

PAAS Student Spotlight

Palo Alto Adult School Newsletter October Edition 2022



Student Spotlight: Susan Phillips Moskowitz (Upholstery)

Long-time Adult School student Susan Phillips Moskowitz speaks to PAAS about her love of fabric.

Palo Alto Adult School's beloved Upholstery class is over 60 years old now and Susan Moskowitz has been a part of its legacy since 2014. After retiring from Stanford, she began taking a number of adult courses here over the years, including Cooking, Sewing, and Crochet, but Upholstery is by far her favorite.

In addition to creating many lovely pieces of furniture, she grew close to her fellow classmates - so much so that they continued to get together, even during the pandemic (though that had to be virtually, of course). They used to meet faithfully once a week, but had to cut back to once a month during lockdown.

The class had originally become so popular that students would come from all around the Bay Area, including driving in from Davenport, San Francisco, Half Moon Bay, Fremont, and Santa Cruz. Forging these friendships is definitely the best feature of the course for many of the students.

Not only did she learn to upholster her own living room, but now Susan does the same for various clients and has become a fine business entrepreneur herself. You can see her working on a zebra bench, as well as many other fun projects in the photos below. The wingback chair is her very first

class assignment, which she still displays proudly in her home, along with the elephant ottoman which required 14 yards of cotton.

Mrs. Moskowitz's Knits & Designs

- Check out the fabulous Moskowitz merchandise here: mrsmoskowitzdesigns.com
- And her 2019 Palo Alto online feature [here](#) (you can see her on page 12)

Now that everyone is opening up again at long last, Susan suggests that PAAS bring back some popular speciality classes, such as a chocolate making course for holidays like Valentine's Day. This enthusiasm and involvement in the Adult School eventually brought her to the Adult School Leadership Team as a student representative where she assisted in sending out the WASC (Western Association for Schools and Colleges) report for PAAS. She continues to attend meetings and plans to keep going as long as we need her.

Outside of all of her PAUSD activities, Susan loves to travel. In fact, she had just returned from a trip to South America in time for the pandemic lockdown. Now she is eager to go back as soon as possible.

Zoom Cameo

Susan is also a Hallmark move connoisseur, or as she says, "I like happy." Having watched countless films on the Hallmark Channel for the past few years, she reached "superfan" status quickly, and in filling out a questionnaire about her favorite actors, she was selected to be interviewed by one of the producers. Thinking it would be a quick phone call, she was quite surprised to suddenly be live on Zoom and featured in a "Home and Family" online episode. See the amazing segment below.

[Debbie and Cameron Surprise a Fan - Home & Family](#)

Debbie and Cameron surprise a "Home & Family" superfan over Zoom to say hello.

Susan plans to keep enjoying her retirement, to continue to take Upholstery classes at PAAS, to work on her knitting and crocheting, and to stay open to new and exciting opportunities.





Zebra Bench



**WingBack Chair
and Elephant
Ottoman**



**Footstool to Match
Customer's Chair**



Sold Bench



**Bench Sold in
Gamble Garden
2019**



**Two Recovered
Bolsters**



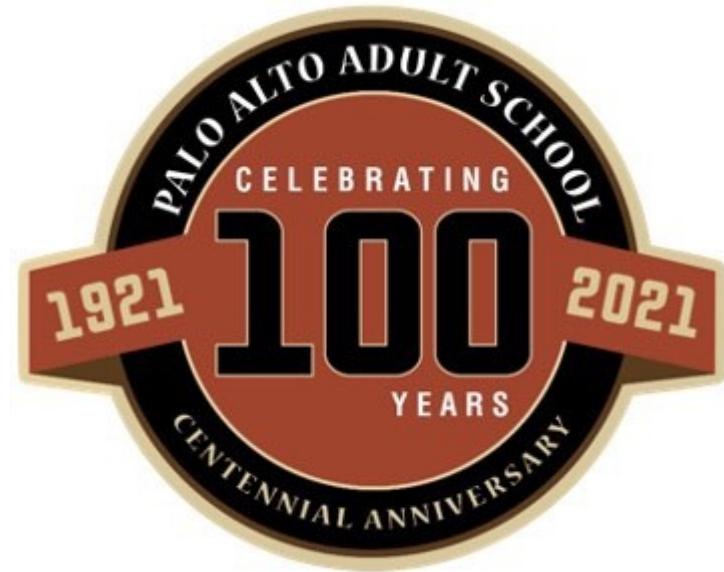
Editor's Corner - Natalie Skelton / Editor

Many congratulations to Susan on her many wonderful accomplishments!

Natalie Skelton has worked at the district since 2019 as the Adult School and Summer School Secretary, and is now the ESL Secretary. She enjoys getting to know all the staff, teachers, and students of the different departments. Although she spent her childhood in Kentucky, she went to high school and college here in the Bay Area, and after 20 years in Los Angeles, she moved back up north and is now here to stay. She loves baseball, jazz, and dogs, has an extensive background in writing

PAAS Announcements

REMINDER: Due to new State and PAUSD mandates, all Adult School students are required to provide proof of complete vaccination against COVID-19 while attending in-person classes at all district sites. Please bring your vaccination card with you to your first day of school.



About PAAS

Palo Alto Adult School was established by the Palo Alto Unified School District (PAUSD) in 1921. The adult school offers a robust program and annually serves a student population of approximately 5400 students. Our school is committed to excellence by providing a broad range of affordable, high quality education programs. Our goal is to meet the diverse lifelong learning needs of our community. Our three main programs are ESL (English as a Second Language) at the Cubberley Campus, PreSchool Family at the Greenwell Campus, and Community Education at the Palo Alto High School Campus.

We provide classes for English learners, parents, job seekers, travelers, hobbyists, and others who want to expand their skills. Whether you want to learn to cook, try your hand at something new or enhance your skills, let us meet your lifelong learning needs.

Most of our instructors are credentialed. Credentialing involves having studied or worked with the subject matter being taught and obtaining education related to adult learning theory. Students are thus assured that their instructors have the skills to guide students appropriately.

English as a second language and citizenship classes are free and other classes have affordable prices, offering you excellent value for your time.

The majority of funding for state-mandated classes is provided by state tax money and is based on student attendance hours. As a result, the class fees for students are significantly less for these state-supported classes. All other Adult School classes are supported entirely by enrollment and lab fees.

Questions? Call (650) 329-3752 or send an email to adultschool@pausd.org.



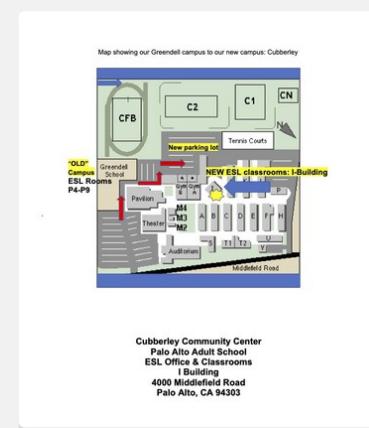
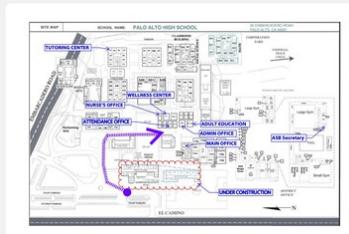
Contact Us

50 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alt...

adultschool@pausd.org

(650) 329-3752

paadultschool.org



Adult School Main Office at Paly P11

Paly Map

ESL Office, I-Building at Cubberley



