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- ▶ Events in the News
- ▶ Thank You Season of Promise 2017 Donors
- ▶ Calendar

www.thearcssf.org

(Left) Gardening students greening the community at Quesada Gardens, SF.



See the person. See the potential. See the future.

CALENDAR

All events at The Arc San Francisco, 1500 Howard St., SF, CA unless noted. Info: www.thearcssf.org

MARCH

2 First Friday Art Sale: Fri, 11am-3pm
8-9 Developmental Disability Conference, UCSF: Info 800-552-8735
11-13 Arc CA Developmental Disabilities Public Policy Conference, Sacramento, CA: Info: www.thearcca.org
13 Board Meeting: 5:30-6:30pm
15 UCSF Residents & Arc Family Members Panel Discussion: 3:30-5pm
16 Dancing w/SFPD Cadets 5pm followed by We Gotta Dance (\$1) 6-8pm
25 Sonic Forest Series Opening Concert: 2-3pm, Free

APRIL

3 Sonic Forest Concert: 1:30-2:30, Free
6 First Friday Art Sale: 11am-3pm
10 Sonic Forest Concert: 4-5pm, Free
19 Sonic Forest Concert: 4-5pm, Free
19 Arc Marin Breakfast, San Rafael 8:00-10am Info: msullivan@thearcssf.org
20 We Gotta Dance & Volunteer Recognition (\$1) 6-8pm
22 Sonic Forest 1-2pm & Earth Day Finale 3:20-4:45pm reception, Free

MAY

4 First Friday Art Sale: 11am-3pm
10 WorkLife Awards: 6-8pm
18 We Gotta Dance *PULSE Prom Masquerade* (\$1) 6-8pm
28 Memorial Day holiday closure

JUNE

1 First Friday Art Sale: 11am-3pm
20 Arc in the Park: 12:45-4pm, AT&T Park, Giants vs. Marlins
26 Board Meeting: 5:30-6:30pm

Friends Like Me (FLM) After Hours Standing Schedule:

Performance/Public Speaking: Mon 3-5pm
Game Nights: Mon 5:30-8:30pm, Tue 3-6pm
Cooking/Dinner Group: Monday: 5:30-8:30pm
Drama/Theatre Workshop: Wed 3-5pm (during semester schedule)
Movie Night & Discussion: Wed 5:30pm-8:00pm
We Gotta Dance: Every 3rd Fri, 6-8pm
Weekend Excursions: Last Saturday of month (must RSVP)

THANK YOU! our donors!

SEASON OF PROMISE

The Arc SF thanks the following donors who made gifts or pledges during our Season of Promise 2017 between 11/28-12/31/17 raising over \$165,000 toward transforming our clients' lives.

YOU MAKE THE DIFFERENCE!

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Message from Connie Tabas

Dear Friends,

As we emerge from winter and anticipate the renewal of spring, I'm reminded that transformation is different from change at The Arc SF. Change looks at the past. Transformation looks at the future, and only the limits of imagination constrain our possibilities.

For example, in this issue of *Turning Point*, we meet Chris, a young man who shares many of the same aspirations as his peers, but without the verbal communication ability that the world expects. His Arc staff believe our goal is less about changing Chris than it is blazing a path where his innate abilities can grow and shine.

As you read about Matt at Amazon, think about the cultural shift that he and his co-workers are spearheading. His success is shaping the beliefs of a new generation of talent professionals who are now naturally reaching out to The Arc to fill positions, redefining the workforce eco-system.

While The Arc's education and employment programs are foundational, we also celebrate those visionaries creating a more balanced personal life for our clients. Our recent fundraising gala brought many friends with big hearts together to support our "Friends Like Me" recreation program, an innovative approach to addressing the health and well-being of the whole person.

What the world expects and what we at The Arc see as possible are often divergent, but thanks to your support, our vision of an inclusive world in which all people with developmental disabilities can thrive is closer than ever.

In gratitude,

Connie Tabas

Connie Tabas, Interim CEO

Learn more about our plans for the years ahead.
See our Strategic Plan, "Future Forward,"
at www.thearcsf.org

A new path to a bright future

EDUCATION

See our 2018 list of Spring Classes
at www.thearcsf.org

Karen Fitzgerald (l.) with Chris
checking his class schedule.

