

IMPACT

THINK BIG & MAKE A DIFFERENCE
2023 REFLECTIONS



MARCELLA
FOUNDATION

WWW.MARCELLAFUNDATION.ORG

MARCELLA

FOUNDATION

THINK BIG. MAKE A DIFFERENCE

OUR MISSION IS TO THINK BIG AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN SOUTH LAKE TAHOE IN EDUCATION, KIDS & FAMILIES, ARTS & CULTURE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In 2023, the Marcella Foundation launched its inaugural operations in South Lake Tahoe, with you as our partners - community leaders, nonprofits, volunteers, donors, and friends. Together, our mission is to invest in impactful ideas for our community.

This year, we pursued a broad vision: listening to the community, building connections, understanding needs, and taking immediate action. Our focus areas included **Education, Arts & Culture, Kids & Families**, and **Economic Development**.

In the following pages, explore our core initiatives: **scholarships, grant awards**, and **BookMode**. Throughout this year, our goal was to listen and act, guiding our future. We're thrilled to embark on the journey ahead with a shared vision of what we can achieve together!

Looking forward,
The Marcella Foundation

FANNAN FELLOWSHIP

INVESTING IN THE NEXT GENERATION

In 2023, we awarded fellowships to 10 outstanding students at South Tahoe High School. Two students received \$20,000 scholarships, and 8 students received \$5,000 scholarships

Needs

Identifying barriers to a brighter future

Paths

Taking action to reduce barriers

Futures

Partnering to propel students forward

WE ASKED STUDENTS THIS QUESTION:

**IF YOU HAD \$1M
WHAT ISSUE
WOULD YOU
WORK ON IN
TAHOE, HOW &
WHY?**



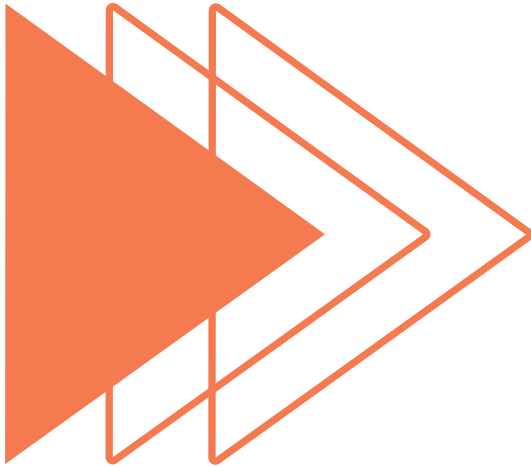
HERE'S WHAT THEY HAD TO SAY



**WE GAVE \$80,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS TO
CELEBRATE OUR INAUGURAL YEAR**



2023 FANNAN FELLOWS



- **ROSSI BONEV**
- **LACHLAN BRAY**

SINGLE YEAR AWARDS

- **FORREST JONES**
- **ERIN YAMAOKA**
- **EVELYN BENNETT**
- **CHRIS HAVEN**
- **MILO KING**
- **KYLA SCHRAUBEN**
- **FRANK LANGENFELD**
- **HAILEY ROSSI**





PARTNERING

TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

YOUR BIG IDEAS

**WE ASKED FOR YOUR BIG AND IDEAS AND THE COMMUNITY RESPONDED!
WE RECEIVED OVER 36 APPLICATIONS TO THE THINK BIG AND MAKE A
DIFFERENCE GRANT AWARDS, AND WE PARTNERED WITH 10 LOCAL
ORGANIZATIONS TO HELP LAUNCH OR SUPPORT THEIR IDEAS. THE
FOLLOWING PAGES HIGHLIGHT OUR WORK TOGETHER!**



5,760 MEALS TO PRESCHOOL FAMILIES



"I'm a single parent and the food we receive for the weekends is a blessing. When my child receives her bag, she gets excited to see what's inside. Thank you so much."



