

Annual Report

2022-2023



# Mission

Richmond Waldorf School provides a learning environment that promotes independent thinking, cultivates creativity, builds confidence, and develops practical skills. Our proven, holistic approach to education lays the foundation for a life full of meaning and purpose.

# (Vision

We embrace every opportunity to develop curious, confident, and capable individuals who can bring forth healthy change in the world.

# Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Justice

Richmond Waldorf School welcomes students, families, faculty, staff, and guests of all races, ethnicities, cultural and religious heritages, socio-economic backgrounds, geographic origins, gender identities, sexual orientations, and family structures. We educate our students to respect the dignity of all people and we reject discrimination in all its forms. We seek to create, embrace, support, and nurture a diverse and inclusive community where everyone feels respected, connected, honored, and valued.

Learn more about our DEIJ initiatives at RichmondWaldorf.com/diversity-equity-inclusion

"Our highest endeavor must be to develop free human beings who are able of themselves to impart purpose and direction to their lives."

-Rudolf Steiner



# 7aculty

Glenn Amey, Bike Program Coordinator Letitia Amey, 2nd Grade Sara Andrassy, 7th Grade Elizabeth Atwell-Brumley, Movement Arts Margaret Ayre, Cello Irina Baranova, Russian Reid Beverly, Woodwork Deborah Boes, Magnolia Class Lead Katie Bullington, 4th Grade Cathryn Bump, Handwork Megan Chase, Acorn Class Lead Arianna Corredor, Spanish Catherine Flynn, Music, Strings Sarah Hayward, 6th Grade Kara Harris, Dogwood Class Lead Maira Jones, Aftercare Lucy Kilpatrick, Magnolia Class Assistant Maddie Kolenich, Oak Class Lead Noelle McKown, Educational Support Specialist Susannah Meyer, 5th Grade Katie Adams Parrish, Special Projects Dawn Pollard, 3rd Grade, Latin Thea Pollard, Willow Class Assistant Jackson Prescott, Oak Class Assistant, Aftercare Alli Quirk, Aftercare Sarah Singleton, Aftercare Hannah Mae Toler, Acorn Class Assistant, Aftercare Emily Whetzel, Dogwood Class Assistant Dallas Womack, Sprouts Lead Tesia Zogran-Werness, Aftercare Lead

# Administrative Team

Tim Daniel, Interim Director of Administration Suzy Brockmann, Faculty Administrative Assistant Rachel Davis, Marketing and Advancement Specialist LaToya Good, Administrative Specialist Valerie Hogan, Marketing and Enrollment Administrator Balla Koroma, Accounting Coordinator Mary Williard, Business Office Manager

# Board of Trustees

Ashley Long, Chair Marianne Kelliher, Secretary Brooke Anderson, DEIJ Chair Greg Bauer, Finance Chair Heather Simon, Strategic Planning Chair Brian Gillert, Trustee Kadie Parsley, Trustee Kim Boos, Trustee William "Chip" Wright\*, Trustee

Tim Daniel, Ex Officio, Interim Director of Administration Dawn Pollard, Ex Officio, Faculty College Chair Erica Childress, Ex Officio, PA Co-Moderator Heather Maury, Ex Officio, PA Co-Moderator

\*We are grateful for Chip's many years of counsel and service and he will be profoundly missed.





A Letter from the Board of Trustees

Dear Richmond Waldorf Community,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I want to thank you for supporting RWS financially, in kind, and in service. We are able to continue growing and thriving because of your support of our students and the school's goals and mission.

It is truly an honor to serve as the Chair on the Board of Trustees. I deeply believe in our school's mission, here in Richmond and beyond, and have seen the ways in which the children benefit from this pedagogy. I believe the school is on a steady rise thanks to the caring, experienced, and motivated faculty and staff who nurture a strong, dynamic school.

Throughout this past year of school leadership transition, I was grateful for the dedication and purpose held by our faculty, the resiliency of our administration, and the trust shown by our parents. I especially want to recognize Kim Boos for over a decade of service to the Board of Trustees, Dawn Pollard for her passion as College Chair, and Erica Childress & Heather Maury for their work as Parents Association Co-Moderators. I also want to remember and honor former Trustee and RWS parent William "Chip" Wright, whose wit and integrity has left an indelible impact on so many lives. We are profoundly grateful for his legacy of giving.

