

**SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY SCHOOL OF THE ARTS
(SOCSA) FOUNDATION
ANNUAL REPORT 2006 – 2007**

SOCSA FOUNDATION

South Orange County School of the Arts (SOCSA) Foundation

P. O. Box 3174
Dana Point, CA 92629-8174
Phone: 949.240.1994
Website: www.socsarts.org
Email Address: office@socsarts.org

FOUNDATION DESCRIPTION and MISSION STATEMENT

The **South Orange County School of the Arts (SOCSA)** at Dana Hills High School is a visual and performing arts public high school Academy within Dana Hills High School in Dana Point, California. It provides an in-depth educational opportunity to talented young artists affording them the chance to explore and develop their artistic talents and prepare them for placement in the college or university and employment in the professional arts or other industry of their choice.

The **SOCSA Foundation** was founded in 2000 to support the SOCSA Academy in fundraising and volunteer endeavors. The mission of the Foundation is to support the SOCSA Academy’s educational and artistic mission, goals, and financial needs through fundraising and related operational activities.

The Foundation operates through the SOCSA Academy and Foundation Offices located at Dana Hills High School, 33333 Street of the Golden Lantern, Dana Point, California 92629.

FOUNDATION HISTORY

In October 2000, the SOCSA Foundation was established to raise funds to support the SOCSA Academy, and towards that, the Foundation received 501(c) (3) non-profit organization status. In 2001, the First American Financial Corporation Foundation became SOCSA’s first corporate sponsor. In 2003, the Allergan Foundation sponsorship followed.

FOUNDATION BOARD 2005 - 2006

PRESIDENT: Rhen Kohan
SECRETARY: Laura Saleen-Keller
TREASURER: Fara Kalaf
ASSISTANT TREASURER: Marcia Reid
VP CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP: Marla Kelley
VP MEMBERSHIP: Frances Hellings
VP PUBLICITY & MARKETING: Denise Richter

FOUNDATION BOARD 2006 - 2007

PRESIDENT: Suzanne Tyler
SECRETARY: Brian Tatomir
TREASURER: Marcia Reid
ASSISTANT TREASURER: Kathy Vescera
VP CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP: Paula Kohl
VP MEMBERSHIP – Suzanne Tyler
VP PUBLICITY & MARKETING – Rhen Kohan
VP WAYS AND MEANS: Allana Mayo

SOCSA FOUNDATION ACTIVITIES

To assist with the financial needs inherent in arts education, the SOCSA Foundation works with the Academy through the efforts of the Foundation Board and the many parent volunteers organizing fundraising activities some of which are ongoing throughout the year, and also make corporate and supporter contact, handle publicity, and the membership dues records of the enrollment. A building campaign committee was formed to begin procuring funds for a capital improvement campaign to build a new performing arts center on the campus of Dana Hills High School.

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MAJOR FOUNDATION FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

Opera Night and Benefactor’s Reception – In April, 2007, held at the historic Casa Romantica in San Clemente, CA. The Foundation invited donors, corporate benefactors, dignitaries, supporters, deans and representatives from Opera Pacific to be entertained by vocal students from throughout south Orange County. Select students who participated in SOCSA Master Opera Workshops were invited to perform in this unique annual event. This event formally kicked off the fundraising efforts for the annual Showcase to be held in June. Over \$11,000 was raised.

Showcase 2007 – An Artistic Celebration – In June 2007, new ground was broken as the SOCSA Showcase was held for the first time at the Renee and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall at the Orange County Performing Arts Center. Visual Arts exhibits were presented in the lobby and Pre-Performance musicians and actors presented an array of musical selections and vignettes. The performance featured students from all the SOCSA disciplines including: instrumental, vocal, dance, theatrical, and musical theatre. A record breaking \$72,000 plus was raised.

FOUNDATION CORPORATE SPONSORS 2006 - 07

**Aquatic Technologies
Edison International
Friess Construction, Inc.
Pacific Mercantile Bank
The UPS Store**

**The Brig Restaurant
Fidelity National Title
FM Electric
Patrick & Suzanne Tidalgo
The Watt Family**

**City of Laguna Niguel
First American Title
Krudwig Masonry**

GRANT AWARDS

The Allergan Foundation: This allowed SOCSA to maintain the much needed access to professional arts instructors and specialists (called walk-on coaches), which included its 2006 Opera Master Class and Workshop (opened to students in other South Orange County area high schools in our community outreach program) and our Second Opera Night presentation.

