



Celebrating
30 years
of inspiring joy through
hands-on learning

raft[®]

RESOURCE
AREA FOR
TEACHING

ANNUAL REPORT
2024



IMPACT STATEMENT

RAFT's mission is to help parents and educators transform a child's learning experience through hands-on education. We help bridge the education gap for students and communities by offering engaging STEAM resources to encourage the next generation of innovators, problem solvers, and creators. RAFT does this by providing STEAM Project Kits, Maker Mobile van visits and makerspace builds, STEAM summer camps, tailored educator workshops, and free online learning activity sheets. RAFT's unique Found Engineering process repurposes donated materials that would have otherwise been sent to the landfill into accessible, low-cost STEAM Project Kits that are assembled by volunteers. Educators, and now parents, can become RAFT members and shop at the warehouse store facility for affordable items devoted to hands-on learning.

OUR MISSION

RAFT's mission is to help educators transform a child's learning experience through hands-on education to one that inspires the joy and discovery of learning.

OUR VISION

RAFT's vision is to inspire the next generation of innovators, problem solvers, and creators, by providing educators with STEAM learning resources.

RAFT AWARDS



LETTER FROM THE CEO

Dear Supporters,

This year, RAFT celebrates 30 years in the education community. I am happy to say that I have had a front row seat in watching RAFT grow over the years, as I visited RAFT in my first year of teaching over 25 years ago. It is a privilege to now lead the organization with the Board of Directors and the support of our staff, volunteers, members, and donors.

Since 1994, RAFT has helped educators inspire the joy and discovery of learning. Though many things have changed, the pillars that RAFT was founded on have continued to be critically important in the education space. These pillars are:

- Hands-on learning helps inspire the joy and discovery of learning.
- All STEAM principles are needed for a well-rounded education.
- Reusing and upcycling materials provides needed resources to educators while supporting our environment.

RAFT has so many incredible and impactful resources, programs and services that help the education community. We have spent the past three decades creating new programs and services to help support what quality education looks like, always remaining true to our mission.

In this spirit, we are pleased to announce the launch of our \$5 million Endowment Fund to ensure RAFT's ability to provide essential resources to our education community into the future. This fund also offers a unique matching opportunity for qualifying gifts.

This annual report will showcase what RAFT has been working on this past fiscal year and highlights how RAFT has evolved over the decades.

RAFT has been a special organization for 30 years and the next 30 will be even better. RAFT's future is brighter than ever thanks to our large community and the entire RAFT team looks forward to continuing to serve our educators and students for decades to come.

