



Class of 2020: Against All Odds

Kodai Friends International Inc. serves to enhance the mission of Kodaikanal International School (KIS) and other educational organizations in Tamil Nadu, India that strengthen the values of KIS, through financial and administrative aid, as well as supporting KIS alumni and friends in North America.

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From the President

The year 2020 is one we all will remember for a long time. It is difficult now to remember the issues that seemed so important in summer and fall of 2019. Like all of us around the world, the COVID pandemic has significantly affected the operation of Kodai International School and the Kodaikanal community. Kodai Friends International has been able to provide help to both the school and broader community with the generous support of North American alumni and friends.

It has been eight years since I joined the KFI board. It is time that I, along with several other active and long-serving board members, step down and hand over operations to a dynamic and energetic group of new and newer board members. We are fortunate that long-time board member Stan Kuruvilla has taken over as President while I complete a final year as Past President. Stan has been very active in developing a vision for our organization, including a semester spent at KIS working to strengthen our collaborative work and support for the school and community in Kodai. Several long-standing board members, including Bob Fletcher, Treasurer Mary Coleman Lowry, and Vice President Vijay Naidu, have agreed to continue their involvement with the board during this challenging transitional year. Vijay is taking over as Treasurer following many excellent years of service by Mary in that role.

During the winter and spring, as KIS dealt with the significant changes resulting from the pandemic, the board continued the efforts to partner more collaboratively with KIS. President Stan hit the ground running, and along with proactive board members including David Piet (who spent the spring semester at the school), Jane Cummings, and KFI Administrator Sylvia Trautmann Rogers, began strategizing and organizing activities. A strong group of new board members, attracted by Vijay as head of the Nominating Committee, have joined the board: Maureen Aung-Thwin '66, Meg Greene '79, Basanthi Gopalakrishnan Bergener '86, and Kathy Johnson Narney '71.

So I leave the board in good hands and with thanks for the excellent volunteer work that board members and many alumni have and continue to provide through Kodai Friends International.

Bill Martin ('70, former staff, parent)
Past President, Kodai Friends International



Grants Awarded by KFI in 2019-2020

GRANTS FROM TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED FUNDS

Archives Fund	\$4,175
DeJong Music Award	1,500
KIS Scholarship Award	2,100
Russell De Valois Scholarship Award	5,100
KIS Emergency COVID-19 Relief Fund	48,262
Charles & Nancy Wilder "Understanding Through Diversity" Fund	158,255
Total Funds Granted	\$219,392

Archives Fund | \$4,175

The KIS Archives are now online!

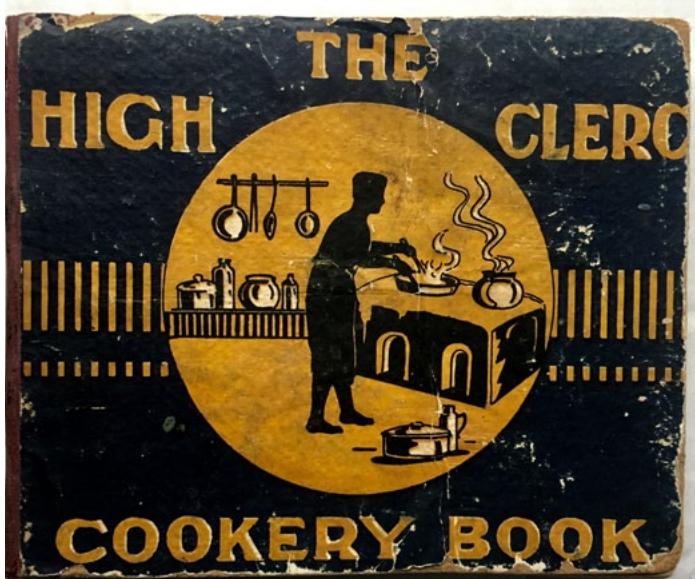
The KIS website, [KIS Archives](#), contains a treasure trove of stories, pictures, notable persons, and memorabilia related to the history of Kodaikanal International School. Click on this site and risk getting lost in this world for several hours!

Some of the highlights of the Archives include a collection of school yearbooks, "The Eucy," beginning in 1940, and an assemblage of historical photographs of Kodai and its early (white) settlers. These include pictures of transportation up the Coolie Ghat, views from Coaker's Walk, and sights around the Kodai lake and township. In addition, there are class pictures through the years, beginning in 1901, and recipes from the 1950 (5th edition) High Clerc Cookery Book. (Porcupine meatballs, anyone? Page 49!). At present the Archives house Eucys from 1940 through 1999, but uploading continues so keep checking. Just a glimpse of all the different front cover designs of the Eucys through the ages is a treat.



In response to a grant request from KIS for the funds remaining in the Archives Fund, originally established by the Class of 1961, \$4,175 was sent to help pay the part-time salary of Barbara Block, Class of 1976, to continue work on the archives, especially the Nora Mitchell Collection. The Nora Mitchell Collection was a large bequest made to the school after Nora, a much-loved and highly respected teacher from 1964 to 1986 died. Besides being an excellent teacher of German, Indian Social Studies, and Geography, she was an avid traveler. The collection includes her travelogues and pictures, beginning in 1951 with her European travels, through her arrival in India in 1956, to what appears to be her last trip in 2000 when she was living in London.

Barbara Block is not only cataloguing this collection but is bringing the KIS Archives to the attention of students, staff and alumni around the world. She and Manjusha Ninan, KIS Alumni Coordinator, wrote an article for the "Flag Green" about the Nora Mitchell Collection which can be viewed at [The Nora Mitchell Collection - KIS Flag Green](#). They have also very creatively initiated an all-school photo competition which involves cooking a recipe from the High Clerc Cookery Book and submitting a photograph of it. Barbara can be seen presenting the cookbook to the students at a weekly "Vanakkam" (assembly) at [Barbara Block Presents KIS Archives](#).



Grants Awarded by KFI in 2019-2020

DeJong Music Award | \$1,500

The Keith and Marcine DeJong Music Award is given annually from their legacy investment in recognition of KIS' top music students(s) at Awards Assembly each May.

Congratulations to Stuti Susan Jerald James, who received the award in May of 2020.

