



MAOS First Quarter Newsletter - September 2022

Dear MAOS Families and Community Members,

As we wind down this first quarter of the 2022-23 school year, we wanted to take a moment to let you know what MAOS has been up to, and what students and families have to look forward to in the coming months. So, here we go!

We have been excited to start our second full year of post-pandemic, in-person learning (that's a mouthful) and we continue to move closer toward normalcy in the program. To that end, we were thrilled to get off campus and engage in learning and bonding activities for MAOS students and staff. This quarter MAOS freshmen spent the day at **Point Lobos State Preserve**, hiking and going on a central coast organism scavenger hunt, which tied nicely into their 9th grade biology curriculum. Sophomores went to **Garland Ranch Regional Park** in Carmel Valley, where they worked with former MAOS student/current hydrologist Cory Steinmetz to learn about how to measure stream flow and how it affects water supply. Students also participated in a water quality testing activity with MAOS teachers Jason Nicholson and Susan Castello, which tied into their work in Chemistry. Juniors visited **Cal Poly, SLO** for an admissions presentation and campus tour, and seniors went to **Santa Clara University** for a tour of the campus and the new STEM center. As the year unfolds, we look forward to further investigating our local scientific and educational communities.

As a MAOS team, we have met consistently over this first quarter to discuss the program, to address student needs, and to plan for the coming months. A few major items to look forward to as we head into fall quarter are the completion of senior internships, more experiential learning opportunities and college visits for our students, and our annual recruitment events for the next school year. MAOS staff and upperclassmen will be attending the International School of Monterey's high school information night, as well as visiting other local middle schools to spread the news about MAOS.

One thing in particular we would like to highlight is the impending return of the **MAOS Gala!** For those of you unfamiliar with this event – which, due to the pandemic is likely most of you – the Gala is our premier annual fundraising event, organized by the Friends of MAOS Board (thank you, board members!) and MAOS staff. This year's Gala will be held on **Friday, March 10, 2023**, and is shaping up to be an exciting evening, including a silent auction, a gourmet dinner, dancing, and an all-around fantastic opportunity to interact with members of the MAOS team and members of our community. We are having our first **gala planning meeting on October 11th** from 5:30-6:30pm in Room 71 at MHS. All are welcome!

And, speaking of fundraising, we are excited to share that MAOS has recently been accepted into the **Monterey County Gives Campaign**, which offers a match for all donations MAOS receives. As you know, MAOS requests \$650/year/student from each family, so sending in your contribution during the campaign (**November 10-December**

31) would be a great way to leverage your donation. Be on the lookout for more details about this campaign from the Friends of MAOS board in the coming weeks.

Finally, we would like to extend a well-deserved thank you to all MAOS parents, volunteers, staff, and (most of all!) students who have worked so hard to maintain and grow MAOS over the course of the last 28 years. We are incredibly humbled by the support of our community.

We hope you have a restful and enjoyable fall break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for the start of the second quarter!

Sincerely,
Ron Woods
MAOS Co-Director



Freshman Field Trip to Pt. Lobos

MAOS freshmen went to Pt. Lobos on Tuesday, September 13th! Students participated in a central coast organism scavenger hunt and identified biotic and abiotic factors that are native to Pt. Lobos.

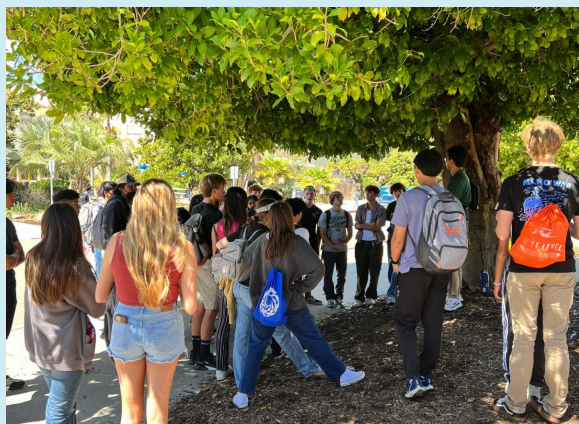
[View Photos](#)



Sophomore Field trip to Garland Park

MAOS sophomores went to Garland Park on Thursday, September 22nd and were treated to a special presentation from MAOS alumni student and hydrologist with the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, Cory Steinmetz.

[View Photos](#)



Junior Field Trip to Cal Poly San Luis Obispo



Senior Field Trip to Santa Clara University

MAOS juniors visited Cal Poly San Luis Obispo on Tuesday, September 20th and had a campus tour led by SLO student campus guides.

[Learn More about Cal Poly SLO](#)

MAOS seniors visited Santa Clara University on Wednesday, September 28th and had a tour of the new STEM building, heard a presentation from Dr. Dawn Hart, marine biologist with SCU, and had a Q&A session with a student panel.

[View Photos](#)



MONTEREY COUNTY GIVES!

Joining Together for Big Ideas

MONTEREY COUNTY GIVES CAMPAIGN - NOVEMBER 10-DECEMBER 31, 2022! ALL DONATIONS TO MAOS WILL BE MATCHED APPROXIMATELY 15%! MORE DETAILS COMING SOON!

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