



Winter 2011-12
Volume 8, Issue 2

The Learning Choice Newsletter

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

"In a few hundred years, when the history of our time will be written from a long-term perspective it is likely that the most important event historians will see is not technology, not the Internet, not e-commerce. It is an unprecedented change in the human condition. For the first time – literally – substantially and rapidly growing numbers of people have choices. For the first time they will have to manage themselves. And society is totally unprepared for it." –Peter Drucker

The quote above illustrates that we need to prepare our children to manage themselves. We have the duty to help them learn to make their own choices. How do we encourage children to take charge of their learning and begin making important choices for their future? One answer is to nurture curiosity.

At TLC, we begin with the core belief that all children are innately curious. You can easily see this with young children who never fail to ask "why?" Classroom schooling isn't really conducive to fostering individual student's curiosity, so kids who've spent a year or more in a more traditional setting may have stopped asking questions. As children grow older and more self-conscious, fear of failure can lead to apathy about trying new things. Learning is, by definition, understanding and trying new things! The older student may need encouragement and support to renew their desire to learn. We can coach them through this difficult patch, and this coaching is what makes our collaborative triad so successful. TLC's triad of parents, teachers and students working together to foster our children's learning is the foundation of our school.

How do we increase students' internal desire to learn?

- Have positive discussions with your children about their likes and dislikes. Once you determine things they like, find out more about these things so you can encourage their curiosity and support their self-selected learning.
- Make sure the learning experience is successful. Start easy and increase the challenge instead of the other way around.
- Make learning as real as possible. Provide opportunities for kids to apply their new learning in real situations whenever you are able.
- Model curiosity by pursuing your hobbies and interests at times when your child can observe you. How can you ask your children to learn new things when you aren't?

Thank you, parents, for your 100% participation in educating your children, and for fostering new ideas for learning to make your children responsible, lifelong learners in our community. As the holidays approach, we hope you enjoy this time with your family and friends.

Thank you,
Debi Gooding



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

School News.....	2
Fundraisers.....	2
STAR Students.....	3
Special Events.....	4
Assemblies.....	5
Field Trips.....	6
Full Day Classes.....	15
Counseling Info.....	18
Parent Corner.....	19
Important Dates.....	23

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Sign up for Full Day classes at the beginning of January
- Learn about our great new field trips!

School News

FULL DAY CLASS REGISTRATION

Enrollment for Spring Full Day classes begins in January. Please make a note of the registration process:



1. **Choose a Location.**
2. **Confirm that the class takes place at a time that will work with your schedule.** Because students must be dropped off and picked up promptly, please check to ensure that you will be able to accommodate this need.
3. **Confirm that the fee for the chosen course will not conflict with other classes your student may already be taking** through TLC's Extended Options payment program. Enrolling in the Full Day class costs 70 units a month; enrolling in Adventure Only program costs 60 units a month. You may need to pay for Full Day classes out-of-pocket if you have exceeded the allotted 70 a month. Units for Spring semester will be deducted from March to June.
4. **Fill out the Full Day/Adventure Only Registration form.** Be sure not only to give us the student's name, but also the grade level grouping in which he/she will be participating and the location at which the class will be held.
5. **Return the Registration form** via mail, fax or in person to your local resource center. Registration papers may be returned in person, by fax or mail to any TLC site starting **Tuesday, January 10, 2012** at 8 am. Prior applications are not accepted.

Please note important Fall Full Day Dates:

January 30 – Classes begin.

February 27-March 2 – No Classes, Staff Development Conference

April 2-13 – No Classes, Spring Break

April 16-May 4 – No Classes, STAR Testing and Teacher Development

June 1– Classes end.

Questions regarding Full Day or Adventure Classes may be directed to your EP.

SPRING MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES

The calendar for Spring classes has changed slightly from what was publicized at the beginning of the year. We have added an additional week break into the calendar. Classes will now begin on January 30, instead of January 23.

Please note that there is no need for your middle and high school students to re-register for classes in the Spring—the classes they are currently taking will roll over to the next semester. However, if your students will be dropping a current class or adding a new class, they will need to submit a new registration form for those classes.

