



Friends forever: Alums from 2011-2013 gather at Beehive Art Studio and share memories of LNS.

alumni news from

Spring 2018

Lincoln Nursery School

at deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum



Dear Alumni,

This year's newsletter focuses on connections, a main ingredient in the LNS experience. Connections abound because our teachers intentionally offer the children a multiplicity of relationships with children and adults, open-ended materials, our context of sculpture and art, and time in nature. The LNS teachers' collaboration with deCordova's Learning and Engagement (L&E) staff extends the opportunities we offer the children and in turn influences the programming L&E offers to the broader community.

Our cooperative roots continue to engender connections among parents and teachers. At morning arrival and at the end of the school day, parents and childcare providers converse with each other and check in with teachers. Evening Board and

committee meetings bring parents together to work on projects that support the social, educational, physical environment, financial, and operational needs of the school. Times change, but the core of LNS remains: valuing relationships. As alumni, you have influenced LNS. I invite you to stop by for a visit. The new courtyard outside the Café at deCordova is a lovely place to gather (several LNS alumni parents were involved in the design and development of this space). Be sure to view the documentation of LNS children in the vestibule of the café that opens to the courtyard.

"The first and most revolutionary principle in the Reggio Approach is both that individuals are not, as it were, isolated one from the other, and that human sensibility is based on a sharing of minds and hearts in dialogue and interaction." — Jerome S. Bruner

Warmly,

Nancy

SUPPORT LNS TODAY

Fundraising is critical to keep LNS thriving. Many thanks to those families and individuals who have already generously donated! If you are interested in making a contribution, please complete the form below and send with a check to: Lincoln Nursery School, PO Box 6075, Lincoln, MA 01773

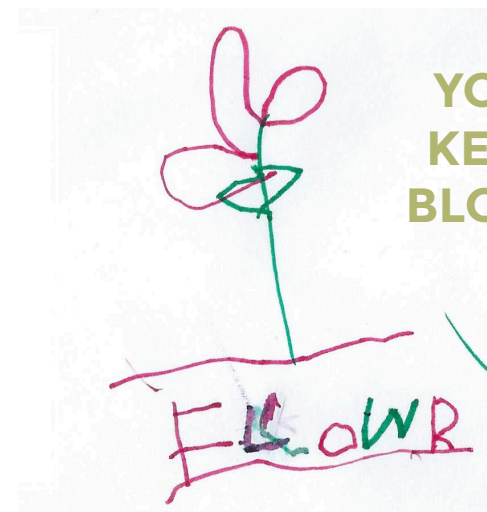
I would like to make a tax deductible gift to
Lincoln Nursery School in the amount of: _____

My check, payable to Lincoln Nursery School, is enclosed.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____



**YOUR GIFT
KEEPS LNS
BLOOMING!**



A SUCCESSFUL SNOW GLOBE MORNING

On a Sunday in late January, more than 60 children flocked to the Carriage House at the DeCordova Museum to craft their own Winter Wonderland Snow Globes. The wintry morning was part of the annual Lincoln Winter Carnival, and it brought together current LNS families, alumni, and the greater community.

Alums Russell and Lucy Reiner (pictured) enjoyed being back at the DeCordova for the event.

Lucy says, "Making snow globes was fun because I recognized that room and I saw some friends." And Russell is a DeCordova super fan. He notes, "I really liked the snow globes because I really like deCordova because of all the sculptures and stuff it has." We agree, Russell!

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

reconnecting with alum **ANDREW COLEMAN**

LNS parent and alum Andrew Coleman recently spent a morning sharing his talent as a professional chef with the lucky, snacky kids in Studio Yellow, making and serving homemade pasta. When I ask Coleman what it's like to cook in the classroom with the children, he laughs at the stark difference from cooking in a professional kitchen. "Professional cooking is refined," he says. "In the classroom it's all about the joy of creation, and joy in the process." Coleman enjoys showing his own children, Julia (Yellow) and Sage (Kindergarten), the process of creating a dish and emphasizes the importance of showing them where their food comes from. "They might see a chicken on a farm and not realize that this is where the chicken on their plate comes from. It's important that they understand that connection."

Connection is a theme here; Coleman's upbringing in Lincoln has him steeped in connections to LNS and the DeCordova. He attended preschool at the Old Stone Church, recalls pottery classes and after-school art and jewelry-making classes in the DeCordova studios, and began his culinary career in the kitchen of the DeCordova Cafe. He jokes that he "hasn't gone very far," which is funny because it's not true; after the DeCordova Cafe, he studied at the Culinary Institute of America before his career took him to a five-star resort in Colorado, several prominent spots in Boston, and on to his present position as executive chef at Belmont Country Club.

