

DEAR FOUNDATION FRIENDS

e are thrilled to share with you the remarkable progress we are making in transforming the educational experience at ETHS. Our focus has shifted beyond traditional classrooms and textbooks to cultivate a culture of innovation, creativity, and boundless opportunity.

First and foremost, we are excited to announce the establishment of our pioneering Arts & Innovation Department. This Department merges two critical areas of study, Fine Arts and

Career & Technical Education, fostering an interdisciplinary mindset of collaboration and thinking outside the box. From music to visual arts, from theater to technology, this division will inspire passion and curiosity in every student.

However, our vision extends further. We are dedicated to creating learning spaces that mirror real-world

industries. Imagine stepping into a

culinary lab modeled after today's most modern commercial kitchens where students hone their culinary skills like teamwork and leadership. Envision a state-of-the-art black box theater where aspiring actors, directors, and playwrights collaborate to bring stories to life.

while developing essential life skills

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Wildkit Friend





Introducing the NEW Health Science Center

am grateful to have this space, to see everything we have at our fingertips now. We can have real-life simulations and use equipment used in current hospital settings." — Instructor Joyce Sia, BSN, RN.

Thanks to the generous support of lead donors, the Cless Family Foundation, and additional private donor support, this spring, educator Joyce Sia BSN, RN welcomed students into the new Health Science Center. This specialized classroom and lab space was created specifically for the exploration of health science careers and is outfitted with hospital beds, medical equipment and medical "manikins" that simulate different human conditions, giving students a more experiential approach to learning. "Students love learning by doing, and now they can turn a patient, help them get out of bed, move them to

a wheelchair and help them walk, they can now know what it is like to help someone who can't feed themselves," says Sia.

Not only does this interactive classroom give students these unique opportunities on campus, it has become a hub for healthcare professionals to connect with students and encourage emerging opportunities. "It is important to have access to learning about new careers - this exposure is a valuable resource that we don't have to pay for," highlights student Izzah Shah '25.

This facility and these efforts are not just a luxury, they are an investment in our collective future. "We are empowering students who will be taking care of us, guite literally" concludes Sia.



ETHS school nurse Michelle Wheeler DPN, RN, PEL-CSN with a medical "manikin."

Alumni Hall — Coming SOON! oming this fall, a brand new, of

oming this fall, a brand new, dynamic multiple-purpose learning space will open at ETHS. Funded by the ETHS Foundation, "Alumni Hall" will be a tech-advanced, flexible

learning environment for students that emulates a college learning hub. Imagine a room where speakers can be conferenced in from around the globe, students can deliver TedTalks or hold a recital, staff can gather for professional development, and alumni can kick off their reunion tours. This

sophisticated learning space will inspire curiosity, encourage new experiences, and foster learning for current and future generations of students. The design will honor the legacy of our diverse, distinguished alumni across the generations, and serve as a reminder to the students that they can accomplish great things as well.



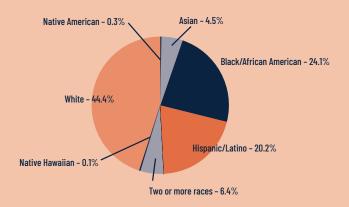
Dr. Sharon Robinson speaks to students about healthcare careers.

Right: Izzah Shah '25 and instructor Joyce Sia BSN, RN.



3,593

Total ETHS Enrollment in 2023-24





50,000+

STUDENT VOLUNTEER SERVICE HOURS

DEAR FRIENDS

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None of these endeavors would be possible without your steadfast support. As we embark on the next phase of our journey, we rely on the generosity and dedication of our ETHS supporters to realize our vision. Your contributions will shape not only the physical landscape of our school but also equip the future leaders, innovators, and change-makers within it.

Together, we can make a profound difference. Every student deserves the opportunity to reach their full potential. Let us dream big and work tirelessly to make magic happen at ETHS.

Thank you for your unwavering passion, support, and commitment to our students' success.

