



COMMUNITY

report 2022-2024





letter from the executive director

Dear Community,

What an incredible couple years of growth and change it has been! We've undergone many exciting developments that are moving us forward in meaningful ways. One of our biggest undertakings has been working toward the long-held organizational goal of separating the Executive Director and Head of School roles. This has been a strategic move, carefully crafted to ensure we can better respond to the evolving needs of our organization.

Another major focus has been the two-year project of completing an intensive self-study as part of our American Montessori Society re-accreditation process. This work has allowed us to reflect on our practices, refine our approach, and align even more closely with our Montessori philosophy and values. It's been a rigorous journey, but one that is setting us up for continued success.

On campus, there's a renewed sense of vitality and energy. Our Earth Day parade has, once again, streamed out into the city. Harwood events such as 12x12 and Encompass have brought thousands of community members to our shared campus to support local artists and the work of our organization. The support from our community has been a driving force in bringing the campus back to life. Whether through volunteering, fundraising, or simply showing up with love and care, everyone's contributions have made an impact.

Finally, we extend our deepest gratitude to the amazing guides and staff who are the heart of this organization. Their unwavering commitment to our community, our students, and our families is truly inspiring.

Thank you to each and every one of you – families, friends, staff, and supporters. Your ongoing partnership, energy, and belief in our mission make everything we do possible. Together, we are continuing the legacy of something truly special.

In Partnership,

Kate Chavez

Kate Chavez, Executive Director

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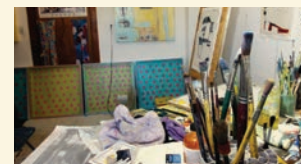
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Our organization is well into an exciting new chapter following the retirement of our long-time Executive Director and Head of School Friedje vanGils in 2021. Since that leadership transition, Escuela del Sol has been engaged in rigorous strategic planning efforts to create strong strategic foundations to serve us for the next 50+ years. In the 2+ years since the last community report, we have achieved a number of accomplishments:

- * We reached a long-held goal of restructuring our organizational leadership framework to include a Head of School, and completed a thorough search process culminating in hiring an Incoming Head of School for Summer 2025. (More on this exciting news in the Escuela del Sol Montessori Focus on page 5.)
- * We strengthened our workplace by boosting human resources support during these years of intense transition. We engaged HR consultants from our community and leaned on the support of generous Board members who shared their expertise to help our organization grow.
- * We partnered with various entities in our community to expand the use of our beautiful historic campus, helping generate revenues through a growing calendar of event rentals and activating defunct spaces such as the darkroom, the only publicly accessible darkroom of its kind in Albuquerque.



- * We defined strategic development goals for both Escuela and Harwood, including a sponsorship program for Harwood Art Center, an endowment for the organization, and other development strategies to make Escuela del Sol accessible to more families.

Through all these efforts, we feel excited about the next era for Escuela and Harwood!

AMS Self-Study Update

In 2024, we completed the rigorous self-study process for re-accreditation through the American Montessori Society. The process, which took more than two years, focused on a comprehensive study of the organization, including:

- our mission and vision
- Montessori practices of teaching and learning as well as learner outcomes
- facilities and campus needs
- governance and leadership
- organizational finances
- stakeholder communication and engagement, and more.

The end result was a 300-plus-page document that details our school's ongoing self-reflection, as well as the goals we've identified for continuous improvement. For more on our work strengthening our school's pedagogical foundations, see "Our Strong, Growing Montessori Foundation" on the next page.

As a part of the AMS process, we have created a refined Strategic Plan that is both a reflection of lessons learned in the self-study, as well as a refinement of the previous years' strategic work.

Here is a summary:

Strategic Plan Summary

Our Mission: To offer an exceptional and innovative educational experience for children, guided by Montessori philosophy, values, and practices.

1. To expand the Montessori philosophy beyond the classroom and create opportunities for family and community engagement.
2. To offer a supportive workplace rich in professional development opportunities for staff.
3. To continually build equity into all our programs, to maximize access and opportunities to students and families of all backgrounds.
4. To make the best use of our historic campus, both for our organization's programs as well as in collaboration with the community.
5. To build a values-based organization that is structurally and financially sustainable.

Our Strong, Growing Montessori Foundation



As an organization dedicated to our own growth and learning, Escuela is constantly evaluating and working on our Montessori practice. The deep care that goes into our Montessori foundations translates into excellence throughout our school and academic programs. It's no accident that Escuela del Sol Montessori was named "Best Montessori in Albuquerque" by Albuquerque the Magazine in its Best of the City 2023 issue.

AMS Accreditation

Perhaps the most intensive and deeply rewarding work we did as an organization towards strengthening our pedagogical foundations was the self-study, documentation, and narrative process we completed in May 2024 for our American Montessori Society (AMS) accreditation. The accreditation team completed its site visit in October 2024, and it went exceptionally well, thanks to the hard work and preparation put forth by everyone. In its oral report at the conclusion of the visit, the team:

- * recognized Escuela staff's dedication to fostering a community focused on active growth and development.
- * noted the unique role of the Harwood Art Center, and how the school and the center collaborate as an integrated organization.
- * celebrated Escuela's students. Their interactions in various classrooms underscored that the students are the heart of the school.

The team will submit a full report to the AMS Board, and share their accreditation decision with us in early 2025.

