# ANNUAL REPORT 2024

LATEST INFORMATION AND UPDATES ABOUT THE BROOKLINE EDUCATION FOUNDATION





# our core principles

- Teaching is a craft and teachers are professionals
- We encourage the pursuit of **excellence** in the craft of teaching; students benefit from excellent teachers
- Every adult in a school is an educator
- We spend money on people, programs, and ideas
- We enhance district spending but should never be a substitute for it
- We focus on long term, not short term, goals of education
- We strive for a diverse and transparent culture
- We are **not** political

# in this report

- We Fund Professional Development
- We Honor and Celebrate Teachers
- We Engage the Community
- We Outline our Governance
- We Thank our Donors



# message from our leadership

We are delighted to share this report with you, detailing the Brookline Education Foundation's many notable achievements and initiatives from the past year, between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024.

As you will read, it was a year of strength and stability for our wellattended annual events, inspiring awards, and exciting yearly grant cycles. We proudly **built community** at our Fifth Grade Spelling Bee, Green Apple event, and Trivia Bee. We **were inspired** by the dedication to public education and thoughtful reflections of our Margaret Metzger Fellows and our amazing Ernest R. Caverly Award winners. And, as always, we were thrilled to **empower our creative Brookline educators** by funding grants which took them to four continents in a broad array of professional enrichment and renewal learning experiences.





It was also a year of internal change for the BEF, as we prepared to move our offices for the first time in four decades, and to navigate a significant change in leadership. Through it all, we have been bolstered by the unwavering dedication of our Board and Advisory Board and the generosity of our donors, whose contributions and support make all of our important work possible. **Thank you for all that you do!** 

We hope you enjoy reading about the BEF's past year! From travel to Antarctica to launching student-designed underwater search and rescue vehicles right here in a Brookline pool, and everywhere in between, **our students thrive** as a direct result of their outstanding educators' continuing dedication to their own learning and growth - fueled by the BEF and by you, our supporters.

In gratitude and partnership,

*Liz* Elizabeth Ascoli, BEF Executive Director



Jennifer Rothstein, BEF Board President

# we fund professional development

We fund four types of grants: **Teacher, Collaborative, Idea Lab,** and **Systemwide**.

Each year, the BEF awards grants to Brookline teachers, staff, and administrators from preschool through grade 12, allowing them to deepen their learning, develop leadership and other professional skills, experience professional renewal, test innovative educational ideas, or pursue a passion to share with their students.

Every student in every Brookline classroom benefits from BEF grants.

	Total granted
Systemwide	\$74,678
Teacher	\$49,196
Collaborative	\$121,861
Idea Lab	\$19,953
Overall	\$265,688

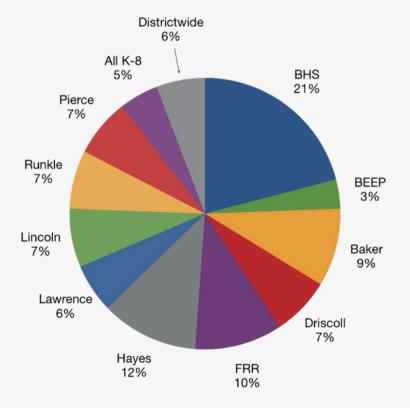
### FY24 Grant Funding by Type

### FY24 Grant Funding by School

The BEF funded a total of 52 different grants in FY24, benefiting educators from BEEP, BHS, and every K-8 school in the district. Many grants involved participants from multiple schools.

School	Number grants
BHS	18
BEEP	3
Baker	8
Driscoll	6
FRR	9
Hayes	10
Lawrence	5
Lincoln	6
Runkle	6
Pierce	6
All K-8	4
Districtwide	5

(% of 52 total grants)



# teacher grants

#### awards of up to \$3,000 for individual or small groups of educators

#### PARK CITY MATH INSTITUTE

Lisa Soltani, Jennifer Jordan (Driscoll)

Ms. Soltani and Ms. Jordan traveled to Park City, UT, to participate in the selective Park City Math Institute Leadership Program, an intensive, residential, three-week program for math teachers, focused on the theme of quantum computation. My time at Park City Math Institute with a cohort of like-minded, inspiring math educators gave me a muchneeded post-pandemic rejuvenation. It would not have happened without the BEF.

