

November 17, 2014

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### Pomegranate—We Are Making Progress!

Our community engagement with the Pomegranate Center is already bearing fruits, and we can't wait to share them with you!

Following our first community meeting in the fall, the Pomegranate team met with the Steering Group several times to present their suggestions as to how we can integrate the many ideas you sent our way for beautifying our campus.

The steering group will meet once more next Thursday to prepare for our next Community Meeting on **Thursday December 4 at 6:30 PM** in Trillium Hall, when we will get to make yet an important step in creating our vision for the campus. We count on you to join us!

For a sneak peek of what is in the works, see how our grade eight students are applying their relief carving skills to our Pomegranate process.



### News from the Board

#### Welcoming our new board member: Jeff Altaras

Please join us in welcoming Jeff Altaras to the board! Jeff was elected to the board on November 3rd and we're all excited to have him join us. Jeff brings a history of corporate ethics work from his

career at The Boeing Company and we look forward to adding his talents and energy on the board.

### Updated Strategic Plan

As you may know, the Board has been hard at work over the last two months collecting extensive feedback from Parents, Faculty, and Administration about what's working well, what needs improvement, and our vision for the future. We are sincerely grateful to everyone for taking the time to provide input and express their ideas.

Now that we are on far better footing financially (see Financial Update below for details) and blessed with an exceptional group of Faculty to teach our children, we believe it is time for Three Cedars to move into a new phase of growth – one focused on strengthening our leadership resources, building community, and continued improvement in student enrollment. The Board has defined a new set of strategic priorities for the school over the next several years. These priorities are:

### Leadership

Our organizational structure and staffing enables the following key elements:

- **Pedagogy** – *we foster high caliber academic programs in the spirit of Rudolf Steiner and support for students and teachers.*
- **Community Building** – *we provide opportunities to build and grow relationships inside and outside of community.*
- **Development & Enrollment** – *we ensure financial stability and achievement of financial goals.*
- **Operations** – *our school runs smoothly and is a safe and healthy environment for students, faculty, and administration.*
- **Communications** – *we communicate with authenticity, transparency, and frequency necessary to ensure community-wide awareness of key school matters. We collect ongoing feedback from all community members; including families, faculty, and administration.*
- **Governance** – *we have oversight of our goals and objectives, establish and monitor processes, and ensure compliance with all laws and regulations.*

### Community

Our community embraces:

- **Engagement and healthy relationships** – *through a variety of events, volunteerism, and connection.*
- **Diversity** – *including socio-economic, cultural, and religious.*

### Financial Sustainability and Growth

The long-term viability of our school is driven by:

- **Enrollment growth** *and limited attrition.*
- *A mature, thriving **development program** that drives successful fundraising for key capital expenditures and financial goals from our internal and external communities.*
- **Fiscal discipline** – *tuition funds our operational costs; expenditures are prioritized based on strategic goals. No debt.*
- **Financial governance** – *informed and consistent budget oversight, transparency, and accountability.*

Please stay tuned for updates on each of these priorities, as well as our plans for achieving them,

over the coming months.

### **Financial Position**

As was mentioned above, we are in a better financial position than we have been in years. We are in the middle of our yearly audit at the moment and will publish our final results when they come back from our accountants. What I can share with you now is this. As of the end of July, the school had \$800,000 in operating cash and reserves and for the first time in its history, is debt free. This is due to the fiscal operating discipline which Geraldine has introduced and to the generous bequest received in early 2014 which allowed us to pay off two mortgages. Our enrollment for the FY 2014-2015 school year is at 144 (full time equivalent) students. Enrollment has been flat for 2 years but represents a 13% increase from the 2011-2012 and a 25% increase from the 2009-2010 school year. Tuition revenue for 2013-2014 stood at \$1,672,650, a 7.4% increase from 2012-2013. Individual donations to the school for 2013-2014 excluding the one-time bequest, stood at \$91,111, flat year over year. Our fundraising efforts last year raised an additional \$17,906 which was 25% above 2012-2013 and in kind donations came in at \$40,000 up 38% from the previous year.

