



## SLICES NEWSLETTER

December 11, 2020

### DECEMBER CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

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

**Dec. 15 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm:** APL High School Program Discussion. Meeting link [HERE](#) (use password "PARENT"). More details on page 6.

**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 3) **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](#)

### SPREAD THE WORD!

#### Winter Open House

**Jan. 7, 6-7:30 PM**

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. We need your help now. 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](#) on Jan. 4. We will be reviewing applications in January and February as they are completed and sent to us. Contact [admissions@apl.org](mailto:admissions@apl.org) for questions/concerns.

## **Classroom Story: Social Lunch with Shelly Frappier**

During social lunch, a freshman boy who has been notoriously shy about talking and turning on his camera, fully participated in a sound game (Pass the Sound) and was also excited to show us the game he has been creating. He screenshared and took us through what it might look like to play. All the other students were so supportive, and another freshman wanted to play a pretend game where she would 'hide' somewhere in the game and he would have to find her. Basically, she just said where she was and he would find her and then he would hide and she would pretend to find him. It was so sweet and kind, and what might have otherwise been an annoying peer request was met with kindness and cooperation. It was a lovely moment of vulnerability and kindness.

## **Staff Member Profile: Art Teacher Frankie Gollub**

As the art teacher at APL for my third year, I am excited to continue teaching many students I have taught since Fall 2018. I have students whom I had been teaching since they were in Kindergarten and it has been wonderful to watch them grow with the skills I have taught them. Those students are now in 2nd and 3rd grade and I can see they are evolving in their visual literacy in composing a picture and telling a story through their art.

High School classes have been especially rewarding this semester as students learn portrait and figure drawing. All my students have shown tremendous growth in these challenging subjects.

One of my high schoolers started the year, critical of his own work. But with each exercise and portrait/figure session, he has grown more confident in his observation and rendering in pencil on paper. I tell him this every time he shares his drawings with the class.

# 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!**



## Thank You Sponsors!

We are so grateful for the corporate sponsors that have stepped forward to support the event. So far, we have nearly \$50,000 committed from the following companies: *Empowering People, Salesforce, Stix to Go, Microsoft, Tito's Handmade Vodka, and The Rosen Family.* If you are connected or have an idea for a corporate sponsor, email Kirk at [kirk@aplschool.org](mailto:kirk@aplschool.org).

## Sign Up Now - and Don't Forget to Reserve your Gift Bag

You can get ready to bid on items during the online event any time. Registration for the auction is free - and you can also make an optional donation for a pre-event gift bag for \$50 or \$100, depending on the style you choose. Check out your options [HERE](#).

## 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 Still Need Your PRIZES Too!

We have had some good success, but still need everyone to help get great items donated that we can sell during the online auction. **A reminder that 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** 12/14

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

### APL's Online Open House



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

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

**How:** Register [HERE](#).

**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 [admissions@apl.org](mailto:admissions@apl.org) for questions/concerns.**

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

# ALL-FAMILY UPDATES AND RESOURCES

## Continuing in December: Parent Process Groups with Nance

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, Nance 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 Nance directly with questions/comments.**

Nance Leonhardt, MA, LMHCA (she/her)

Mental Health Counselor & Professional Development Specialist

Academy for Precision Learning

[nance.l@aplschool.org](mailto:nance.l@aplschool.org)

## 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](#).

## Join Us for a Focus Group about APL's High School

After the Auction Committee meeting on December 15th, join us for a special meeting to talk about APL's High School. This will be a dedicated space for current and former High School families to discuss what they want out of the program, what has gone well, and what could be improved in the future. *And if you can't join this one, watch for subsequent online meetings on this topic after the first of the year.*

### High School Program Discussion

Tuesday, December 15, 2020

On Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/91444899023>

Use the password "PARENT"

## 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).