

Santa Monica Ed Foundation Announces \$15,000 Match from MSD Partners, L.P. and the Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows

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Donors to the Santa Monica Education Foundation now have the chance to double their support for students, thanks to a \$15,000 match offered by MSD Partners, L.P. and the Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows.

The hotel, a longstanding Ed Foundation Community Hero, will match all donations made, up to \$15,000, through Jan. 31.

"We are extraordinarily grateful to MSD Partners, L.P. and the Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows for their ongoing commitment to our students," said Linda Greenberg, Executive

Director of the Ed Foundation. "Even in this very challenging year, they are staying true to their dedication to our children. I know that our parents and community members will once again be inspired by their leadership in supporting our local public schools."

Like all donations to the Ed Foundation, funds raised during the matching drive will directly support elementary instructional aides, elementary arts programs and stretch grants for each Santa Monica public school next year. Each school decides how to spend their stretch grant.

Many schools use these funds for student wellness, STEM programs, more arts programs and teacher training.

"One of our core values is our commitment to being actively involved in our community," said Ellis O'Connor of MSD Partners. "These values become even more important during stressful times like we are experiencing now. We are proud to help keep Santa Monica schools strong.

Strong schools benefit all of us – everyone who lives and works in Santa Monica. We hope that many community members join us in supporting Santa Monica's public schools, teachers and students by donating to the Ed Foundation."

Due to the pandemic, overall donations to the Ed Foundation are about 15% lower than this time last year. Foundation officials encourage all community members to contribute to help ensure that important staff and excellent art and STEM programs are available for students next year.

"We realize this is a difficult time for many of our school families and other community members," said Linda Greenberg. "Many people cannot contribute at the same level as last year or at all, while students are still counting on donations to fund the programs they love. If you are able to contribute, even a small amount, please do. Each donation directly helps our students."

Fundraising for next year's programs will continue through June 30 with individual donations to the Foundation and events, as well as corporate and foundation giving.

For more information or to make a donation to support Santa Monica students, go to http://smedfoundation.org.

Submitted by Ann Conkle, Director of Communications and Events