To Kodai Friends International (KFI),

I am honoured to be the recipient of the 'DeJong Memorial Music Scholarship Award' for the year 2020. I, Stuti Susan Jerald James, am a native of Kodaikanal. I have been at KIS since Grade 5 and have cherished the many opportunities that have been provided at KIS, especially those pertaining to music. This scholarship award is very special as my parents have been working at KIS for over 20 years now, and have known members of the DeJong family personally including Bruce, Garry and Suzanne.

I am thankful to the DeJong family for this prestigious recognition. I have always had a passion for music and have been keen on developing my skills in this field. I have utilised every opportunity at hand to exhibit my skills, including accompaniments for assemblies and chapel services as well as performances on several occasions such as my graduation.

Music has been a crucial part of my life and will continue to do so. Though I plan to major in psychology in university, I wish to continue learning music. Having completed my ABRSM Grade 6 in Piano, I hope to work my way up to a Diploma in Piano, and I believe that the money that accompanies this award will support me in doing so.

I would once again like to thank you for this appreciation.

Sincerely,

Stuti Susan Jerald James

KIS Class of 2020



STUTI IS BEST DESCRIBED AS A MODEL CITIZEN. THIS SPIRITED, MULTI TALENTED, WELL MANNERED GIRL IS CONSTANTLY FOUND DEBATING WITH HER FRIENDS IN THE DINING HALL OR IN THE QUAD. SHE IS DETERMINED TO EXCEL IN EVERYTHING SHE DOES.



RECEIVED A FULL SCHOLARSHIP IN NYU, ABU DHABI CAMPUS



WINNER OF THE DEJONG MEMORIAL MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP AWARD, THE CANADA AWARD FOR PROFICIENCY AND CHARACTER

GRADUATE
class of 2020
STUTI JERALD JAMES



Grants Awarded by KFI in 2019-2020

Russell De Valois Scholarship | \$5,100

Funded by classmates, friends and family of Russell De Valois '43, interest earnings from the endowed fund is offered every other year to a student entering grade 11 for the duration of his/her study at KIS to graduation at the end of grade 12.

The 2018-19 scholarship recipient, Anuja Baldota, is completing her senior year at KIS.

Dear De Valois Family,

I am writing this letter to express my sincere gratitude for awarding me the Russell De Valois Scholarship and deciding to continue it for another academic year. This scholarship has helped me in many ways. Not only did it significantly reduce the financial burden, but it also gave me an opportunity to study at KIS and make the most out of my junior year here. Right from the start, I gave highest priority to my academics and as a result, it got me on the Principal's list with a GPA of 3.8.

But at the same time, I involved myself in a variety of extracurriculars to develop my other skills too. I have a liking for nature and hence decided to hike and at the end of the hiking season I earned a Tahr pin along with the innumerable lessons only outdoors could offer. Besides hiking, I was also part of the basketball team and an entrepreneurship club and will continue the club by leading it as the president for my senior year. In addition to the classes and clubs, life in dorm and living in an international community has given me a priceless experience and pleasant memories.

Overall, my time at KIS has been wonderful and extremely enriching and this wouldn't have been possible without your generosity. I would once again like to thank you for awarding me this scholarship and I am eagerly looking forward for another year to learn beyond the books and live the "Kodai experience" to the fullest.

Yours sincerely,

Anuja Baldota

KIS Class of 2021



KIS Scholarship Fund | \$2,100

As a result of a long-standing relationship between the Presbyterian World Fund and the "School of Missionary Children at Kodaikanal, S. India," PWF granted \$2,100 to KFI to be used for scholarship purposes in 2019-2020. The recipient of the grant was Aahkalaivan Sakthi Saravanan.

July 28th, 2020

Dear Kodai Friends International,

I am writing this letter to you as a heartfelt token of my gratitude. I very much enjoy being a part of the KIS Community and with your support I am able to continue doing so, during this difficult time for my family.



To me, this scholarship is much more than just a monetary award. This is an enabler for me to continue pursuing what brings good to myself and those around me. It fills my heart with pride knowing that the community views me as a leader the world needs.

Thank you very much for putting your faith in me and I will do my best to make you proud.

Regards,

Aahkalaivan Sakthi Saravanan

Grade 7



Grants Awarded by KFI in 2019-2020

KIS Emergency COVID-19 Relief Fund | \$41,368 (March – June 2020)

In June 2020, Principal Corey Stixrud wrote "There has never been a moment in the history of Kodai School and in Kodaikanal quite like this one. Like many institutions across the world, KIS faces a cloudy and uncertain future. Similarly, Kodaikanal and its surrounding communities face the same uncertain and dire future."

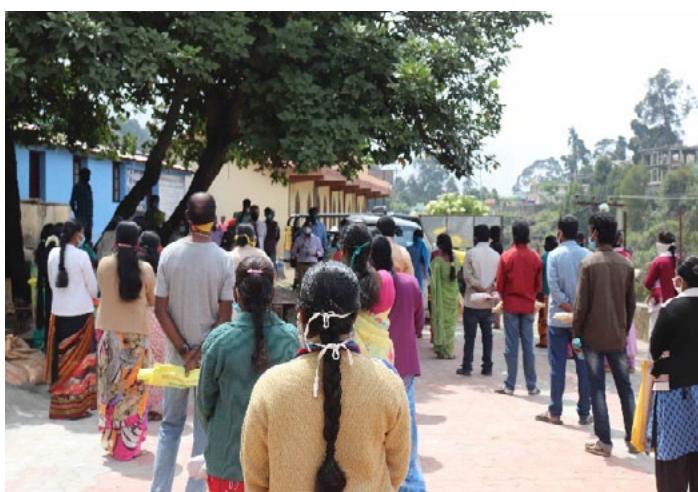
In March of 2020, the KIS Emergency COVID-19 Relief Fund was established to provide funds to overcome the immediate crisis imposed by the pandemic on KIS, maintain admissions, and support the local community. KIS identified two main areas in which funds will be used: (1) need-based scholarships for KIS families; and (2) support for the local Kodai community.

