

Updates and Highlights

December 2022

Merry Christmas! Happy Holidays!

This school year has started off with many financial challenges for students and families who were already hard hit by the pandemic and the resulting restrictions. It has also been a tough start to the year for the Angel Foundation for Learning as we saw unprecedented increase in requests for assistance from the TCDSB community, while at the same time, donations have been slow coming in.

So far this calendar year, AFL has already distributed more than \$80,000 in vouchers for school apparel and we expect the needs to continue to grow as schools welcome additional newcomers from Ukraine and elsewhere in the world devastated by conflict, hunger, poverty and persecution.

We continue to provide emergency assistance under our Guardian Angel Funds, which supports students, families and newcomers with grocery cards, emergency funds for basic and essential needs to the tune of \$87,843.40 since September, while donations have only totalled \$39,632.79 during the same period. Please open up your hearts and wallets. Your help is urgently needed, to add to the donations from our corporate partners and individual donors in order for the Foundation to keep pace with this growing demand. This is especially true at this time of the year when our thoughts are on Advent and Christmas, the season of charity and love. Please keep The Angel Foundation for Learning top of mind when you are planning local fundraising activities, and know that any funds raised go right back into TCDSB schools to help

We thank everyone for their continued generosity and support, and extend our best wishes for a blessed, happy and healthy Christmas season.



There are Many Ways to Help

Initiate an A-Team (Angel Team) at Your School: a great leadership opportunity for students, enabling them to help raise the profile of the work of The Angel Foundation for Learning, and explore options for local fundraising initiatives in support of AFL and other charities. <https://angelfoundationforlearning.org/join-the-a-team/>.

Hold a “Fun-Raising” Event at Your School: Visit our website for some ideas, and let us know what you are planning so that we can share your good news with everyone. <https://angelfoundationforlearning.org/host-a-third-party-event/>.

Sign Up for Cents Off: Less than one dollar will be deducted from your bi-weekly pay. You won't even notice the deduction from your bi-weekly pay cheque. <https://angelfoundationforlearning.org/cents-off-program/>.

Participate in Board-wide “Fun-Raisers”: This includes many in person events as well as virtual activities such as our 50-50 raffles, online auctions, and the May the 4th Civvies Day.

Make a Donation Anytime online through CanadaHelps <https://angelfoundationforlearning.org/donation-canada-helps/>.

Follow us on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook, or visit our website <https://angelfoundationforlearning.org/> to learn more.



Welcome to our Newest Board Members

The Angel Foundation for Learning is pleased to welcome newly elected TCDSB Trustee Kevin Morrison to the AFL Board, replacing Norm di Pasquale. We thank Norm for all his support throughout the past few years, as well Trustee Markus de Domenico who will continue as the other Trustee representative on our Board. We look forward to working with them as well as the of the student leadership team who serve on our Board--Student Trustees Stephanie de Castro and David Beshai and the two representatives from the Charity Sub-Committee of the Catholic Student Leadership Impact Team--Roy Abboud and Neslihan Apacik. We know their input will be invaluable as we continue to explore where gaps in support exist for our students, and work together to raise funds and awareness about the work that AFL is doing to try to address some of those needs.

The Giving Season is Upon Us--#AngelsAmongUs

Johnson Insurance Shows They Care

The Angel Foundation for Learning truly appreciates the long-standing support that Johnson Insurance has provided for so many in person as well as virtual events including recent 50-50 raffles, online auctions, our Gala Dinner and Charity Golf Day.

This is in addition to the discounted insurance coverage they offer to TCDSB staff.

Their sponsorship support means that less of the money raised through these events has to go into paying for the various venues and online platforms we use for fundraising, and more of the proceeds can be used where they are most needed--to help students and families who are experiencing financial challenges.



Learn more about Johnson here: www.johnson.ca/education

Edge Imaging -- A Picture of Philanthropy

Although Edge Imaging has traditionally supported the Foundation by providing free photography services at our in-person events, due to the restrictions brought on by the pandemic, this small but mighty organization has provided some sponsorship funds to support the production and distribution of our 2022 Christmas cards.



Edge has been an AFL sponsor for the last 13 years and we both look forward to continuing this valuable partnership in the years ahead. We are grateful for their continued generosity and support.

Of course, Edge also offers photography services to schools for student and class photos as well as for local events. Get all the details here: <http://edgeimaging.ca>.

