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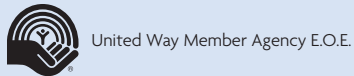
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Larc Norcross Students Bring Holiday Magic to the Battleship!

This year, The Larc Norcross School joined the holiday festivities aboard the Battleship New Jersey. On November 21st, students took part in a special Tree Decorating Day.

The students had a fantastic experience embellishing Larc Norcross' very own Christmas tree on the Battleship New Jersey, truly making it shine! With their handmade ornaments and thoughtful touches that reflect our mission, they filled the tree with love, joy, and a unique charm.

Their finished masterpiece was displayed for all visitors of the Battleship to enjoy as part of a program to spotlight local non-profits. We were thrilled to share our story with the thousands of visitors who enjoyed the Battleship this holiday season. ■





A Message from the Board

by Alessandra T. Norcross

“

The Larc Norcross School is defined by its people, its purpose, and the steady work done every day on behalf of its students and families.

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Happy New Year to everyone in The Larc Norcross School community! As the school looks ahead to a year of continued growth and opportunity, I am grateful to renew my commitment to serve in a more active role on the board and contribute to what makes Larc such a special place.

Larc has long held a special place in the Norcross family, not only because of the profound impact it has on those it serves, but because of the values it represents. Reengaging in this work has reaffirmed the thoughtful planning and collaboration happening behind the scenes every day. The school's commitment to dignity, inclusion, and opportunity continues to guide our work and reinforces why serving feels so meaningful.

That commitment is especially evident when the community comes together. This past holiday season showcased the thoughtful planning that makes these moments possible. At Holiday Express, I saw it firsthand, from the preparation behind the scenes to dancing with students as our teachers showed off their vocals.

The Larc Norcross School is defined by its people, its purpose, and the steady work done every day on behalf of its students and families. It is an organization rooted in care, commitment, and community, and one that continues to evolve while remaining true to its mission.


Looking ahead to 2026, strong momentum is building around growth and community engagement. Events such as Run the Bridge, Designer Bag Bingo Night, and the “Help the Kids” Golf Tournament provide essential support. As a board member, I am eager to forge new partnerships and expand fundraising efforts through creative initiatives that sustain Larc's mission.

I am deeply grateful to the school's staff, whose professionalism and compassion are at the heart of the school's success. To our sponsors and donors, thank you for your continued generosity and belief in this work. And to the Larc families, thank you for your trust, partnership, and advocacy. Your involvement and support are central to everything Larc accomplishes.

Continued engagement and support are essential to sustaining Larc's momentum and expanding its impact. One of the most meaningful ways to experience that impact is firsthand. I invite members of our community to tour the Larc Norcross School with me and see this work in action. I am confident you will leave with a deeper understanding of why this mission matters and why Larc is truly a place unlike any other. ■



to benefit

Larc Norcross
School ™



Bridging Support: A Day of Smiles and Scenic Views

On a brisk November 2nd, thousands of runners, walkers, and onlookers gathered for the annual Cooper Norcross Run the Bridge event presented by AmeriHealth. The race crossed the iconic Ben Franklin Bridge before meandering through Camden and along a picturesque waterfront route that returned by popular demand. The beautiful weather, delicious craft beer, and a moving “Mile of Smiles” at the 5-mile point featuring photos of the children supported by the race all added to a memorable experience. Even the legendary Ben Franklin and the Philly Phanatic couldn't resist joining in to cheer for the remarkable children of Larc Norcross. Registration for next year's event on November 1, 2026, is already open. ■



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT: [RUNTHEBRIDGE.ORG](https://runthebridge.org)



Thank You!

A Sincere Thank You to the Sponsors of the "Cooper Norcross Run the Bridge"

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Summer

Sparks New Friendships with Mary Campbell Center



This summer, Larc Norcross was thrilled to welcome guests from the Mary Campbell Center and even had the chance to visit them too! The Mary Campbell Center, located in Wilmington, Delaware, serves as a long-term care facility for 68 adults with disabilities and their families. The introduction between the two programs was made by a former staff member.

During one of our visits, four residents from Mary Campbell joined our students for a lesson about animals.

Together, they explored different animals and decided whether each belonged on a farm or in a zoo. After the activity, both students and residents visited the farm animals that Farm Friends LLC brought to Larc Norcross.

Later in the summer, residents from Mary Campbell came back to Larc Norcross to read *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* with Room 6 students. After story time, everyone got creative and made a cute hungry caterpillar during craft time.