Support for the Kodai Community

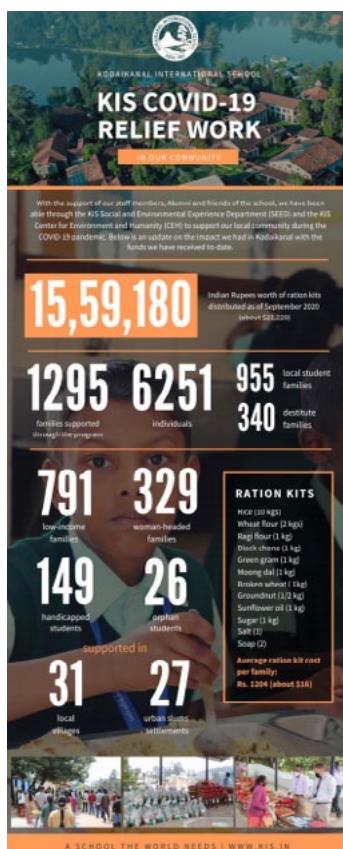
The pandemic has and will continue to greatly affect Kodaikanal's population which relies primarily on its agricultural sector, small shops/stalls, and tourism, all of which have been devastated.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, life and small-scale commerce in and around Kodai was stable and provided a decent income, especially during the lucrative tourist seasons. But during and after the lockdown futures and livelihoods have been put in jeopardy since India's vast informal workforce had no safety net, not even the bare minimum. Most workers had no job protections, unemployment benefits or health insurance which left them very vulnerable when there is a crisis like COVID-19.

In response to the onset of the pandemic and the March 25th nation-wide lockdown, KIS immediately established an Emergency KIS COVID-19 Relief Fund to address the plight of poor individuals or families in need. Many people in Kodai and the surrounding villages – day laborers, widows, farmers, taxi drivers, firewood collectors, housemaids, physically disabled rag pickers, migrant workers – no longer had incomes and their families faced hunger and deprivation on a large scale.



In late May, KIS sent out an appeal letter to KIS alumni and friends around the world seeking donations to allow KIS to continue its crucial support of those most in need in Kodai and surrounding villages. The appeal letter also included a "Double Your Impact" Challenge stating that "your donation to the Relief Fund will be matched up to \$20,000 by the Daryl Miller/Len Betz Class of '71 Challenge." Within a month, 55 KIS alumni and friends responded to the challenge, enabling KIS to continue its crucial support of those most in need in Kodai and surrounding villages.



An update from KIS in June, 2020 reports, "The School, individual staff members, and students have also been engaged in supporting our local Kodai community. About 150 current students launched a crowdfunding online appeal, and together with a grant from KFI for community relief, have raised support for KIS involvement with the community. These funds have allowed us to:

- Provide over 6,000 individuals with a month's supply of food
- Renovate a wing for COVID-19 patients at the local government hospital
- Purchase an oxygen generator for Van Allen"

(For a more detailed description of the community relief project in Kodai, please click [HERE](#).)

Grants Awarded by KFI in 2019-2020

Long-term relief activities underway include:

- Increased interaction with local schools to provide guidance, expertise, and infrastructure relating to educational and online technology to ensure that education continues when schooling is disrupted. (In December of 2020 KFI spearheaded the *Education in Kodai Project*. Please click [HERE](#) to read more about this project.)
- Increasing support to local care systems—i.e., Mercy Home, orphanages, etc.—in the form of infrastructure etc.

Please watch these interviews to learn firsthand how KIS alumni's funds are being used to help the Kodai community:

Note: A great deal has happened at KIS and in the Kodai community since June 30, 2020. The Annual Report for 2020–2021 will provide more details, reports, updates, and progress.



KIS Need-Based Scholarships

As the COVID-19 pandemic swept around the world, many countries imposed varying degrees of closure. On March 25, India imposed one of the strictest lockdowns in the world which lasted through the end of the 2019-2020 school year, and beyond.

Given the uncertain nature of the coronavirus, both globally and in India, and the interwoven difficulties/uncertainties in determining the course of action to take for the upcoming academic year, Principal Corey, along with his Senior Management Team (SMT) and the KIS Council, determined in late April 2020 that a series of scholarships be awarded to students of families impacted by the pandemic.

In May 2020, KIS informed parents that short-term need-based scholarships were available, with an initial deadline for the application of June 12. At that time, KIS received 58 applications that covered 66 students. The amount requested was Rs. 3.36 Crores (or about \$444,000). KIS started vetting applications and, while it was unlikely that it could meet all requests, they continued to receive additional applications as families continued to be adversely affected by the pandemic. KIS decided to offer short-term scholarships that would be dispersed in two allotments: the first in July 2020 and the second in January of 2021. They anticipated further needs based on the duration of the pandemic and the decline in the economy. Travel restrictions also remained a concern: if students are unable to return to campus, KIS could offer them a one-quarter or one-semester scholarship to remain a student at KIS and take online classes. The student would return to KIS for Semester 2 as a condition for receiving the scholarship.

Awarding short-term scholarships provided a critical support to KIS families impacted by the pandemic. Access to these funds allowed KIS to minimize the use of fixed costs and reserves which, if necessitated, could lead to revenue losses, staff cuts, disruption, and the "loss of muscle and bone."



Grants Awarded by KFI in 2019-2020

Charles & Nancy Wilder

"Understanding Through Diversity" Fund | \$158,255

In an effort to support KIS with the daunting financial requests it has and continues to receive, KFI determined that the requirements connected with the Charles E. and Nancy E. Wilder *Understanding Through Diversity* Fund could be used to support the short-term scholarships with the following objectives in mind:

- To maintain diversity at KIS by providing scholarships to students from across the globe and from diverse regions of India.
- To maintain school admission numbers (fee-paying students) at a minimum of 320 students for the 2020-21 school year.
- To help meet the financial needs of a minimum of 58 KIS families for the 2020-21 school year.



Kodai Class of 1942. L-R, Back row: John Meyer, Robert Dolbeer, Gale Potee, David Warren, Henry Moyer. Middle row: Paul Slifer, Constance Dudley, Ruth Slifer, Marjorie VanVrancken, Charles Wilder. Front row: Marian Korteling, Baba Wallace, Esther Fink, Diana Westlake.

Charles Wilder was a student at Kodai School from kindergarten through 12th grade, graduating in 1942. Seventy-four years later Kodai Friends International received this incredible gift from Charles and his wife Nancy.

As daughter Inga writes,

My father, Charles Wilder, intended to leave this gift to the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation for the benefit of the Kodaikanal International School to promote understanding among people of diverse cultures, religions, races, ethnic or geographic backgrounds. Dad strongly believed that education that promotes this understanding was the most fundamental means to promote peace and end violence. His gift demonstrates his confidence in the ability of the Kodaikanal School to provide this type of education.

