



Save The Date!

Fruit & Flower's 2005 Auction is scheduled for June 4, 2005
Mark your calendar now and watch your mail for an invite!



Fruit & Flower
quality childcare
since 1906

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spring 2005



Fruit & Flower: A Century of Service

Fruit & Flower's history is filled with the laughter of small children.

More than a century ago, eight school girls formed the Children's Flower Mission. The girls' goal: to deliver bouquets to shut-ins and hospitals. As the girls matured, they turned their charitable energies to the need for child care for working mothers. In 1906 the group opened the "Flower Mission Day Nursery." The fee was ten cents per day and children from infancy to age seven were admitted. The demand was surprisingly high.

Fruit & Flower has grown to become one of the more respected child care programs in the state and has maintained its focus on providing assistance to families in need. A scholarship program with 18 full time scholarships provides much needed support and assistance to families with major challenges in their lives such as single parenting, completing college studies, and re-entering the workplace.

Fruit & Flower provides an exemplary environment where children can flourish. We have programs for infants through pre-kindergarteners. In addition to our developmentally appropriate program, we provide nutritious breakfasts, lunches and snacks prepared on site. We also provide families with the opportunity to participate in a variety of child centered activities.

As we look to 2006, our Centennial Year, the Fruit & Flower Board of Directors has returned to our foundation and history for perspective on our future. From our earliest days, Portland and the greater community

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Riding the pig!



How Can I Help?

eScrip - So many people want to help but can't afford to contribute as much as they would like. One way to help Fruit & Flower financially without reaching into your pocket is through a program called eScrip. There's nothing to buy and very little hassle involved. Simply go to www.escrip.com and follow the steps. If you register and designate Fruit & Flower as the beneficiary of your account a small percentage of what you spend at participating retailers will automatically be forwarded to the Center each month. Check it out - it's pretty simple and could mean a lot to our great program.

Fruit & Flower 2004-05 Board of Directors

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Message from the President

Fruit & Flower Board President, Mike Llewelyn

I am honored to serve as President of the Board of Directors! I have had two children attend Fruit & Flower over the past five years and can attest to the quality of childcare that they received. My son Evan is now in Kindergarten and is doing very well in large part to the experience he had at Fruit & Flower.

The Board met on November 20 for a full day retreat to chart out our objectives for the coming year. Much of the work that we set out for ourselves is a continuation of the activities that the Board has been working on over the last year. We now are going to work very hard over the next six months to bring several of those issues to closure. In particular, we will be focusing on launching a major fund raising initiative that coincides with the upcoming celebration of Fruit & Flower's 100th anniversary! We will also be making decisions on the future of the center in terms of physical infrastructure needs, improvements and major maintenance items. More to come on those issues in the next few months.

While the Board is busy with these issues, there is one thing that you can do to enhance the quality of Fruit & Flower...VOLUNTEER! To be honest, the Board has noticed that we draw upon a few very dedicated people who volunteer year after to year to help with the many events at the center. Every year we need to recruit more people to help with the many activities in the center ranging from Board participation to organizing the annual garage sale. I know your time is limited but you'll find it rewarding to help! You can participate on Board subcommittees, help with the planning and delivery of numerous fundraising events, help with social events or assist with projects in the classroom. Please sign up to help with the many events that occur over the year in the center.

If you have any questions, suggestions or ideas about how Fruit & Flower can continue to provide high quality childcare, don't hesitate to talk to a Board member. You can reach me directly at mikeandaudrey1@comcast.net or give me a call at 503-297-0947.

I look forward to a productive year!

Mike Llewelyn



From the Executive Director

Fruit & Flower Board Executive Director, George Janis

We are already a few months into our new year and the Center, as always, is buzzing with activity. Our new Board of Directors has an aggressive agenda for the coming year and the Administrative and Classroom staff will be very busy with the activities surrounding our application for accreditation. With all this activity going on we still must keep our primary focus on our number one job - caring for over 100 children as they go through their own discovery and learning processes.

I spent many years working in the for-profit world with many of the same stressors that go along with this job. However, we are blessed with a tremendous level of positive energy that surrounds us and gives us cause to smile and laugh every day. This business is unique in that way and Fruit & Flower is unique within the industry of child care. Our rich history along with our long tenured and caring staff separates us from the majority of centers. What further separates us is our diverse mix of families - a healthy mix of dual income, full-fee families, single parent scholarship families, and families whose parents are in a full time educational program. That's the type of mix that benefits all of us and makes us what we are - the finest place for children to grow in an environment that reflects the academic world that they are about to enter.

We are trying to take this wonderful message to the funding community in the form of grant applications and have had some limited success. The more we tell this great story the more successful we will be. I am proud to be the Executive Director of this great Center and look forward to the great challenges ahead of us.

Help Start a Bright Future

With a legacy gift to Fruit & Flower, you can help the next generation of teachers, lawyers, doctors, engineers, presidents, and artists reach their full potential. Please consider making a legacy gift to support our children. It is as easy as naming Fruit & Flower as a beneficiary in your will, living trust, life insurance policy, or retirement plan. For more information, please contact our executive director, George Janis at 503-228-8349 or george.janis@fruitandflower.org. Your gift will make a difference to the next generation.



