



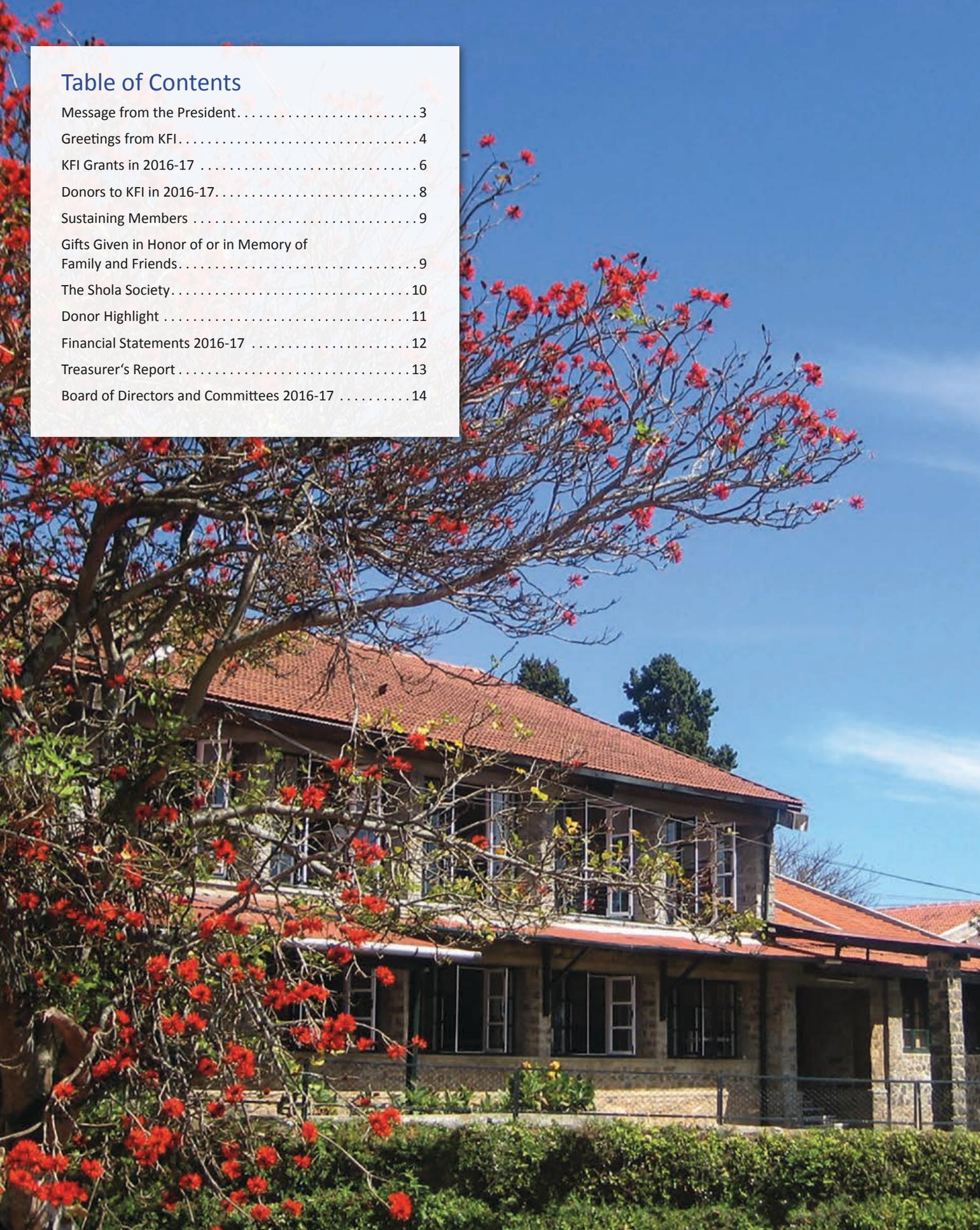
Kodai Friends International
2016-2017 ANNUAL REPORT



"Serving to enhance the educational mission of KIS and other educational organizations in Tamil Nadu through financial aid and administrative aid."

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Message from the President

This year there have been a lot of changes, most of them are going to be good for KFI.

We thanked Glenn Rogers and David Otten for their six years of service to KFI as they went off the board. And we welcomed David Piet and Darryl Miller as they joined the board this year. This provides very diverse and important skill sets that KFI will benefit from.

With the help of Vijay Naidu, Board member with skills in the investment arena, we were able to evaluate our investment priorities and make material changes to the BNY Mellon endowment account so that we can reap the fruits of a robust stock market. In the last six years, the endowment has doubled in value which is a great thing for KFI.

This year KFI also had intense discussions on the role of KFI as a 501(c)3 company and its relationship with KIS. Many progressive ideas were discussed and have resulted in a better understanding of KFI as a foundation and its relationship with KIS, alumni, and Kodaikanal as a community.

We have expanded our funding to include a grant to the school for their Recycling program where the School and the township are collaborating together. This has been very well received and the work continues as it has become self-sustaining.

In addition to funding scholarships to deserving students with financial need at Kodaikanal International School (KIS), we have ventured to fund a Wildlife Census effort being undertaken by a Fullbright Fellow. This will help KIS with the Poondi project once the survey is underway.

KFI, is in the process of transferring the development work and employees needed to KIS. Therefore, the Development Officer now will be employed by KIS, not KFI, with development initiatives coming from Kodai. KFI will be in a position to assist KIS in this effort.

