



SOUTHINGTON EDUCATION FOUNDATION, INC.

Instilling a love of learning.

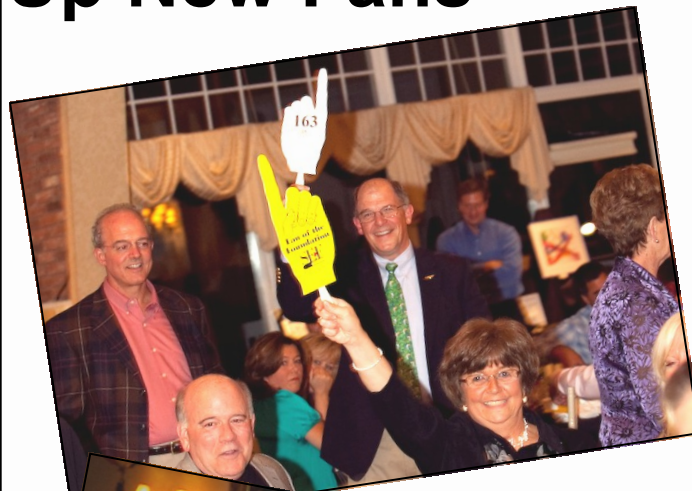
www.southingtoneducationfoundation.org

SEF.Donations@gmail.com

The Southington Education Foundation, Inc. is committed to instilling a love of learning in our children through innovative and creative initiatives that expand existing educational opportunities. The Foundation will reach out to the community to help secure and inspire excellence and overall achievement in our already outstanding school system.

our mission:

Foundation Chalks Up New Fans



More than 300 community members became fans of the SEF at the organization's premier kickoff event Oct. 16 at the Aqua Turf. The gala featured dinner, dancing and a live auction that had bidders waving number one fan fingers. The SEF raised nearly \$15,000 to support creative educational initiatives in Southington.

Support the SEF at these upcoming events:

**Sat. Jan. 23
at Outback**

Join the SEF for an afternoon of fine, philanthropic dining from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Outback on 817 Queen Street. Tickets are \$25 with proceeds going to help fund educational opportunities for our Southington school children.



Pictured top, Foundation fans bid on items during the live auction; middle, keynote speaker John Myers, executive director of the Southington Community YMCA, donned a New York Yankees jersey for his energetic presentation; below, the evening received high fives from those in attendance.

**Southington Education Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 42
Southington, CT 06489**

Premier SEF Donors

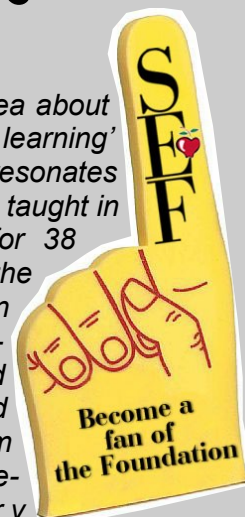
The following individuals, businesses and civic organizations have supported the SEF through their generous gifts. The SEF is honored to recognize those donors who contributed during the 2009 calendar year. The SEF is a non-profit, 501 (c)(3) organization and all donations are tax-deductible.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * <i>Joseph Krar & Associates</i> * <i>Kiwanis Club of Southington</i> * <i>Dennis Cavanaugh</i> * <i>Dr. Joseph V. Erardi Jr.</i> * <i>William and Patricia Queen</i> * <i>Sister Ann Stango</i> * <i>Carolyn Makles</i> * <i>Jim and Sherri DiNello</i> * <i>Mark and Irma Gugliotti</i> * <i>Edward and Kathryn Reinhard</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * <i>William and Janice DeDominicis</i> * <i>Leonard and Meliney Marcheselle</i> * <i>Ann Malafronte</i> * <i>Barbara Esposito</i> * <i>Beth Hosmer</i> * <i>State Sen. Sam Caligiuri</i> * <i>David and Ann Hofmann</i> * <i>Lynn Matarazzo</i> * <i>Dennis Vachon</i> * <i>Thomas and Alice Hollow</i> |
|--|---|

Community Feedback

“

Your idea about 'love of learning' really resonates with me. I taught in Wolcott for 38 years — the last 13 in the Talented and Gifted Program at the elementary level. I believe the NCLB has put too much of an emphasis on testing, test scores, test preparation, etc.



