



Community Notes

for September 21, 2017

Friday, September 29th Michaelmas Festival!

Please join us for the Michaelmas Festival on Friday, September 29. We will gather in the lower school courtyard at 8:45am and start the Michaelmas assembly at 9:00am. Lower school and high school classes will present offerings there before we process to the field to battle the dragon. Afterwards the children will participate in the Michaelmas games. We need parent volunteers for the games.

[Click here to sign up to help with the Games.](#)

School will dismiss at 12 pm and a picnic will follow, beginning with the blessing and sharing of the dragon bread!

8:00 Alumni/Alumni Parent Tea

8:45 Gathering in the Lower School courtyard

9:00 All-school assembly in courtyard, followed by procession to the field for the pageant

10:35 Michaelmas games

12:00 Noon dismissal followed by picnic lunch on the playground (weather permitting). Bring your lunch and a blanket and join us!



Felt art by Rebecca Blum.

Alumni & Alumni Parent Michaelmas Tea

Let's come together to tame that dragon!

A hhhhhh Michaelmas. That time of year we begin to turn inward. The days begin to shorten. The nights get longer. And the time for community and connection grows strong! Won't you join us for a special alumni community tea before this year's Michaelmas events?



Come for the warmth, come for the friends, come to be filled with bravery and courage for the winter months ahead! Please RSVP to NitaD@smwaldorf.org

Blessings and joy to you!

Nita Davanzo

Alumni Relations Coordinator

Friday, September 29th,

8:00am

**Mary B. Winston Atrium
of the Festival Hall**

from the School Director



Dear SMWS Community,

There is something about the start of a new school year that feels so refreshing! We are now settling into the rhythm of the year in our schedule, with the completion of the majority of our fall trips, and the transition from the warmth of summer into the cooler, shorter fall days. Our students are already practicing for Michaelmas, and the excitement and splendor of our annual Michaelmas Festival. I hope that many of you will make the time to attend the **Michaelmas festival on**

Friday, September 29 at 9 AM on the Lower School Campus.

I am constantly reminded of the cycle of the seasons here at Shining Mountain Waldorf School, and how so much of what we do here is rooted in the annual and never ending trip of the Earth around our Sun. It is so easy for us as adults to get distracted by the outside world, the latest news, crises, war, famine, fire, and hurricanes that can pull on us from all directions. Our work here with the children is to provide them the structure, stability, rhythm, and education to help them both live in the world and to build a deeply satisfying inner life. As their parents, we can also seek to explore what lives within us and how we can take our inner life out into the world in service to humanity.

I encourage each of you to take advantage of the rich community and festival life here at Shining Mountain. Please come and attend our festivals, plays, parent evenings, educational talks, concerts, athletic events, eurythmy classes, and events. There is something almost every week highlighted on our calendar as well as in the Weekly Update, and even if you just “dip your toe” in the water, your life will be enriched. I would also encourage you to get involved in acts of service to the school as well, for when we share our time and talents, we also receive as much as we give! If you are wondering where you can serve, please let me or any member of our staff or faculty know, and we will point you in the right direction!

Today I was giving a tour for a potential new family, and was inspired as always by what I witnessed in the classrooms and in speaking with our students. I was struck by the kindness our students displayed towards our visitors, and our visiting parents commented on how engaged our students were and how friendly and calm. We were chatting with two 5th grade girls, and told them that their daughter may be shadowing next week.

These two lovely students looked the mother in the eye, and said “that’s great, we need her here because we have only 8 girls and 9 boys!”

As parents, we also have the opportunity to display a welcoming gesture to the many new families at our school, as well as families shadowing and touring our campus. I think back to when my family was new here, and how much it meant to me to have a well-established family say hello, ask me my name again, and get to know me and my children a bit better. It always takes some time to integrate into a new school, and I thank everyone in advance over this coming month to make the effort to be that welcoming presence.

I look forward to seeing many of you at Michaelmas on September 29, and celebrating the turning of the season towards winter.

*In love and light,
Jane Zeender, School Director*

At the Michaelmas festival in 2016. Photo by Theresa Baker.



from the School Director

Final Strategic Leadership Goals for Shining Mountain Waldorf School 2017-2018 School Year

Board of Trustees:

1. Update the Strategic plan
2. Fill all of the Committee Chair Positions
3. Conduct Board Training on Governance and Capital Campaign
4. Complete Board work for 5-year interim visit from the Association of Colorado Independent Schools (ACIS) scheduled for March, 2018
5. Lead Campus Development Work
6. Create Board Dashboard for financials, admissions, and development
7. Create a philosophy of compensation with Governance Council and School Director

Governance Council:

1. Understanding program costs by section.
2. Support Pedagogical Director in her work.
3. Support February Conference 2018, support 5 year interim ACIS visit (document due 2/1/18), support the Board and School Director in Campus Planning.
4. Further consideration of MS/HS world language program
5. Consideration for supporting sustainable job expectations

School Director:

1. Create and implement a plan for the Development Office this school year to improve operational as well as capital fundraising efforts. This would include working with the Development Director and Fund Development Chair to re-build the Development Committee, provide training to the Board for what roles they can play in this realm, identifying the school's major donors and utilizing the Board, Development Director, and Alumni Relations Coordinator to begin "friend raising".
2. Campus Development- Co-Lead the work of the CDC with the Board. Work with the Board to hire a Project Coordinator and support the CDC and the Board in leading this project.
3. Train new Business Director.
4. With the help and support of Pedagogical Director and High School Administrator, as well as the BOT and any other critical Administrators and Staff, ensure a successful 5-year interim visit from AWSNA / ACIS.
5. Create a philosophy of compensation for the school, with the Governance Council and the Board.
6. With the Governance Council, analyze program costs across the school.
7. Work with the BOT and Finance Committee to create a "dashboard" and or "key/ performance indicators" tool.