Warmly,

Jason Morrella
CEO



RAFT BY THE NUMBERS

30

YEARS OF SERVING
THE EDUCATION
COMMUNITY

61,353

EDUCATORS SERVED
SINCE 1994

654

CLASSROOM
IDEA SHEETS

450

STEAM PROJECT
KITS DEVELOPED
SINCE 1994

200

CORPORATE AND
COMMUNITY
PARTNERS

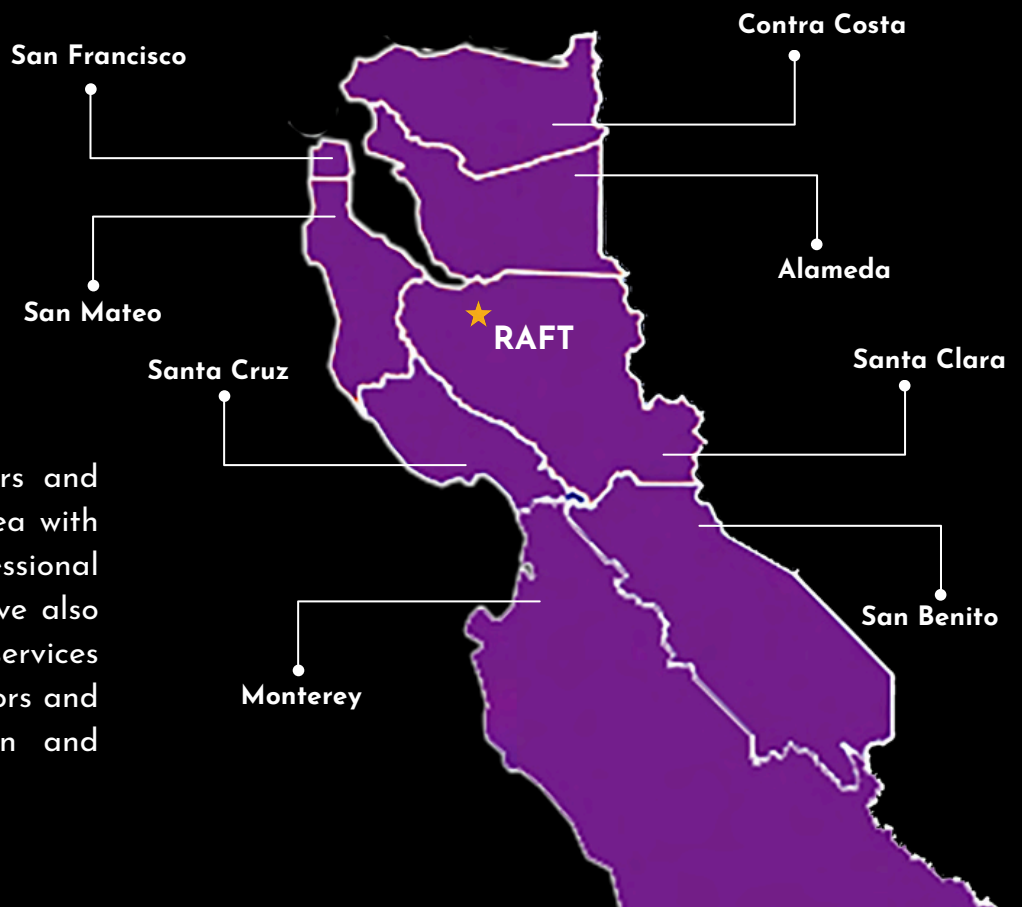
66,525

VOLUNTEERS
SINCE 1994



AREAS WE SERVE

While RAFT serves our members and students throughout the Bay Area with our San Jose facility, professional development, and events, we have also made our materials and services available online to reach educators and students throughout the nation and around the world.



DIRECT TEACHER AND STEAM SUPPORT PROGRAM

In 2024, RAFT launched a program to directly support our teachers and educators with a RAFT membership and shopping credit. Supporters can now direct their giving to a school or district to ensure educators have access to RAFT's resources and additional income to provide STEAM materials to their students.

In addition to supporting teachers directly, RAFT also launched our STEAM Support Program to directly serve students at schools and districts with STEAM resources such as STEAM Dream Box subscriptions, Maker Mobile visits and STEAM Events, and STEAM Dream Camp scholarships.

To support a specific school or district through these two programs, contact Kate Ball at kball@raft.net.



PARTNER OF THE YEAR



Through a generous grant from KLA Foundation, RAFT was able to offer memberships and \$100 shopping credits to every TK-8 educator at Santa Clara Unified School District and Milpitas Unified School District. In addition, educators received training in how to incorporate hands-on learning techniques into their STEAM curriculum.

"Every teacher needs to go to RAFT! It's a must go-to, especially for new teachers starting out in their classrooms or a new role! The workers are also so helpful and friendly, and they have so many things that you could think of."