AND A MONTHLY BOOK



2,126 NEW BOOKS TO BE DELIVERED TO SCHOOL LIBRARIES



**“I’m so grateful to the Marcella Foundation for 70 new books this quarter. All of us are so grateful”
Jessica Briggs - Librarian**

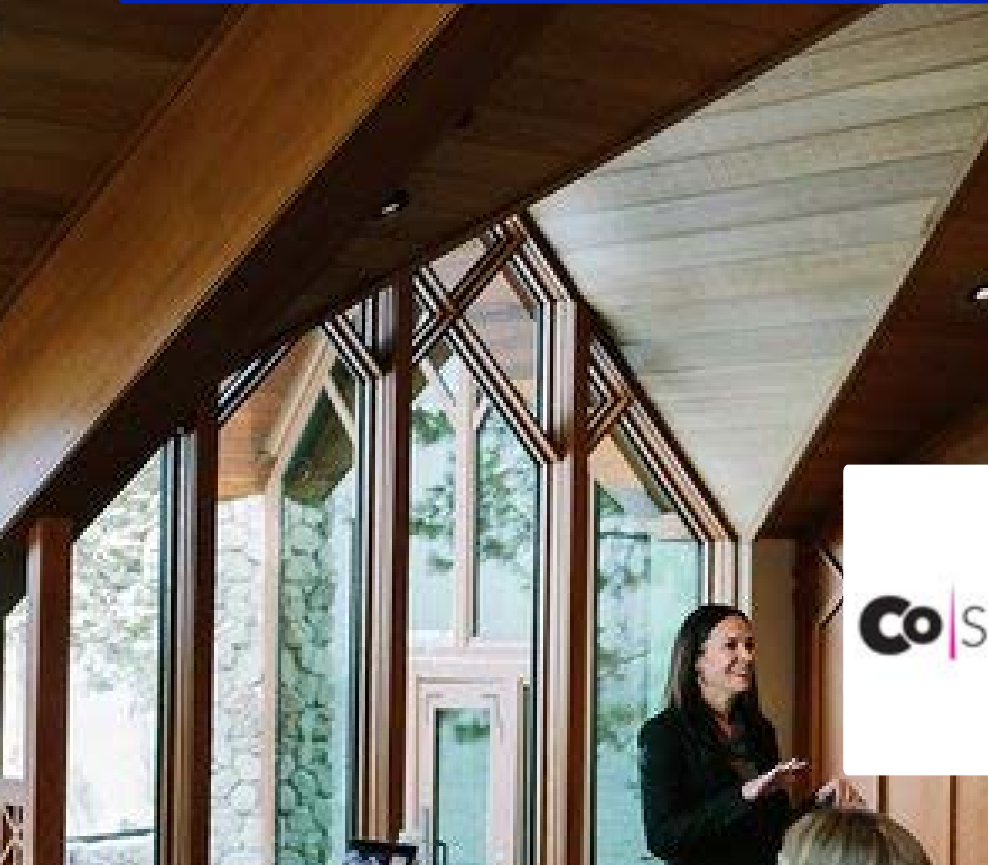
“I saw how many students were dealing with drug abuse, addiction, and needing tools to change their lives. I had to do something about it”
- Ryan Wallace



MOMENTUM ON PBS & MENTORS PILOT PROGRAM

MOMENTUM
A FEATURE DOCUMENTARY

LAUNCHING VIRTUAL LEADERSHIP BOOK CLUBS



MELISSA OPPENDAH
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - MARCELLA FOUNDATION

Read More



DR. MICHELLE D'AMICO
OWNER - GETTALAGGIO

Read More



MAYA KRAFT
OWNER - HARRISBAFT CONSULTING

Read More

Virtual book clubs have been an incredible opportunity for female leaders from across the region to connect and grow together. We're looking to expand this concept to reach more women

**“We are getting to
tour college
campuses in our
region because of
your support!”**

EXCEL-ERATE
IGNITE YOUR FUTURE

EMPOWERING FIRST GEN COLLEGE STUDENTS





SUPPORTING ENRICHMENT FOR STHS FLEX CLASSES



“We have tutoring, chess, yoga, gaming, action sports, knitting, and many more FLEX classes, thank you for yur support!”

A NEW HOME FOR FOSTER CARE

“Marcella Foundation support allowed us to move out of our flood damaged space and into a new space that is so much more homey for our clients and staff. Thank you!”