As mentioned we will published the audited results when we get them back. In the meantime we will be putting into place greater accessibility/visibility into the financial health of the school. Specifically we will be publishing the following:

- Enrollment history Enrollment by classes: number of students, number of FTE, attrition, new students
- Financial Key Performance Indicators reported in Fall and Spring. Including:
- Revenue History – Tuition, donation, fundraising in kind
- Budget projections/actual, balance sheet, profit/loss, five year comparisons.
- Fundraising goals: Annual fund, events, volunteer hours, corporate matches.

Please view our [Financial Presentation Power Point](#).

### **Executive Director Search**

In our November 13th [letter to the community](#), Geraldine and the Board announced her departure at the end of this school year. This announcement was made following a great deal of reflection and discussions about what the school needs in the future to be successful in this next phase of growth. We are deeply thankful to Geraldine for her contributions as a change agent over the last 3½ years, and will be working closely with her during the transition process.

As you may know, finding a suitable leader for a Waldorf school can be a difficult and lengthy process, due to the limited number of Executive Directors nationally, as well as the complex constellation of skills and responsibilities required for the role. However, we are up for the challenge!

The Board is currently in the process of interviewing Executive Search firms. Once we have found a firm that is a suitable match for our needs, we will begin searching for candidates in earnest.

The selection and hiring of the ED is ultimately the Board's decision. However, we are assembling a hiring committee comprised of Board members, faculty leadership, and parents to help inform this decision and ensure our next ED embodies the leadership qualities and capabilities the school needs.

It is also our goal to ensure that the final candidates have an opportunity to interact with the school

community prior to selection.

All community members are welcome to ask questions and outline concerns about the ED transition and hiring process to the board at [board@threecedarswaldorf.org](mailto:board@threecedarswaldorf.org).

Thank you in advance for your continued support of the school and our community during the coming months.

Sincerely,

Thomas Doggett, Board President

Javier Rodriguez, Vice President

John Tinker, Secretary

Andy Hoag, Treasurer

Kelly Anderson, Trustee

Jeff Altaras, Trustee

Corey Collwell-Lipson, Trustee

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## Current Policies on Campus Presence

Three Cedars Waldorf School is committed to maintaining a safe and orderly environment for all who spend time on our beautiful campus. As part of this commitment, we keep records of student and visitor whereabouts throughout the day, including attendance slips, after-school care logs, field trip details, and a visitor log. Furthermore, in the unlikely event of an emergency or natural disaster, we simply need to know who is where.



Following is a brief reminder of the policies we kindly request parents follow:

- If you are on campus as a volunteer or committee meeting during school hours, please sign the visitor log when you arrive and again when you depart. You are not required to sign in/out for school events such as assemblies and plays.
  - If your child will be late or absent, please call Reception at 425.401.9874 or send email to [attendance@threecedarswaldorf.org](mailto:attendance@threecedarswaldorf.org). Please do this even if you have notified the class teacher.
  - If you have after-school care reserved and your plans change, please call Reception at 425.401.9874 or send email to [attendance@threecedarswaldorf.org](mailto:attendance@threecedarswaldorf.org). If you use drop-in after-school care on an occasional or emergency basis, please inform your child so he or she is not surprised at the end of the day—or let the reception staff know to notify your child.
  - Please arrange social gatherings and after-school transportation with families/drivers in advance. Reception staff cannot assist your child with these arrangements during the busy school day and dismissal times.
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## Day of the Dead Assembly: Asamblea del Día de Muertos

On November 2 the Mexican culture celebrates a very important day, El Día de Muertos. During this day one of the fundamental elements is the Altar de Muertos. People believe that the souls of their loved ones who have passed away will come back and visit the world of the living.

“Santos y Buenos días dijo la Muerte y ninguno de los presentes la pudo reconocer, claro venía la Muerte con la trenza retorcida bajo el sombrero y la mano amarilla en el bolsillo...”