- Lisa Soltani

#### SUMMER IN TURKEY: CULTURAL AND IMMERSION EXPERIENCE FOR A SPECIAL EDUCATION LENS

Jennifer Jeruse (BHS)

Ms. Jeruse traveled to Turkey to gain firsthand perspective about a different culture and to push herself and hone her teaching craft by experiencing firsthand what it feels like to learn in an unfamiliar context.

#### EXPLORING VOLCANIC AND TECTONIC ACTIVITY IN ICELAND

Danielle Goldie (Baker)\*

Ms. Goldie traveled to Iceland to Iearn about the region's unique geologic features and its cultural, economic, and volcanic history, in order to deepen her knowledge of Earth history.



#### EXPLORING THE BIOTIC AND ABIOTIC FEATURES OF THE ANTARCTIC Yasameen Sharif (Baker)

Ms. Sharif traveled to Antarctica - the trip of a lifetime! She worked with resident scientists and experts, gaining hands-on knowledge of ocean research, animal life, and ecosystems, informing the 6th grade science curricuum, and sharing what she learned with her students in real-time via her blog and social media.

# teacher grants, continued

### COSTA RICA: BRINGING HOPE TO THE CLIMATE CRISIS

Mark Goldner, Melissa London (Hayes & Pierce)

Mr. Goldner and Ms. London traveled to Costa Rica to collaborate with science professors and students in exploring the impact of climate change on flora and fauna, and to learn about the intersection of climate change, social justice, and sustainability.

#### **BEFRIENDING THE PAUSE: EXPANDING CAPACITY FOR CALM, CONNECTION, AND COMPASSION**

Sarah Cuddihy (Driscoll)

Ms. Cuddihy attended a five-day program at the Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health, developing strategies for reframing her own approach to stress, so as to better equip her students with breathing, meditation, and redirection tools.

#### **ART EDUCATOR JAPAN INSTITUTE**

Basha Goldstein-Weiss (Lincoln)

Ms. Goldstein-Weiss traveled to Japan to participate in workshops to hone her skills in glass blowing, scarf making, and calligraphy, with the goal of offering interactive, cross-cultural art education to her students.

# CARTAGENA: AFRO-LATINO HISTORY AND CULTURE IN COLOMBIA

Erica O'Mahony (BHS)

Ms. O'Mahony spent a week in Cartagena, Colombia and the surrounding area studying Afro-Latino history and culture by visiting local museums and historic sites and talking to residents of African, Indigenous, and European descent.



### THE POWER OF ART: PATHWAYS TO CRITICAL THINKING AND SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING

Amanda David (Baker)\*

Ms. David attended a summer institute for educators at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC, to gain knowledge, resources, and experience in the use of works of art in teaching social studies, ELA, and advisory classes.

#### **MINDFULNESS AND YOGA IN OT**

Asha LeRay (Pierce & Runkle)

Ms. LeRay participated in a Breathe For Change yoga teacher training, to broaden her skill set so she can help her students develop self-regulation strategies.

A Teacher grant from the BEF created an opportunity for me that would not have existed otherwise. With the BEF's support, I was able to take a research trip that has enriched me enormously, both professionally and personally.

- Elyse Terry

#### **RECONSIDERING ROME**

Elyse Terry (Hayes)\*

Ms. Terry traveled to Rome to support her work as a middle school social studies teacher, deepening her understanding of Rome's ancient history and how that history is documented.

# teacher grants, continued

#### BROOKLINE INTERACTIVE GROUP PD SUMMER SPRINT

Anamary Levasseur (BHS)

Ms. Levasseur participated in an intensive, interactive video production course designed specifically for BHS faculty, to deepen her understanding of the subject and broaden the skills she can impart to her students.

In order to best support our students when they're escalated, staff need to help students deescalate and remain calm ourselves, even when we're frustrated ourselves. This grant has allowed me to broaden my wellness practices so that I can be my best self in the classroom and not get overly frustrated when challenging situations arise.

- Devon Oberle

### FOREST THERAPY

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Devon Oberle (BHS)

Ms. Oberle earned certification as a Forest Therapy guide, a research-based framework for supporting healing and wellness through immersion in forests and other natural environments. She has implemented her new skills with her students and colleagues.



#### WILSON READING SYSTEM INTRODUCTORY COURSE AND MATERIALS Meira Klatzker (FRR)

Ms. Klatzker participated in the introductory course for the Wilson Reading System, to further her knowledge of multisensory literacy intervention practices and enhance her ability to work with struggling readers.

