



# Inspiration INSIGHTS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE GARNER HOLT FOUNDATION  
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## NOTE FROM THE BOARD

GHF Board Chairman Stan Weisser  
& GHF Founder and President Garner Holt

Dear Supporters of the Garner Holt Foundation (GHF) -

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to the Foundation. Your generosity and belief in our mission have been instrumental in driving our success, and we are thrilled to share some exciting updates with you.

As we emerge from the challenges of the pandemic, we are brimming with enthusiasm to propel the GHF forward. The past years were a period of adaptation and resilience for us all. But, we remain steadfast in our commitment to providing exceptional learning opportunities to underserved youth in the field of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics).

We are particularly thrilled to announce that we have welcomed a new executive director, Jill Prendergast, to our team. Jill brings with her a wealth of experience and a deep passion for our cause. Her leadership and vision will undoubtedly enhance our ability to create transformative experiences for the youth we serve.

Furthermore, we are delighted to inform you about our latest initiative—Garner's Garage. This state-of-the-art facility will serve as a hub for creativity, innovation, and hands-on learning. With dedicated spaces for workshops, fabrication, and collaboration, Garner's Garage will be a place where young minds can explore the wonders of STEAM education.

We are excited to share that our STEAM workshops are already in full swing, and we have partnered with a variety of nonprofit organizations to extend our reach and impact. By joining forces with these like-minded entities, we are fulfilling our mission to expose underserved youth to the boundless opportunities that STEAM education offers. Together, we are empowering the next generation to dream big and pursue careers that harness their full potential.

Walt Disney said, "You can design and create and build the most wonderful place in the world. But it takes people to make it a reality." Together, we're working to create a place with real, lasting impact for learners of all ages and backgrounds. In the process, we aim to change lives.

Once again, we extend our deepest gratitude for your continued support. Together, we are making a profound difference in the lives of young people, and we are honored to have you by our side on this incredible journey.

With our warmest regards,

**STAN WEISSER**  
GHF Board Chairman

**GARNER HOLT**  
GHF Founder & President

## GHF WELCOMES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JILL PRENDERGAST

The Garner Holt Foundation is excited and proud to welcome Jill Prendergast as its new Executive Director. With a strong background in organized philanthropy and a deep commitment to the foundation's mission, Jill brings a wealth of experience and expertise to the organization. Her appointment marks an exciting new chapter as the foundation continues to make a positive impact on the lives of young individuals in our community and beyond.

Jill's extensive knowledge of philanthropy, combined with her strategic vision and exceptional leadership skills, make her the ideal candidate to drive the GHF forward. With a passion for improving lives and fostering creativity, Jill is poised to empower the next generation of dreamers, makers, and creative thinkers.

With Jill's guidance, innovation and collaboration will be nurtured, and the foundation will embrace diverse ideas that lead to flourishing creativity. The Garner Holt Foundation is ready to ascend to new heights, leaving a lasting impact on the community's creative landscape.



Jill Prendergast - GHF Executive Director

**INSIDE: A MAGICAL EVENT AT WALT DISNEY'S HOUSE, GHF OUTREACH EVENTS IN ACTION, THE LATEST ON THE 2023 GHF GALA - AND MORE!**

# FOCUS ON EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

Empowering Underserved Youth through STEAM Learning

We are excited to share the latest developments and achievements in our mission to empower underserved youth through STEAM education. The Garner Holt Foundation is growing steadily, and our impact on children's lives continues to expand as we provide engaging workshops, events, and access to quality STEAM education. By forming new partnerships within our community, we have actively planned and organized inspiring events that captivate young minds, encourage creativity, and foster a love for learning.

One remarkable workshop we recently held in collaboration with the Family Service Association of Redlands exemplified our commitment to empowering youth. It provided an inclusive environment for children and parents to explore their creativity together, as participants built mesmerizing creatures called brushtropic bugs using various materials and techniques. Through hands-on activities and teamwork, participants honed their artistic abilities and developed critical problem-solving skills. The most fulfilling aspect was witnessing the joy on



*A young participant gets a hand from one of GHF's STEAM learning hands-on events*

participants' faces as they brought inanimate objects to life, with brushes transformed into legs, eyes, and antennae. This workshop not only provided an artistic outlet but also allowed families to bond and create lasting memories.

In addition to hosting workshops, we actively participate in community and school events to promote animatronics and provide valuable educational experiences. One recent event that we had the privilege of attending was the career day at Mentone Elementary School, where students interacted with animatronic props, immersing them in the captivating world of animatronics and granting them invaluable insights into this extraordinary field. Witnessing their curiosity and eagerness to learn about the artistry and technology behind the magic of animatronics only solidified our belief in the significance of exposing youth to diverse educational and career opportunities. Furthermore, we

were honored to be part of the Redlands Noon Rotary Touch-A-Truck Event, showcasing our remarkable animatronic props and providing explanations about the intricacies of their artistry and technology. Engaging with attendees, addressing their inquiries, and inspiring their curiosity allowed us to foster a deeper understanding and appreciation for this extraordinary field among



a diverse range of participants, including families, students, and members of the community.

