

**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](http://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**

C:\Documents and Settings\EKwok\Desktop\GATE\_forms\GATE - Intro Ltr for Packet 08-09.doc

**LA CAÑADA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

**2009 GATE After-School Academic Program**

Please review and discuss these guidelines and expectations with your child.

**GUIDELINES AND EXPECTATIONS FOR PARTICIPANTS**

**I understand** that it is a privilege to participate in this program. I agree to take on the responsibility, commitment, and work assigned to me.

**I agree** to attend all classes, unless I am ill or am attending a school field trip.

**I agree** to behave in a way that will reflect that I have the highest respect for my peers, my teachers, and myself. I will never interfere with another student's learning. I will abide by the Behavior Standards (as listed below) before, during, and after class. All classes begin at 3:30 and end at 4:30 p.m.

**PARENTS agree** to promptly pick-up their students in front of LCE at 4:30, as the office closes at that time, and there is no supervision on campus after 4:30 p.m.

**STUDENTS agree** to wait quietly in front of LCE during drop-off and pick-up times.

**STUDENTS agree** to observe all safety rules and the Behavior Standards.

**I understand** that if at any time I do not follow these guidelines or meet these expectations, I will not be allowed to participate in the program.

**BEHAVIOR STANDARDS**

1. Students, staff and parents always treat others the way they would like to be treated.
2. We respect each other's:
  - Rights
  - Property
  - Opinions
  - Differences
3. We think before we:
  - Act
  - Speak
4. We take pride in everything we do:
  - Our Work
  - Our Appearance
  - Our School
5. We always tell the truth.
6. We look for alternatives when solving problems.
7. We use appropriate language.
8. We are responsible for our actions.

Please remember that children must be picked up  
promptly at 4:30 p.m.!

## Class Descriptions for GATE After-school Program 2008-2009

### **ACTING WORKSHOP: (six week session)**

Taught by retired LCHS Drama Director Gale Caswell, students will explore the exciting world of acting through theatre games and acting exercises.

Wednesday: February 4, 11, 18, 25, March 4, and March 11

Class size limit: 25

Instructor: Gale Caswell

### **ARTFUL PICTURES ANYWHERE: IT'S A SNAP!: (six week session) - *NEW!***

Taught by a professional photographer who also teaches at PCC and Santa Monica College, this is a new class geared around the exciting potential of photography. How do you set up the shot? Why do you set it up that way? What are you trying to do? This course answers those questions. Bring a camera, digital or otherwise. **Materials/lab fee: \$15.00 made payable to LCUSD.**

Wednesday: February 4, 11, 18, 25, March 4 and March 11

Class size limit: 22

Instructor: John Free

### **COMMON SENSE FIRST AID: (four week session) - *NEW!***

How does a 4th, 5th, or 6th grade student respond in an emergency? A career nurse and former pre-school teacher helps students learn how to keep the stress level down and the common sense strong. Each week students will be given an everyday scenario that could happen at home, school, or play, and then learn skills to respond. **Materials/lab fee: \$15 made payable to LCUSD.**

Wednesday: March 4, 11, 18, and March 25

Class size limit: 25

Instructor: Dele Burt

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE II, CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION: (five week session) 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade GATE Students Only**

Building upon the foundations of criminal procedures and law developed and learned in Criminal Justice I, during the weekly pull-out program students will go behind the scenes of crime scene investigation and meet and interact with crime scene specialists to learn how crime scenes are really processed and how evidence is collected and preserved. Speakers will include a DNA specialist, an L.A. County Coroner's Office medical examiner, an L.A.P.D. robbery homicide detective, an arson investigator, and an L.A. County Crime Lab Criminologist who specializes in ballistics. The class will culminate with a crime scene simulation where the students will put the investigative tools learned in the classroom to use.

