Jeremy Allaire is a successful Internet entrepreneur. His latest business is Brightcove, an online video platform for websites. What does he credit for his leadership style?

His Montessori education.

Read on...

Program Schedule for Gala Evening

Cocktails and Silent Auction
6:00 pm

Viewing of Class Art Projects
7:00 pm

Dinner Announcement
7:45 pm

Seated Dinner
8:00 pm

Program and Live Auction
9:00 pm
Silent Auction closes at commencement of Live Auction. Big Board closes after Live Auction.

A World of Dancing Begins!
10:15 pm

Auction Checkout
10:15 pm

Goodnight
midnight

vegetarian? kosher?
Please let us know if you would like a vegetarian or kosher meal by emailing christinacantu@postoakschool.org

what are you wearing?
Whether its cocktail attire, or traditional cultural attire, feel free to be creative!

volunteers needed for day-of setup
Contact Gala Chair Annette Gregory at

complementary valet parking is provided with your ticket.
DANCING across CULTURES  
The 2011 Biennial Gala of The Post Oak School | Feb. 4, 2011

SUPPORT THE SCHOOL—
BID ON YOUR CHILD’S GALA PROJECT!

Have a world of fun attending the 2011 Gala: Dancing across Cultures on Friday, February 4.

It’s not too late to purchase a ticket, but we are almost sold out—there are only a few seats remaining.

—SEND IN YOUR RSVP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Response card below

RSVP

Name (as it should appear in acknowledgements)

Phone Number

E-mail Address

Address

Purchasing individual tickets as part of a group of 10  
(please list names on reverse of this card)

Unable to attend but would like to make a donation of $_______

Would like to help underwrite faculty/staff tickets with a donation of $_______

Enclosed is my check for $_______ payable to The Post Oak School

Please charge $_______ to my

[ ] AmEx  [ ] Discover  [ ] MasterCard  [ ] Visa

Account Number

Expiration Date

CVC (Security Code)

Name as it appears on card

Authorizing Signature

On a separate sheet, list the names of people with whom you would like to sit.
Students have completed their Gala art projects.

Darwin Matusek’s woodcraft will also be on display. This Primary-sized kitchen stool and other pieces will be up for auction.
Gala class projects are complete and they are outstanding works of art! Thank you to those listed below and everyone else who gave their time and talents to these projects.

**Class Project Committee**

Jane Greenberg, Chair  
Elizabeth Santikos, Chair  
Cynthia Alonso  
Jessica Braun  
Monica Eskridge  
Tanya Gee  
Lenna Groudan  
Rennae Henry  
Claudia Jimenez  
Jamie Lee  
Vivian Lee  
Michelle Lu  
Katie Orr  
Jian Short  
Aimee Taylor  
Gerry Waters  
Kim Yates  
Michelle Zagorski

**Thank you, Volunteers**

So many people—too many to list!—volunteered their time and energy to make the 2011 Gala possible. We thank you for this and offer our sincerest gratitude for all that you do each day to create a rich experience for the students of The Post Oak School.
DANCING across CULTURES
The 2011 Biennial Gala of The Post Oak School | Feb. 4, 2011

For the Classroom
This special auction offering allows you to contribute directly to your child’s classroom. Funds raised in this donation-only section will be divided equally among all classrooms. Teachers use these funds to purchase “extras” for the class. Examples of previous purchases include: garden benches, a trellis, a globe, a special colored pencil set, an infant sofa, and a video camera. Your teacher decides how the funds will be used for class benefit. Using your bid sticker, donations can be made at the display in the silent auction area, or at your table to be picked up during dinner.

Big Board!
There will be a fabulous assortment of popular items listed on the Auction Big Board! The Big Board will be up during Silent Auction and will remain open until after Live Auction closes. Mark out the last person who bid, and put your winning bid in on the board!

Mystery Boxes
Not sure what to bid on? Don’t leave empty handed! Pick up a perfect surprise with the purchase of a Mystery Gift. For $50, you will walk away with a gift worth more than $50 that is sure to please everyone.

Silent Auction
starts at 6:00 PM

Bid early! • Bid often!

