

## PTA Committees & Activities 2011-12

*Fundraising and Events – These events raise money for the Janney PTA as well as serve important community building and social purposes.*

**Janney Auction:** A committee of Janney’s most dedicated parents plans this spring fundraiser. The group solicits auction items from neighborhood companies and the extended Janney community and puts together a fabulous evening of fun, music, food and bidding!

**Contacts:** **Carola McGiffert** (Cmcgiffert@hotmail.com), & **Katherine Martin** (katherinehmartin@hotmail.com)

**Book Fair:** During one weekend each fall, local bookstore Politics & Prose donates a percentage of its sales to Janney. This committee organizes the annual fundraiser by publicizing the event within Janney and the local community, as well as coordinating “wish lists” from teachers, resource specialists, and the school library.

**Contacts:** **Alissa Lash** (alissalash@gmail.com)

**Box Tops for Education:** If you buy General Mills foods such as cereals, granola bars, and other grocery items, clip the coupons labeled “Box Tops for Education” and put them in the box just inside the front door of Janney. Our school gets 10 cents for every coupon.

**Contact:** **Laura Dong** (normandlaura@verizon.net)

**Janney Bricks for Sale:** With our new facility comes the opportunity to personalize your child's tenure at Janney by buying a family brick this Spring.

**Contact:** **Pippa Chenevix Trench** (ptrench@me.com)

### **Janney Shopping**

- **Amazon:** Any person who shops at Amazon can earn Janney money every time they order by beginning their Amazon search in the search box on the Janney home page. Janney earns 5-6% of each order if this extra, simple step is taken. **Contact:** **Karen Harris** ([karenh@gmail.com](mailto:karenh@gmail.com))
- **eScrip Program, Safeway and Giant Shopping Clubs:** Janney participates in three electronic Scrip, or eScrip, fundraising programs: The Giant A+ BonusBucks program, the Safeway Club Card for Education, and the national multi-vendor eScrip program. Once supporters have registered their grocery cards and/or debit/credit cards, merchants in each program donate a percentage of the purchases made directly to the school.  
**Contact:** **Dianne Bock** ([dibock@starpower.net](mailto:dibock@starpower.net))

**Janney Bakers:** The bake sale-a classic fund-raiser at schools. Janney takes bakes sales seriously and it shows-we even have a committee. Join this committee and you’ll find out why.

**Contact:** **Fran Brennan** ([fran.brennan@gmail.com](mailto:fran.brennan@gmail.com))

**Fun Run.** This is a **new** event planned for October 15, 2011! We will need many volunteers to help with the route and cool refreshments for the runners. October 15, 2011.

**Contact:** Kelly Lee (kellyoblee@gmail.com) & Jeff Davis (jdandchristine@yahoo.com)

**Matching Gifts:** This team helps to raise “easy” money for Janney by exploring opportunities for corporate matching gifts.

**Contact:** Dan Rosenthal (danrosenthal@mac.com),

**Raffle:** The annual spring raffle is one of the PTA’s most important fundraisers. Tickets are sold by a team of parent volunteers, and then winning tickets are drawn during the Janney Spring Picnic for fabulous cash and/or prizes.

**Contacts:** Jennie Bonney (Jenniebonney@aol.com) & Fataima Warner (fataimaz@gmail.com)

**Sally Foster Winter Sale:** Wonderful wrapping paper and other products are sold from the Sally Foster catalog. Janney receives 40% of all sales.

**Contact:** Elizabeth Workman ([eworkman@fairchancedc.org](mailto:eworkman@fairchancedc.org))

**Spring Plant Sale:** Plants and mulch will be sold at Janney in the spring – to benefit your garden and your child’s school!

**Contact:** Sam Corrigan ([samcorrigan@verizon.net](mailto:samcorrigan@verizon.net)) & Gwen Bradley (gwendolynbradley@gmail.com)

**Used Book Sale:** The ultimate in scholastic recycling! This committee organizes the Janney Spring Used Book Sale. Volunteers organize the book donation drive prior to the sale and organize the many boxes of donated books. On the day of the Sale they set up a “book store” in the Janney Multipurpose Room and act as cashiers and baggers. This committee also finds suitable locations for donating the books at the end of the sale.

