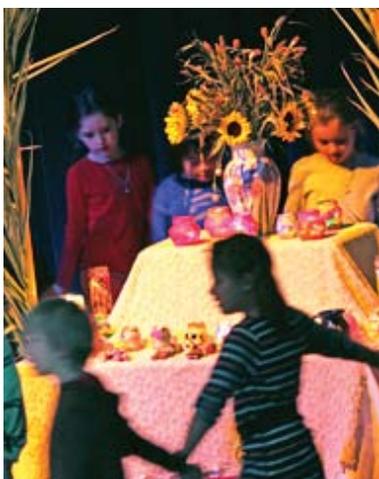


# SAN FRANCISCO WALDORF SCHOOL

## El Dia de los Muertos at the grade school

We celebrated the *Day of the Dead* this year with a special tribute to the bicentennial celebrations being held in several Latin American countries this year in honor of their independence from Spain. Two students enacted an imaginary encounter between the continents' founding fathers, George Washington and Simón Bolívar, with a brief, bilingual dialogue in which they recounted their origins and achievements. This presentation was interspersed with candle offerings to our altar, poems and songs from the students in the audience, and finally, a traditional Andean dance by the fourth grade.



After the presentations, everybody in the auditorium was invited to enjoy a special treat: hot chocolate and *pan de muertos*, with which this special day is celebrated in Mexico.

The students did an excellent job displaying their growing abilities in Spanish and they approached the *Day of the Dead* celebration with the reverence it deserves.

We are very grateful to all the parents, friends and teachers who contributed to and participated in this celebration; their efforts keep the spirit of multiculturalism alive and strong.

*Gracias a todos! Señora Febe, Grade School Spanish*

## SFWHS Model UN Club attends Delegate Workshop

On a cloudy, drizzly Saturday, five sophomores from San Francisco Waldorf High School headed to UC Berkeley to attend the Delegate Workshop for the 59th Annual Session of the Berkeley Model United Nations (BMUN).



While the Giants were preparing for Game 3 of the World Series in Arlington, Texas, hundreds of high school students were assembling in Wheeler Hall in the shadow of the Campanile preparing to play a different game: International Politics and Diplomacy.

The students – many of whom had traveled for hours to get there – came for a taste of the rigorous give and take of public debate around diverse topics such as Nuclear Proliferation and Global Warming. The BMUN (pronounced Bee'-mun) Session is one of the oldest and most established Model United Nations conferences in the world and attracts student delegations from as far afield as Mexico, Brazil, and Ecuador. Around 1,500 students

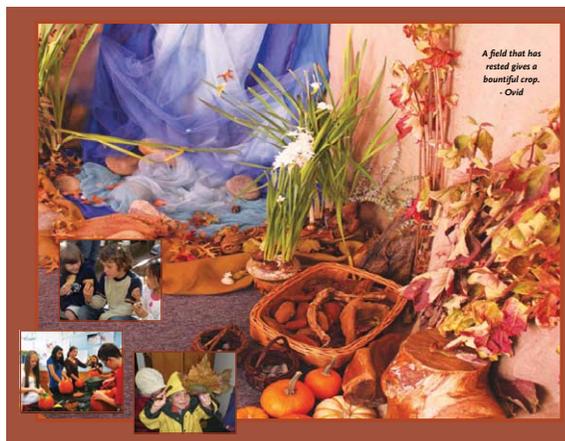
*"Model UN" continued on page 4*

## From the Advancement Office

As I write this, I realize it has been just one year that I have served as the Advancement Coordinator for SFWWS. It has been a remarkable and humbling experience. I have witnessed first-hand the incredible support that the school receives from parents, faculty, staff, and the extended community, the magnitude of which I did not fully comprehend before taking this position. In assembling the Annual Report over the past two months, I have been able to relive this past year of volunteer efforts and incredible events, as well as the strong expression of confidence in the school demonstrated by gifts to the 2009-2010 Annual Fund. I want to again offer my sincere and heartfelt thanks to all of you for supporting San Francisco Waldorf School.