-Santa Clara Unified School District Teacher

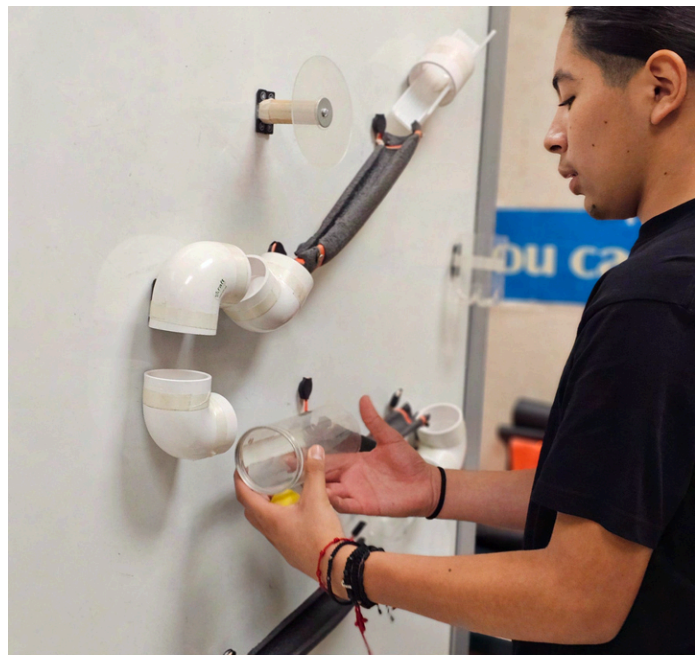


MAKER MOBILE

RAFT's Maker Mobile program delivers a fully equipped STEAM Lab to schools and communities across the Bay Area complete with the tools, materials, and staff support needed for engaging hands-on STEAM activities that can have a lasting impact.

Thanks to the generous support of the Sharks Foundation, Western Digital, and more recently, the KLA Foundation, RAFT now operates two Maker Mobiles, reaching even more students throughout the Bay Area.

In 2024, with funding and partnership from the Synopsys Foundation, RAFT launched the new **Maker Mobile Mentor Program**. San Jose State University College of Science students now join our Maker Mobile visits to serve as near-peer mentors, providing students with a unique classroom-to-career perspective. These mentors not only demonstrate the real-world applications of STEAM but also encourage students to envision exciting futures in science and technology.



STEAM NIGHTS & COMMUNITY EVENTS

RAFT supports community events such as STEAM Showcases, family STEAM Nights and Generations Day. At these events, we help engage whole communities in hands-on STEAM activities where students, their families, and community members learn side by side.

122

Maker Mobile & Community Visits

4

Makerspaces Built & Supported

10,000+

Students Engaged

MAKERSPACE BUILDS

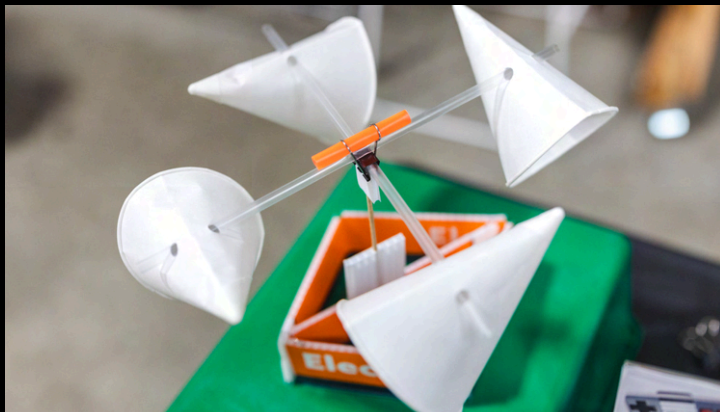
RAFT collaborates with schools, offering support in designing, constructing, and equipping makerspaces, as well as providing training for Maker Education, fostering curiosity and hands-on learning.





STEAM PROJECT KITS

RAFT provides Project Kits that address STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) concepts while aligning to Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards. Each kit includes required materials, assembly instructions, and suggested activities. The kits serve students from grades K-12.



In the last year, RAFT developed 10 new STEAM Project Kits:

- Archimedes Screw
- Boo Bubbles
- Butterfly Automata
- Caesar Cipher Disc (w/ Palo Alto Networks)
- Mask Making (w/ Palo Alto Networks)
- Platform Car (Version 1)
- Propeller Power
- Paper Helicopters
- Holiday Wreaths
- Wind-O-Meter



STEAM DREAM CAMPS

RAFT partners with school districts to offer fully immersive hands-on STEAM camps and content for grade K-8. We inspire the next generation of innovators and problem solvers through week-long themed explorations where students develop a deep understanding of STEAM concepts and build essential future-ready skills.