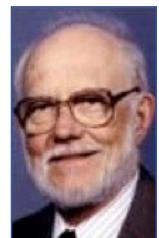
The following letter written by two of his brothers (all four brothers – John, Class of '44, David, Class of '46, and Don, Class of '49, attended the school) gives some indication of the impact of the school on their lives.

Dr. Charles E. Wilder shared with all three of his younger brothers a profound appreciation for the precollege educations they received at Kodaikanal School, the precursor of Kodaikanal International School. His generous gift to KIS testifies to the impact that Kodai School had on him, an impact that remained with him throughout his life, as he never ceased to attend reunions of his Class of 1942.

His gift to KIS shows his gratitude for the solid educational preparation for college and for adult life that Kodai School provided, as well as for lasting friendships and memories of social, athletic, hiking, camping, and boating activities on the lake and in the surrounding hills.

Sincerely,
Donald and David Wilder

We will get a chance to meet and learn more about these Wilder Scholars in KFI's 2020-2021 Annual Report.



Donors to Kodai Friends International 2019-2020

Kodai Friends International is deeply grateful to the following alumni and friends who contributed to the unrestricted and temporarily restricted funds of KFI between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. Their generosity enabled KFI to provide important grants to support its mission. Donors who contributed after June 30, 2020 will be acknowledged in the 2020-2021 KFI Annual Report.

FS – Former Staff, P – Parent, GP – Grandparent, F – Friend, KISC – KIS Council of Directors, KFI – Kodai Friends International, WBD – Woodstock Board of Directors, D – Deceased

\$10,000 and up

Muyskens Family Endowment

\$5,000-\$9,999

Len Betz '71
Robert Dudley '43 & Louise
Daryl Miller '71, KFI & Elsie

\$1,000-\$4,999

Louise Cummings FS, GP
James & Evelyn Estes FS, P
Robert Fletcher '65, KFI & Denise
Joy Gallup '82
Priscilla Grew F
Ernest Hahn P
Nelson Hoffman '66
Mary Coleman Lowry '64, KFI & David
David Lyman '54
Kathryn Johnson Narney '71 & Steve
David Otten '69 & Laurie FS, P
Presbyterian World Mission
Glenn Rogers '74 & Dominique Harre
Norman Thoms '51 & Anna
David Wiebe '56, FS
John Wiebe '49 & Carol, FS, P

\$500-\$999

Bernadette Bradbury Aleong '86
George & Anne Althouse FS, P
Erik '63 & Agneta Asplund
Jacquelyn Brooks FS
Jane Gibbs Cummings '57, KFI
April Dennis Jennings '63 & William
Virginia Johnson FS, P
Kunal Kapoor '93 & Monica
John King '53 & Jean
Ronald Koepke '66 & Marilyn
John MacKay '52 & Abigail Sanner
Miriam Naumann McCreary '51 & Ken Kauffman
Gerald & Roxanna Nichol FS, P, GP
Rob Perrett '73 & Donna
Kris '66 & Wendy Riber FS, P
Garry Schmidt '61
Sandra Schoeninger FS
Mark Seibert '71 & Betsy
Nell Kincaid Semel '54 & Dan
Jagat Sheth '87, KFI & Kiran
Esther Davis Webb '54

\$250-\$499

Anonymous
Kathy & Wayne Beckwith FS, P
Akshay Birla WS '05
Stanley Braisted '63 & Debra
David and Susan Brown FS, P
Andrew Chase '89
Frank Emerson '56 & Mary
Robert Gipson '63
Charles Gosselink '53 & Charlotte
William Hagstad '70 & Mary Beth
Michael & Alice Hallaran FS

Sheriar Jamshedji '86

Sung Yun Lee '96 & Jeong Eun
William Martin '70, KFI, KISC & Christine FS, P
Nolawi Mengesha '86 & Sangeeta Ojha
Minnesota Alumni Chapter
Atiqun Nabi '18
John and Dorothy Nyce FS, P
Ana Manta '80 & Mike Parker '80
John Peters '63 & Patricia
Sarah Nichol Reindel '86 & Andrew
Sylvia Trautmann Rogers '73, KFI
Garth Schmidt '61 & Tamara

\$100-\$249

Harry Adams '60
Anonymous
Oskar Austegard '93
Nancy Bird '71 & Karl Becker
Beth Gesler Caldwell '56 & David
Margaret & David Camp FS
Camp Kirchenwald Labor Day Reunion
Mary Carruthers '57
Jon Clossen '54
Alfred Doermann '51 & Evelyn
David Evans '48
Euxine Dolbeer Faix '54 & Richard
Michael Gass '50 & Carol
Robert Gass '81
Janice Green & Paul Patton II FS
Meg Greene '79
Margaret & Tom Greene P
Faye Ruth Voss Harris '55 & Donald
Stephen Holler '74 & Margaret
Robert Inman '62 & Gwen
Michael Jackets '51
Peter Jenks FS, P
Emily Grumm Jeske '63 & Marvin Rothstein
Mary (D) & Ben Johnson '47, FS
Grace Jones '76
Mary Jane & Richard Jones FS, P
Muriel Nichols King '53
Sara Gesler Klemmer '63
Loey Hiebert Knapp '67, FS
Daniel Krassowski '74 & Marie
Juntanee Sae-Ung Krongboonying '76
Sangsup Lee '87
Sheila Seamands Lovell '63
Rani Maloney '86 & Jeff Maegerlein
Alan Mattamana '96
Ruth Meinzen-Dick '77 & Carroll
Jack Moon '69
Vijay Naidu '86, KFI & Asha
Elinor Potee Nichols '44
Charles Nothstine '65
Ruth Prange Oatman '58
Betsy Carman Perkins '80 & David
Jean Towle Reed '55
Joseph Rittmann '66 & Marty Grubbs '69, FS, P
David Rogers '60 & Lois
Carl Schiefer FS, P
Hans Schmitthenner '70 & Joan Potenza