Educational Family Workshops

We have also been sharing our mission and connecting with our families through a series of educational workshops. In 2023-24, we re-established the practice of holding classes, and other educational opportunities for our families to be able to deepen their understanding of Montessori and the "why" of what happens in our classrooms every day. These events help us share foundational Montessori philosophy across levels with our families and deeply connect with our community.



new heads of school



This year we also took great strides by launching our search for a Head of School, a consummation of nearly a decade of strategic planning work. For the 2024-25 school year, we shifted from a collaborative leadership structure of three Level Directors to a structure with a Head of School supported by two key leaders; one for administration (the current Administrative Director role) and one for Classroom and Family Support. We are thrilled to have longtime guide and former Early Childhood Level Director Dana McCabe step in as Interim Head of School for the 2024-25 school year.

After a national search process that included forming a committee of 10 staff, Board, parents, and community members, we announced the selection of long-time faculty member and founding Jr. High guide and Level Director Tanesia Hale-Jones as our Head of School. For more than 15 years, Tanesia has dedicated her time and expertise to our school, embodying the values and mission that make our community so special. Her extensive training in Montessori at the Elementary and Jr. High levels, combined with her deep commitment to education, positions her beautifully to lead our school into the future. Tanesia is also an alumni parent, and as such has intimate experience with being a parent to an Escuela del Sol student.

The year ahead will be one of transition and planning, as Dana, Tanesia and the rest of our leadership team work together to guide Escuela into the next phase of our growth. As Interim Head of School Dana McCabe commented after reflecting on this year of self-study, "We have a really strong Montessori culture here at Escuela." We look forward to continuing to build on that strong foundation, embracing the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. With the support of our dedicated staff, engaged families, and vibrant community, we are confident that the coming year will be one of growth, learning, and deeper connections. Together, we will ensure that Escuela del Sol continues to thrive as a place where students, educators, and families can flourish.

Thank you for being an integral part of this journey. We look forward to the exciting work that awaits us in the 2024-25 school year and beyond.

2022-24 Events highlights

Family and community events are always the highlight of the year – this was especially true as our public spaces reopened after COVID shutdowns and we were able to reestablish long-standing Escuela events and traditions. Here's a summary of some of these memorable moments.



Family Dance

To launch the start of a new school year, the Escuela community traditionally gathers in the Plaza to dance, picnic, and build community. In 2023 we held the first Family Dance since 2019, and continued the tradition in 2024. It is a joy to bring everyone to gather to dance and celebrate what makes Escuela del Sol special: our people.

International Day of Peace

After two years of reimagining how we celebrate the International Day of Peace, the community came together on the Elementary field in 2023 and 2024 to sing with Mr. Casey. During this event, students are asked what peace means to them, and we share their memorable quotes on our social media channels. It's an inspiring event and we're thrilled to have this long-standing tradition back in place.

Autumn Fest

Autumn Fest is Escuela's banner event in the fall semester, hosted by Escuela's family volunteer organization, Sol Mates. It is a celebration of the start of the fall, with a harvest-themed party. After the pandemic hiatus, we resumed this event in 2023 and 2024, creating a fun, bonding space for our families to gather and get to know each other. Classrooms set up booths throughout the Plaza and the Elementary field, with support from volunteering parents.

Costume Day & Monster Mash Dance Party

Jr. High students chose themed days for an Escuela Spirit Week around Halloween in 2023, for the first time since 2019. Students and staff sported their wildest hats and hair, fanciest pants, and spookiest Halloween costumes throughout the week, and gathered on the Plaza for a Monster Mash Dance Party.

Día de Los Muertos

In 2023 and 2024 Escuela was invited to participate in a community celebration of Día de los Muertos held in the Old Town Plaza. Students worked to make calaveras, papel picado and flowers for a community ofrenda.

Teaching for Black Lives: Celebration of Black Joy

The Teaching for Black Lives study group, launched by and made up of Escuela + Harwood guides and staff as part of a national campaign, initiated a new event to celebrate Black history and joy in 2023. Classrooms at all levels were invited to participate in a week of activities including a book drive, a movie day, and a community art project, culminating in a dance party on the Plaza. This new tradition continued in 2024 with a teach-in and joyous party on the Plaza featuring the diverse music of Black artists.



Earth Day

In 2023, we celebrated the long-awaited return of the Escuela Earth Day Parade! The community marched through the neighborhood with chants about recycling and making Earth Day, every day. Following the parade, students performed songs for their families (including an original rap composition from Jr. High), then enjoyed activities on the Elementary field. This tradition continued into 2024 where the parade, musical performances and classroom booths on the Elementary field helped our community celebrate this flagship event.

Community Work Days

Families pitch in throughout the year to support campus improvements. From moving a mountain of wood chips to pulling weeds in front of Harwood; laying pavers to raking leaves to prepare the Jr. High farm for Winter and Spring, our community can always be counted on to clean up and strengthen the campus.



Work Share

Fall 2022 saw the return of Work Share after a three-year hiatus, allowing students to engage with their families centered around their classroom work. Primary and Elementary students choose two works to share with their families, while Jr. High students deliver presentations upon completion of a project cycle. Work Share events are held each Fall and Spring.

Winter Program

Winter Program was held in the Dining Hall in January of 2023 and moved to the much bigger and fancier Rodey Theatre in January of 2024. Primary, Elementary, and Jr. High students performed songs and skits for their families under the guidance of Mr. Casey.

S.T.E.A.M. Expo

In 2023 and 2024, students had the opportunity to work on a S.T.E.A.M. (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) project, individually or as a group, and present them to their classmates and staff. Jr. High students interviewed Junior EL students about their projects while members of the Admin team interviewed Senior EL. Toddler and Primary students toured the classrooms and asked questions about projects as well! We capped off the 2024 Expo with an exciting Elephant Toothpaste demonstration on the Plaza.

Variety Show

In 2023 and 2024, Elementary students shared their talents with family and friends on the Elementary Field. With acts ranging from dancing and singing to science demonstrations and eating contests, it was quite an entertaining evening!