13

Sites Served

8

District Partners

1,448

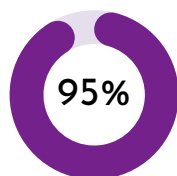
STEAM Dream Campers
(Cumulative across multiple weeks)

931

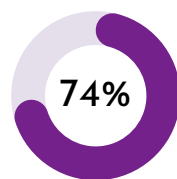
Dream Box Students Served



Average daily attendance, surpassing the national average.



Parents said their child learned new things about STEAM.



Students shared that being able to design, build, or fix things is something they want to do.



15% growth on average in students' ability to explain key concepts.

"What I like the most about camp is the projects because it helps me build things."
-STEAM Dream Camper

"My kids expressed interest in more science, tech, and engineering since participating."
-Parent



RAFT STORE

The RAFT Store is a 30,000 sq. ft. member-based shopping and resource environment where educators, parents and anyone supporting the education community can shop, collaborate and learn.

Our low-cost education supplies and unique offerings help our members stretch their dollar and maximize the impact for their students.

RAFT members receive benefits such as discounts on STEAM Project Kits, affordable classroom and office essentials, and access to the upgraded Educator Workroom & Lab.

In 2024, our material donations helped divert

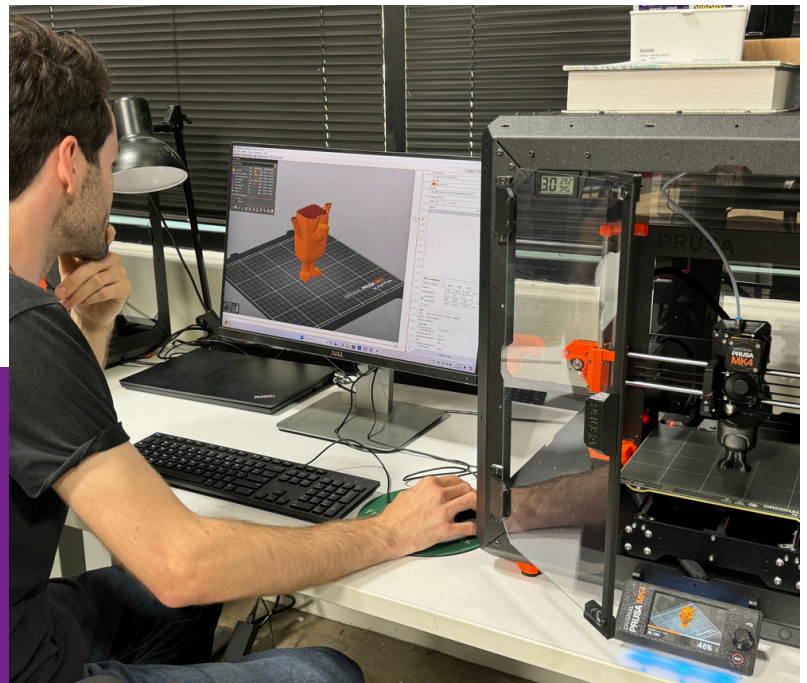
269 tons

of waste from landfills.

We've enhanced our space to better support our incredible members! The upgraded facility offers improved resources, increased accessibility, and a more engaging shopping experience.

Here's what's changed:

- Added a top of the line Cricut machine to our Educator Workroom to help members expand their creative options for the classroom.
- Added two new 3D Printers to our Educator Lab for members to use after completing a training session.
- Created a map of our Store that can be accessed with a QR code at the entrance.



VOLUNTEERING



6,412

Volunteers from FY 23-24

85,905

STEAM Kits Assembled

283,045

Students Served

RAFT volunteers are a critical part of making our resources available and affordable to the education community. This past year we were happy to partner with groups to host a variety of volunteer events that gave back to the education community in a big way.