Steve Scruggs '80 & Tammy

Douglass Seaton '67 & Gayle
Sumeet Shroff '90
Julie Nichol '80 & Donn Stengele '80, FS, P
Annette & Neal Stixrud FS, P, GP
Anupama Surendran '93
Rohan Tandon '05
Margaret Carman '55 & Edwin Tegenfeldt '56, FS, P, GP
Mark Tegenfeldt '90 & Kathrin
Alan Thompson '49
Anita Trautmann FS, P
Rebecca Trautmann '68
Stephanie Vandrick '67
Jon Veldman '78
Richard Vreeland P
Connie & David Wheeler F, FWS
Paul '56 & Donna Beth Wiebe FS, P
Leslie Servid Williams '64
Paul Zorn '68 & Janet Petri

Under \$100

Ruth Alloway P
AmazonSmile
Anonymous
Grace Bunker '59
Margaret Caldwell-Ott & Derek '75
Janet Chandler FS, P
Ahilya Chawla '11
Margaret Graham '67
Victoria Gray '70
Nancy Towle Guiles '61
Barbara & Milton Hostetter FS
Roxanne Ghandy '98 & Tushar Irani '98
Shireen Irani '99
Shirley Wood Kocher & Robert '49
Carol Zigler Kusserow & Ralph '55
Sara Ann Emerson '61 & Merrick Lockwood '59, FS, P
Eleanor Carman MacDonald '53, P
Martin Messick '83, KFI & Mandy
Patricia & Merrill Miller FS
Harold Mondol '50 & Dorothy West FS
Kristin & Steve Mullin F
Prantik Nag '86 & Deepa Rao
Ronald Nunn '76
Elaine Lomperis Olson '67 & Wayne FS
Anjali Pingle '94
Nehal Rahim '93 & Emily
Frances Ruth Carner Richardson '59
Ruth & John Ruggiero FS
Sylvia Seamands '59
Sunita Nelson Singh '77
Deborah Smith '86
Kenna StornoGipson '11
Katherine Hennig Teece '98 & Scott
Faraz Usmani '07
Barbara Donaldson Walker '68 & George
Andrew Wilch, Jr. '47
Martha Vreeland Woodson '74
Gail Whitaker Wynne '57 & John

Sustaining Members for 2019-2020

Sustaining memberships provide KFI with a dependable base of revenue. It is a monthly gift that can be paid in a convenient, ongoing way by choosing your giving level and your preferred method of payment – either online or mailing a check. To become a Sustaining Member online, go to www.kfi-us.org/donate-kfi. Select the fund you wish to support, the amount you wish to donate, choose “Recurring Donation” with your choice of frequency, provide the requested information, and press the DONATE button. Checks may be mailed to KFI. Sustaining memberships may also be established through Employee Giving Programs.

Bernadette Bradbury Aleong '86
Akshay Birla WS '05
Jane Gibbs Cummings '57, KFI
Louise Cummings FS, GP
Evelyn & James Estes FS, P
William Hagstad '70 & Mary Beth
William Martin '70, KFI & Chris FS, P
Pantik Nag '86 & Deepa
Sandra Schoeninger FS
Jagat Sheth '87 & Kiran
Sumeet Shroff '90

In Honor of:

Beth Gesler Caldwell '56 & David
by Sara Gesler Klemmer '63
Alberta Voss Chase '57
by Andrew Chase '89
Meg Greene '87
by Tom & Margaret Greene P
Lois & Paul Howe FS
by Carl Schiefer FS
Dr. Frank Jayasinghe FS
by Peter Jenks FS
Sara Gesler Klemmer '63
by Beth Caldwell '56 & David
Bertha Lange FS
by Margaret Caldwell-Ott '75
Mary Coleman Lowry '64, KFI Treasurer 2014-2020
by Leslie Servid Williams '64
Clarence Maloney '52
by Steve Holler '74 & Margaret
Laura & Steve Root FS
by Daryl Miller '71
Sandra Schoeninger FS
by Juntanee Sae-Ung Krongboonying '76
Corey Stixrud '86, KIS Principal
by Annette & Neal Stixrud, FS, P, GP
by Nolawi Mengesha '86
Sujata Tandon FS
by Ahilya Chawla '11

In Memory of:

William '33 & Margaret Coleman
by Mary Coleman Lowry '64
Mario Digiorgio FS
by Stanley Braisted '63
Roger Evans '43
by David Evans '48
Padmasani Jothimuttu Gallup FS, P
by Joy Gallup '82
Greta Hahn P
by Rev. Ernest Hahn P
Geraldine Nora Harrington FS
by David Rogers '60
Gene Hennig, '65
by John Mackay '52
Marjorie & Nelson Hoffman P
by Nelson Hoffman '66
Peter Hoffman '63
by Stanley Braisted '63
Rev. G. Johnson FS, P
by Kathy Johnson Narney '71
Dal Joo Lee P
by Sung Yun Lee '96
Agnes Liddle FS
by Mary Carruthers '57
Paul Nelson '69
by Leslie Servid Williams '64
Dr. Roger Nichols
by Elinor Potee Nichols '44
Jeevan Paul '86
by Sheriar Jamshedji '86
Rev. James Coffin Perkins
& Lucy Elizabeth Croswell Perkins GP
by Priscilla Grew F
JT Seamands P
by Sylvia Seamands '59
Maj StormoGipson '74
by Kenna StormoGipson '11
Russell De Valois '43
by Robert Dudley '43



Treasurer's Report

The COVID-19 epidemic has affected the entire world, including KFI. One of the two streams of income for KFI is investment income. Surprisingly, COVID-19 has not brought a decline in the market. The stock market continues to climb. The other income stream is donations. They were down by \$17,590 from the previous year. On the other side of the equation, grants, KIS requested a large infusion in grant money. The School faces challenges that arise in a virtual world where students are no longer on campus and families explore alternatives to in-person education. To help the School weather the epidemic, KFI has approved over \$200,000 for scholarships in the 2019-20 fiscal year. Most of the money from this cash infusion came from the Charles E. and Nancy E. Wilder Fund of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation which gave KFI a gift of \$157,080 in the fiscal year 2016-17. (Interesting fact: The students who received aid, in recognition of the source of their funding, are called "Wilder Scholars.") Another ongoing source of income is an annual pay-out from the Muysken Fund at the Presbyterian Foundation. This year we received \$12,004 from the Fund. We are deeply grateful to the Wilder family and the Muysken family, alumni from the 1940's.

Summarizing the financial picture, restricted and unrestricted donations were \$67,002, down from \$84,592 in the prior year (a decrease of \$17,590). Gains in our investment accounts were once again positive, higher than the previous year, \$180,781 compared with \$160,111 the prior year.