Finally, our executive director, Julie Stengele resigned and has moved to her previous company. We would like to wish her well in her endeavors. While she is no longer KFI's executive director, Julie is still a KIS alum and will continue to help KFI in a part-time capacity, as needed, for which KFI is thankful.

Friends, there is a lot of work that has been done, there are many more opportunities to help. Won't you join us in this journey of collaborative development of an institution, township and people of South India that we love?



Jeetu Nanda '83
President KFI

Greetings from KFI

Kodai Friends International has roots going back to the late 1930s, when the Kodai Alumni Bulletin was compiled by a voluntary group of Highclerc alumni called the Kodai Alumni Board (KAB). The goal of KAB was to keep North America alumni connected with and informed about their school in India.

Over the years since, in the process of building up alumni and other supports in North America for both Kodai School and Woodstock School, KAB evolved first into the Kodai Woodstock Alumni Board (KWAB), then into the Kodai Woodstock Foundation (KWF), then into Kodai Woodstock International (KWI).

And in 2006 KWI devolved into Friends of Woodstock School (FWS) and Kodai Friends International (KFI).

KFI continues in its support of Kodaikanal International School (KIS) and seeks further to develop ways in which to encourage and engage KIS alums in the support of their institution.

Alumni initiatives, engagements and generosity of many kinds for many years have made it possible for KFI to award grants to KIS to help purchase an emergency vehicle and smokeless stoves, provide solar panels for the Poondi watchmen's houses, organize recycling solid waste materials and further encourage environmental studies in our school's Social and Environmental Education Department. In addition KFI grants supported the purchase of wireless mics for the Drama Department, refurbished the middle school assembly area, provided a three-year subscription of *The Economist* for the high school library, purchased and shipped a refurbished pipe organ for the Margaret Eddy Memorial Chapel, and supported other development of our school's archival collections.

The generosity of alumni and friends have made it possible to support named scholarships given in memory of, and in honor of, beloved classmates and teachers including the following: Russell De Valois '43, Marilyn Scudder '56, Keith and Marcine DeJong ('46, former staff, parents), Jane Cummings ('57, former staff, KWI, parent), Margaret Aung-Thwin/Eric Reble (former staff and parents). In addition, others have made it possible for students with financial need to have a Kodai experience.

KFI awarded \$59,118 in grants to KIS in the 2016-17 academic year, as follows:

- Recycling project & recycling vehicle (\$21,823)
- Russell De Valois Scholarship (\$11,675)
- Marilyn Scudder Scholarship (\$6,000)
- KFI Global Citizen Scholarship (\$6,000)
- Middle School Splasher's Hall refurbishment (\$4,808)
- Keith and Marcine DeJong Music Award/Scholarship (\$3,000)
- Wireless mics (\$2,290)
- Field trip scholarships (\$2,000)
- Jane Cummings Scholarship (\$1,000)
- Three-year subscription to *The Economist* (\$365)
- Smokeless stoves (\$157)

The continuity, work and efforts over the years by KAB/KWAB/FWS/KWI/KFI was evidenced through the academic year 2016-17:

- The legacy gift from the Charles E. and Nancy E. Wilder trust through the NH Charitable Foundation is given for the benefit of KIS to promote understanding among people of diverse cultures, religions, races, ethnic or geographic backgrounds. The Wilders' generous gift has prompted ongoing discussions between KFI and the school on ways we can collaborate together to honor Charles' wishes and promote unity through diversity.
- Sensing the need for younger alumni to take on and take over support of KIS, KFI received a challenge from a member of the Class of 1953 to young alumni to double the gift of \$5,000 and to partner with older alumni in support of our alma mater, KIS. Members of the Classes of 1996-2006 are responding in their own global way, giving to both KFI and KIS, making it difficult to quantify in dollars, but evident at the school. To date KFI has received an additional \$525. With two more years to raise or surpass the goal and the opportunity to meet a need at the school (which younger alumni could determine), I am confident we will meet the challenge.
- Two hundred and eight (208) gifts were received during the academic year 2016-17 from 184 constituents - 139 loyal repeat donors, 37 first time donors, five sustaining members, one new matching gift (as identified above), a Muyskens' family endowment payment, one legacy gift – totaling \$230,222.62.

The alumni organizations have evolved and transitioned over the years to best meet the needs of the school and the alumni. Some of the players who laid the strong foundation for our present are gone. Others are less involved. Their efforts, however, have brought us to this day, and the community of Kodai alums and friends around the world is strong.

I have been honored and grateful to work for KFI these past two years. It is time for me now to make room for new leadership, new possibilities for KFI. As Paul Wiebe ('56, former staff and parent) said so often as principal: "This [KIS] is MY school. This is YOUR school. This is OUR school." And so it is for me. I remain "loyal to you Kodai School."

And I hope you and all Kodai alumni find ways to remain loyal and engaged in supporting our school. For OUR school has given us much more than just an education. Let's ensure the Kodai experience is something the next generations can enjoy!

Please consider supporting your school by generously giving to Kodai Friends International.

