

FOUNDATION RAISES \$1 MILLION!

IT'S A GREAT DAY AT M-A, AND IT WAS A MILLION DOLLAR YEAR!

During 2007–08, the Foundation for the Future raised over \$1,000,000 to improve the educational experience of each and every student and teacher at M-A. More than 500 families and friends contributed, a 28% increase in participation. The success from our first ever on-line auction and challenge grants enabled us to make large block grants for music, books and more (see back page). We are committed to raising at least as much next year to continue reducing class size and funding the many programs and classes made possible by Foundation dollars.

Smaller Classes = 39%

Reduced class size in 16 sections of World Studies, Geometry and Freshman English.

Excellent Teachers = 15%

Provided professional development for M-A faculty, teacher awards, and new-teacher welcome checks for classroom supplies.

Strong Curriculum = 19%

Sustained important low-enrollment classes like Yearbook, Journalism and Choral, as well as upper level foreign languages.

College & Career Preparation = 7%

Funded excellent college and career counseling services, SAT prep and an additional Guidance Advisor.

Critical Services = 20%

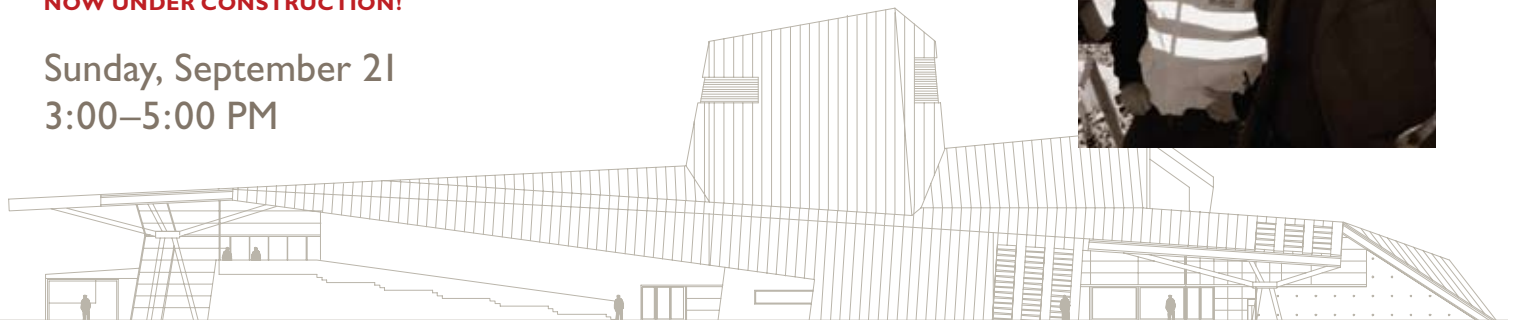
Supported Social Studies readers, Spanish translation, ESL and special education classes, a PR Coordinator, Student Support Coordinator and Dean of Students.



THE FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE'S ROOF-RAISING PARTY

THE FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR A CELEBRATION AND GUIDED TOURS OF OUR NEW STATE-OF-THE-ART PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION!

Sunday, September 21
3:00–5:00 PM





FROM THE PRINCIPAL



MENLO-ATHERTON HIGH SCHOOL 2007 CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL

Dear Menlo-Atherton Community,

I write this in mid-June, after a busy last month of school, packed with AP exams, league championships, finals, and graduation activities, culminating in the graduation of 339 students on June 5. Seeing the level of energy and learning this past month, I am struck by the high caliber of the students' work and the achievement of our entire M-A community. It truly has been a great day—and year—at M-A!

Every bit as important as the burst of activity that marks the end of the school year is the planning we are already doing for the coming year. We are on target with construction of the new Performing Arts Center, and the parking, paving and landscaping improvements to go with it. With the passage of Measure "J", we will begin modernizing classrooms and freshen up Pride Hall.

In addition to moving ahead with facilities, we are busy planning for the 2008-09 academic program. The Foundation provides almost 6 percent of our annual budget, critical funding that has a greater than proportionate impact on what we can do to improve the M-A experience. Unlike state and local funds, which are directed to specific purposes, Foundation dollars are flexible and allow us to spend on real-time needs of the school as they arise. A hearty thank-you to the Foundation and our generous community of donors.

As always, it is an exciting time to be at M-A!

Respectfully,

Matthew Zito, Principal

IMPROVEMENTS COMING THIS FALL TO FOUNDATION WEBSITE!
WWW.M-AFOUNDATION.ORG

ATTENTION ALL INCOMING FRESHMAN FAMILIES!

FRESHMAN PARENT COFFEE

Please join us for a parent coffee on the morning of Freshman Orientation

Tuesday, August 19, 8:00–9:00 AM
M-A Staff Lounge at the front of school

*Drop your freshman off and join us for a cup of coffee and pastries.
Meet M-A principal, Matthew Zito and learn more about M-A!*

SPONSORED BY M-A'S FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

On-line Auction "M-A on eBay" a Huge Success!

The Foundation's first on-line auction was held in April and was a huge success! Through the generous donations of M-A teachers, staff, parents, local businesses and friends, "M-A on eBay" raised over \$50,000, with hundreds of lucky bidders winning vacation homes, parties, sports memorabilia, spa treatments, restaurant gift certificates and more. Unlike other school auctions, M-A on eBay is not an event; it takes place entirely on-line. Plans are in place to repeat this FUN-raiser in Spring 2009. Visit www.maauction.org for more information.