At the Michaelmas festival in 2016. Photo by Theresa Baker.

from the Admission Office

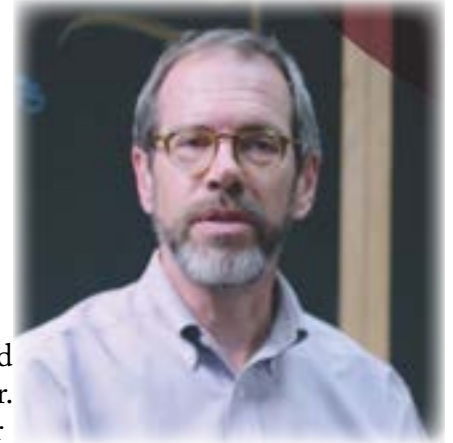
Essentials of Waldorf Education

Monday, September 25, 10:45am - 12:15pm

Mary B. Winston Atrium in the Festival Hall

Monday, September 25, 7:00 - 9:00pm

High School Assembly Hall



All new families to Shining Mountain Waldorf School are invited to attend one of two identical talks, “Essentials of Waldorf Education”, given by Dr. Lawrence Mathews, science and math teacher in the high school and member of the High School Leadership Group. These talks will explain the vision and philosophy underlying our curriculum.

It is required that at least one parent of new kindergarten children attend one of these talks, and strongly encouraged that parents of all new families attend one.

Even if you have been at Shining Mountain for years, we encourage you to take time to attend these talks, as they are quite inspirational and you are sure to learn something new! We also warmly invite new faculty and staff to attend!

For more information, please contact Mary Eaton Fairfield, Admission Director, at maryf@smwaldorf.org.



Wednesday, October 18 • 6-9:30pm • Festival Hall

Please join us for our High School Senior Project Presentations, the culmination of a six-month investigation into the passion or interest of each of our 12th grade students. These in-depth explorations began last spring when, as juniors, they were given the task to submit a project proposal, identify a mentor, and create a timeline to detail their process.

Over the summer the students committed at least 50 hours, oftentimes more, to completing their projects. The presentations cover a range of topics based on the students' interests. We look forward to having you and your family join us for these unique, inspiring presentations!

WHEN Wednesday, October 18 | 6-9:30pm

WHERE SMWS Festival Hall | 999 Violet Avenue, North Boulder

from the Admission Office

High School Open House for Parents of 6th-12th Grade

Thursday, October 5 | 7-9pm

High School Assembly Hall | 1179 Union Street

Northwest Corner of Broadway and Union Street

Please join us for an evening with our High School faculty for an introduction to the High School curriculum and unique educational offerings of a Waldorf high school.

Shining Mountain parents of 6th-12th graders are warmly invited and encouraged to attend! Parents of 8th grade students are required to attend, as this will be an important informational evening prior to their students visiting the High School.

High School Experience Day for Current 8th Grade Students

Friday, October 6 | 12:45-3:05pm

Shining Mountain High School | 1179 Union Street

A High School Experience Day will be held for current 8th grade students on Friday, October 6th from 12:45-3:05pm. This will be an introductory day for students to have a sampling of the 9th grade Waldorf curriculum, learn about our unique Shining Mountain High School experiences, and an opportunity for the 8th grade students to have their questions answered about our high school program and high school life.

In addition to all Shining Mountain 8th grade students participating in the High School Experience Day, any interested 8th grade students from area schools are also warmly invited to attend!

For more information about the High School Experience Day, please contact Mary Eaton Fairfield, Admission Director, at MaryF@smwaldorf.org or 303.951.8579.



from the Admission & Marketing Office



Fairy Blossom Parent-Child Classes Enrolling!

Fairy Blossom Classes are held in the Lark Song Kindergarten on Wednesdays and Fridays from 1:00 to 3pm. Session I began on Wednesday, September 13th and will run through mid-December.

Come spend an afternoon visiting with other parents, engaging in discussions led by our experienced Early Childhood teacher, **Mary Beth Fifer**, and participating in activities with your child. We create a relaxed environment, including time for open play, daily craft activity, circle time with songs, games, finger plays, story or puppet play, healthy snack and outdoor time. This program is designed for parent and child (infants to 3 years old) to enable them to experience activities similar to those in the Kindergarten.

For more information and to register, please contact Mary Eaton Fairfield, Admission Director, at maryf@smwaldorf.org.

Writers, We Appreciate You

Thank you so much for contributions to our website:

- Sydney Kless [Rose Ceremony Speech](#)
- Latané Hill [High School Picnic](#)
- Nita Davanzo [Alumni Interview with Francesca Suarez](#)

These contributions have reached thousands of people. Our community thanks you for your efforts and adding value to our work in telling our story to the world.

If you have a story you want to tell on our website, please contact Jason Sperling jasons@smwaldorf.org.



from the Development Office



Seeking Halloween Magic Makers!

Our Halloween Wonder Walk is just around the corner! The enchanted journey through the Shining Kingdom will be Saturday, October 28th. We are seeking volunteers for scenes and set-up (8am-12pm), clean-up folks (8pm-10pm), and will also have fun tasks to be completed prior to the

event. Your efforts will delight young and old and enable you to connect with our merry band of devoted volunteers! What a wonderful way to kick off the beginning of the Holiday Season! If you would be interested in helping create the magic for this beloved event, please email kimberlyr@smwaldorf.org

Coming Soon to SMWS - Face

Friday, October 20th, 7 pm, Festival Hall

All Shining Mountain students and their families are invited, and we will have tickets for each family member in the Festival Hall, which will open at 6:15 pm. Due to space constraints, we are unable to provide additional tickets to friends and extended family members. This concert is being made possible through the generosity of one of our families, and admission is free. This concert is suitable for all ages, but young children must be able to sit quietly in their seats. There will be no unsupervised play in the Festival Hall during the concert. Check them out here: <http://www.facevocalband.com/>

Face is an internationally recognized vocal rock band based in Boulder, Colorado, bringing a new edge and attitude to the human voice. Using just four singers and a vocal drummer, Face creates a rock-music phenomenon that has to be seen to be believed. No instruments and no special effects— just five guys.



Ways to Give

There are many ways to give back to our incredible school that are of no cost to you.

- Volunteer - Tell us which events and committees you would be interested in [Volunteer Interest Form](#)
- Bunny Bucks! Every time you make a purchase at Grandrabbitt's toy store, mention Shining Mountain at checkout. Grandrabbitts will donate 5% of your purchase to an account that our teachers can use at the end of the year to buy supplies for the students.
- Amazon Smile - Are you an Amazon Prime member? Simply log onto Amazon Smile and choose Shining Mountain as your non-profit. SMWS will receive 0.5% of your purchase.
- eScrip - become an eScrip member and choose from dozens of on-line shopping options. Choose Shining Mountain as your non-profit.
- Scrip - submit a monthly standing order or buy a la cart.