As we wrap up our 26th year of providing Waldorf education to the Richmond community, we have much to be grateful for—thriving programming, a vibrant faculty and administrative team, dedicated Board members, and an energetic parent community that have all enriched our school. Additionally, you—our ardent supporters—continue to help us turn inspiration into reality, and we are humbled by your support of our mission.

[continued on next page]



#### [A Letter from the Board of Trustees, cont.]

Our most substantial accomplishment was the search and hire of our new Director of Administration, Andrew Ross. With conscious, experienced leadership, our school is poised to enter a chapter of long-term stability. Other highlights from last year include:

**Record Enrollment** – For the third year in a row, we had record enrollment, demonstrating a true need for our mission in the Richmond area, and further bolstering the school's financial position.

**Leadership Transition** – We welcomed and supported Interim Director of Administration, Tim Daniel and worked to facilitate a successful transition for our new Director of Administration, Andrew Ross.

**DEIJ** – Our faculty, staff, and Board members continued diversity, equity, and inclusion training and remain committed to advocate for and value this work at RWS.

**Traditions** – We celebrated beloved Waldorf festivals from Michaelmas to Holiday Faire, Spiral Walk to May Faire. We joined together in the spirit of community and supported RWS.

I am proud to be a part of what is happening and what is to come, and I hope you are too. Together, we are building a foundation for the future—fostering space for our children to create lives full of meaning and purpose, in an inclusive community where everyone feels respected, connected, honored, and valued. Thank you again for your transformative contribution to our school's mission.

With gratitude,

Buleydoig-

**Ashley Long** Chair of the Board of Trustees



# A Look Back at the 2022-2023 School Year

#### **Early Childhood**

This year, our Early Childhood (EC) program boasted five fully enrolled classrooms with 24 kindergartners among the classes. We welcomed Ms. Maddie Kolenich and Ms. Kara Harris as new lead teachers, who brought fresh energy and ideas that continue to strengthen our EC program. Most of the "Suns", as we lovingly call our kindergartners, have moved on to make up our 2023-2024 1st grade class. Through honoring the gentle rhythm of work and play, our Early Childhood classes serve as a calm, happy place for children to deepen their connection to themselves and others, and to build their engagement to learning with confidence and creativity.





#### **Elementary School**

Our lower grades continue to thrive as we see our students filling the hallways. Our teachers are leading these children on a beautiful, long-term journey filled with experiential learning, field trips, and community building. Among so many highlights this year, we welcomed Ms. Bethany Craig as our 1st grade teacher. Her enthusiastic 1st graders proudly performed their first class play, and our 3rd graders embarked on the long journey to Hawthorne Valley Farm for their much anticipated farm trip—a Waldorf rite of passage. We also saw a joyful return of the 5th grade Pentathlon, where we joined Charlottesville Waldorf, Emerson Waldorf, and Washington Waldorf for two days of sport and sportsmanship. On top of that, our graders took joyful and exciting field trips throughout the year to Belle Isle, Carter Mountain, Jamestown Settlement, and the Virginia Living Museum to name just a few.



#### **Middle School**

The journey into middle school at Richmond Waldorf School challenges students to think critically, increase their responsibilities, and test their grit and resilience. This year the 6th grade embarked on an exciting trip through the Blue Ridge Mountains to connect their science curriculum to real life through caving, whitewater rafting, and rock climbing. Our 7th grade had meaningful and rich experiences at the National Gallery, and raised over \$1500 for the non-profit organization, Water for South Sudan, connecting their curriculum to community service through a very successful bake sale. We were honored to have renowned cellist, Christoph Wagner, offer our middle schoolers several master class opportunities to deepen their orchestra experience.

