



June, 2022 Newsletter



Hamilton Wings
giving our children the wings to soar

On the Horizon

SCORE! Performance – *Copy Cat*

Family Performance – 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 30th

Public Performance – 7:00 p.m. on Friday, July 1st

Tickets - \$10/General Seating

Elgin Community College

Blizzard Theater, Building H

1700 Spartan Drive, Elgin, IL 60124

SCORE! provides students with the opportunity to create, develop and produce their own opera production. The goal is to empower children and their SCORE families with an orientation for success through the opportunity to demonstrate their skills and abilities around a tangible public product.

[Learn More About SCORE!](#)

Inside this Issue

PG. 2

Message from Hamilton Wings, Executive Director Rise' D. Jones, Ph.D.

PG. 3

Featured Board Member: Ms. Adriana Carpio

PG. 4

Featured Funder: Ms. Joann Hartmann

PG. 5

Seigle Foundation Grant Recipient

Message from our Executive Director



Risé D. Jones, Ph.D.,

Executive Director, Hamilton Wings

Photo Credit: Marina Makropoulos

Hamilton Wings takes pride in collaborating with youth, family, educator, and community partners to “give our children the wings to soar.”

We strive to equip young people with arts-based learning and leadership opportunities to support the realization of the dreams they carry inside.

Hamilton Wings strives to support young people in all that they are “becoming.”

However, lately, I was reminded of a poem by Toni Morrison entitled “Shelter” in which, after bravely facing the world, she recounts,

*“in this soft place, under your wings,
I will find shelter from ordinary things.”*

Sometimes, what our children need more than anything, more than chasing the “becoming” is a soft place to rest, to find comfort, and to be reassured.

Especially following the challenging past several years, recent national events, and as we work to “emerge” from the pandemic, our young people, need to know that they are seen, that they are heard, and that they are loved.

It is my hope that Hamilton Wings can be that soft place for young people and their families as they rest into just “being.”



Art SPACE - 4th Grade May Celebration with Principal Johnson & Assistant Principal Guerrero, Highland School

Hamilton Wings will always be there to support young people’s

***Bold color choices and artistic flair,
Sideways gaze and unique takes,
Big and small celebrations and wow’s,***

&

Quirky, kind, and uninhibited joy!

And Hamilton Wings, will also be there as they find **shelter, rest, and dream awhile....**

***“The times are urgent;
let us slow down....”***

~ Dr. Bayo Akomolafe



Featured Board Member: Ms. Adriana Carpio

As Hamilton Wings' Featured Board Member, Ms. Adriana Carpio brings such an inspirational past, present and bright path towards the future as she continues lighting the way for generations to come. Adriana was born in Guadalajara, Mexico, graduated from the University of Guadalajara as a Nurse, married in 1990 and had 3 daughters. In 2002, Adriana emigrated to the United States with her family and settled into the Elgin area and has been an advocate for Elgin's community and diversity ever since.

In Mexico, Adriana worked as a nurse for 10 years and was promoted to Deputy Head Nurse before emigrating to the United States. Arrival into the US presented a challenge with the language barrier; prompting Adriana to take an English as a Second Language (ESL) class at Elgin Community College. Adriana furthered her work in Elgin at organizations including Renz Center and Centro de Información.

Ms. Adriana's time in Elgin has been dedicated to serving others with a large focus on children and the Hispanic community. While her daughters were young in the U-46 school district, Adriana volunteered on the PTO, became PTO President, was a Troop Leader with Girl Scouts and worked closely with the Board of Education to start up the Children's Days event and provided other opportunities and programs to the children of Elgin. All three of Adriana's daughters were part of programs with Hamilton Wings through schooling partnerships and Adriana was always available to provide additional assistance and support to these programs.



Ms. Adriana actively works with various organizations in providing aid and assistance to families and their communities. Volunteering at Gail Borden Library, Adriana works closely with the Hispanic Department to create a multitude of programs and activities. She works with COFI in aiding Elementary restorative justice, resources for psychological support, healthier lunches and after school programs. Additionally, Adriana works in the Maternity Ward at Alivio Medical Center and with Ecker Center for Behavioral Health in Elgin on various resourcing events and programs. Most recently, this past year, 2021, Adriana created the group *Mujeres Unidas en el Arte y Bienestar* (Women United in Art & Wellness) to help Hispanic women to exit the house and have fulfillment and a sense of community in activities, such as but not limited to yoga and painting classes.