Funding sources for Harwood Art Center

Harwood is recognized nationally for having remarkable diversification of revenue sources. Harwood generated \$389,000 in operating revenues in FY24 with foundation and government grants, service contracts, studio rentals, fundraising events, art camp and art school tuition, and private donations. For FY25, core Harwood staff has been working on generating additional revenues from sources including the new Shop @ Harwood, which features works by local artists, and new sponsorship opportunities for local partners.

UPDATE

Seeded in 1991, Harwood Art Center blooms the philosophy of our parent organization Escuela del Sol Montessori, with recognition that learning and expression offer the most resilient pathways to global citizenship, justice and peace.

Harwood engages the arts as a catalyst for lifelong learning, cultural enrichment and social change, with programming for every age, background and income level. We believe that equitable access to the arts and opportunities for creative expression are integral to healthy individuals and thriving communities.

In all of our work, we cultivate inclusive, reflective environments where everyone feels cared for. We nurture long-term, multi-faceted relationships with participants, building programs with and for diverse communities of Albuquerque. We integrate the arts with social justice, professional and economic growth, and education to cultivate a higher collective quality of life in New Mexico.

The following are the core programming arms of the multi-faceted Harwood Arts Center:



36+ resident studio artists receiving 24/7 workspaces and market subsidized rents

90+ current staff, teaching and studio artists

50+ exhibiting and commissioned artists receiving resources and professional development supports

300+ working artists in annual exhibition and commission programs

500+ youth and families participating in annual arts education programs

150+ artist contributors to 12x12 annual fundraiser

10,000+ participants of all ages in community celebrations and events

Art Camp

Summer Art Camp offers multi-disciplinary, multicultural experiences for youth in grades 1-9. Since 1996, Harwood's summer programming has fostered creativity and curiosity in young artists of all skill levels. Art Camp provides fun skill-building projects as well as opportunities for both individual and collaborative creative exploration. Summer Art Camp runs over four two-week sessions throughout June and July.

Art + Sol

Harwood's after-school programming, Art + Sol, is a joint effort between Escuela and Harwood to offer exciting after-school enrichment for Escuela del Sol's Elementary students. Taught

by professional instructors and teaching artists, children have the opportunity to explore a variety of subjects. All workshops are held on the Escuela + Harwood campus and meet once a week.

Art School

Art School offers adults the opportunity to explore and refine their creative skills in a focused environment, with the support of experienced instructors. Art School rates are offered on a sliding scale.

Creative Roots

Creative Roots serves grades K-12 through free year-round and after-school outreach programs, putting youth in leadership of their learning and nurturing relationships across the city. The cornerstones of Creative Roots are Youth Mural

Project, which runs at Hayes and Garfield Middle Schools, and an annual Community Practice Project; this year's is titled Safety Net.

Apprenticeship for Art & Social Justice

Harwood Art Center's Apprenticeship for Art & Social Justice trains young artists in the co-creation of community-driven public art. Youth aged 17-24 are paid a living wage while building a foundation for careers in and around the arts. Our team gathers and responds to community input in a long-term commitment to Mesa Verde Park. Artworks created each summer are a growing monument to the living ecosystem and local residents in this neighborhood of Albuquerque's International District.

Galleries & Exhibitions

Harwood's Galleries & Exhibitions Program is dedicated to resourcing exhibition, commission, residency, and professional development opportunities for artists working in any media and at all career stages. Harwood staff curate two galleries and a new art and design shop with year-round public exhibitions.

Artist Studios

In our historic building, Harwood proudly provides affordable studio space to 36+ working artists in the greater Albuquerque area, supporting diverse creative fields and practitioners. Additionally, Harwood offers public access to specialty spaces including a photography darkroom and community co-op.

Community Events & Celebrations

Harwood hosts year-round community events and celebrations across our programs, including Galleries & Exhibitions. These offerings are free and open to the public, and they include receptions, artist talks, studio visits, gallery tours, public art dedications, and more.

12x12

12x12 is Harwood's annual fundraising exhibition. Over 150 youth, emerging, and established artists from New Mexico contribute to our 12x12 exhibitions; artworks remain anonymous until sold. All funds raised support Harwood's community arts education, outreach and professional development programs — multifaceted, immersive offerings shaped by

and for participants of all ages, backgrounds, perspectives and identities.

Encompass

Harwood Art Center and Escuela del Sol Montessori present Encompass, a unique multi-generational art event that takes place annually. Featuring five invitational exhibitions, including one envisioned by the students of Jr. High with contributions from Elementary students. There are also open studios, hands-on art-making projects, live music, food vendors, and activities for all ages. Encompass is both a reflection of and an offering to our community. Encompass is Harwood's capstone celebration for the year. We invite everyone to this free event as we come together in community!

Escuela + Harwood Campus Improvements



In 2021, a number of major campus improvements came to fruition: an upgraded electric system, a new roof, and the installation of solar panels on the Harwood building. Since that time, we have completed several additional capital outlay upgrades. Caring for our historic campus is no small undertaking, and we are deeply grateful for the many channels of support from our community.

Harwood Window Replacement Project

In 2024, Escuela del Sol Montessori + Harwood Art Center finished the replacement of century-old windows with new, energy efficient windows designed to maintain the historical integrity of the building, the largest single capital outlay project in our organization's history.

The approximately 220 windows were replaced with High E efficiency glass and wood with aluclad exterior frames. The new windows will improve energy efficiency and reduce our energy consumption on campus.

A team of architects, designers, and contractors, chosen through a competitive public process, have guided the project. Teams from Sam Sterling Architecture, Jonathan S. Craig Architect LLC, Campoverde Architecture and SDV Construction worked together with Escuela + Harwood to preserve the character of the building while making this Harwood window replacement project possible. We are deeply grateful for the partnership of Enterprise Bank to help make these upgrades possible.

