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Santa Monica Ed Foundation Announces \$25,000 Match from the Miramar Hotel and MSD Partners

The match will run from January 20-31, 2022, coinciding with the end of the Ed Foundation's annual parent fundraising drive

Santa Monica, Calif., January 19, 2022 – The Santa Monica Education Foundation is thrilled to announce that it has secured a \$25,000 matching gift from the Miramar Hotel and MSD Partners. The long-time supporters of the Ed Foundation will match all donations, up to \$25,000, from January 20 to 31, 2022.

"We are extremely humbled by the generosity of the Miramar Hotel and MSD Partners," said Alison Havel, President of the Board of Directors of the Ed Foundation. "Their long-standing, unwavering commitment to Santa Monica's public-school students is unparalleled. Despite experiencing their own turbulence through the pandemic, they stand firm in supporting our children and their education."

The Ed Foundation's annual parent campaign will end on January 31. Since last July, the Ed Foundation has been soliciting donations to help fund important staff and programs like elementary instructional aides, elementary arts programs and stretch grants for each Santa Monica public school next year. These stretch grants are used to fund programs like STEM, arts, mental health programs, and teacher training. Many schools this year are using stretch grants to bolster students' social-emotional learning, giving students the tools they need to manage stress and anxiety, which has been exacerbated by the pandemic.

"We are honored to continue supporting such a vital organization in our community, one that supports so many students," said Ellis O'Connor of MSD Partners. "We are confident this match will inspire parents, community members and local businesses to donate to the Ed Foundation so that Santa Monica's students continue to have access to essential staff and programs. Supporting public education remains one of our highest priorities."

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

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

About the Santa Monica Education Foundation

Contributions to the Santa Monica Education Foundation fund excellent programs at every Santa Monica public school – from arts to STEM to wellness – that shape our future problem solvers, visionaries, and global citizens.

Established in 1982 by a dedicated group of parents, community leaders, and local business owners, the Ed Foundation raises funds to enhance and supplement the curriculum of the Santa Monica schools. The Foundation's mission is to engage the community to invest in a vibrant educational experience for all public-school students in Santa Monica.

To learn more about the Ed Foundation, visit <u>smedfoundation.org</u>.

About the Miramar Hotel

Situated on five expansive acres on the bluff north of the Santa Monica pier overlooking the Pacific Ocean, the Miramar sits on what was originally the private estate of the founder of Santa Monica, dating back to 1875. The historic hotel property is one of America's most celebrated and iconic destinations due to its sprawling gardens, luxurious poolside accommodations, spectacular ocean views, and fresh sea air. As the only beachside hotel with bungalows, the Miramar continues to provide guests a relaxing and luxurious environment in its suite of outlets including the recently renovated **Lobby Lounge & Library**, as well as **FIG restaurant**, and **Soko**.

For more information visit: www.fairmont-miramar.com

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