IMAGINATION STATION ART WORKSHOP WEEK



Emmy award winner Mark Kistler has hosted 200 public television episodes teaching millions of kids how to draw around the world. With 9 Scho-

lastic and Simon & Schuster books under his belt, Mark continues to tour the nation expressing unbridled enthusiasm for drawing, the arts, books, space travel and our planet. Mark's previous students have become artists for "Shrek," "Madagascar," Leapfrog Toys and Marvel Comics. He can teach your children too!

Children will have dynamic drawing lessons progressing through a series of fun, creative pencil power adventures. Each day, Mark will explore a different theme of creative discovery, from medieval castles to undersea adventures, from lunar moon modules to drooling dinosaurs. These are Art Camps that your child will never forget!

Dates: Monday through Friday, January 23 - 27: Students may choose to register for 3 day, 4 days, or 5 days!

Times: (Each hour-long session is different, students are enthusiastically encouraged to register for 2 sessions per day...that's 2 1/2 hours of drawing with Mark each day!)

Session 1: 9:00am - 10:00am 5 to 7 year olds

Session 2: 10:30am - 11:30am 8 to 13+ year olds

Session 3: 12:00pm - 1:00pm 8 to 14+ year olds

Session 4: 1:30pm - 2:30pm 8 to 14+ year olds

Session 5: 6:30pm - 7:30pm All Ages, Family Workshop

Cost For Registration: Parents may register students for **3-days, 4-days** or **5-days**.

3-Days (1 session daily) \$69, (2 sessions daily) \$138

4-Days (1 session daily) \$79, (2 sessions daily) \$158

5-Days (1 session daily) \$89, (2 sessions daily) \$178



Location: TLC La Mesa, 4215 Spring Street, Suite A-104, La Mesa, CA 91941

Get more information and register today at <http://www.draw3d.com/CAhomeschool.html>.



SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDERS

Scholastic book orders are available again! These grade level books are available for purchase to families at a

low cost. Check your site for book order fliers. You can even order online and pay with your credit card. The more books you buy, the more books TLC can earn for free! Please note that if the Scholastic website is having connection or sign-in issues, you may need to try again at a different time.

YEARBOOK COVER

Hey TLC Academy Jaguars the votes are in from all our sites for the 2011-2012 Yearbook Cover....the winner is...LIVE OUT LOUD!



Fundraisers



THE RED TRICYCLE GIVING BACK PROGRAM

Please support TLC and subscribe to the parenting website's free newsletter. [Sign up for Red Tricycle newsletter online](#), and remember to put "The Learning Choice Academy" in the

"Referred By" box! Sign up now. The Learning Choice Academy is awarded \$1 for each subscriber (as long as you continue your subscription until November 30).

E-SCRIP



Do you shop at Vons? You can help TLC earn money by using the E-Scrip program! TLC is signed up with E-Scrip. If you shop at Vons, you can enter your [Vons card number or code](#) off of the receipt, and then TLC will earn money. You can find out more information about the [E-Scrip program](#) online (click for the link).

BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION

Go TLC! Thanks to all of our students and parents who have turned in Boxtops for Education! Our first submission this year is for over \$200! Keep clipping those labels! The money raised goes to school wide events like The Welcome Back Picnic and Field Days. Want to help even more? Check out [Boxtops for Education](#) where you can shop the Box-top Marketplace or even submit e-boxtops too! Thanks for helping TLC raise money!



HEALTHY PLAYGROUND MAKEOVER SWEEPSTAKES



Here is the link to enter the [Healthy Playground Makeover Sweepstakes](#). There are 2 Grand Prizes: A \$30,000 GRANT from Sports Authority and a new playground from Playworld Systems. 3 Runner-up Prizes- 3 schools will receive

a \$5,000 grant from Sports Authority. Anyone can enter including teachers, parents, grandparents etc.; it takes less than a minute to enter the first time and less than 10 seconds to enter daily. Please increase TLC's chances of winning this fabulous sweepstakes and enter daily until January 2012.

STAR Students

In every newsletter, TLC likes to publicize the great accomplishments of its students. If you have something exciting to report about a TLC student, or would like to recognize the contributions of a TLC staff member, you can submit this information to your EP or to admins@learningchoice.org.