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT



Western Digital

For over 6 years, Western Digital has been an impactful partner with RAFT through volunteering. In the past several years, over 588 Western Digital employees have dedicated their time to ensuring that educators and students have all the resources they need to learn and grow.

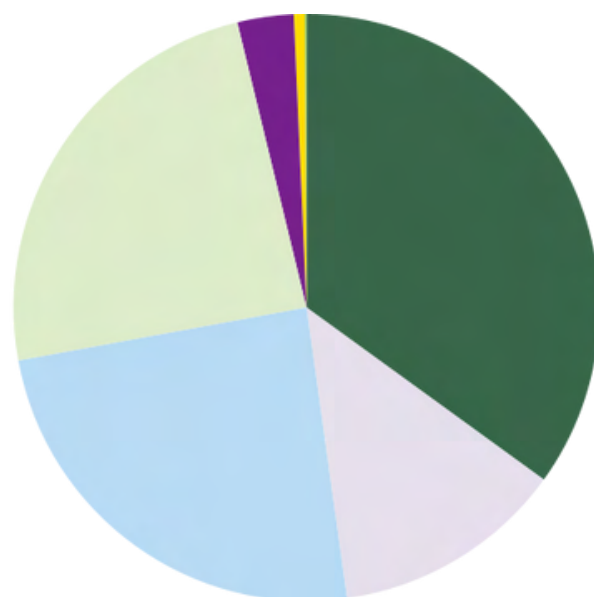


Western Digital has increased their partnership with RAFT by committing to a year long volunteer program. Over the next fiscal year, 400 additional Western Digital employees will continue to dedicate their time to supporting the education community with RAFT.

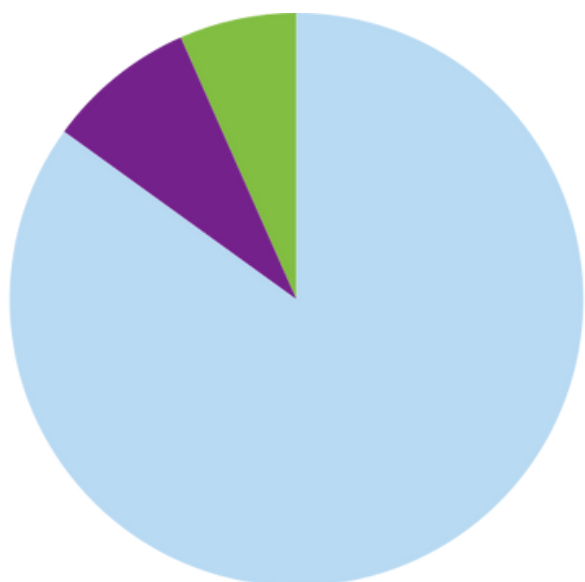
FINANCIALS

Total RAFT Revenue & Support FY24

Individuals, Corporations and Foundations	\$ 914,198
Fundraising Event	\$ 335,055
Education Income	\$ 635,330
Store Income	\$ 629,987
Membership Dues	\$ 81,104
Other Income	\$ 15,660
In-Kind Contributions	\$ 2,520
Total Revenue & Support	\$ 2,613,854



- Individuals, Corporations and Foundations
- Fundraising Event
- Education Income
- Store Income
- Membership Dues
- Other Income
- In-Kind Contributions



- Program Expense
- Management & General
- Fund Development

Total RAFT Expense Allocation FY24

Program Expense	\$ 3,114,683
Management & General	\$ 308,849
Fund Development	\$ 242,388
Total Expenses	\$3,665,920

RAFT also holds an investment reserve fund as a result of selling our second building in 2019. While not used as part of our operating budget, these investments will continue to support RAFT's capital and programmatic improvements over the coming years, with an anticipated average income of \$400-500k annually.