During fiscal year 2019-20 operating expenses were \$282,322 which includes grants, administration and fundraising costs. This compares with \$161,776 the prior year. The increase reflected more generous grants to KIS, \$221,133, compared with \$92,526 the previous year, an increase of \$128,607. A total of \$208,255 was given for COVID-19 relief which included \$6,894 for the local community. Overall net assets decreased by \$68,443 over the course of the 2019-20 fiscal year.

It has been my pleasure to serve KFI as Treasurer for six years. I step down with gratitude for the many opportunities to re-connect with Kodai alumni and the opportunity to give back to the School, and with appreciation to Vijay Naidu for being willing to take over the reins as Treasurer.

Mary Lowry,
Treasurer



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

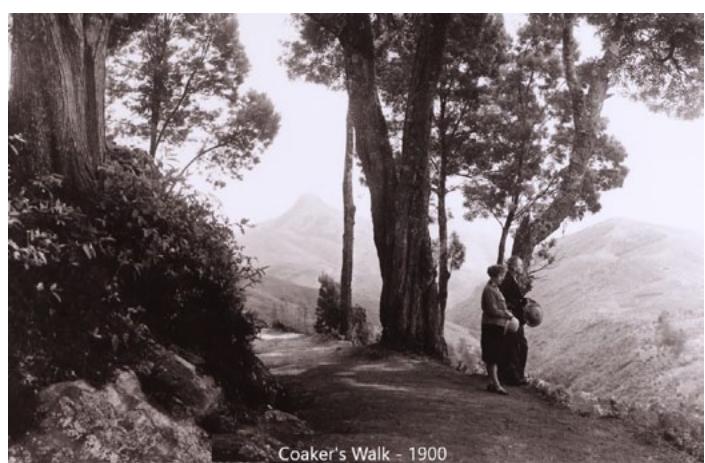
June 30, 2020 and 2019

	2020	2019
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$240,784	\$133,801
Accounts receivable	1,586	4,227
Investments	2,989,099	2,928,654
Beneficial interest in charitable trust	67,751	80,588
Cash surrender value of life insurance	14,782	14,782
Total Assets	3,314,002	3,162,052

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable		\$370
Related party grants payable	\$201,361	
Accrued expenses	3,563	5,227
Total Liabilities	204,924	5,597
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	\$2,689,499	\$2,757,942
With donor restrictions	419,579	398,513
Total Net Assets	3,109,078	3,156,455

Total Liabilities and Net Assets **\$3,314,002** **\$3,162,052**



STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY

For the year ended June 30, 2020

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	TOTAL
REVENUES, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT			
Contributions	\$22,404	\$44,598	\$67,002
Investment gain	180,781		180,781
Loss on beneficial interest in charitable trust	(12,838)		(12,838)
Total revenue	190,347	44,598	234,945
Net assets released from restrictions	23,532	(23,532)	-
Total revenue, gains & other support	213,879		234,945
EXPENSES			
Program	232,708		232,708
Management and general	39,057		39,057
Fundraising	10,557		10,557
Total expenses	282,322		282,322
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(68,443)	21,066	(47,377)
NET ASSETS-BEGINNING OF YEAR	2,757,942	398,513	3,156,455
Net Assets - end of year	2,689,499	419,579	3,109,078

For a copy of the audited financial report contact KFI Administrator at admin@kfi-us.org



List of KFI Established Funds

(Following is a list of unrestricted and temporarily restricted funds held by KFI. Unrestricted funds are used for priority needs identified by KFI; temporarily restricted funds are restricted to the purposes for which the fund was established. All funds are disbursed by the Board of Directors of KFI in response to grant requests it receives.)

Fund a Need: This is an unrestricted fund that enables KFI the flexibility to support projects, programs and scholarships for which temporarily restricted funds are not available or to fund new initiatives.

KIS COVID-19 Relief Fund: This temporarily restricted fund was created in partnership with Kodaikanal International School (KIS) in addressing the critical needs of both the school community and the Kodai community at this time. Your gift to KFI to the KIS COVID-19 Relief Fund will enable us to respond to two critical needs:

1. Community Relief & Education

- To support the program by the KIS Center for Environment & Humanity and the Social & Environmental Experience Department which provides food and basic supplies to those most in need in the Kodai community.
- To support the KIS Education in Kodai Project, a short-term and long-term initiative to provide quality education, resources and infrastructure to the local schools in and around Kodai.

2. KIS Scholarships: To provide scholarships for KIS families as well as new students facing uncertain financial circumstances to ensure the continuation of their education as well as the diversity of the school body.

KIS Scholarship Fund: This is a temporarily restricted fund originally established by KWI during the Centennial year of KIS and is one of the four KIS Annual Appeal funds for 2019-20. It provides scholarships to students who meet the school's financial aid and scholarship requirements and are approved by KFI.

Russell De Valois Scholarship: This temporarily restricted fund was established by the KIS Class of 1943 in memory of their classmate, Russell, who was killed in a car accident returning from a KIS class reunion. The scholarship is offered every other year to a student in the junior and senior years who meets the donor-designated scholarship requirements.

Keith DeJong Music Award and Scholarship: Established through a legacy gift by alumnus and long-time music teacher Keith DeJong '46, and his wife Marcine, the music award is given annually to two outstanding KIS Grade 12 music students, and the music scholarship is granted to provide financial assistance for a deserving student to attend music field trips or for additional instrument lessons.

KIS Center for Environment and Humanity: This is a temporarily restricted fund which supports key initiatives in waste management, conservation, restoration, and environmental education at KIS and in the Kodaikanal community. It is one of the four KIS Annual Appeal funds for 2019-20.

KIS Design and Innovation Fund: This temporarily restricted fund was established by KFI in 2019 in support of the new program at KIS which provides students the opportunity to bring their ideas to life in a variety of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Maths (STEAM) forums and competitions. This is one of the four KIS Annual Appeal funds for 2019-20.

KIS Experts-in-Residence Fund: This temporarily restricted fund was established by KFI in 2019 in support of the new program at KIS that enables experts and industry professionals to visit and work directly with students and staff for a semester at KIS. This is one of the four KIS Annual Appeal funds for 2019-20.