#### AMERICAN ORF-SCHULWERK ASSOCIATION PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

Ali Ghassabian, Anne Sheridan, Dylan Zobel, Meredith Huntley (all K-8)

These four music educators attended the annual conference of the American Orf-Schulwerk Association, learning a developmental approach to music education that combines music, movement, drama, and speech into experiences approximating a child's world of play.



#### CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL EXPLORATION OF SOUTH KOREA

Sarah Harris, Kaitlin Doherty (Baker)

Ms. Harris and Ms. Doherty traveled to Seoul to learn about the history, culture, and education system, and to reconnect with former Baker families who have moved back to Korea after spending time in Brookline.

# collaborative grants

### awards of up to \$20,000 for groups of educators in collaboration

The ASHA Conference was an energizing experience where PSB grant members could learn from experts in our field... We SLPs are thrilled that the BEF has provided us with the opportunity to attend this amazing conference!

> -Laura Vish, Speech Language Pathologist



#### COLLABORATIVE GRANT FOR SPEECH & LANGUAGE: ASHA NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2023

Audra Francisco (Lincoln); Julia Dananberg (Pierce), Lisa Anne Guerra (Hayes), Carolyn Ketterer (Lincoln), Andrea Schuettler (BEEP).

#### IMPROVING DISTRICT-WIDE SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES AND PRACTICES

**Robert Babigian (FRR)**; Judy Atanasov (districtwide), Lindsay Bastable (Pierce), Casey Farrissey (BHS), Samantha Melaragno (BHS), Nadene Moll (districtwide), Grace Morrell (Lincoln), Bernadette Russomano (Baker), Marisa Sloane (Driscoll), Robin Toback (BHS), Jennifer Watkins (Hayes).

#### **AOGPE ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**Heidi Stavris (Driscoll)**; Melanie Christo, Sydney Shapiro (Driscoll).

> Compared to other educators, school librarians are fairly isolated from their colleagues, but this conference more than made up for that! The range of offerings was incredible; clearly great effort had gone into making this conference a "good one". We all walked away from this conference brimming with new ideas and new resources... This was a FANTASTIC experience! - Dominique Gonyer

#### **2024 NAEA NATIONAL CONVENTION**

Amanda Hockensmith (Hayes); Elizabeth Brennan (BHS), Emily Manning-Mingle (FRR), Abi Robichaud (Lawrence), Basha Goldstein Weiss (Lincoln).

### BHS CAFE CONFERENCE FOR CTE CULINARY TEAM

Beth Ricardelli (BHS); Divonne McCoy, David Pazmiño (BHS).

#### AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE

**Deb Abner (Lincoln)**; Dominique Gonyer (Baker), Shelley Mains (BHS), Jennifer Sanders (Lawrence), Julie Seifert (FRR).



# collaborative grants, continued

This project brought us more together as a team. It helped us also step beyond our classrooms and conversations and made us feel excited to teach this really difficult subject.

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- Eileen Pushee

#### ANTI-RACISM/ANTI-BIAS CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

**Eileen Pushee (Pierce);** Emily Follett, Dawn Galolo, Marlene Goncalves (Pierce).



#### "SUMMER LEARNIN', HAD ME A BLAST" AT THE WILSON READING SYSTEM CERTIFIED TEACHER CONFERENCE

**Laura London (Pierce)**; Nancy Dillon (Hayes), Helen Greeley (Pierce), Michiko Hattori (Runkle), Anna Maclver (Runkle).

### THERAPEUTIC APPROACHES IN ART EDUCATION

Donna Sartanowicz, Sarah Ladner-Apollo (BHS); Elizabeth Brennan, Kelly de Oliveira, Eric Latimer, Elsbeth Leslie, Anamary Levasseur, Lori Lynn, Andrew Maglathlin, Nicole Muldowney, Devon Oberle, Sabine Strauch (BHS).

#### **REIMAGINING 9TH GRADE: COGNITIVE POTENTIAL FOR ALL STUDENTS**

Anthony Meyer, Gabe McCormick (BHS); John Andrews, Jennifer Barrer-Gall, Scott Barkett, Alisa Conner, Rachel Eio, Julia Mangan, Jen Martin, Julie Naimy, Talmadge Nardi, Josh Paris, Betty Strong, Jason Tong, Alison Whitebone, Ed Wiser (BHS).

#### INCREASING EQUITY THROUGH BHS DRIVERS' EDUCATION

Joslyn Vendola (BHS); Kathleen Lowe, Brendan McCarthy (BHS).

