



# aurora school **Guide to Giving**

**"I give because I want to ensure continued financial support for the dedicated Aurora faculty and staff who are devoted to teaching a progressive and social-emotional curriculum, all the talented specialists and the depth of the enrichment programs available to Aurora students."**

**– Meaghan Thomas-Kennedy,  
Parent**

## **Supporting Growth & Learning**

Tuition alone doesn't cover all the costs of educating each child at Aurora. The costs of staff and faculty salaries and professional development, teaching supplies, technology, and maintaining our building and campus add up quickly. To keep Aurora accessible for students from all socioeconomic backgrounds, we provide robust tuition support for families who might not otherwise be able to send their kids here.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What is the Fund for Aurora?**

The Fund for Aurora is our most important annual fundraising campaign, running from September through the end of December each year. Our goal is to secure participation not just from all Aurora families, but also from 100% of our staff, faculty and Board of Directors. Contributions to the Fund enable us to provide top-flight educational programs, recruit and retain talented teachers and support staff, and maintain a socially and economically diverse student body.

### **Why is giving to the Fund important?**

As an independent school, Aurora receives no government funding. We are supported entirely by tuition, and giving to the Fund helps us bridge the gap between tuition and expenses.

### **Why is 100% participation important?**

Having a high rate of participation— not just from families, but also our own staff and Board— sends a strong signal of confidence in our mission, and it inspires others to give.

### **What is the Spring Online Auction?**

Aurora's spring auction brings together donations from local business with donations from our generous and talented families, faculty and staff. The auction happens in the spring.

### **Why is it important for current parents to support these programs?**

The Fund and Auction support the current school year's operating expenses, so every donation directly enhances our students' educational experiences. Whether a donation is \$5 or \$5,000 each gift is appreciated and, given Aurora's small size, each has the ability to make a big difference.

### **Are Aurora families the only ones asked?**

No. In addition to support from families, we receive support from alumni, grandparents and other extended family, as well as our faculty and staff, Board of Directors and local business partners.

### **Are donations to Aurora tax deductible?**

Yes. Aurora is a non-profit, 501(c)(3), and all donations are deductible to the extent allowed by law. After making a donation, you will receive a tax receipt with our thanks for your support.

### **How do I give?**

There are many ways, and it's easy!

**Online:** Visit [auroraschool.org/give](http://auroraschool.org/give) and click "Donate."

**Employer Match:** Many employers are eager to help and it's an easy way to double your gift! Just ask your Human Resources Office for a matching gift form. In the past we have received matching gifts from families working for companies like Kaiser, Apple, Disney, and Pixar.

**Send a Check:** Send in your check, with "Fund For Aurora" in the memo line to: Aurora School, Attn: Development Office, 40 Dulwich Road, Oakland, CA 94618

**Pledge:** Make a pledge now and work out a payment plan by sending an email to our Development Coordinator, Jennifer Lombardi, at [jennifer@auroraschool.org](mailto:jennifer@auroraschool.org)

### **Any Other Questions?**

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help with either the Fund or the Auction, just email Aurora's Development Coordinator Jaclyn Mayer ([jmayer@auroraschool.org](mailto:jmayer@auroraschool.org)).

**Thank you for  
supporting  
Aurora School!**

**"Your gift powers every upgrade and opportunity beyond tuition. From advanced STEM materials to academically-aligned learning excursions and to campus improvements and hands-on service-learning projects, each contribution uplifts our students' hearts and minds even further. Thank you."**

**– Lynsey Kamine  
Head of School**