

UNDER currents

fUNDERaiser Goes Virtual!



Students in every classroom have been hard at work producing beautiful art work for our live auction!

Don't be late for this very important date! Undercroft's 20th Annual fUNDERaiser is taking place on Friday, April 16th — and this year, we're going virtual! Our theme is *Mad Hatter's Tea Party*, so we invite everyone to join us on Zoom in their favorite headwear, from the comfort of your home. That's right—this online event means anyone can participate no matter where you live!

What is fUNDERaiser? It is Undercroft's biggest fundraising event of the year. Funds raised at fUNDERaiser are used

to cover programmatic costs, allowing us to purchase specialized learning materials, furniture and technology for our classrooms that tuition alone cannot cover. Despite the change in format, this year's fUNDERaiser will include a live and silent auction, wine pull, and more. As always, our classrooms will produce incredible art for the auction.

We need you! Buy tickets today! We also need sponsors to help underwrite the cost of the event, as well as donations to our auctions. Be sure to invite your friends, far-away relatives, and anyone else who wants support our school while having fun.

Tickets are available here: <https://biddingforgood.com/undercroft/funderaiser2021>.

Questions? Contact Brigid Vance, Development Director, at Brigid.Vance@Undercroft.org.

Thanks to our sponsors!

Heidi & Sean Shadid
Robert & Laura Thomas
Becca & Joe Povlock

REMINDERS

April 13

Board of Directors Meeting
(Virtual, 7:00 p.m.)

April 16

20th Annual fUNDERaiser!

April 30

Summer School Contracts
Due Date Extended

May 18

EC Bridging Ceremony
Playscape by Class
(Time TBD)

May 19

LE Bridging Ceremony
Playscape by Class
(Time TBD)

May 20

UE and MS Bridging Ceremony
Playscape by Class
(Time TBD)

May 21

Last Day of School

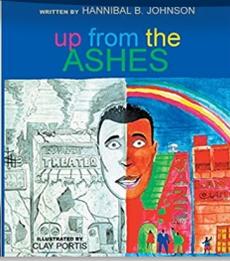
May 24 & 25

Parent/Guide Conferences

June 1

Summer School Begins





Centennial of Tulsa Race Massacre

Curriculum Development in Upper Elementary

One of the characteristics of upper elementary students is they are aware of and interested in the greater community, and their place within it. With the coming commemoration of the Centennial of the Tulsa Race Massacre, our upper elementary team wanted to provide an opportunity for students to begin to understand the historical context and events leading up to the massacre.

One of our upper elementary guides, Gretchen Sterba, focused her professional development plan for the year on developing a curriculum in close collaboration with the Greenwood Cultural Center (GCC) to share with upper elementary students over the remaining weeks and months of school.

Based on GCC guidance, students will learn about the historical context and events leading up to the Tulsa Race Massacre, including the history of Oklahoma pertaining to the Trail of Tears, oil, World War I, the Great Migration and the history of Greenwood.

A few weeks ago, students read *Up from the Ashes* by local author, Hannibal Johnson, and watched a short interview with Olivia Hooker, a survivor of the Tulsa Race Massacre.

Parallel to this work, students are researching a social justice hero of their choice.

Through this research, they have learned more about what makes a social justice hero based on the United Nations definition of social justice as an underlying principle for peaceful and prosperous coexistence within and among nations, and commitment to removing barriers that people face because of gender, age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture or disability. Students will refer

back to this as they continue their studies of the Tulsa Race Massacre.

Students will also be working in their art classes with Annie Ferris, to map out the downtown historic Greenwood District and the buildings that stood prior to the Tulsa Race Massacre. Students will research the buildings and create models of them to lay out on a Jean-Michel Basquiat-inspired map that they create with guidance from Ms. Annie.

"An education capable of saving humanity is no small undertaking; it involves the spiritual development of man, the enhancement of his value as an individual, and the preparation of young people to understand the times in which they live."

-Maria Montessori

These studies will lead up to the centennial, giving students a deeper perspective and understanding of this time period in our local history, along with the work that has been done to revitalize the neighborhood.

Our hope is that the curriculum developed this year will serve as a building block toward achieving our overarching mission to prepare these "young people to understand the times in which they live."

