A Year of Progress,
A Future of Promise.

ANNUAL REPORT 2024/2025

GUAJOME PARK ACADEMY · PRIMARY ACADEMY · LEARNING CENTERS · EST. 1994 · FOUNDATION

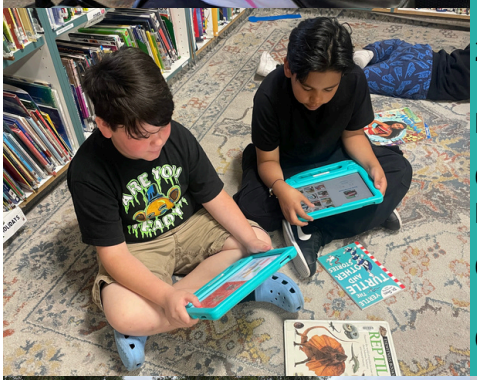






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A Word From Our President...

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As the Guajome Park Academy Foundation reflects on this past year, we are proud of the meaningful strides we have made to support our students, teachers, and school community. Since our formation, our mission has been clear: to remove barriers to learning and provide equitable access to quality education for every student at Guajome Park Academy.

This year, we launched our first-ever Guajome Community Mixer, secured vital grants, and partnered with dozens of local businesses to fund programs and initiatives that directly impact over 1,300 students. With over 72% of our students and families living at or below the federal poverty line, your generosity has truly made a difference.

We are deeply grateful to the families, educators, community partners, and donors who have stood with us this year. Your support fuels our vision for an inclusive, innovative, and empowered school community.

Joely Gardner, PhD



Joely Gardner - President

Joely Gardner, PhD, is a licensed psychologist and has many years of teaching experience at high school through graduate school levels. She is chair of the Foundation Board at Guajome Park Academy.

Dr. Gardner consults with medical device manufacturers around the world to help them develop medical devices that are easy and safe to use.

Dr. Gardner's undergraduate degree is in Business Administration. She has a master's degree in Business Education and a doctorate in Educational Psychology from Boston University.

Our Board



Leslie Castillo
Vice President

Leslie Castillo has been a proud supporter of the Guajome Park Academy Foundation since 2015, contributing her time, professional expertise, and community spirit to advance the Foundation's mission. Originally from Northern California, she has called San Diego home for over two decades after relocating to pursue a degree in Finance at San Diego State University.

As a dedicated wealth advisor, Leslie works closely with families and small businesses to build lasting financial freedom across generations. Her commitment to service extends beyond her profession through active involvement in charitable causes she deeply values. Outside of work and community involvement, Leslie enjoys spending quality time with her husband and two young children.



Adrina Hernandez
Secretary & Treasurer

Adrina Hernandez holds a degree in Environmental Studies and a minor in Business Administration from California State University San Marcos, and brings a strong background in nonprofit leadership, education, and government affairs.

Adrina is passionate about advancing equity and access for historically underserved communities, particularly in the Oceanside and Vista regions where she was born and raised. In addition to her leadership with the Foundation, Adrina is the coach for the Guajome Cheer Team, and serves as the school's Grant Writer & Development Specialist, where she secures funding and builds partnerships that directly support Guajome students and programs.



Katie Ritz
Board Member

Katie Ritz is a Guajome Park Academy Alumni, Class of 2007. She received her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Arts Education from California State University Los Angeles and her single subject teaching credential from California State University Long Beach.

She has been teaching art for nine years; the past three have been at the middle school level at Guajome. In addition to teaching, Katie has worked in management, social services, and run her own vintage and home decor business for the past five years.

Samuel Gomez
Board Member



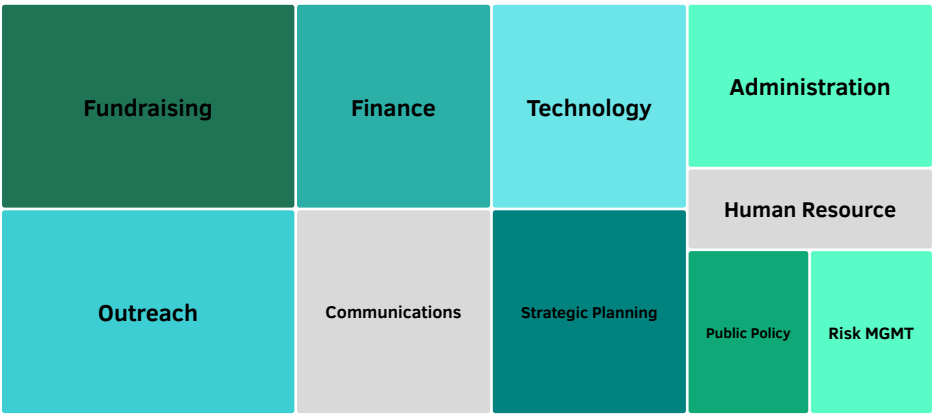
Samuel Gomez, a Guajome Park Academy alumnus, attended Guajome from 2017-2024. During his senior year, he held the positions of Executive President and Student Board Representative. Currently, he is a student at California State University San Marcos, pursuing a degree in Political Science. Gomez is committed to enhancing the education of students and intends to utilize his degree to contribute to the improvement of education at the K-12 level. As a foundation member, he offers a recent student perspective on the decisions made that affect students and teachers.

