

NEFMATTERS

Norwalk Education Foundation Newsletter



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NEF's Taste For Education Delights All

Aitoro's was filled with the smells and tastes of delicious food, the soothing music of a Norwalk High School jazz band, and the good cheer of attendees at NEF's 2012 Taste for Education on March 1st. With over 200 people attending, nearly \$15,000 was raised to support NEF's programs and advocacy work for Norwalk Public School children.

Local restaurants that created mouth-watering food included Brasitas, B.J. Ryan's, Little Tokyo, Via Sforza, Robeks, and Wave Hill Breads.

"Certainly the evening's success stems from a coming together of positive energy, good food and the incredible partnerships with other members of the Norwalk



Be a Friend!



Our Mission

The Norwalk Education Foundation is an independent, nonprofit organization. Its mission is to enhance the understanding, support and advocacy for educational improvements that sustain and drive student achievement for all of Norwalk's children.

SAVE THE DATES

Civility & The Press

Thursday, March 29

6:00-8:00pm

Fat Cat Pie Co.

3 Wall St, Norwalk

Come, listen and share

community," says NEF President Lauren Rosato.

Highlights of this year's event were the middle school students' participation with Norwalk Community College Culinary Arts to make yummy desserts, and a new program with Whole Foods and the high schools preparing healthy salads for the event.

Sign Up for Education Cost Sharing Equality

Norwalk's education funding has been shortchanged for years by the state's existing Education Cost Sharing (ECS) formula. Currently, Norwalk pays 93% of its education costs via taxes and the state supplies 7%. Other similar school districts get closer to 29% from the state. NEF is working with local organizations and representatives to try to level the playing field. They have started a petition to help Norwalk's legislators advocate for a change in the funding formula, giving Norwalk Public Schools a fair allocation.

[Click here](#) for more information and to sign the petition



On March 15th, NEF helped organize a grassroots rally in Hartford to voice support for changing the ECS formula to be fair and equitable. Here Norwalk Mayor Richard Moccia announces the rally with state representatives Bruce Morris, Chris Perrone, Terri Wood, Bob Duff, and Gail Lavielle.

Tech Smart Teachers Program Going Strong

NEF's new Tech Smart Teacher program, Tech Integrators, is up and off to a great start. Fourteen schools have staff members in place identifying and scheduling tech classes appropriate for the needs of their staff. Classes around MOBIs, Clickers, Smartboards have already been offered, and Tech Integrators will be offering support for tech initiatives at their schools as well. This program is extremely important since it allows Norwalk teachers to have ready access to the skills they need in order for students to be part of 21st Century learning.

Support NEF

A donation to NEF is an investment in Norwalk's future - helping to bring quality education to 11,000 public school students. More than 85% of donations to NEF go directly to improving teachers' skills, providing targeted learning programs and promoting classroom innovation.

your thoughts on civility, anonymous comments, and the media.

[Click Here](#) to purchase tickets



Hear Our Song! Benefit 🎵
Saturday, April 28
7:30pm
Norwalk Concert Hall

The 2nd Annual "Hear Our Song" event concert showcases award-winning performers and is sponsored by the Unity Center for Practical Spirituality. Tickets are \$25/\$50 and part of the proceeds will benefit the Norwalk Education Foundation. Tickets on sale at: www.unitycenterps.org or call 866-7004.

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