BOARD & STAFF



RAFT Board

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Yosuke Ogata, Secretary
Ryan Nicholson, Treasurer
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Charu Gupta
Jim Harrington

Beth Howe
Loretta Li-Sevilla
Carlos P Mino
Vidya Phalke
Stefan Raffl
Jayanti Tambe Roy
Joo Tanaka

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Bruce Chizen

Ann Danner
John Ebner

Dave House
Webb McKinney

Randy Pond
Douglas Spreng

Donna Whitney

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David Muilenburg, Chief Operations Officer
Chase Davenport, Senior Education Director

Kate Ball, Development Director
Anwar Tamiz, Finance Director
Sahil Haria, Growth Marketing Manager

RAFT Staff

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Vanessa Bembo
Christopher Bowman
Suzanne Carrig
Jacky Castaneda
Tiffany Chambers
Caroline Evans
Jeff Fox
Shannon Fu
Kat Huro
Maithily Kumaraswamy
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Mariel Milo



Dan Muilenburg
Anne Murphy
Yesenia Ornelas
Bao Pham
Mike Pollock
Martina Ramirez

Mikey Ramot
Jamie Sandoval
Sandy Suttora
Siang Tai
Eric Welker
Bryan Williams



LEVEL UP

On September 18, RAFT hosted its annual fundraiser event. This year's event, Level Up, highlighted our work over the past 30 years as well as honored the individuals and organizations that have made a profound impact on RAFT and the education community. Guests got to engage with new kits and activities developed over the past year and learn more about RAFT's STEAM programs and how we serve our education community.

Over \$370,000 was raised through the event.



Scan to learn more about the event.

2024 HALL OF FAME

STEAM EDUCATORS OF THE YEAR



**REBECCA
BALSTER**



**KRISTIN
DIL**



**VINCENT
TRAN**

PARTNER OF THE YEAR



HERO OF THE YEAR



**DOUGLAS
SPRENG**

VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR



**JULIA
KOZEN**



**JEANNE
OHARA**



SPONSORS

ANNIVERSARY SPONSOR



HIGH SCORE SPONSOR



POWER UP SPONSOR



BOSS SPONSOR

Adobe Employee
Giving Program



Ned and Jimi
Barnholt



Morgan Stanley
THE SKYLINE WEALTH MANAGEMENT GROUP
AT MORGAN STANLEY

Morgan Stanley
AT WORK

Douglas Spreng

MINI BOSS SPONSOR

The Ball Family

Bruce and Gail
Chizen

Ann and Alden
Danner

Deloitte.



John and Deanne
Ebner

FENWICK

Mark and Carolyn
Guidry Foundation

Anne and Ron
Murphy



Perkins
Coie

Thomas and Donna Whitney
Education Foundation

FUND-A-NEED DONORS

Stefan Ball

Allison Barr

Jan and Larry Birenbaum

Bon Appétit Management Company

Carns Family Fund

Gloria and Michael Chiang

Ann Jane Cosgrove

Jeffrey Fox

Kevin and Ali Fried

Peter and Diane Geschke

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John and Carol Hamilton

Jim Harrington

Francis and Margaret Keeler

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Nivisha Mehta

Randy and Cindy Pond

Stefan Raffl

Karen and Bruce Rohde

San Jose Water

Girish and Datta Shah

Sundi Sundaresh

Barbara and Bruce Swenson

Terrace Consulting

Donna Whitney and Uwe Kladde

Wilson Sonsini Goodrich &
Rosati Foundation

2024 EVENT COMMITTEE

John Ebner

Gayle Dilley

Jillian Forusz

Sharon Hutchins

Andrea Whittaker

Donna Whitney

IN-KIND DONORS

20Twenty Wine Bar

Aesthetic Barista

Amici's East Coast Pizzeria

Andrea's Bartending and Cocktails

Aqui

Bay Area Glass Institute

BLICK Art Materials

Blue Line Pizza

Books Inc

Bottle & Bottega (Campbell)