Wednesday – March 25, April 1, April 15, April 22, and April 29

Class size limit: 50

Instructor: Valerie

Aenlle-Rocha

### **EXPLORATIONS IN SCIENCE: FUN THINGS AND WHY THEY HAPPEN: (five week sessions) - *NEW!***

Here's a great class for any student who often asks WHY and HOW, and often says, I'VE GOT AN IDEA. Each week students will be discovering something new and fun related to science. It's a hands-on class with labs, and it's sure to appeal to anyone who is curious. **Materials/lab fee: \$15 made payable to LCUSD.**

Wednesdays: **(Fourth Grade Only)**-February 4, 11, 18, 25, & Mar. 4

Class size limit: 20

Thursdays: **(Fifth and Sixth Grade Only)**-February 5, 12, 19, 26, & Mar. 5

Instructor: Rose Harris

## Class Descriptions for GATE After-school Program 2008-2009

### **MARINE BIOLOGY: (four week sessions)**

This popular hands-on course returns again for students to explore the depths of marine life. It is a 4-week science experience that includes fish dissection, tide-pool investigation, squid and shark study. **Materials/lab fee: \$40 made payable to LCUSD.**

Thursday - February 5, 12, 19, 26 **or**  
Thursday - March 5, 12, 19, 26

Class size limit: 25  
Instructor: Oceans Alive

### **SPEAK UP! SPEAK OUT! (four week session) - *NEW!***

Designed for those who tend to lose points on oral presentations as well as those who excel, this workshop includes funny and useful warm-up exercises, entertaining 'brown bag' speech topics, plus tips to help students be effective as speakers even when they are scared.

Wednesday: March 4, 11, 18, and March 25

Class size limit: 22  
Instructors: Judi &  
Jerry Healey

### **WEBSITE DESIGN: (six week session) - *NEW!***

Students will go beyond word processing in this class! Using the very powerful program Microsoft Word, students will explore secrets of Word, master the use of tables, and create a personalized webpage!

In this hands-on class we will:

- Record sounds
- Discuss a website structure
- Use color, text and movement to captivate an audience!
- Insert moving images
- Upload a website to a local server
- Use a scanner

Advance preparation will allow students to make the most of their time in class. Students should pick a topic (All about Me is perfect), and select some images they can use on their website.

Supplies: Class fee includes a flash drive for each student. Students may wish to bring their own digital camera and cord if appropriate. Cameras will be provided if necessary. **Materials/lab fee: \$20.00 made payable to LCUSD.**

Thursday: March 19, 26, April 2, 16, 23, & April 30

Class size limit: 20  
Instructor: Kristen  
Morefield

### **WILDLIFE BIOLOGY-The Animal Guys: (four week sessions)**

This class focuses on the ecology of animals, their natural history, adaptations, habitat, and conservation. Live animals are used in the class. **Materials/lab fee: \$20 made payable to LCUSD.**

Wednesdays – March 4, 11, 18, 25 **or**  
Wednesdays – April 15, 22, 29, and May 6

Class size limit: 25  
Instructor: David Riherd

**Class Descriptions for  
GATE After-school Program  
2008-2009**

**WORD PLAY: (five week session)**

Learn how to get the most out of an interview, paint vibrant pictures with two or three carefully chosen words and write pieces that will grab the attention of the reader. Two of the Los Angeles Times' most highly-regarded writers, Bill Plaschke from Sports and Chris Erskine from Home, will work with students on the kinds of skills that make a good journalist and help a writer develop his or her own style.

Wednesday: April 29, May 6, 13, 20, and May 27

Class size limit: 22  
Instructors: Chris Erskine &  
Bill Plaschke

**WRITE, ILLUSTRATE, BIND: (five week session) - *NEW!***

After taking a look at children's literature, including use of plot and dialogue, students will create one they write, illustrate and bind into a book. They'll each have a great keepsake to share with younger children in their family or in their school. **Materials/lab fee: \$15 made payable to LCUSD.**

Thursdays - March 5, 12, 19, 26, and April 2

Class size limit: 20  
Instructor: Kathy Cockerill

**LA CAÑADA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Form A: GATE After-School Academic Program**  
**2008-2009 Application**

Date _____
Time _____
GATE <input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Office Use Only</i>

**Student** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade** \_\_\_\_\_ **Home Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
 **LCE**  **PCE**  **PCY** (check one) **Home Room Teacher** \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Please complete this form to indicate your class choices.

- 1) Read class descriptions. Indicate below, the class(es) you want to take during one or more sessions.
- 2) Indicate class start and end dates.
- 3) Indicate class fee only when applicable. Checks will not be accepted until classes are confirmed.
- 4) List "Alternate Classes" (we will try to substitute "alternate classes" for classes that are full).

Enrollment in a class will depend on a correctly completed application packet (including a KWL for each class, except "alternate classes") and the order in which it was received during registration.

This form will be mailed to you at the end of January to confirm class enrollment(s) and fees.