Sincere thanks,



Julie Nichol Stengele '80, FS, P
Executive Director/Development Officer, KFI



The new conference room (formerly the media room)



Independence Day
 Left to right: Pastor Raja, Nandini Gupta, Mrs Raja Krishnamoorthy, Mr Andras Jo, Barbara Jo (Grade 7), Mrs Angelika Jo

7th Graders at Ganga Campus
 Left to right: Seated: Samuel Paul Jaikummar, Arshaan Singh, Trishanjeet Chatterjee, Raj Aditiyan Ravichandran, Aditya Parikh, Jampfel Lungten
 Standing: Swastik Singh, Siddharth Thiagarajan, Akshat Vija, Uday Bagaria



Senior Girls at Independence Day
 Left to right: Shaya Pillai, Nina Dang, Dorothy Lalrinzuali, Rekha Gomilar

Corey with Students
 Left to right: Neharika Kishore, Jothiswaran Mohanaravi, Oshir Mehandiratta, Corey Stixrud, Rosita Collison and Pranay Jha



In a Ganga classroom,
 Violette-Leena Cauvet (KG)



At the K-8 Science Fair
 Left to right: Ruvan Menon and Adam Jo



Newly revamped mini theater



Kodai Friends International Grants to KIS: 2016-17

All grants are reviewed and approved by the KFI Board of Directors. In 2016-17 a total of \$59,118 was awarded to scholarships and projects from KFI's designated and undesignated funds.

Student Scholarships: \$26,175

Russell De Valois Scholarship

\$11,675

Funded by classmates, friends and family of Russell De Valois '43, interest earnings from the endowed fund is offered every other year to a student entering grade 11 for the duration of his/her study at KIS to graduation at the end of grade 12. Criteria established to award the scholarship to individuals who:

- excel academically and have an outstanding character
- contribute to public service, artistic and/or athletic life of the school
- show a will to succeed, and determination and perseverance in the face of challenges
- exhibit leadership qualities
- participate in volunteer, community, and school-related activities
- show critical thinking ability

The individual must be an Indian citizen. Eligibility is independent of gender and religion and preference is given to applicants with a family income that is not sufficient to cover all education-related expenses at KIS.



Siddharth Gupta '18, eighth year recipient

Jane Cummings Scholarship

\$1,000

Given by individuals who attended a reunion at Camp Kirchenwald, the scholarship was to be awarded irrespective of religion or nationality to a student who would otherwise find it difficult to attend KIS due to financial needs. Eligible students must be recommended by KIS, and meet the school's admissions requirements.



Siddharth Gupta '18, first year recipient

KFI Global Citizen Scholarship

\$6,000

Funded by undesignated gifts to KFI's *Fund A Need*, this annual scholarship was awarded irrespective of religion or nationality to a student who would otherwise find it difficult to attend KIS due to financial needs. Eligible students must be recommended by KIS and meet the school's admissions requirements.



Elisabeth Ljabach '18, first year recipient

Marilyn Scudder Scholarship

\$6,000

Funded by classmates, friends and family of Marilyn Scudder '56, this scholarship is available to a student in grades 9 to 12 with financial difficulty, irrespective of gender, nationality or religion, be of exemplary character and show academic potential. In selecting the recipient, the KIS Scholarship Committee considers the qualities of Marilyn's life as demonstrated during her time at the school as well as in her life work.



Dev Selarka '18, third year recipient

Keith & Marcine DeJong Music Scholarship

\$1,500

This legacy gift from Keith and Marcine DeJong provides a music student(s) the opportunity to take additional music lessons or participate in a music field trip they would not otherwise be able to afford.



Jaideep in concert



JiHae at Awards Assembly
third year recipients



Jonathan at Awards Assembly

Awards: \$1,500

Keith & Marcine DeJong Music

\$1,500

The Keith and Marcine DeJong Music Award is given annually from their legacy investment in recognition of KIS' top music student(s) at Awards Assembly.

- Ji Hae Kim '17, Jonathan Kulothungan '17 and Jaideep Narayanan '17, third year recipients

Walker Cup

\$100

The Walker Cup Award is awarded annually at KIS' Awards Assembly. Ron Walker '56 instituted the "Walker Cup" dedicated to Mario Di Giorgio, a music teacher and mentor at KIS for many students in 1957. The Walker Cup is awarded to the top music student at the end of each academic year. This rolling trophy is accompanied by a \$100 cash prize which began in 2011.

- Jonathan Kulothungan '17, sixth year recipient

The Economist subscription

\$365

A 3-year subscription to *The Economist* was gifted to the High School Library at KIS in memory of Richard Dudley '47.



Paul Mancion '20 and Pranay Mamtara '20 in the High School Library

Projects: \$31,443

KIS Environment: Environmental Sustainability in Kodaikanal Project and Recycling Vehicle

\$10,823 & \$11,000, respectively

Solid waste management is a global issue, and has been a growing problem at KIS and in Kodai. Concerted efforts have been made at the school and in the community and township of Kodaikanal to address this issue. As of March 2017 thirteen local schools were approached; eight schools and one self-help group were given outreach immediately. Also involved in the efforts of outreach and training are the Rotary Club in Kodaikanal and the Palani Hills Conservation Council. This is an ongoing project.



Social & Educational Experience Recycling Truck



KIS and KFI in partnership

KIS Field Trips

\$2,000

The Minnesota Alumni Chapter and friends raised \$930 to help offset the cost to KIS staff for their children for Field Trip Week. Additional funds given from KFI's general fund, *Fund A Need*, brought the total of the grant to \$2,000.

Drama: wireless mics

\$2,290

Five sets of wireless mics were purchased and first used by the Drama Department for KIS' annual production in May 2017. Drama continues to play an important role at Kodai School and on occasion productions are shared in other cities in India.

Middle School: Spirit Splashers' Hall refurbishment

\$4,808

These designated funds were awarded to the school to refurbish the assembly/meeting venue for Middle and Elementary school.