Coleman uses the word "joy" to describe cooking in the classroom with his daughter and her classmates, and the word comes up again when he talks about his own time at the school. "It was just pure joy and fun and excitement," he recalls, remembering playing with the buttons on the train outside of Studio Yellow. When it came time to choose a preschool for his daughters, it was an easy decision to make, and as a parent, he's enjoying seeing the school from a different vantage point. He talks warmly about the "rewarding commitment" of working in the classroom. "It's so exciting to see your child in a new light, and to get that snapshot of them in the classroom. It really is a unique experience."

-- by Jessica Moore Kaplan



CELEBRATING LAURI BOUNTY

Our amazing teacher Lauri is marking **20 years** at LNS! We spoke with one of her former students, Lucy Chatfield (Groton School - Class of 2018), about her memories of being in class with Lauri. "I remember painting with my hands, picking seeds out of a sunflower, making apple cider, playing on the monkey bars, and being read books out loud," Chatfield says. "But more than just that, there was always an overwhelming sense of warmth and kindness, so thank you, Lauri!"



Do you have fond memories of Lauri to share?
Please join us as we celebrate her 20 years
of teaching at Lincoln Nursery School!

Thursday, May 24, 6-8 pm
Studio Red and LNS Courtyard
DeCordova Sculpture Park and Museum
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln

RSVP by May 10 to lisa@lincolnnurseryschool.org



OVERHEARD IN THE STUDIOS...

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STUDIO BLUE (2- and 3-year-olds): Today is the perfect day to be kind in my heart. • I have a bucket that's stuck and so many people came to help us. • I'm a big kid now because...and this is like... a big kid school.

STUDIO YELLOW (3- and 4-year-olds): Quotes from a sunny early spring walk in the woods: I'm a baby meow! Sue: OK. But you still have to walk behind Jesse even though you're a baby meow. • That looks like a house pond. (Pointing to a reflection of a house in the water.) Because there's a house in it. • This is the thinking log. • I found a mystery! It's white. Oh, it's a wet napkin.

STUDIO PURPLE (4- and 5-year-olds): I'm going to be 5 for as long as I was 4. • When you get bigger, sometimes your taste buds change. • I'm knowing science. I use to not know about science but now I knowed. • Cinderella is the only REAL princess because she lives in Storyland in New Hampshire and I sometimes go there because New Hampshire isn't that far away 'cause I live in Lincoln.

STUDIO RED (5- and 6-year-olds): It's tiring going back and forth, but I'm going to keep going. • I trusted my feelings, when I got scared I just let go of that feeling and kept going! • We are the prettiest slugs in the world. • I'm thinking about something and my brain is going around and around and around.”

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2018 ANNUAL GALA and AUCTION

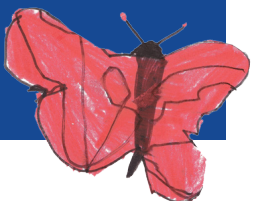
Saturday, April 28

We are excited to host our Annual Gala on **Saturday, April 28**, in the galleries at the deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum.

We'll be toasting **Lincoln Nursery School** over a delicious dinner, and supporting programs for our children with special auctions and raffles.

We hope you will join us in celebrating **Lincoln Nursery School!**

For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit lincolnnurseryschool.org.



FRANCESCA SINGER remembers early lessons



Alum Francesca (Chessy) Singer recently returned to LNS for three weeks as part of a senior school project at the Commonwealth School in Boston. Chessy explains that students at the Commonwealth School have the opportunity to spend some time on "a single project such as a visual masterpiece, programming experiment, or internship." She decided to spend time learning the workings of a classroom at LNS, using the experience to inform her own future career goals. Chessy says, "For my project, I shadowed and assisted alongside Sue and Alice in Studio Yellow, where I also happened to have spent all of 2001. The tangible charm of my project was that I attended Lincoln Nursery School, and came full circle by joining its community once again. I felt as if I could take a step back from my typically uber-busy schedule and see school the way I initially saw it—as a cozy play environment brimming with friends." Chessy notes that spending time back at her first school called to mind some key lessons she learned at LNS: "I was able to appreciate and provide the lessons of loyalty, observation, and individuality that I've held close to my heart for the past fifteen years."