

Xtra-curricular

NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTH COUNTRY EDUCATION FOUNDATION

VOLUME XVIII, NUMBER 3 Winter 2019

FROM THE HELM



Happy 20th Anniversary Year SCEF! 2018 is our 20th year as an established organization and I ask each of you, our founders, supporters, contributors and donors to also congratulate yourself for your 20 years of support to the SCEF. We achieved a significant milestone in our 20th year. **We broke \$1,000,000 in 20 years of grass roots fundraising to support and enhance the education of our students in the South**

Country Central School District. Now that is great work. We also had our most successful Auction and Cocktail party in 2018 with over \$74,000 of funds raised by this wonderful community. Please see a listing of grants in this Appeal Newsletter as well as on our website www.scefonline.org.

The Annual Cocktail Party & Auction is our primary fundraising event and this Appeal Newsletter is yet another way for you to donate to the SCEF so we can expand our programs and grants to the SCCSD. Please support us by using the back page donation form to send in an end of year contribution. We provide grant cycles and teacher Professional Development grants, each year and would like to truly reach further to provide opportunities for our students and our community. Only you can make that possible.

This year we bid a gigantic thank-you and farewell to two of our hardest working board members, Susan Daconto and Nicole May. Sue is wonderfully spirited and always contributes with extra effort to our cause. She even enlists her husband, Lenny and son Chris to help. You most likely have seen her at the live auction, displaying the items up for bid and keeping the crowd engaged. We thank you Sue for your many years of service to the SCEF. Nicole joined the SCEF nine years ago, along with myself. The SCEF is a 501C non-profit organization and our by-laws dictate that board members must take a minimum one year leave after nine years of service. Nicole brought her special talents to the SCEF and has been tremendously successful obtaining hundreds of silent auction items over the years. Nicole, another hard-working board member, contributes greatly to the annual auction event, year after year, right down to getting the olives for the bar. She also put extra effort into the annual appeal newsletter (which you are reading now) and always kept a “what’s best for the students” focus with the SCEF grants. Nicole also enlisted the help of husband Roger and daughter Madison to join the team working the auction. Now those are two very giving people and families.

You may have guessed this from the above but as I did join the SCEF Board with Nicole. I also am required to take a minimum of one year off as President and as a SCEF Board member. It has been a true honor to be supported by our wonderful community, to be on the SCEF Board as well as hold

the position of President. I will transition to the Community Advisory Council and be active in the 2019 Annual Auction and Cocktail event. I thank everyone for their support of me over these past 9 years and ask that you join me in welcoming our new President, Robin Young Roe. Robin is a founding SCEF board member and has served as Vice President for the past 6 years. She will do a spectacular job.

The SCEF 20th Anniversary Annual Auction and Cocktail Party was magnificent, sensational and astonishing. We had the largest and strongest community outcome, ever. We thank all of you who attended this year and a special thank you to Chantal and Richard Berman, The Knapp-Swezey Foundation, Pamela Lerner Home & Design and South Shore Wines and Liquors.



We also thank all of our many silent auction donators as each donation fuels our fundraising effort. The Live & VIP auction hit a grand slam this year. Thank you to our Live Auction Item donations from, David Ebner, Pamela Lerner, Krebs Cycle, Geof Marshall, TORO Tapas & Tequila and Harold and Melanie Snedcof and to our Silent VIP Auction item donations from, The Bellport Chamber of Commerce, Veronica O’Neill of William J. O’Neills Sales Exchange of Patchogue, Harold and Melanie Snedcof, Suzette Fansdale and Frank and Diane Lento. This event brings our community together. Please save the date of July 13, 2019 and join us at our next event, it is sure to be the “event of the year”.

Thank-you also to our SCEF Board members, Robin, Andrea, Diane, Nancy, Susan, Nicole, Sue, Pam, Meg, Donna and Alison for being strong community leaders who volunteer in so many ways to enhance the SCEF.

Please help us to grow our capability to expand grants to

continued on next page...

Thank-you, Thank-you, Thank-you. You are a wonderful community of donors and contributors and you have all outdone yourselves this past year. Congratulations on a job well done and please take a moment to know that your donations have tremendously grown the education experience to the students of the South County Central School District. Our 20th Cocktail Party & Auction raised over \$74,000 this year and we are providing valued grants, which will grow our students' education and their experience in many fields. Thank you for your continued generosity to the South Country Education Foundation and please choose to support us again, in the year to come.