Boiler

In 2023, we made important energy- and money-saving changes to our infrastructure. With assistance from New Mexico Gas, we had a new boiler installed, along with higher efficiency upgrades to each of our 90 radiators. The boiler provides heat to the Harwood building, the Jr. El and Toddler classrooms, and the administration building.

Playground

The Primary playground also got a facelift. With help from an anonymous donation, we were able to replace the climber on the Primary playground that was original to the Primary building.

Main Water Line

The main water line at the front of Harwood was scheduled for future replacement as part of the Harwood Renewal Project. However, the water line replacement could not wait and was completed in 2024. Additionally, during this time other essential repairs were made to pipes within the Harwood building. It's a relief to have this checked off our list a bit earlier than planned.



Foundational Support

Recognizing Fay Abrams

"It is my conviction that arts and education should always be together."

— Fay Abrams

It is one remarkable thing to hold an unwavering conviction and quite another to breathe it into reality. Longtime Escuela del Sol Montessori + Harwood Art Center board member, Fay Abrams, has done both. Through her time of service, Fay has emanated joyful faith that everyone deserves opportunities for lifelong learning, creative expression, and engaged citizenship, while personally resourcing communities to offer these opportunities to our children, families, and neighbors in a sustainable way. Her more than a decade of board tenure with Escuela + Harwood reverberates across our organization, our campus, our programs, and our people - whom she has always recognized and championed as the heartbeat of our community. Fay's impact is infinite and indelible, and our arts + education landscape simply would not be what it is without her. Fay embodies the ethos of generative giving, and inspires us to magnify and multiply her extraordinary legacy accordingly.

— Julia Mandeville,
Harwood Chief Programs Officer

Building Repairs for Early Childhood

The Primary building, built specifically for the needs of our growing Primary community in 2001, was due for upgrades. In July of 2023, the stucco on the front of the Primary building was repaired and repainted. The rear of the Primary building was repaired in August 2024.

After many years of wear and tear, the floors in the 1932 Toddler building were in need of significant restoration. In December 2023, R.L. Marek and Co. undertook a comprehensive refurbishment, including the replacement of flooring that was beyond repair.

Stewarding the Historic Harwood Building

Our landmarked Harwood building is so rare, historic preservationists look outside New Mexico for comparable structures. Built for the Harwood Girls School in 1925, the building was minimally used after the school closed in 1976. Escuela first occupied the campus in 1986. Initially operating out of the WPA adobe, the school converted the Girls' School dorm rooms into artist studios in 1991 when Escuela's Art Guide saw the need within Albuquerque's community for work space and galleries for the city's creatives. With parents volunteering hundreds of work hours, an irreplaceable cultural gem was born. The Harwood building also houses the Harwood Café operations, dining hall, and classrooms for Senior Elementary, art, and music.

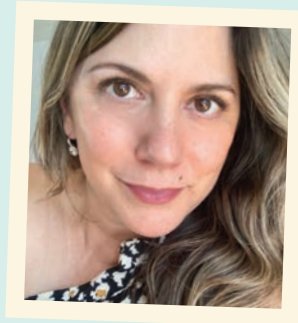
An intensive planning process from 2013 to 2016 engaged architects, engineers, and preservationists. The Seed Fund supported the creation of a Campus Plan that still guides us today. Major capital gifts pledged to revitalize the front of Harwood brought us to a Phase 1 groundbreaking in March of 2020. Halted by the pandemic, the plan required recalibration as construction costs permanently escalated at the same time that Harwood's infrastructure projects, detailed above, took on pressing priority.

Looking to the 100-year anniversary of the Harwood building in 2025, we are actively seeking foundation and donor support to revitalize the building's greenspace, secure its perimeter, and significantly upgrade its accessibility features.

The maintenance and revitalization of Harwood has been possible through an incredible network of local experts, donors, community partners and stakeholders, recognized in "Our Supporters" on page 18.



letter from the board



Dear Escuela and Harwood friends:

I want to express a tremendous thank you on behalf of the Board. Thank you for being a part of this community however you show up for it, whether once a day or once a year.

Thank you for entrusting us with your children and grandchildren.

For the daily alchemy and deep care you provide as Montessori faculty.

For keeping our wildly busy campus humming along as staff.

For jumping at the chance to reconnect and share your stories as alumni families.

For investing in our people, programs, and campus as donors.

And for the most daring and optimistic work of artists – generating art and ideas for a more just and beautiful world.

There is nothing else like Escuela + Harwood anywhere, and the Board is proud to sustain and grow the impact of this remarkable organization. Our role is to see the big picture, keep a steady focus on the long-term financial details, and help strengthen it from within, step by step.

I hope you will sit in on a Board meeting, find one of us at a Friday morning coffee, and share our pride in the accomplishments on these pages.

Sincerely,

Emilie De Angelis

Emilie De Angelis, Board Chair



Escuela + Harwood by the Numbers

Like many independent schools and nonprofits nationwide, our organization’s financial landscape has shifted significantly in recent years. Enrollment, a key factor in our budget, has fluctuated and has not yet returned to pre-pandemic levels, leading to ongoing adjustments. We are fortunate to have benefited from an influx of diverse funding sources since 2020, including the New Mexico Finance Authority, IRS Earned Retention Credits, and both state and federal COVID-related support. We have fine-tuned some of our financial data categories including re-categorizing donations from Other Income to Donations to ensure greater clarity and accuracy in our financial reporting.