Our students at Three Cedars spent a few weeks learning songs and creating typical crafts for the setting up of our beautiful Altar de Muertos. And then on November 5, third graders made Day of the Dead bread with Senora Martinez and the Altar was ready to be set up! Papel picado (cut paper), tangerines, chocolate, beans, candles, pictures, bread, nuts and dried fruits, and bananas were part of the ofrenda (offering). At the Day of the Dead Assembly on November 6, we listened to a story about La Parca (a name given to the personification of death) who is searching for a woman called Doña Francisca, but unfortunately after spending all day looking for her, la Parca must return empty handed, for Doña Francisca is so busy that she is never able to catch up with her!

*Calavera vete al monte, no señora porque espanto,  
¿Pues a dónde quieres irte? Yo señora al Campo Santo.  
Calavera vete al río, no señora tengo frío,  
¿Pues a dónde quieres irte? Yo señora con mi tío.  
Calavera vete al cielo, no señora pues no vuelo,  
¿Pues a dónde quieres irte? Yo señora con mi abuelo.*

*(Song that the children learned and sang at the Assembly)*

Thank you for sending pictures of loved ones who have passed away to be placed on the Altar de Muertos—this makes the experience a much richer one for the children!

—Aurora Garcia, Teacher, Class of 2022

Aurora Garcia was born in Mexico City. At age 13 she moved with her family to Potomac, Maryland where she lived for 11 years. During this time she attended American University and earned a BA in Elementary Education. For a couple of years Ms. Garcia taught in public elementary schools in Montgomery County in Maryland and Broward County in Florida. After the arrival of her first son, she moved back to Mexico and lived in San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato for six years. It was during this six year period that she discovered Waldorf education and feeling completely inspired, joined forces with other parents in order to give birth to a Waldorf initiative, Los Charcos, where she taught for three years, and began her Waldorf





teacher training. After some years, and the arrival of her second son, she moved to Xalapa, Veracruz, where she began another Waldorf initiative, Colegio Calli, where she taught for 8 years. She also continued and completed her teacher training at Centro Educativo Goethe and Centro Educativo Waldorf. Ms. Garcia has four children; she loves swimming, traveling and reading, and feels very fortunate to have come to the Seattle area and to be joining the Three Cedars Waldorf Community.

## TCWS Ultimate Frisbee at Fall Drizzle

The Three Cedars middle school Ultimate team, the “Lumberjacks,” competed in their first tournament of the year on **Sunday, November 2**. Fall Drizzle is an annual tournament for high school and middle school teams put on by the Western Washington University Women’s Ultimate Team. The Lumberjacks did well, winning two of their four games and having an all-around good time. It was great to see our team playing hard together, and to see our alumni coaches encourage a high level of energy and spirit from the players. It was also fun seeing our players recognize and connect with other teams’ players whom they have come to know from years of league play and tournaments. Pictured is a “spirit circle” that occurred after the Three Cedars vs. Seattle Country Day School game. Following an Ultimate game, each team does a cheer for their opponents, and then in the spirit circle they compliment one another’s plays, spirit, and sportsmanship.

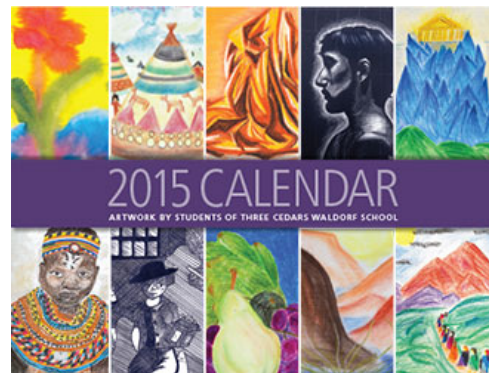


Special thanks to the die-hard parents who drove the team to Burlington, to those who provided food, umbrellas, warm clothes, and support for the team and fans, to Mary Haller for parent-coordinating the team and tournament, and to our fabulous alumni coaches Aldous Root and Anna Tinker who made the day satisfying and fun for all.

—Jenny Frank-Doggett

## Three Cedars Waldorf School Calendar

Just in time for holiday gift-giving, Three Cedars Waldorf School once again offers a beautiful wall calendar showing art created by our students. The 2015 calendar costs \$20 and is available for purchase in the front office while supplies last.