One of the Advancement Office's greatest tasks is to ensure that we meet the financial goals set forth by the Board of Trustees each year. We work daily to

*"Annual Fund" continued on page 4*



*October 2011 calendar image from 2009-2010 Annual Report and Calendar*



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## 12th Grade Economics at SFWHS

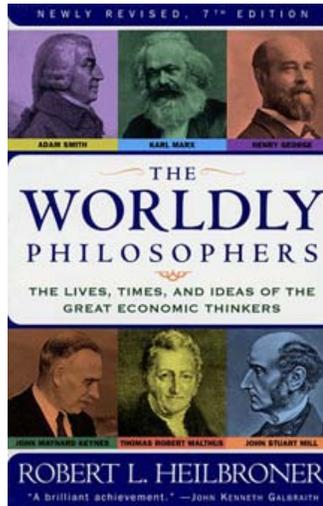
by Lea Bushnell (Class of 2011)

The Senior economics class helps us understand the ideas behind modern day economics. We studied philosophers from Adam Smith in the 18th century to Joseph Schumpeter in the 20th century. We examined how our economic world today compares to their times. We saw how each philosopher's ideas influenced future thoughts and how their ideas influenced the world at that time, from the Robber Barons, to the Treaty of Versailles, to the Great Depression, to today's recession. We looked at the different types of economies: traditional, authoritarian, market, or mixes among these. We looked at the positive and negative effects of globalization on the world's economies, as countries have gone from being independent to interdependent. And we discussed whether economics is a true science, examining both sides of the argument, questioning the extent to which human behavior can be predictable and formulaic or not.

Finally, we had fun by participating in a classroom economy. Each of us had "jobs" (I was the vocabulary person) that paid us a weekly salary. We rented our desks, paid taxes on our income (after debating and voting on whether to have a flat or progressive tax system), and received bonuses or fines for positive and negative contributions to the class. We also completed a project incorporating some of the ideas we learned into an area that interested us. I invented and made an advertisement for a system for drying booties used by sailors. Other projects included: an analysis of how computers have increased worker productivity over time, a tracing of the manufacturing history of the sticky note, an evaluation of the effect of the rating system on feature film revenues, and a rap song about the causes of homelessness in San Francisco.

This class set the foundation for any economics class we may take in the future.

*When not in class, senior Lea Bushnell can often be found at the St. Francis Yacht Club where she is an active member of SFWHS's Sailing Club.*



## November Block Rotation Across the Grades

Kindergarten	Story	Native American Tales
Grade 1		Math
Grade 2		Language Arts - Native American Stories
Grade 3		Measurements - Harvest Feast
Grade 4		Norse Mythology
Grade 5		Geography
Grade 6		Business math
Grade 7		Astronomy
Grade 8		Geometry
Grade 9		Art History / Physiology
Grade 10		Trigonometry / Mechanics
Grade 11		Dante / Chemistry
Grade 12		Economics / Environmental Science

## Business Math in the 6th Grade

The Sixth Grade recently completed a block on economics and business math. We emerged from studies of Roman history to look at trade in the Roman empire, and carried it forward with a look at bartering, currency, division of labor, cooperation and trust, and equitable uses of resources. Part of the block included double entry bookkeeping, where the children kept track of how much time they contributed to the family and how much time they received in return, with some eye-opening observations as a result ("Mom does everything"). We looked at the various uses of money, and how loan interest is calculated. Each student came up with a business idea with a mission statement, a slogan, an advertisement poster, and a loan application complete with a check for loan processing fees made out to the Bank of Krikorian. Their business ideas were:

- a Giant Giants' cookie (World Series fever was on)
- Carla's Crafty Souvenirs (including a hand painted Golden Gate Bridge scene)
- Coco's Socks
- Fan Belts (belts designed for various sports fans)
- Personalized Plannerz (for the Waldorf student)
- JJ's Journals
- Kyle's Hockey Sticks
- The Big Bite (specializing in 2-ft long sandwiches)
- World Map
- Pie Guy
- Save the Place Bookmarks
- Crystalline Candies (rock candy)
- Heavenly Scoop (hand cranked cookies and cream ice cream)
- Cloud Pillows
- Coast to Coast Coasters ("Saving the world one table at a time")
- Pretty Pottery
- Sweet Deliciousness (organic fruit syrups)
- GPCO (General Paper Company) for handmade designer paper

We concluded the block with looking at another way to use one's time and resources, this time by giving. SFWS founding parent and benefactor Henry Dakin's biography was presented, and we ended Thanksgiving week acknowledging the gift he gave to all of us with his vision, interest, and resources.