Statement of Activities: Escuela del Sol Montessori & Harwood Art Center



	2021-2022			2022-2023		
	ESCUELA	HARWOOD	TOTAL	ESCUELA	HARWOOD	TOTAL
Revenue						
Program Revenue	2,442,920	214,244	2,657,164	2,797,680	212,210	3,009,890
Other Income*	21,037		21,037	430,868	500	431,368
Donations	4,004	2,066	6,070	81,909	8,735	90,644
Grants**	802,843	132,386	935,229	53,985	117,581	171,566
Interest	489		489	3,421		3,421
Fundraising		12,401	12,401		21,316	21,316
Contracts		93,674	93,674		29,469	29,469
Total Revenue & Support	3,271,293	454,771	3,726,064	3,367,863	389,811	3,757,674
<i>with Donor Restrictions</i>	<i>(18,996)</i>		<i>(18,996)</i>	<i>600</i>		<i>600</i>
Revenue & Support						
<i>without restrictions</i>	3,252,297	454,771	3,707,068	3,368,463	389,811	3,758,274
Expenses						
Employee Compensation	1,923,049	314,253	2,237,302	2,016,867	324,412	2,341,279
Financial Aid	196,050		196,050	206,300		206,300
Occupancy	282,917		282,917	280,813		280,813
Outside Services & Fees	136,323	33,448	169,771	168,664	40,080	208,744
Administrative Costs	97,364	15,775	113,139	117,548	14,928	132,476
Program Costs	134,191	21,642	155,833	165,425	29,794	195,219
Depreciation Expense	112,002		112,002	100,200		100,200
Professional Development	27,887		27,887	12,919		12,919
Total Expenses	2,909,783	385,118	3,294,901	3,068,736	409,214	3,477,950
Changes in net assets	342,514	69,653	412,167	299,727	(19,403)	280,324

* 21.22 Escuela includes Insurance proceeds for roof repair

* 22.23 Escuela includes ERC rebates, energy rebates & rental; Harwood includes event rentals

** 21.22 Escuela includes PPP (2nd), ECECD, NMFA

Source: IRS Form 990. For more recent unaudited financial data, see Statement of Financial Position.

Statement of Financial Position

ASSETS

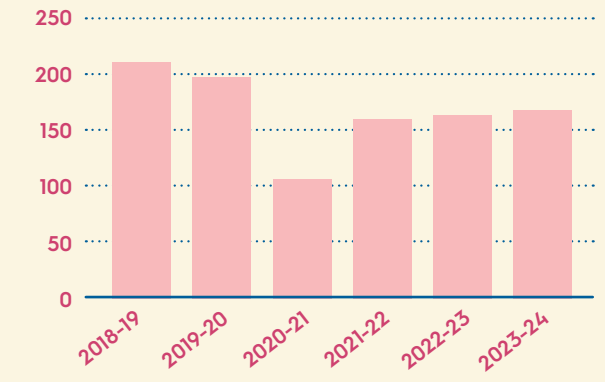
	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
Current Assets			
Cash	966,253	900,590	1,126,800
Accounts Receivable	279,205	387,067	280,951
Grants & Contract Receivable	50,744	123,951	119,018
Employee Loans	15,000	15,000	20,000
Total Current Assets	1,311,202	1,426,608	1,546,769
Fixed Assets			
Land	266,408	266,408	266,408
Buildings	2,469,456	3,105,564	3,105,564
Improvements	408,538	416,863	460,167
Equipment	87,652	87,652	87,652
Playground Improvements	270,800	272,527	275,367
	3,502,853	4,149,014	4,195,158
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(1,648,010)	(1,748,210)	(1,848,410)
Fixed Assets, net	1,854,843	2,400,804	2,346,748
Other Assets			
Mural	1,000	1,000	1,000
Deposits	1,500	1,500	1,500
CIP-Amphitheatre	54,054	54,054	54,054
Total Other Assets	56,554	56,554	56,554
Total Assets	3,222,599	3,883,966	3,950,071

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable		118	6,324
Credit cards payable	2,879	6,856	(5,102)
Deferred Income (Prepaid Tuition)	84,923	18,051	169,701
Enterprise Bank-current portion	21,287	70,120	70,120
Accrued liabilities	28,138	29,266	30,527
EIDL loan	500,000	500,000	500,000
Total Current Liabilities	637,227	624,411	771,571
Long-term Liabilities			
Enterprise Bank-Long term portion	622,005	1,015,864	992,235
Total Liabilities	1,259,232	1,640,275	1,763,806
Net Assets			
Without donor restrictions	1,736,703	2,016,427	1,958,668
With donor restrictions	226,664	227,264	227,597
Total net assets	1,963,367	2,243,691	2,186,265
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	3,222,599	3,883,966	3,950,071

Source: audited compilation (2023-24 pending)

Enrollment Trends



Tuition Assistance

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Tuition assistance provided	\$371,698	\$284,073	\$160,894	\$196,050	\$203,086	\$268,912
Percentage of budget	11.2%	9.2%	6.6%	6.0%	5.9%	7.2%
Percentage of students receiving assistance	24.8%	26.3%	28.2%	22.9%	27.8%	29.6%
Total number of students	206	198	103	157	158	162
Number of students assisted	51	52	29	36	44	48

Escuela's legacy of inclusion is more than 40 years strong. We consistently extend access to middle- and low-income families, surpassing the national independent school benchmark of 20-25% of students for many years running.

This profound investment in our community – more than \$2.5 million in the past 10 years alone – has been possible through careful annual budget allocation and donations to the Escuela Fund.

In a state ranked at the bottom of national statistics for child well-being, our commitment to offering all students the opportunity of an Escuela education isn't just a promise – it's a demonstrated record of achievement.