As the Foundation continues to grow, we have exciting collaborations and initiatives in the pipeline that will further amplify our impact. We are thrilled to

announce our upcoming workshops in collaboration with Loma Linda University Children's Hospital, which hold a special place in our hearts as they aim to bring joy and healing to children undergoing medical treatment. During these workshops, our dedicated team will guide the children through a series of STEAM activities and projects, providing creative outlets for self-expression and empowerment. Our goal is to uplift their spirits and contribute to their healing journey by inspiring them with the wonders of science, the thrill of technology, and the beauty of artistic creation. We are honored to collaborate with Loma Linda University Children's Hospital and be a part of the healing process for these remarkable children, aiming to make a lasting impact and provide them with a sense of hope and possibility.

With our collaborations and initiatives, we not only empower youth but also foster a love for learning, nurture creative thinking, and provide pathways to future careers in STEAM-related fields. By exposing young minds to transformative experiences, we firmly believe in unlocking their potential and creating a brighter future for our community. The success of our workshops and events has inspired us to expand our efforts and reach even more deserving youth. The positive feedback we receive from kids, parents, and educators fuels our passion and dedication. Together, we can make a lasting impact on the lives of children, inspire their dreams, and pave the way for a future filled with endless possibilities.

Stay tuned for more updates and news as we continue to expand our unique programs and collaborations. We making a difference, one workshop at a time.



**FOR THE LATEST ON NEWS & EVENTS  
VISIT [WWW.GARNERHOLTFUNDATION.ORG](http://WWW.GARNERHOLTFUNDATION.ORG)**



# A DAY OF ENCHANTMENT

Unveiling the Magic at Walt Disney's Storybook Mansion

"A Day of Magic at Walt Disney's Storybook Mansion" was an enchanting fundraising event organized by the GHF that brought together passionate individuals who share our vision of nurturing young minds and fostering creativity.



GHF founder Garner Holt and Board Member Bill Butler with special guests Tania Norris and Chris Crump

The day began with captivating tours of the historic Disney home, nestled in the Hollywood Hills. Led by Foundation Board Member and House Historian, Todd Regan, the tours gave a rare chance to explore the very place that was at the center of Disney's family life during the 1930s and 40s. Guests were immersed in the rich history

and legacy of the mansion, gaining unique insights into Disney's life and creative journey, one that continues to inspire. In the afternoon, a limited-capacity tour was hosted by Tania Norris, an early Disney Imagineer and decorator who had the privilege of working for and traveling with Walt Disney himself. Tania shared captivating stories about her career and her experiences with the legendary visionary.

As the evening set in, guests were treated to two special tours, including a visit to Walt Disney's private screening room. Former Imagineer Chris Crump, son of legendary Imagineer Rolly Crump, provided a captivating presentation, showcasing unique images from his and his father's time designing some of the most imaginative attractions in the theme park industry. It was an exclusive opportunity to glimpse behind the scenes and discover the magic that brings these attractions to life.

The generous support of our attendees at this fundraiser has enabled us to raise vital funds that will directly contribute to our ongoing programs and workshops. These resources will play a crucial role in expanding our reach, allowing us to provide even more educational experiences and ignite the imaginations of countless children through the enchantment of animatronics.

We extend our deepest gratitude to all who attended and supported this memorable event. Your dedication and generosity will have a lasting impact, helping us to continue our mission of inspiring and empowering young minds to explore the realms of creativity and innovation. Together, we are building a brighter future for the next generation of dreamers and makers.

## KEEP IN TOUCH!

Get on the GHF Online Mailing List

This newsletter will be sent out two or three times a year, but we have so much more to say! Sign up to join our online mailing list to receive the latest information on events, activities, fundraising opportunities and more from GHF. Just scan this QR code to share your contact info with us - and we'll do the rest!



**SCAN THE CODE  
TO JOIN OUR  
MAILING LIST**



*The Garner Holt Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to increasing hope, igniting imagination, and inspiring creativity in the lives of young people through hands-on, career-focused learning experiences in the areas of STEAM.*

## OUR GHF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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*Show us  
your support!*

We need your help to keep the gears of GHF turning. Scan the QR code to donate!





## THE GARNER HOLT FOUNDATION

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# Save the Date!

for Masquerade Mecanique - a Garner Holt Foundation Halloween Gala

Mark your calendars for the Masquerade Mecanique: A Garner Holt Foundation Halloween Gala, taking place on **October 28, 2023**. Prepare for an enchanting evening brimming with mysterious surprises, mesmerizing decor, and delightful entertainment. And that's not all! We're excited to reveal that this year's gala will be a costume dress-up event, inviting guests to embrace the spirit of Halloween and showcase their creativity through their costumes.

With the Gala, you not only immerse yourself in the festive atmosphere but also support our mission of empowering young individuals through the transformative power of the arts. Your presence and participation contribute to creating opportunities for aspiring artists, makers, and dreamers within our community.

Furthermore, we're excited to offer underwriting and sponsorship opportunities for the Gala. As a participant, you play a vital role in ensuring the event's success while gaining valuable exposure for your business or organization. Join us in crafting an extraordinary night of magic, community, and creative expression by exploring these sponsorship opportunities.

Stay tuned for more information on how you can get involved and support our mission. **Details on ticket sales will be announced soon!**