Smokeless Stoves

\$157

The smokeless stoves project installs locally made terra cotta stoves in homes in Kodai, giving people a healthy opportunity to move away from open fires in their houses for cooking. These simple and effective units cost \$34 each, including installation. KIS has installed approximately 150 stoves in the past four years. This is an ongoing project.



French Exchange students Alice, Arthur and Victorie



Victorie



Alice and Arthur working on the masonry

Donors to Kodai Friends International: 2016-2017

With deep gratitude, Kodai Friends International recognizes and acknowledges the following alumni, friends and family of alumni of Kodaikanal International School for their contributions to KFI between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017. Their generosity has made it possible for KFI to fund scholarships and projects at KIS.

Key: FS – Former Staff | F – Friend | CoD - KIS Council of Directors | KFI - KFI Board of Directors | P – Parent | GP – Grandparent | GGP - Great Grandparent | † - Deceased

\$5,000 and Up

Karen De Valois F
John De Vries & Virginia '53
Robert Dudley & Louise '43
Glenn Rogers & Dominique Harre '74, KFI
Norman Thoms & Anna '51
Charles E Wilder & Nancy E '42
Fund of the New Hampshire
Charitable Foundation

\$1,000-\$4,999

Len Betz '71
Louise Cummings FS, GP
dcp Midstream
Evelyn & James Estes FS & CoD | P
Priscilla Grew F
Nelson Hoffmann '66
John MacKay '52, KFI
The Muyskens Family Endowment
Jyotirmaya Nanda & Upasana '83, KFI, CoD
Robert I Phelps & Alita L. '51
John Rittmann & Lorraine '54
Robert Trautmann & Debra '72

\$500-\$999

Jacqueline Brooks FS
Frank Emerson & Mary '56
Freeport-McMoRan Foundation
Alfred Johnson '43
Kunal Kapoor & Monica '93
Ronald Koepke & Marilyn '66
Niladri Mukhopadhyay & Debopriya '97, KFI
Robert & Momo Nebel P
Gerald & Roxanna Nichol KFI | FS, P, GP
David & Laurie Otten '69, KFI | P
Constance Dudley Rumely '42
Sandra Schoeninger FS, KFI
Lewis & Nancy Graham Scudder | '58
Alice Graham Silver & Tom Brynes '55
Donn & Julie Nichol Stengele KFI | '80, FS, P
Lynn Nastrom Stoltz '82
Edwin & Margaret Carman Tegenfeldt '56
& '55 | FS, P, GP
Sara VanAnrooy F

\$250-\$499

Akshay Birla KFI
Camp Kirchenwald Reunion
Winston Dudley & Carol Dalton '40
Michael Gass & Carol '50
Stanley & Bonnie King '57 | P

Mary Coleman Lowry & David '64, KFI
Ana Manta Parker & Mike '80
William Martin & Christine '70, FS, P, KFI
August Schmitthenner & Alice '43
Hans Schmitthenner & Joan Potenza '70
Antoinette Stepanek Shaller & Doug '66

\$100-\$249

Oskar Austegard '93
Wayne & Kathy Beckwith | FS, P
Carsten Bjornstad FS
Judith Staal Blackbourn '65
Nancy Fisher Thoms Block & Russell '48
Kenneth Brannon & Rachel '86
Jane Donahue Bridges '61
John Carman & Ann '47
Mary Carruthers '57
Andrew Chase '89
Jon Closson '54
Robert Coleman '66
Stephen Collins & Candace Hill | P
Lucy David & Leonard Sandler '66
Ralph Doermann & Laurel '48
Margaret Essebaggers Dopirak & William '54
Ted Essebaggers & Maja '59
David Evans '48
Exelon Foundation Matching Gifts Program
James Fletcher '76
Charles Gosselink & Charlotte '53
Janice Green & Paul Patton II FS
Alice Hallaran & Terry FS
Faye Ruth Voss Harris & Donald '55
Stephen Holler & Margaret '74
Tushar & Roxanne Ghandy Irani | '98
Michael Jackets & Elizabeth A '51
Peter Jenks FS, P, KFI
Benjamin & Mary Johnson '47 | FS
Barbara Jones '77
Grace Jones '76
Peter Kapenga & Kathleen '67
Marion Johnson Karl '45
John King & Jean '53
Muriel Nichols King '53
Lynden & Naomi Krause '66 | FS, P
Stanley Kuruvilla '93, KFI
Carol Zigler Kusserow & Ralph '55
Sheila Semands Lovell '63
April Dennis Lyon '63
Eleanor Carman MacDonald & William '53, KFI
Rajani Mallick '88

Basil Manns '63
Mario Manta & Kimberley '79
Edwin Martin & Katherine '59
Betty McClelland F '40
Miriam Naumann McCreary '51
Harold Mondol & Dorothy West '50 | FS
Harrison Moyer & Gladys '44
Walter Naumann & Sandra '63
Betty Lou Wood Nelson & Johnny '48
Elinor Potee Nichols '44
Christina Nissen F
Joel Otten '77
Gabrielle Pagin '66
Richard Patton & Joanna '57
Sarah Nichol Reindel & Andrew '86 | P
Patricia Wood Remias & John '56
David Rogers & Lois '60
Steven Scruggs & Tammy '80
Sylvia Seamands '59
Nell Kincaid Semel '54
Thomas Staal '70
Priya Tandon-Rajkumar & Michael '86
Mark Tegenfeldt & Kathrin '90
Alan Thompson '49
Rebecca Trautmann '68
Kathleen Finley Vandiver & Kim '67
Ellen "Dash" Walter FS
John D & Dorothy Yoder Nyce FS, P