*Deborah Krikorian, Grade 6 Class Teacher*

Grade School: 2938 Washington Street, SF, CA 94115; tel. (415) 931-2750;  
info@sfwaldorf.org  
High School: 470 West Portal Avenue, SF, CA 94127; tel. (415) 431-2736;  
highschool@sfwaldorf.org  
San Francisco Waldorf School - www.sfwaldorf.org Comments regarding the  
Newsletter or requests for e-mail pdf copies can be sent to newsletter@sfwaldorf.org

## November in the gardens

A group from second grade planted barley, wheat, and rye recently. This grain will go into their third grade harvest dinner bread next fall! Yes, grain takes a while to grow. We grow winter varieties that sprout now in the late fall and then stand still for a while in the deepest part of winter. Then, come spring, the shoots shoot up and by April seed heads are forming. The children who are around in mid-summer will come to harvest the grain. Then, just as we did with the current third grade, next fall the now second grade children will thresh, winnow and grind it into flour. To protect our seeds from the hungry birds, K2 will build a scarecrow this week and install it next to the grain bed.



We have one lovely sunflower still blooming in the garden, but nearly all the other summer crops are finished. This week we'll remove the beans and collect more seeds from the

older sunflower heads. We have garlic growing and several brassica varieties. Brassica are cabbage and mustard family plants, such as broccoli, cauliflower, and Brussels sprouts. We need to get more lettuces going as well. Lettuce can be started in San Francisco year round.

The children are enjoying our gigantic leaf pile in the Tower Garden. We've been raking eucalyptus leaves all fall, and now we reap the benefit of jumping and burying ourselves in them. The second grade played a



spontaneous rendition of "Old Roger is Dead" while burying their friends in the pile. Also in the Tower Garden the children continue to turn the beautifully large compost piles to speed up the piles' maturation.

Have you noticed the wild onions growing around town? They are just now sending up their first green, ridged leaves. All of the plant is edible. The leaves are like scallions and can be chopped up for salad or stir fries. The bulbs can be cooked as you would a pearl onion. If you notice your gardener coming home with onion breath, this is why!

The animals are settled into their new home at Laguna Honda. The hair sheep and goats are friendly and line up for petting. Their bleating noises keep us company as we work in the gardens there. It is wonderful to have this important animal complement to our garden. A biodynamic garden relies upon the input of on-farm animal fertility (manure). A successful biodynamic farming system is a closed, self-supporting and even enhancing loop: the farm grows the food for all its animals and spreads the compost generated from their manure back onto the land. Happily we can now create that cycle at Laguna Honda.



I had the pleasure of attending a conference in early November located in East Troy, Wisconsin. This was a gathering of farm-based Waldorf educators. Garden teachers came from all over the U.S. to share ideas and learn from an active farm-school community there. Our SFWS program resembles the Chicago Waldorf School's garden program in that we two urban schools must make use of available city land for our work. They garden on vacant lots and now within a community garden. Just as our programs include our residential host communities, theirs works closely with immigrant populations in Chicago. In East Troy we observed a farm school where there were groups of children building a fence, others clearing manure, and still another group cooking pork chops and apple crisp in the house for the group lunch. It was very inspiring to see the children busy at these important farm chores, especially in 40 degree weather!

Instead of a recipe this week, I encourage you to locate and cook with the wild onions. Ask your student gardener to help you find some around your home.

*Amy Belkora, Gardening Program*

## Alumni program growing!

We have now had several lovely reunion events for grade school and high school alumni, including a recent gathering at the grade school for the 8th grade of 2001 and an all alumni event this past June.

As we continue to build our alumni program, we invite all alumni and their families to a party on December 21, 2010, 6:30-9:30pm at our high school campus. Invitations will be in your mailbox shortly!

RSVP so we can order appropriate quantities of food and drink. [Events@sfwaldorf.org](mailto:Events@sfwaldorf.org), 415-931-2750 x 322 or [www.sfwaldorf.org/alumniunion](http://www.sfwaldorf.org/alumniunion).