What is Scrip?

Our Scrip Grocery Card program is an easy, no-cost way for families to support Shining Mountain Waldorf School. We have partnerships with many of our local stores, who give back from 5-10% of each dollar spent directly to Shining Mountain. The key to this program's success is our monthly standing order process, allowing us to achieve high-volume sales consistently each month. The stores that are participating this year are:

- Alfalfa's Market (5% to SMWS)
- King Sooper's/City Market (5% to SMWS)
- Lucky's Market (7% to SMWS)
- McGuckin's Hardware (10% to SMWS)
- Pharmaca (10% to SMWS)
- Safeway (5% to SMWS)
- Sprouts (5% to SMWS)
- Vitamin Cottage (5% to SMWS)
- Whole Foods (3% to SMWS)

Please download the [Scrip Monthly Standing Order Form](#) and return it with your first check to the lower school or high school office. You can postdate checks for each month of the school year, September-June.

After your first Scrip card purchase for Safeway, King Sooper's and/or Lucky's, the cards will be reloadable at the store using your credit or debit card, with SMWS still receiving the gift.

Why Do Waldorf Schools Celebrate Michaelmas?

By David Mitchell

Summer's haze vanishes when the clear skies and crisp air of September arrive. This is the time we establish our rhythms for the year; in many respects it is more of a New Year than January 1. It is a time of separation and individualization. The cool, pristine air wakes us from our summer daze and our thinking becomes more precise. With the beginning of school, we send our young ones off with memories of our own education etched indelibly into our own personalities. It is a time when we naturally think back upon our own lives.

The autumn is a rare time. In many parts of North America the trees are ablaze with splendid color - the scarlet maples of New England, the twittering yellow aspens of the Rocky Mountains, and the orange sumac of the South are but a few examples. The evening skies come alive as meteor showers streak across the dark canopy like blazing arrows. The remnants of this cosmic metallic presence is unknowingly absorbed into our blood from the very air we breathe, invigorating our blood with its homeopathic qualities of iron. Darkness starts to wrap around us and we are moved inside to the comfort of our homes. Our thought life also goes inward. The dreamy mood of summer is replaced by a new vigor that seems to aid us in our tasks. Beyond external observation, what does all of this mean?

An ancient intuitive wisdom placed a festival at each of the four turning points of the solar year. In the autumn this festival was named after a mythological figure, the archangel Michael, the heavenly warrior. The name Michael is Hebrew, and its meaning is a question: "Who is like God?" Legend tells that Michael, along with Gabriel, Uriel and Raphael, was sent out into the cosmos by God to seek a name for man. With sublime spirit-power, Michael, as the messenger of God, proclaimed man's earthly name: "Adam."

There are many other legends of Michael, the most notable being his confrontation in heaven with the rebellious angels, led by Lucifer, who sought to overthrow God. The forces of Michael cast them out of heaven and held them in control in their earthly form as dragons. Michael did not slay the leading dragon, but through his inner forces was able to hold it within his control, at the tip of his spear.

If we examine this story, we can begin to find the meaning of Michaelmas and the task of Michael. The dragon is not an exter-



Chalk drawing by Verita Perry, SMWS Alumna

The dragon is not an external reality, but rather lives within all humankind, represented by cold, dead, rationalistic and pragmatic thinking. It is alive within every mortal as a potentially evil force. Michael's message to humanity is not to try to slay the dragon within ourselves, for we would not live in freedom if we did, but rather to overcome it with consciousness.

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humanity is not to try to slay the dragon within ourselves, for we would not live in freedom if we did, but rather to overcome it with consciousness. It is the consciousness in our thinking which calls for exactitude and selflessness, as well as the strength of will needed to follow a moral path in life. Michaelmas is a festival of inner strength and initiative. It is a time when our higher being can conquer

anxiety and fear, for it is the task of Michael to awaken mankind to the eternal within.

The backdrop for the drama of history is the struggle between the powers that strive for the forces of Goodness against those that struggle for the purpose of Evil. It is within each individual on earth that this drama is enacted. Mythology can be thought of as a psychological healer for mankind; it gives one courage through its images of Good conquering Evil. What does this old picture have to do with us in our comfortable modern communities?

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Why Do Waldorf Schools Celebrate Michaelmas?

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We live in an age of individuality and personal freedom. Our society offers us a multitude of choices. This often puts great stress on the young as they seek to find a direction in their lives. The prevalent “Me” generation often sees only the first rough-shod steps toward becoming free individuals, without recognizing the more evolved counterparts of responsibility and love.

What is the picture of society that stands behind our drive toward free individuality? We are struggling amidst the unsettling realities of the crumbling forms of social order - our justice system, government, marriage, schools, churches - all once rocks of stability to mankind now shift treacherously under the feet like slippery sand. We must fend for ourselves. No longer can we be sure what we hear is truthful. Out of our own initiative and strength we must give direction to our lives.

The new forms we create and the discernment of what is really true both in the present and in the past, lie fully on our own individual shoulders. In the creation of new festivals there exists a powerful mystery involving the unfolding of community-building and spirit-focusing.

In the legend of Michael we find he offers four gifts: strength, courage, the will to do deeds, and love, to those who are willing to undertake self-transformation and look towards that which is divine in every human being. **Both the transformation and the battle with the dragon are uniquely individual; they reside within our powers of thought, and we are the only ones to have access to them.**