The Fromme Family Foundation: This grant helped underwrite the costs of producing Showcase 2007.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Boys and Girls Club of Capistrano Valley: Summer Musical Theatre Program, “Catch a Rising Star!” SOCSA students and alumni presented a six week program for club members. The program introduced children to musical theatre and provided daily vocal, dance and acting classes. Among the many activities provided was a field trip to a special matinee performance of “Wicked” in Los Angeles. The program concluded with a performance presented by all the children at the San Juan Capistrano Community Center. Over 30 children were given the opportunity to experience musical theatre for the first time.

Laura’s House: Fundraiser held to raise awareness to help families and victims of domestic violence. Held during performances of the fall musical, “Urinetown – The Musical”; more than \$1200 in gift cards were donated by our attendees.

SOCSA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Foundation continued its annual scholarship program by recognizing and awarding three \$500 scholarships, one \$750 Spirit of SOCSA award, the Donald Kennedy \$1000 scholarship and the Dorothy Kennedy \$1000 Visual Arts scholarship to graduating SOCSA students, Class of 2007.

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SOCSA AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR

- The 2007 Annual Macy’s Awards for Excellence in Musical Theatre Performance honored our SOCSA Students for its production of “Urinetown – The Musical” (11 awards), including Comedian of the Year and its production of “Thoroughly Modern Millie” (10 awards).
- The 2007 Orange County Annual Cappies Awards winner for Comic Actor in a Musical in “Urinetown – The Musical”, and nominations for “Urinetown – The Musical” (10) and “Look Homeward Angel” (1).

SOCSA MILESTONES FOR 2006 - 2007

- Moved its biggest fundraiser, Showcase, to a larger venue; creating in a dramatic increase in exposure for the program which resulted in record-breaking donations and a higher level of community awareness. Invited over 150 children from Boys & Girls Clubs throughout Orange County to attend the Showcase 2007. Combining the services of a professional marketing firm with a large group of SOCSA supporters resulted in over 1,100 tickets sold for the performance.
- Created a summer program for Boys & Girls Clubs resulting in employment for SOCSA students and raising community awareness and participation for children who may not have opportunities to experience the performing arts.
- Dana Hills High School continues to be commended as a State of California Distinguished School and a U.S. Department of Education National Blue Ribbon School and in 2005 was ranked by Newsweek in the top 2% as one of the best high schools in the United States and ranked by the State of California in the top 5% as one of the best high schools in California. The excellence of the SOCSA program has continued to contribute toward the success of Dana Hills in receiving these awards. **90% of SOCSA seniors go on to higher education after high school.**

DEMOGRAPHICS

SOCSA STUDENT RESIDENCE MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Total Membership: 238

Residential Area and Percentage

- 47 % Laguna Niguel
- 34 % Dana Point, Monarch Beach
- 14 % San Juan Capistrano
- 5 % Aliso Viejo, San Clemente, Ladera Ranch, Mission Viejo, Trabuco Canyon and Laguna Beach
- 0.5% Scotland (Foreign Exchange Student)

SOCSA STUDENT GRADE LEVEL STATISTICS

<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>	
Grade 9	68	29%
Grade 10	64	27%
Grade 11	55	23%
Grade 12	51	21%

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SOCSA'S MISSION

To provide a dynamic and creative environment in which students will be involved in a thinking- and meaning-centered process with rigorous curricula, integrating academic disciplines and artistic vocational training.

SOCSA'S CORE VALUES

- Promote the growth, development, and education of all students.
- Commitment to excellence in education, strength in character, and integrity.
- Promote the highest standard of behavior among students and staff.
- Develop a partnership between the arts and academics.
- To inspire creativity in and instill passion for the arts and art education.
- To pursue innovation, professionalism, and artistic and intellectual growth.
- To create, develop, and maintain an environment that fosters respect, cooperation, and collaboration.
- To serve our entire community and celebrate cultural diversity and individual self-expression.

SOCSA ACADEMY HISTORY

- In the Fall of 1989, a small group of administrators, teachers, parents, and students talked and planned the creation of a visual and performing arts public high school for the Capistrano Unified School District.
- In November 20, 1995, the Capistrano Unified School District School Board approved the concept of a visual and performing arts public high school academy.
- In the Spring of 1996, a pilot program was launched at Dana Hills High School in Dana Point, CA. offering intensive arts programs which included Dance, Drama, Musical Theatre, Vocal Music, Production/Design, and Visual Arts.