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www.m-afoundation.org

The Foundation for the Future at Menlo-Atherton High School thanks our talented photographers: M-A parents, Maria Flaherty and Terri Waters and community volunteer, Clint McClintick.

Design by ApInUnoCreative.

THE FOUNDATION RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING TEACHERS & CLASSIFIED STAFF

Since 1995, the Foundation for the Future has recognized and rewarded teachers who demonstrate excellence in the classroom through the presentation of annual Foundation Teaching Awards. In 1998, the Leadership Award was created to recognize and reward M-A teachers or staff members with a long history of leadership at M-A, presented periodically, as warranted. The Foundation Classified Staff Award was added in 2003 to recognize and reward classified staff.



Teaching Award Recipients: (Left to Right) Manja Ericsson, Sophia Kalamaras, Lance Powell, Marei Kane

Teaching Awards

Manja Ericsson: Six periods a day of Algebra, AS Algebra II, and Algebra support, and Manja still has a sense of humor. Manja is in her third year at M-A, and is as enthusiastic about teaching math as the day she started. Earlier this year, she was honored with the Foundation's Impact Award.

Sophia Kalamaras: A stellar English teacher, Sophia is passionate about all things Greek. How fitting that she teaches units on Greek mythology and even penned her own myth! Sophia brings high expectations to her classroom, where students engage in the usual essays and vocabulary lessons, as well as Socratic seminars, literary circles and performances of Romeo and Juliet.

Lance Powell: Lance brings hands-on science to his Academy students. He is often setting up labs at home, making jello on weekends, trekking to UCSF to pick up human organs or to Golden Gate Park for pond weed, all for his Foundation-supported Environmental Analysis class. He is committed to raising the environmental consciousness of our students.

Marei Kane: Marei teaches the full range of English students at M-A, from our newest English learners to those tackling AP Composition. And she is loved by all. She brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to her students gleaned from her years of travel, knowledge of several foreign languages, and passion for world arts and cultures.

Impact Awards

In 1999, The Foundation began a program to recognize and reward M-A teachers and staff members who make a positive impact on campus. This year's recipients are Elizabeth Bannan, Jeff DeCurtins, Kim Dunfey, Manja Ericsson, Julie Gross, Bridget Heaney, Simone Kennel, Elisa Martinez, Brien Oliver, Inez Paepcke, Hugo Reyes, Chris Rubin, Betsy Snow, Andy Stuart, Mike Tillson, Matthew Zito.

New Teacher Awards (presented at beginning of school year)

Each new M-A teacher receives a \$300 welcome-check to help defray the cost of classroom supplies. Last year, 17 New Teacher Awards were presented.

Leadership Award

Gregg Whitnah

Gregg's training as a marathon runner surely provides the endurance he needs to accomplish all that he does for M-A.

Whether he is chairing meetings in the Math Department or Site Council, Gregg can be counted on to go the extra mile. Gregg came to M-A in 1993, and in his fourteen years, he has served in many roles, including Tech Coordinator, GATE administrator, Quiz Kids coach, Curriculum Council representative, and the faculty representative to the Foundation.

In addition to his leadership roles, Gregg is an incomparable math teacher—he has helped generations of students master Geometry, Calculus and AP Statistics. It's no surprise that Gregg has won many awards throughout his career, including Teacher of the Year for the Sequoia District (2000–2001), San Mateo County Teacher (2001), and one of the top six teachers in California (2001). With all these many accomplishments, it's a wonder that he had time to hike the 165 mile Tahoe Rim Trail last summer!



Gregg Whitnah

Classified Staff Award Recipient

Marvis Stoecker:

"Marvelous Marv" has been giving to M-A since her days as a parent volunteer over 20 years ago. A former Portola Valley teacher and a current library clerk,

Marvis welcomes students to the newly-renovated library to study, research, tutor and relax. As she has often remarked, "Teenagers and books. It just doesn't get any better than that!"



Marvis Stoecker

FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

MENLO-ATHERTON HIGH SCHOOL

Menlo-Atherton High School
P.O. Box 1228
Menlo Park, CA 94026

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SPOTLIGHT ON THREE \$50,000 GRANTS



MIKI CRISTERNA

“As the Student Support Coordinator, a position generously funded by our Foundation, I am working to improve and expand critical support services for our most economically disadvantaged students. Some 400 students receive services run by M-A as well as by community based organizations, such as Youth and Family Enrichment Services. Funding for my position allows coordination of academic, social, financial and emotional help for our neediest students.”



FRANK MOURA

“I’ve been teaching music at M-A for over 30 years, and some of the musical instruments have been here even longer! Thanks to the Foundation’s grant of \$50,000, we’ve purchased new instruments to be used by students in Band I to Advanced Band, Jazz Ensemble to Advanced Jazz. With our new Performing Arts Center, we’ll have ample storage space for sheet music and instruments, as well as rehearsal rooms and state of the art acoustics. Music at M-A has never been better!”



DIANA BEERS

“Our beautiful new library, completed in 2002, now has the books to go with it! We’ve purchased a great variety of books, from general reference to specialty publications, to expand and diversify our catalog. Along with Infotrac—which provides remote access to learning databases, also sponsored by the Foundation—our students can find the resources they need whatever the subject.”

IT'S A GREAT DAY @ **M-A!**