Kyleigh Philo, a 3rd grader in Temecula, earned her Blue belt. Way to go!



The **Dikitanan** family and their team of walkers participated in The American Heart Association's Heart Walk in Balboa Park raising awareness and money for heart research!



Bethany Jones, Bradleigh Cash and **Anngely Leeds** have been volunteering on Wednesday and Fridays in La Mesa. Thanks girls for your help!



Parent stars: **Ada Alvarez, Valerie Schwinn, Starr Gloss, Raquel Gari** and **Cristina Checa** have been helping La Mesa by shelving books, organizing Scholastic book orders, cutting Boxtops and Campbell labels, helping in the classrooms, and more. Thank you so much for all of your help! We so appreciate you!



Justin Ly just competed in the Southwest Regional Ice Skating Championships and won the Silver Medal. He has also earned a top spot on the Jr. National Team for 2012. Way to go Justin!

Upcoming Special Events



TALENT SHOW

TLC's got talent. Hear the applause? On **Monday, December 12** from 6–8 pm, join TLC at this year's talent show.

Just like with any show you will need to audition. Talent can be any type of amateur entertainment (singing, dancing, comedy, etc.) Auditions will be held on **Monday, November 14** at 6 pm. The audition is to preview acts for content and determine the program order; all students who audition will have a place in the program, as long as acts are school-appropriate.

Auditions must include:

- CD of any music in acts, if applicable (we will keep it until after the talent show; make sure it is in a case with your name on it)
- Use of your own keyboard for piano auditions, or provide a CD recording of your performance of the composition
- Outfit/costume that you will be wearing in the talent show; no wardrobe modifications may be made after the act is approved.
- Sheet music or printed words of any songs.

TLC will provide: stage, microphone, CD player on the day of the event. All other equipment or props must be furnished by performers.

Location: Auditions and performance will both take place in the auditorium at the former Spring Valley Elementary School (3845 Spring Dr. Spring Valley, Ca 91977). Please use school parking lot located at the end of Spring Dr. only. Do not block driveways in front of the school.

JANUARY 9, 2012: SPELLING BEE



Calling all spectacular spellers! TLC students in grades 2–8 are eligible to participate in our annual school spelling bee on **Monday, January 9**. The event is the buzz of the school because it rewards everyone who participates!

Schedule:

9:30 am	check-in for 7 th and 8 th grade students
10 am	7 th and 8 th grade spelling bee
10:30 am	check-in for 2 nd – 6 th grade students
11 am	2 nd -6 th grade spelling bee
12:30 pm	lunch break before assembly

Prizes:

Just by trying, students can earn a certificate and a prize bag filled with goodies like free kids' meals or slurpees, toys, candy, mini-games and more! Every year students are excited to see what treasures and treats await them.

This year all participants will also receive VIP seating for the assembly (which will offer the best view of the cheetah). TLC also provides grade level 1st, 2nd and 3rd place ribbons and awards. The 7th and 8th grade winner is eligible to attend the San Diego County spelling bee. Everyone who attends our local spelling bee can enter the raffle to win fantastic family prizes.

How to Participate:

Grade-level word lists and registration forms are available at your site, from your Educational Partner or on our website. Be sure to study early and often. Rules and procedures are also available for your reference so students become comfortable with the process before the Bee. Additional games and tips can be accessed at www.spellingbee.com.

Students love to have family and friends attend to recognize their efforts. This is also a favorite event of TLC staff— many EPs attend to cheer on their students. Bring a lunch and plan to stay for the day so you can attend the assembly (separate registration required) immediately following the spelling bee. We hope you can “bee” there!

Date: **Monday, January 9, 2012**

Time: 9:30 am -12:30 pm

Location: Hall of Champions, Theatre

Fee: Free

RSVP by Tuesday, January 3.

FEBRUARY 13, 2012: ART FIELD DAY



Join us for a hands-on day immersed in the arts! See shows, create art, try dance and make music. A complete schedule of activities available on our website in January. Invite your homeschool friends/groups; this event is open to the community (additional fee applies).