Pandemic Funding Highlights

The shutdown and many other impacts of COVID starting in 2020 required us to improvise creatively and urgently to find ways to pay for a long list of unexpected expenses, at a time when enrollment was severely impacted. Enormous effort went into researching and applying for funds from various government agencies, foundation grants, rebates and other sources. The following list shares some of the essential revenues that helped us survive the pandemic and support necessary upgrades, as well as provide critical supplies and systems to keep our classrooms safely open, including testing supplies, materials for outdoor classrooms, and filtration systems for all of our public spaces.

Year	Funds Obtained	Amount
2019	PPP Loan (1st) Forgiven	406,300.00
2020	PPP Loan (2nd) Forgiven	406,382.12
2020	Child Care (Cares Act)	32,500.00
2021	EIDL Loan (SBA)	500,000.00
2021	ECECD Child Care Stabilization	334,900.00
2021	Small Business Cares Relief Grant	45,000.00
2021	EIDL Advance	10,000.00
2021	ECECD Health Safety Mini Grant	2,500.00
2022	Earned Income Credits (ERC)	382,327.43
2022	ELC Grant/PED (reimbursement)	50,984.98
2022	NM Finance Authority (LEDA)	46,000.00
2022	NM Gas Company	43,273.33

Fundraising & Financial Stewardship

Alumni Sponsor Profile: Kersen Witkin



An Escuela alumnus dating back to the early 1980s, Kersen is now a mechanical engineer at London-based design firm Arcadis where he specializes in sustainable design, decarbonization, energy transition, and water optimization. We were thrilled to have Kersen join us for the first-ever Alumni Awards in October of 2023 as one of our event sponsors where he reconnected with Friedje vanGils, former faculty, and several alumni families.

Escuela and Harwood made big strides growing our fundraising programs over the past two academic years, thanks to our incredible community. Charitable giving allows parents, alumni and their families, sponsors, arts lovers, faculty and staff, and friends to rally around our highest “north star” values at Escuela + Harwood: lifelong learning, a child-centered education, the prepared environment, creativity, inclusive and anti-racist culture, community collaboration, and a thriving campus.

- * The **fall Escuela Fund campaign** saw record support for tuition assistance, operations, and campus and garden care in 2022. This was true both for the \$35,000 raised and the families and alumni participating, countering national trends in philanthropy.
- * Our **inaugural Alumni Awards** launched a new chapter in Escuela’s 55-year history in October of 2023. The event invites all former students and families dating back to our earliest years on the University of New Mexico campus, to celebrate right before the Balloon Fiesta. Sponsors included alumnus Kersen Witkin (see profile above).
- * A single donor and avid arts lover **donated \$100,000 to Escuela + Harwood**. The gift was directed to underwrite Harwood’s 12x12 events and future improvements to the building’s greenspace on 7th street. Additionally, more than \$50,000 was raised by 12x12 through sales of artworks over the two years, and Harwood won a total of \$249,109 in special project grants.
- * The **Sunflower Circle planned giving program** received its first bequest in 2024. The circle recognizes those who make a commitment to Escuela-Harwood through a will or other estate plan. We are excited to put into motion these steps toward an endowment to permanently support our people and programs for generations to come. To learn more, please reach out to Kate Chavez or Board Chair Emilie De Angelis.

today’s students tomorrow’s stars

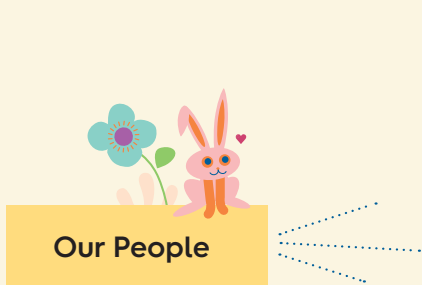


"I think 7-year-old me got the gist of why I Love Escuela so much — you learn how to build friendships, communities, and much much more. No matter the state of the world, that's something no one can take away from you."
— Zander D., Escuela Alum



"I can remember looking in through the window in Primary at a place that seemed to give me a hug in and of itself. I think Escuela has always felt like home. Comfort, family, and home. And, while, yes, there was plenty to learn, plenty of chances to grow, that fundamental feeling of safety and love stays with me, and always will."
— Gideon C.L., Escuela Alum





Our People

Escuela and Harwood Leadership Team

Kate Chavez, Executive Director
Ellen Dornan, IT Director
Jodie Martinez, Business Manager

Escuela Leadership Team

Dana McCabe, Interim Head of School
Emily Schuyler, Classroom and Family Support Coordinator
Elizabeth Marcilla, Administrative Director
Carmela Chavez Liberman, Media and Communications Coordinator
Victoria Barrio, Administrative Services Coordinator
Gloria Lucero, Administrative Assistant

Toddler Guides

Shaina Brinkman, Lead Guide
Jolie Tafoya, Lead Guide
Leslie Mendoza Morales, Assistant Guide
Jocelyn Muniz, Assistant Guide
Rhian Small, Lead Guide Toddler Extended Day
Angelize DeVargas, Assistant Guide Extended Day

Primary Guides

Estela Cross-Guillen, Lead Guide
Joslynn DeHerrera, Lead Guide
Nicole Duran, Lead Guide
Gretchen Vogelsberg, Lead Guide
Jayke Ingram, Assistant Guide
Shardae LeDoux, Support Guide
Maria Mendoza Morales, Montessori Support Guide
Elle Serna, Assistant Guide
Monica Chavez, Lead Guide Primary Extended Day
Jess Kurland, Assistant Guide Primary Extended Day



Junior Elementary Guides

Cristina Sessa, Lead Guide
Inga Tomlinson, Lead Guide
Izzy Lambert, Support Guide
HD Mellin, Support Guide
Livia Walker, Assistant Guide
Elementary Extended Day