Ms. Adriana Carpio's role and dedication to the Elgin Community is inspirational and we at Hamilton Wings are so grateful to have her continued support and dedication as one of our Board Members. Thank you for all you do!



Mujeres Unidas en el Arte y Bienestar gathering

Featured Funder: Ms. Joann Hartmann



Gifts That Keep Giving Interview with Joann Hartmann

Hamilton Wings' Featured Funder, Ms. Joann Hartmann has brought dedication and advocacy for children for the last several decades. Joann's passion for children and humanity is evident upon meeting her, and has set up so many individuals, young and old for a lifetime of success.

Ms. Joann moved from Minnesota in 1968 and started her career as a Biology teacher in District 211 at James B. Conant High School in Hoffman Estates. At this time, Special Education programs were not required by law, and many children were falling through the cracks or not being provided adequate resources for their individual needs. Joann especially enjoyed working with these children in her classroom, and when she was offered the opportunity to design a curriculum specifically for the "troubled" students, she jumped at it. Ms. Joann quickly became an advocate for these children, being their voice during school meetings and setting them up for long term success through her interactive teachings with a focus on a decision making curriculum.

Joann went on to receive her certification as a work program coordinator and her Master's Degree in Special Education. In 1972 Special Education requirements became law in Illinois, and Joann was promoted to Department Chair for the Special Education program within District 211. Joann brought a focus on self-determination teachings, allowing for children to experience practical, hands-on learning and making decisions around real-life events and decisions.

Ms. Joann retired from District 211 in 2001 and started teaching classes at Roosevelt University for students going into Special Education until 2006. Joann then went on to start her own business, JWH Education Consultants, LLC with a focus on children advocacy and providing teachings and presentations for various schools and districts for 5 to 6 years before taking a part-time position with Youth Leadership Academy for the next 5 years.

Currently Ms. Joann volunteers with various groups and organizations around the Elgin area including Zion Lutheran Church, Elgin Cooperative Ministry (ECM), Senior Services, Fox Valley Mental Health Foundation and is part of the Senior and Youth Committees with Elgin Township.

Ms. Joann Hartmann sees the same dedication and guidance with children within Hamilton Wings. The passion and dedication with a focus on developing children is what led to Joann to fund the organization. At Hamilton Wings we are truly grateful for Joann and all the funders that help contribute to our children's success.



Seigle Foundation Grant Recipient

The Seigle Foundation provides grants to non-profit organizations in the Elgin-Dundee communities with a leadership focus on an ethic of passion, tenacity, innovation and effectiveness. The Seigle Foundation was designed to be a lasting legacy of charitable resources for their community; and it is with great joy and gratitude that we announce Hamilton Wings as an awarded recipient of an Arts grant by The Seigle Foundation.

The Art grant will go to support CREATE (Creative Relationships and Empowering Arts Transforming and Equity-Building), an initiative driven by the COFI-Supported team of parent leaders in Elgin, Padres con Poder. Additionally, the grant from the Seigle Foundation will allow Hamilton Wings to provide its ArtSPACE and Development by Design programs as well as work with wonderful partner organization likes Mujeres Latinas Unidas en el Artes y Bienstar (led by Adriana Carpio & Lucy Lopez) in support of young people and their families.



Hamilton Wings

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At Hamilton Wings, we are so grateful to the Seigle Foundation for this pivotal funding that will make these initiatives possible. Thank you to the Seigle Foundation for all of your continued support throughout the Elgin Community and *giving our children the wings to soar*.

SEIGLE
FOUNDATION

To learn more about The Seigle Foundation:

[Seigle Foundation – Philanthropy covering the Elgin, IL and Dundee, IL areas](#)

We are so grateful and thankful for the teachers, families, volunteers and community engagement and commitment with Hamilton Wings. We truly appreciate your donations, time and support to continue

giving our children the wings to soar!

[Donate to Hamilton Wings](#)