## Winter Garden of Light 2014

The Winter Garden of Light is a pathway during this special season to guide Three Cedars students and community in experiencing gratitude for the Earth's gifts and compassion and love for all of life. This lovely festival of light is a time for the human spirit to gather warmth and light.



Participants walk the evergreen spiral while gentle harp music fills the room with calmness. One at a time, individuals journey through the garden path, spiraling into its center to receive light for their candles and then place their lights along the path before returning to their seats. As the light grows, a warming experience reaches the quiet depths of the soul and a feeling of reverence for all of life arises.

Hosted in Trillium Hall, this event is offered three times as follows:

- **December 4, 6:30 PM:** Adults-only spiral—please sign up at the front office.
- **December 5 during school:** Grade school students walk the spiral.
- **December 5, 5:30 PM:** Kindergarteners ages 5 and 6 walk the spiral with a parent present (no siblings please).

Please consider donating the following items:

- **Evergreen garlands** may be placed outside the Foyer doors by **December 3**.
- **Natural items** from the mineral, plant, and animal kingdoms (crystals, seashells, feathers, winter berries, and seed pods) may be brought to the office by **December 4**.

*More information*

## Adult Education: Childhood and Media

**Tuesday, December 9 • 6:30 PM**

*Presented by Johanna Steegmans*

Gain insight into how children are affected by media exposure, and how they can best be served in today's world. [Get Flyer](#)



**Johanna Steegmans** was born, raised, and trained as a pediatrician in Germany, and moved to Seattle in 1989. She completed her training in Naturopathic Medicine at John Bastyr University, and was on the founding faculty of Sound Circle Center, teaching Early Childhood courses and the

Foundation Year. Now, she travels and teaches here, in the USA, and abroad.

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## Winter Bazaar

**Friday, December 12**

**11:00 AM to 4:00 PM in the Plaza**

Looking for last-minute holiday gifts or maybe just a yummy treat? The Thursday Crafts & Tea moms will be hosting a “Holiday Crafts & Cookies” table outside the School Office on **Friday, December 12**. Please be sure to stop by for delicious goodies and festive gifts before our Winter Break!



Last year, our small but warm and fun event was a pleasant surprise for everyone. Featuring beautiful handmade crafts, delicious goodies, warm tea, and a lot of smiles, the festive bazaar was enjoyed by the whole community.

The Winter Bazaar is a parent initiative and you are welcome to join us and be part of it. How can you help? There are several ways to volunteer:

- If you are interested in helping with crafts, please join the group every **Thursday morning from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM**
- Donate handmade items
- Work in the booth on the day of the event
- Invite your friends
- If you are a baker, please join us for baking sessions or donate sweet treats

For more information, please contact Jeannette Nagel (Morning Glory Kindergarten and Grade 2 Mom) or Karen Wegehenkel (Grade 5 Mom).

–*Thursday Craft & Tea Group*

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## GRADE SCHOOL NEWS

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### Snapshots of Grade Three

- Students examining three components of soil: sand, clay, and silt and their qualities, and then the soil (not “dirt”!) they brought from home to see what will best support plant growth



- Filling three dehydrators with apples, plums, grapes, bananas, herbs, and vegetables....even fish one student caught and marinated
- Making delicious soup from garden and brought-in vegetables
- Delightedly removing wormholes and bruises from apples to cook down into applesauce
- Joyful flurries of pumpkin design, stories of Jack