Breathe Together Yoga

Carissa Joy Flores

Cascal Restaurant

Casini Ranch Family Campground

Cecil Mak and Elizabeth Chien

Chaminade Resort and Spa

Charu Gupta

Children's Music Theater

City Lights Theater Company

Colibri Pottery Studio

Crepevine

CuriOdyssey

Dry Creek Grill

Easy Breezy

Electronic Arts

Exploratorium

Filoli Historic Home and Gardens

Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco

Forbes Mill Steakhouse

Foxen Vineyard and Winery

Melanie & Frederic Caldwell

Hakone Foundation

Happy Hollow Park & Zo

Hiller Aviation Museum

Illusive Comics & Games

In-N-Out

Jason Morrella

Jayanti Tambe Roy

Joo Tanaka

Ladera Grill

Luna Mexican Restaurant

Martin Ranch Winery

Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens

Movement Gyms (Sunnyvale)

Nox Cookie Bar

Out of the Barrel Taproom

Pacific Locomotive Association

Pinball Museum

Pizza My Heart

Prime Time Athletic Club of Burlingame

RAFT Store

Rich and Brenda Goldman

Roaring Camp Railroad

San Francisco Giants

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art

Silver Oak Cellars

Soquel Vineyards

Sports Basement

Symphony San Jose

Tahoe Donner Association

The Charles A. Schulz Museum

The Escape Game

The Gregangelo Museum

The Penny Creamery

The Tech Interactive

Tomato Thyme

Topgolf

USS Hornet Sea, Air and Space Museum

West Wind Drive-Ins

Willow Street Taproom

Winchester Mystery House

World Wrapps

SECURING THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION

THE LAUNCH OF RAFT'S ENDOWMENT FUND

This fall, RAFT has set up an endowment fund to ensure that the future educators and students will have access to the critical learning resources they need to succeed.

Having served the education community of the Bay Area for 30 years, RAFT knows how the needs of educators and students can change. We have seen the shifting priorities in the classroom and how educators and families have to adapt to serve their students. No matter what changes in the education community, the need for quality education and the importance of hands-on learning remain consistent.

While we celebrate RAFT's 30th Anniversary, we are focusing on providing a permanent, self-sustaining source of self-sustaining source of funding. An endowment ensures that RAFT

can generate revenue in perpetuity and would allow us to guarantee affordable pricing for educators as well as expand our inventory of STEAM materials to adapt to new educational standards and emerging technologies.

This \$5 million fund will start as a 1:1 matching opportunity for gifts of \$25,000 or more for donors to double their impact.

This inaugural and exclusive matching opportunity is offered on a first-come-first-served basis, and Naming Fund opportunities start at \$25k and above for a minimum total impact of \$50K. These opportunities can include funding RAFT's development of STEAM programs in the future, funding teachers and students directly with materials, memberships, Maker Mobile visits, STEAM Dream Camp scholarships, and more.

This important initiative will allow RAFT to dream of new programs and services to answer the changing needs of our education system as well as provide our innovative services today. RAFT's endowment ensures we will be there for the educators and students of the future to serve the next generation of innovators, problem solvers, and creators.

If you'd like to learn more about the endowment and ways to support RAFT's future, please call Kate Ball at 408-451-1420 or email development@raft.net.





WAYS TO GIVE

RAFT supports thousands of teachers, educators, students and parents every year through a multitude of programs and STEAM resources. Scan the QR codes below to learn the many ways you can help us help the education community.

Donate Money



Donate Assets



Donate Materials



Volunteer



There are other ways you can contribute to RAFT's mission and make a lasting impact:

Stock Donations: You can donate appreciated securities to RAFT and benefit from tax advantages.

Qualified Charitable Distributions: Make a gift from your IRA directly to RAFT and potentially reduce your taxable income.

Planned Giving: Ensure your legacy of supporting hands-on learning continues by including RAFT in your estate plans.

