On October 10, MTC celebrated 23 years of grassroots community building to create brighter futures for local students. The stories shared throughout the evening illustrated MTC’s impact in our local public schools as tutors and mentors support students’ academic, social, and emotional growth.

Christie Bruce, a teacher at Crittenden Middle School in Mountain View, shared that the academic support, guidance, and encouragement that MTC tutors provide is critical for the middle schoolers in her program, all who aspire to be the first in their families to go to college.

Next, Vicki, a local high school student, shared that she didn’t know what to expect when she was first matched with her mentor, Andrea, but that she quickly felt at ease. Speaking directly to Andrea, she added, “You have guided me to believe that anything is possible if I put my mind and soul in it. I love every minute I spend with you!”

“It is a wonderful opportunity to ‘be here now!’ I get to help lighten the load.”
- Andrea, Vicky’s Mentor

Lastly, keynote speaker Rita Hitching described the role mentors serve during the critical period of brain development — the teen years. She explained the process as a sort of ‘use it or lose it,’ when connections are made across brain regions influenced by the environment the young person is in, the choices they make, and the experiences they have.

“A mentor is a form of scaffolding ‘like a stake for a young tree’ while it grows. The role of the mentor is indispensable during this critical period of brain development.”
- Rita Hitching, TeenBrain.info

The evening was filled with laughter and appreciation as we shared stories and celebrated MTC’s network of support. Last year, MTC tutors spent over 2,300 hours with their students and mentors spent over 4,200 hours with their mentees. It is by spending time together- and the relationships that result- that makes this work meaningful and impactful. We are grateful to our supporters and volunteers who help us build brighter futures every day.
When systems engineer Kimble Smith started volunteering with Mentor Tutor Connection he relied on his love for math and science to help young students with their studies. However, this year as he returned to Graham Middle School as an MTC tutor, it’s his love of art that provides a special connection to a talented 8th grader.

The student’s teacher noticed drawings on all of his schoolwork, so she reached out to MTC for a tutor who could support not only the student’s math and science skills, but also encourage his passion for art. Kimble Smith, who also loved to draw as a kid, can relate. “We draw together,” says Kimble, “and it helps.” Kimble’s love of art and his compassionate, kind demeanor made for a perfect match to support the young artist focus on his classwork.

In his weekly tutoring sessions, Kimble uses art to support learning in other areas of the curriculum. Together, Kimble and his student break down math problems with visuals — to help make abstract math concepts tangible. For science, the student created several drawings to illustrate natural selection. “The scientific facts stick with him more because he uses his art,” Kimble says.

The student’s confidence has grown, and he now owns a sketchbook — courtesy of Kimble. Kimble understands that the path to learning for this student is directly through art, and he will continue using their shared love of art to make those academic connections throughout the school year. Kimble is an example of the hundreds of thoughtful volunteers who exemplify why “connection” is in our name.
**Mentor Tutor Connection:**
The Impact We’ve Achieved Together

### 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR

- **NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS**: 185
  - TUTORS: 84
  - MENTORS: 101
- **NUMBER OF STUDENTS SERVED**
  - TUTORED: 376
  - MENTORED: 112
- **THE STUDENTS WE SERVE**
  - ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS: 12
  - MIDDLE SCHOOLS: 4
  - HIGH SCHOOLS: 3
  - **AGE**
    - ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: 44%
    - MIDDLE SCHOOL: 33%
    - HIGH SCHOOL: 23%
  - **ETHNICITY**
    - ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER: 12%
    - HISPANIC: 83%
    - OTHER (CAUCASIAN, AFRICAN AMERICAN, OTHER): 5%
  - **PRIMARY LANGUAGE**
    - SPANISH: 73.5%
    - ENGLISH: 15%
    - OTHER: 11.5%

### 5 YEAR CUMULATIVE GRADUATION RATE
- 96% OF MENTORED SENIORS (118/123)

### 100% of our mentored students would recommend our program to a friend

*As reported in our year-end survey results  **Primary language spoken at home*
Honor Roll of Donors
JULY 1, 2018 - JUNE 30, 2019

We appreciate our donors whose generous financial support funds our programs to help students achieve their potential and thrive!

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REVENUES FY 2018/19

THANK YOU!