- O'Lantern, mini lesson on contractions, desks pushed into squares of four for cutting, cleaning, sorting seeds to roast, carving faces, and thrilling in the be-candled creations in our two windowless bathrooms, all the while talking, spontaneously singing a gardening song or one newly learned about the Ghost Ship (to perform in the Halloween assembly), managing their knives with not a single injury (whew!), and finally each writing their own instructions for making a Jack O'Lantern to put into their Projects book
- Making a worm bin with Jenn, shredding papers and leaves, learning about worms, holding one, and now caring for them as they eat our snack and lunch compostables and propagate in the classroom
  - Learning about seed harvesting from Thalia and Jenn, taking home a packet of harvested seeds to plant in the spring, and seeing if their herbs in water jars will take root for planting
  - Finishing up with the graceful and beautiful cursive lower case letters, deciphering words, testing their ability to correctly connect letters, and doing daily arithmetic skills
  - Balancing peacock feathers, juggling scarves, beanbag rhythmical work, learning to play the new diatonic recorder that will accompany the class through eighth grade and home after graduation, speaking poems, and singing songs

It is a wonderful year, and as we *do* in this class so many rich activities, I see anew just how beautifully the third grade curriculum meets the deepest needs of the students. They are not only experiencing the wonders of their world, but discovering the joy of growing in the knowledge and skill to live happily within it.

—Monica Lander, Teacher, Class of 2020

As the daughter of an Air Force career father, Ms. Lander spent her childhood in places as varied as Morocco and North Dakota. After studying psychology and philosophy in university, Ms. Lander moved to Canada where she helped found the Quadra Island Waldorf School in British Columbia and served in a one-year internship at the Edmonton Waldorf School. Ms. Lander then returned to the States to receive her formal Waldorf training and certification from Sunbridge Teacher Training Program, as well as to complete a five year in-service training in the Waldorf movement education discipline of Spatial Dynamics. Ms. Lander has almost 30 years' experience as a Waldorf teacher in grades one through eight and has taught in Washington, D.C. and Seattle. She joined Three Cedars Waldorf School in 2008 as the grade one teacher, served as Dean of Education beginning in 2009, and returned to the classroom in 2012. Ms. Lander's current passions include kayaking, tending the koi pond and gardens at her log home, playing the Native American flute, and discovering the joys of being a grandparent. Ms. Lander's adult daughter, Michaela, began Waldorf Education in kindergarten, graduated from the Washington, D.C. Waldorf High School, studied Anthropology and German languages at American University,



## Grade Four Gratitude

The fourth grade took home their first homework assignment early this month which included composing sentences using the words *appreciate*, *gratitude*, *thoughtful*, and *thankful*.

Here are some of the sentences they composed (please note that some of the children did not wish to publish their homework):



- "There was a grateful hamster; every animal appreciated him." –*Guy Cohen*
- "I am grateful for having such an amazing life and for having such a thoughtful mom! I appreciate my family and I'm thankful!" –*Riley Nochlin*
- "I am super grateful for my family. I am so thankful for my animals, and I appreciate owning them! I am thoughtful when I feed my dog." –*Joseph Mantis*
- "I am grateful that my mom feeds me pasta and I am thankful that oranges are juicy. I appreciate that my dad gives me hugs. Sophia is thoughtful when she helps me play the piano." –*Ethan Parker*
- "I appreciate this school because it is awesome. My teacher is the best and other kids think the same. Yay"
- –*Santiago Steinman*
- "I am grateful for Mrs. Spurgin being our teacher. I appreciate how she always helps us when we work on complicated letters and drawings and she is thoughtful. This is why I am thankful for Mr. Spurgin" –*Nikka Stanley*
- "I'm grateful for having the best teacher. I appreciate the work that people do. All my friends are kind and thoughtful. I am thankful for my family." –*Gali Boprov*
- "I'm grateful for my mom because she takes care of me and she loves me. I'm grateful for my dad because he takes care of me and also loves me. I'm also grateful for my sister." –*Dominic Uyematsu*
- "I think the two people I'm most grateful for are my mom and dad. Why my mom? Well, I'm very very thankful for all her cooking, cleaning and so on. Dad? Well, sometimes after we work out, we go get ice cream. That's why I appreciate my dad most! These acts are very thoughtful of them." –*Nolan Wright*
- "I appreciate that you are very thoughtful. I am very grateful for my dog. He is so thankful." –*Vova Trifinov*
- "I'm grateful for my family. I am thoughtful to my dog. I appreciate how nice my parents are." –*Jake Parsons*
- "I'm grateful for my mom because she's so thoughtful! I appreciate that she brings me to Three Cedars. I'm thankful for my teacher Mrs. Spurgin; she is so awesome and epic." –*Adonis Baez*
- "I am very very grateful for having you as our teacher. You have been very thoughtful to all of us and I appreciate and I am thankful for that!" –*Alexa Jeantette Coca*
- "I am grateful for my teacher! I am thankful for my cat. I appreciate my grandma because she is

so thoughtful.”