You are also welcome to contact the Advancement Office for more details at [alumni@sfwaldorf.org](mailto:alumni@sfwaldorf.org).



*Susan Cook with members of the 8th grade class of 2001 at a recent reunion at the grade school.*

participate in BMUN each year as high school delegations representing UN member nations. Student delegates must learn everything they can about the country they represent, including the policies it promotes, its position on all the hot topics in world affairs, as well as the assigned country's cultural, religious, and artistic sensibilities. This fall workshop was designed for novice students to get a head start on their preparation for the mock UN session to be held the weekend of March 4-6, 2011. For our intrepid Waldorf students, the workshop came not a moment too soon.

Our five students strode past Sproul Hall, unaware that on this very spot in 1964 student radicals had defended Free Speech in defiance of the authorities, marking the beginning of the student protests that rocked the Sixties and segued into the Anti-Vietnam War Movement. On this day the only bold protests came from the Sproul squirrels that fluttered their tails as we walked through their acorn picnic. We marched through Sather Gate and up the short incline to Wheeler Hall and its impressively columned façade. Throngs of well-dressed high school students chatted in animated clusters on the massive white stone staircase fronting the venerable edifice. We wound our way through the crowd, registered for the workshop, got our country assignments, and away we went.

The academic nature of the Model UN Conference builds the students' abilities to research and analyze policies, write technical position papers, negotiate and caucus with diverse interests, resolve and reconcile conflicts, and other complex tasks. Beyond that, they learn to act and speak diplomatically, conduct themselves with grace and class, develop a feel for tactful and meaningful action, and demonstrate fairness, sensitivity, honesty, and compassion. In a world of cynicism and selfishness, the Model UN provides a place which supports the highest common human ideals – ones we strive to engender as Waldorf teachers and parents.

Our sophomores split up and joined two different working groups for the three morning workshops. One group worked on Global Warming and the other worked on Nuclear Proliferation. In small classroom sessions led by UC undergrads they learned the rules of the game: the basic format of the Conference, the specialized terminology, and the research strategies needed to gain a working knowledge of their country. Along the way, they made new friends among the other student participants and got a glimpse into the world of higher education.

For lunch we walked down colorful Telegraph Avenue and grabbed some healthy fast food at Smart Alec's. The Halloween vibe was omnipresent, or was it just the normal offbeat Berkeley style? Street vendors, tie dye, music, Indian food aromas wafting through the air; these all formed a part of the day's experience as we walked and talked about how the morning sessions had gone.

We hustled back to Wheeler Hall for the final afternoon workshop. Back in the classrooms, the small groups held mock UN sessions to try out their newly acquired knowledge. Sophomore Sophia Vala found herself defending Iran's development of nuclear weapons!

At 3:30 we left Wheeler Hall and ambled back through the paths and winding staircase alleys of the campus and the surrounding neighborhoods to the school van. We passed by a field where some young men were swatting balls out of the air with strange looking clubs into a soccer goal. After a few moments we realized it was Irish hurling. Now the day seemed complete; we had seen, heard, smelled, tasted, and felt so many new and different things in such a short span of time. Berkeley? Well, we left Berkeley pretty much as we had found it: eclectic, diverse, smart, and busy. But I had the feeling that somehow we were different. Small but significant seeds of change were planted in the hearts and thoughts of the students. The seeds will live and grow at San Francisco Waldorf High School and give inner strength to the students as they work and strive, out in the wide world.

*Scott Merrill, High School Humanities*

*Mr. Merrill would like to thank the SFWHS Student Council for defraying the costs of attending the BMUN 59th Annual Session in March. The SFWHS MUN Club is still accepting new members. Currently the club meets every other Monday during 7th period. Contact Mr. Merrill or Mr. Prado for more information about meeting times and agendas.*