Fruit & Flower clock that still resides in the lobby. Photo 1957.

Century of Service continued from page 1

have always been proud to support the efforts of our child care program. The Board is in strong support of welcoming the community to help us celebrate this great accomplishment. Also, the Fruit & Flower Board feels the responsibility of ensuring that the child care legacy continues into the next century. We will be working to expand the Permanent Endowment which began with two major contributions in 1937. It has grown to be worth over a million dollars.

In preparation for our Centennial Year, the Board has challenged the Development Committee to raise awareness of this milestone through community events and fundraisers for our future. We are hoping you can help us! We are looking for suggestions for events, ideas for fundraising and grant opportunities. Additionally we are looking for alumni whose names or addresses we have lost. Please contact Mike Heilbronner, Chair of the Development Committee, if you can assist, provide ideas or provide alumni information (MHeilbronner@IdeaLegal.com).

Eight young women began the Fruit & Flower Child Care dream in 1906 -

Helen Burrell, Antoinette Montgomery, Anna Farrell, Ida Farrell, Dorthea Eliot, Frances Warren, Ellen Eliot, Clara Teal

If you are a descendant or know the descendants of any of these women, please contact Fruit & Flower immediately at info@fruitandflower.org.

Donors

The following list of donors includes contributions made during our fiscal year July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2004. This list does not include the many in-kind donations made by our supporters directly to the Center and to the auction. Also, we cannot quantify the innumerable hours and dollars donated by volunteer Board members who lead our organization and project volunteers who donate their Saturdays to work parties that improve our Center.

\$1 - 149

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In Honor Of Peter Norrie's Birthday
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Celeste Lewis & Tovey Barron
Martha & Peter Norrie

In Honor Of Andrew Finkelman's Birthday
Stan Rose

In Honor Of Haley Wilson
Shirley & Bernie Croucher

In Memory . . .

In Memory of Dorothy Baruh
Joan & Theodore Antonsen

In Memory of Nick Wilson
Shirley & Bernie Croucher

Thanks!

Fruit & Flower would like to thank The Maybelle Clark Macdonald Fund, The Isam & Rose White Fund, The Hoover Foundation, The Juan Young Trust, The Swigert Foundation and The Jackson Foundation for their donations to F&F this past calendar year. Their contributions totaling \$38,152 have made a great difference in the lives of the families assisted by our scholarship fund.



Forever Friends: Alumni Corner

During our almost 100 years of child care Fruit & Flower has served literally thousands of children and their families. Our program has touched so many young lives and helped to provide a solid foundation to build upon. Where are these children now? We'd really like to find more of the adults who got their start here.

Among the over 1,600 families in our database, only 14 are classified as alumni. We've "found" a few in recent months by chance but we know there are hundreds of adults in the Portland area who played in our class-

rooms as children. Nancy Douglas found us recently in a search for her roots. She lives in a senior housing complex in Coos Bay and remembers the songs she was taught as a child enrolled in Fruit & Flower. Bud Clark, Portland's former mayor and Fruit & Flower neighbor, remembers walking to our Center for lunch and for our after school program back in the 40's. One of our recent alumni, Joe Kilty, tells us that his school principal at Hollyrood Elementary, Kathryn Anderson, was a Fruit & Flower child "back in the day." Our very own Sherri Hobbs, Lead Teacher in the Infant Center attended Fruit & Flower when we were on the Portland State Campus.

But, where are the rest of you? Please contact us if you're an alum' or if you know of someone who is. We'd like to profile alumni and facilitate contact in future issues.



2004 Auction Success

the bracelet back to be auctioned - and then was the successful bidder!

Another Fruit & Flower mom, Dr. Linda Moore Sanders, sewed 30 tooth fairy pillows for the silent auction. Each pillow/kit included a place to hide the tooth, plus a toothbrush and toothpaste for those beautiful new teeth.

Our spirited auctioneer, Steve Talbot, kept the auction moving and fun. Executive Director George Janis described how much Fruit & Flower has meant to several families receiving scholarships. The most exciting part of the evening was watching attendees raise their paddles to donate money to our scholarship program. Beginning at the \$1000 level, we received five donations of \$1000 and many additional donations to total over \$17,000 for scholarships.

We have already started planning the 2005 Auction so start gathering items for our silent auction as well as excursions, meals and "special events" for the oral auction. There will be lots to do. Think about how you would like to participate. Save the date of June 4, 2005 to visit staff, old friends and current parents at our 2005 Auction.



Mary and Marty Wilson with Auction Chair Tom Hughes and his wife Karen.

What a success! We raised \$17,000 for scholarships and almost \$14,000 for our program at Fruit & Flower's Annual Auction held on June 5th at the Multnomah Athletic Club.

Under the leadership of Board Member Tom Hughes, the Auction Committee gathered some incredible items, including: a six night stay at The Aspens Resort in Jackson Hole; a recital by Thomas Lauderdale in your very own home and a fishing expedition in Tillamook Bay. Franco Jewelers provided an amazing ruby and diamond bracelet for us to raffle. The lucky winner was a Fruit & Flower mom who then donated