

SFWS GLOBAL: Waldorf's 100th Anniversary

Postcards, Bees, Dance and Theater Mark the Global Centennial

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On September 19, 2019, Waldorf education proudly marked its 100th anniversary. However, the global party will keep going through June 2020 as schools around the world celebrate with social and environmental impact projects.

Designed to stimulate dialogue around positive human values and a revitalized relationship with our earth, communities from Japan and Namibia to Australia, Germany, and the US and more are celebrating with [videos](#) about the current relevance of Waldorf education, [collaborative performances](#), [theater festivals](#), [regional conferences](#), [global fun runs](#), and [musical performances](#) by composers around the world written specifically for the centennial.

Santa Fe Waldorf has been doing its part starting with the “Bird’s Eye View” project in which school communities assemble for a [drone video](#). As SFWS opened the school year with the Lily Ceremony, the community gathered and paused to wave upward. SFWS Board Secretary Andy Smith, who operated the drone, writes about the moment and why it was the right gesture that honored both the past and the future:

“It is easy to forget that our school is part of a community of over 1,200 other Waldorf schools across the globe. As a matter of fact, there is only one time zone that doesn’t have a Waldorf school and it's somewhere in the Pacific Ocean. After 100 years, Waldorf education is changing. Schools are beginning to incorporate their local culture into their own curriculum while still providing a developmentally appropriate and experiential education. The curriculum of a Waldorf school is something that is living, changing and evolving. It is not something that can be nailed down and disseminated to the masses. Our education is part of a community that is

eternal, that which celebrates the moment with reverence. That is what we will contribute to a hundred years of work and will continue for the next hundred years and beyond.”

The City of Santa Fe and the State of New Mexico also recognized Waldorf excellence. Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham and Mayor Alan Webber both declared September 19, 2019, as the “Waldorf Education’s 100th Anniversary Day”.

Since the fall of 2018, as part of the “[Million-fold Postcard Exchange](#)”, SFWS students have written 1,200 postcards to all Waldorf schools around the globe and received hundreds in return, which were displayed in a colorful “postcard wall” at school events.

SFWS has also embraced the centennial’s “[Bees and Trees](#)” project. Our current Grade 6 class went to local Earth Day 2019 events this spring, running a booth that demonstrated how to make bee “houses” out of old water bottles and newspaper. In conjunction with the Santa Fe Watershed Association, Waldorf High School students and Grade 6 have “adopted” sections of the Santa Fe River for 2018 and 2019 and collect trash along their specific stretch of river four times a year.