



Our Board...Our Champions

A Message from the Executive Director Susan Weiner

I have had the pleasure of working at Larc School for 37 years—24 of those years as executive director. Over this last year as we celebrated our 50th Anniversary serving our very special students and their families, we have had many opportunities to reflect on the journey that has led us to where we are today. We've recognized and thanked our very first families who dreamed of Larc, our dedicated and creative staff who make miracles happen every day, and our generous friends and supporters who believe in us and are there when we need them.

There is another group that deserves enormous recognition. They share our passion, our commitment, and our dream. They sometimes stand quietly in the background and sometimes they boldly lead the charge. Larc is more than a meeting they attend multiple times a year-Larc is always in their heart. Everyday they go about their lives listening and looking for opportunities to benefit our school and our students. They are our Board of Directors. They are our champions.

Larc School is so fortunate to have this Board. these champions. We would not be here today celebrating 50 years of excellence serving children and their families without them.

They each have their own story of how they came to be on the Larc Board and part of our Larc family. They bring expertise in education, advocacy, public service, business acumen, and legal matters. They are diverse individuals, but together they have a shared vision for Larc. They are so committed that this board has been together almost the entire 24 years I have been director. In all those years, if there was anything we needed, anything that would enhance the lives of our students and their families, they never hesitated or said no. They say, "Let's do it or how do we make it happen."

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Edward McDonnell

Charles Higgins





Carol Parker-Elbert



Reginald Beckett





James J Madden



Pepe Piperno



James Rhodes





It's about getting out into the community, spending time with friends, and trying new things... new experiences.



The focus of this Art Club project was to create art using watercolors and lemons. Look at the intensity on these young artists' faces!

After School Activities Clubs provide Enriching Experiences...aka FUN!

At the end of a school day most kids can't wait to get on the bus and go home, but not Larc's kids. On the days when Larc's After School Activities Club meets, students can't wait to join friends and go on an adventure!

"These kids work so hard all day at school and they can't wait to take a break and have some fun!" says Activities Club Coordinator and Secondary Teacher Stacie Halscheid. The Club has taken trips to farms, parks, bowling alleys, diners, shopping malls, the Fun Plex, We Rock the Spectrum Kids Gym, Phillies' Games, and more. The After School Activities Club is open to all Larc students and takes place once a month from 3pm-6pm. Larc staff members join in the fun so that each student has an adult with them.

"One of their favorite trips is going to Haddonfield where students can walk from store to store. Individually, they decide which stores they would like to go into and where they would like to eat. They love having the ability and the freedom to choose!" explains Ms. Halscheid.

"It's about getting out into the community, spending time with friends, and trying new things...having new experiences," says Susan Weiner, Larc Executive Director. "We've been providing respite services to families for over 22 years. This is an extension of that program. It's a win for everyone. While families get a little break and some downtime, their kids get to go out with their friends and have fun."

Larc also has an After School Art Club that meets once a month. This club started a couple of years ago when paraprofessional and art enthusiast Melissa Stratton approached Ms. Weiner. "I saw how much our students enjoyed the art projects we did in class. I know how much I love creating and exploring through art, and I knew our students would love it too," Ms. Stratton explained. "Susan was as excited as I was to get it started."

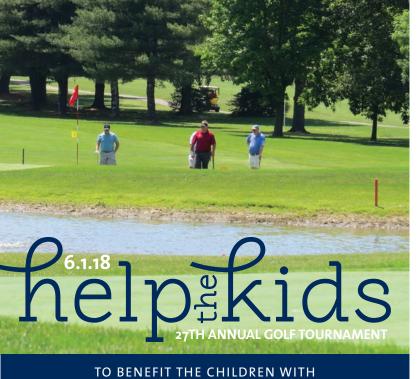
The Art Club provides the kids with different sensory and movement experiences using various types of art. The latest project included water colors and lemons. Students dripped lemon juice on their paintings to create unique shapes and designs. Some adventurous students had extra fun tasting the lemons too.

"These experiences are so important to our students," explains Ms. Weiner. "Friends, adventures, art, activity...they are what make our lives rich and full. We will continue to find ways to give our students these types of experiences as we strive to make each day better than the one before for our boys and girls."





Activities Club participants explored the We Rock the Spectrum Kids Gym during their last club outing.



TO BENEFIT THE CHILDREN WITH MULTIPLE DISABILITIES OF LARC SCHOOL

CALLING ALL GOLFERS

Join us as we celebrate the 27th Annual Larc School "Help the Kids" Golf Tournament presented by Hardenbergh Insurance Group on Friday, June 1, 2018 at the Pennsauken Country Club. Spend the day playing golf with friends, enjoying a gourmet dinner, winning exceptional prizes and, best of all, supporting the children with special needs of Larc School.