Sandra Schoeninger Fitness Center: This temporarily restricted fund was established to support the Fitness Center at KIS named in honor of Sandy Schoeninger, the committed, long-serving and well-remembered head of the physical education program at KIS.

To read more about or to donate to these funds, click [HERE](#):



Keep in Touch

Kodai Friends International [Website](#)

Kodaikanal International School [Website](#)

KIS Alumni Association [Facebook Page](#)

KIS Archives: Page through Eucys through the years, find a new recipe in the *Highclerc Cookery Book*, travel the world through Nora Mitchell's photos and journals

KIS Hiking Over the Decades: An [Interactive Photo Timeline](#)

– add your hiking story and/or pictures

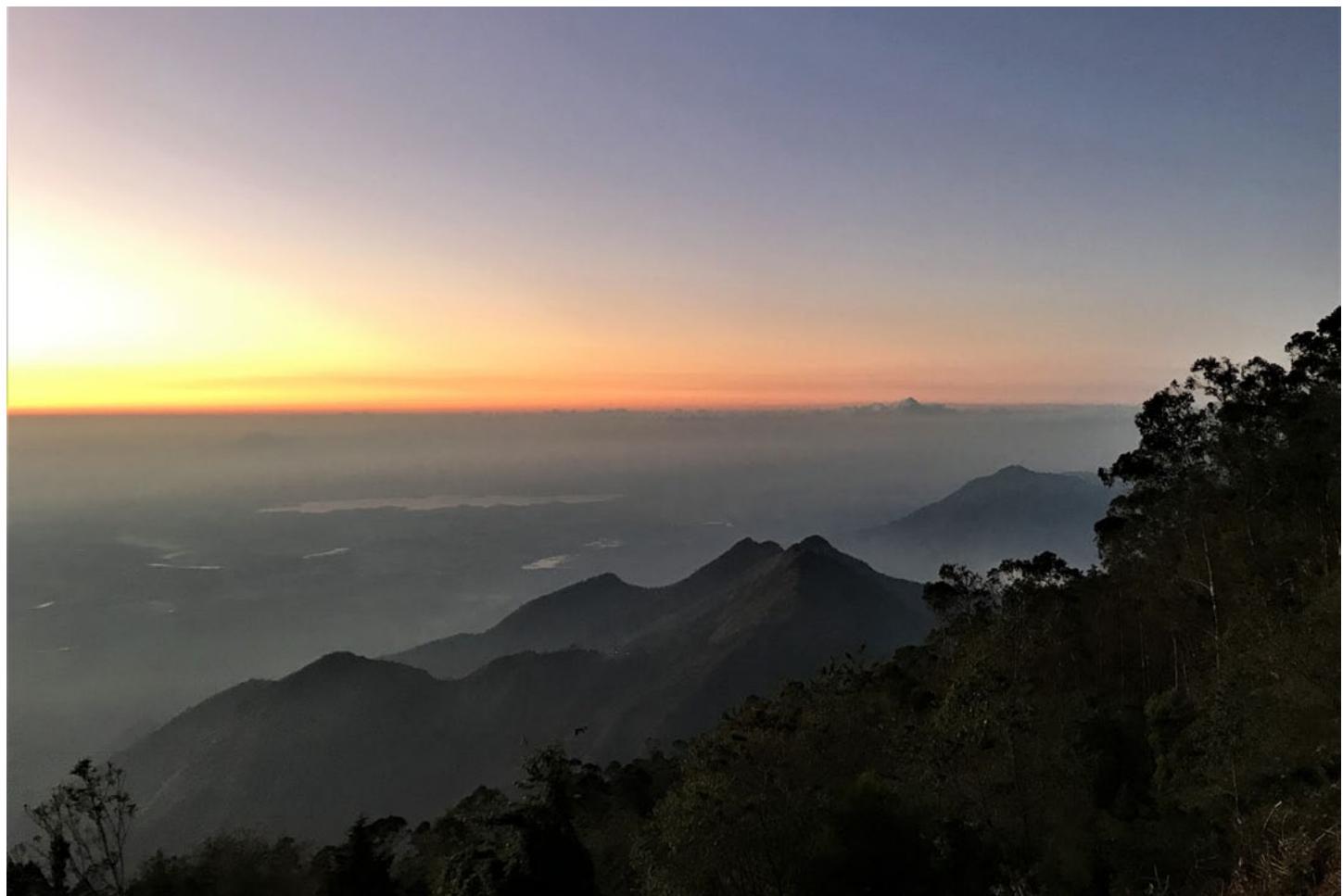
Wish you could watch a virtual tour of what the school looks like today?

Missed that Quad Talk on ...?

Wonder how the 2020 KIS production of The Music Man compares to the 1967 version?

All this and more can be seen on the [KIS YouTube Channel](#)

Don't miss out on your free KIS Magazine coming out in 2021! Update your contact info and mailing preference [HERE](#)



The Shola Society

A number of years ago under the leadership of KWI, the Shola Society was established as an avenue to recognize individuals who have made charitable provisions in their estate plans for the benefit of Kodaikanal International School (KIS) and given to KWI/Kodai Friends International (KFI). While some Shola Society members have made bequests through their wills and trust, others have created lifetime income for themselves or family member through Charitable Gift Annuities or other Planned Giving Opportunities. The satisfaction that comes from remembering their education at KIS with a bequest is best expressed by Don '49 and David '46 Wilder when their family established the Charles E and Nancy E Wilder Trust fund at KFI in memory of their education at KIS:

“Charles shared with all three of his younger brothers a profound appreciation for the pre-college educations they received at Kodai School, the precursor of KIS. His generous gift to KIS testifies to the impact that Kodai School had on him, an impact that remained with him throughout his life, as he never ceased to attend reunions of his Class of 1942. His gift to KIS shows his gratitude for the solid educational preparation for college and for adult life that Kodai School provided, as well as for lasting friendships and memories of social, athletic, hiking, camping, and boating activities on the lake and in the surrounding hills.”

For additional information about the Shola Society, please discuss with your financial advisor and contact KFI.



