

Giving at Bertschi School

Opportunities to Give

Annual Fund

The Annual Fund strengthens and sustains the extraordinary opportunities of a Bertschi School education. Each year, the school relies on annual contributions to provide critical support to the operating budget by offsetting expenses not covered by tuition. These gifts provide an immediate and direct benefit to each student and faculty member, as well as to the quality and range of all school programming.

This year, the Advancement Office will work with the Annual Fund Committee, to reach all monetary and participation goals by December 19, 2008. You can help by making your pledge before Winter Break.

Bertschi FEST - Fun Events to Support Financial Aid

FEST events raise much-needed funds for Bertschi's Financial Aid program by providing parents, faculty, and staff much appreciated chances to socialize and have fun. Perennial favorites include Dads' Casino Night and Moms' Night Out. By putting these popular parties on your calendar, you'll be supporting a great cause.

Major Gifts Program

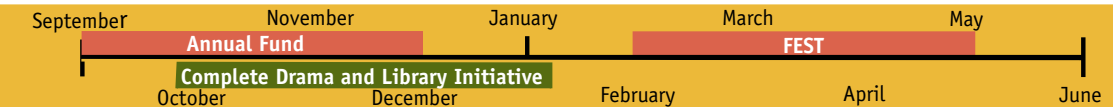
Bertschi School's Major Gifts program is an on-going effort to raise funds for capital campaigns and endowment drives. Our current fund-raising priorities include growing the School's endowment and, in conjunction with the Campus Master plan, making capital improvements to the Drama, Library, and Science and Technology classrooms.

Ways to Give

Cash and Pledges – Donations and pledge payments can be made by cash, check, credit card, and/or through the transfer of stocks and securities. Annual Fund gifts are due by June 30th of the school year that the pledge is made. Major Gifts and Capital pledges are typically paid over 2 to 5 years.

Bertschi School also accepts gifts of real estate, planned or deferred gifts, or non-cash gifts. For more information about these and any other number of creative ways to give, please contact David Chow, Director of Admission and Advancement, at 206-324-2150 or chowd@bertschi.org.

Giving Timeline



Q: Is an Annual Fund Campaign unique to Bertschi School?

A: No. Independent schools have long relied on the generosity and loyalty of their community. Very few independent schools, colleges, or universities meet full operating costs with tuition alone. Unlike Bertschi, many independent schools in Seattle have both an Annual Fund AND an auction.

Q: Why doesn't Bertschi School charge enough to cover operating expenses?

A: Bertschi School is committed to building a dynamic learning environment staffed by dedicated and experienced teachers. We offer this at a cost subsidized through our fund-raising efforts, allowing students from a wider range of backgrounds to attend Bertschi School. The richness of our diverse community benefits all families.

Q: What are the goals for the Annual Fund?

A: Participation. While monetary goals will be set each year as a specific benchmark, overall participation will remain the ultimate goal. No gift is too small, so we encourage everyone -- trustees, parents, grandparents, alumni, and friends -- to give what he or she can.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the difference between the Annual Fund and other giving programs such as Major Gifts?

A: Annual Fund gifts are solicited and given every year to help fund operations. Major Gifts and Capital Gifts are generally larger -- usually made over a 2-5 year period -- and fund long-term projects such as endowment and new construction.

Q: Am I expected to give to both the Annual Fund and Major Gifts?

A: We hope that families will support both. However, because the Annual Fund supports immediate operating expenses, we ask that the Annual Fund be your first giving priority. Of course, the generosity of those who participate in both the Annual Fund and Capital Giving is deeply appreciated by the School.

Q: How much does Bertschi expect me to give?

A: We hope that each family can find a way to participate, at a level that is comfortable and appropriate for them. During the 2007-08 school year, we raised \$332,000 in Annual Fund gifts. The average parent gift ranges from \$1,500 and \$2,500. Bertschi School is truly grateful for every gift.

Q: Can I give online?

A: Yes, beginning in October 2008, you can visit www.bertschi.org/giving for information on how to make your gift online.

Q: What about my company's matching gift program?

A: Many companies match gifts to independent schools. To find out if your employer will match your gift to Bertschi School, check with your Personnel Office. Obtain the proper form and send it to our Advancement Office, along with your gift. Our Advancement Office will secure the matching gift.