RAFT Taxpayer ID Number: 77-0365627

DONOR LIST

Amounts reflect total gifts from
July 1, 2023–Nov 1, 2024

STEAM Champion (\$100,000 - \$999,999)

KLA Foundation
The David and Lucile Packard Foundation

Educator Advocate (\$50,000 - \$99,999)

Cisco Systems, Inc.
Google
Intuit
City Of San Jose
County of Santa Clara Board of Supervisors
Synopsys Outreach Foundation



Learning Supporter (\$10,000 - \$49,999)

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AMD	Mark And Carolyn Guidry Foundation
Aon	Chris and Webb McKinney
Applied Materials	Micron
The Ball Family	Mission City Community Fund
Jimi and Ned Barnholt	Morgan Stanley at Work
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Change Happens Foundation	Stephen Niksa
Gail and Bruce Chizen	North Star Charitable Foundation
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Ann and Alden Danner	PayPal
John Danner	Cindy and Randy Pond
Emilio de Sousa	Stefan Raffl
Deloitte	Karen and Bruce Rohde
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Farrington Historical Foundation, Inc.	San Jose Mercury News
Fenwick & West	The Skyline Wealth Management Group at Morgan Stanley
Ali and Kevin Fried	Douglas Spreng and Peggy Lucchesi
Geschke Foundation	Sundi Sundaresh
James Harrington	Troper-Wojcicki Foundation
Sue and Tom Harrington	Viva Creative
Hewlett Packard Company	Western Digital
High Tech High Heels Foundation	Westly Foundation
House Family Foundation	Donna Whitney and Uwe Kladde
Deanne and John Ebner	Whitney Education Foundation

Tinkerer Supporter (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

Apple Inc.	Intel Corporation	Sares Regis
Arista Networks	Intuitive Surgical	Stanford Research Park
Atkinson Foundation	Kensington	Star One Credit Union
Bon Appetit	Jacqueline Whittier Kubicka	Estate of Cathi Szlembarski
DJM Capital	Cathie Lesjak and Brian Boisseree	The Morrison & Foerster Foundation
Kelly and Ed Engler	Loretta Li-Sevilla	Thermo Fisher Scientific
Ferrer US	Dean O. Morton	Jennifer Van Dalsen and Tor Braham
First Tech Federal Credit Union	Brooks Nelson	VMware
Diane and Peter Geschke	Nelson Capital Management	Vocera Communications
HashiCorp	Netflix	Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati Foundation
Elizabeth Howe and Scott Richardson	Palo Alto Weekly Online	
Sharon and Aubrey Hutchins	Perkins Coie	
IMD	Vidya Phalke and Debjani Deb	
	Santa Clara Valley Water	

Maker Supporter (\$1,000 - \$4,999)

Robin Adams	Helms Foundation, Inc.	Posner - Wallace Foundation
Analog Devices	Hewlett Packard Enterprise	Matthew and April Quilter
Jaime Barclay	Erin Hintz and David Lilenstein	Republic Services
Louis and Patricia Bellardo	Elizabeth and Robert Joss	Robert Brownlee Foundation
Scott Benson and Ky-Van Lee	Francis W. and Margaret Keeler	Elaine Rowan
Corey Bentley	Thomas and Bev Sanford Kilsdonk	Jayanti Tambe Roy
Bloomerang	Kevin Kranzusch	Cindy and Allen Ruby
Scott Burke	Stanley and Sayang Lim	Safadi Family Foundation
Frederic Caldwell	Ron and Dixie Lopes	Samsung Semiconductor
Carolyn Carhart-Quezada and Samuel Quezada	Judith and John Manton	San Jose Rotary Club
Michael and Laura Carns	Marvell Technology Group	San Jose Water Company
Chegg.org Impact Fund	Janette Mello	Saratoga Rotary Charitable Foundation
Michael and Gloria Chiang	Microsoft Corporation	Girish and Datta Shah
Cecil Mak and Elizabeth Chien	Carlos Mino	Sandy Suttora
Chris and Alisha Collier	Alicia Moore	Wayne and Jean Suzuki
Cathy Conk	Steven Morgan	Barbara and Bruce Swenson
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Amit Gupta and Nisha Talagala	Suneil and Rohini Parulekar	Elizabeth Wolf
Jan Half	Jean-Pierre and Gerry Patkay	Workday
Dotty and Terry Hayes	Matthew Peloquin	Martha and John Zielinski
Heaven's Helping Hand Foundation	David Pollock	



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