

CURIODYSSEY news FOR THE CURIOUS

We believe science education is a *right*, not a privilege.



BRINGING THE SUPERPOWER OF SCIENCE TO BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

For many children in San Mateo County, access to the natural phenomena found outdoors is a given. Weekends on Lake Tahoe are commonplace, and trips to the coast aren't given a second thought. But while many kids are familiar with the fog that covers our coast and can observe live animals in their backyards, not all kids in the area have that privilege.

Located in the Shoreview neighborhood of San Mateo, the Mid-Peninsula Boys & Girls Club is positioned next to one of the Bay Area's most incredible natural wonders – the San Francisco Bay. However, Boys & Girls Club executive director Evan Jones noticed that the kids in the program were disconnected from the science and nature present in the immediate area.

"I realized that our kids who spent their time in a one of a kind, natural

gem were scared of everything that did not have an on-off switch. On one memorable occasion, a tree frog found its way into our building and the kids freaked out – and not to observe and touch it – but instead to run away. Needless to say, when CuriOdyssey's staff reached out to me about an education program partnership that would bring science to our largely under-represented and minority members, I jumped at the opportunity."

In 2014, CuriOdyssey launched a partnership with the Boys & Girls Club to bring customized science and nature classes to the kids in their program. This effort, paired with a free admission pass initiative for those children and their families to visit CuriOdyssey, created a program unique to the Boys & Girls Club.

According to Jones, the partnership is vital to the Mid-Peninsula Boys & Girls Club. "Our relationship with CuriOdyssey allows us to continue to focus on what we are best at – being

experts on our kids and the kind of holistic support they need – while CuriOdyssey does what it can do like no other – expose kids to science and natural phenomena. The program allows us to leverage expertise we simply do not and could not have."

It's clear to Jones that CuriOdyssey provides the kids an incredible opportunity. "Besides giving them an educational experience they would not have otherwise, CuriOdyssey expands the career options of our youth. Not everyone on the Peninsula has access to science centers, zoos and other educational resources – let alone the ability to visit Yosemite or Tahoe," said Jones. "Having a great science center right down the street is essential to our kids and our community."

*Do you believe that science education is a **right** – not a privilege? Expand science education to all kids in our community.*

Make a gift today:
curiodyssey.org/give-now



**BUILDING THE MINDS
OF TOMORROW TODAY**

CuriOdyssey
AT COYOTE POINT



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**BUILDING THE
MINDS OF
TOMORROW
TODAY**



CuriOdyssey
AT COYOTE POINT

CuriOdyssey Gala – *Let's Soar* takes the future of science learning to new heights



Connie Sevier, Polly Hoover Taylor, Kay Lee



Ric and Amy Fenton



Agatha Precourt and Kimarie Matthews

Thank you to the many supporters who came together to make the seventh annual CuriOdyssey Gala an incredible success! More than 300 guests gathered at the elegant home of Ann and Chris Aristides for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, a gourmet dinner and an exciting live auction. The event culminated in our most successful Fund-A-Need ever, raising \$135,000 for CuriOdyssey's programs for under-represented populations in our community. In total, generous donors at the CuriOdyssey Gala contributed a record-breaking \$220,000 to support our free and low-cost programs designed to increase access to experiential science learning.

Throughout the evening, guests enjoyed meeting our Animal Ambassadors, experiencing new exhibit prototypes, and joining together to support the cause for revolutionizing children's science education in our community. Contributions from guests and sponsors will help provide impactful education programs free of charge and at deeply subsidized rates for under-represented schools, groups and families. With Gala support we will offer free science workshops to 912 K-5 students at two local elementary schools, continue our afterschool science series with the Mid-Peninsula Boys & Girls Club, provide field trips to more than 1,500 under-represented students, and give thousands of free visits for families who might not otherwise have access to CuriOdyssey's hands-on, inquiry-based approach to science.

We are grateful to the generous donors who contributed to our outreach programs during the CuriOdyssey Gala. Thank you for helping to give the superpower of science to all children in our community!

Save the Date! The next CuriOdyssey Gala is Saturday, October 14, 2017



The Milligan Family



Tatyana Lipovich and Tesla the American kestrel



Ann Aristides, Rita Walia, Hina Maheshwari, Alicia Isero



Jen Gale, Wolfgang the bearded dragon,
Rachel Meyer, Judy Barton



Stu McLaughlin, Meg McLaughlin, Trevor Watt, Teri Kil, Michael McBride, Lija McBride

Thank you to our Gala Donors

Sincere thanks to our Gala donors whose generosity resulted in a record-breaking \$220,000 raised to support CuriOdyssey's free and low-cost programs serving under-represented populations in our community.

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New Animals on Exhibit: Gray Fox and Striped Skunk



MEET “OLIVER”

Our one-time Animal Ambassador striped skunk “Oliver” has found a new home in CuriOdyssey’s animal exhibits! “Oliver” came to CuriOdyssey after being dropped off in a duffle bag at a rehabilitation center in Grass Valley, CA. Based on his friendly behavior, the staff believed he had been living with people and had become imprinted on them. For this reason, he came to live at CuriOdyssey, where we are giving him a second lease on life. When you visit, you can see this little skunk up-close on exhibit any day of the week. He can often be found curled up and resting in his basket.



