



## \$184,000 Raised for Local Schools

The Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation concluded their annual parent fundraising appeal with a surge in donations, inspired by a \$50,000 match from committed community partners Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows/MSD Capital and CIT's OneWest Bank. Each company offered \$25,000 and partnered to provide a \$50,000 match for the last two weeks of the Ed Foundation's parent campaign.

During the match, between January 16 and 31, 698 donors contributed \$184,709 for programs in Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) schools.

All funds donated to the Ed Foundation support staff and programs at all 16 Santa Monica Malibu public schools, ensuring that SMMUSD students experience arts, STEM, wellness programs and other crucial elements of their education.

"We are honored to be part of this terrific effort to support programs in local Santa Monica schools," said Steve Solk, President of Consumer Banking for CIT. "By working together to encourage programs in subjects such as the arts and STEM, businesses and community members are helping to prepare students for bright futures."

"Thank you to all the donors who joined us in supporting Santa Monica-Malibu students," said

Ellis O'Connor, Asset Manager of MSD Capital, Fairmont Miramar's parent company. "Like them, we celebrate excellence in public education and are thrilled to be part of the effort to ensure that all children have access to an equitable, outstanding public education."

"On behalf of our 10,500 SMMUSD students, we are so grateful to Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows/MSD Capital and CIT's OneWest Bank for their leadership," said Linda Greenberg, Executive Director of the Ed Foundation. "Their enduring commitment to public education makes them true corporate heroes."

The Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows is the sponsor hotel and CIT's OneWest Bank is a presenting sponsor of the Ed Foundation's third annual Santa Monica-Malibu Wine Auction, which will be held at the hotel on Sunday, May 6. Featuring outstanding wine and food tastings, and silent and live auctions of world-class wines and exceptional experiences, this annual event brings district parents, community members and corporate supporters together to sip, savor and support local students.

To donate or see a full list of programs funded by donations to the Ed Foundation, go to

[smmef.org](http://smmef.org).

Submitted by Ann Conkle, Communications and Events Manager