Gomez is also passionate about providing students with a voice and advocating for improved learning opportunities. His efforts have had a significant impact on students' lives, creating environments where they feel heard, respected, and valued.

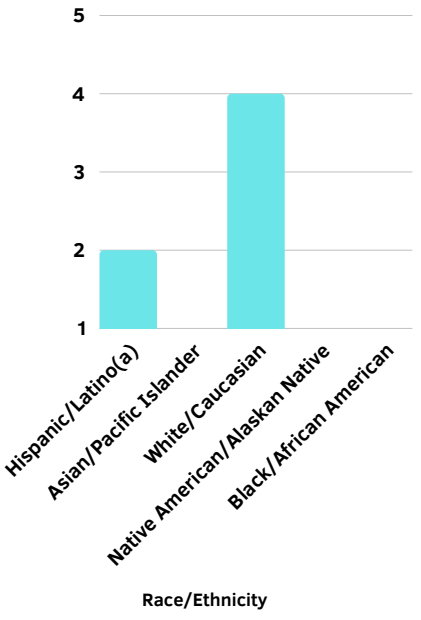
Board Composition & Strategic Planning

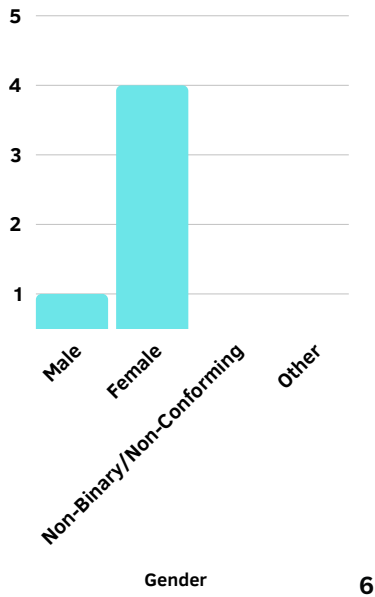
Each fiscal year, the Guajome Park Academy Foundation Board completes a Board Composition Questionnaire to support strategic planning, identify areas for growth, and enhance overall Board effectiveness. This self-assessment provides insight into the collective strengths, skills, and experiences of our Board Members and guides efforts to ensure diverse, well-rounded representation aligned with our mission.

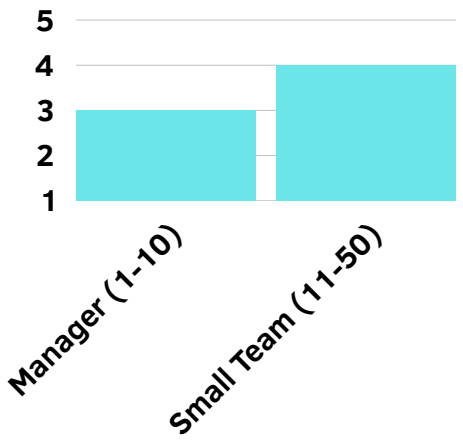
The following reflects several of the questions and results from the 2024–2025 Board Matrix.