We are very grateful for the friendships that have developed between our students and the residents of Mary Campbell, with some even becoming 'pen pals.' They often think of each other. In fact, as part of their daily activities, the residents at Mary Campbell created a crossword puzzle for the staff to solve, and Larc Norcross was one of the answers! ■

Board Member Joins the Ranks of Distinguished Rutgers Alumni

Larc Norcross extends heartfelt congratulations to Vice-Chair Jim Rhodes on his induction into the Rutgers Hall of Distinguished Alumni this fall. This honor is given to extraordinary individuals whose lives

and careers reflect the rich history, enduring values, and far-reaching aspirations at the heart of the Rutgers experience. The Larc Norcross Family could not agree more, and we are lucky to call him one of our own. ■



Gabby from the Larc Norcross School enjoyed meeting her pen pal from the Mary Campbell Center for the first time.

Cruisin' In With Compassion

The Larc Norcross School extends sincere appreciation to the South Jersey Camaro Car Club for visiting our students and supporting our school community. Their time, enthusiasm, and welcoming spirit made the day both meaningful and memorable.

During their visit, students had the exciting opportunity to get an up-close look at several impressive Camaros. Exploring the cars and connecting with club members sparked plenty of smiles, curiosity, and conversation throughout the school.

The South Jersey Camaro Car Club also generously provided gifts for every classroom, thoughtfully selected by teachers for all students to enjoy. This ensured that every student could participate and share in the experience.

We are truly grateful for the club's kindness, generosity, and commitment to community service. Thank you for helping create such a special day for our students and staff. ■

There is No Place Like Larc for the Holidays



The holiday season came alive at Larc Norcross once again. It started with a tasty breakfast from our friends at AmeriHealth and went on with a joyful concert by Holiday Express. The Camden County Department of Corrections, the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) Lodge 212, and the Bellmawr Police Department even organized a parade down Creek Road! Before the holidays wrapped up, the Pellegrino Auto Group hosted a lovely holiday luncheon for our staff and spent time with each child.

Throughout the season, students immersed themselves in every way possible, exploring holiday sights, sounds, and textures by ripping wrapping paper, shaking jingle bells, and sorting ornaments, and always welcoming magical stops by Santa himself.



Room 12 enjoyed a visit from Santa Claus.

The holidays at Larc Norcross also inspired other generosity from friends and family.

Nearly \$10,000 was raised through our Giving Tuesday campaign to create a café-style School Store to help students develop essential pre-vocational and life skills. The School Store began in 2015-2016 with a basic wooden cart featuring nine compartments. Just two years later, the store had outgrown the cart and transitioned to an area in our main lobby. As demand grew, it became evident that we needed a dedicated room to help students achieve their goals. ■

LARC NORCROSS THANKS THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR IN-KIND AND MONETARY DONATIONS:

Adam & Kim Cowperthwait
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Tom and Renee Lavender
Ann Loh
Bert & Betty Schaffer
Fredrick Schuck
Jameka Walker
Maria Weleski





friends

OF THE LARC NORCROSS SCHOOL

*Recognizing donations received from July 11, 2025 - January 21, 2026

Larc Norcross School acknowledges these gifts from our caring friends whose generosity makes it possible for us to provide the very best. We extend our deepest gratitude to every donor! There are many ways to support our mission, including planned giving and charitable donations through required distributions. Amounts donated may be excluded from taxable income. For more information about our donation opportunities, please contact Kim Cowperthwait at kcowperthwait@larc.school.org.

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Stacey Markowitz
John C Norcross
Franz Wagner

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Bill Harris
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In honor of Happy Birthday Joy

Susan Greene

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In memory of Willie Wilkins
Mandy McDonnell & Family
In memory of Charles "Chuck" Yahn
Kathleen McDonnell
In memory of Karen Young
Vic Young
In memory of Betty Zeidman and Nancy Rhodes
James Rhodes

Tailgate Tribute



The first snowstorm of the season didn't stop Larc Norcross staff and their families from attending a Norcross Family Eagles tailgate honoring the Bech Family and Ryan. Last year, Tiger Bech tragically lost his life in a senseless terrorist attack on Bourbon Street in Louisiana, while his best friend Ryan sustained serious injuries. Both were proud alumni of Princeton football. The Bech Family organized donations for the Larc Norcross School and made a remarkably generous contribution themselves. Ryan graciously spent time with our staff's children, who are also enthusiastic Princeton supporters. A heartfelt thank you to Board Member Lexie Norcross for allowing us to be part of such a poignant tribute. ■



Thank you to Larc Norcross School board member, Lexie Norcross, for inviting us to the tailgate fundraiser.