#### **Festival Life**

This year, with the veil of COVID mostly lifted, we were able to once again fully enjoy our yearly festivals together. Our Michaelmas pageant was grander than ever and our Lantern Walk and Spiral Walks were beautiful and reverent community moments. Alongside our traditional Waldorf festival life, we celebrated our 2nd Annual Holiday Faire and took special care to have May Faire 2023 reflect all the best of our community. From the joyful students meeting the Pocket Fairy, to our inspiring and bright-eyed alumni returning to connect with their friends and re-engage with their alma mater, these events are the reflection of our community and soul-filling to all who attend.







Looking Ahead

2022-2023, our 26th year in operation, has been one of sowing seeds that will sprout and grow as we concluded our sixth year at our Northside campus. Every faculty member participated in meaningful DEIJ professional development led by Alma Partners. This provided comprehensive resources for the school's DEIJ work and deepened our school's DEIJ work and deepened our school's commitment to creating an environment where all families are respected, connected, honored, and valued. Additionally, we had a rich parent education series hosted by RWS faculty to deepen our community's understanding of this unique educational philosophy.

Looking ahead to the 2023-2024 school year, we are excited to welcome Andrew Ross and his family to Richmond Waldorf School. Andrew assumed the important leadership role of Director of Administration on July 1st, 2023. We will continue our SAIS and AWSNA accreditation work, and for the first time on this campus we will house five Early Childhood classes plus all eight grades!

"Our task is to find teaching methods that continually engage the whole human being. We would not succeed in this endeavor if we failed to concentrate on developing the human sense of art."

-Rudolf Steiner



# 2022-2023 Enrollment Highlights

#### **29%** Enrollment Growth

Building a Base: Over the last six years since moving into the current building, school enrollment has grown by over 29 percent and tuition income has bolstered institutional growth.

#### **73** Early Childhood (EC) Students

(24 Kindergarten/49 Pre-K) Welcomed new teachers Ms. Maddie in Oak and Ms. Kara in Dogwood

- 3 5-day classes
- 2 3-day classes

Totaling 5 fully-enrolled EC classes!

### **186** Enrolled Students

Record enrollment to-date!

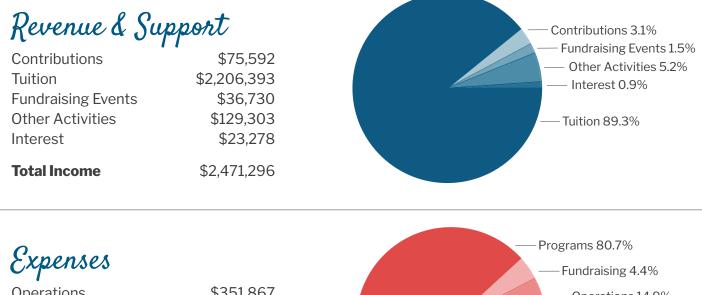
#### **113** Grade Students

Our grade school continues to grow; we had an average class size of 16 students. The 1st grade was the largest in years totaling 22 students!

#### Mission-Appropriate Enrollment

Our vision is to develop curious, confident, and capable individuals who can bring forth a health change in the world. This is what drives our admissions office and teachers to grow our student body every year. We are enrolling students who bring diverse backgrounds, experiences, and ideas into our classes to provide a culturallyresponsive environment where all students can learn and grow. The inner work of RWS' faculty is helping us to grow our enrollment in mission-driven and student-driven ways, which we have seen over the last 5 years.

# 7inancial ()verview\*



0		— Fundraising 4.4%
Operations	\$351,867	— Operations 14.9%
Programs	\$1,908,132	
Fundraising	\$104,212	
	<b>\$0.004.011</b>	
Total Expenses	\$2,364,211	

\*Financials have not yet been audited.



