2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT





DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS,

As we, like many of you, look back over the past year, I feel the weight of it all -- from the aftereffects of the pandemic and resulting inflation to the conflict in our world. However, we also look forward to the future possibilities for our school. We remain as committed as ever to filing the needs of the families and children we serve in our school family, including some of our own team members.

In 2019 and 2020 we enjoyed an incredibly low staff turnover rate uncharacteristic of our industry -- 8% in 2019 and 13% in 2020. By 2021 this had grown to 33%. This hit our small organization hard. The entire community struggles to keep adequate, qualified staff and early childhood education is no exception. However, our industry's work demands an unparalleled amount of knowledge, energy, and compassion that we must bring to the office each day. There is no remote work in our field. We must all be fully present with our students and their families to truly impact our community.

To address staffing issues, The Winter Park Day Nursery responded quickly to increase the pay scale for all our teaching staff, existing and new. In March 2022, the board gave the green light to raise starting pay from \$12 to \$15.60 an hour. This has allowed us to attract new staff (most of whom are parents). Yet, despite the ability to hire at higher hourly rates our staff still struggle to make ends meet in the current economic climate with its skyrocketing rents and other costs.

At Winter Park Day Nursery, our staff has defined core values that serve as our guideposts, These provide us with a clear understanding how the decisions we make each day have lasting impact on our fellow staff members and our children and families. These core values are:

- 1. Passion that comes with commitment, dedication and a genuine love for the work we do.
- 2. Integrity that comes with reliability, sincerity, and the ability to know right from wrong. By embracing core values, we strengthen the culture within our school, and create a safe space for our students to grow and learn. One of the best indicators of a child's success is the relationship he/she has with their caregivers.

As I enter my 19th year with WPDN in 2023, I will assure these values continue to drive our work and the work we do with children, their families and our community.

While we continue to experience many challenges, we are so grateful for our community, donors and volunteers. Without the support of major funders such as The Joe and Sarah Galloway Foundation, The City of Winter Park and the Heart of Florida United Way, among many others, the Winter Park Day Nursery would not enjoy the financial stability we have today.

I will be forever grateful to our committed, knowledgeable board of directors for steering us through the perils of the pandemic. Without them we may not have emerged as positively as we did. To each and every one of the board members, donors, and staff, I am truly grateful. Our students and their families are better off for being connected with and supported by the Winter Park Day Nursery.

Thank you, Ali Di Maria

Executive Director

OUR MISSION

Winter Park Day Nursery provides a secure, nurturing and educational environment that is affordable & supports family diversity.

OUR VISION

Winter Park Day Nursery will build a stronger community by providing highquality, affordable early childhood education that will prepare our children to succeed in school and life.



OUR VALUES

Accessibility

We believe that every child deserves a high-quality preschool education, so we offer scholarships to make our program affordable for all families.

Quality

We believe that by upholding the highest standards, we inspire others. WPDN is accredited by the National Accreditation Commission (NAC) for Early Care and Education Programs.

Diversity

We believe that valuing different perspectives is vital to the success of our mission. Our school family reflects the rich diversity of our community.

Support

We believe that nurturing children means supporting their families with resources like parenting education, healthy meals, behavior and developmental services and an emergency food and clothing pantry.

Impact

We believe in advancing the community-wide quality of preschool education by serving as a demonstration site for best practices and advocating for the cause of early childhood education.





total students (ages 0 - 5)

children on the wait list

60%

\$96,141

of students received tuition scholarships

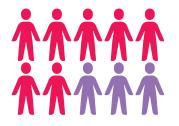
in tuition scholarships funds provided

33,055

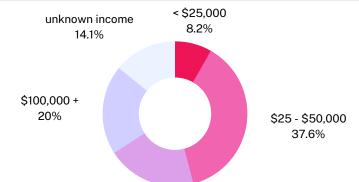
98%

nutritious meals and snacks

average enrollment throughout the year

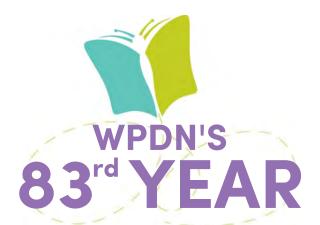


70% staff retention in 2021



\$50 - \$100,000 20%

Family Household Income





The 21st Annual Orange Blossom Jubilee was held at the prestigious Interlachen Country Club in Winter Park on April 29, 2022 with 180 guests! We were able to surpass our goal, raising over \$87,000, thanks to our sponsors, community members and businesses. A special thank you to the Joe & Sarah Galloway Foundation for being our presenting sponsor each and every year!