Dr. Amr Abdelaziz
and John Calcagno
Adventureland
Connie Adeo
Adesa
John and Connie Albin
Nancy Alexanderson
Lisa Anderson and Marc Rauch
Jack and Barbara Antos
Rita Auerbach
Devin Aurichio
Matilda and Worth Austin Jr.
Amino's Italian Table
Victoria Azara
Kate Bachner and Eric Marklein
Katherine Bachner
Kate Baker
Bartolme and Chey Barden
Scott and Christine Barden
Debbie & Bob Barkley
Richard Barthelme
Claudia and Mariapia Basilio
Luisa and Alain Baume
Diane & Gary Bavosa
Ruth Becker
Alex and John Beitel
Marie Bellini
Susan Belcher, Belle Shear
Bellport Stationary
Bellport Arts & Framing
Bellport Brookhaven
Historical Society
Bellport Chamber of Commerce
Bellport Cold Beer and Soda
Bellport.com
Bellport High School
Bellport High School ESL
Bellport High School PTSA
Bellport High School Woodworkers
Bellport High School Culinary Class
Bellport Jewelers
Bellport Middle School PTA
Steve and Kathryn Benvenuto
Dr. Richard and Chantal Berman
Laurence and Valerie Berman
Donald Bernstein
and Jo Ellen Finkel
Herb and Frances Bernstein
Julia Binnington
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Binnington
Bob's Furniture
Pat and John Bragoli
Brick House Brewery
Bridgeport-Port Jefferson Ferry
Nelson and MaryBeth Briggs
Nelson Briggs Jr.
Broadhollow Theater Company
Broadway Arts Center
Elena Brodie-Kusa
Brookhaven Elementary PTA
Brookhaven Opticians
Gary and Lynn Brown
Brown's Jeep Chrysler Dodge Ram
Nicole Brown
Andrea Brunton
Dana Buchman and Tom Farber
Alison Buck
Kathryn Buck and Steve Cannella
Helen Budny
Andrew Budris and Ellen Hoffman
Sally Budris
Amanda Burden and Charlie Rose
Burger Shack
Café Costello
Café Gia
Sam Calle
Ann Cameron and Rich Herrmann
Pete and Marilyn Capizzi
Leslie Carroll and Michael Young
Patrice Casanova
Tom Cashin
Virginia Reylek Cayce
Celadon Home Boutique
Chachama Grill
Debbie Ann Chang
Dr. Robert and Judy Chernaik
Carol Chester
Mike and Michele Chiamaronte
Chris Calhoun Agency
Sara Cioffaletti
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Cipp Jr.

Ellen Clyne and
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Peter Gisek
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Kathy and Charles Dennis
John Dietz
Del Fuego Restaurant
Starr DeNicola
Frank DeRosa and Susan Beckett
Annalies Derouch
Kathy and Dennis Desmond
Rocco DeVito
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Mary Durham
Eastern Athletic Club
David Ebner
Gale Edwards
Egan Orthodontics
Mark Ellis
Brian Ellner
John Erdman
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Eric and Brenda Forsyth
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School PTA
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David Freiman
David and Camilla Gallacher
Barbara Gallagher
Joyce Gallo
Amber and Mike Garrett
Gateway Performing Arts
Center of Suffolk County
Beverly Geiger
Get Up Stand Up,
Bellport Paddleboarding
Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Giani
Courtney Gibson
Keri Esp Gimpel
Barbara Giuliani-DeVito
Eloise and Nicholas Gmur
Claire Goad
Good Steer
Dr. Joseph Grasskemper
Bill Griffith
Ed Groshans
Stephen Gross
Susann Gude