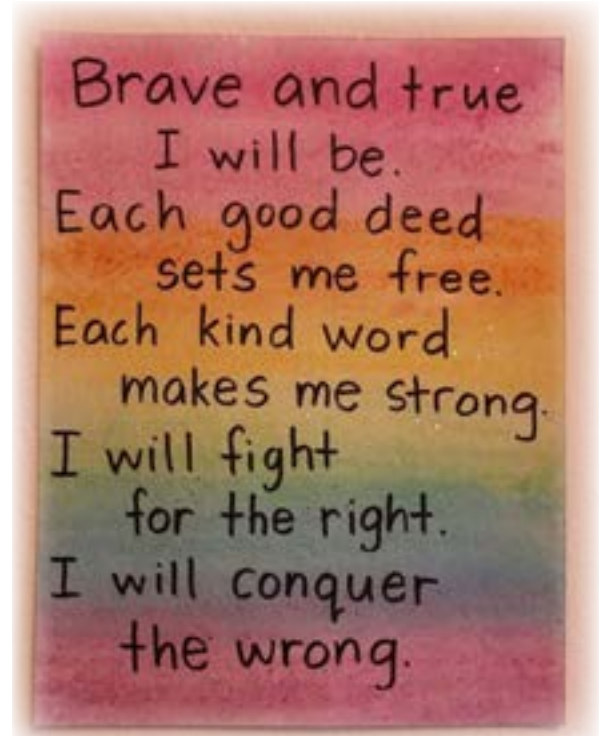
At Waldorf schools circling the earth, the children hear stories and legends of Michael. Then, on or around September 29, the teachers in many of our schools lead their students out onto the fields, where they see an enactment of Michael’s battle with the dragon. Then each and every child participates in feats of skill and courage and a pageant unfolds. This event is often followed by a large picnic with all families invited. This new festival is involved with the awakening of the will for rightful deeds.

by David Mitchell



The late David Mitchell was one of the founding faculty of Shining Mountain Waldorf High School, taught high school at High Mowing Waldorf School, authored “Will-Developed Intelligence” and other books, helped to found AWSNA Publications and served for eight years as Co-Director of the Research Institute for Waldorf Education.

At the Michaelmas festival in 2016. Photo by Theresa Baker.



High School News

Please congratulate the following high school German students who have passed the Deutsches Sprachdiplom exam and have earned a DSD I diploma:

- **Fiona Katz**
- **Abby Leuchten**
- **Eric Mahoney**
- **Emma Schaefer**
- **Marcus Zeender**



To pass this exam, the students had to get at least a level of A2 in each of the four skills: reading, writing, speaking and listening.

Level A2/B1 of the Deutsches Sprachdiplom der Kultusministerkonferenz (DSD I) is considered by the responsible German authorities as proof that the student has reached a level of ability in German required for entry to a Studienkolleg in preparation for attending a university in Germany.

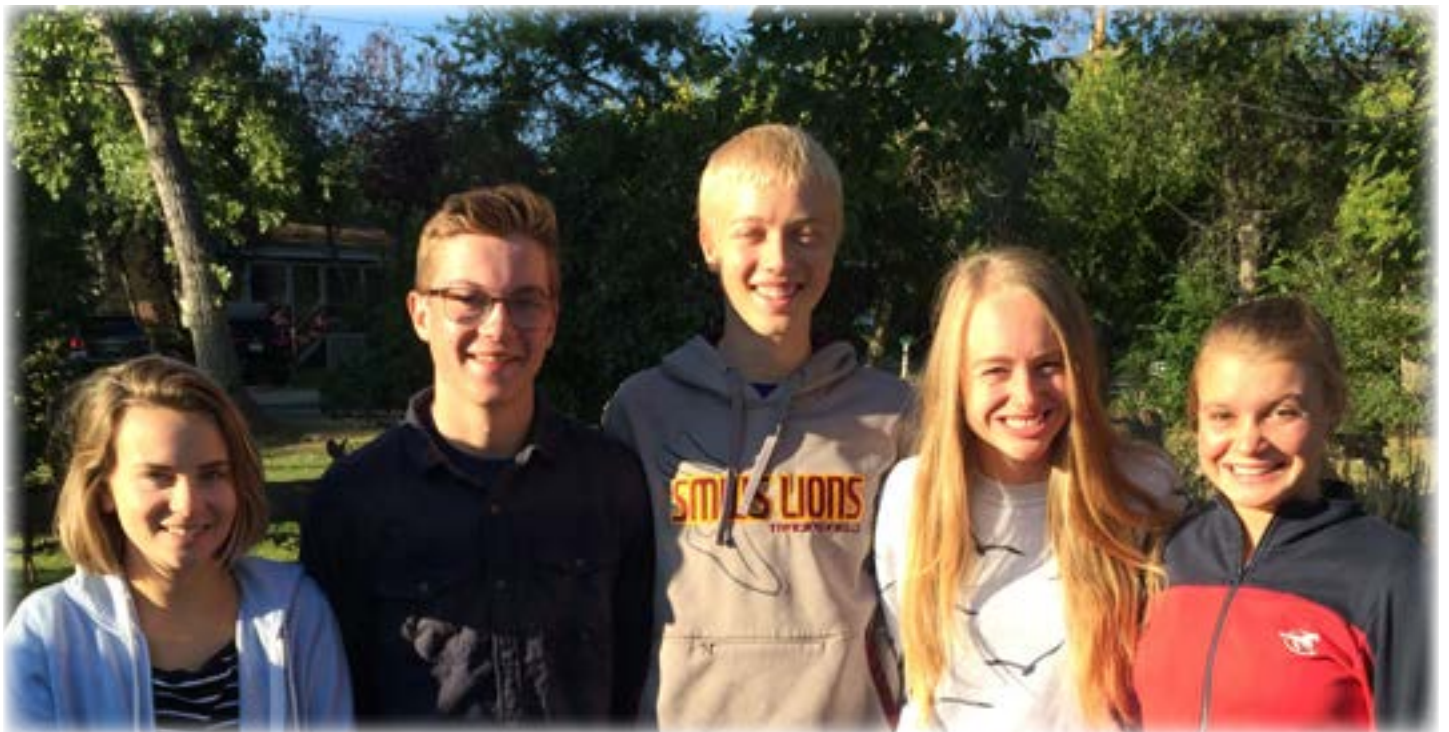
In May, two of the Class of 2017, Meishan Wright and Alec Evans, passed the DSD II exam and now have proof of the necessary language skills for admittance to a German university.

Shining Mountain is the first Waldorf school in North America to partner with the German government to offer the Deutsches Sprachdiplom (DSD) program. The DSD program is being offered in about 70 countries around the world with just over 70,000 people taking the test each year. The local German advisor offers in-services to the German teachers at no cost to the school. In addition, they also offer a stipend for German language materials.

