the PA and to Erin Kiernan Photography and DJ Jen Jones for elevating all of our events with their photography and music!

Willow would not be the school we all love without our outstanding faculty. Especially during a year of virtual learning, modified classrooms, and unavoidable disruptions, our teachers dedicated so much extra time and care to make sure that our students felt safe and to nurture their growth. **Thank you to our amazing team of educators for all that you do, this year and every year!**





Special Thanks to The Willow Parents Association

In addition to their invaluable gifts of time and talent, we want to especially thank the PA for sponsoring these gifts to our school in 2020-21:

- Edible Garden Planning & Funding
- Campus Beautification
- Books for the School and Classroom Libraries
- Holiday and Year-end Teacher Appreciation Gifts
- Faculty & Staff Appreciation Lunch
- Yearbook Class Ads to Support Yearbook Printing
- Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast
- Common Ground Speaks Funding
- Interactive Topo Tables
- Nature Cameras
- Projector & Screen
- Halloween Celebration Funding
- Harvest Soup Supplies
- Gala Class Art Project Funding
- Student Fun Day Funding



Make a Difference in 2021-22

Join our giving community in the new school year! Your gift will directly support Willow's outstanding academic program, our virtues curriculum, facilities enhancements, tuition assistance for families in need, and more. Donate anytime online at willowschool.networkforgood.com. Thank you for your continued support!



THE
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1150 Pottersville Road • Gladstone, NJ 07934
(908) 470-9500

willowschool.org