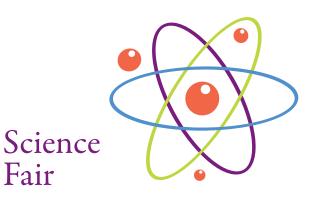
REGISTER NOW

- Visit www.larcschool.com/Events/golf.htm
- Call 856-933-3725
- Email events@larcschool.org









Larc students showed off their creativity and hard work at Larc's Annual Science Fair held on February 23rd. These sensory rich experiments invited hands on participation. From growing crystals to making elephant toothpaste, students and guests alike enjoyed learning about science!



COOPER NORCROSS RUN THE BRIDGE EVENT CHANGES LIVES

Larc School was moved, humbled, and most of all, grateful as thousands of people came together once again on the first Sunday in November this past year. They came out in support of the Cooper Norcross Run the Bridge event presented by AmeriHealth New Jersey—a 10K run and 2 mile bridge walk to benefit the students with disabilities of Larc School. They are participants, sponsors, volunteers, and spectators...and they are part of the Larc family. While they each have a very personal reason for joining this event, everyone who plays a part in the Run the Bridge event plays a part in making life a little better for a student at Larc School. A student like Madison...

SAVE THE DATE







Congratulations to the 2017 Cooper Norcross Run the Bridge 10K Overall Male & Female Winners.

www.runthebridge.org

PLEASE LIKE US ON FACEBOOK/RUNTHEBRIDGE TO KEEP IN TOUCH FOR THE 2018 EVENT.

Go Madison's Crew!!!!!

by Sonia Gates, a Larc Mom

Since Madison started at Larc we have made it to the bridge run almost every year taking part as walkers, and we have seen it grow into what it is today.

Our journey searching for a program that was fitting for Madison began 14 years ago. After visiting a few programs we were feeling very discouraged that we would not find a suitable placement. Then came our visit to Larc and upon entering we just knew that this was going to be it. We felt like we were walking into a typical school, not one that specialized in those with special needs. We were so encouraged as we toured the program by all the friendly staff, happy children, and teachers that were engaged. It was so heartwarming to see how much everyone cared. The staff at Larc has been wonderful over the years and has worked together with us to help Madison meet and exceed her goals.

Madison has made so much progress and we want to support all the wonderful services Larc provides such as the community based instruction trips, sensory room, daily living and self care goals, and so much more. In the past Larc has purchased equipment she benefits from without question, which speaks volumes of their dedication and determination that every student has what they need to make their time at school a success. Larc is diligent in helping the students like Madison grow into adults that can do as much for themselves as possible and contribute even if it's in a small way to the community therefore enriching their lives and those that interact with them.



It's reasons like these that we know how important this fundraising event is and what it means for the school and the students. So we come and support the school. Last year we were able to be cheerleaders on the sidelines and had fun waving and cheering to all the incredible runners and walkers. Madison's sister and I are hoping to attempt the run in the future and maybe we will even convince Madison too!

Above from left to right, Madison's sister Sierra, Dad Jim, Madison, Mom Sonia, Larc paraprofessional Melissa Stratton (back), Larc Adaptive PE Teacher Amber Case, and Larc Executive Director Susan Weiner gather together on the bridge for a guick photo before the event begins.



E-A-G-L-E-S Eagles

Larc School got swept up in the excitement as our Philadelphia Eagles became Superbowl Champions! Students and staff wore their Eagles gear, painted their faces, held pep rallies, and chants of E-A-G-L-E-S Eagles could be heard up and down the halls. Thanks Philadelphia Eagles for the memories!

2017 RUN THE BRIDGE SPONSORS

LARC SCHOOL SINCERELY THANKS THE SPONSORS OF THE 2017 COOPER NORCROSS RUN THE BRIDGE EVENT PRESENTED BY AMERIHEALTH NEW JERSEY

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In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Duffy Mr. Matthew Moeller Larc School gratefully acknowledges these gifts from our caring friends—individuals, foundations, corporations—whose generosity makes it possible for Larc School to provide the very best for its students and their families. We extend our deepest gratitude to every donor.

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When remembering those you love, remember Larc



Make a donation to Larc School—the perfect remembrance for all occasions: birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, congratulations, and condolences.

Contributions may be sent to: Larc School, 1089 Creek Road, Bellmawr, NJ 08031

(Envelope enclosed) or donate online at www.larcschool.org



1089 Creek Road Bellmawr, NJ 08031

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calendar

Sunday April 29, 2018 50th Anniversary Brunch

Friday June 1, 2018 27th Annual "Help the Kids" Golf Tournament

Sunday November 4, 2018 2018 Cooper Norcross Run the Bridge Event presented by AmeriHealth New Jersey



Sending Love to Cooper Children's Hospital Patients

Larc students shared some love this Valentine's Day by making cards for children in the Children's Regional Hospital at Cooper. While Larc's partnership with Cooper's Pediatric Residency Program goes back over 20 years, this was the first time cards were given to the pediatric patients. It was the first time, but it definitely won't be the last as Larc students and staff plan on celebrating Valentine's Day this way every year!





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