

# Inform

AWSNA COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

**MARCH 2015**

## DEAR WALDORF COMMUNITY

Recently the Leadership Council and Board of Trustees met for our twice yearly joint meeting. This gathering focused on discussing a new Strategic Plan to guide AWSNA's next three years, and to brainstorm ways to celebrate the 100 year anniversary of Waldorf Education in 2019.

While in Tampa, FL, we all convened for a soirée with local member schools and initiatives. During the heartwarming evening, various representatives briefly shared the collaborative work of AWSNA.

We also listened to the unique experiences of individuals in both member and non-member schools. Successes and struggles were shared and there was a flow of warmth throughout the room.

Two AWSNA member schools, Suncoast Waldorf School and Waldorf Sarasota, participated, along with individuals from other initiatives as far away as Miami (a 4-5 hour drive), and two representatives from Puerto Rico, who flew up just to make personal connections.

More information on AWSNA's new Strategic Plan will be shared when it is finalized this summer.



Warmly,  
*Beverly,  
David, &  
Melanie*

## WALDORF EDUCATION IN THE NEWS

The **Green Meadow Waldorf School robotics club**, aptly named the PolyGnomes, won the FIRST Tech Challenge Mid-Hudson Tournament! In this year's game, Cascade Effect, students designed and operated a robot that placed plastic balls in various goals on a playing field in a complex game. This season, the PolyGnomes were the only team to go undefeated with a 9-0 record.



**And...Merriconeag Nordic Skiers Reigned as Maine State Champs...Again!** Winning a high school state championship is rare and bringing home consecutive state championships seems incredible, but that is just what Merriconeag Waldorf High School's Nordic skiers accomplished at the 2015 Maine State Class C Championships held in Presque Isle. Braving sub-zero temperatures, the girls' team secured their **fifth** straight title, and the boys earned their **third**. With a total student population of just over 40, Merriconeag competed against schools with nearly eight times its enrollment.



Please visit the News section on our website for information to read these stories and other ones as well:  
[http://www.whywaldorfworks.org/03\\_NewsEvents/index.asp](http://www.whywaldorfworks.org/03_NewsEvents/index.asp)

## INTERNATIONAL FORUM (HAGUE CIRCLE)

Twice a year the International Forum of Steiner/Waldorf Schools convenes to take the pulse of Waldorf Education around the world. The most recent meeting of the Forum in November took place in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, and the Harduf kibbutz in Northern Israel. The IF is comprised of about 45 representatives from 30 countries; two-thirds come from Europe, with the remaining third from the other continents. Once a year it meets at the Goetheanum in Dornach and once in another country. Next fall, the Forum will make its first foray into the breadth of North America, starting in New York City, (November 14-15), then fanning out in small groups to visit Waldorf schools across the continent (November 16-17), then converging on Orange County for its own meeting (November 18-20) and finally a regional conference (November 20-21). More to come on that exciting venture.

## GRANTS AND LOANS

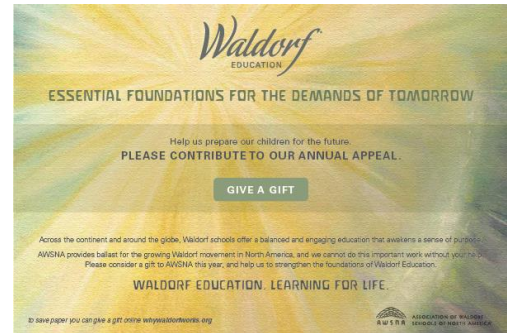
Special thanks to 62 of our member schools who matched AWSNA's practicing teacher grants with their own funds to support training of their teachers. In fact, the participating schools nearly tripled AWSNA's contribution to \$185,000. Grants to practicing teachers totaling just over \$66,000 have been made to 106 trainees so far. The grants especially helped colleagues in Mexico again this year – 18 colleagues from four schools were able to participate in the summer training program offered by Centro de Desarrollo Antroposófico in Cuernavaca. Thank you to all our member schools for their valued and continued support.

## THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING WALDORF EDUCATION

Please consider supporting the valuable work AWSNA is doing to encourage and promote Waldorf/Steiner schools and teacher training institutes as viable communities supporting children, childhood, and families across the U.S., Canada, and Mexico!

To donate online go to:

<https://npo.justgive.org/nonprofits/donate.jsp?ein=23-2083226>



## SOCIAL MEDIA

We continue to increase our on-line social media presence. Please check out and follow the new Association of Waldorf Schools of North America (AWSNA) pages on [FaceBook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Pinterest](#) and share with us your school news, alumni updates, and information or articles about Waldorf Education. We look forward to seeing you there!



## COMMUNITY WEB RESOURCES

[WWW.WHYWALDORFWORKS.ORG](http://WWW.WHYWALDORFWORKS.ORG)

### FORMS

Templates you can use to create your own forms can be found on the "Affiliated School Resources" page of our website.

### STAY CONNECTED

Sign up for our newsletter on our website and like and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Pinterest.

You can also support us on our website.  
Thank you for your commitment to Waldorf Education!

## LEADERSHIP TEAM

### LEADER OF ADMINISTRATION

David Owen-Cruise  
[DOWENCruise@AWSNA.ORG](mailto:DOWENCruise@AWSNA.ORG)

612-870-8310 x104

### LEADER OF PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

Melanie Reiser  
[MREISER@AWSNA.ORG](mailto:MREISER@AWSNA.ORG)

612-870-8310 x105

### LEADER OF OUTREACH & DEVELOPMENT

Beverly Amico  
[BAMICO@AWSNA.ORG](mailto:BAMICO@AWSNA.ORG)

612-870-8310 x106