As a German teacher, I am very pleased that our SMWS German students have been so successful in this first year of the DSD program. It is great that their hard work is rewarded in such a tangible way. With the rising costs of university fees, it is wonderful that the DSD program gives our students an opportunity to get tuition-free college education in Germany.

Paula Blum, HS and MS German Teacher

High school German scholars: Fiona Katz, Eric Mahoney, Marcus Zeender, Emma Schaefer and Abby Leuchten. Photo by Paula Blum.



Senior Speaker at the Rose Ceremony

The 2017-2018 school year opened with the traditional Rose Ceremony, held in the lower school courtyard on a sparkling clear day. This year's senior speaker, Sydney Kless, welcomed students to the first grade with the speech below.

Sydney's speech

*"One can acquire everything in solitude except character."
- a quote by Stendhal*

There's something powerful in the collective consciousness of a thriving community, brought together by the odyssey of Waldorf education. Over the past eleven years, Shining Mountain has continuously celebrated the change and growth of my class in every measure possible. But one of the greatest gifts this school has given me was the opportunity to fully explore the misadventures of growing up. I say misadventures, in light of the fact that growing up is actually really hard and now that I'm a little older, I've begun to experience what is known as "The Peter Pan Syndrome". A syndrome that can only be described as not wanting to grow up so fast.

Throughout my years here, I have been fortunate enough to experience the tumultuous ups and downs of getting older, in fashion with the life cycle of a butterfly. You see, eleven years ago, I was merely a little caterpillar waiting for my senior to walk me down the aisle, where my journey of indulging in stories such as the Periwinkle would begin.

From there, the little caterpillar that I was continued to munch my way through the knowledge of elementary school. In addition to all of the daily wisdom filling up my head, I was also exposed to the wonders of handwork, the Halloween Journey, and Michaelmas. As well as the occasional mishap. Much like the time we were blown away in tents on the first night of our third grade class trip. Then came middle school ... the stage in which each and every caterpillar wrapped themselves in cocoons of puberty and self doubt. These were by far the most difficult years to overcome, and yet each of us managed to survive. Once high school came around, everything changed once again. The cocoons we had wrapped ourselves in slowly began to fall away, as each individual blossomed into the incredible beings they are today.

Each of you are about to embark upon your greatest journey yet. A journey that will take you through twelve years of knowledge, community and most importantly, the friendships you build. For instance, my dear friend Sophie and I were desk partners the very first week of first grade. While we were soon separated, never to be seated together again for the next eleven years, simply because we were having too much fun. I know that our friendship will last a lifetime.

Looking back, the adventures of growing up were certainly intimidating at times, but to my beloved fellow seniors, and darling first grade class, trust me when I say the best thing is to dive in head first on whatever adventure awaits you. And may each of you conquer with the help of every gnome, fairy and elf you meet along the way.

Sydney Kless, Class of 2018



from the Lions Den



The high school has been away on Project Week, and thus there have been no athletic events. I was, however, with the senior class (all of whom currently play or have played sports at SMWS) and wanted to touch on our trip to Hermit Island, Maine.

We spent an amazing week on the Maine coast at one of the

oldest campgrounds in the country. The weather was beautiful all week long, allowing the students unfettered opportunities to learn about sea life in the tide pools, paint and write poetry on the beach, learn about dune, salt marsh and mud flat ecology and view sea creatures through microscopes.

They also played in the surf and made friends with many of the Waldorf students from Ann Arbor, Washington D.C., Atlanta, Green Meadow and Chicago.

This trip is a great way for our seniors to begin their final year, and watching them rise to the occasion as they sang around the campfire, many of them arm-in-arm with their new friends, brought a smile to my face and a warm feeling to my heart.

Upcoming Athletic Events

- September 21 Volleyball at RML (MS A at 5pm, HS JV at 6pm, HS Varsity at 7pm)
- September 23 HS Cross-Country Pat Patten Invite at 8am (Viele Lake in Boulder)

Employment Opportunities

High School Educational Resource Director

The High School Educational Resource Director is responsible for implementing and supervising the high school's resource program. The person in this position works with individual students and their families to determine what accommodations and resources are needed by the student with an understanding of what the school is able to provide, as well as educating and communicating with the full faculty about how to best serve each individual student.

[Full job description](#)

Project Coordinator to the Campus Development Committee

The Project Coordinator to the Campus Development Committee will support the School Director with oversight of the Campus Development Committee of the Board of Trustees. The person in this position will support the school in the administrative tasks of advancing the work of the campus development project. This is a multi-year project that will encompass several phases of work.

[Full job description](#)

Hiring Announcement

Sherry Lewis-Ramirez has been hired to assist Kristan Stephans, our new Lead Teacher for Lark Song Kindergarten. Please welcome Sherry and her family to our school community!

Sherry's biography

Sherry Lewis-Ramirez was first drawn to Waldorf education when visiting a Winter Faire at the Austin Waldorf School in 2008 with her husband, Benjamin Ramirez, an AWS alumnus. She found the Waldorf school there to be healing and inviting. She began to learn more about Waldorf education when she was expecting her first child in the same year. Prior to her interest in Waldorf education and having children, she graduated from Southwestern University. She went through a one year Hatha Yoga Teacher Training program and taught classes at her home yoga studio, including children's yoga. In May of 2015, she completed a Waldorf teaching training program in the grades and early childhood in Austin, Texas and worked as a lower grades assistant at the AWS for two years, assisting in kindergarten through 6th grades, and substituting in kindergarten through high school. Sherry moved to Lyons in August of 2017 and is enjoying making her home in Colorado and joining the Shining Mountain community with her family: her husband Ben, son Banyan and daughter Lily. In her free time, she loves to spend time with her family exploring nature, seeing family-friendly live music, baking and knitting.

Environmental Sustainability

Ready, Steady, Walk! • October 4th, 7:45am

Celebrate the annual International Walk to School Day on Wednesday, October 4th to promote low-carbon transportation, and to teach pedestrian safety skills to our amazing children! **We hope to inspire your family to try walking and bicycling throughout the school year by using Boulder's 58 miles of paved multi-use path and 78 bicycle/pedestrian underpasses.**

We look forward to meeting you at **Wonderland Lake Trailhead on 4201 North Broadway, Boulder at 7:45 am** with the Lower School Faculty and Lion leading us in a fun parade! If you plan to arrive by car to the trailhead, please note that parking is tight with only a limited number of available spaces.

