

January 4, 2019

Dear Friend of Sage,

On March 9, 2019, Sage School will be celebrating our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and will be hosting our 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala at the Buford Community Center to raise money for the school. Sage is a non-profit, private school for children with dyslexia and other language learning differences. With more than 15% of the population challenged with the gift of dyslexia, Sage is a much-needed resource for students to reach their maximum potential. Without the support of the community, many in need will go unserved. Please help us change the statistics:

- It is estimated that up to 15% (close to one in seven) of the population has dyslexia a language-based learning disability. (National Institute of Health)
- 44% of females and 57% of males with learning disabilities drop out of high school. (National Adult Literacy Survey)
- Only 13% of students with learning disabilities attend any post-secondary school program. (National Longitudinal Transition Study)
- 50% of juvenile delinquents tested were found to have undetected learning disabilities. (National Center for State Courts and the Educational Testing Service)
- 60% of adolescents in treatment for substance abuse have learning disabilities. (Hazelden Foundation)
- 31% of adolescents with learning disabilities will be arrested 3-5 years out of high school. (National Longitudinal Transition Study)
- Up to 40 percent of all adults on welfare have learning disabilities. (Learning Disability Institute).
- The leading variable accounting for suicides among youths under the age of 14 is learning disabilities. (Director of the Los Angeles Suicide Prevention Center)

Our tuition and fees cover approximately 80 percent of our budget needs; therefore, we depend on fundraisers to bridge the gap. Sage is constantly working to improve our programs which includes technology, teacher training and other resources that directly impact the success of our students. This year we are setting our Gala goal at \$100,000 and our goal is a minimum of 200 attendees at the Gala.

The Gala promises to be a wonderful event: heavy hors d'oeuvres, silent auctions, a live auction and entertainment.

How can you help? Attend, sponsor or donate something to the auction! Perhaps you, your company or one of your friends could offer a service, a product, sports tickets or vacation rental that can be used in our silent or auction items. We look forward to your participation and input! Thanks in advance for helping us make this a successful Sage Event. If you have any questions, please contact me at <a href="mailto:bhitt@sageschool.net">bhitt@sageschool.net</a> or our website: <a href="http://qtego.net/qlink/sageschool.net">http://qtego.net/qlink/sageschool.net</a>

Kind Regards,

Beverly B. Hitt Director of Special Events