SIERRA
CHILD & FAMILY
SERVICES

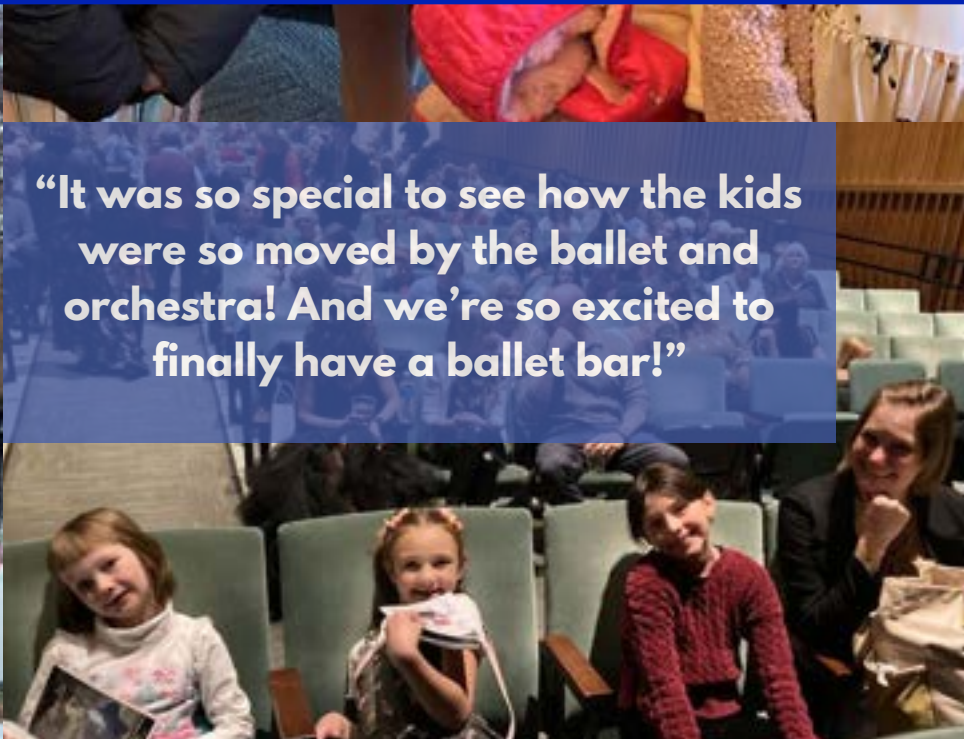




BALLET CLUB GOES TO NUTCRACKER



“It was so special to see how the kids were so moved by the ballet and orchestra! And we’re so excited to finally have a ballet bar!”





OUR RESULTS

EDUCATION

- 2,216 BOOKS TO BE DELIVERED TO LOCAL SCHOOL LIBRARIES
- FIRST GENERATION STUDENT COLLEGE TOURS

KIDS & FAMILIES

- 5,760 MEALS SERVED TO PRESCHOOL FAMILIES IN NEED
- A NEW HOME FOR FOSTER CARE
- BILINGUAL LEGAL SUPPORT FOR 20+ FAMILIES

ARTS & CULTURE

- AFTER SCHOOL BALLET CLUB GETS A TRIP TO SEE THE NUTCRACKER!
- FLEX CLASSES PROVIDE ENRICHMENT COURSES AT STHS
- NEW BALLET BAR AND COSTUMES FOR CLUB

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- LAUNCHING VIRTUAL BOOK CLUBS FOR FEMALE LEADERS IN OUR REGION AND BEYOND
- AL TAHOE NEIGHBORHOOD FIREWISE OUTREACH

VOLUNTEERING

TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

IN OCTOBER, WE LAUNCHED THE MARCELLA FOUNDATION VOLUNTEER NETWORK. WE LOVE SEEING THE EXCITEMENT ABOUT THIS CONCEPT AND THE HOURS DONATED IN JUST A FEW SHORT MONTHS!

- **44 VOLUNTEERS JOINED OUR NETWORK!**
- **69 HOURS AND 30 MINUTES OF VOLUNTEER TIME LOGGED, PLUS MANY UNLOGGED HOURS!**
- **5 EVENTS**



**JOIN OUR TEAM
VOLUNTEER**

**EASY &
FLEXIBLE**

You'll receive periodic emails with volunteer opportunities as they arise. You can choose to volunteer when and where it works for you!

WHAT

- Momentum Mentors
- BookMode
- Website/Tech
- Volunteer Days

HOW



www.marcellafoundation.org

Email: melissa@marcellafoundation.org

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!