Denise Guillermo
Hagerman Fire Department
Hamlet Organic Garden
Ronald and Evonne Hammond
Harbor Crab Restaurant
F. Lane Hartwell
Susan and Arthur Hatzopoulos
Mary Hawkes
Anne Hayes and David Smith
Ira Hayes and David Cleaves
Carl Hedin and John Wieckes
Joseph and Elaine Hendrie
Emily Hernandez
Joel E. Hershey MD and Roy Eddey
Judy Hester
Joan Hodgson
Tim Hogan
Judith Hope
Sue and Rick Hornik
Ed & Katrina Hughes
Peter Hutchings and
Martha Wolfgang
Jai Imbrey and Bob Apfel
Intrigue Salon
It's Only Natural
Jefferson Tent Rental
John Engeman Theater
Mary and Chris Joinnides
Jay Johnson
June Johnson
Dorothy Jones
Michael Douglas Jones
Daryl Jordan
and Herman Washington
Joan and Michael Kaelin
Karasmatic
Karl Ehmer's Pork Store
of Patchogue
Roberta and Brad Karp
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Kreamer St. PTA
Kreb Cycle
Elena and Jon Kusa
La Margherita Pizzeria
Sanford and Elaine Lacks
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Mr. and Mrs. Tom Latimer
Richard Lealand
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Jill Lento
Pamela and Tom Lerner
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Le Soir Restaurant
Jacqueline Lester
Linda Leuzzi
Long Island Advance
Alan and Gail Levenstein
Liberty Science Center
George and Kathleen Loizides
Long Island Children's Museum
Long Island Ducks
Long Island Maritime Museum
Lowe's
Tom & Consuelo Ludlam
Frances Magurno
Mama Lisa
Sally and Orville Mann
Nancy Marr
Geof Marschall,
Gofree Improvements
Martha Clara Vineyards
Camille Masem
Hank and Karen Maust
Madison May
Nicole and Roger May
Rona and Ian McKechnie
Marilyn McKeown
James McPeak
Medford Pastaria

Charlie and Anne Meinhold
David Meitus
and Angela Westwater
Al Messina
Louise Miller
Clyde Mitchell
and Maureen Donovan
Michael Mizrahi and Jeff Davies
Mary and Ben Mojallali
Steven Molina
Steve and Robin Montick
Michael and Hwasoon Mullaney
Angela Muller
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Donna and Gary Naftalis
Steve Narker
Phyllis Natoli
Renee Negron
Nancy Norman
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Craig and Blanche Nurnberger
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Leslie and Paul O'Connor
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Veronica O'Neill
Steve Orluck and Donald Callahan
Elles and Tom Oversluzen
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Pamela Lerner Home & Design
Panera Bread
Jamie Papandrea
Papa Nick's Pizza
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Angelica and Clyde Parker
Emily Parry
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Diane Pettit
Reverend Tom Philipp
Alice Phillips and Brian Mahon
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Jill Pilger
Pilger-Skidmore Associates, Inc.
Sean Pilger
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Jean Pokorny
Jill Porter
Porter's on the Lane
Leigh Powell
Rebecca Priemer
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Michelle Procida
Brian and Susan Quatral
Alice Quinn
Bob and Ann Quinn
Veljko and Jelena Radeka
Ragtime Pizza
Alonzo and Margaret Rand
Razing Hair
Rohr Auto Works
Rossana Randone
Ronnie Rau
Sarah Rauch
Erin Rawitch
John Renninger
Lealand Richard
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Risdon
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Nathan Rohrmeier
Pete and Diane Romano
Karl and Annie Rohrmeier
Christine Rosa-Ragona
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Robert and Pamela Rosenberg
Isabella Rosselini
Marilyn Runyan
Ruvo Restaurant
Jim and Libby Ryan
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Mary Samuels
Mary Sanford
Susan Sangiamo and family

