

UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NASHVILLE ASSOCIATION (USNA)

The University School of Nashville Association (USNA) is a service organization composed of USN parents/guardians/friends, faculty, and staff. Its mission is to enhance the educational experiences of our students by building a spirit of community, providing services to the USN community, and supporting the school with needed resources.

USN ASSOCIATION (USNA) ACTIVITIES

Listed alphabetically; event dates in parentheses

USN welcomes assistance from all volunteers. Please join us in this rewarding work! Parents/guardians/friends are invited to participate in one or more of the following committees. For more information, contact the activity/event chair or informational contact listed below.

ADVISORY PARENTS (MIDDLE SCHOOL) – (Year-round)

In 5th grade, Advisory Parents are specific to each advisory group. In grades 6-8, several parents/guardians are designated as grade-level Advisory Parents. These parents are liaisons between the teachers and other parents/guardians. Assistance is provided for service project activities and some parties. Responsibilities include relaying information about upcoming functions and recruiting volunteers for various activities. Advisory Parents also work with the Caring and Concern Coordinator to provide help to USN families and to coordinate monthly or bi-monthly faculty birthday celebrations.

ART DEPARTMENT ASSISTANTS – (Several times/year)

Volunteers select, mat, and hang student art in hallways and galleries; prepare art for offsite competitions and exhibitions; and sort art that is sent home at parent-teacher conference time. Lower School volunteers also assist in the selection and preparation of the art that appears on the Grandparents Day invitations.

artclectic – (October 20-23)

USN is transformed into an art gallery one fall weekend (Thursday – Sunday). Over 60 artists, representing a variety of media, are selected by a qualified jury. The event begins with a Benefactors' Party on Thursday night followed by a Collectors' Party on Friday night. The gallery is open Saturday and Sunday to all. USN students have opportunities to tour the gallery and meet the artists. Volunteers are needed year-round to support this event. Proceeds from this event benefit various programs at USN.

BONUS BUCKS – (Year-round)

“BUCKS” is a shopper incentive program offered by designated grocers and retailers that returns 3-5% of customer purchase dollars back to the children of USN. It costs only a few minutes of your time. Enroll online if you shop at Wild Oats (www.escrip.com), relink your Harris Teeter card each August (#2549), or purchase a Kroger gift card (\$10 base at the USNA Office or the USN bookstore) to pay for your Kroger grocery and pharmacy purchases. To learn more, visit the USN website at www.usn.org. If every USN family would participate, we could earn more than \$200,000 per year!

BOOK FAIR – (Nov. 13, 5-7 p.m.)

This event is sponsored by the USN library and held at Davis-Kidd Booksellers in Green Hills. The Book Fair provides an opportunity to buy books for holiday giving or personal use. Families can also buy books in honor of teachers or anyone else and donate them for placement on our library shelves. A percentage of all sales benefit the USN library.

BOOK SALE – (Oct. 22)

The USN community donates books, CD's, tapes, software, etc. to be sold at an event open to the public. Profits from this event support the USN library and help fund the Author in the School program.

CALENDAR – (June-July) (not a committee)

Our school calendar is published each year, highlighting school events and USNA activities. It is distributed to all USN families in August preceding the new school year.

CARING AND CONCERN – (Year-round, as needed)

Caring and Concern is a way for USN families (all Divisions) to help other USN families in times of need, such as the arrival of a new baby or illness or death of a close family member.

COMPUTER WORK – (Year-round, as needed)

Volunteers with basic keyboard skills assist with data entry support for artelectic, Evening Classes, or other events as needed. Volunteers with advanced programming skills may assist with the creating or updating supporting software for USNA events.

EVENING CLASSES - (January through April)

These unique, useful, and universally praised classes brighten up our winter evenings. Taught by many well-known and interesting volunteers, they explore gardening, cooking, travel, parenting, and much more. Classes are available to anyone in the Nashville community and showcase USN in a most favorable light. This event involves many volunteer hours, offering a great way to meet other USN parents/guardians/friends. Volunteers are needed year-round to support this event. Profits from this event support the USN scholarship fund.

FACULTY/STAFF APPRECIATION – (Late August, Late May)

An August breakfast at the beginning of the school year and a last day of school lunch express our gratitude to the USN faculty and staff. Volunteers coordinate and provide food for these events.

GOLF TOURNAMENT – (October 9)

This USNA-sponsored scramble is a great way to socialize and play golf while benefiting USN.

GOODWILL AMBASSADORS - (Year-round, during the school day)

Volunteers greet/direct visitors and assist where needed.

HEALTH ROOM ASSISTANTS - (Year-round, during the school day)

Licensed nurses (RN or LPN) work in the Health Room with the school nurse, providing basic first aid and assessments for USN students, faculty and staff.

HELPING HANDS – (Year-round, during the school day)

This network of volunteers assists Lower and Middle School teachers outside the classroom with tasks including duplicating, laminating, preparing instructional materials, and creating bulletin board displays.

HOSPITALITY – (Periodically, during the school year)

Volunteers greet and provide refreshments for guests attending Lower/Middle/High school events (e.g. Orientation, Parents' Nights, Grandparents' Day, and/or school-wide events such as Music Night. Many of these events occur in the first few months of the year.

LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS – (Year round)

Volunteers provide help as needed in our school libraries. Volunteers may also opt to help with the Book Fair at Davis Kidd (Fall) and/or the half price Scholastic Book Sale (May). Our new library will create many more volunteer opportunities.

LOWER SCHOOL PHOTO PROJECT - (March – April)

Volunteers take informal photographs of our Lower School students, then mat, distribute and support the sale of the resultant pictures.

MUSIC NIGHT – (TBD)

This intimate evening of music features some of Nashville's finest musicians and also showcases the enormous talent of the families/friends of USN. The evening begins with a cocktail buffet.

PERFORMING ARTS COORDINATOR/ASSISTANTS – (Several times a year)

From contact lists for each of the performing arts (theatre, dance, band, chorus, strings, drumming) the Performing Arts Coordinator helps identify small groups of volunteers for each program. The Coordinator also sets up and attends informational meetings where each program director meets with his/her volunteers.

RiverFest - (September 24)

Come and enjoy a school-wide event held at the beautiful River Campus. RiverFest is a day filled with activities, music, games and food (including a bake sale) that appeal to all ages. This is a wonderful way to meet and visit with USN families at the beginning of the new school year.

ROOM PARENTS (LOWER SCHOOL) – (Year-round)

Room parents work in the classroom and act as liaisons between the teacher and other classroom parents/guardians. Responsibilities include relaying information about upcoming functions and recruiting adult volunteers for various activities. Designated room parents also act as Caring & Concern and Service Project liaisons.