Under \$100

Wayne Alloway '76
Kurt Althouse & Kim '81
Timothy Amstutz & Kathy '76
Karl Anderson '58
Maureen Aung-Thwin '66
Kaishoon Basrai '83
Bernadette Bradbury '86
Wendy Brown & Jeff FS | P
Beth Gesler Caldwell & David '56
Margaret Caldwell-Ott & Derek '75
John Chatfield Jr & Elizabeth '59
Patricia Cobey F
Lawrence Collins Jr & Maureen '65
Susan Hollinshead Dalton '58
Barbara Ruzicka Doody & Alan '53
Bernice Dueck F '56
Robert Edwards '69
Edwin Erickson '53
Donald Fletcher '68
Charles Franklin & Rossy '66

Celia Fritz F
Robert Gass '81
Thomas Gibbs '81
Victoria Gray '70
Robert Hammond '66
Harriet Varney Hays & Marc '48
Paul Heusinkveld '68
David James '64
Emily Grumm Jeske & Marvin Rothstein '63
Kathleen Katzenbach FS
Joseph Kessler '81
Judith Kessler FS, P
Sara Gesler Klemmer '63
Ruth Johnson Knutson & Lavalie '65
Michael Kolumban & Evelyn '78
Susan Gray Leslie & Paul '74
Barth Lewellen '72
Merrick & Sara Ann Emerson Lockwood
'59 & '61, FS | P
Rani Maloney & Jeff Maegerlein '86
Joyce Martin F
Luther Moyer & Veronica '57
Clara Rittmann Mueller & Orval '57
Vijay Naidu & Asha '86, KFI
Ronald Nunn '76
Anil Paul '84
John Piet '59
Paul & Ardith Pollex P
Micheline Poulin '76
Nehal Rahim & Emily Kay '93
John & Louise Heinemann Riber | '73
Joseph & Martha Grubbs Rittmann '66,
FS & 69 | P
John & Ruth Ruggiero FS
Chris Schmitthenner '72
Peter Schmitthenner & Pam Forsyth '74 & FS | P
Barbara Schramm & Pieter Timmermans FS, P
David Scott & Corinne CoD
Muriel Hagen Smith & Wade '54
Sarah Weddington Smith & Jack '72
Claudia Trautmann & Ted Christner '70
Sam Turner '66
Paul Vander Aarde & Susan '76
Robert Bruce Vogelaar & Nancy '78
May Korteling Votaw '48
Barbara Donaldson Walker & George '68
Richard Wechter FS
Andrew Wilch Jr '47
David Wilder & Margaret '46



KFI launched a new initiative in 2016-17, formalizing monthly donors as Sustaining Members. Our special thanks goes to these founding Sustaining Members:

- Akshay Birla WS '05, KFI
- Louise Cummings FS, GP
- Bill Martin '70, FS, P, KFI
- Sandy Schoeninger FS, KFI
- Donn & Julie Nichol Stengele '80, FS, P, KFI

Sustaining Members and their gifts are a help to KFI. Giving is convenient with an initial online (or call to the office) donation, or you may always mail a monthly check to KFI.

To become a Sustaining Member:

- 1 go to: <http://www.kfi-us.org/donate-kfi/>
- 2 select the fund you wish to support and after selecting the amount
- 3 choose "Recurring Donation" with a monthly frequency
- 4 proceed to fill in the rest of the information and
- 5 press the Donate button

In Memory of:

John Aung-Thwin '64
Antoinette Stepanek Shaller & Doug '66

Margaret Aung Thwin FS, P
Antoinette Stepanek Shaller & Doug '66

Diane Carlson FS, P
Jerry & Rocky Nichol KFI | FS, P, GP

Margaret Heineman Cihocki '65
Ruth Johnson Knutson & Lavalley '65

Li-Chiang "Li" Chu F (WS grad)
Donn & Julie Nichol Stengele

TZ Chu CoD, KWI (WS grad)
Donn & Julie Nichol Stengele

Paul Curtis '48
David & Dorothy Essebaggars DeJong | '51
Margaret Essebaggars Dopirak & William '54
Ted Essebaggars & Maja '59
Mary Essebaggars Morris '62

Russell De Valois '43
Karen De Valois wife of Russ
Bob Dudley & Louise '43
Alfred Johnson '43
Harrison Moyer & Gladys '44
Fritz Schmitthenner & Alice '43
Barbara Schramm & Pieter Timmermans FS, P
Sara VanAnrooy F, niece

Richard Dudley '47
Winston Dudley & Carol Dalton '40

James Duncan FS
Patricia Cobey, wife of James

Martha Easter FS, P
Jerry & Rocky Nichol KFI | FS, P, GP

Theo & Helen Essebaggars P
Margaret Essebaggars Dopirak & William '54

Roger Evans '43
David Evans '48
Elinor Potee Nichols '44

Rev Lester & Ada Finley FS, P
Susan Hollinshead Dalton '58
Kathy Finley Vandiver & Kim '67

Anna Frantz FS
Jerry & Rocky Nichol KFI | FS, P, GP

Julia Fritz Shull
Celia Fritz niece

Theodore W. Fritz '48
Celia Fritz daughter

Eric Gass '52
Michael Gass & Carol '50

Mrs Geraldine Nora Harington FS
David Rogers & Lois '60

Norbert & Ruth Hattendorf '49 | FS
dcp Midstream
Jerry & Rocky Nichol KFI | FS, P, GP

