



## SLICES NEWSLETTER

December 4, 2020



### DECEMBER CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

**Dec. 8 7:00 pm:** Parent Connections (overview of parent training program, via Zoom). Zoom link to be sent out through APL parent email group.

**Dec. 8 7:00 pm:** King County Public Health COVID-19 Update for the Community. More details [HERE](#).

**Dec. 15 6:00 pm:** Auction Committee Meeting via Zoom. Meeting link [HERE](#).

**Dec. 16 6:30 - 7:45 pm:** Parent Process Group via Zoom. Meeting link [HERE](#).

**Dec. 18:** Videos/photos due for use during weeklong Auction (more details on page 2) **AND** *this is our Early Auction Procurement Deadline* for Procurement Forms to be submitted.

**Dec. 18 9:00 - 10:45 am:** Parent Process Group via Zoom. Meeting link [HERE](#).

**Dec. 18 - Jan. 4:** Winter Break - No School

**Dec. 31:** Last day for your Annual Fund donation to be matched - *Don't miss out!*

You can check out our whole school calendar any time [HERE](#)

# 2021 MASQUERADE AUCTION



**Planning for the 2021 Auction is underway.** *Masquerade* will be an all online affair this year. An online silent auction will run from February 1 - 5, 2021. The live event will be broadcast on Saturday, February 6. **And we need your help to make it successful!**

## We Need Your Selfies & Videos!

**Pics:** *Send ASAP!* For the 2021 Masquerade Auction, we need students and families to show off their smiling masks (and their smiling faces). We are asking that you, your students, and your family members submit selfies, pictures engaging in activities at home during distance learning, as well as candid photos of informal moments. These will become part of the Auction presentation and promotion as either part of the live event, online slideshow, or used in other media. **Deadlines for photos:** *as soon as possible.* Email them to [photos@aplschool.org](mailto:photos@aplschool.org).

**Videos:** *Send by December 18.* We need short videos - tell us how APL has helped you and your student during this time of the pandemic, and how you are coping. **For use in the weeklong auction, we need those photos and videos by December 18.** Again, photos can be e-mailed to [photos@aplschool.org](mailto:photos@aplschool.org). To submit short 30- to 60-second videos, e-mail Kirk at [kirk@aplschool.org](mailto:kirk@aplschool.org) to get a link to the private Dropbox folder.

## We Need Your PRIZES Too!

We need everyone to help get great items donated that we can sell during the online auction. *Here's a new resource to help guide you:* **In the Auction section on the Family Information page, there is an updated list called the "Running Procurement List" of items being requested and those that have been pledged.** If you have an idea for a business to support, search for it on this list to see if they have already been asked.

If you have items or services you could donate yourself, great! Or if you can help ask businesses to consider donating, that's great too - we are asking for things like gift cards, tickets to events, behind-the-scenes tours, electronics and games, items to create specially themed baskets, fancy bottles of wine ... pretty much anything you can think of that would make a good gift.

**Please send in your procurement forms by December 18,** before Winter Break starts. There are resources, giving advice and tips, as well as the forms you might need, at the \*bottom\* of the [APL Family Page](#). Or you can ask questions of this year's Auction Chair Robert Haynes-Peterson (yay Robert!) at [haynespeterson@gmail.com](mailto:haynespeterson@gmail.com). And you can reach Kirk and Anne at [auction@aplschool.org](mailto:auction@aplschool.org).

**Auction Committee Meeting on December 15 at 6 p.m.** via Zoom. Learn more about how you can join the fun and help with the 2021 Auction! Meeting link [HERE](#).

## Holiday Shopping with Amazon Smile



With the holiday season finally here, there is a great opportunity to support APL while shopping for gifts for your loved ones!

Simply shop at [Amazon Smile](#) and they will donate to APL, at no cost to you.

## Year-End Annual Fund



You can support APL with a donation during our traditional, end of year [Annual Fund campaign](#).

Our 2020 Annual Fund year-end donations will go toward our "COVID Response Fund." This fund will be focused on APL's expenses related to supporting our students and staff during this pandemic.

**Donor Gifts:** Water bottles, lapel pins and an APL drawstring bookbags can be your gift at different donation levels. Check them out [HERE](#).

**Your donation before the end of the year will be stretched!** APL's staff and board members have created a matching fund for donations received or pledged by December 31st. **Donations totaling up to \$10,000 will be doubled!**

## UPCOMING ONLINE PROGRAMMING

### **Register Now for two Online Series: Steps to Independence and Lifelong Learning**

We are excited to announce APL is partnering with Seattle Children's Autism Center to implement the Next Steps Curriculum in a school setting for the first time! Next Steps is a 3-part class series for APL families only, designed to provide information and support *for parents and caregivers* of a child 15 to 21 years old and transitioning to adulthood. APL is opening this class up to ALL families interested in learning about the transition process, non-dependent on your child's age. These classes will be facilitated by Alicia Nathan, APL's Director of Counseling and Transition.

