

April 2024



# Curious Minds

PACCC's Monthly Newsletter

Welcome back to Curious Minds, PACCC's monthly newsletter where you'll discover curated news on early childhood development, education and care, events and fundraising, and personal stories about our unique community!



PACCC is a community where children thrive, educators are valued, and families are supported. Providing exceptional, accessible education and care for Palo Alto's children since 1974!

## Why PACCC Summer Camps are a Parent Favorite!

Ahh, summer – and the sound of children all through the house...with nothing to do and nowhere to go, maybe even mumbling something terrifying like, “I’m bored!” What to do?! Send them to [PACCC](#)



**Summer Camp!** Parents love our summer camps because **1.** They're local. **2.** They're PACCC'ed full of educational, engaging, and healthy activities. Choose from an array of themed camps. No one is going to be bored on our watch! **3.** They're affordable! **Sign up now** and save while we still have open spots left. Then you can exhale and say with cheer, "Ahh, another week of summer planning covered!"

**Enroll  
Today!**



## **Early Education and the Joy of Music!**

PACCC is partnering with Golden Acorn Music! **Golden Acorn Music** "brings music to where it counts most: early childhood. We partner directly with preschools to create music classes that are engaging, early, and regular."

Golden Acorn Music's program is designed to support children in the following areas of development:

- Music Development & Learning
- Linguistic Development
- Physical Development
- Socioemotional Development
- Cognitive Development
- Creative Development (Approaches to Learning)



The joy and power of music in early education is undeniable, and we can't wait to hear it live in our centers. Welcome, Golden Acorn!



## The Infant-Toddler Parent Surveys are in!

Thank you for participating in the infant-toddler survey and drum roll...100% of infant-toddler parents say PACCC supports their family. When we began some 50 years ago, infant-toddler programs were not part of our curriculum. Today, PACCC is proud to be a leader in infant-toddler education and care.

For the first time, we invited infant-toddler parents to share their child's development progression aligned with the CA Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP). **DRDP** results and measures are a valuable way to support developmental growth for each child. For infants and toddlers, the measures serve as a reference point to prepare children for preschool. The DRDP also serves as a guide to help plan age-appropriate curriculum.



### What parents are saying...

Enrollment in PACCC supports my child's development in:

- **Approaches to Learning** (attention maintenance, engagement and persistence, curiosity and initiative)
- **Self-Regulation** (self-comforting, self-control of feelings and behavior, imitation, shared use of space and

materials)

- **Language and Literacy Development** (understanding and responsive to language, expressive communication and use of language, reciprocal communication and conversation, interest in literacy)
- **English-Language Development** (comprehension of English, self-expression in English, understanding symbols, letters and print)
- **Physical Development–Health** (perceptual-motor skills and movement concepts, gross locomotor movement, gross motor manipulative skills, fine motor manipulative skills, active physical play, nutrition, safety, personal care routines, including hygiene, feeding and dressing)

These basic but vital skills follow each child as they navigate any environment they enter. Thank you to all the parents who participated in this important survey!

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## National Environmental Education Week Partnership



PACCC Board Member, Elliott Wright spoke to us about National Environmental Education week and shared one of his favorite quotes,

***“The future will belong to the nature-smart—those individuals, families, businesses, and political leaders who develop a deeper understanding of the transformative power of the natural world and who balance the virtual with the real. The more high-tech we become, the more nature we need.”***

—Richard Louv, Author of ‘Last Child in the Woods.

What a legacy – and we couldn’t agree more!

“Environmental Education is a curiosity-driven, fun, hands-on education that engages all types of learners...National Environmental Education week is a great opportunity to help spark the joys of environmental curiosity and discovery, and **Hidden Villa’s** Environmental Education resources. Hidden Villa helps shape young people’s futures in climate resilience, regenerative farming, and environmental



# HIDDEN VILLA



related fields. Hidden Villa has a world of discovery and ways to connect with nature here in our community. We hope to see you around the ranch Tuesdays – Sundays or at the **Sheep Shearing and Fiber Arts Festival on April 27th**.



## Join Us at the 2024 Palo Alto May Fête Fair



Sponsored and Hosted By:



Follow the parade to its end for more family fun!

**May 4th, 10am-1pm  
Heritage Park**

- Music by Greene, Fletcher, JLS, Paly, and Gunn school bands, and Past Curfew!
  - Booths with over 30 local community organizations
  - Games and prizes for kids
  - Food trucks
- A fun place for the community to come together!  
Learn more about the Kiwanis Club of Palo Alto: KCPA Facebook Page and <https://kiwanispaloalto.org>



## May Fete Parade and Fair

PACCC is turning 50 and we're excited to celebrate and march in the **May Fete Parade** on May 4. The May Fete Parade begins downtown and ends with the fair in Heritage Park. Join us as we march, make music and dance down University Avenue as the PACCC Community. To march in the parade with PACCC, RSVP with Danny at [dsingh@paccc.org](mailto:dsingh@paccc.org). Afterward, enjoy live music, booths with over 30 local community organizations, games, and prizes for kids and local food trucks in Heritage Park.

## PACCC Awarded Palo Alto Weekly Holiday Fund Grant!

We are pleased to announce that PACCC is the recipient of the **2024 Palo Alto Weekly Holiday Fund Grant**. The award consists of two grants: one in the amount of \$20,000, representing the second year of a three-year grant for the Extended Learning Opportunities Program (E-LOP), and the second is for \$7,500 in support of the landscaping project for the Neighborhood Infant-Toddler Center yard. We thank you for your generous support, Palo Alto Weekly Holiday Fund!

Supporting local nonprofits benefiting families and kids



# Palo Alto Weekly Holiday Fund



## Build the Future Movement

I support  
Build the Future for...

A Stronger  
Economy

Working  
Families

A Stronger  
Community

Our Kids



JOIN US

[BuildtheFuturescc.org](http://BuildtheFuturescc.org)

As part of our effort to advocate for exceptional and accessible childhood education and care for all of Palo Alto's families, PACCC pursues and aligns with those individuals and organizations who are making a difference. One of those individuals is Supervisor Susan Ellenberg who endorses **Build the Future**. "Build the Future is a movement to build a brighter future for all Santa Clara County residents by advocating for affordable, quality childcare for all. Providing affordable childcare not only helps working parents and kids but also helps our entire community by reducing poverty, improving community safety and building a stronger economy." Supervisor Ellenberg is also a member of the California State Association of Counties Executive Committee and a board member of FIRST 5 Santa Clara County. PACCC continues to explore and further define the economic responsibilities of our mission and is pleased to align with Supervisor Ellenberg and Build the Future for a stronger community.

# PACCC Out in the Community

As a community leader in Palo Alto, PACCC partners with families and regional agencies to provide and advocate for exceptional and accessible childhood care and education. You will find Lee Pfab, PACCC CEO, and our Center Leadership engaged in the following community events and advocacy efforts:



- May Fete Parade
- Palo Alto Tall Tree Celebration
- Parents Helping Parents (PHP) Gala
- CA Rate and Quality Advisory Panel
- Santa Clara County Children's Summit: Cultivating Caring Communities
- Stanford Annual Community Health Symposium
- CA Early Childhood Rate and Policy Council Meeting
- Palo Alto Chamber
- PAUSD Board Meeting
- Palo Alto Advisory Committee on Early Care and Education Committee (PAACECE)
- Mid-Peninsula Coalition



## STAY CONNECTED!

Be with PACCC all day long.

JOIN THE FUN  
#PACCCCKIDS



## Summer Fun!



*Subscribe to PACCC's YouTube channel!*



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Stay tuned for next month's Curious Minds newsletter!

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