Gene Hennig '65
Ruth Johnson Knutson & Lavalley '65
John MacKay '52

Rev Bob & Franny Holmes F
Kay Katzenbach FS

Norma Humble FS
Jerry & Rocky Nichol KFI | FS, P, GP

Gerhard Johnson FS, P
Jerry & Rocky Nichol KFI | FS, P, GP

Agnes Liddle FS
Mary Carruthers '57

Mary Lindell FS, P
Jerry & Rocky Nichol KFI | FS, P, GP

Tiku Mahadevan FS, P
Jerry & Rocky Nichol KFI | FS, P, GP
Donn & Julie Nichol Stengele | '80, FS, P
Claudia Trautmann & Ted Christner '70

Gene Martin '60
Joyce Martin (wife)

William McClelland '40
Betty McClelland wife

Eunice Naumann Nissen '51
Christina Nissen daughter

Donald Oberdorfer '53, FS
Jerry & Rocky Nichol KFI | FS, P, GP

Jeevan Paul '86
Vijay Naidu & Asha '86, KFI

Gordon Peery '53
Muriel Nichols King '53

Rev James Coffin Perkins
Priscilla Grew granddaughter

"Papa" Carl W Phelps FS, P
Mary M Phelps FS, P
Jennie E Phelps FS, P
father, mother and stepmother of Robert '51 and Roger '50
Robert I Phelps & Alita L. '51

Gale Potee '42
Elinor Potee Nichols '44

Toni Tingley Schleyer FS
Jerry & Rocky Nichol KFI | FS, P, GP

Virginia Schiefer FS
Jerry & Rocky Nichol KFI | FS, P, GP

Marilyn Scudder '56
Beth Gesler Caldwell & David '56
Frank Emerson & Mary '56
Lewis & Nancy Graham Scudder '58
Alice Graham Silver & Tom

Brynes '55
Ed & Miggie Carman Tegenfeldt '56 & '55 | FS P GP

J.T. Seamands '32
Sylvia Seamands '59

Judy Gass Shearer '56
Michael Gass & Carol '50

W Wells Thoms and Beth Scudder Thoms Dickason,
parents of Nancy '48, Peter '51, Norman '51 and Lois '55
Norman Thoms & Anna '51
Nancy Fisher Thoms Block & Russell '48

Anne Warrior CoD
Donn & Julie Nichol Stengele | '80, FS, P

Dr. Charles E. Wilder '42
David Wilder & Margaret '46

In Honor of:

All gifts given are in honor of the donor's class and/or association to KIS as former staff, parents, etc. The following were specifically mentioned as honorees:

Beth Gesler Caldwell & David '56
Sara Gesler Klemmer '63

Bertha Lange FS
Peg Caldwell-Ott & Derek '75

Connie Dudley Rumely '42
Wendy & Jeff Brown FS | P

Paul & Donna Beth Wiebe '56 | FS, P
Donn & Julie Nichol Stengele | '80, FS, P



The Shola Society: Leaving a Legacy for Future Generations

A number of years ago under the leadership of KWI, The Shola Society was conceived as an avenue to recognize individuals who have made charitable provisions for the benefit of Kodaikanal International School (KIS) and given to KWI/Kodai Friends International (KFI) in their estate plans. While some Society members have made bequests through their wills and trusts, others have created lifetime income for themselves or family members by means of Charitable Gift Annuities, Charitable Remainder Unitrusts, or other Planned Giving opportunities. For additional information about these options, contact KFI or your financial advisor.

KFI takes seriously the responsibility to honor the wishes of its benefactors. Members of the Shola Society also include people who have notified KFI in writing that KFI or KIS is a benefactor listed in their estate plans.

In addition to the tax benefits available under current law, members of the Society enjoy the satisfaction of knowing that, through their planning and thoughtfulness, KIS will maintain its excellence for many generations to come and inspire others who might make similar gifts. These opportunities can help you meet your financial needs for the future, as well as support your alma mater.

KFI is proud to honor and thank again the members of The Shola Society:

- **Marjorie Beane** FS
- **Keith and Marcine DeJong** '46, FS, P, GP: established a temporarily restricted fund for the Music Award and Music Scholarship to be given annually at KIS for as long as the fund continues
- **Agnes Liddle** FS
- **Don Muyskens** '50: established the Muyskens Family Trust fund in recognition, in perpetuity of the Muyskens family's long and continuing relationships with the Kodaikanal School as evidenced by the following family information.
 - The Reverend **John Dirk Muyskens** parent (1894-1963) – Board member for the Reformed Church in America, 1928, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1940, 1945 and 1950
 - Mrs. **Dora Johnson Muyskens** parent (1895-1984)
 - Mrs. **Bernice Muyskens Lettenmaier** '40 (1923-)
 - **Dirk John Muyskens** '44 (1927-2006)
 - The Reverend Dr. **David Pownall Muyskens** '47 (1930-2013)
 - **Donald Muyskens** '50 & KWI (1932-)

The permanently restricted fund is held and managed by the Presbyterian Foundation.