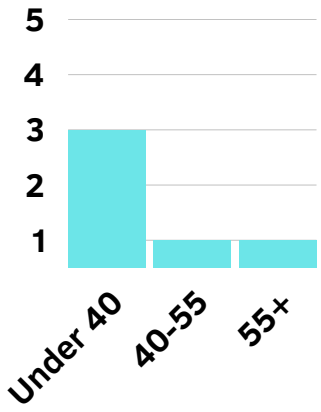
Board Member's Top Areas of Expertise



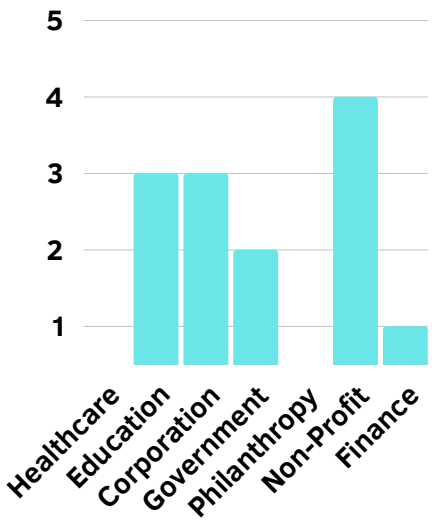




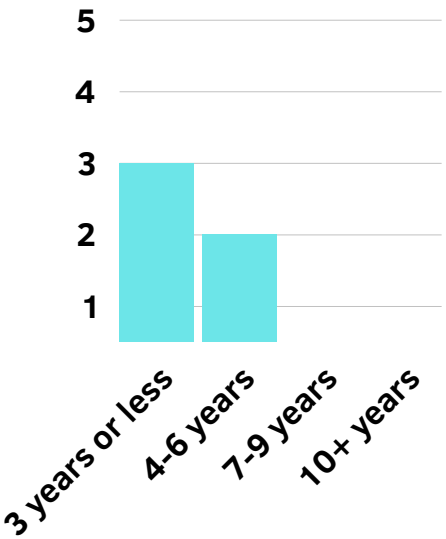
Leadership Experience



Age



Board Member Industry Experience



Board Tenure





OUR FOUNDATION

The Guajome Park Academy Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to enhancing the educational experience of students at Guajome Park Academy, a K-12 public school in Vista, California. Our mission is to inspire and mentor all learners to become responsible, critical-thinking global leaders. We were established in 2000 to address the growing needs of our student population, particularly those from historically underserved communities.

We serve students across all grade levels, from transitional kindergarten through 12th grade. Our programs focus on four primary areas:

- Equity & Inclusion
- Wellness & Basic Needs
- Community & Partnerships
- Academic Enrichment



Guajome Park Academy is recognized as a Title I School, with over 72% of its students and families living at or below the federal poverty line. The Foundation exists to close the opportunity gap and ensure every student, regardless of socioeconomic status, has access to the resources, experiences, and support they need to thrive academically and personally.

Our work is grounded in a deep respect for the land on which Guajome sits—the ancestral home of the Luiseño people. The name "Guajome" is derived from the Luiseño word wakhavumi, honoring the region's Indigenous heritage.

Through collaboration, transparency, and innovation, the Guajome Park Academy Foundation is committed to ensuring that all students have the opportunity to succeed, lead, and give back to their communities.

"Inspiring Learning... Empowering Community"

Program Highlights

Friends of Frogs

Friends of Frogs (FOF) is the GPA parent group supporting students and teachers in middle school and high school. The mission of FOF is to provide support to help create and promote a strong school community.
FOF accomplishes its mission by organizing and participating in events that bring together and promote the school community, and by actively engaging parents, teachers, administrators, and students with volunteer opportunities and information.

Friends of Tadpoles

Friends of Tadpoles (FOT) is the parent group at GPPA dedicated to supporting events and activities for our Kindergarten through 5th-grade scholars. The mission of FOT is to enhance school programs, foster social connections, and enrich the educational experience for all GPPA students. At GPPA, we value our families and are committed to building a strong, inclusive community. FOT plays an important role in achieving this goal and operates as a subcommittee of the Guajome Park Academy Foundation.

Benevolence Fund

The GPA Foundation Benevolence Fund was established to provide financial support to GPA stakeholders in times of significant need. The fund is supported through employee, individual, and community donations.
We accept donations throughout the year. All contributions make a difference. If you would like to contribute to this important fund, please make a donation to the GPA Foundation and designate the donation to the GPA Benevolence Fund.

Friends of the Arts

The Arts are an important part of Guajome's curricular and co-curricular options, giving students the opportunity to express themselves in creative ways beyond their core academic studies. The FOA program is dedicated to encouraging students to flourish artistically, develop their skills, build relationships, and share talents with the community.

Friends of the Library

The Foundation Friends of the Library supports the library in creating opportunities for our students to enhance their literacy skills, become curious learners, and develop a lifelong passion for reading. The mission of the library is to promote diversity and inclusion, research skills, and critical thinking, and to provide a safe space for students on campus.

2024/2025 Impacts

The Guajome Park Academy Foundation has taken bold steps to ensure that every student at Guajome Park Academy has the resources, opportunities, and support they need to thrive. From launching community events to funding essential classroom tools, our Foundation has served as a powerful bridge between the school and its greater community.