Eco-Cycle Used Shoe Collection October 2-6



Shoes are hard-to-recycle items and the Sustainability Committee invites you to participate in Eco-Cycle's annual Used Shoe Collection to be held between October 2-6. Marked collection boxes will be ready for your worn and clean boots, sandals, athletic and dress shoes to be recycled. Look for a collection box near the High School office or near the First Grade porch. Please tie or band together your donation. Note that Eco-Cycle cannot accept cleats, flip-flops, muddy, ripped, or torn shoes.

We hope that you will use this chance to recycle your old shoes to be reused all over the world! If you have any questions about Eco-Cycle Used Shoe Collection, please ask Emese Molnar-Viragh, member of the Sustainability Committee, at emesev@comcast.net

Eighth Grade Fundraisers

The 8th Grade has started their yearly fundraising, and the two primary fundraisers this year for their year-end class trip are Chinook Book sales and pizza sales. We truly appreciate your support in our efforts to raise funds for our 8th grade end-of-year trip.

Pizza Tuesdays

Pizza Tuesdays started on September 19. Per our taste test results, we are offering cheese, pepperoni, and gluten-free cheese pizza slices from Cosmos. The cost is \$3 per slice.

[Click here to order pizza online.](#)

Chinook Book

Chinook Book is a local and "green" coupon book that offers great saving on restaurants such as Illegal Pete's, groceries, entertainment and more. Mr. Janzen has used this product for the past 4 years and personally save hundreds of dollars per year. Purchase of the book also includes an app for your phone that makes this \$18 product twice as awesome! The 8th Grade keeps half of the price to go towards their trip! Please find your nearest 8th grader to make your purchase.



Raising Balanced Kids in the Digital Age

How to raise grounded and self-aware children within the distractions of the internet and digital media . . . without power struggles

In this incredible presentation, Michael Vladeck will teach you how to parent in a way that will bring your children back into a place of balance and personal connection in the face of social media, gaming, and the countless disruptive exposures from the internet and technology. He will give you a science-based understanding of the actual impacts that excessive exposure to digital media can create. You will leave with very concise strategies and resources to support you in creating balance with cell phones, computers, and other digital devices.

Michael Vladeck is a nationally recognized expert in teaching conscious parenting, and helping parents raise balanced, grounded and emotionally intelligent children in our current digital culture. He has been a family counselor and coach since 2004, helping parents and their kids on their relationship dynamics, personal transformation and development.

www.MichaelVladeck.com



An evening with Michael Vladeck

**Monday, November 6
7 to 9pm • \$10**

**Mary B. Winston Atrium
in the Festival Hall**

999 Violet Avenue, Boulder

Sponsored by the Parent
Enrichment Committee
of Shining Mountain
Waldorf School



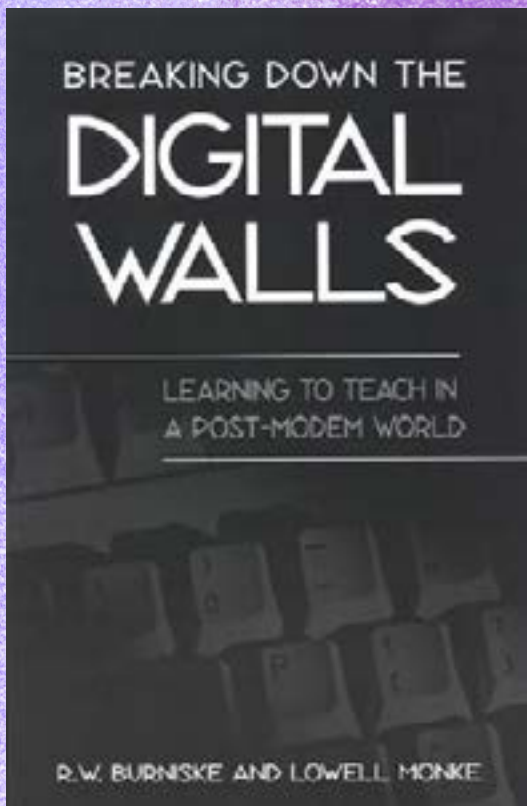


Parent Education Lecture Series

DR. LOWELL MONKE

Pioneering Researcher of Technology in Education

THURSDAY
OCTOBER 5
6:00—7:30 PM



Dr. Lowell Monke is professor emeritus at Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio, where he taught courses on the philosophy of education and the impact of media on young people. For 20 years prior to that he taught high school math and computer technology in the U.S., South America and Europe.

Lowell is coauthor of *Breaking Down the Digital Walls: Learning to Teach in a Post-Modem World* (SUNY Press), which critically examines his pioneering work on telecollaborative projects. He was a founding board member of the Alliance for Childhood and served as a technology advisor to the Washington Waldorf School for eight years.

[RSVP by Monday, October 2 for lecture & child care](#)

2100 S Pennsylvania St, Denver, CO 80210

Scholarship News

Congratulations to **Ben Getchell!** Ben, a graduate of the SMWS class of 2017, is the first recipient of the Trevor P. Vanneman scholarship. The scholarship was established in 2016 by Kathryn Spuhler in loving memory of her son, Trevor Vanneman, who graduated from the Denver Waldorf School.


The scholarship award was announced at a reception on August 20th at the University of Denver's chapel garden.

The Trevor P. Vanneman Endowed Scholarship Fund supports undergraduate students enrolled at the University of Denver. Recipients are selected by the Office of Financial Aid on the basis of demonstrated financial need. Preference is given to students who have attended a Waldorf School. Recipients are designated as Vanneman Scholars.



Ben Getchell accepting the Trevor P. Vanneman Scholarship Award on August 20th.

An advertisement for Namasté Solar. The background is a photograph of a family (a man, a woman, and a child) standing in a field at sunset, holding hands and looking towards the sun. The logo for Namasté Solar is in the top left corner. The text at the bottom asks "Is solar right for you?" and provides contact information for a free solar savings and ROI calculation.


namasté
SOLAR

Is solar right for you?
Find out! We'll do a free Solar Savings and ROI calculation for your home.
Call [303.447.0300](tel:303.447.0300) x349 to get started.

