



2017 Spring Luncheon: Purchase Tickets Now!

The 2017 Spring Luncheon is on **Friday, May 12**. This year's theme is ***Be A Scientist***. We're honoring a middle school science teacher, Matt Hinckley, and a UC professor, Mary Wildermuth, who are both bringing hands-on science to middle schools and inspiring kids to "be a scientist." It's not too late to show your support as a [Sponsor](#). This event always sells out, so the time to purchase your [tickets](#) is now! Don't miss out! We hope to see you there.



Friday, May 12, 11am–1:30pm
Hs Lordships on the Berkeley Marina.

If you've never been to the **Spring Luncheon**, or you want to re-visit the great program we had in 2015, "Expanding Opportunity", check out this [highlights video](#) from the 2015 Spring Luncheon, filmed and edited by Berkeley High students under the direction of BHS teacher, Phil Halpern.

On the Blog: Teaching Language in all Subjects



This month we visited middle school teachers learning how to implement "Constructing Meaning" in their classrooms. Constructing Meaning incorporates explicit language instruction into content area teaching with the aim of developing higher

critical thinking skills for students. King Middle School science teacher, Akemi Hamai, received a 2016-17 Strategic Impact Grant to bring math, science, and humanities teachers together to learn how to use the academic language of Constructing Meaning consistently in all core subject classes. We first supported this work at Berkeley High, and the success there created interest in the middle schools.

Read the [full post here](#).

Cal Day April 22! Don't Miss It

[Cal Day](#) is Saturday, April 22 on the UC Berkeley campus. We promise you, after your first trip to Cal Day, you'll never miss another! Explore over 400 events, including lectures, performances, and tours of museums, laboratories, gardens, and galleries. Programs geared toward kids and families "introduce your family to the wide world of Berkeley. Watch dancers move and groove, hear the boom of the Cal band, hug a robot, and get some hands-on science experience." [Full Kid and Family programming here](#).



Classroom Grant: "My Words, My Music" Concert

This school year, we supported a classroom grant that gave all Berkeley middle schools a chance to write poetry and work with a professional

Composing Together



composer to translate their poems into music! The "My Words, My Music" concert will take place on **Saturday, April 29 from 3-4pm at the Central Library** on 2090 Kittredge Street. Our classroom grant helped fund middle schools to work with [Composing Together](#), an organization of professional musicians who assisted students in translating their work into songs, spoken word or rap.

Don't miss this opportunity to see students share their original poems and compositions!

Luncheon Sponsor Spotlight: Magoosh

Do you know a high school student taking the ACT or SAT tests soon? Berkeley start-up and Spring Luncheon Sponsor, [Magoosh](#), is an online test prep platform that's like having "a private tutor, anytime, anywhere." More than 1.5 million students have used Magoosh's web and mobile apps to access their video lessons, practice test questions, and online email support.



Thank you, Magoosh, for your generous support of Berkeley public schools!

Friends & Family: The School Year and Beyond

Our [Friends & Family Grants](#) site has several projects currently looking for funding to help students this school year and for the summer!

[Athina Larson](#) from John Muir needs support to take her 4th grade classroom on a field trip to Sacramento, and Willard's [Growing Leaders program](#) also



needs help in expanding their student-run kitchen.

[Becca Todd](#), the District librarian, is looking to fund the Battle of Books Grand Finale. The event is TONIGHT and they're only \$78 away from their \$588 goal. It's a great celebration of reading for middle schoolers. There are also nine teachers, librarian and

literacy coaches from [Malcolm X](#) who are looking to supply engaging summer books for students to help close the achievement gap.

Check out [Friends & Family](#) to find even more projects to support!

Illustoria: For Creative Kids + Grownups

[Illustoria](#) is a beautiful magazine for creative kids and their grownups, founded by a BUSD parent and former children's book editor, Joanne Chan. Illustoria celebrates visual storytelling, makers, and DIY culture through stories, art, comics, interviews, and activities. It's such a lovely project, we wanted to share it with you!



Friends of the Berkeley Public School Fund receive a **10% discount** for subscriptions by entering discount code: **BERKELEY** by June 1. Nurture the little and big artists in your life!

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