$115,000.00+ IN DONATIONS...

that supported Guaome Park Academy Staff & Students:

- The Discovery Center Library Update
- Science Camp
- Biztown Learning Trip
- IB Biology Research Trip
- On-campus student learning
- Staff Support & Acknowledgments
- Senior Scholarships
- Library iPads
- Culturally Relevant Books
- Student athlete needs



STUDENT HEALTH & WELLNESS

- Built partnerships with AMS Canine, Love on a Leash, and Alliance of Therapy Dogs to bring Therapy Dogs on campus to boost student mental health
- Provided students in need with free resources for Prom attire, professional clothes, and basic needs



COMMUNITY PRESENCE

- Hosted our Inaugural Community Mixer
- Connected with Vista Chamber of Commerce and Committees, Vista Education Foundation, and Kiwanis Club of Sunrise Vista
- Provided support for students impacted by the Eaton Fire
- Created the Guajome Business Network



A Quick Look at our Financial Summary

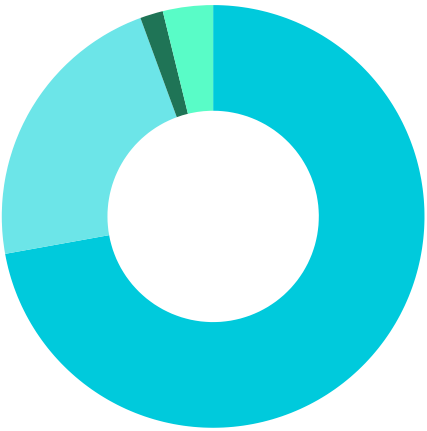
July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

Projected Total Revenue: $301,158.00

Projected Total Expenses: $131,009.00

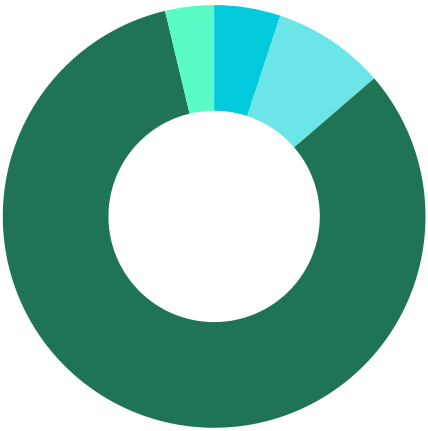
Revenue Sources

- Grants & Charitable Bequests
- Fundraising, Events, & Donations
- In-Kind Contributions
- Savings, CDs, etc.



Use of Funds

- Administrative Costs
- Events/Fundraising Expenses
- Guajome Student & Staff Support
- Community Support



1,300+
Students Impacted

140+
Staff Supported

10+
Scholarships Provided

*Numbers are estimates based off internal review in May 2025

GUAJOME BUSINESS NETWORK

DIAMOND LEVEL SPONSORS

Dirty Goat Soap

BLACK LEVEL SPONSORS

Han Orthodontics
David S. Han, MS, DMD, APC

Total Wine & MORE

AMS Canine
-Training
-Exercise
-Detection services

LearnAboutAg.org
California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom

ROSS®

TEAL LEVEL SPONSORS

SDCCU

Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers

Belching Beaver Brewery Est. 2012

USS Midway Museum

Best Pizza & Brew

Pitch In for Baseball & Softball 2005 2025 — Helping Kids Around the World Play Ball — Celebrating 20 Years

Richard Walker's Pancake House

From Our Family To Your Family Est. 1927 Yasukochi Family Farms

Clay'n Latté

Handel's Homemade Ice Cream Since 1945

San Diego Zoo

Soapy Joe's

Santa Barbara Zoo Est. 1963

Machine Print Shop

EDCO
edcodisposal.com
"We'll Take Care of It"

Seven Seas Bar & Grill

JIMBO'S



Guajome Business Network

Empowering Students.
Engaging Community.
Elevating Brands.

Your donation is tax deductible. Support students and enjoy tax savings

Fuel innovation in education while growing your business

Build valuable connections and increase visibility while giving back

Don’t miss this opportunity to amplify your brand and support the future leaders of our community!

For more details on sponsorship levels and benefits, scan the QR Code or visit guajome.net/community/guajome-business-network

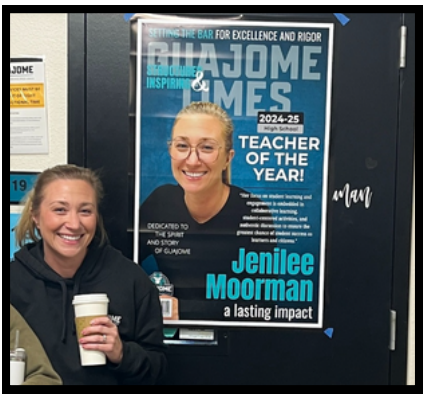
SCAN ME

GUAJOME BUSINESS NETWORK

Guajome Staff Awards









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FOUNDATION

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