

Reinventing our World

A Peaceful World

- **Peer Mediation Courses:** Seventh and eighth graders now take a required course in peer mediation to teach them necessary skills to resolve conflicts. Once trained, peer mediators are then available to children in other grades experiencing conflict.
- **Ombuds Program:** In the last few years, Willow Wood has refined and clarified its successful Ombuds Program and Conflict Resolution Pathways, programs which, by request, we have shared with many other Waldorf schools.



A Diverse World

- **Multicultural curriculum:** Throughout the years, Willow Wood has enhanced the traditionally rich Waldorf curriculum with multicultural themes to include the history, literature and arts of many cultures. As educators in a society dominated by European culture, we must continually ask: How can our curriculum better nurture the uniquely diverse American folk-soul?
- **Diverse student body:** Since our founding, we have worked to create a program which is welcoming to children of all ethnic and racial backgrounds. This commitment to diversity can be seen in the colorful tapestry of our student body. We are working to develop within ourselves and our students the sensitivity to meet the challenges a diverse community brings: these are the tools that will be indispensable in the world which awaits our children.



Students performing eurythmy.

Photos by Robert Schilling except where noted

A Caring World

- **Inclusion:** A long-held goal voiced at Willow Wood is that no child be turned away for lack of funds. This goal has resulted in a tuition model which has allowed families from all socioeconomic and ethnic backgrounds to attend the school.
- **Community Service:** Upper grades classes have been volunteering in the broader community, from tree planting and the restoration of water sheds, to stocking shelves in local food pantries. Some classes have made community service mandatory.
- **Support of non-profits:** In 1998, we continued support of our sister school, Noxolo Educare Centre in Capetown, South Africa, sending them \$1,260, 20% of the proceeds from our Tuition Aid Raffle. In support of children with AIDS, Willow Wood also donated a large portion of the profit from its annual auction to Sunburst Projects.
- **Four-day Week:** Committed to a four-day school week, Willow Wood stands out among private schools in its dedication to the values of family life and an unhurried, sane approach to educating youth in our over-harried society.



Kindergarteners with the quilt they made to raffle in support of our sister school.

Judith Ashley

Finance Report '04-05

The Willow Wood community spent a large part of the 2004-05 school year studying its finances and tuition program.

At the start of the year, the financial picture was uncertain as we forecast a substantial deficit; however, a combination of increased fundraising and expense cuts resulted in a balanced budget by the end of the school year. In the process, we took a serious look at our finances and tuition program, ending the year with a renewed financial consciousness and some necessary changes to our unique tuition program.

We are starting 2005-06 with a virtually balanced budget and an expanded program. This includes the addition of more specialty and elective classes and the increased financial security of our faculty with a new sabbatical-retirement program. In the coming year, we hope to expand our financial support to include the wider community.



Willow Wood Income & Expenses, 2004-05

Income		Expenses	
Tuition	\$579,317	Faculty Salaries	\$431,837
Fees	\$86,902	Staff Salaries	\$94,984
Fundraising	\$73,386	Loan payments	\$57,134
Misc.	\$898	Site costs	\$63,258
Loans	\$3,600	Classroom costs	\$51,805
Rent	\$10,591	Office & misc.	\$46,921
After School Care	(\$2,070)	Total:	\$745,939
Total:	\$754,694	Net Income	\$6,684



Educational Excellence

This year, Willow Wood has expanded its programs beyond the core Waldorf curriculum. New course offerings include more music, an advanced Spanish class, and a full-time Eurythmy program, an art form which translates the spoken word into movement and music.

In addition, middle school students now take a variety of electives designed to offer them life skills, more advanced academic study, and more opportunity for artistic and athletic pursuit.