#### COLONIALISM, CLIMATE, AND CULTURES OF RESISTANCE IN PUERTO RICO

**Roger Grande (BHS)**; Astrid Allen, Stephanie Hunt, Emily McGinnis (BHS).



#### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND COLLABORATION: EXPANDING AND REFINING THE PEER EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

Alison Kerr (Hayes); Lindsay Anderson, Jen Baum, Rachel Hayashi, Haeyoung Koh, Sara O'Shea, Kirtan Patel, Karen Shashoua, Jen Watkins, Christin Wheeler (Hayes).

# idea lab grants

awards of up to \$1,000 to be spent during the same year on project based learning

#### STEAM EXPLORATIONS WITH INVENTABLE

Abi Robichaud (Lawrence)

Ms. Robichaud purchased newly invented cardboard cutters to assist her students in their work building and creating with cardboard in the art room.

#### CREATING A MULTILINGUAL, MULTICULTURAL VOX BOOKS PRE-K LENDING LIBRARY

Rachel Craigen, Andrea Schuettler (BEEP)

BEEP educators purchased books with a built-in audio feature in multiple home languages to support their English language learners' developing literacy and love of reading.

#### LITERARY FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL

Talmadge Nardi, Alison Whitebone (BHS)

The BHS English teachers piloting this year's unleveled class purchased materials for a Literary Food Truck festival. Students created food trucks designed around a special food from their family background, emulating food memoirs they studied in class. The unit culminated in a celebratory event open to students, faculty, and families.

# UNDERWATER ROVs AS A MEDIUM FOR STEM EXPLORATION IN 7TH GRADE MATH

Victoria Cavenaugh, Adrienne Pascucci (FRR)

The FRR 7th grade math and science team explored the engineering, design, and construction of underwater research vehicles, culminating in a launch and searchand-rescue operation in a local pool.

#### ACE MID-YEAR INTERSESSION DISCOVERY EXPERIENCES

Amy Bayer (BHS)

The ACE faculty piloted a new intersession program comprised of several mini-courses, designed to help welcome mid-year newcomers to the ACE program and to give all students special topics of interest to engage with during the weeks between first and second semester.





#### **MIDSUMMER WORKSHOP IN PERFORMANCE** Sara O'Shea (Hayes)

Ms. O'Shea brought in a theater company to do performance-based work with her middle school students around their reading and learning of Shakespeare.

# idea lab grants, continued



#### WE MOVE TOGETHER! A MOVEMENT-BASED READ-ALOUD AND PUPPET MARCH Nicole Chasse (FRR)

Ms. Chasse implemented a social justice curriculum for the kindergarten classes at FRR, utilizing literature and puppetry. This grant lit a small fire of inspiration in our Kindergarten team to try something new. We can take this inspiration with us each winter when we continue to teach the power of collective action. It's always a pleasure working with the BEF!

- Nicole Chasse

#### VIRTUAL REALITY PILOT

Jennifer Sanders (Lawrence)

Ms. Sanders purchased virtual reality equipment for the Lawrence library, helping students familiarize themselves with this new technology and take advantage of the learning applications it makes available.

#### **CLASSROOM PROJECTOR**

Nicki Farrington (BEEP)

Ms. Farrington purchased a screen and projector so as to be able to utilize media in her instruction hands-free, and be more available to her young students

# STEM MATERIALS FOR LITERACY CONNECTIONS IN THE LIBRARY

#### Lindsay Anderson (Hayes)

Ms. Anderson purchased materials designed to stimulate hands-on STEM learning for use in the library's maker space.

#### WEAVING: SUPPORTING MINDFULNESS THROUGH THE ARTS

**Olivia Reyelt (Driscoll)** 

Ms. Reyelt purchased several types of looms so as to better integrate fabric arts and weaving into her curriculum.

### EMPOWERING ELLs THROUGH MULTILINGUAL SOCIAL STUDIES RESOURCES

Keumjoo Armstrong (Baker)

Having observed that English language learners often struggle in social studies due to a lack of accessible texts, Ms. Armstrong purchased multilingual resources designed to support these students in learning American history.

#### BHS CHINESE PROGRAM LIBRARY

Wan Wang (BHS)

Ms. Wang purchased books written in Chinese to expand the library's offerings to English language learners at BHS.