Date: **Monday, February 13, 2012**

Time: 10 am - 2 pm

Location: Hall of Champions

Fee: \$5 per TLC Family, \$10 per community member family

Assemblies

This year TLC assemblies will be in Balboa Park at the Balboa Park Club Ballroom (located just north of the Puppet Theatre). Assemblies are primarily for grades K-8 and are only \$5 per family. Please note extended units may not be used to pay for assemblies.

NOVEMBER 21: BIRDS OF PREY AND BIRDHOUSES/OWL PELLETS



Get up close and personal with several birds of prey as you learn about the behaviors and habitats of hawks, owls, falcons and eagles. Students will become educated about the laws we have to protect birds of prey and what to do if you find a sick, injured or orphaned raptor. After the assembly, participate in a hands-on station where you can learn more about the science of birds by dissecting an owl pellet in a family team. Then start building as you construct your own birdhouse to take home.

Date: **Monday, November 21, 2011**

Time: 1- 3 pm

Location: Balboa Park Club Ballroom (2150 Pan American Rd, San Diego, CA 92101)

Fee: \$5 per family

RSVP by: 11/9/11

JANUARY 9: AFRICAN DANCE/DRUM TROOP AND CHEETAH



The 4-person African Dance and Drum Troupe will combine African drumming, dancing, acrobatics, stilt-walking, breathtaking costumes, and innovative choreography. They will portray the songs, drumming, folktales, and traditions of native Africa. Your students will be enthralled with this dynamic and educational experience.

Take our interactive safari from the savannas to the rainforests of Africa to learn about the wildlife and cultures throughout the “dark” continent! Continue your journey through Africa by having the unique opportunity to get up close and personal with a cheetah. Meet Victor, an ambassador cat, as you learn about cheetah conservation and how you can help. TLC will be collecting donations with Coins for Cats jars at each site and present the final amount at the assembly. Please share your change to make a change.



Spelling Bee participants will receive VIP, front-of-room seating at this assembly. The location is also different since the spelling bee will precede the assembly and Victor had special requirements for appearances at a venue.

Date: **Monday, January 9, 2012**

Time: 1- 3 pm

Location: Hall of Champions (Please note the special, alternate location)
2131 Pan American Plaza, San Diego, CA 92101

Fee: \$5 per family

RSVP by: 1/3/12

MARCH 19: READ ACROSS AMERICA

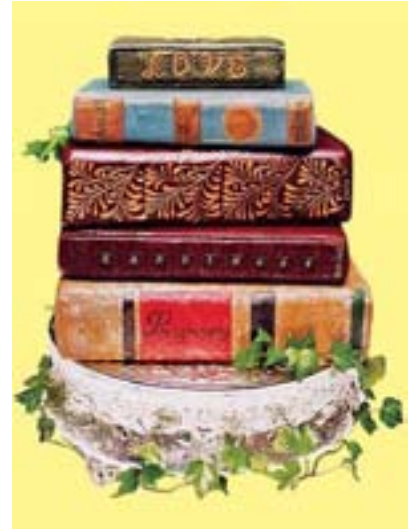
Celebrate Dr. Seuss birthday with a special event! We'll have crafts, shows, authors and birthday cake. Come dressed as your favorite literature character for a prize.

Let Them Eat Books

Will and Company, a masterful group of theater artists, uses a unique blend of storytelling and audience participation to bring literature, folklore and mythology to life. Inspire a love of reading as stories from some of the world's greatest authors are brought to life. Grades K-6

Star-Spangled Poetry

Actor David Prather brings history and language alive in a patriotic parade of poetry that celebrates America, from the poem that inspired our national anthem to other iconic works such as Whitman's *I Hear America Singing* and Guthrie's *This Land is Your Land*. Grades K-8



Date: **Monday, March 19, 2012**

Time: 1- 3 pm

Location: Balboa Park Club Ballroom (2150 Pan American Rd, San Diego, CA 92101)

Fee: \$5 per family

RSVP by: 3/9/12

Field Trips

JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN TOUR

Students will get exposure to Japanese culture and traditions by visiting the garden on a guided tour. We will examine the various elements of a Japanese garden including the rock garden and plants native to Japan. After the tour, you can feed the fish in the koi pond and create origami. This is a perfect, peaceful morning activity to attend before the afternoon assembly (separate registration required) for a full day of activities at Balboa Park.