KFI Funds and How to Donate to KFI:

The following KFI funds can be supported through online gifts or by check:

- KIS COVID-19 Relief Fund
- Fund a Need
- KIS Scholarship Fund
- KIS Center for Environment and Humanity
- KIS Design & Innovation Fund
- KIS Experts-in-Residence Fund
- Sandra Schoeninger Fitness Center
- Keith DeJong Music Award and Scholarship
- Russell De Valois Scholarship

Donating to KFI can be done in several ways:

- Online with Credit Card:
Go to www.kfi-us.org/donate-kfi/
Select the fund you wish to support. If you wish to become a sustaining member, select “Recurring Donation.”
- Check: Make check payable to KFI, use Memo line if you would like your donation to go to a specific fund.
Mail checks to:

Kodai Friends International, Inc.
7608 Flora Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63143-3804
USA

- If you are 70 ½ or older, you are eligible and could choose to contribute your IRA rollover to KFI tax free.
- Join the Shola Society and gift KFI with part of your estate.

Please contact the KFI office at 314-229-3501 for further information or with any questions.

Donate to KFI for Free!

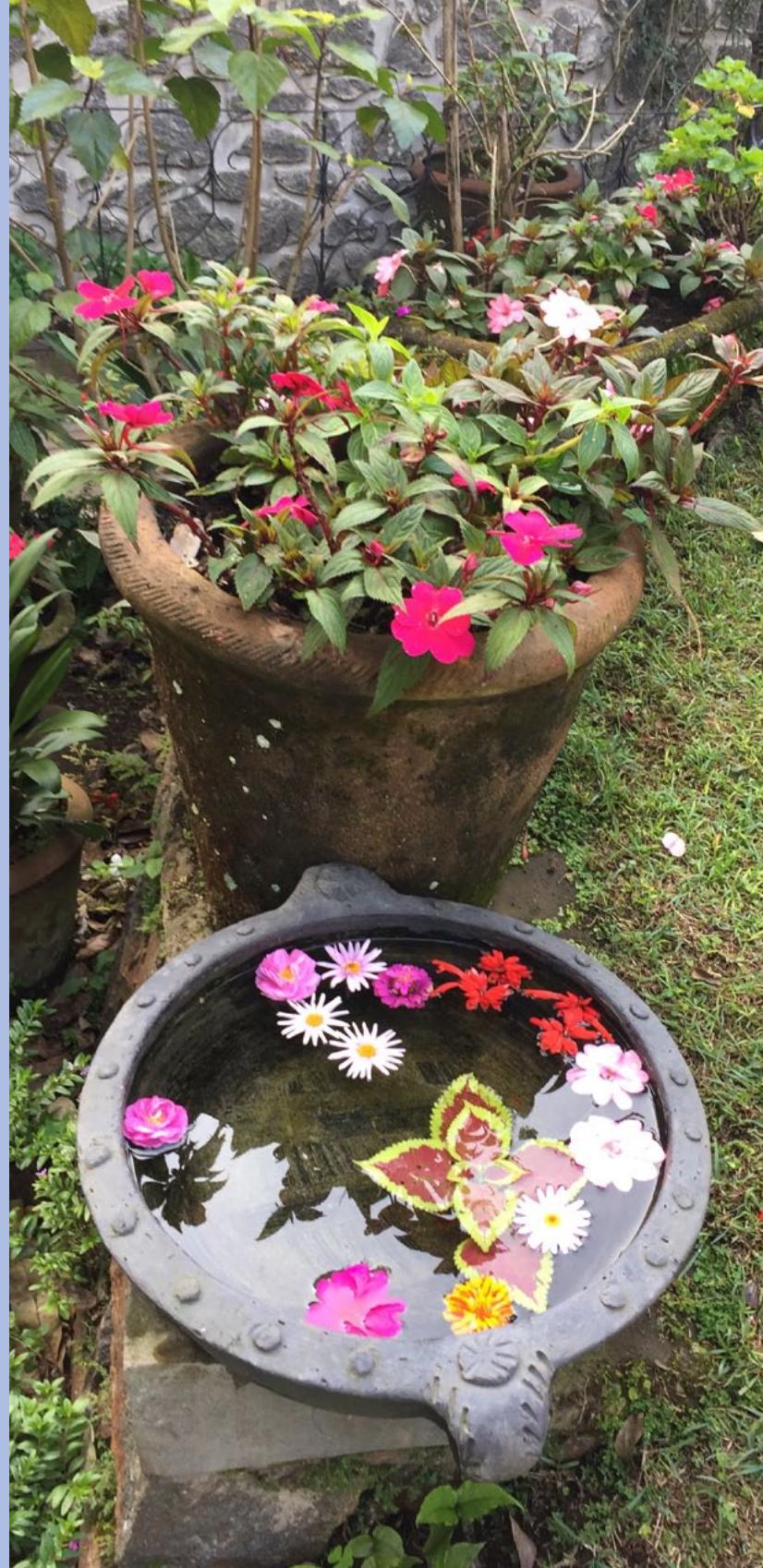
Go shopping using smile.amazon.com. Select Kodai Friends International as your charity of choice. Amazon will donate a portion (0.5%) of purchase prices to KFI. Your account on amazon.com and AmazonSmile will remain the same. A simple and easy way to support KFI.

KFI Board of Directors 1-July-2019 to 30-June-2020

William Martin '70 | *President*
Vijay Naidu '86 | *Vice President*
Mary Coleman Lowry '64 | *Treasurer*
Martin Messick '83 | *Secretary*
Jane Cummings '57
Robert Fletcher '65
Stan Kuruvilla '93
Daryl Miller '71
David Piet '63
Jagat Sheth '87
Corleigh Stixrud '86, *KIS Principal**
Sylvia Trautmann Rogers '73, *KFI Administrator**
**Ex-Officio*

KFI Board of Directors 1-July-2020 to 30-June-2021

Stan Kuruvilla '93 | *President*
William Martin '70 | *Past President*
Robert Fletcher '65 | *Vice President*
Vijay Naidu '86 | *Treasurer*
Martin Messick '83 | *Secretary*
Maureen Aung-Thwin '66
Basanthi Gopalakrishnan Bergener '86
Jane Cummings '57
Meg Greene '79
Mary Coleman Lowry '64
Daryl Miller '71
Kathy Johnson Narney '71
David Piet '63
Corleigh Stixrud '86, *KIS Principal**
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Contact Us:

Kodai Friends International, Inc.
7608 Flora Avenue | St. Louis, MO 63143-3804
Phone: 314-229-3501 | Email: admin@kfi-us.org
www.kfi-us.org