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL CLUBS

Jennifer Maylone (FRR)

Ms. Maylone introduced several new clubs for middle school students during FRR's WIN block. The program targeted students with concerning scores on measures of connectedness to school personnel and community.

#### THE POSSIBILITES OF COLORED CLAY: LEARNING NERIKOMI TECHNIQUES

Emily Manning-Mingle (FRR)

Ms. Manning-Mingle explored Japanese techniques of working with different colors and patterns in clay with her students.

#### **POP-UP POETRY**

Ben Berman (BHS)

Mr. Berman hired a consultant to help train his students in the art of "pop-up poetry" - creating personalized poems on a typewriter - which they then put into practice at school-wide and community events.



# systemwide grants

grants made to the district to further central office goals for Brookline educators

# FUNDING STIPENDS FOR FACILITATION OF SEED (SEEKING EDUCATION EQUITY AND DIVERSITY)

This grant funded the training of 14 additional Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity (SEED) trainers, who in turn engaged over 150 additional Brookline educators in their own identity journeys with respect to bias and racism, preparing them to teach effectively in a diverse community. Additionally, it furthered the District goal of creating SEED seminars that are co-led by a team of one teacher and one parent, by sending a parent SEED leader to a New Leaders' Workshop.

#### HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION'S MENTORING PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL LEADERS OF COLOR

Brookline sent a delegation to attend this workshop, designed to create a collaborative community of school leaders of color who explored ways to make school leadership even more effective by applying organizational development principles to real-time, shared practice problems facing today's schools.

#### TRAINING EDUCATORS IN MIDDLE LEVEL LEARNING BEST PRACTICES

To build a shared understanding of middlelevel learning best practices, New Solutions K12 facilitated a training with school and district leaders to share research compiled over many years on effective middle school schedules and the teaching and learning and social-emotional learning best practices impacted by the schedule. Participating in this workshop helped build understanding of potential schedule components and options to prioritize moving forward.

#### TEACHING LEARNING COACHING CONFERENCE FOR SCHOOL LEADERS

This grant enabled school and district leaders to travel together to participate in a transformational workshop led by instructional coaching expert Jim Knight, and to collaborate on best practices going forward for supporting each other and leading more effectively.

Really good teachers are very hard to replace when they burn out. For me, the real gift as a school leader is seeing educators get this BEF grant that they are so excited about, that lets them go to a place and do a thing that they never otherwise would have been able to do, and to have their personal and professional buckets refilled in ways that give them the fuel and the energy they need to do this hard work for another year, or two, or five. Jamie Yadoff

<u>Watch Pierce principal Jamie Yadoff's</u> <u>full talk about her Systemwide grant on</u> <u>our YouTube channel!</u>





# we honor and celebrate teachers

### 2023 MARGARET METZGER FELLOWSHIP

In 2014 the BEF established a fellowship program to honor veteran educator **Margaret Metzger**, who taught English at BHS for more than 40 years, influencing thousands of students and educators through her teaching, writing, and mentoring.

Since its founding, this program has been a highlight of the BEF program calendar. Past Fellows often identify their participation as a highlight of their teaching careers. Each year, six fellows meet for a week during the summer with their coach. Together, they craft personal essays about teaching, which they present to the public at a special event in the Fall.

> <u>View this year's Tales from the</u> <u>Classroom event on YouTube!</u>





(left to right: Hannah Bjornson (Lawrence), Brendan McCarthy (BHS), Tim Hintz (Pierce), Jeanette Sergeant (Baker), Peter Sedlak (BHS), coach John Andrews (BHS), Julia Mangan (BHS).

### SPECIAL HONORS FOR TEACHER GRANT RECIPIENTS



#### the david e. pradell award

was awarded to Baker ELA/Social Studies teacher **Amanda David**, who attended an interdisciplinary program for educators at the National Galleries of Art in Washington, DC.

#### the charlie baker legacy award

was awarded to Hayes Social Studies teacher **Elyse Terry**, who traveled to Rome to immerse herself in artifacts and experiences to bring to life the untold stories of ancient everyday citizens.





#### the adam russell gelfand award

was awarded to Baker science teacher **Danielle Goldie**, who traveled to Iceland to enhance her knowledge of tectonic and volcanic activity and bring new insights and materials back to her students.

# 2023-2024 award winners



### 2024 ERNEST R. CAVERLY AWARDS

Ernest R. Caverly Awards for Excellence in Teaching were presented this year to **Olivia Reyelt** (pictured, left), art teacher at Driscoll, and **Keira Flynn-Carson** (right), English teacher in BHS's School Within A School program.