—*Eva Rodriguez*

• “I’m grateful and thankful for my teacher! My teacher is thoughtful and awesome! I appreciate my family.” —*Willow Anderson*

• “I am grateful for my dog Jassmine because she is super fun to play with. I appreciate my friend Abby because she helps me with lots of crafts. I am thankful for my family because they are nice to me. My mom is thoughtful because she bought me my dog Jassmine.” —*Alorah Leale*

• “I’m grateful for my dog Cisco. I appreciate when my friends are thoughtful. I’m thankful for my teacher Mrs. Spurgin.”

—*Makena Lane*

—*Mary Spurgin, Teacher, Class of 2019*

Mary Spurgin has fond memories of a childhood in Tarrytown, NY, spent chasing four brothers on the roof and sledding on frozen creeks. Mrs. Spurgin majored in Interdisciplinary Visual Art and minored in Japanese at the University of Washington where, during her senior year, her love for art, interest in child development, and enthusiasm for teaching pointed her in the direction of becoming a Waldorf teacher. After earning her BA at UW, she began training at Sunbridge College in New York, where she earned a Masters in Education. Mrs. Spurgin spent four years class teaching at Green Meadow Waldorf School in New York. It was then that she began the greatest journey of her life: motherhood. While she was pregnant with her son, she and her husband returned to Washington State, where she began tutoring students from both Three Cedars and Seattle Waldorf School. Mrs. Spurgin became a class teacher at Three Cedars in 2012–13. She enjoys playing guitar, oil painting, knitting, cooking Japanese food, and gardening. She also enjoys traveling and has visited Thailand, Korea, Japan, China, Italy, and England.



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## Grade Five: Heroes, Humanity, and Hopelink

During this block, the fifth graders have been hard at work preparing for their upcoming play, Prometheus Bound. This story touches on many themes that have been relevant to mankind for ages. Yet, at its core, it is a story of one brave Titan who heroically defied the gods to help the new race of man rise up from its lowly state. He dared to bring a spark of divine fire from Mt. Olympus down to earth, and through this deed, gave warmth, protection, and nourishment to the suffering human beings. We hope that this play will inspire you and your children to also seek ways to lend humanity a hand, especially during this holiday season.

Here at school, students across the grades will be engaging in various service projects for the local community. As part of our upcoming Thanksgiving assembly, we will again be partnering with Hopelink to host a food drive at our school. From now until **Wednesday, November 26**, please consider donating any of the following items listed below. They may be left in boxes in your child's classroom, or outside the office. This is a wonderful way to help bring nourishment to those in need, without risking the wrath of Zeus!

#### **Most-Needed Foods**

Canned meals  
Canned meat  
Cereal  
Dry beans  
Fruit (canned)  
Vegetables (canned)  
Pasta  
Peanut butter  
Rice  
Soup  
Tomato products

—Stephanie Packer, Teacher, Class of 2017 and 2018



Stephanie Packer grew up in New Jersey, and graduated with a BA in Organizational Studies from the University of Michigan—Ann Arbor. During college, she spent a semester living and studying in Seville, Spain, where she formed a strong connection to the Spanish language and culture. This connection brought her back to Seville after graduation, where she taught English and American culture to both children and adults in various settings for several years. She also taught elementary school classes in a bilingual, public school setting. Simultaneously, she spent a few summers volunteering on a Biodynamic farm in Princeton, NJ, which sparked her interest in Waldorf Education. Stephanie went on to pursue this path by working in various roles at the Waldorf School of Princeton, and she completed her Waldorf Teacher Training at the Centro de Formación de Pedagogía Waldorf in Madrid, Spain.