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Harold Schwarz
Ken Searles, Searles Graphics
Christine Schaeffer
Gary Schneider
Jan Shannon
Meaghan Shannon
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Stephen Sokolowski
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South Country Cleaners
South Country School
District Art Dept
South Country Tavern
South Shore Wines and Liquors
Spicy's Restaurant
Spish Splash
Springhill Hill Suites by Marriott
Irene Stahman
Steel and Velvet Barbershop
Sheldon and Florence Stiefeld
Cheryl Steinhauer
Darcy and Allen Stevens
John and Dava Stravinsky
Studio 24
Sunset Harbour
Swezey Fuel Company, Inc.
Shirley and Charles Swift
Scott and Dana Swift
Swiftway Beer and Soda
Fran Tabone
Ivana Tagliamonte
Claudia Taylor
Monica Tetuan
The Bellport Restaurant
The Oar
That Meetball Place
The Cheese Patch
The Pool Guy
The Rinx
The Spa at Bellport
Linda Theis
Roger and Sava Thomas
Luann Thompson
TOLA
Patricia Trainor (in memoriam)
and Taylor Alonso
Greg and Marianne Thorvaldsen
James and Caroline Tripp
Pat and George Trotta
Toros, Tapas and Tequila
Dwight Trujillo,
The Bellport Silversmith
John and Lorelei Tuthill
Terry and Joanne Tuthill
Carol Tvelia
Utopia Bath Products
James Uzzi
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Mark Van Wagner
Vander Zalm Greenhouse
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Varney's Restaurant
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Ginny and Press Waterman
Cynthia and Doug Watson
Jamie and Lorena Salcedo-Watson
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Stephen and Sigrid Weinstein
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Eugene Westhoff and Colette Girard
Ralph Weston
Grahame Williams
and Suzanne Smith
Tom and Ellen Williams
Beth Worley
Tom and Barbara Wright
Kerry Young
Chuck and Karen Zahradka
Frank and Deborah Zampariello
Michael Zanazzi
Gary and Diane Zanazzi

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the SCCSD. The back page of this newsletter provides an opportunity for you to contribute to the SCEF in your year-end giving. We hope and ask that you take advantage of this opportunity to contribute to the SCEF, once again, as, **“Community is much more than belonging to something; it’s about doing something together that makes belonging matter”.** (author Brian Solis)

I thank you again for your support of me as President and I look forward to seeing you all on July 13th. We wish you a wonderful New Year.

– Frank Lento



NICOLE MAY ENDS TERM OF SERVICE

Nicole May, a SCEF board member for the past nine years, ends her term in January. Nicole has been a dedicated board member and has been a tremendous asset to the South Country Education Foundation.

She has been instrumental in the organization of the annual auction and

volunteered to work on the auction committee before being invited to join the board.

She has collected, organized, and set up many auction tables over the years. She has also helped with grant review, the central task of SCEF.

Nicole is a graduate of the South County School District and still has ties to the area. She believes in the work and the mission of the SCEF and has been a true asset to the board.

We look forward to her continued support and assistance with the auction as a non-board member.



BOARD MEMBER RETIRES

The South Country Education Foundation would like to thank Sue Daconto for her service as a board member for the last four years. Sue has brought much dedication and expertise to the SCEF. She will surely be missed, however, we look forward to seeing her at our 21st Annual Auction and Cocktail Party in July.

YOGA TEACHER TRAINING

Danielle Brower, a physical education teacher from Verne W. Critz, attended a three day Rainbow Yoga Teacher Training Class this summer. She traveled to Sydney, Australia with her own funds, (she had spent time there in college), and the SCEF paid only for the hotel stay and the classes. Here is her testimonial from the training:

“So...my training with Rainbow Yoga in Sydney was beyond amazing. ...actually it was life changing. ...!!!! I savored every second, and truly believe it will change my approach to teaching. I have already done activities with the kids, and have told so many colleagues about the approach. It wasn’t traditional “YOGA”, it was basically Mindful Movement...which is what we need here!! I completed 27 hours, and in the near future would like to complete the 95-hour portion to cover all of “kids’ stuff” they have to offer. The instructor was amazing, and solidified that it was worth the journey to take the class from her, vs. in the US, because her background is like nothing I have ever seen. Her help and guidance with students with additional needs, was exactly what I have been looking for. Again, from the bottom of my heart, I thank SCEF for this opportunity, and look forward to seeing this approach

grow at South Country. Mr. McIntyre has already given me the opportunity to present to my colleagues at a P.D. I look forward to working with you all in the future, whether it is to go further with Rainbow Yoga, or something for the children themselves.”