Toronto Marlies Give Back

Recognizing the large number of newcomer students from Ukraine who have enrolled in TCDSB schools, the Marlies arranged for complimentary tickets for these students and their parents/guardians to the game on October 23rd. Although the Marlies lost the game against the Grand Rapids Griffins, a fun time was had by all who attended, and families expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to enjoy their first professional hockey game in Canada.



A promotional poster for the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) Marlies School Day Game. The poster is primarily blue and yellow. At the top left is the TCDSB logo. Below it, the word "MARLIES" is written in large, bold, yellow capital letters, followed by a yellow "X" and "TCDSB SCHOOL DAY GAME" in bold, yellow capital letters. To the right of this text is a small Toronto Marlies logo. Below the logo, the date "Wednesday, March 1st, 2023" and time "11:00AM" are listed. The location "Coca-Cola Coliseum" is also specified. Ticket information states "\$19/per ticket" and "\$4/per ticket is donated to The Angel Foundation For Learning". At the bottom, it says "TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS, PLEASE REACH OUT TO: Alexander Iwanicki alexander.iwanicki@mlse.com". The poster is decorated with images of students and fans cheering at a game.

Schools are reminded that the school day game with the Toronto Marlies is coming up very quickly; it will be held on March 1st, starting at 11 am at Coca Cola Coliseum. \$4 from every ticket sold will be donated to The Angel Foundation from Learning.

In addition, all those attending will receive a promotional code for discounted tickets to any remaining game in the regular season, and a portion of those tickets sold will also be donated to AFL.

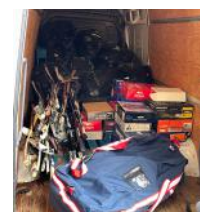
As an added bonus, schools that order and pay for their tickets to the March 1st game by December 16th will be entered into a draw for one of the special student and school experiences that will be offered at the School Day Game on March 1st.

Visit our website for details:

<https://angelfoundationforlearning.org/tcdsb-afl-marlies-day/>

Helping Wherever the Needs Exist

A special shout out to Muslim Welfare Canada for their donation of backpacks, school supplies and food hampers that were distributed to schools across the TCDSB. A huge thank you to the Metro Toronto Convention Centre for their ongoing donations of catered meals and snacks which support student nutrition in school and at home. The Angel Foundation also extends sincere appreciation to Skate to Great for the donation of skates and hockey equipment which were distributed to schools in November to enable more students to enjoy a truly Canadian winter pastime.



Retiree Gives from the Heart



Congratulations to Angela Leung on her recent retirement. We extend our sincere appreciation to Angela for donating the proceeds from her retirement celebration to The Angel Foundation for Learning. We are truly blessed to have so many caring and compassionate supporters who enable us to do all that we do to help students and families.

Our Long-Standing Partners Warm Our Hearts

Our sincere gratitude goes out to TD Securities for their generous donation of \$20,000 through the Underwriting Hope Campaign, through which their employees hope to build a better future for the children and youth in our communities.. Their contribution will provide continued support for our Extreme Needs Fund for students, as well as the Peggy Project which subsidizes the cost of application fees to college or university for high school students in need. Last year this fund helped more than 150 students in pursuit of post-secondary studies.



We also thank TCDSB elementary teachers (TECT) for their generous gift of \$4,000 to help us in the fight against hunger. TECT is a long-standing partner of AFL, who has always recognized the need to give back to help the students they serve. Their outpouring of support comes in direct response to the exponential growth in the requests for assistance from families in Toronto. We appreciate their partnership throughout the year.

Another amazing group of Angels from the Toronto Catholic District School Board's ICT team presented a cheque of \$1,400 to AFL; the proceeds from their annual Christmas luncheon. We are so grateful for their ongoing generosity, and applaud them for always looking for ways to help others in the community with their food drive and other donations.



Christmas Card Sales A Huge Success

Thank you to all who purchased cards to support AFL. We raised just over \$5,000 through our annual sale of traditional AFL cards, as well as this year's unique student designed greeting cards.

Congratulations to Abigail (St Anne), Angelvina (St Mary CA), Bella (St Monica), Bianca (St Anne), Chenxing (St Joseph College), Dwain (St Anne), Franklin (Our Lady of Peace), Juliet (St Agatha), Lauren (Bishop Allen), Matthew (Our Lady of Peace), Maxwell (St Anne), Leah (St Joseph College), Junia (St Joseph College) and Vann (St Mary CA) for their winning creations. These cards will certainly brighten the holidays for all who receive them this Christmas.



