

James E. Stratton
Superintendent

Michael Leininger, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent
Facilities & Operations

Wendy Sinnette
Assistant Superintendent
Fiscal & Human Resources

La Cañada Unified School District
...a learning community committed to personal growth
and academic excellence



January 8, 2009

Dear Students and Parents,

Here is the packet for the 2008-2009 GATE After-School Academic Program. Please read the entire packet and follow the directions carefully. Your enrollment in the workshops and classes will be decided by the following:

1. when your packet is received in the school office,
2. how well you have filled out a KWL sheet for **each** offering and
3. if your packet is **correctly** completed.

Registration is on a first come-first served basis, beginning on **Thursday, January 15, 2009**, no earlier than 8:00 a.m. and continuing through **Tuesday, January 20, 2009**, until 4:00 p.m. **Forms must be returned to your specific school site.** You or your child may deliver the packet to your school office. (Do not give it to the classroom teacher.) The packet will be recorded with the date and time it was received. Workshops and classes will be scheduled according to the order received and the information submitted by the student, using only **correctly** completed packets. Incorrectly completed packets will be considered at the end of this process. As such, it may not be possible to schedule all of your choices. Confirmations will be mailed during the last week of January.

As you were informed in the *information letter* you received in December, this program is an exciting and enriching part of the La Canada GATE program. Artists, scientists, and other professionals facilitate all of the workshops and the classes. The program is open to fourth graders who are identified as GATE students, all fifth graders and all sixth graders. These classes should not be viewed as after school recreation or as child-care options. They are offered only for students who are sincerely interested in the subject. Students must be disciplined enough to participate in the curriculum and attend **all** sessions. Proper behavior is critical and students unwilling or unable to follow class rules will be asked to leave.

Please read through the enclosed workshop descriptions and register for your choices on the forms provided. (**Note:** these forms are also available on the LCUSD website, www.lcUSD.net/District/educ_services under **GATE**.) Pertinent details appear in the course descriptions and registration materials. As part of the enrollment process, students are **required** to submit a statement of interest and a summary of background knowledge on the KWL chart for **each class**. (Two have been provided; if more are needed please photocopy.) Take time when completing these KWL sheets. Neatness, complete sentences where appropriate, and ideas demonstrating reflection are important. Students will not fill in the "L" part of the chart until the culmination of the workshop or class. A completed packet includes **all** of the following: Form A-Application, Form B-Permission/Emergency, Form C-KWL Sheet (one for **each** class requested).

All classes will be held at La Cañada Elementary School on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. during the second semester. Although there is no charge for most sessions, there **may be** a \$20-\$40 materials/lab fee for some of the classes. **Do not submit a check at this time.** You will submit a check once your specific classes have been scheduled.

Confirmation for all students will be sent by **Wednesday, January 28, 2009**. If there are questions or concerns, please call the counselor at your school site. We are delighted with the offerings this year. We hope each student will find a challenging and enriching experience in our 2008-2009 GATE After-School Academic Program.

Sincerely,

Nancy DeBoer,
LCE Counselor

Rachel Zoi,
PCR Counselor

Susan Kanner,
PCY Counselor

Judi Healey,
GATE Coordinator

4490 Cornishon Avenue, La Cañada Flintridge, California 91011 Phone: (818) 952-8300 Fax: (818) 952-8309

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