

**HELP US MAKE  
A DIFFERENCE!**



### **THE MAYA STUDENT FUND**

The majority of our students are indigenous Maya whose families cannot afford the cost of tuition. These sponsorships cover fees, class materials, and a nutritious snack to sustain them throughout the day.

### **THE FOOD FUND**

The Food Fund provides a lunch for the students at Escuela Caracol. Nutritious meals offer crucial sustenance for students—particularly the younger children—and help to bolster their participation and concentration in class.



“Our highest endeavor must be to develop free human beings, who are able of themselves to impart purpose and direction to their lives.”

– Rudolf Steiner

Founder, Waldorf School Movement



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**AN INTERCULTURAL  
WALDORF SCHOOL**



## ABOUT ESCUELA CARACOL

Escuela Caracol is a K-6 intercultural Waldorf school in San Marcos La Laguna, a Kaqchikel community on the shores of Lake Atitlán, Guatemala. The school provides holistic education to over 80 students, 80% of whom are indigenous Maya children who receive sponsorships that cover fees, class materials, and a nutritious snack each day.

Escuela Caracol strives to integrate Mayan cultural traditions, which have been marginalized for the past five centuries.

## EDUCATION & POVERTY IN GUATEMALA

In the region of San Marcos La Laguna, approximately 80% of the population lives in poverty, with 25% of the population living in extreme poverty. Nationally, an average Guatemalan completes only 5.5 years of schooling, and roughly 35% of students drop out of official primary schools each year.

Guatemala's education system is still recovering from the years-long civil war during which hundreds of schools were burned and educational workers "disappeared."

Though interest in education is increasing, public schools are not equipped to handle the need due to overcrowded classrooms, absent teachers, chronic mismanagement of resources, and school climates that exhibit residual tones of oppression and violence.



## OUR DIFFERENCE

Escuela Caracol seeks to offer a solution to the dilemma of education for both indigenous and international families around Lake Atitlán. Our holistic model of learning promotes the development of well-rounded and freethinking children who possess creative capacities useful in all realms of life.

The Waldorf educational approach is ideally suited to a community comprised of traditionally agrarian and artisan families and Western-educated and alternative-minded families.

The distinct focus on creative expression, practical work, and the natural environment also affords an exceptional basis for a unique cultural interchange.



## SUPPORT ESCUELA CARACOL

Escuela Caracol is supported in the United States by the Atitlán Education Project, a 501©3 organization under United Charitable Programs, and in Guatemala by Asociación Caracol, a registered nonprofit association.

**We accept credit card donations, checks and wire transfers.** Please visit our website at [www.escuelacaracol.org](http://www.escuelacaracol.org) for more information on donation methods.