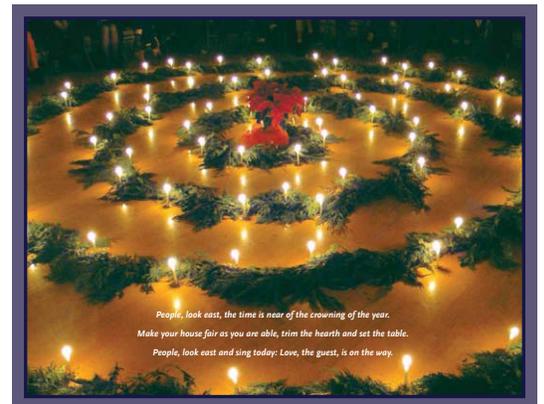
*Editors note: The SFWHS Model UN Club has received their official country assignment for March - the west central African country of Gabon.*

cultivate past and current supporters and to identify new avenues of backing for the school. We are fortunate to have a very compelling and unique educational program, which many foundations find appealing. For example, we were recently awarded a grant from RSF Social Finance to support our Urban Gardening and Farming program, and we are in the second year of a four year grant from the Sam Mazza Foundation funding the Kitch Scholarship program. In addition to financial backing, the school also receives generous donations of goods and services throughout the year from a number of merchants.

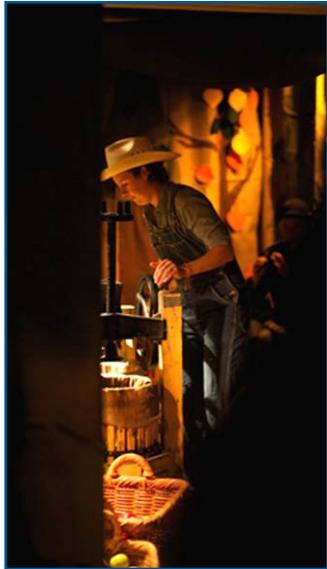
Yet although we benefit from outside assistance, the core of our fundraising is driven by the community of parents, faculty, staff, family, and friends that have a direct relationship with the school. We recently began this year's Annual Fund appeal, and the outpouring of support has already been phenomenal. The Annual Fund is about more than money; it is about an entire community coming together to provide our children and students with a fantastic education. For those of us who cannot give much but can give consistently, we send a compelling message to those who are able to make significant monetary contributions, that we stand with them in the philanthropic spirit.

Over the next month, you will be contacted by your class Advancement Liaison or by myself, asking for your support this year. I simply ask that you listen to our appeal with these thoughts in mind, and give to Annual Fund.

*With gratitude,  
Mitch Mitchell, Advancement Coordinator*



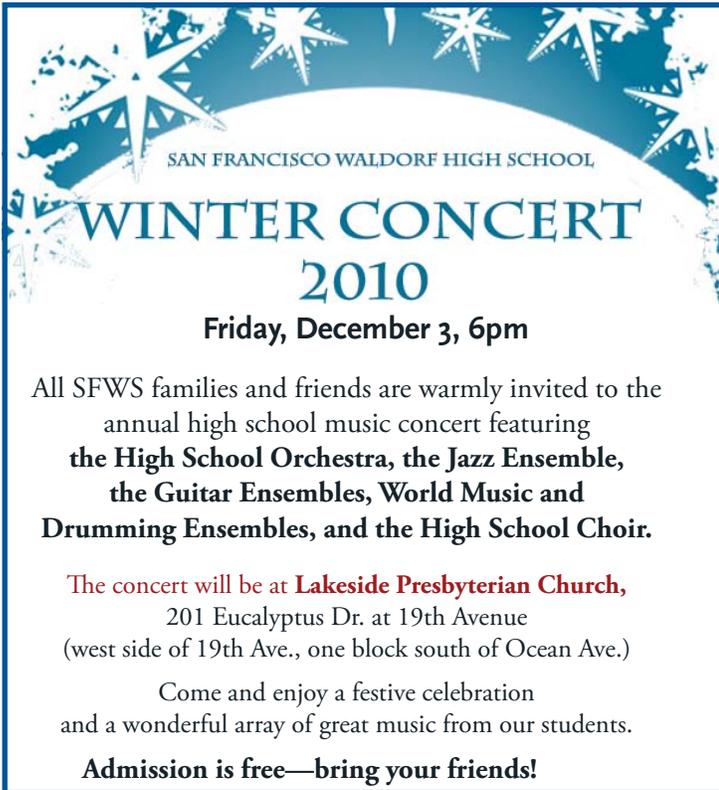
*December 2011 calendar image  
2009-2010 Annual Report and Calendar*