Like many young guys his age, Chris gets a little

frustrated when asked about his future. He uses his iPhone with a text-to-voice app to answer 'I don't know,' accompanied by an eye roll that every parent of a young adult can appreciate.

But his love of math and dogs got his Arc instructor **Karen Fitzgerald** thinking: Maybe there's a path for Chris to connect to the dog-walking business.

With this in mind, Karen and Chris made a plan for maturing his education through City College. Currently, he's taking ASL (American Sign Language) as well as pre-algebra. (He aced his first ASL test, by the way.)

This initial entry into college will help Chris improve his communication, hone his foundational math and money management skills, and help him connect to a new network of friends who sign—a combination of social and vocational skills that are a stepping stone to a bright future as a pet service entrepreneur.

For more information, contact Kristen Pedersen, Chief of Services, Education and Workforce Inclusion Programs, kpetersen@thearcsf.org.

EMPLOYMENT

Amazon employee finds his stride as a trainer

Matt and Meliza at the Amazon
Fulfillment Center in Fremont, CA.



"We all need support in a new job and I like to help." —Matt, on training a new Arc client

In a warehouse the size of a football field

in the middle of a sea of conveyers, totes and boxes stands **Matt**, an Amazon employee who is blazing the trail for his peers with disabilities. One of the many Arc-referred sortation associates in the company's fulfillment center in Fremont, CA, Matt has grown to be a standout go-to guy for boxes that need a second look.

"Sometimes the label has to be changed; sometimes it's a damaged carton," Matt says. "My job is to 'rehab' the box and get it on its way." Matt's work in the "Problem Solve" group is a promotion from his initial position as a scanner. It requires a keen eye for detail and a cool head when things get busy.

The Arc's on-site Job Coach, **Carlos Lobos**, admires Matt's ability to keep focused and stay on top of the rush, all while keeping safety foremost in mind.

"I remind Matt and the clients from The Arc to lift safely, wear their protective gear and be aware of moving forklifts. This is a very busy environment with people and machines moving all around, so extra care is required," he adds.

Recently, Matt started training another employee in the Problem Solve group. Co-worker **Meliza** needed support to learn the ropes, and Matt stepped in to help.

"I made sure she was comfortable with the pallet jack and answered her questions. She's comfortable now," Matt says. "We all need support in a new job, and I like to help."

Seeking reliable workers who bring something unique to the workforce, The Arc is a creative, responsive staffing solution in an extremely competitive hiring market.

"Our success is connecting our employer partners—including Amazon—to quality, pre-screened candidates who are job-ready," says The Arc's Kristen Pedersen. "Currently, over 180 employers rely on us to refer candidates they can count on as part of their team, and as the demand keeps growing, we're happy to answer the call."

For more information about Arc employment programs, contact Kristen Pedersen, Chief of Services, Education and Workforce Inclusion Programs, kpetersen@thearcsf.org.

EVENTS IN THE NEWS

Valentine's Gala Benefits Popular Recreation Program

Our "Friends of Friends" Valentine's Gala was a big success, raising over \$50,000 thanks to our event committee led by **Galina Miloslavsky** and **Greg Vogel** and founder of "Friends Like Me" at The Arc **Pamela Buttery**.

Funds raised will help to support and expand this vital program that provides after-hours recreation activities and supported socialization opportunities for those we serve in San Francisco and Marin Counties.

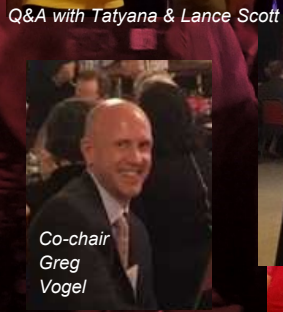
For Friends Like Me program information and also volunteering opportunities, contact Lance Scott, lscott@thearcsf.org.



Friends Like Me founder Pamela Buttery (r.) and son Alex (l.) with friends at Friends Hall.

Friends of Friends Gala

February 10, 2018



Connie Tabas, Interim CEO



The Friends Like Me Unstoppables perform "Lean on Me"



Volunteer Vanessa Fety

Guests Jason McMonagle & Linda Tung

Save The Date!

Marin Annual Arc
Breakfast Celebration

Thu, April 19, 2018 San Rafael, CA

REGISTRATION
2018arcmarinbreakfast.eventbrite.com