

February 2026

Creation of the Windfuhr Family Fund for Teaching Assistants

Dear Madam or Sir,

My 3 children have had the pleasure of attending the German School of San Francisco (GSSF) for many years. We have had such a wonderful experience and credit Ms. Claudia Windfuhr for introducing us to the school and encouraging us over the years.

My oldest daughter Morgan, who is currently a sophomore at UCLA decided to continue her journey of German studies with a major in “European languages and transcultural studies with an emphasis in German”. Additionally, she is spending her Saturday mornings volunteering for the German American School Association (GASA) in Los Angeles and enjoys giving back to the community from which she learned so much.

My twins Shea and Grady are currently sophomores at Saint Ignatius High School College preparatory and they have passed the DSDII at the highest level, C1. They have had similar wonderful experiences and we are very grateful to Claudia for her constant support and guidance regarding their German studies.

Claudia is a wonderful proponent of the Saturday school and has such a positive and helpful attitude and is always thinking of ways to keep the children and young adults engaged with the German language and culture. She is a gifted teacher and was very successful in enlightening my children about the benefits of world languages, specifically German, regardless of their future career path.

It is certainly a wonderful opportunity when the children have completed their four levels of the national German exam (NGE), the AP class, and the DSDI and DSDII classes to then be able to impart some of the knowledge they have learned onto the next generation of students. Having a different perspective and observing and assisting the talented teachers is an experience that I personally think is very fulfilling for the teaching assistant as well as the young students.

I would like to make a donation to the GSSF to create a fund in honor of Claudia Windfuhr, which would specifically be designated for young teaching assistants who have been students at the GSSF and are currently High School students. This internship/job would allow them to give back to their community and to understand and build upon the skills they have acquired.

Sonja Moelleken, MD