# 2022-2023 Annual Fund Donors

# Rain Maker \$5,000+

Ivan Beltz & Donna Davis

# Sustainer \$1,000-\$4,999

Gregory & Emily Bauer Ann Bradshaw Eliza Brill & Evan Esch Jerry & Jenny Bullington Tim & Deborah Daniel Matthew Gray & Rob Keeling George & Virginia Kirchmier Zach & Ashley Long Craig Schwartz George & Melissa Smallfield Timothy & Allison Thurber Tom & Carmela Tombes The Wright Family William "Chip" Wright

### Harvester \$500-\$999

Genelle Gaudinez & Shawn Smith Brian Gillert Stephen & Kathleen Hayward Madelaine & Stephen Kolenich Lory & Pete Markham Danny & Stephanie Richey Bryan McNanley & Kati Scharles Nate & Heather Simon Andrea Steegmayer Rachel Trostli Sarah Walor & Robert Williams

## Cultivator \$100-\$499

Anonymous Letitia & Glenn Amey Jack Angert Susan Angle Ashton Aquilina Colin Banas Lauren & Tim Barry

### Cultivator \$100-\$499

**Richard Bauer** Mollie Benedict Leslie & Rick Bishop Shannon & Amy Black **Brenda Blevins** Jeff & Anna Boedeker **Kim Boos** Wendy Bouldin Amy Bradshaw & Will Herring Errol & Audrey Bragg **Caitlin Britton** George Ann & Stuart Broth Cathryn Bump Michele & Radcliffe Burt Anthony & Rosa Castellano Megan Chase **Brian & Erica Childress** Elizabeth Cleveland & Jeff Kwitchen Marshall Contino & Kristen Carleton Jeffrey & Susan Copeland **Urszula** Copeland **Bethany Craig** Nancy & Matt Cross John & Sandi Croushore-Rooke Alanna & Amar Damodar Paul Dandridge Sandra Flemming & Zach Hilpert Judy Frenkel Shannon & Jonathan Garrett Elizabeth & Carleton Garrett **Robert Gaudinez** Chris & Maura Gillert Sarah & Ben Hayward Monica Hopkins Soranak Hum Monica Hunsaker Megan Jones Alistair Jones & Sylvia Gale Allison Kahelski Marianne Kelliher & Antonio Pacheco Kit and Lindsey Kirchmier Ani Kochiashvili & Robert Nock

# 2022-2023 Annual Fund Donors

### Cultivator \$100-\$499

Balla Koroma Boston Lackey Lori & Corbett Landes William Leighty Sebastian Lemire & Monica Shaw Lisa & Glenn Lintelman Willard Markham **Kimberly Martin** Alexandra & Lev Mazeres Christopher McOuale Virginia Meyer David Miller **Elizabeth Miller** Mark Morton Sarah & Matt Oatts Katie Adams Parrish Kadie Parsley Julia Pippitt & Scott Everline Dawn Pollard Kristina Raum & Kae D'Apice Alice & Jack Simon Sarah Sinclair Julietta Singh Lila and Jai Singh Don Smith Kate Thompson & Nick Feucht Cameron & Victoria Vanzura Karen & Max Walraven Jeremy & Emily Whetzel Mary Williard **Charles Zacharias** 

## Seed Sower \$1-\$99

Anonymous Christina Albia Nathaniel Albia Jason Aldrich Sara Andrassy Tanya Arney Elizabeth Atwell Brumley Mary-Kate Aylward & Danny Friedman Margaret & Jim Ayre

Seed Sower \$1-\$99

Angela Bacskocky & Kyle Roukous Elizabeth & Eliezer Balay Irina Baranova Frederick Barlow & Anya Baranova Eileen Beach Erica Bermudez Mary-Catherine & Micah Berry Eric & Sarah Bliley Deborah Boes Jessica Bourque Suzy Brockmann & Ian Calder Katie & Robert Bullington Jennifer Bungo Caitlin & James Catts Merenda Cecelia Paul Cella Du Cheng Alicia & Hayden Crossen Anna & Matt Darnall Jeremy & Rachel Davis Susan & Craig Edwards Samantha Eldridge Mary & Kyle Engelken Josie Gaudinez James & Nancy Giglio LaToya Good Sonali Gulati Kara Harris Valerie Hogan & Brian Stanek Bernadette Hornsby Patricia Hunter Bridgett Jayman Trisha & Brandon Johnson Lucy Kilpatrick Michael Lawrence **Tegist Legesse** Nicholas & Rebekah Lehto Heather & Blair Maury Lauren McCrocklin Noelle Mckown Somer & Adrian Mojica Nicole Randall **Noell Rathbun** 