**Contacts:** Jenny Craig ([mikeandjeneva@verizon.net](mailto:mikeandjeneva@verizon.net))

**Winter Fair:**

**Contact:** Marie Koczela: Come out and share and sell your crafts, your talents, your old toys, or whatever moves you! (janneydisplay@aol.com)

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***Community Building*** – *These activities forge relationships both within the Janney community and between the Janney community and our neighbors.*

**Advertising:** Solicits advertisements for Janney publications, such as the directory, school musical program, and others, in order to raise funds for Janney while helping to defray the cost of producing these publications.

**Contact:** Katherine Martin (katherinehmartin@hotmail.com)

**Awards:** This committee plans for a special awards ceremony for families who are leaving Janney and have contributed significant efforts to the school. The ceremony takes place at the last PTA meeting of each year.

**Contact:** Lisa Wackler ([gatorwack@yahoo.com](mailto:gatorwack@yahoo.com))

**Directory & Database:** This team puts together the essential school directory each year. Every family with a current PTA membership receives a copy of the directory; additional copies can be purchased for 10 dollars.

**Contacts:** Rennie Anderson ([rennie.anderson@stanfordalumni.org](mailto:rennie.anderson@stanfordalumni.org)), Kindra Tully ([kindratully@gmail.com](mailto:kindratully@gmail.com)) & Jane Malhotra ([janevarnermalhotra@yahoo.com](mailto:janevarnermalhotra@yahoo.com))

**Fall Picnic Plus:** The first school-wide social event of the year held on Friday September 23 will be a bigger event than in the past to showcase the new facility and grounds. In addition to the traditional picnic this year's event will feature moon bounces and other free inflatable fun. The committee sells drinks and hotdogs, while Janney families contribute sides, salads and desserts potluck style. Volunteers grill and sell food and assist with set-up and clean-up.

**Contacts:** Valerie Alten ([valalten@hotmail.com](mailto:valalten@hotmail.com)) Melissa Fossberg ([mfossberg@worldbank.org](mailto:mfossberg@worldbank.org)) & Alexis Comrack (activities portion) ([acomrack@gmail.com](mailto:acomrack@gmail.com))

**Parent Potluck Dinners:** A new PTA initiative this year to integrate parents from across all grade levels. Looking for volunteers to open their homes for a potluck dinner as well as families interested in attending.

**Contacts:** Kelly Lee ([kellyoblee@gmail.com](mailto:kellyoblee@gmail.com)) & Julie Slattery ([jslattery@bloomberg.net](mailto:jslattery@bloomberg.net))

**Hospitality:** This committee coordinates refreshments for Janney special events, such as Back-to-School Night, Open Houses, and the Winter Concert.

**Contacts:** Eva Anifantis ([ekaposuli1@aol.com](mailto:ekaposuli1@aol.com)) & Tina Holleman ([tfholleman@msn.com](mailto:tfholleman@msn.com))

**Club/International Night:** This wonderful Janney tradition entails an evening of food, music, and crafts sponsored by the PTA for students, parents, and staff members to showcase club activities and and enjoy the diverse cultures within our community.

**Contact:** Amy Hall ([hall.amy50@yahoo.com](mailto:hall.amy50@yahoo.com)), Neha Shah ([shahn100@yahoo.com](mailto:shahn100@yahoo.com)), & Ragini Dalal ([rdalal@worldbank.org](mailto:rdalal@worldbank.org))

**Facilities:** This committee undertakes building improvements and repairs, and assists in identifying building repair needs. This committee will also be working closely with the Janney SIT during the Janney modernization and addition.

**Contact:** Jonathan McHugh ([jmchugh40@mac.com](mailto:jmchugh40@mac.com))

**Janney Outdoors:** This committee helps with improving, maintaining, and beautifying everything that encompasses the Janney school grounds. This committee coordinates and supports two "spruce up" days (fun for the whole family) one in the fall and one in the spring. This committee and its volunteers also work on the Janney grounds during the school year- they plant, water, provide landscape design, and even carpentry. This team also purchases supplies and playground equipment for our outdoor space.