FRANK LENTO LEAVES EXEC BOARD AT END OF TERM

Transitions to CAC

Frank Lento, the President of the South Country Education Foundation, will transition to the Community Advisory Council at the conclusion of his term in January 2019. Mr. Lento joined the board in 2009. He swiftly moved to the position of Treasurer, one of the most difficult and exacting positions, in 2010, and then to the presidency in 2012. He served as president for seven years and created a strong relationship between the board and the school district administration, “Frank is a difficult act to follow,” said Robin Young Roe who will take over as president in January. “He brought tremendous energy to the board and grew the organization during his tenure, she said adding: “Plus, he’s a fun guy and a good friend.” He expanded new funding areas in the community as SCEF partnered with the Knapp Swezey Foundation to offer swimming lessons at the Patchogue YMCA. Additionally, he helped the organization break the \$1-million fund raising mark at its annual cocktail party and auction. He is especially noted for bringing drama, costumes and humor to the live auction event. He was once disguised as a scuba diver ascending from the depths of a hot tub. The tub sale earned a higher than estimated bid. Frank also established an alignment to the Gateway Theater bringing “Mistletoe,” a holiday production, to elementary students each year. “I feel honored to have served with this board and privileged to have gained friendships with the board members and their spouses over the past nine years,” said Lento.

In the fall, Frank and his wife, Diane, and daughter, Jill, moved to West Palm Beach. Frank is back and forth between Florida and East Patchogue where he visits close family members and his office at Cisco in New York City. He still ‘attends’ board meetings through a cell phone connection and is slated as the auctioneer for the 2019 fund raising auction. “He has left an indelible mark on SCEF and the board grudgingly accepts his retirement,” said Roe.

GET UP STAND UP AGAIN DONATES TO SCEF

We are very grateful to Meaghan Shannon of Get Up Stand Up NY. This is the fourth year that she has donated the proceeds from the Paddle to the Point Race to the SCEF. This year totaled over \$4,000! Thanks to Meaghan, the event volunteers and her team.

CRITZ TEACHERS ATTEND NATIONAL CONVENTION

Two teachers from Verne W. Critz, Jen Hayhurst and Jill DeRosa, attended the National Council of Teachers of English Convention in Houston, Texas, this past November 15th through 18th. This convention has been held for over 100 years. The SCEF paid for the conference/study fees, hotel and flight to Houston. Here is what Jill De Rosa and Jennifer Hayhurst had to say:

“We had an amazing four days of learning at NCTE and would like to thank you for the grant. We have begun compiling a PowerPoint to capture our learning. We would be happy to present the materials with your organization or within our school district. Our learning has the potential to make an impact on the students in our district. We realize you have afforded us a wonderful opportunity and we are happy to share.”

FALL 2018 GRANTS **TOP \$38,000**

READERS READ EVERYWHERE!

Deirdre Whittman | Kreamer Street | \$172.40

This grant is for the purchase of 28 canvas bags to allow students to safely transport schoolbooks from the classroom to home. The hope is that the bags will enhance the school-home connection, a concept supported by research. Also, the grant writer believes her students will have greater opportunity to improve skills. The funds are for the purchase of 28 canvas bags.

HOW TO MAKE A PIZZA

Deirdre Wittmann, Katherine Frankie, Michelle Drucker | Kreamer Street \$744.00

Kindergarten students will have the opportunity to walk to a local pizzeria and learn to make a personal pizza. The adventure will include reading and following a recipe, measuring, kneading and all the other skills to make a pizza. The grant funds the \$6 per pupil fee.

BENNER'S FARM FIELD TRIP

Deirdre Wittmann, Katherine Frankie, Michelle Drucker | Kreamer Street \$2,354.84

Kreamer Street Kindergarten students will travel by bus to a working farm in Setauket. They will hold and feed animals, plant, learn how honey is made and study the history of the farm. The grant funds the bus transport of 110 students and admission fee of \$10 per pupil.

LUME'S LASER SPACE SHOW

Kreamer Kingdom Committee (Aimee Volk) | Kreamer Street | \$745.00

Astronomy and space exploration will be topics explored in a unique assembly that includes a live presentation, interactive activities and a laser show. The assembly ties into the elementary school's science curriculum. The program will enhance the school's science and space curriculums as well as math, art and writing. All students at Kreamer Street will attend the event. Prismatic Magic will produce the laser show.

GROWING UP WITH THE KIDS

Aimee Volk | Kreamer Street | \$408.60

The life cycles of insects and amphibians will be the focus of 3rd grade studies with new resources provided through this grant. Butterflies will emerge from caterpillar casings, hermit crabs will be observed and live adult Venus Fly Traps will seek prey. The project is expected to amp up interest in science...and it most likely will. The grant pays for the purchase of the animals and fly trap.