Valentine's Day Raffle Opens January 9, 2023

Our Halloween draw brought in a record number of sales, and the happy winner of that 50-50 draw took home more than \$15,600. Your next chance at our 50-50 raffle jackpot will be on Valentine's Day and we are hoping that we will set another record, as all proceeds are used to help students and families with a wide variety of urgent needs.



This time around we have three early bird prizes:

- January 23 for \$250 in grocery cards.
- February 1 for a \$250 gift card pack for Family Day (gift cards for groceries, pizza, ice cream and movies).
- Lucky 7 draw, February 7 for a 55" television valued at approximately \$500.

Get your tickets early for a chance at our early bird prizes, as well as the cash jackpot. Watch for further information coming in the new year.

Giving Tuesday

Although Giving Tuesday is over, the spirit of giving continues. We were happy to have raised over \$2,500 throughout the month of November and pleased to announce the winner of our gift card package: name to go here. If you have not had a chance to make a donation yet, please consider The Angel Foundation for Learning as part of your Advent/Christmas/Year-End giving. With the overwhelming needs within the community, remember that AFL is the only charity that uses all donations specifically to help students and families in TCDSB schools. Donate online any time throughout the year:

<https://angelfoundationforlearning.org/donation-canada-helps/>

Christmas Auction Results

Thank you to all who participated in our Christmas Auction in November, helping us to raise a little over \$2,000. We also thank those who donated items for that auction including The Toronto Marlies, AGO, Jeffrey Sprang, Dell, Lynn Northy, Indigo Yorkdale, Jeanette Mayer and La Cantina Quality Wine, and of course our auction sponsor Johnson Insurance, whose support meant that all proceeds from the auction could be used to help those who need it most.



Show How Much You Care Order an AFL T-Shirt to Help Fight Hunger



Be an Angel and show that you care about the fight against hunger by purchasing an AFL long-sleeved t-shirt for just \$28.

Sizes in stock: 10 Small, 60 Medium, 110 Large, 60 XL, 10 XXL.

Payment can be sent by e-transfer to angel.foundation@tcdsb.org, or you can contact us via email to make alternate arrangements for payment.

Seeking Sponsors

Want to help? Know a small or large business who might be interested in providing support either through sponsorship or donation of merchandise?

Contact us to find out about sponsorship opportunities for in person events such as our annual Gala Dinner, annual Charity Golf Day, as well as many virtual opportunities throughout the year such as our online auctions and raffles:

416-222-8282 ext. 2205
angel.foundation@tcdsb.org

*Be an Angel!
Make a Difference!*



Education

YOU SUPPORT LEARNING.

Johnson supports Educators.



Johnson Insurance has worked closely with Toronto Catholic District School Board to provide access to helpful services and products that take care of your home and car insurance needs.

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in savings when you
bundle home & car insurance*



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Take advantage of this special offer now. Mention group code T5 for your preferred rates when you give Johnson a call today at **1.855.616.6708** or visit **[JOHNSON.ca/education](https://johnson.ca/education)**.

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WIN 1 of 12 prizes of \$2,500+

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MAKING MEMORIES THIS HOLIDAY SEASON HAS NEVER BEEN EASIER

We take the stress out of photo day, but our services don't stop there. Leading the charge when it comes to innovation, Edge Imaging is proud to offer more personalized products than ever! Display your portrait the way you want it with over 200 background options, specialty holiday products, and digital options.

Student security is our number one priority, and therefore our data never leaves Canadian soil. Edge uses a closed loop end-to-end system, keeping nearly everything in house. Our **mobile-friendly ordering site** uses 128-bit encryption, the same standards as online banking, making it easier than ever to order one of our many personalized items, such as:

- Mugs
- Calendars
- Key tags
- Notebooks
- Puzzles and more!

Plus, Edge has added value for parents! Get more for less by taking advantage of Family Plan. Place an order for two students and receive **free*** packages for any additional student(s) within your household.

**Packages must be of equal or lesser value, and students must attend an Edge school to qualify for this offer.*

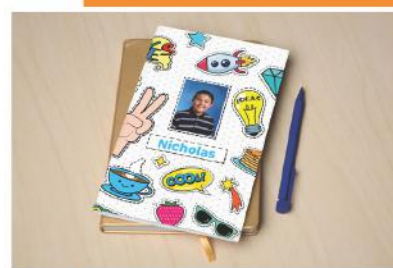
Edge will make your schools' memories easy! Contact us today to find out more about school pictures, yearbooks, and graduation portraits.



15oz Mugs



10x8 Calendars



Personalized Notebooks



30-Piece Puzzles