**Contact:** Courtney Leatherman ([c\\_leatherman@ix.netcom.com](mailto:c_leatherman@ix.netcom.com)) & Mark Rasevic ([mark@rasevic.com](mailto:mark@rasevic.com))

**Mentoring Program and Pre-K/K Welcome Playdate:** This committee is hosting a playdate for all new and returning Pre-K and Kindergarten students at **Turtle Park on August 20**. When requested, they also set up new families with existing families who can offer advice and answer questions about Janney.

**Contacts:** Julie Slattery ([jslattery@bloomberg.net](mailto:jslattery@bloomberg.net)) & Kelly Lee ([kellyoblee@gmail.com](mailto:kellyoblee@gmail.com))

**Newsletter:** Editors compile, edit, and publish a weekly PTA newsletter, which is distributed electronically to all Janney families.

**Contacts:** **Alisa Gogarty** (alisa\_gogarty@yahoo.com), **Kristie Gunster** (kgunster@gmail.com) , **Jenn Reid** (mowabby@aol.com) & **Vivienne Arzacon** (vivienneaz@gmail.com)

**Safe Routes to School:** This year Janney has enrolled with DDOT's Safe Routes to School program. This committee will liaise with the school administration, DDOT, and the broader Janney community to identify road safety issues, and reduce traffic around the school through car pooling, encouraging walking or biking, walking school buses etc.

**Contact:** **Nancy Brown Kobil** (nbkobil@verizon.net)

**Soup Kitchen:** Volunteers provide a monthly lasagna dinner to the Dinner Program for Homeless Women. Janney classrooms and individual families contribute items on a set dinner menu, and the committee organizes volunteers to transport and serve the food.

**Contact:** **Camille Martone** (202-362-7555)

**Sportswear/Merchandise:** Each year, a student-designed image graces Janney sportswear such as t-shirts, sweatshirts, or hats. This committee may run a competition to select the artwork, will order the items, and handles sales to the Janney community throughout the year.

**Contacts:** **Kristin Hetz** (kristinhetz@me.com) & **Wendy Risch** (wtrisch@hotmail.com)

**Spring Picnic:** As with the fall picnic, this event takes place on a Friday evening in late spring and involves informal socializing and a cookout/potluck dinner on the Janney playground.

Volunteers grill and sell food and assist with set-up and clean-up of the event.

**Contacts:** **Lance Steahly** (lsteahly@gmail.com) & **Chip Gaskins** (chippgaskins@gmail.com)

**Staff Appreciation:** This committee coordinates events that thank the teachers and staff for their dedication to our children. Thank you activities include holiday appreciation gifts, an end of year staff luncheon, and small tokens of thank you to recognize teachers and staff for their hard work and commitment to Janney throughout the year.

**Contact:** **Laura St. Martin** (watsaint@gmail.com), & **Samar Burney** (samar11215@yahoo.com)

**Website:** Updates and maintains the Janney website with important news and archived information at [www.janneyschool.org](http://www.janneyschool.org).

**Contacts:** **Karen Harris** ([karenh@gmail.com](mailto:karenh@gmail.com)), **Thomas Meal** ([thomasmeal@gmail.com](mailto:thomasmeal@gmail.com)), **Alexis Comrack** ([acomrack@gmail.com](mailto:acomrack@gmail.com)) & **Dan Rosenthal** (danrosenthal@mac.com)

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*School Programs – These programs enhance the experience of students during the school day and beyond.*

**Arts Integration:** A new PTA initiative this year is to support an arts integration specialist in each classroom during the year. Specialists use the fine and performing arts as primary pathways to learning. The goal of arts integration is to increase knowledge of a general subject area while concurrently fostering a greater understanding and appreciation of the fine and performing arts. Specialists work with teachers to highlight a curriculum area and provide teacher training.

**Contact:** **Karen Harris** (karenh@gmail.com)

**Janney Band:** A wonderful opportunity for Janney's 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students to develop and improve their skills with a musical instrument.

**Band Director: Sterling Scroggins** ([sterling.scroggins@american.edu](mailto:sterling.scroggins@american.edu))

**Birthday Bulletin Board:** At the beginning of each month, students whose birthdays fall during that month are celebrated with a special bulletin board display in the Janney hallway.

**Contact: Nicole Wilson** ([Nicole.carter@ed.gov](mailto:Nicole.carter@ed.gov))

**Collection Case:** This committee manages the sign ups and schedule for students to display their unique collections in the case in Janney's front entry hall.