Gala Program
... is online now, for your shopping pleasure ...
This year, Middle School’s Gala art project becomes a community event. Unlike other Gala projects that go home with the highest bidder, Middle School’s Gala legacy project of a Rain Water Collection System is a major environmental enhancement to our campus that will have a positive impact on the children of Post Oak. Middle School students have surveyed the campus, taken rain water measurements, researched the various types of rain water collection systems, and are presenting a plan to purchase and install Kyoto rain barrels around the school along with a cistern and other needed supplies. Infant, Primary, and Elementary students will all see the benefit of filling their watering cans from these rain-catching Kyoto barrels instead of the tap. That water is then used to water the many gardens all around campus. It’s about our older students teaching younger students the benefits of environmental awareness.

This project will be a Paddles-Up auction event, which will give all parents whose children benefit from this project the opportunity to support it.

**Show your support for Middle School and your support for Post Oak.**

**Get ready to Paddles-Up!**

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**Gala Art Project Becomes a Community Event**

This year’s Middle School Gala Project is a rainwater harvesting system. It will consist of a large 300-gallon cistern and five smaller 55-gallon rain barrels that will be installed in the Primary gardens and the central Infant Community playground/courtyard. We will be distributing watering cans as well, for functionality. Each class will receive one. They will be painted with leaves from around the world and the word “water” written in different languages, to be involved with the Dancing Across the Cultures theme.

This system will be both functional and green. It will let us reuse rainwater, which has natural vitamins and minerals for plants and not so much alkalai and chlorine. It will also be useful for storing water during times of drought when water restrictions are enforced. We will be doing regular maintenance of this system, cleaning both the outside and inside of our water barrels. We will also be teaching younger children in Primary how to use the watering cans and the water barrels so that the generations to come will be able to maintain our system.
Rockets Run 2011

The Houston Rockets invited fans to participate in the Rockets Run 2011 that took place Saturday, January 22. The race, in its ninth year, allows fans to stay in shape while experiencing the thrill of crossing the finish line on the Rockets home court at Toyota Center. The Rockets Run also included the Kids’ 1K (in its third year) which also finished on the Rockets home court. Children 12 and under participated in the abbreviated run course around Toyota Center.

Post Oak had 31 registered runners including parents, and the following students, who ran the Kid’s 1K:

- **Debbie Nickerson’s Upper El class**
- **Errol Pinto’s Upper El class**
- **and Maya Pinto’s Lower El class**
- **Hifa Sobhani’s Lower El class**
- **Orly Kluk’s Lower El class**
- **and Maya Pinto’s Lower El class**
- **Miriam Winton’s Primary class**
- **Tamara Basham’s Primary class**

as well as these students, who ran the 5K:

- **Maya Pinto’s Lower El class**
- **and Orly Kluk’s Lower El class**

Kids say...

the darnedest things

*This short dialogue was recently shared with John Long via email from a Post Oak Parent:*

My second grader upon being disqualified from breaststroke (*he can’t keep his legs together during the dolphin kick at the beginning*):

**Student:** I got disqualified again—they said I used the scissor kick again.

**Mom:** That’s ok; you’ll get stronger with practice.

**Student:** Pools just have way too many molecules moving around way too much.

**Mom:** What?

**Student:** I wish the water was more like ice so all the molecules would stay still and I would have better control of my body.

**Mom:** But if the water were like ice, you wouldn’t be able to swim through it.

**Student:** Yeah, but that’s because there are so many of them all together and that’s what makes them not move; I would want there to be less molecules, but for them to have the ability to just stay still on their own so they don’t work against me and I can use them to help my legs do what they’re supposed to.

**Mom:** Oh, ok, thanks for the physics lesson.

**Student:** Huh?
Observations on a rainy day

As I was opening car doors one recent rainy morning, a few children were totally fixated, playing games on iPhones or watching movies. It was my job to greet these dazed children! I was reminiscing my childhood travelling on rainy days, and my parents drawing my attention to happy children walking around puddles because they did not have shoes, the birds in the trees, the cloud formations, whether we were driving towards the rain or not....

Well, what a wealth of experiences driving to school when you look out the window...

At her keynote address given at the North American Montessori Teachers’ Association Conference, author Georgia Heard reminded her listeners to “look up” — in essence, allow children to engage and be connected to the environment — not “look down!”

—Mirani Smith, Early Childhood Director

Come hear the Primary teachers at the

Spring Parent Educational Evening

Please save the date:
March 24, 2011
7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Childcare available for Post Oak Primary and Elementary students. Please call the Front Desk to make a reservation.