**Images from October/November**

Above: Kindergarten Halloween parade; Fairy Walk Cider Scene; Varsity Volleyball  
Middle column: 2nd grade dads build pavilion for GS events; musicians at Fairy Walk; school spirit at HS volleyball game; GS boys, soccer champions!  
Column at right: 1st and 8th grade pumpkin carving; Fairy Walk sing-a-long; three scenes from 11th/12th grade acting elective  
Photos: Staff and Scott Chernis

## DECEMBER 2010 PUBLIC EVENTS



SAN FRANCISCO WALDORF HIGH SCHOOL

# WINTER CONCERT 2010

Friday, December 3, 6pm

All SFWS families and friends are warmly invited to the annual high school music concert featuring **the High School Orchestra, the Jazz Ensemble, the Guitar Ensembles, World Music and Drumming Ensembles, and the High School Choir.**

The concert will be at **Lakeside Presbyterian Church**, 201 Eucalyptus Dr. at 19th Avenue (west side of 19th Ave., one block south of Ocean Ave.)

Come and enjoy a festive celebration and a wonderful array of great music from our students.

**Admission is free—bring your friends!**

Sports Basement & SFWS team up for



## FAMILY & FRIENDS FUNDRAISER HAPPY HOUR!

Friday, December 10, 4:30-7:30pm

- Complimentary drinks and snacks for adults and children
- **10% off your purchase AND 10% donated back to SFWS**
- **Discounted lift tickets for purchase with 100% of proceeds going to SFWS.** Resorts include Squaw Valley, Sugar Bowl, Alpine, and Homewood.
- Great holiday gifts for the outdoor enthusiasts in your life
- Top-tier gear for snow, hiking, camping, cycling, yoga, pilates, swimming and more

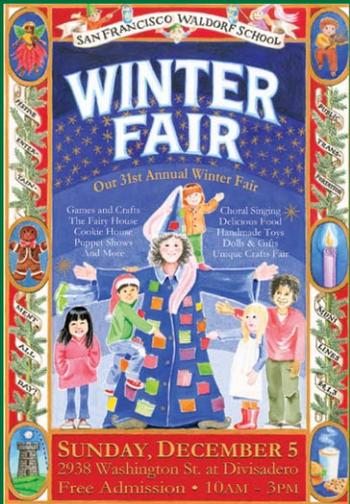
WHERE: Sports Basement, Presidio (across from Crissy Field)

Please RSVP to Kari Marble at [kmarble@speakeasy.org](mailto:kmarble@speakeasy.org)

*Sports Basement carries top-tier outdoor and sporting good brands at overstock, outlet, and basement prices. [www.sportsbasement.com](http://www.sportsbasement.com)*

Sunday, December 5, 10am - 3pm

## WINTER FAIR



**You are invited to join us at our 31st Annual Winter Fair.**

Come watch the puppet show, get Stars for games and activities, and enjoy the holiday marketplace.

Stars are 10 for \$10 or 30 for \$25.

Puppet Show is \$4/person or \$15/family.

More info available at <http://sfwaldorf.org/events/winterfair.asp>

Sunday, December 12, 10am-4pm

## TREE SALE AT SFWHS

Looking for a festive evergreen for the winter holidays? Beautiful evergreen trees, lovingly tended, freshly cut and transported from Washington state directly to our school. **One day only at the high school, no crowds, no hassle!** A portion of the sales benefit San Francisco Waldorf School. SFWHS parking lot at 470 W. Portal.

## ALL SCHOOL ICE SKATING PARTY AT THE EMBARCADERO



Thursday, December 16, 6-7:30PM

High school finals are done, grade school classes are wrapping up for the break and we have the rink at the Embarcadero reserved just for our community.

**Come join the fun.**

More details coming about per person cost and other amenities.

## Shepherds' Play

*A gift from the faculty to the community*

Friday, December 17, 5:00pm

This special evening performance, given as darkness sets, carries a special mood and we warmly invite you to bring the whole family for this SFWS tradition. Please plan to join us afterwards for a reception with the faculty in the foyer. Grade school Main Hall