Noah's Landing Mobile Petting Zoo visited the preschool in the summer and brought sheep, bunnies, a baby cow, and more! The children were so excited to spend time with the animals. We are grateful to Thomas & Zurcher, P.A. and their volunteers for providing the petting zoo visit.



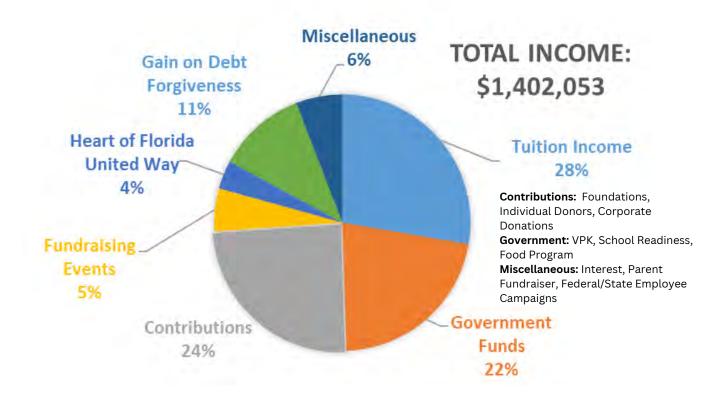


The Orlando Philharmonic has brought the joy of music to WPDN for several years. They come four times a year to present Symphony Storytelling, where they engage our students in storytelling that is accompanied by a section of the orchestra to bring the story to life through music. WPDN's students have heard stories such as Ferdinand the Bull, Carnival of the Animals, and Spooky Serenades.

The Winter Park Fire-Rescue Department made lots of children very happy bringing their fire truck by and doing an engine display. The firefighter also gave a lesson in the protective gear they have to wear and why it helps them. Each child was able to sit in the truck and have their picture taken! It was the highlight of their day.



2021-2022 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nicole R. Finegan, Chair Emily Lemieux, Vice Chair Amelia Storer, Treasurer Hannah Menard, Secretary Dr. Janelle Barfield Peg Cornwell Annette Dennig James Franzese Christian Iselin

Christian iselin

Charles Kulmann

Alan Leeds

Cecilia Scott

Frederick Szydlik

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Ali DeMaria, Executive Director
Dara Caulder, Executive Assistant/Donor Relations
Megan Martin, Director of Family Services
Amy Wenner, Assistant Director
Heather Horne, Administrative Assistant
Shirley Shankle, Kitchen Manager
Lakishia Singleton, Cook
Crystal Levsen, Director of Facilities

TEACHING TEAM

Paige Baldocchi Nadine (Meme) Batoche Destinee Carter

Deja Craia

Beryl Chung

Alessandra Dabdoub

Stephanie DeScalzo

Brittany Ely

Da'Mya Grimes

Tiara Hart

Stacey Hayes

Natalie Kinscy

Bailey Lankford

Keyanni McGill

Vanessa Melendez

Fallon Parker

Taylor Rentz

China Vaillant

Madison Weil

Alyssa (Andi) Williams

SUMMER YOUTH INTERNS

Sarai Bangura Nylah Jones



MAJOR DONORS & SPONSORS

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Carolyn Gentile
The Chesley G. Magruder Foundation, Inc.
The City of Winter Park
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Heart of Florida United Way
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James and Jackie Hughes

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Linda Piantieri
Michael and Aimee Kakos
Michael Dick and Priscilla Church
Rotary Club of Winter Park Charitable Fnd.
VNA Foundation, Inc
Warren and Augusta Hume Foundation
Winter Park Health Foundation



BUTTERFLY SOCIETY MEMBERS

Red Admiral Butterfly Member Frederick Szydlik

Blue Wave Butterfly Members

Jennifer and Phil Anderson
Pam and Steve Brandon
Erik Larsen
Karen and Al Leeds
Emily Lemieux
Hannah Menard
Bobbie Peel
Carol Stanton and John Parrell

WINTER PARK DAY NURSERY

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