# 2022-2023 Annual Fund Donors

### Seed Sower \$1-\$99

Maggie & Mark Reinke Adan Rivera Josh Rooke & Janice Baab Dana Shalash Cindy & Mat Shelton-Eide Andy Smith Brittany & Christopher Snedden Katarina Spears Rain Talbot Kristen Talbott Sara Thomas Sam & Kate Thorn Hannah Mae Toler

## Seed Sower \$1-\$99

Roberto & Donna Marie Trostli Ashley & Ron Volpicella Emma White Kristen Wiley Carole Williams Alison & Jacob Williamson Liz Winckler Dallas Womack & Christian Brady Linda Yerby Andrew Zacharias Jasmine Zacharias Julie Zinnert & Donald Young

# 2022-2023 Event Sponsors

The following individuals and organizations were event sponsors for Holiday Faire, May Faire, or our Summer Soiree.

Bliley Funeral Home Castleburg Brewery Colonial Fit RVA Crossroads Coffee & Ice Cream Donald Young & Julie Zinnert Hardywood Brewing Jeremy Davis, Convert Solar Justin Owen, Realtor Margaret Nomi-Abdo Monument Family Dentistry Nate Simon, Realtor Outpost Owen Design Co. Richmond Academy of Ballet RVA Naturals Shadytree Construction SinnerG Tattoos Tazza Kitchen The Lilly Pad Cafe The Wild Heart Tigers Eye Studio ZZQ/Eazzy Burger

# 2022-2023 In-kind Donors

The following individuals and organizations gave in-kind services of time, talent, or gifts for RWS events.

Alexandra & Lev Mazeres Ashley Long bbgb **Bethany Craig BigTree Bingo Beer Co** Blue Sage Bridal Boketto Brian Mcnanley Brionna Nomi **Brooke Anderson** Charm School Study Hall **Christoph Wagner Cindy Shelton-Eide** Conejo Crossroads Coffee & Ice Cream Davvero Gelato **Dear Neighbor Deborah Boes** Eazzy Burger Edo's Sauid Fan Guitar & Ukelele Fireside Pizza Gelati Celesti Graham Copeland Joanne Kong Journeyman's Adventure Co. Kara Harris Kate Walter Katie Bullington King Fish Boat Rental La Lyra LaToya Good Letitia Amey Lucy Kilpatrick Maddie Kolenich Margaret Ayre

Megan Chase Megan Jones Mellow Mushroom Mickael Broth Na Nin Natalya Evans Neon Ghost Niche Pilates Studio Nikki Leone Perly's Restaurant Plaza Art Supplies Posh Skin Bar & Spa **Quirk Hotel** Rain Down Massage **Richmond Flying Squirrels River City Roll Riverside Outfitters RVA** Naturals **RWS Board of Trustees** Seasonal Roots Shannon Black Somer Mojica Photography Specklebelly Barn Stella's Restaurant

Studio Two Three Superstars Pizza Suzy Brockmann Suzy Sno Tazza **Terroirizer Wine** The Boulevard Inn The Continental The Daily The Grill The Jasper The Lilly Pad Cafe The Night Owl The Park RVA Torchy's Tacos **Triangle Rock Club** Triple Crossing Brewing Venture Richmond Virginia Repertory Theatre Will Pattie World of Mirth

#### Additionally, a BIG Thank You

to our community! Our school has such dedicated volunteers who have donated their time and talent throughout the school year. Whether it be shifts at Holiday Faire and May Faire, beautifying our building and grounds, or hosting a coffee social, we are so very grateful. Our volunteers are essential to our success and we thank you!

Looking Ahead ...

We strengthen and solidify our school's future, with your help!



Our 2023-2024 Annual Fund has begun! Help us meet our goal of \$50,000 to enrich and enhance Richmond Waldorf School this coming school year.

Donate today to help keep our community thriving.



Thank you again to everyone who supported us during the 2022-2023 year.

RichmondWaldorf.com | 1301 Robin Hood Road, Richmond, Virginia 23227 | (804) 377-8024