With deep Wildkit gratitude,

Casey Lewis Varela, '92, Parent '23 '25 BOARD CHAIR, 2022-24

Joanne Bertsche, Parent '12 '13 '17 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

WILD for ETHS

ILD for ETHS, the Foundation's annual fundraising party, brought together donors, parents and guardians, alumni, faculty and community members to celebrate and champion student futures. Held at Sketchbook Brewing Company in Skokie, over 300 guests enjoyed live music courtesy of Arlen Music Productions, local eats from Candlelite and LaPrincipal and Sketchbook sips. It was a wonderful night of community support for students, raising over \$190,000 to support foundation projects that will impact students in the coming years. Don't miss out on this great event in the future!





ETHS staff: Sarah Schmidt,

Nick Gehl, Kendra Williams, Joanne Bertsche, Nicole Parker, Joyce Sia, William Jenkins, **Angela Gardner**

Full STEAM Ahead: Merging Career & Tech Courses with Fine Arts

In the wake of the challenges brought by the post-COVID era, ETHS leads

> the charge in education with its groundbreaking new Arts & Innovation Division. This visionary initiative, merging the Career & **Technical Education** (CTE) and Fine Arts departments, reflects ETHS's commitment

> > to equipping students

with the skills, creativity, and adaptability to thrive in an ever-evolving world.

Assistant Superintendent and Principal Taya Kinzie articulates the department's core philosophy, stating, "The vision is centered around how we can adapt to the 21st century... and how we can make sure that multiple skills and skill sets come out of that." This merger has the potential to spark greater collaboration among educators from different disciplines, enriching students' learning experiences and promising to infuse them with a diverse skill set that blends artistic expression with technical proficiency.

Complementing this academic evolution is ETHS's commitment to re-imaging its learning facilities. Band Director Matt Bufis expressed his excitement about the school's forwardthinking approach to renovations, envisioning multifunctional spaces that reflect real-world contexts.

With the generous support of the ETHS Foundation, this vision will come to life over the next five years. The Foundation will play a pivotal role in creating modern facilities such as new flexible engineering labs, remodeled child development classrooms, and an industrystandard commercial culinary suite.

Anchoring the department's creative pursuits is the vision for a flexible new mid-size theater,

designed to transcend traditional performance spaces. This theater, with configurable seating arrangements and innovative audiovisual technology, will serve as a blank canvas for students to unleash their artistic talents, acting as a venue for shows, presentations, and interdisciplinary collaborations.

By investing in these transformative initiatives, the ETHS Foundation upholds its unwavering mission of providing students with a world-class educational experience.



Percentage of 2023 graduates who took at least 1 AP, Project Lead The Way or honors course.



LANGUAGES SPOKEN



Financial Report

FISCAL YEAR 2022-23

Revenues, Gains and Other Support

Misc\$	1,188
	1 100
Investment Income (Scholarship funds)\$	589,393
Contributions In-Kind\$	184,000
WILD for ETHS Benefit\$	156,168
Contributions & WILD Benefit\$	1,729,429

Expenses

Net Assets, Beginning of Year \$ Net Assets, End of Year \$	
Total Expenses\$ Change in Net Assets\$	1,001,962
Management & General\$ Fundraising Expenses\$	
Grants & Scholarships to ETHS\$ Supporting Services	1,324,498

As of June 30, 2023, The ETHS Foundation's net assets included \$5,285,605 in donor retricted scholarship





techology





Alumni Association Mini **Grants**



Scholarships & Awards



Funding Impact -**Grants to ETHS** FY2023



Literacy Lab: Resources, Teacher **Endorsement Scholarships**, Summer Lift Program



\$19,960

Music Program: Private Lesson Scholarships, Band Camp, Fodor **Musician in Reside Program**



\$35,000

STEAM Capstone Program



iKit Internships



Misc. Curriculum Grants & Student Assistance

ETHS Foundation Leadership 2023-2024



ETHS Foundation Board and Staff members

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