**Contact: Marie Koczela** ([janneydisplay@aol.com](mailto:janneydisplay@aol.com)) or (202-686-6826)

**Cybrary Volunteers:** A team of volunteers supports the school librarian during classroom visits by reading stories and assisting students with research and word processing. Volunteers also assist with such library operations as shelving, data entry, book repair, and book circulation.

**Contact: Carola McGiffert** ([cmcgiffert@hotmail.com](mailto:cmcgiffert@hotmail.com))

**Janney Garden Project:** This project will be an integrated part of the Janney curriculum where students learn where their food comes from and grow it themselves. ???

**Contact: Laurie Young, Science Teacher** ([lyoung88@yahoo.com](mailto:lyoung88@yahoo.com)) & **Emily Gustafsson** ([emily.gustafsson@usa.net](mailto:emily.gustafsson@usa.net))

**Janney Healthy Food Project:** This new project is to improve the nutritional content of the school lunches at Janney and DCPS as a whole. In addition this committee will work on ways to bring locally farmed foods into our school building.

**Contact: Lucy Smiles** ([lucysmiles99@yahoo.com](mailto:lucysmiles99@yahoo.com)) & **Emily Gustafsson** ([emily.gustafsson@usa.net](mailto:emily.gustafsson@usa.net))

**Lice Check:** As a preventative measure after every long break from school, Janney's nurse and a team of parent volunteers check every Janney student's head for lice.

**Contacts: Mary O'Lone** ([marytomindc@msn.com](mailto:marytomindc@msn.com))

**Lost and Found:** This committee is partially student run/club/and parent volunteers. Its mission is to reunite Janney families with their lost items by organizing and displaying the contents of the lost and found. The committee also handles donation of unclaimed items to charity.

**Contact: Tracy Kroloff** ([tgkroloff@gmail.com](mailto:tgkroloff@gmail.com))

**Musicals:** Each winter, Janney actors, singers, and dancers perform in a musical production.

The 4th and 5th grade production takes place in winter. The production relies on many parents, teachers, and school staff members to assist with auditions and rehearsals, designing costumes, applying makeup, creating props and sets, selling tickets, getting publicity, and more.

Productions at younger grade levels happen throughout the year as part of a musical theater after school class. Parent participation is essential for these productions as well.

**Musical Director: Ginny Curtin** ([gucurtin@gmail.com](mailto:gucurtin@gmail.com))

**Parent Liaison: Elaine Pirozzi** ([elainepirozzi@gmail.com](mailto:elainepirozzi@gmail.com))

**Read Across America:** In conjunction with Dr. Seuss's birthday each year, this committee organizes a celebration of reading for the primary grades (Pre-K through 3<sup>rd</sup>), including a special assembly, book exchange, guest readers, treats, and an evening read-in.

**Contact: PARENT VOLUNTEER NEEDED TO WORK W/ STAFF READING SPECIALIST--  
Mary O'Lone to handle book swap part** (marytomindc@verizon.net)

**Room Parents:** A fun and rewarding way to get directly involved in your child's class. Room parents coordinate parent support to the classroom, organize class events and parties, and facilitate communication from teachers and the PTA to parents.

**Contact: Alisa Gogarty** (alisa\_gogarty@yahoo.com)

**School Photos:** This committee plans and executes the annual fall picture day and subsequent distribution of photos to families and yearbook volunteers.

**Contact: Amy Bijeau** ([morrillbijeau@yahoo.com](mailto:morrillbijeau@yahoo.com)), **Nancy Rubin-Thomas** (n.thomas@conservation.org) & **Silvana Dias** (SILVANA.DIAS@Inf.com)

**Yearbook:** Each school year at Janney is commemorated in a yearbook filled with photographs of students, staff, student activity groups, and school events and selected student art and writing. Parent volunteers collect photos and create collages to reflect the year in each classroom.

**Contacts: Cynthia Schiffrin** (cschiffrin@gmail.com), **Rennie Anderson** ([rennie.anderson@stanfordalumni.org](mailto:rennie.anderson@stanfordalumni.org)) & **Julia Tillman** (Julia.Tillman@longandfoster.com)