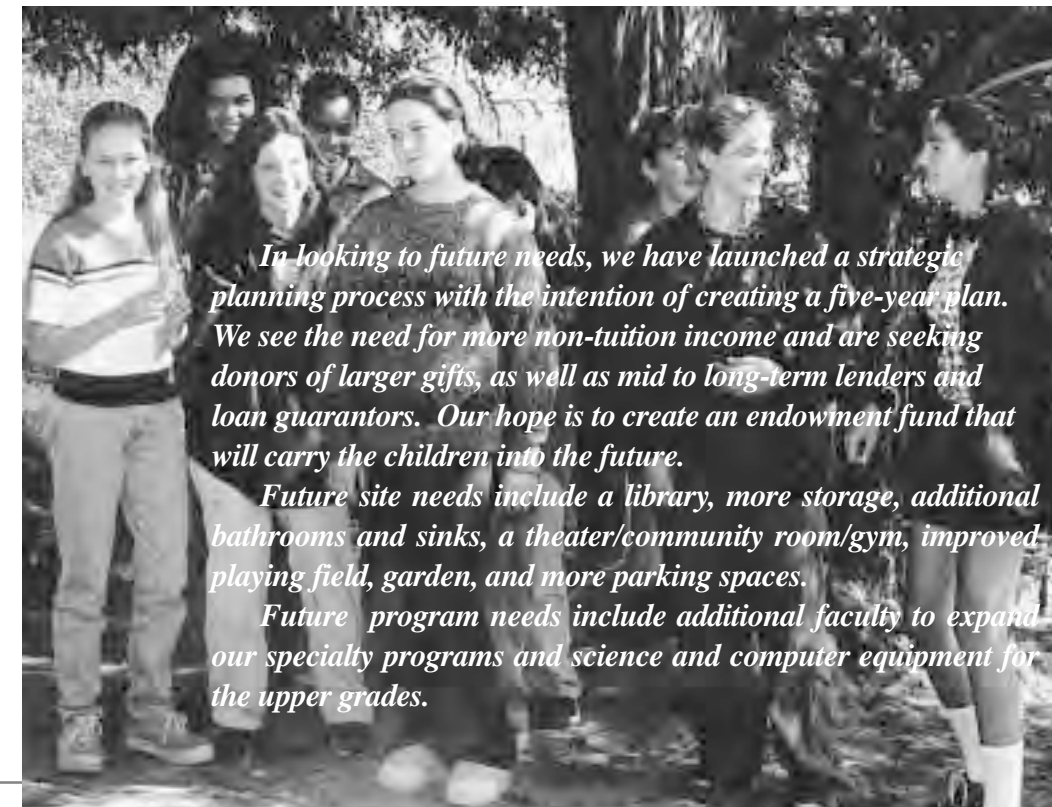
Your Annual Fund Donation

Gifts to the Annual Fund make the difference between Willow Wood's ability to offer a basic educational program and an enriched one. As part of our operating budget, the funds will be used in a number of ways to support this year's programs, such as:

- *sending our teachers to conferences for additional training*
- *offering our teachers sabbatical & retirement plans*
- *Eurythmy for all the classes*
- *the enhanced music program: orchestra, chorus, advanced recorder ensemble*
- *playground maintenance and expansion*
- *the beautification of our campus*

We invite you to make a tax-deductible gift. We have set a goal of \$10,000. Below is a list of varying ways we can participate which would meet our goal. Please select a gift amount which reflects the value of the school to you and your individual circumstances. Gifts of all sizes are most welcome.

