

Bosque School Turns 10!

Bosque School celebrated its 10th Anniversary with a Decennial Gala on February 4, 2006. The event was to honor the past with key individuals who founded and nurtured the school through the first ten years and to highlight the incredible growth and momentum the school is currently experiencing. Nearly 500 parents, grandparents, faculty, and friends gathered on the Bosque School campus Saturday night to celebrate this momentous occasion. The dinner celebration raised over \$100,000 for annual financial aid. Bosque School continues to provide 24% of the student body with financial aid assistance each year. The keynote speaker was actor and environmentalist, Marsha Mason, who is a two-time Golden Globe award winner and a four-time Academy Award nominee who owns and operates Resting in the River Organic Farm and Natural Products in Abiquiu, NM. She spoke eloquently about the importance of the Bosque ecosystem and education and how Bosque School has found a wonderful home and relationship with this important environmental resource in our state.

Visionary, Peggie Ann Findlay, founded Bosque School in 1994. The school officially opened in 1995 in rented space in the northeast heights and has since grown into a beautiful 44-acre campus along the Rio Grande bosque near Coors and Montano in Albuquerque. The independent college preparatory school has 465 students in grades 6-12 with 115 alumni, 78 faculty/staff, 7 buildings, and two athletic fields. During the Decennial Gala, Andrew Wooden, Head of School, announced the successful completion of the first ten years having raised over \$12 million to build the school. He also announced the public phase of the \$6 million effort to create additional learning spaces, performing arts spaces, athletic fields, and secure the financial aid endowment for the future. As of February 4, the Bosque School capital campaign has raised \$3.35 million with a total of 75 gifts including one very generous lead gift from Michael and Sheril Budagher. This lead gift will create an additional 15,000 square feet of performing and fine arts spaces, a dining hall, and additional classrooms. The addition has been designed by Dekker/Perich/Sabatini and is planned for completion by December 2006. The performing and fine arts addition will be named Budagher Hall. It will be enhanced by two beautifully planned outdoor spaces, a result of two additional generous gifts. The outdoor spaces will bring the campus together by bridging the new building to the existing academic spaces and will add outdoor study spaces, student commons areas, and a pond reclamation project to be used in the existing environmental studies at Bosque School. The Annenberg Foundation continues to be instrumental in creating and enhancing Bosque School's Gerald and Betty Ford Library on the Bosque School campus by contributing an additional \$250,000 to their \$1 million gift in 2003. "It is most rewarding to see that so many people continue to support us. Ten years ago we had a dream of a school, today we are celebrating an educational program that boasts five graduating classes that are nationally competitive," said Andrew Wooden, Head of School.