



Issue Thirty Six
August 2016

Team Schools Fund 2016: Stronger & Smarter

The Berkeley Half gets better every year and Team Schools Fund, in its 4th year, is doing our part by getting ready to break our previous records! Join Team Schools Fund to raise money for our schools and receive fun free benefits.

Berkeley Half Details

Sunday, November 20, 2016

Races this year include 5k, 10k and Half Marathon

Just click "[Get Started](#)" on the [Fundraising/Team Page](#)



Runners have the choice to join the **Race for Free** program, which gives you free race registration in exchange for a modest fundraising goal for the Schools Fund.

Do you know a high school student taking the ACT or SAT tests soon? Sign up for Team Schools Fund and receive **free access for 6 months to [Magoosh](#)**, the online test prep platform that's like having "a private tutor, anytime, anywhere." It's a \$99 value from a Berkeley start-up and generous supporter of the Schools Fund!

Classroom Grant Applications Open



Applications for 2016-17 [Classroom Grants](#) [are now open](#) and will be accepted until 5pm on Friday, September 30. After our Board review process, you will be notified about your grant in November.

Curious about what kinds of projects you can apply for with Classroom Grants? [Check out additional criteria and information here!](#)

If you'd like your project funded even sooner, consider applying for a [Friends & Family grant](#), which are open year-round. Friends & Family grants are crowdfunded—you solicit your own classroom and personal lists for donations. You can check out some [successfully funded Friends & Family grants here](#).

Teachers: [Click here to request a volunteer for 2016-17!](#)

2016-17 Volunteer Opportunities—Tell Your Friends!

New Volunteer Orientations Each Week!

Are you interested in becoming a volunteer but don't know where to start? To learn more about the BSV process, please visit our [volunteer page](#). New Volunteer Orientations will be posted online by August 23.



Curious about what it's like to be a volunteer? Check out a [couple videos](#) from current volunteers talking about their experiences!

Would You Like to Volunteer Again This Year?

If you have already attended a New Volunteer Orientation, you're ready to go! Whether you want to volunteer with the same teacher or would like BSV to find you a new placement, please complete our [Returning Volunteer Form](#). If you've already submitted the form, great! Once everything is confirmed, we will mail your updated name badge!

Please Note: Beginning Fall 2016 we are asking all volunteers to submit a [Volunteer Timesheet](#) on a regular basis. This will allow us to more effectively communicate just how valuable our volunteers are, as well as gain a better understanding of when schools have enough (or need more) support.

On the Blog: YALI Fellows



This summer we were thrilled to share our work and that of our partners with two Mandela Washington Fellows who were part of the [Young African Leaders Initiative \(YALI\)](#). Alhasan Bah from Gambia and Steven Harageib from Namibia became part of the

Schools Fund family over the course of 4 weeks during their "followship" with us. Read more about these amazing men, their work, and how they enjoyed their time in Berkeley this summer [on the blog](#).

Mark Your Calendars: Music Scholarship Benefit Concert

This fall we are hosting a benefit concert for the [Boatwright/Weinstein Music Scholarship](#), which provides need-based financial awards for private music lessons to Berkeley Public School students, grades 6-8.

Join us on Monday, October 17 for an evening of music with local jazz

musicians Herbie Mims & Friends, including guest vocalists Janice Maxie Reid and Daria Nile. The event will be at Freight & Salvage and will feature performances by the Berkeley High School Jazz Combo and Berkeley High Chamber Orchestra.

[More information and tickets are available here.](#)



Congrats to the Willard Drama Program!



Willard's drama program, the Metal Shop Theater, was [recently named](#) Best Middle-School Drama Program by Oakland Magazine! "The Metal Shop Theater's motto is: 'Where weird is normal, and normal is about to get strange.'"

The program was honored for giving students a space to be themselves during the complicated years of junior high. [Read more in Oakland Magazine.](#)



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