Figure skater & alumna moves into pairs skating

Post Oak Alumna Becky Bereswill (eighth grade class of 2005) has competed in numerous skating national championships and won medals at International Skating Union Jr. Grand Prix events in Seoul, Korea; Courchevel, France; and Madrid, Spain. This coming week, she will venture for the first time into the world of pairs skating with her new skating partner Trevor Young.

Post Oak wishes her the best! For the complete news, visit Figure Skaters Online:
Post Oak Pedalers practice for the MS150

Students, alumni, faculty, parents, and alumni parents practice for the upcoming MS150 bike race to Austin this spring.

Bearkats basketball

Dates:

In February:
(against St. Stephen’s)
Tuesday, February 1
Tuesday, February 8
Tuesday, February 15
(against St. Nicholas)
Thursday, February 17
Wednesday, February 23

These games start at 4:30 in The Post Oak School gym.

Becoming a Love and Logic Parent®

This parenting course series is designed to give you practical skills that can be used immediately. The course series is featured in the spring semester on these dates:

Wed. evenings, 6:30–8 pm
January 12, 19, 26, and
February 2, 9, 16, 23.
Cost: $150 per person for the series, plus $20 workbook. ($100 per person if you previously attended all fall 2010 classes).
Drop-ins welcome, $30 per class.

Thurs. mornings, 9:10–10:30 am
January 13, 20, 27,
and February 3, 10, 17, 24.
Cost: $20 per person for the series (includes workbook).
Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo
School Art Program

by Luiza Grandchamp, Art Specialist

This year, all Post Oak Elementary and Middle School students participated in the School Art Program contest by Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo. Ten students from Post Oak were selected to enter (the maximum number allowed), and of those 10, two of our Middle School students were finalists. This is the first year that Post Oak students have been finalists.

Approximately 300,000 students in 100 public school districts and 60 private schools created Western heritage artwork to receive a School Art Program certificate of merit this year. A total of 681 pieces of winning artwork were selected, and of these, 54 pieces were sold at the School Art Auction which generated more than $1.2 million.

Congratulations to all of our students.

Please stop by the Post Oak library hallway and see the wonderful art work created by Post Oak students and view the awards. Luiza Grandchamp and Diana Muñiz congratulate and are proud of all students that participated in the contest.

Photos by Luiza Grandchamp
CALLINCAERNAL

For more, visit www.postoakschool.org

JANUARY 30–FEBRUARY 5

Wed 02/02

POPAP Coffee / Work Day
8:45 am–1:00 pm

Parent / Employee Basketball
8:00 pm

Thu 02/03

Lunar New Year

Fri 02/04

Gala!

FEBRUARY 6–12

Tue 02/08

Mardi Gras

Wed 02/09

Coffee with the Elementary Director (Topic: Parenting Book Chapter Discussion)
9:00 am

Ash Wednesday

Fri 02/11

Registration Deadline for Returning Students

FEBRUARY 13–19

Mon 02/14

Valentine’s Day

Tue 02/15

Nirvana Day

Teacher In-Service Day

Classes not in session; only students with expanded-year contracts attend

Fri 02/18

AMI Refresher Course in Long Beach, CA (Fri-Mon)

NOTICE BOARD

Birth Announcement

We’re thrilled to share with our Post Oak community that our daughter Arrived on January 20, 2011 at 8:42 am. She weighed in at 8 pounds 10 ounces and was 20.1 inches long. We’re back home and getting the hang of sleep deprivation and those middle of the night adoration sessions again!

Attached is one of first pictures.

Thank you for your prayers and wishes and for allowing big sister to share her adoration and excitement with you all!

Deepa Poduval & Rajesh Chelapuraib

PA Coffee / Work Day
8:45 am–1:00 pm

Parent / Employee Basketball
8:00 pm

Parent/Employee Basketball every Wednesday
8:00–10:00 pm
in the Post Oak gym
Contact Travis Crabtree

ABOUT THE WEEKLY POST

The Weekly Post appears on most Fridays of the regular school year.
You can receive a printed copy from your oldest child, or a PDF version online.

Submit letters, articles, or photos in electronic form by 5:00 pm on the Tuesday before publication to Communication Coordinator Shannon Neufeld (shannonneufeld@postoakschool.org). If publication is on a Thursday due to school closure on Friday, then the deadline is 5:00 pm on the preceding Monday.

All photos in The Weekly Post are by Shannon Neufeld unless otherwise noted.

The Post Oak School was founded in 1963 and accredited by both the Association Montessori Internationale (AMI) and the Independent Schools Association of the Southwest (ISAS)

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