

AROUND THE HOUSE

Avondale House eNewsletter



Mark Your Calendar

October: Avondale House Spec's Charity of the Month

October 22-23: Kendra Scott Fundraiser

November 23-27: No School- Fall Break

November 26-27: Avondale House closed- Thanksgiving Holiday

Kendra Scott Gives Back to Avondale House

Would you like to get some holiday shopping done AND support Avondale House? Do your family and friends love quality statement and fine jewelry that is crafted right here in Texas? We have a great opportunity for you!



Avondale House has been selected for a [Kendra Scott Give Back Event on October 22nd & 23rd](#).

Participating is easy and fun- all you have to do is shop online starting tomorrow and use the code **GIVEBACK9370** at checkout on kendrascott.com and 20% of your proceeds will benefit Avondale House.

The funds received from this partnership will directly benefit the Avondale House students and clients who depend on us to provide the high-quality services that help them reach their full potential.

[RSVP](#)

Sustainer's Circle Member, Taylor Grimes

Avondale House is excited to announce our newest and easiest giving program, the [Sustainer's Circle](#). This program is a simple way to give a modest amount each month. One of our first members, Taylor Grimes, shares her testimony below!

"When making a charitable decision, I knew supporting Avondale House as a Sustaining Circle donor was one way I could help make the community I live in a better place.

I had the privilege of working with individuals with ASD in a previous job, so I'm aware of the joy and strides individuals can make with the proper support. Avondale House provides that support to so many people throughout the Greater Houston area.

No matter how big or small my gift is, Avondale House puts it to the best use. Their perseverance in providing quality support to individuals and families, even during the COVID-19 pandemic, is inspiring. I'm glad I can help in my own small way!"



[Learn More](#)

Art & Music are Back Virtually

During this uncertain time, where social distancing is becoming more of the rule than the exception, schools and organizations are scrambling to find ways to stay connected with their communities. Here at Avondale, students are provided the opportunity to participate in both music and art through a distanced learning model. The goal for using this virtual platform is to provide the art and music curriculum that both teachers and students are accustomed to at Avondale House that enriches their learning.



When asked about implementing programming this way, Mr. Joseph Dixon said, "I was apprehensive with trying this different approach to teaching art, but after a few sessions, I quickly realized several benefits for both the participants, their families, and myself, the teaching artist."

The three main takeaways from this new way of teaching are:

- Students are provided art engagement that helps with normalization and which helps to reduce anxiety and provide a sense of structure.
- Students have continuation of art training that encourages skill development, builds self-confidence and promotes communication and social skills.
- Family engagement is promoted, by providing parents with resources to use with their children when not at school or engaged with online programming.

Studies have shown that regular art and music integrated in a curriculum benefit individuals with autism by addressing abstract-thinking deficits, sensory integration, self-expression, developmental growth, leisure skills and visual-spatial deficits. We are thrilled to have Joseph Dixon's class back in our curriculum!

Super Hero, Nurse Destiny Ford

Alex Beaulieu, Teaching Aide, surprised Avondale's school nurse with a famous painting to show her appreciation. The painting is Banksy's latest work of art and it depicts a child

playing with a nurse superhero toy, with figures of Batman and Spider-Man tossed in a bin.

We asked Alex what inspired her touching gift and she responded, "Destiny is a vital member of this organization and has been instrumental in helping us get through this COVID crisis. She has a positive attitude and is always ready to help." Nurse Destiny said the gift completely renewed her spirit.

Acts of kindness like this remind us that we truly are in this together! Thank you both for spreading kindness at Avondale House.



Team Member of the Month: Cynthia Moreland

Cynthia Moreland is Avondale's Team Member of the Month! Cynthia has been a part of the Avondale family for over 7.5 years! She's a dedicated member of the Master Minds Class and works hard for them everyday.

She has shown tremendous flexibility with her changing roles at Avondale House and always has a very kind and positive attitude. She works hard everyday for her class and you can tell that she genuinely cares for her students and coworkers. She always greets everyone with a smile and it is such a pleasure to have her on our team. Thank you, Cynthia!

Spec's Charity of the Month

Don't forget to stop by Spec's to support Avondale House! All month, each time you visit a Spec's store, you will have the option to make a donation to support the individuals we serve at Avondale House. Your support helps to provide technology support for our day school students, nutritious family-style meals at our residential homes, and pre-vocational training to adults living with autism. Thank you to Spec's for partnering with us to make a difference in the Avondale



Recent Donors

Avondale House wishes to thank and acknowledge these recent donors:

Bryan Reed • Nancy Hemmen • Ashley Nelly • Cathy Sussman • Janet Winebar
Elliott Bossin • Penelope and Bill Louis • Jose Chavez Carballo • Michele and David Wiseley
• Greg Hill • Claudia Roberts • Mary Traylor • Taylor Grimes • Gail Vozzella
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