

# Grauer School receives \$50,000 matching grant from The Loewy Family Foundation

The Grauer School recently announced that they have been awarded a \$50,000 matching grant from The Loewy Family Foundation, headquartered in New York City. The administration at the school under the guidance of Founder, Stuart Grauer, is undertaking a fundraising effort to raise \$50,000 by April 30 to meet the challenge, after which the Loewy Family Foundation will donate funds in the same amount, bringing the total to \$100,000. The funds will be applied to the Grauer School Teacher Endowment Fund, administered by the Rancho Santa Fe Foundation.

The Grauer School established the Teacher Endowment Fund with the Rancho Santa Fe Foundation on Sept. 13, 2007, to help attract, educate, retain and support the faculty at the school. This is a permanent fund to perpetually endow The Grauer School vested faculty members (three years or more on staff), and supplement existing benefits. It also helps defray the rising costs that teachers bear and encourages top-quality professionals to come into the field and stay in the field. According to RSF Foundation Executive Director Christina Wilson, "Stuart Grauer is a brilliant educator; the kids that attend the Grauer School come out with extraordinary college preparation. We look forward to assisting them in this matching grant campaign, which will fulfill their desire to support their teachers both now and into the future. The Loewy Family Foundation has an impressive mission and legacy."

The Loewy Family Foundation furthers the advancement of science and technology, with special emphasis on engineering, by supporting research and education. The foundation honors the significant achievements in the field of engineering by two dynamic brothers from Czechoslovakia, Ludwig and Erwin Loewy. Together they share an interesting set of accomplishments.

Ludwig Loewy was instrumental in advancing the design of machine tools, forging and extrusion presses, and rolling

mills from the early 1920's until his untimely death in 1942. Prior to World War II, both brothers were actively involved in the national defense of Great Britain, France, and the United States, persuading these governments to build extrusion presses for the production of airplanes, which were to become decisive in the outcome of the war. Erwin Loewy continued to build on his brother's legacy by designing a 50,000-ton forging press in 1955, and developing the technology used in the first motion simulator for the Polaris Missile and the launch pad for the Vanguard Rocket.

According to, Stuart Grauer, "It is a tremendous honor for the school to be awarded this challenge grant. The students at Grauer have been inspired by the story of these two brothers who chartered new territory in the engineering industry and that ultimately helped shape the history of our country. Our science and technology departments rank among the best in the country and we have students that are pursuing advanced degrees in this discipline at such notable institutions as Notre Dame, Columbia, Cornell, Purdue and Berkley, among others."

The Grauer School has a dedicated board of directors and a strong following amongst donors in North County who believe vehemently in the quality of educators that the Teachers Endowment Fund brings to the school. Board member Bob Buie, who joined the board when his daughter attended and graduated from the school stated, "After I met Stuart and learned of his aspirations to construct buildings on the campus, I jumped in to help gain support for the first phase of the construction process by forming committees and introducing other community members to the project. It has grown and evolved over the years and was initially a very under-funded worthy cause. Now that the school is nearing full capacity (150 students) it is also dependent upon the quality of the teachers that it can attract and retain, making it one of the most

sought-after private educational institutions. This matching grant benefiting the Teachers Endowment Fund demonstrates to teachers with longevity that the school has the capacity to further advance their careers."

One teacher with longevity is Dana Abplanalp-Diggs, associate director, who has been at the Grauer School for 10 years. She was initially attracted to working at the school because she liked the emphasis on expeditionary learning, where she spend more time going into depth on the material. With regard to the Teachers Endowment Fund, she states, "I think it's a huge growth area for the school; in the early days teachers took pay cuts and part-time tutoring jobs just to help get the school going. This fund demonstrates the stability of the school and that the parents, board and foundation support the teachers and the kids in the delivery of the best education possible."

The Grauer School, founded in 1991, is a grades 6-12 private, college preparatory day school. The school is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, the pre-eminent accreditation organization in the western United States. The Grauer School classes are on a modified "block schedule," which means that students have a combination of one and two-hour long sessions of integrated subjects each morning so that every course can have a lab component. This includes a "technology block" of physical/biological science and math, preparing students for the new challenges they will face in pursuing higher education courses in medicine and engineering.

To donate to The Loewy Family Foundation challenge grant benefiting the Grauer School Teacher Endowment Fund or for further information, please call the school at 760-944-6777 or the Rancho Santa Fe Foundation at 858/756-6557. To learn more about the Grauer School experience, please visit [www.grauerschool.com](http://www.grauerschool.com).

## Gardens never before open to public to be featured at Elfin Forest Garden Festival on April 26

The Elfin Forest Garden Festival, with the theme "Entertaining Edens," is scheduled for April 26, from 10 a.m. -4 p.m. This is a very special treat, since most of this year's featured gardens have never previously been open to the public.

Each garden is unique. One of them is the first "green" house in the county. Another features an outdoor entertainment pavilion which accommodates 24 for dinner!

Noted naturalist and author Richard Halsey will give a presentation, lead a wildflower walk, and sign his latest book, *Fire, Chaparral and Survival in Southern California*.

In Elfin Forest, a rural community just north of San Diego where the minimum lot size is two acres, many of the residents are passionate gardeners. Elfin Forest has twice been first runner up in the national America in Bloom contest and many of its gardens

have been featured in national publications. The garden festival celebrates the opportunities of gardening on a grand scale.

Besides the garden tour, horticulture experts will be on site for free consultations and food vendors will offer lunches and snacks for sale.

The garden festival benefits the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council.

A limited number of tickets are avail-

able. Tickets are \$20. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.elfinforestgardens.info](http://www.elfinforestgardens.info). Day of event tickets are \$25. Tickets and maps to the gardens can be picked up on the day of the event at the Elfin Valley Nursery, 20110 Elfin Forest Lane, Elfin Forest. Preview the gardens and learn more at [www.elfinforestgardens.info](http://www.elfinforestgardens.info).

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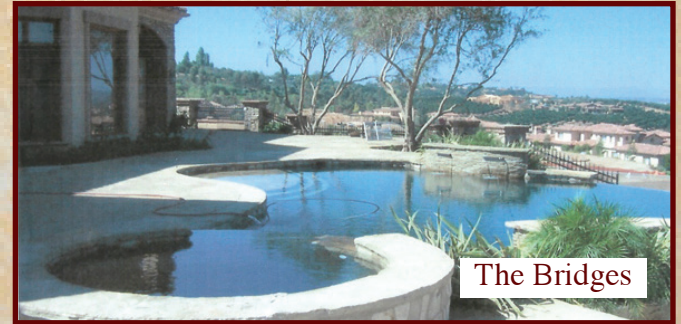
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