Shining Mountain Family to appear on Television Show “Shark Tank”

The Reamer Family will be appearing on the season premiere of ABC’s Shark Tank Sunday, October 1 at 8 PM EST. Scott and Megan Reamer (parents of Charlie in 2nd grade) are the founders of Jackson’s Honest Chips (<https://jacksonshonest.com/>).

The family was presented with the opportunity about six months ago and filmed their pitch in late June. The crew then selected them for an extended home package which was filmed three days before their oldest son Jackson passed away in Crested Butte. The family is excited to have this platform to share Jackson’s story and continue to build his legacy.

For those of us who don’t watch much TV, here is an explanation of the show:

Budding entrepreneurs get the chance to bring their dreams to fruition in this reality show from executive producer Mark Burnett. They present their ideas to the sharks in the tank—five titans of industry who made their own dreams a reality and turned their ideas into lucrative empires. The contestants try to convince any one of the sharks to invest money in their idea. When more than one of the sharks decide they want a piece of the action, a bidding war can erupt, driving up the price of the investment.



Parents are encouraged to follow our media guidelines in regards to making a decision to share this show with their children. Our media guidelines can be found on the website.

[SMWS Media Guidelines](#)

Eurythmy Classes for Parents and Friends



With Cristina Geck, Shining Mountain Eurythmy Teacher

**Fridays, after drop-off, 8:35-9:40 • No class on September 29 due to Michaelmas Festival
Eurythmy Room at SMWS**

Eurythmy is for everyone. Please, come and join our weekly eurythmy classes for parents and friends with Shining Mountain eurythmy teacher Cristina Geck.

Eurythmy has the power to refresh and harmonize body and soul. We dance the paths of the stars and the geometry inherent in nature. We discover the hidden aspects of our language when we transfer sounds into ensouled gestures and bring poetry into movement.

This is a joyful class with much opportunity to connect with others.

All levels, especially beginners are welcome and can easily be integrated. First time is free, so don’t hesitate to pop in and give it a try. \$5-10 donation appreciated.



JOHN J. KELLY, CPM



Serving others is my soul purpose and helping our Waldorf school initiatives is my passion. If we want to invest in our futures, we must invest in our children, teachers, and schools.

The Boulder Valley Real Estate team is proud to donate 10% of our real estate commission to support Waldorf education, so please don't hesitate to call me or my staff for any of your real estate needs.

john@bouldervalleyre.com

www.bouldervalleyre.com

303-591-1608 (cell) 303-444-4333 x13 (office)



Classified Ads

Classified ads (text-only) are free to the SMWS community. While SMWS cannot make endorsements, we ask you to consider these community members first if you are in the market. Please email your ad as plain text, 75 words or fewer, to AnitaL@smwaldorf.org. by the deadline. [Click here](#) for the deadlines for 2016-17. Thank you.

Events/Classes/Trainings

Fiesta To Benefit Children In Nicaragua. Don Josué, the SMWS Spanish Teacher for grades 1-8, would like to let you know that Empowerment International and Fabretto, two longstanding nonprofit organizations working in Nicaragua, will host this fundraiser with drinks and appetizers, Nicaraguan treats, a silent auction, and more! The evening of **October 19, 2017 at the Butterfly Pavilion** in Westminster. From 6:30pm. Stay tuned for ticket prices and more details.

Integrative music and movement classes. Emma Shubin, Shining Mountain's Band Instructor & Co-Executive Director of Colorado-based nonprofit Integral Steps, is offering integrative

music & movement classes in partnership with Rocky Ridge Music Academy and The Dalcroze School of the Rockies. Demo classes will be held September 27 & 29. Classes begin October 4 & 6. RSVP: info@integralsteps.org

For Sale

Light Root Community Farm is a small biodynamic farm and dairy, located a few miles north of Boulder. We offer fresh 100% grass-fed raw milk through our herd-share program, organic eggs, and grass-fed beef. We also partner with an organic family farm from the Driftless region of Wisconsin each season to offer organic maple syrup made with traditional wood-fired evaporation and bottled in beautiful glass jugs. Contact

Daphne at 316-640-0151 or milkmaid-daphne@gmail.com to learn more about our farm.

Wool-felted pictures of the fairy tales and nature scenes for little ones. Waldorf style handmade dolls and clothes. Unique and luxurious alpaca teddy bears. Hand-knitted sweaters of alpaca and pima cotton for comfort and elegance. Created by a Waldorf alumni parent. Call 303 527-3006.

Young Chang 6-foot grand piano for sale by Shining Mountain Alum. Model G-185. The piano is in good playing condition with some cosmetic defects. \$5800 o.b.o. Contact me with any questions, or to arrange a viewing! Adam: 720-975-6232.

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The dragon approaches. Michaelmas pageant, 2016. Photo by Theresa Baker.

Classified Ads *continued from previous page*

1/2 size violin for sale. For your 3rd grader! The instrument holds its value, thus is able to be sold when outgrown, and will cost less than renting in the long run. This instrument was purchased new, used by my son in the Greater Boulder Youth Orchestra, and is of good quality. It is a Klauss Mueller Etude with case and bow for only \$200 o.b.o. Contact Kim at 303-443-1617.

Cremona 1/2 Size Cello. Great for new 3rd grader. Quality workmanship for better sound and soft shell case. Oiled neck for better feel, well-balanced bow for ease of playing, ebony fittings and fingerboard. Correct string height and spacing for accurate finger positioning and intonation. Properly fitted Swiss-style pegs. Quality lightweight composite tailpiece with 4 fine tuners for easy tuning. In great condition but needs a new bow. Please email Lori.brighten-

thebrain@gmail.com or call Lori Grace 970-352-8873.

Vintage furniture. If you are looking for a piece of furniture that has been beautifully re-imagined, vintage and ready for a new generation . . . see abitshabby.com. (Kathie Armitage, SMWS alum parent)

Real Estate, Housing, Housesitting, Renting

Room for rent, own bathroom in cozy townhouse near Wonderland Lake, N. Boulder. Share home with end-of-life educator and math missionary (currently on a world tour). Available 6 months (longer may be possible if the renter is a fit). Short-term fine. We live simply and have a natural, holistic lifestyle. Walk to local grocery store, cafe. \$700 per month. \$225 per week. Call Karen at 303 520 1759. Karen Van Vuuren karenvanvu@gmail.com 303.520.1759

Delightful Crestone Retreat Home in the Baca Grande available for nightly/weekly and longer term rental. \$150/day, \$800/week. 2 bedroom adobe style house with wood stove, simple and stunning, with all the modern amenities you could desire. Redefine 'peaceful' while enjoying incredible, breath-giving views of the Sangre de Cristo mountain range on several private acres, with the gentle serenade of nearby Willow Creek. Call Merrin Wilding for details 303-931-9874 and see our website www.Casita-Crestone.com

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Classified Ads *continued from previous page*

Services – Babysitting, Childcare, Nannies

Sarah Alexander in 7th grade, looking for work after school and on weekends.

