



BESANT HILL SCHOOL  
est. 1946

# COMMUNITY PARTNERS: Freddy Janka

AUTHOR: CLAIRE LOWNDES

Frederick Janka, or Freddy, as he is known in our community, is the Executive Director of the Carolyn Glasoe Bailey Foundation (CGBF), a non-profit organization based in Ojai, California. The organization was founded in 2015 by the Glascoe Bailey family and friends, along with a group of artists, to celebrate the legacy of the esteemed art patron and dealer, Carolyn Glasoe Bailey. CGBF is committed to supporting the arts and sciences through education in the community. Freddy facilitates the mission of CGBF locally through the Ojai Institute, which fosters outreach within the community through learning and celebrating art, engaging artists in the community, educating students, an exhibition program, and an artist conversation series podcast.

Freddy has over fifteen years of experience as an administrator and curator in contemporary art museums and galleries in the United States and Mexico. He is well known in the global art community for combining his passion for connecting people and art, and he frequently travels across the country promoting CGBF. Freddy describes himself as “an enthusiastic, big picture creative who is passionate about advocating for artists.” He is on a mission to make a difference and to create a situation for Ojai residents in which the “community cannot imagine the Ojai Institute not being there.”

For the past three years, Besant Hill School and CGBF have collaborated and facilitated exciting experiences



FREDDY JANKA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE CGBF  
AND FOUNDER OF THE OJAI INSTITUTE

for our students. These experiences extend outside the classroom through student exhibition opportunities, a mentorship program, facilitation of Senior Capstone projects, organizing artist-led workshops, and exciting trips to galleries such as The Broad in Los Angeles.

Freddy and Claire continuously explore new ways to engage Besant Hill students with their passions, and this collaboration is going from strength to strength, giving our students access to real-world art opportunities



FREDDY MENTORS TWO SENIORS DURING THEIR SENIOR CAPSTONE PROJECT AT THE OJAI INSTITUTE

and connections far beyond a typical high school art curriculum. Freddy's innovative and growth mindset has an inspiring impact on our students, giving them a sense of creative direction and purpose. He is an external advocate for their success and is unique in that he does not grade, mark attendance, or discipline them. The organic collaboration of two non-profits supporting young aspiring artists is a success story not only for our students, but also for the local community.

Please visit the CGBF website at <http://carolynglasoebaileyfoundation.org/> for more information on the Ojai Institute and consider supporting Freddy, the Ojai Institute, and CGBF by becoming a member. ♦

Read more at [www.besanthill.org](http://www.besanthill.org).

*Besant Hill School offers a rigorous college preparatory curriculum, including more than 20 art electives, AP-level courses, competitive athletics, engaging fitness program, outdoor education, experiential education programs, small class sizes, and a 4:1 student-teacher ratio.*

Aún Aprendo

"I am still learning."

**BESANT HILL SCHOOL  
OF HAPPY VALLEY**

8585 OJAI SANTA PAULA RD.  
OJAI, CA 93023

ADMISSIONS@BESANTHILL.ORG  
(805) 646-4343