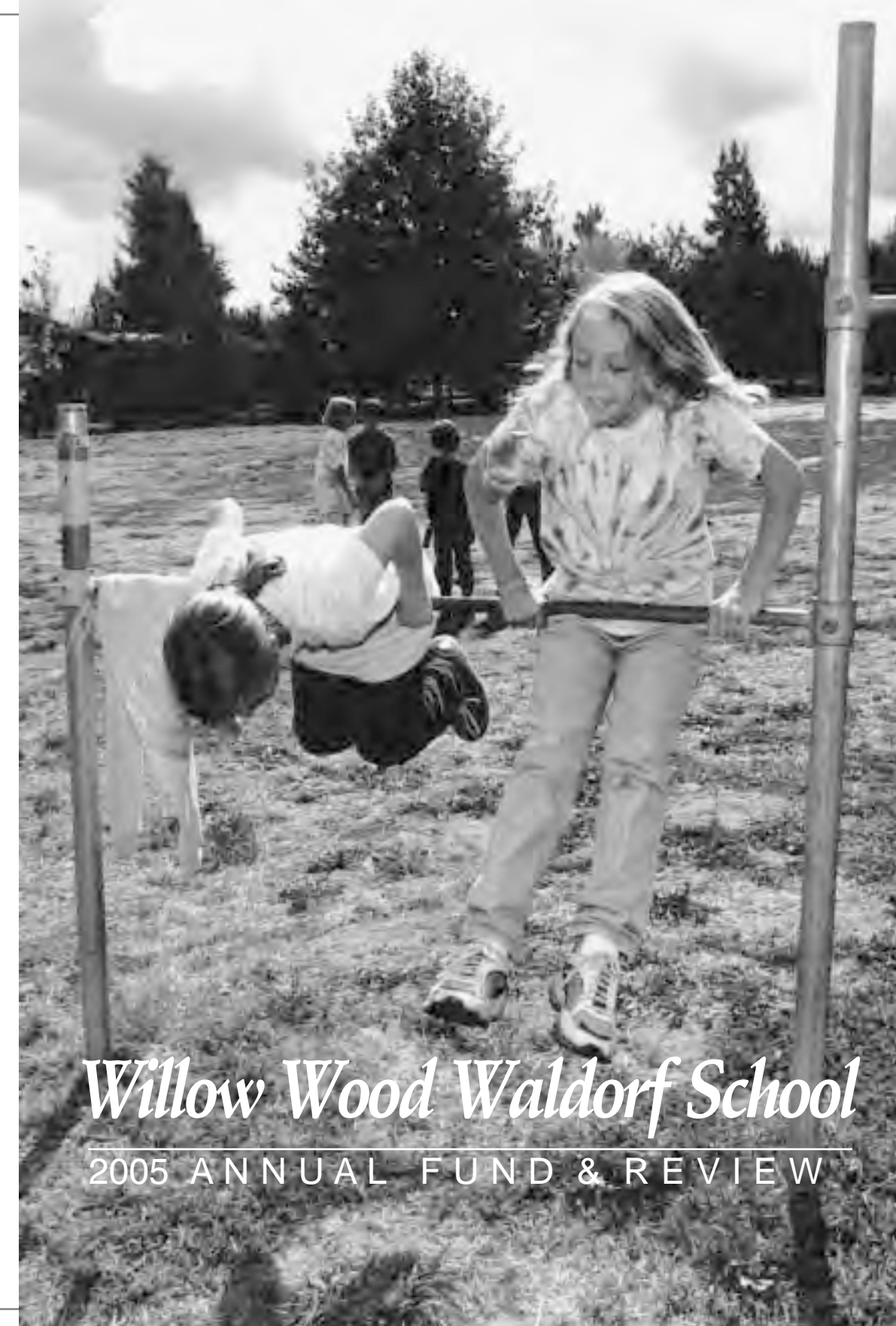
- *1 gift of \$1,200 (\$100/month)*
- *20 gifts of \$100 (\$25/quarter)*
- *4 gifts of \$600 (\$50/month)*
- *50 gifts of \$40*
- *8 gifts of \$300 (\$25/month)*



In looking to future needs, we have launched a strategic planning process with the intention of creating a five-year plan. We see the need for more non-tuition income and are seeking donors of larger gifts, as well as mid to long-term lenders and loan guarantors. Our hope is to create an endowment fund that will carry the children into the future.

Future site needs include a library, more storage, additional bathrooms and sinks, a theater/community room/gym, improved playing field, garden, and more parking spaces.

Future program needs include additional faculty to expand our specialty programs and science and computer equipment for the upper grades.



Willow Wood Waldorf School
2005 ANNUAL FUND & REVIEW

Education for the 21st Century

What will the next century bring, and how will our children meet it? Entering its 10th year in this new millennium, Willow Wood is taking up the question of how to bring to our students a continually relevant curriculum in a fast-changing world.

From the founding of the first Waldorf school following World War I, Waldorf schools have sought to prepare children to be not only scholars but world citizens. Now we ask ourselves: What do our children need in a century sure to experience even more profound change than this one? We believe that the answer is the ability to *reinvent their world* — to adapt to change and think creatively.

To teach this, a pedagogy must be broad and deep enough to encompass not only the dissemination of information and knowledge, but also attention to beauty and truth, time for physical and artistic exploration, and an appreciation for the natural world and its mysteries.



Our 10th Year