Senior Elementary Guides

Sarah Louderbough, Lead Guide
Shereen Zangeneh, Support Guide

Junior High Guides

Tanesia Hale-Jones, Lead Guide
Jordan Hines, Jr. High Guide

Studio Arts Guides

(All Levels)
Christy Cook, Studio Guide – Art
Casey Mraz, Studio Guide – Music
Sandra Munoz-Puga, Studio Guide – Spanish
Robin Soliz, Studio Guide – Garden

Culinary Guide & Chef

Michael Chavez Liberman,
School Chef

Harwood Leadership Team

Julia Mandeville, Chief Programs Officer
Helen Atkins, Associate Director of Opportunity
Jordyn Bernicke, Associate Director of Engagement
Jennifer DePaolo, Director of Outreach
Hallee Nguyen, Acting Associate Director of Engagement
Hollie Putnam, Arts Education Coordinator

Campus & Facilities Team

Chandler Wigton, Harwood Building and Maintenance Manager
Jimmy Griego, Maintenance
Joseph Marcilla, Facilities Manager
Jonathan Guiney, Maintenance

Board of Trustees

Emilie De Angelis
Ann Edenfield Sweet
Maria Garcia Geer
Paige Abrams
Linh Nguyen
Allison Chavez

Former Board of Trustees

Since the last Community Report was published in 2021, the following Board members have completed their Board terms. Their governance has been instrumental to every part of Escuela + Harwood for many years, and we are incredibly grateful for their service.

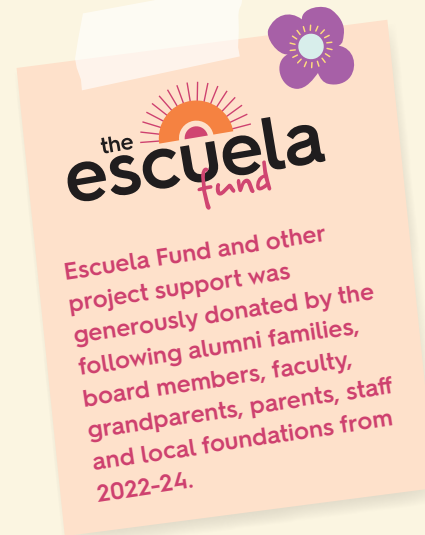
Fay Abrams
Deborah Chavez
Seemi Merza

Former Escuela + Harwood Staff

Escuela has said farewell to a number of staff members since 2021. We will forever be grateful for the care and talents they shared with our organization, and wish them well in their new chapters.

Dani Belvin
Ramon Chavez
Adriana Chavez-Culp
Elora Daniels
Elizabeth Harris
Paloma Springer
Ruby Rodriguez
Benjamin Tobias
Collette Village Center

Our Supporters



* denotes participation in both fiscal years.

Anonymous (4) *
Fay Abrams *
Paige Abrams *
Maryam Ahranjani
The Aragon Family *
Familia Barrio Urias
Apyrl Begay
Tonia Bird Bear *
Jennifer Bishop
Lissa + Jon Blaschke
The Brownies
Laura + Isabella Bruzzese
The Buck Family *
Douglas Carver
Allison Chavez *
Deborah Chavez *
Kate Chavez + Robin Holloway *
The Chavez Libermans *
Jonathan + Ellen Craig
Emilie De Angelis + Bert Davenport *
Roger De Angelis
Ann Edenfield Sweet *
Stuart + AndreMaria Edenfield *
Esme, Jen + Russ *
Belinda Flores



The Forster Family *
Pia Gallegos
Maria + Rod Geer *
Mary Goot *
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Ann Lyn + Quinn Hall *
Bridget Hazen
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Iris' Family
Jolene's Grandparents
Barbara Kramer
The Lang Family *
Katherine Lewis
Sarah Louderbough *
Brent Maddin
Julia Mandeville *
Elizabeth Marcilla *
Jodie Martinez *
Karen Mazur
The McCormick Kaufman Family
Seemi + Monzy Merza *
The Naim Family
Nelson Family
Linh + Kristina Nguyen *
PNM Resources Foundation
Jeremy + Katie Peña
Frankie Picco
Len + Donna Romano *
The Schannen Family
Seahollow Gift Fund, Santa Fe Community Foundation
Victoria Rhian Small
A Grateful Staff Member
The Stith Nottke Family
Claire Straight, in honor of Friedje vanGils

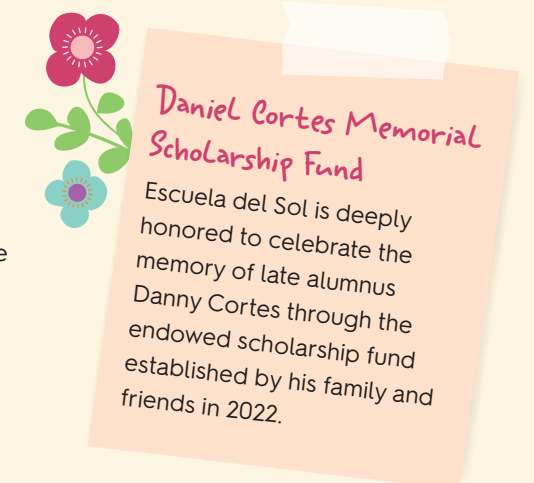
Franz Sturm
Miles Lewis Thompson
Inga Tomlinson + Jonathan Guiney
Friedje vanGils + Dana McCabe *
Gretchen Vogelsberg
Jennifer Wernersbach
Carol Williford
Kersen Witkin
The Zemskys