#### ***Please see the attached flyer for detailed class information.***

Through March 2021, APL will begin a monthly rotation of each series. Each series will be comprised of 3-weeks of classes to cover the full curriculum and will be held via Zoom on Mondays, 5:00-6:30 pm.

Rotation 1: **Steps to Independence** 12/7, 12/14

Rotation 2: **Lifelong Learning** 1/4, 1/11, 1/25

Rotation 3: **Steps to Independence** 2/2, 2/8, 2/22

Rotation 4: **Lifelong Learning** 3/1, 3/8, 3/15

### **Parent Training Programs Highlighted at Parent Connections**

Join us at Parent Connections on **Tuesday, December 8th at 7:00 pm via Zoom** for an overview of APL's parent training program. Laura James and Skye Gombert will be sharing information about the different parent training options available to APL families, including the upcoming launch of a new monthly program in which all APL parents - even those whose children do not receive clinical services - can participate in evidence-based coaching sessions free of cost. **If interested, watch for the Zoom link to be sent out through the APL parent e-mail group on December 7th.**

## UPCOMING ONLINE PROGRAMMING

### **Aspiring Youth Virtual Panel for Parents and Allies of Neurodiverse High School Students and Young Adults**

The Aspiring Youth staff is pleased to offer a free virtual presentation for parents on **December 10, from 7:30 - 8:30 pm. Details about event and RSVP are on the attached flyer.** We hope you can join us!

#### **And be sure to look out for these upcoming presentations in early 2021:**

*-A virtual panel for parents and allies of neurodiverse elementary and middle school students*

*-A virtual panel of neurodiverse young adults: perspectives for youth, parents and allies*

*-A virtual panel on Volunteer, Internship, and Employment opportunities for neurodiverse teens and young adults*

### **APL's Online Open House**



**When:** Thursday, January 7, 2021 from 6:00 to 7:30 PM PST

**Where:** This is an online event.

**Help a family start their plan for 2021!** Do you know a family that would like to learn more about how we create success for students all across the autism spectrum along with their typically developing peers? *Invite them to join our January 7th Online Open house for the 2021-22 school year.*

Word of mouth is the best way for prospective families to find out about APL and potentially apply. Please tell your family, neighbors, co-workers, associates and friends about APL. Especially with the pandemic, we need your help to fill our classrooms with great kiddos. We receive most of our applications this month and next. Encourage them to look at our [website](#) and come to the Winter Open House. We will be reviewing applications in January and February as they are completed. **Contact: Anne Riley, Admissions** - [anne.r@aplschool.org](mailto:anne.r@aplschool.org).

The Open House will be held by Zoom and guests will receive an invitation after registering [HERE](#).

# ALL-FAMILY UPDATES AND RESOURCES

## King County Public Health Latest COVID-19 Resources

On December 9, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. King County Public Health will cover some of the basics on COVID-19 including how it spreads, signs and symptoms, when to get tested, how to reduce your risk, similarities with the flu, and how to stay safe over the holidays. This program will help children, teens and parents know what the latest information is and what local resources can help. Please **register [HERE](#) by 12 pm on December 8** to receive a Zoom invitation.

## Tools and Resources for Families & Caregivers During the COVID-19 Public Health Crisis

Seattle Children's has compiled an excellent list of tools and resources to help you and your loved ones manage stress and anxiety and stay safe during this public health crisis.

Check out the list of resources [HERE](#).

## Continuing in December: Parent Process Groups with Nancy

Parent Process Groups continue on **Wednesday nights** and **Friday mornings**. Come once or attend both! These are opportunities to gather and connect with fellow APL parents every other week in an online, supportive, parent-parent conversation group facilitated by one of our counselors, Nancy Leonhardt.

These groups will remain open to parents to join throughout the year. Anyone who wishes to participate will sign an informed consent agreement to commit to group norms including agreements around confidentiality practices. We want this to be a safe and honest space to share what you're struggling with related to the school/work/family balancing act so you leave each session feeling heard and supported.

Zoom link [HERE](#) / Meeting Times:

**Wednesdays 6:30 pm - 7:45 pm** (12/16)

**Fridays 9:00 am - 10:15 am** (12/18)

**Please contact Nancy directly with questions/comments.**

*Nancy Leonhardt, MA, LMHCA (she/her)  
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## All School Directory

We included this PDF in the Slices emailed on Nov. 6 and Nov. 13. If you can't locate it in your inbox, please email us to request a copy at [info@aplschool.org](mailto:info@aplschool.org).