Alumni Feature: Maxwell Wilson

Max graduated from middle school in spring of 2020. That summer, he and his family moved to Belgium, where he now attends high school.

Learning to adjust to a new country halfway round the world where English is not widely spoken has been challenging, but is getting easier. In September, I started high school at St. Johns International School and have enjoyed my experience, so far. I am learning Dutch and French, which are the primary languages spoken in Belgium. I'm enjoying advanced math, learning about quadratics, trigonometry, and functions. I was part of a theatre production titled "Hoodie" and have been learning to play tennis!

One of the many ways Undercroft prepared me for high school was learning to interact with and befriend students of all ages. Being in multi-age classes gave me opportunities to learn side by side with older and younger students; I learned from my older friends and had chances to lead some younger friends, always seeing everyone as equals. Now, I have many friends in my own grade and even some in 10th and 11th grade. Undercroft also taught me to ask questions. When I don't hear or understand what a teacher has said, I ask questions for clarification. This has greatly helped me throughout my first year of high school, and I've seen my questions have helped my classmates as well.

I have so many wonderful memories of my time at Undercroft; one of my favorites was on a school trip to Sky Ranch. There was an obstacle course that was fairly easy until the zip line at the end. After climbing a really steep hill, we arrived at the base of a hundred fifty foot tower held up by four wooden beams that seemed to sway in the wind. At the top of the tower I faced my fear and took that final leap. It was such a relief and so exciting— I thoroughly enjoyed it.



COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE

CBC Co-Chairs

Laura Thomas & Elizabeth Edwards

Laura.Thomas@Undercroft.org & Elizabeth.Edwards@Undercroft.org

The Community Building Committee (CBC) is Undercroft's parent-teacher organization, overseeing the planning and coordination of community building and fundraising events. The goal of the CBC is to foster a sense of community within Undercroft Montessori School's family of students, parents, siblings, extended family, friends and staff.

CBC Meetings

Join the CBC for monthly meetings, now happening virtually on Zoom! Meetings are the first Wednesday of each month from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. We meet to discuss upcoming events, answer questions, enjoy some laughs and community fellowship! See your Weekly Reminders email for instructions on joining the Zoom.

AmazonSmile

Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Undercroft Montessori School whenever you shop on AmazonSmile. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Name Undercroft Montessori School as your AmazonSmile charity today!
<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/73-6099978>

Annual Fund Blazes Past Its Goal

We are bowled over by the generosity of our community in the time we needed it most. Because of every one of you, our Annual Fund campaign this year raised nearly 30% more than the prior year.

To date, this year's Annual Fund has raised \$78,000! This amount includes participation from nearly 80% of our community, including 100% of our Board of Directors.

While in past years the campaign has funded special projects — such as creating the Playscape, purchasing buses, and enhancing professional development for guides — this year, the donations covered many of the costs incurred to bring students back to campus for a year of in-person learning through the pandemic. These costs include improvements to the outdoor classrooms, walkways to accommodate changes in foot traffic patterns, additional supplies, personal protective equipment, enhanced sanitation, and more.

You can still make a gift today! Donate online at <http://paypal.me/undercroft>, or remit cash or check to our main office.

Thank you so much for your generosity and your faith in our school!



Spring Word Scramble

- SNIGRP _____
- SEONTIORMS _____
- HEONY _____
- UYTLRTBEF _____
- RNIGAENL _____
- NERUAT _____
- OOMBL _____
- NUEDVATR _____
- ANIR _____
- RGWO _____



Thank you!

Casey and Rachel Loper for donating umbrellas to the school.

Lori Rogers and Les Galbraith for bringing treats for the staff.

ServePro of South Tulsa County for water mitigation services.

Annual Fund Class Captains: Julie Davis, Jamie Jones, Barrie Lamberton, Brett Palmer, Jill Rogers, Vanessa Rogers, Elena Schmidt, Heidi Shadid, Diana Smaligo, and Robert Thomas.

Answers to puzzle: spring, Montessori, honey, butterfly, learning, nature, bloom, adventure, rain, grow.

Loving
Learning



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Business Officer
- Nancy Davis**
Head of School
- Phil Decker**
Facilities Coordinator
- Jamie Gartside**
Administrative Assistant
- Andrea Sawyers**
Facilities Assistant
- Brigid Vance**
Development Director

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