## EARLY CHILDHOOD NEWS

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### Lantern Walk

The weather is growing colder and the days are growing shorter and darker. This can often feel like a gloomy time of year in this part of the country. But in the Early Childhood program and first and second grade, this is a joyous time of year. It means jumping in puddles, finding slugs, watching mushrooms magically pop up out of the ground, and of course, it means it's time for the lantern walk.



Our preparations for the lantern walk began a few weeks ago. We gathered all the necessary supplies, namely handmade paper and lots of glue! The eighth graders came to visit the Apple Blossom and Morning Glory classes. Each eighth grader was paired with a kindergartener, and together, they began the process of making the lanterns. It is a precious sight to watch the oldest students in the school work with some of the youngest. Some of the eighth graders have been in the school long enough to remember making lanterns when they were first a part of the Three Cedars School. After getting a good head start from the eighth graders, we continued with our work of carefully painting the glue and paper onto the lanterns. Each child in the classes was given an opportunity to help make a lantern. We all work on the lanterns together, so even returning students who already have a lantern enjoy helping make a lantern for a new friend. And just a few days before our lantern walk, each class had produced beautiful lanterns.

This year we were very lucky to be blessed with such mild weather. It did not rain and the wind did not blow; it was a beautiful, crisp fall evening. The families arrived on Saturday evening and were greeted with hot apple cider and a warm fire to stand by. The families had time to say hello to old and new friends alike. The children delighted in trying to recognize friends and teachers in the dark. At the sound of a bell, the parents and children headed inside. The Early Childhood families were invited to watch a puppet show performed by the preschool and kindergarten teachers, and the first and second grade families listened to story. When the stories were complete, the children found their lanterns and began their journey through the woods with their glowing lanterns. The children moved through the woods with a sense of awe and excitement. As we all walked along, we were gifted with sweet sounds of singing at various points on the path. And at the end of the trail, the teachers stopped to wave a silent goodbye as the children moved peacefully into their cars and off to their homes.

I always enjoy seeing the trail of families walking through the dark. From far away, you can barely make out the figures moving along the path, but you can clearly see their softly glowing lanterns bobbing up and down. It is truly a magical sight to behold.

A special thank you to Mrs. Campana and the eighth grade students for your help making the lanterns and for your beautiful singing as we walked through the woods. They were also joined by some seventh graders and TCWS alumni. And thank you to the many other volunteers and faculty families who came to help make our event such a success!

*—Miss Amie, Teacher, Buttercup Preschool*

Amie Aylward grew up in the Goodenough Community. As a former Waldorf student who spent preschool through grade eight at the Seattle Waldorf



School, she can speak confidently about the approach and benefits of this form of education. Miss Amie's first experience at Three Cedars was as a young college graduate, teaching After-School Care shortly after earning a BA in Psychology from Western Washington University. Her experience at Three Cedars and in other early childhood programs inspired her to pursue a career in Waldorf teaching. She completed the Waldorf teacher training and storytelling training at the former Emerson College, UK, where she enjoyed cooking and organizing for events and community-wide festivals. During her time in Europe, she took many opportunities to travel and especially enjoyed two trips to Israel to participate in the Healing Words Festival, an initiative using storytelling to create dialogue between the people of Israel and Palestine. Her work history also includes summer camp counselor, teacher, and director; alumni outreach coordinator at Emerson College; and preschool teacher at the Waldorf-inspired Tara's Tots in Seattle. She joined the Three Cedars kindergarten program in 2010. Miss Amie's interests include festivals, cooking and baking, nutrition, travel, hiking, fiber arts, singing, and puppetry.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Heavy Baby Workshops

Create a therapeutic and cute two-pound or 4.5-pound Waldorf-style heavy baby for a child you love! There are two opportunities to attend this workshop at Fremont Community School in Seattle in 2014:

**Saturday, November 22** and **Saturday, December 6.**

Heavy babies can be created in a variety of sizes, styles, and colors, depending on the age and preferences of the recipient, and they are all sure to be

well loved! Workshops are led by doll maker, puppeteer, and Waldorf teacher Aimee de Ney. Please contact Aimee at [heavybabies@gmail.com](mailto:heavybabies@gmail.com) or 360.485.3677 with questions.