I love animals and young children. Would be a great mother's helper and would like to move into babysitting as I get more experience. I have 2 young nephews and a niece that I have spent a lot of time helping my sister with. I love playing with kids and pets, even horses! I am also a pretty good baker and cook. I have pet-sitting and dog-walking experience. Very responsible and eager. Certified Red Cross Babysitter. Please call if interested. Thanks! 303-444-4952.

Services – Health and Healing

Molly Greacen, Licensed Acupuncturist and Herbalist, has 35 years of experience, and specializes in women's health care. Excellent care for acute or chronic problems for men and women, as well as gynecological, perimenopause and menopausal hormone support, infertility, and for issues that come up during pregnancy. Office in North Boulder. Free 1/2 hour consultation. 303-546-0987 www.womanmedicine.com.

Therapeutic Massage, Energy Work, Herbalism Consultations in the comfort of your own home. Kim Lytle has twenty years of experience and has been trained in many modalities. She will create an individualized session tailored to your individual needs. Kim Lytle (518) 605-7699. Kim is a Shining Mountain parent.

Reiki—Sessions and trainings available. To learn more about Reiki and/or to schedule, please visit www.Blairsherbals.com or call Blair 303-440-7484

Services – Tutoring/Educational Support

Math tutor: I have been part of the SMWS community for almost 20 years, first as a former math teacher in the middle & high school, and now as a parent and private tutor. I am a certified Waldorf Teacher, and am very familiar with the math curriculum at Shining Mountain. I love working with students to help them build their skills and confidence in learning math, and in discovering the beauty of mathematics. If your son or daughter would like extra support in math, please call Renee Lambo-Barnes at (303) 543-2394 or email me at lambobarnes@gmail.com.

Services – Other

Debby Gets It Done. Is your "To Do" list too long? I provide personal service for individuals to lighten their load. Call me for help with organizing and orchestrating projects, events, parties, errands, gardening, flower arrangements, vacation and moving needs, and much more. No job is too small. Debby Wilson 303 518-7723 Debby@DebbyGetsItDone.com

Michaelmas Games, 2016. Photo by Theresa Baker.





ASSOCIATION OF WALDORF
SCHOOLS OF NORTH AMERICA

Inform

AWSNA COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2017

DEAR WALDORF COMMUNITY,

Welcome back to the new school year. We hope you had a restful and rejuvenating summer and are filled with energy for the year ahead. We've received some great snippets of news from schools in recent months. If you are not already subscribed to our monthly enews, do sign up on WaldorfEducation.org to get a glimpse of stories about our schools, Waldorf Education, and good education in general.

Together we can do what no single school can do alone: advocacy, participation in organizations like the Council for American Private Education (CAPE), Commission on Accreditation (CoA), and National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS); service mark protection; international leadership representation; publications and research; and being the voice for Waldorf Education.

Warmly,

Stephanie, Melanie,

& Beverly



RENEWAL MAGAZINE IS NOW ONLINE

We are pleased to introduce our new [e-magazine version](#) of *Renewal: A Journal for Waldorf Education*. By offering [Renewal e-Journal](#), we hope to reach a broader audience of parents and teachers, save trees, allow you to easily share articles of interest with your friends and on social media. It also allows us to better track readership, understand your interests, and to ensure impact. The e-Journal can be viewed on a tablet, e-reader, computer, or any mobile device. Enjoy! And, as always, we warmly welcome your feedback on *Renewal*. It is of tremendous value to our continued improvement.

CELEBRATING WALDORF100 with the "POSTCARD EXCHANGE"

So far 1,200 postcards have been mailed to each of our schools from the International Waldorf100 world coordinating committee.

The "Postcard Exchange" is a project in which every Waldorf school in the world is invited to send a postcard to every other Waldorf school in the world, receiving in return 1,200 postcards individually designed by a young person, telling or showing us something of his or her country, school, or self. As the postcards are received, each school is encouraged to create a global map that gradually reveals where Waldorf schools are located all over the world.

To simplify the project, every school has been sent blank, pre-addressed postcards they can use. The right side of the postcard contains the address of the destination school. On the left is space for your school address. Students can design the main empty side of the postcard any way they want. The more individual and diverse, the better.



Whidbey Island Waldorf School

If you'd like to support the project with a donation to your school to cover postage, every bit is appreciated!

ESSENTIALS IN EDUCATION BLOG

The Importance of Learning a Second Language



Educators have long touted the benefits of second language learning for U.S. students, but its necessity is regularly challenged. Critics like to point out that language learning should be an elective, at best, due to expense and time constraints for becoming proficient. They also argue that English is likely to remain the international *lingua franca* of business, implying that American students can rest on their English-speaking laurels. But there are many advantages to learning more than one language, and some are not just measured by business success. Read the whole article on [Waldorf Education](#).

And do visit AWSNA's education blog, called [Essentials in Education](#), in which we explore topics that matter to educators, researchers, policy experts, and thought leaders—from a Waldorf Education perspective.

We welcome comments and feedback, and we also welcome guest posts. Please contact Beverly Amico at bamico@awsna.org for details.

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Please join us on social media:



SAVE THE DATE FOR AWSNA SUMMER CONFERENCE 2018

We are already looking forward to next year's conference from June 25-28 at the Washington Waldorf School in Bethesda, MD. The conference theme will be ***Social Justice: Exploring Place, Race, Class, and Gender in Waldorf Education***.



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Thank you to [Mercurius USA](#) and to [TADS](#) and to [BigSIS](#) for supporting AWSNA as members of our partners' circle.



COMMUNITY WEB RESOURCES

WALDORFEDUCATION.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!

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