- **Francis Naylor** friend
- **Paul W. Nichol** friend, father of Gerald Nichol FS, P, GP, KFI
- **Marilyn J. Scudder** '56: Marilyn's bequest to KIS and her life of service and commitment to others are her legacy: a legacy which lives on beyond her as an inspiration to future generations of Kodai students. [J. Cummings, The Shola Society Newsletter, Spring 2006]

- **Ruth E. Slifer** FS
- **Robert Van Puersem**
- **Patricia Woodburne Wells** '25: gave a Charitable Gift Annuity through the Presbyterian Foundation which was added to the Kodai Scholarship Endowment fund so that a student who could not otherwise, would be able to attend Kodai School.
- **Charles E and Nancy E Wilder Trust Fund** '42 of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation: left a legacy gift to KFI in gratitude for the lessons Charles learned at Kodai School about diversity and inclusion, acceptance, the curiosity of learning about others with different outlooks, backgrounds and beliefs. KFI is working with KIS to establish a *Unity in Diversity* fund which would award scholarships to students to study at KIS who will bring diversity to the student body, and which would promote symposiums to explore diversity and the strengths it brings to an organization/school, to foster curiosity, community and inclusiveness in pursuit of peace.

KFI records indicate the following members of the Shola Society have named KFI in their estate:

- **Donald Beane** FS
- **Mary Moon Davis** FS, P
- **Mark and Nancy Lindell Garrison** '57, FS, P
- **Gerald & Roxanna Nichol** FS, P, GP, KFI
- **Elinor Potee Nichols** '44
- **Sandra Schoeninger** FS, KFI
- **Alice Graham Silver** '55
- **Edwin and Margaret Carman Tegenfeldt** '56 & '55, FS, P, GP
- **Jeannette McBride Warner** friend

Thoughtful estate and charitable gift planning can:

- Increase your retirement income
- Reduce your estate and other taxes
- Provide income to other family members
- Avoid capital-gain taxes
- Leave more to your family
- Benefit your alma mater

Contact KFI or your financial advisor regarding charitable gift planning.



Donor Highlight: Charles E. Wilder '42

How does a legacy begin? What gives it roots? Where do the branches lead? Does it bear fruit and is it relevant?

All good questions. They have numerous responses depending on the situation and the person. Such was the case with Dr. Charles E. Wilder and his early forged beginnings and relationship with Kodai School / Highclerc School.

Chas (as Charles was findly called) was the son of Ned and Harriet Wilder, medical missionary and teacher/historian, respectively, in the Madura Mission. Chas and his brother, John were born in Madurai in 1925 and 1927, and younger brothers David and Donald were born in Kodai in 1929 and 1932 while their parents were up in Kodai for the season. Don writes, "All four children attended Kodai School (as it was known then) except when our parents were on their one-year furloughs in the United States in 1938/9 and 1946/7. In Kodai the children lived in dormitories from perhaps second grade through high school, except when their parents were on vacation in Kodai or on furlough in the States."

Don continues about his time in Kodai, "Kodai School prepared us for life in certain distinctive ways:

- We benefitted from association with teachers and fellow students from different countries. During World War II most of us were from Great Britain, the U.S., and Germany, with other countries (including India, of course) represented to lesser degrees.
- An emphasis on music meant that just about every student sang in choruses, and many learned to play the piano or an instrument in the orchestra.
- After Kodai, some of us found ourselves astonished at the puerile behavior of many college classmates, who were experiencing life away from home for the first time. We from Kodai had long since outgrown locker-room talk and had adopted a more grown-up aspect."

Don recounted a time "when he was in medical school in the 1940s, Chas used to sit on the grass on the Charles River Esplanade to listen to Boston Pops concerts. Once he was able to hear a small neighboring group of Indians speaking Tamil. When there was a lull in the conversation he said in Tamil, loud enough so they could hear him but a propos of nothing, 'I had one too, but the wheels fell off.'"

Maintaining contact with classmates over the years as best as time, distance and resources would permit, Chas joined his classmates time and again, cementing the fond relationships that had been so formative in his school years in Kodai. Excerpts from magazines and letters spanning the globe and decades of Kodai alumni include special mention of Dr. Charles.

At their Class of 1942 60th reunion in August 2002 in the Pocono Mountains, Chas was one of a dozen classmates to gather in Pennsylvania. For a graduating class of 16, having 12 at a reunion is quite a feat and a testament to the close ties that were formed in Kodai. The 2002 Kodai magazine said it aptly, "The fellowship,



the remembrances, the old friendships rekindled were heartfelt reminders of the old school son: 'We're loyal to you, Kodai School ...'"

Over the years, Chas was a faithful contributor to the class news articles, repeatedly recounting family get-togethers and trips he and his wife Nancy had taken, and the reunions they attended. Chas often spent time outdoors sailboat racing, skiing and mountain climbing, and enjoyed reading, natural history, archeology and Indian food.

Charles E. Wilder '42 & Nancy E. Wilder's legacy gift to Kodai Friends International is to benefit Kodaikanal International School in promoting understanding among people of diverse cultures, religions, races, ethnic or geographical backgrounds. As Chas' daughter Inga Robbins explained, "Charles strongly believed that education that promotes this understanding was the most fundamental means to promote peace and end violence. His gift demonstrates his confidence in the ability of KIS to provide this type of education."

David '46 and Don '49, Chas' brothers, added that Charles shared with all three of his younger brothers a profound appreciation for the pre-college educations they received at Kodai School, the precursor of KIS. His generous gift to KIS testifies to the impact that Kodai School had on him, an impact that remained with him throughout his life, as he never ceased to attend reunions of his Class of 1942. His gift to KIS shows his gratitude for the solid educational preparation for college and for adult life that Kodai School provided, as well as for lasting friendships and memories of social, athletic, hiking, camping, and boating activities on the lake and in the surrounding hills."

2016-17 Financial Statements for Kodai Friends International, Inc.