These inspiring educators were honored alongside all of the year's grant, award, and fellowship winners at the BEF's annual event, *Celebrating Teachers*, held this year at the Brookline High School STEM Commons. Please click or scan below to watch their incredible speeches as well as introductions by their principals and brief comments by Superintendent Guillory and members of the BEF's Board of Trustees.





<u>Keira Flynn-</u> <u>Carson's speech</u>



View the whole event on our YouTube channel!



### 2023 ROBERT I. SPERBER AWARD PRESENTATION

Once every five years, the BEF awards the Robert I. Sperber Award for Administrative Leadership. Last year, Brookline High School's **Dan Bresman**, Director of the SWS (School Within A School) program, was added to the elite list of Brookline school leaders to have received this distinction.

This past fall, Dan's colleagues, community members, students, families of students, and former students and families gathered to honor Dan as the BEF presented him with the Sperber Award. The event featured speeches, musical performances, a video from students, and many heartfelt and truly moving and inspiring moments. The Brookline Education Foundation, on behalf of the Public Schools of Brookline, congratulates and thanks Dan for his leadership!



View the Sperber Award celebration on our YouTube channel!







# we engage the community

### FIFTH GRADE SPELLING BEE

Fifth graders from around Brookline came together for the 26th BEF Spelling Bee in November. Free and open to all 5th graders in Brookline Public Schools, the Bee is a treasured community tradition.

We are grateful to Brookline librarian **Abbey Stephens**, who served as Pronouncer, to Brookline Police Sergeant **Casey Hatchett** and Officer **Katie McCabe** (with support from Bear the dog), who served as Judges, and to Brookline musician **Vanessa Trien**, who served as Head Judge. And thank you to this year's Spelling Bee sponsors, **Centre Pediatric Associates** and **Dr. Sally Roth**.

Congratulations to winner **Lucy Lawson** of Baker, and to runners-up **Miles Hainer** of Pierce and **Felix Schwartz** of Lincoln.



The winning word was "quintessence."

### 128TH BOSTON MARATHON - TEAM BROOKLINE

The BEF is honored to be included among the Brookline organizations who comprise Team Brookline, and we are so grateful to the five amazing runners who signed up this year to run the Marathon and raise funds to support us!

This year's BEF runners were **Hilary Elkins**, **Domingo Godoy**, **Barbara Moran**, **James Redding**, and **Chris Weeks**. Thank you so much for all of your hard work! Congratulations on this major achievement!



### BEF TRIVIA BEE

We held our annual Trivia Bee in March, once again in the 22 Tappan Street Commons at BHS. Over 250 community members, including educators, parents, alumni, and board members, came together for great fun, food, competition, and to support Brookline's schools in our central fundraising event of the year. It was an evening filled with energy and connection, and we're so grateful to everyone who helped us to uplift Brookline educators by attending, donating, or sponsoring the event.

<u>Watch this year's BEF video, highlighting grant activities by</u> teachers from BHS, Pierce, Hayes, and Driscoll Schools.





**Brookline**Bank

SASAKI



THANK YOU to our generous 2024 Trivia Bee Sponsors!

And THANK YOU to our Special Friends of the Trivia Bee:







# our governance

### 2024 board of directors

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### bef staff

Elizabeth Ascoli, Executive Director Jennie Roffman, Associate Director Linda Okun, Office Volunteer

### thank you!



The BEF said goodbye and thank you to **Elizabeth Ascoli** in June 2024. Liz served as Associate Director and then Executive Director for a total of ten years, and we are immensely grateful for her hard work and dedication!

To honor Liz's many years of service to the educators of Brookline, and her commitment to advancing experiential learning in the classroom, the BEF established the **Elizabeth Ascoli Award for Innovation in Experiential Learning**, to be awarded to one Idea Lab grant recipient each year beginning in the 2024-25 school year.





Four past Executive Directors of the BEF (I-r Elizabeth Ascoli, Skye Kramer, Deborah Brooks, Kathleen Sheehy)

Brookline Education Foundation

# thank you to our generous donors

In this fiscal year, the BEF is proud to have raised nearly \$400,000 in charitable donations from individuals, businesses, and foundations. We are grateful for every dollar and in-kind donation, which show your appreciation for Brookline educators, and directly impact students and learning in the Public Schools of Brookline, pre-K through grade 12.