Teachers have had to put aside activities and projects that were interesting, creative, dynamic and went far in developing that love of learning of which you speak because of the over-emphasis on test scores. I applaud you for your efforts to find ways to instill that in children. I would like to see more educators involved in the SEF — not just as attendees at fundraisers. They share your ideals, I am sure.”

Gloria Brown
SEF Foundation Fan



We're looking for a few good educational projects to fund!

SEF mini-grants are currently available to educators for those creative initiatives and projects that meet the criteria of the SEF Grant Committee. The grants will allow educators to identify and address needs, challenges and concerns unique to their students.

Administrators and teachers at all Southington public schools have been notified of the opportunity. The \$500 mini grants will be funded during the second half of the 2009-2010 school year. Grant application policies and guidelines can be viewed and downloaded from the SEF website at www.southingtoneducationfoundation.org. The SEF will only fund projects outside of the scope of the Southington Board of Education.

***What's SEF's next assignment?
A \$50,000 college tuition raffle.
Details to be announced in 2010...***

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Students rule local schools thanks to SEF fundraiser



Thalberg Principal Beecher Lajoie with Daniel Hackerman.

Thalberg Elementary School fifth-grader Daniel Hackerman truly ruled his school recently when he became principal for the day. His parents, Dave and Deb Hackerman, won the special title for their son during the Southington Education Foundation's kickoff event Oct. 16.

Silent auctions were held for principalships at each of the town's schools in a unique fundraising opportunity for the SEF. A live auction was conducted for the coveted school superintendent's post as well.

"I had a blast with the super of the day to a point where I did it twice," said school Superintendent Joseph V. Erardi Jr. Erardi spent two separate mornings with each of the Myers' children, Catherine and Jack, along with their respective best friends.

"The activity gave me the opportunity to get to know four of the nicest youngsters who I have ever interacted with in my 30-plus year career," said Dr. Erardi. "The two mornings were a blend of fun, real work, and a chance for the students to better understand the role of a school superintendent."

In his role as acting principal, Daniel Hackerman took over for Thalberg Principal Beecher Lajoie, who played mentor for the day and introduced Daniel to his various responsibilities. "What a great experience for my son," said Deb Hackerman. "This was really a unique idea. There is such positive 'buzz' going around right now about the Southington Education Foundation. I am honored to be a part of the board-at-large."

Auctioning off of top administrative posts deemed 'unique' for students who gained greater knowledge and insight.

Arts group harvests gifts for SEF

During the recent Apple Harvest Festival, a new event, Harvest the Arts, helped raise funds for the Southington Education Foundation. Through the sale of T-shirts, the raffling off of artwork and a restaurant crawl, Harvest the Arts raised \$200.

All proceeds raised through this endeavor and future arts events under the direction of Mary DeCroce and her arts group have been tagged for special educational opportunities in the arts within our Southington public school classrooms.

The Southington Education Foundation is comprised of local volunteers who have made financial contributions in order to lead by example.

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2009 SEF Board of Directors.

A message from SEF Chairman Tony Sheffy

As chairman of the Southington Education Foundation, I hope that you will share in my amazement and appreciation of the hard work and dedication put forward by the members of our newly formed organization. The accomplishments over our first year are nothing

short of phenomenal. From an introductory gathering organized by Dr. Erardi, superintendent of schools, in March through today, the foundation has assembled a 40-member board at large, elected the first board of directors, acquired federal tax exempt status, designed a website, held a successful kickoff fundraising event and, without stopping, is now accepting applications for the award of at least 20 mini grants. I am honored to be a part of this dynamic group, which promises to profoundly enhance educational opportunities for the children of Southington. We hope that you will join with us and become a "fan of the foundation," by making a pledge today.



Yes, I would like to help instill a love of learning in Southington school children through the work of the Southington Education Foundation.

My tax-deductible contribution is:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Valedictorian \$1,000 and above | <input type="checkbox"/> Honor Society \$250—\$499 | <input type="checkbox"/> Friend \$99 and under |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Salutatorian \$500—\$999 | <input type="checkbox"/> Alumni \$100—\$249 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Employer matching gift form enclosed. |

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____ Please contact me at: _____

- I am interested in applying for an SEF grant. I would like more information about the SEF.
- I am interested in receiving SEF e-mails and newsletters. **Please make checks payable to: SEF, Inc.**



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