*More information*

### Rumpelstiltskin

The Willow Branch Puppet Theater presents two performances of Rumpelstiltskin with six silk and wool marionettes on **Sunday, November 23, 2014 at 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM.** Performances will be held in Trillium

Hall at Three Cedars Waldorf School. For advance reservations, call 206.985.2059.

*More information*



## Growing Up Human: Eugenics in the Twenty-First Century

### **Date and time:**

Wednesday, December 3, 2014 at 7:00 PM

### **Location:**

Seattle Mennonite Church  
3120 NE 125 Seattle, WA 98125  
(Park in lot in back and enter there)

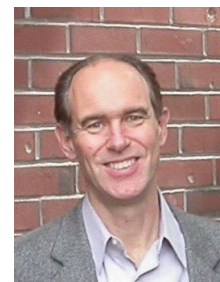
**Donation:**\$15

### **Sponsored by:**

Center For Anthroposophical Endeavors & The Rudolf Steiner Books Store & Children's Shop

Medical miracles are at our doorstep. Will they alter what it means to be Human? We are in the Age of the Conscious Soul development when our social, ethical, and moral choices will be challenged.

Guest speaker Andrew Linnell is a 40-year veteran of the field of computers and related technologies. He has been the president of the Boston Branch of the Anthroposophical Society. He has written for New View, Being Human, and other publications. This past summer, he gave 16 lectures on Tracking the Ancient Mysteries from Egypt to the Founding of America as a faculty member for the Village University of Concord. He has spoken to branches and libraries throughout the USA and abroad. He has been a member of the Anthroposophical Society since 1979 and is a member of the School for Spiritual Science. His lectures have covered various topics from Quantum Physics to Nanotechnology to Color to Knights Templars to Christian Mysticism. Andrew has MSE degree from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.



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## True Holidays Celebration

Dress up and find your dancing shoes for The Goodenough Community's *True Holidays Celebration and All Ages Contra Dance* on **Saturday, December 6, from 6:00 PM to 11:00 PM** at the Mercer Island Congregational Church. This is a family-friendly event that invites all to reflect on the kind of holiday season we want to have. Planned activities are provided for children. Enjoy food, libations, a silent auction, and contra dancing with Sherrie Nevins and a live band. Free admission, food and drink for purchase. For more information, visit [www.goodenough.org](http://www.goodenough.org) or send an email message to [irene\\_perler@hotmail.com](mailto:irene_perler@hotmail.com).

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## Winter Solstice Bus trip to Leavenworth

Looking for a perfectly enchanting, winter experience with your family and friends? Join me, Irene Perler, as hostess, along with other fun-loving folk of all ages, as we enjoy the simple pleasures and magic that the winter season and a shared experience brings. Each



year, we ride a cozy bus through the mountains to the Bavarian village of Leavenworth for food, festival of lights, music, and gift shopping. We stop along the way to play in the snow: sledding, snowmen, and romantic walks with your sweetheart are all possible. Off to Eagle Creek Ranch where we enjoy a horse-drawn sleigh ride followed by a hearty dinner in a rustic farm building warmed by a wood stove. A brief ritual helps us join in an age-old tradition of respecting the longest night of the year and hoping that the sun will once again return to warm us and help the plants grow again.

This trip leaves the Bellevue Eastgate area **Saturday, December 20, at 8:00 AM**, and we return at 11:00 PM. Tickets cost \$90 for adults, \$70 for youth (ages 13 to 18), and \$55 children under 12. Children under 2 are free. Some scholarships are available and *family rates* are negotiable.

For more information and registration, contact Irene Perler at [irene\\_perler@hotmail.com](mailto:irene_perler@hotmail.com) or pick up a flyer at the Three Cedars front desk. For online registration, go to [www.goodenough.org](http://www.goodenough.org).

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*Submission deadline for our next newsletter is Monday, December 8, 2014.*

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