CODING WITH LITTLEBITS

Kathleen Kellenberger | South Country Library | \$1,779.95

The South Country Library is the setting for students in grades 6-12 to explore the use of the product littleBits circuits to build and code objects, turning them into functioning games. Students will learn to use a block-based, drag-and-drop language that requires logical thinking and problem solving. The grant funds the purchase of 6 Code Kits accommodating 18 students. The circuits are reusable and will become a centerpiece of a weekly coding program held during after school hours.

HOP INTO MATH

Lauren Kleban | Frank P. Long Intermediate School | \$841.50

Fourth grade students at the intermediate school are honing their fraction and arithmetic skills and having fun and exercise while they learn. The grant writer is employing the use of floor mats that require students to "hop" onto the right answer employing the professional term "whole brain learning," a concept that engages physical movement to reinforce skills. The program is expected to improve math fluency. The grant funds pay for the purchase of three mats. One mat is for fractions, one for counting by six, the other for counting by seven.

GO TO WWW.SCEFONLINE.ORG
TO SEE ALL GRANTS AWARDED

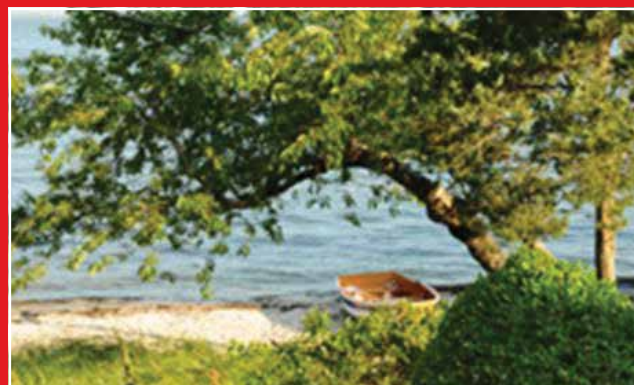


SOUTH COUNTRY EDUCATION FOUNDATION

WHAT WE DO

The South Country Education Foundation is an independent, nonprofit organization committed to improving educational opportunities for all students in the South Country School District by:

- Giving Education Grants (upwards of \$60,000 for the past 12 months)
- Supporting Our Cultural and Educational Committees:
 - Becker/Gambles Music Fund, Martin Luther King Foundation and Students 4 Art
 - Partnering with the Boys and Girls Club and Knapp/Swezey Foundation for the 5th grade YMCA Swim Program
- Offering Professional Development Grants



2019 SCEF SAVE THE DATE

We thank the community for its generous support of previous SCEF annual auctions and hope you will take notice below so as not to miss the 2019 Cocktail Party & Auction:

**21ST ANNUAL
COCKTAIL PARTY AND AUCTION**
Saturday, July 13, 2019
from 5pm to 7:30pm in Bellport

Please check our website,
www.scefonline.org
for up-to-date information



SCEF 20th Annual Auction and Cocktail Party



The foundation is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization committed to improving opportunities for all students in the South Country school district. Its mission is to promote educational initiatives by providing supplemental financial support for projects and programs that fall outside of the District budget.

HELP US INVEST IN THE FUTURE OF OUR CHILDREN

NON-PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE

PAID

PERMIT # 259
PATCHOGUE
NY 11772

Appeal Newsletter

SOUTH COUNTRY EDUCATION FOUNDATION

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Thomas Williams | Michael Mullaney | Kerry Young | Joann Neal

APPEAL NEWSLETTER

Frank Lento, Robin Young Roe & Pamela Lerner, *Editors*
Diane Zanazzi, *Lead Contributor*
Donna Esp, Andrea Fassman, Pamela Lerner, Nicole May,
Sue Daconto, Susan Sangiamo, Nancy Marr,
Alison Buck, Meg Shannon, *Contributors*
Searles Graphics, *Production and Printer*

WE CANNOT REACH OUR GOALS WITHOUT YOUR HELP OUR END OF YEAR PLEA:



HELP US REACH HIGHER!

\$25 \$50 \$100 Other \$ _____

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

Make your tax-deductible checks payable to:
South Country Education Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 512, Bellport, NY 11713-0512

or pay by credit card

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