Statement of Financial Position		
	June 2017	June 2016
Assets		
Cash and Cash equivalents	\$186,399	\$45,391
Contributions receivable	65	-
Prepaid expenses	2,921	1,458
Investments	2,610,151	2,328,954
Beneficial interest in charitable trusts	79,139	72,182
Cash surrender value of life insurance	13,963	13,585
Total Assets	\$2,892,638	\$2,461,570

Liabilities and Net Assets		
Liabilities	\$1,371	\$781
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	\$2,482,242	\$2,209,347
Unrestricted – board designated	1,825	-
Temporarily restricted	303,875	148,117
Permanently restricted	103,325	103,325
Total Net Assets:	\$2,891,267	\$2,460,789
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$2,892,638	\$2,461,570

Statement of Operations	
For Year Ended June 30, 2017	
	Unrestricted
Gains, Support and Revenue	
Contributions	\$33,148
Investment gain	326,288
Gain on beneficial interest in charitable trust	6,957
Total Revenue:	366,393
Net Assets released from restrictions	46,649
Total Revenues, Losses and Other Support	\$413,042
Expenses	
Program	\$78,957
General and administrative	\$43,385
Fundraising	\$15,980
Total Expenses	\$138,322
Change in Net Assets	\$274,720
Net Assets—Beginning of Year	\$2,209,347
Net Assets—End of Year	\$2,484,067

For a copy of the audited financial report, contact us at 603-998-7471.

Treasurer's Report

of Activities

Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
\$197,075	-	\$230,223
4,954	-	\$331,242
378	-	\$7,335
202,407	-	\$568,800
(46,649)	-	-
\$155,758	-	\$568,800
-	-	\$78,957
-	-	\$43,385
-	-	\$15,980
-	-	\$138,322
\$155,758	-	\$430,478
\$148,117	\$103,325	\$2,460,789
\$303,875	\$103,325	\$2,891,267

Contact ExecutiveDirector@kfi-us.org

Financially, the 2017 fiscal year was a banner year for KFI. Investment returns were substantially higher than normal, at \$331,242 compared with an investment loss of (\$35,513) in 2016. Contributions were higher, too, at \$230,223, (largely due to a one-time legacy gift of \$157,080 from the Charles E. and Nancy E. Wilder Fund) compared with \$65,134 in 2016. Without that one-time gift, donations still were somewhat higher than 2016, at \$73,143. Grants given by KFI in 2017 were \$59,118, increased from \$48,589 in 2016 and administrative and fundraising expenses were \$79,204, down from \$96,786 in 2016. Together, these positive numbers resulted in a growth in net assets of \$430,479.

Looking ahead, net asset increase of this magnitude is unlikely. Investment gains fluctuate, and may indeed show losses. One-time legacy gifts such as the one received in 2017 are the exception rather than the rule.

One of the achievements in the financial and budgeting area in 2017, thanks to Vijay Naidu's leadership, was the development of a "disbursement affordability" formula by which expenditures are seen as a percentage of KFI's investment assets. The Board recommends that no more than 5% of KFI investments be used to cover net cash flow (+ contributions - grant distributions - operating expenses), allowing for preservation of KFI investment portfolio. In the past two years that percentage has been closer to 3% which is even better.

The Investment Committee, under Vijay's chairmanship, monitors our investment funds and has made suggestions to KFI investment managers at BNY Mellon and Ameriprise.

The KFI Board, for the first time, approved a grant to an organization affecting the larger Kodai community. A gift in the amount of \$16,000 was approved to the Foundation for Ecological Research, Advocacy and Learning in Puducherry, India, for the purpose of a baseline estimate of wildlife in Kodaikanal Wildlife Sanctuary. \$8,000 has been approved for 2017 and another \$8,000 for the following year. Payment will be made once the Foundation has received and sent copies of the necessary permits. The Board responded favorably to this request for several reasons. The project contributes to promoting conservation efforts in the area surrounding KIS and it was endorsed by the Principal of KIS. KFI's Mission Statement allows for grants to organizations in Tamil Nadu which are used in furtherance of the values of KIS.

We have had a strong year. However, the future viability of KFI depends upon maintaining donation levels, prudent investment policies and continued attention to controlling costs. The changing cultural nature of KIS graduates and their wider international college destinations are impacting the level of alumni support of the school and with it, KFI's donor base. The KFI Board continues to look at different ways to fund KFI and how best to grow and use the funds going forward.



Mary Coleman Lowry '64
Treasurer

Board of Directors and Committees

KFI Board of Directors

Jyotirmaya Nanda '83 | President

David Otten '69, P | Vice President (term ended 30-Jun-17)

William Martin '70, FS, P | Vice President (term began 1-Jul-17)

Mary Coleman Lowry '64 | Treasurer

Anju Taneja FS, P | Secretary

Julie Nichol Stengele '80, FS, P | KFI Executive Director*
(term ended 8-Sep-17)

Akshay Birla WS '05

Robert Fletcher '65

Stan Kuruvilla '93

Daryl Miller '71 (term began 1-Jul-17)

Vijay Naidu '86

David Piet '63 (term began 1-Jul-17)

Glenn Rogers '74 (term ended 30-Jun-17)

Corleigh Stixrud '86 | KIS Principal*

Kai Weise '83 | KIS Council Chair*

**Ex-Officio*

Investment Committee

Vijay Naidu '86 | Chair

Robert Fletcher '65

Stan Kuruvilla '93

Mary Coleman Lowry '64 | Treasurer

Jyotirmaya Nanda '83 | President

Julie Nichol Stengele '80, FS, P | KFI Executive Director*







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