



Advanced Learning Options Gifted/Talented Programs Parent Newsletter

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Los Angeles Unified School District
DIVISION OF INSTRUCTION
ADVANCED LEARNING OPTIONS
Gifted/Talented Programs

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Getting to Know Your School's GATE Coordinator

Did you know that each LAUSD school must designate and compensate a GATE Coordinator to ensure that gifted/talented learners are identified and receive appropriate support and services?

A school site GATE coordinator plays an important role in:

- Providing GATE-related information to parents and teachers such as bulletins, flyers and newsletters
- Holding at least two GATE parent meetings per year at school
- Working with the school's GATE Parent Representative and school staff to complete the school's Annual GATE Report that is available for public viewing in the main office
- Giving input and working with the principal to make sure identified gifted students are appropriately placed and are receiving differentiated instruction that meets their needs
- Assisting you with referring your child for gifted identification in the Intellectual, High Achievement, Specific Academic, Visual/Performing Arts, Creative and Leadership Ability categories
- Notifying you when gifted testing will occur at your child's school

Additionally, the school site GATE coordinator is available to answer specific questions about the school's GATE program. If you are unsure who the GATE coordinator is at your school, call the school's main office or ask your child's teacher for the person's name and/or the best way to contact that person.

School site GATE coordinators are there to help you in any way they can. We truly appreciate their time and commitment in serving gifted/talented students in LAUSD!

For more about the role and responsibility of a school site GATE coordinator, go to achieve.lausd.net/gate and click on "Coordinator's Corner."

Dates to Remember:

October 3: Conservatory of Fine Arts registration for **returning** students (must be pre-registered)

October 9: Conservatory of Fine Arts registration for **new** students (by invitation only)

October 23: Deadline for schools to submit application for November Auditions/Demonstrations for Visual/Performing Arts

November 21: Auditions/Demonstrations in Visual/Performing Arts (by invitation only)



Who else can answer my questions about GATE?

There may be cases when you may need to call Gifted/Talented Programs directly. You can contact us at (213) 241-6500 Monday through Friday between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm. Call us for questions and concerns regarding:

- *Conservatory of Fine Arts*
- *Reassessment requests*
- *Requests for test scores*
- *Verification criteria for gifted magnets*
- *Schools for Advanced Studies (SAS)*
- *General GATE program questions*

We want to let you know we are always at your service!



**Interested in Applying to a Gifted/High Ability (G/HA)
or Highly Gifted (HG) Magnet School
for the 2016-17 School Year?**

The Choices Magnet application will be available online at eChoices.lausd.net starting **October 1, 2015**. Paper applications will also be available at LAUSD school sites, District offices and local libraries. Students must live within LAUSD boundaries at the time of application and during their participation in the program to be eligible to apply. Applications are due **November 13, 2015 by 5:00 pm**.

Criteria for Gifted/High Ability (G/HA) Magnets:

Students who demonstrate ability to work two years above grade level in academic subjects as evidenced by **one** of the criterion described below:

- * Be identified as gifted in the Intellectual, High Achievement, or Specific Academic Ability Categories, **or**
- * Have **national** percentile scores of 85 and above on the current District-

approved standardized norm-referenced test in total reading **and** total mathematics, **or**

- * Meet all four critical thinking and problem-solving skills in their primary language (as verified by the current school of attendance).

Criteria for Highly Gifted (HG) Magnets:

- * Score 99.9% on an Intellectual test administered by a LAUSD GATE psychologist (must be on file prior to the deadline).

Students who score 99.5-99.8% on the Intellectual test are also eligible to apply and will be accepted pending space availability. For questions about:

- * Magnet application, call (213) 241-4177 (*Magnet Office*)
- * Gifted/High Ability/Highly Gifted magnets eligibility, call (213) 241-6500 (*GATE Office*). Office at (213) 241-6500.



Photo: Students from Wright Middle School/Engineering and Design Magnet

LEGOs are more than just for playtime. They are a teaching and learning tool too!

That is what over 100 educators discovered over the summer at the 21st Century Learning Symposium at Stanley Mosk Elementary/School for Advanced Studies.

Participants explored how to develop students' creativity, imagination and language skills using LEGOs. Other participants used LEGOs and iPads to create storyboards and videos and yet another group of participants learned to incorporate engineering and robotics with LEGO kits available from LEGO Education.

Parents can also develop their children's 21st Century learning skills by encouraging them to use their imaginations to build creations with materials found around the home. Parents can develop language skills in children by asking them what they created and how they created it or having them use their creation to tell a story. As LEGO Education says, "Together we ignite learning!"



About Advanced Learning Options (ALO)

Gifted/Talented Programs is proud to be part of Advanced Learning Options (ALO) under LAUSD's Division of Instruction. ALO's vision is "to develop and provide world-class advanced learning educational opportunities that ensure every LAUSD student graduates prepared for college, career and life success." ALO also includes the following programs:

International Baccalaureate (IB): IB focuses on international perspectives of learning and

teaching while insisting that students fully explore their home culture and language

Advanced Placement (AP): AP provides students with opportunities to take college-level course work and exams while still in high school

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID): AVID is a college preparatory system designed to provide supplemental (academic **and** affective) support to secondary students in the "academic middle"



Photo: 2015 Graduates, Verdugo Hills High School/Magnet/School for Advanced Studies

For more information about ALO programs, visit

achieve.lausd.net/alo