#### \$10,000 and above

Anonymous

#### \$5,000 - \$9,999

Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation Nathaniel and Erin Meyer Chris and Kate Weeks

#### \$2,500 - \$4,999

**Brookline Bank** Catherine and Matt Burke Mayur and Shilpa Desai Emily Dolbear and Paul Willen Chad Ellis and Trish Blais Nancy I. Farrow Hammond Residential Alan Kurd and Kate Esselen Kimberly and Jeffrey Kushner David and Jelena Mann Douglas B. Marshall Miller Dyer Spears, Inc. Xianhua Piao and Yong Dong David Pollak and Emelia Benjamin Michael and Devon Powell Sasaki Design

#### \$2,000 - \$2,499

Tony and Deb Abner American Tower Foundation Anna and Peter Cowenhoven Joe and Sarah DiMascio Jacob and Hilary Elkins Brett Erickson and Elizabeth Ascoli Mark Gale and Wendy Zazik Sarah Johnson Kate and Tony Leness Neil Nabar and Meghan Cooper Ian and Jennifer Roffman Jennifer and Nicholas Rothstein

#### green apple society

Founded in 2005, the Green Apple Society is a diverse group of donors who make gifts of \$1,000 or more to the Brookline Education Foundation in any single year. Their extraordinary generosity strengthens the BEF's ability to support outstanding teaching, innovative curricula, administrative leadership, and major educational initiatives, which enhance the learning experiences of Brookline students.



#### \$1,000 - \$1,999

Anonymous Oliver and Christiana Bardon Elizabeth Boen and Kevin Orr Deborah and David Brooks **Burkehaven Family Foundation** The Law Offices of David A. Camiel, PC Alan Christ and Robin LeWinter Eran and Yukiko Egozy Melina Fan and Beniie Chen Gilbane Building Company Domingo Godoy Steve Herscovici and Tracy Bare Stephen Hilt and Greg Fenton Belinda Hsu and David Weisner Chima Ikonne Kevin Jernigan and Allison Hastings Seth and Rachel Kalvert **Karalis Construction** Lisa and George Karalis Tim and Shalini Kasida Jonathan and Jennifer Kerner Kevin Lang and Shulamit Kahn Alan and Judith Leichtner Michael Levy and Kathleen Burns Petia Loukova Josh and Jessica Lutzker Michael Manning and Dionne Graham Alan Miller Stephen Morrissey Matthew and Michelle Mund Mariah and Arthur Nobrega Matthew and Keesha Nock Harvard Pan and Cindy Liu Marc and Sarah Pasciucco Peter and Donna Pertel Dave and Julie Porter Robert and Sally Roth Rob and Cathleen Schoen Julie Smith Jodi Sokoloff Spark Admissions Matthew and Anne Sudduth Brenda Sullivan and Jeremy Kindall Margaret Talmers and Tom Gallitano Kate and Jeff Thibault Elizabeth Ting and Henry Chen Michael Toffel and Erin Deemer Chinwe Ukomadu and Emily Oken Lodewijk Voege and Beth Gilligan Wellness in Motion

Timothy Whitman and Lauren Arnold

#### \$500 - \$999

Anonymous Justin Abramson and Michelle Mussafi Scott Ananian and Jessica Wong Gavin Andrews and Lance Rachelefsky Peter and Lucy Ascoli Atlantic Heating and Air Conditioning Katharine Bacon and Mark Pener Dale Bertrand Boda Borg Lisa Bohn Larry and Jennifer Brinckerhoff **Brookline Pediatrics** Centre Pediatric Assoc. PC Joseph and Lisa Chan Chestnut Hill Realty Corp. Jonathan Cohen The Conversation Chad and Abigail Cox David and Kristina Daglio Ali Dorf



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- Nicole Chasse

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- Keira Flynn-Carson, 2024 Caverly Award speech

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Teaching the same subject for many years has the potential to feel stale unless you bring in new activities, new investigations, and new resources. This project brought me so much fresh excitement for science education! - Danielle Goldie

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The overall value of the grant was fantastic! We are grateful that the BEF Idea Lab Grant gave us the funds for needed resources to make these active, interdisciplinary experiences possible! We found BEF totally responsive to any of our inquiries and incredibly efficient in ordering the supplies that we needed. Thank you!

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- Amy Bayer

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- Olivia Reyelt, 2024 Caverly Award speech

we regret any errors, and encourage you to reach out to us if you have any questions about your gift.



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