MEET “DYLAN”

“Dylan” the gray fox has a new home on exhibit for all CuriOdyssey visitors to see. He was found in the wild with a fractured tibia. Due to extensive damage to his leg, he cannot live on his own in the wild - so we’re giving him a second chance at CuriOdyssey. This spirited fox can often be seen bounding on the rocks in his exhibit.

STEAM FÊTE
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2016
6PM-9PM



Dancing with digital fire and rain during STEAM Fest earlier this year

Our first-ever STEAM event in the Spring was a huge success – so we’re bringing you even more STEAM this winter! Mark your calendar for an evening of activities filled with Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math! Go full-STEAM ahead with live demonstrations, activities from local artists, engineers, and partner organizations.

Donors at the Innovators Circle level are invited to an exclusive reception full of surprises, including wine and hors d’oeuvres, Animal Ambassador guests, an exclusive hands-on activity led by CuriOdyssey’s educators, The Garden Railway Club and more!



Experimenting with CuriOdyssey’s spirograph machine

GET YOUR TICKETS TO STEAM FÊTE!

Discounted Member rate: \$12

Non-members: \$17

Innovators Circle Members: Free with
prior registration

More information: curiodyssey.org

Science Educator or Rock Star?



FOR STUDENTS AT FIESTA GARDENS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, SCIENCE EDUCATORS AND ROCK STARS ARE ONE IN THE SAME

The moment CuriOdyssey educators step inside Fiesta Gardens International School in San Mateo's Shoreview neighborhood, excitement fills the air. When one eagle-eyed boy catches a glimpse of CuriOdyssey's educator Bryan, he yells out excitedly, "It's CuriOdyssey!" Soon, whispers of "It's CuriOdyssey, it's CuriOdyssey!" echo through the hallways and in the classrooms. If you never thought that science education could elicit such responses, that wouldn't be surprising. But it's exactly what happens when CuriOdyssey comes to the classroom.

CURIODYSSEY IN THE CLASSROOM

For eight years now, thanks to grants and gifts from generous donors, CuriOdyssey has been able to bring its brand of hands-on, inquiry-based science education programs to the International School whose student body is largely under-represented. When the program began as a pilot with the school, it served just kindergarten through second grade. After a successful run, funding was increased and programming was developed up through fifth grade. According to Varina Williams, principal at Fiesta Gardens, CuriOdyssey provides science in a way that her teachers could not deliver due to time and budgetary constraints. "We struggled to fit science into our daily routine. When CuriOdyssey offered to teach standards-based lessons that were interactive, we jumped at the chance to partner with them."

Through the program, Williams has seen more of an investment in science by her students. "CuriOdyssey has emphasized that science can be fun - and it's true. Our students are engaged and invested in all their science lessons. CuriOdyssey's approach is unique. They emphasize critical thinking and encourage students to look for different solutions to their problems."

Thanks to CuriOdyssey's unique approach that teaches students *how* to think, not *what* to think, students at Fiesta Gardens are excited about science. "Our students LOVE science and are SO excited when they see the CuriOdyssey teachers walk onto campus. Seriously, they are like rock stars! I am forever grateful to CuriOdyssey and the grants that have made this experience available to our students. Many of our kids never had the opportunity to experience science in such a hands-on way. I've watched students' attitudes about science be transformed. Thanks to CuriOdyssey, our students have a deep appreciation for science."

Do you want to help more kids learn how to think, not what to think? Join the movement and give more kids the superpower of science.

Make a gift today: curiodyssey.org/give-now

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Events (October - December 2016)

SAVE THE DATE

STEAM Fête

Friday, December 9, 2016
6pm-9pm

Celebrate all things science, technology, engineering, art and math! Go full-STEAM into the night with entirely hands-on experiences and activities by CuriOdyssey and our partners.

Tickets:

Member discount: \$12
Non-members: \$17
Innovators Circle: Free with registration
More at curiodyssey.org

WEEKEND WORKSHOPS

Auto-Motion

Saturday, November 12, 2016
10:15am-12:15pm
Are you up to the challenge of creating a vehicle powered by wind, magnets, or a rubber band? If so, bring your creative ideas and tinkering skills to this workshop focused on movement!

Spinning Science: Tops, Gyroscopes and Yo-Yos

Saturday, November 19, 2016
10:15am-12:15pm
It's time to do science with toys! Participants will make tops, feel the energy of a gyroscope, and play with a toy from the 1920s - a yo-yo!

See our full workshop schedule on curiodyssey.org

SCHOOL AND GROUP PROGRAMS

Looking for an exciting activity for your classroom or group? Our educational programs spark passion for science and allow children the opportunity to get up close with the natural world. Interactive exhibits, amazing live animals, and high-quality educational programs provide children with an unforgettable experience.

For more information, visit curiodyssey.org/school-groups

ON-GOING PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Animals In Action
Tues-Fri: 11:00am
Sat-Sun: 11am, 2pm and 3pm

Otter Feeding
Tues-Sun: 12:00 noon

Bobcat Feeding
Tues-Sun: 1:00pm

GET IN TOUCH:

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