**February-March Classes**

**Wednesday**

**CLASS** \_\_\_\_\_ **Start Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **End Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fee** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rm. #** \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Office Use Only)*  *Registered in class*  *Class is full*

**Thursday**

**CLASS** \_\_\_\_\_ **Start Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **End Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fee** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rm. #** \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Office Use Only)*  *Registered in class*  *Class is full*

**March-April Classes**

**Wednesday**

**CLASS** \_\_\_\_\_ **Start Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **End Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fee** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rm. #** \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Office Use Only)*  *Registered in class*  *Class is full*

**Thursday**

**CLASS** \_\_\_\_\_ **Start Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **End Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fee** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rm. #** \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Office Use Only)*  *Registered in class*  *Class is full*

**April-May Classes**

**Wednesday**

**CLASS** \_\_\_\_\_ **Start Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **End Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fee** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rm. #** \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Office Use Only)*  *Registered in class*  *Class is full*

**Thursday**

**CLASS** \_\_\_\_\_ **Start Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **End Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fee** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rm. #** \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Office Use Only)*  *Registered in class*  *Class is full*

**ALTERNATE CLASSES:**

1) \_\_\_\_\_ **Start Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **End Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fee** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rm. #** \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Office Use Only)*  *Registered in class*  *Class is full*

2) \_\_\_\_\_ **Start Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **End Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fee** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rm. #** \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Office Use Only)*  *Registered in class*  *Class is full*

**When classes are confirmed, please submit a check to your school office by February 2, 2009 in the amount of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ - Payable to *La Cañada Unified School District*.**

*Office Use Only*

**Supervision Volunteer:**  YES, I can help with supervision at least one time during the program.

Parent/Guardian (*please print*) \_\_\_\_\_

**FORM B**  
**LA CAÑADA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

**2008-2009 GATE After-School Academic Programs**

**PERMISSION TO ATTEND/EMERGENCY INFORMATION**

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Regular School of Attendance \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Father's numbers (please complete below):

Home \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's numbers (please complete below)::

Home \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Will student be walking to and from sessions?  yes  no

Names of other students accompanying student to and from sessions:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Who will be bringing student to sessions? \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Who will be picking up student from sessions? \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Name of another person whom you authorize to pick-up your child in the event of an emergency, if you cannot be reached: \_\_\_\_\_ (This must be completed.)

Home \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Please note any special medical problems: (Please fill in the box below.)

**I give permission for my child to attend the 2008-2009 GATE After-School Academic Programs. My child and I have read the guidelines and expectations for participants, and we agree to abide by them. We understand that if at any time we do not meet the expectations, program participation will be cancelled for the duration of the sessions.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent or Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**FORM C**

**(COMPLETE ONE KWL FOR EACH CLASS)**

**(You may photocopy if additional KWL sheets are needed.)**

**LA CAÑADA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**GATE After-School Academic Program *Application Form***  
*(Students must fill out this form.)*

**Please print, complete and return to your elementary school.**

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Home School: (check one)  LCE  PCR  PCY  5<sup>th</sup>  6<sup>th</sup>  4<sup>th</sup> GATE ONLY  
Grade Level: (check one)

Course Name \_\_\_\_\_ Session \_\_\_\_\_

List dates of offering \_\_\_\_\_ Day: (check one)  Wednesday  Thursday

**Why are you interested in taking this class?** Write your statement below (You may attach a separate sheet if necessary).

<b>K</b> <b>What I Know About This Subject</b>	<b>W</b> <b>What I Want To Learn About This Subject</b>	<b>L</b> <b>What I Learned About This Subject</b> <i>(don't complete at this time)</i>

**FORM C**

**(COMPLETE ONE KWL FOR EACH CLASS)**

**(You may photocopy if additional KWL sheets are needed.)**

**LA CAÑADA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**GATE After-School Academic Program *Application Form***  
*(Students must fill out this form.)*

**Please print, complete and return to your elementary school.**

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Home School: (check one)  LCE  PCR  PCY Grade Level: (check one)  
 5<sup>th</sup>  6<sup>th</sup>  4<sup>th</sup> GATE ONLY

Course Name \_\_\_\_\_ Session \_\_\_\_\_

List dates of offering \_\_\_\_\_ Day: (check one)  Wednesday  Thursday

**Why are you interested in taking this class?** Write your statement below (You may attach a separate sheet if necessary).

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