BOOK MODE

read like a
SUPERHERO

**WE GIVE KINDLES TO KIDS
TO SPARK THEIR READING
SUPERPOWER AND IGNITE
THEIR LEARNING
ADVENTURE!**



MARCELLA
FOUNDATION

**THIS YEAR WE SET OUT TO
CREATE AND RUN SOME OF
OUR OWN PROGRAMS, THE
FIRST OF WHICH IS
BOOKMODE**

**BOOKMODE WAS CREATED
WITH THE NATIONAL
LITERACY CRISIS IN MIND:
47% OF 3RD GRADERS
CANNOT READ**

**WE ARE IN THE PROCESS
OF TESTING THE PROGRAM
OUTCOMES, SECURING
REGIONAL PARTNERS, AND
EXPLORING EXPANSION IN
TAHOE AND BEYOND**

**YOU CAN SEE THE FULL
VISION AND MISSION OF
THIS PROGRAM HERE**













OUR PROGRAMS

BOOK MODE

Sierra House - 2023 - Report Card

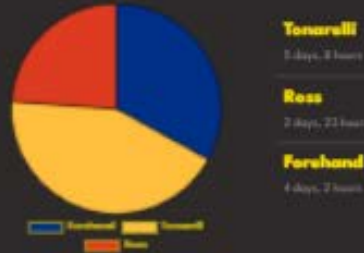


TOP BOOKS

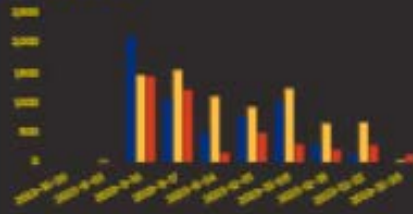
- 
It's Me, A Graphic Novel (Catwad #1)
1 day, 1 hour, 21 minutes
- 
It's Me, Two. A Graphic novel (Catwad #2)
11 hours, 22 minutes
- 
The Last Straw (Diary of a Wimpy Kid, Book 3)
17 hours, 22 minutes
- 
Me, Three: A Graphic Novel (Catwad #3)
11 hours, 6 minutes
- 
Oh, Brother! Brat Attack!
9 hours, 21 minutes
- 
Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets
8 hours, 1 minute
- 
The Cool Bean (The Bad Seed Book 3)
5 hours, 23 minutes
- 
The Bad Seed
5 hours, 19 minutes
- 
The Good Egg: An Easter And Springtime Book For Kids (The Bad Seed 2)
4 hours, 26 minutes
- 
Dog Days (Diary of a Wimpy Kid, Book 4)
4 hours, 8 minutes








LEADERBOARD



BY WEEK

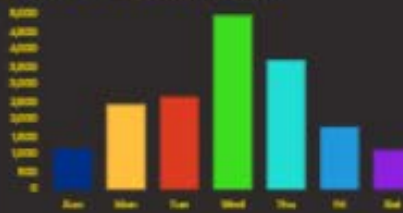


NEWEST BOOKS

- 
Brain Benders: Silly Jokes
First Added Sep 2023-10-21
- 
Unicorn of Many Hats: Another Phoebe and Her Unicorn Adventure
First Added Sep 2023-10-19
- 
Lupin Leaps In: A Breaking Cat News Adventure
First Added Sep 2023-10-19
- 
Otis P. Oliver Protests
First Added Sep 2023-10-19
- 
Digger the Dinosaur (My First I Can Read)
First Added Sep 2023-10-19



DAYS OF THE WEEK



OUR PILOT PROGRAM IS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY AT SIERRA HOUSE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

WE'D LOVE TO EXPAND THIS PROGRAM TO OTHER SCHOOLS IN THE AREA. IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN PARTNERING TO BRING THIS PROGRAM TO YOUR SCHOOL, PLEASE REACH OUT



STEP 1 - ACCESS

Kids get access to a complete library of high interest books and audiobooks on their very own kindle.



STEP 2 - INTERVENTION

Connecting kids with caring adults and reading intervention through United Readers



STEP 3 - DATA INFORMED

Real time data on reading: Hours, pages, books, and reading levels

THANK YOU



THANK YOU FOR JOINING US ON THIS JOURNEY TO
THINK BIG AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN TAHOE

- SUPPORT OUR WORK: [DONATE HERE](#)
- JOIN OUR VOLUNTEER NETWORK: [JOIN HERE](#)
- STAY CONNECTED: [SUBSCRIBE HERE](#)

QUESTIONS: MELISSA@MARCELLAFUNDATION.ORG

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