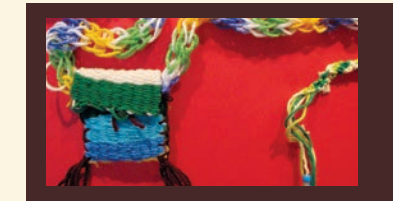
Matching gifts generously provided to the Escuela Fund by:

Fidelity Brokerage Services *
Lumina Foundation *
TransUnion, LLC *

Major in-kind support generously provided by:

Affordable Solar *
Campoverde Architecture *
Emilie De Angelis, Serafina Company *
National Roofing
Dr. Nicole Evans
Linh Nguyen *
Ripe Inc. *
SDV Construction *
Sam Sterling Architecture *





Donor List, Harwood Art Center

Funding support from:

Albuquerque Community Foundation
 Albuquerque Community Foundation, The TIDES Fund
 Bernalillo County
 City of Albuquerque Department of Arts & Culture
 City of Albuquerque, Office of the Mayor
 City of Albuquerque, Urban Enhancement Trust Fund
 Downtown Neighborhoods Association
 The FUNd at Albuquerque Community Foundation
 The Geissman Family
 Hancock Family Foundation
 LEF Foundation
 The Marjorie Fasman Trust
 McCune Charitable Foundation
 New Mexico Arts and National Endowment for the Arts
 New Mexico Youth Conservation Corps
 Nusenda Community Rewards
 Sandia Foundation
 Hundreds of individual, family and artist contributors

Program support by our partners at:

A Good Sign
 Albuquerque Art Business Association
 Amore Neapolitan Pizza
 Artisan ABQ
 ArtStreet and Heathcare for the Homeless
 Bookworks
 CABQ Parks and Recreation Department
 Cafe Lush
 Camera and Darkroom
 Farina Pizzeria
 Farm & Table
 Garfield Middle School
 The Grove Cafe & Market
 Guild Cinema
 Harwood Cafe
 Hayes Middle School
 Heading Home
 International District
 Healthy Communities Coalition (IDHCC)
 Johnny Tapia Community Center at Wells Park
 La Mesa Neighborhood Improvement Association
 La Montanita Co-op
 Mesa Verde Community Center
 Slate Street Cafe
 Slow Burn
 Sprouts Farmers Market
 Tractor Brewing Company

University of New Mexico School of Architecture & Planning
 Weekly Alibi
 Zendo Coffee + Art

Thank you to our 6x6 and 12 x 12 artist donors!

Abby Butler
 Ada G*
 Adelaida U
 Adeline M*
 Adrian Martin*
 Aela H
 Agata Kijanka
 Aldo S
 Alex P*
 Alexis Kaminsky
 Alice M
 Alice T
 Alina Pozas
 Allison Jones Hunt
 Amado Pena III
 Amari T*
 Amy Mann
 Angelia Santistevan
 Angelika Rinrhofer
 Anne Kirk
 Arthur F
 Arthur N
 Asha W*
 Asher F*
 Ashley Benning
 Audrey L*
 Audrey Montoya
 August WL*
 Augustín T*
 Barbara Grothus*
 Beatrix T*

Ben Roe Jr*
 Benicio Santistevan
 Benji CL*
 Blythe S*
 Brooke Palmer
 Caitlin Carcerano
 Calvin T*
 Camden H
 Cameron Krow
 Campbell M*
 Candy Nartonis*
 Carla Forrest
 Carol Sanchez
 Carrie Botto
 CB Bryan*
 Cecelia Mastroplito
 Celine Gordon
 Chandler Wigton*
 Chelsea Wrightson
 Cheryl Dietz*
 Christiana Cook
 Christie McAuley
 Claire Lissance*
 Copal M-B*
 Courtney Angermeier*
 Dahlia Jarjusey
 Damien W
 Dan Noyes*
 Dana Burgy
 David Disko*
 David Koch*
 David Merriam*
 David Stelle
 Debi Dodge*
 Deborah Wozniak*
 Denise Weaver Ross
 Diane Alire*
 Diego M Villegas

Diego Medina
 Donovan B
 Elise C*
 Elise Gill
 Elle Wolfley
 Elliott T
 Emilio
 Emily Bharatiya
 Emily Silva
 Esequiel GF
 Esme M
 Everest A
 Ezra T*
 Francesca Bellamy
 Francesca Tobias
 Frankie H*
 Frankie P*
 Franny C
 Fred Yost
 Frederick Yost
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 Giovanni R
 Gloria Lucero
 Gloria Olazabal
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 Harriette Tsosie
 Heather Bingham*
 Heather Bradley
 Hendrix C
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 Iggy H*
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 Isabella Romero
 Isabelle Lambert
 Izzy S
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 Jade Norris*
 Jami Porter Lara

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 Jane Gordon*
 Janet Shagam*
 Jay Renteria
 Jeanette Cook*
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 Jenn Carrillo
 Jennifer Hernandez
 Jennifer Pretzeus
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 John Barney
 Jordan Caldwell*
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 Josephine I
 Joshua Atlas
 Joshua R
 Joshua Roxby
 Julian K*
 Juliana Coles
 Juliette Beck
 Junior H*
 Justin Yazzie
 Kait O'Brien
 Kaline Carter
 Karen Mazur
 Kari Bell
 Kate Meier
 Bolintineanu
 Kate Miller
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 Katie Burkstaller
 Katie Carillo
 Katrina Lasko*
 Keara Dayton
 Kelli Judkins-Cooper*
 Maude Andrade

Ken Gingerich*
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 Lacey Chrisco
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 Lauren Deyo
 Lea Anderson*
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 Lena H*
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 Leviathan O'Neil
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 Lola B
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 Lucie M
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 Mary Holyoke
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 Maude Andrade

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