Date: **Monday, November 21**

Time: 10:30 am-12 pm (check in at 10:15 am)

Location: Balboa Park, 2125 Park Blvd., San Diego, Ca 92101

Fee: \$3 per person. Min. 15/Max 25

RSVP deadline: Monday, November 7

TEEN FIELD TRIP: DAVE AND BUSTER'S



Join TLC for a fast-paced competition that guides teams on an interactive tour of the Million Dollar Midway. The interactive and video arcade at Dave & Buster's runs on pure energy. Whether you're into shooting zombies and racing cars in our arcade, or playing a civilized game of billiards, there's something about a little competition that turns any time into a great time. (Please note that parents do not need to stay with their students for Teen field trips.)

Date: **Monday, November 14**

Time: 11:30 am-2:30 pm (check in at 11:15 am)

Location: Dave and Buster's, 2931 Camino Del Rio North,
San Diego, Ca 92108

Fee: \$25 per person (grades 7-12 and adults only). Min. 20 people.
RSVP by Friday, November 4.



TEEN FIELD TRIP: BIRCH AQUARIUM



Is it true what they say about safety in numbers? In this special teen workshop, discover the rich diversity of animals that make their home in the mussel clumps of the rocky shore. By dissecting a mussel clump, students will learn about the major invertebrate phyla in the ocean and how they depend on one another for survival. After the workshop, take the opportunity to tour the Birch Aquarium on your own. (Please note that parents do not need to stay with their students for Teen field trips.)

Date: **Monday, December 5**

Workshop Time: 11:15 am—12:15 pm (check in at 10:45 am)

Location: Birch Aquarium, 2300 Expedition Way, La Jolla, CA 92037

Fee: \$7.75 per person (Grades 7-12 and adults only)

RSVP deadline: Friday, November 18

STAR WARS: WHERE SCIENCE MEETS IMAGINATION

Imagine a world with humanoid robots translating languages, landspeeders whizzing down the highway, and X-wing Starfighters protecting the skies. Could these technologies, limited only to the fantasy worlds of Star Wars, actually become a reality? Find out as Discovery Science Center hosts an out-of-this-world exhibit, "Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination." Build and test your own speeders and robots, see real artifacts from all six films, explore the technology of droids and landspeeders, and much more!



Date: **Monday, November 28**

Time: 11:15 am—2 pm (check in at 11 am)

Location: Discovery Science Center, 2500 N. Main Street, Santa Ana, CA 92705

Fee: \$13 per student, \$15 per adult.

RSVP deadline: Monday, November 21. Min 15.



THE ELVES AND THE SHOEMAKER

Laugh and cheer when two merry elves arrive at a small village in the Black Forest to discover a poor shoemaker who clearly needs assistance. Their cleverness saves the shoemaker from a bleak and unhappy holiday in this California Theater Center classic! Recommended for grades Pre K-5.

Date: **Tuesday, December 6**

Time: 11:30 am—12:30 pm

Location: California Center for the Arts, 340 North Escondido Boulevard, Escondido, Ca 92025

Fee: \$3 per person

RSVP by Wednesday, November 23

KNOTT'S BERRY FARM

Enjoy discounted admission to Knott's Berry Farm for the day!

If you are interested in an optional, fun-filled tour of the park's holiday events, please email Renee at events@learningchoice.org to register your interest. This tour will include tours of Snoopy on Ice, A Christmas Carol, Toy Makers Presentation, a Candle Making Presentation, and so much more. TLC needs a minimum of 24 students before this optional tour will be scheduled.

Date: **Friday, December 9**

Time: Park is open from 10 am to 6 pm. Check in at 9:30 am.

Location: Knott's Berry Farm, 8039 Beach Boulevard, Buena Park, Ca 90620

Fee: \$22 per person



HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS

The Grinch, a fictional, bitter, cave-dwelling creature with a heart "two sizes too small", lives on snowy Mount Crumpit, just north of Whoville, home of the merry and warm-hearted Whos. His only companion is his faithful dog, Max. From his perch high atop Mount Crumpit, the Grinch can hear the noisy Christmas festivities that take place in Whoville. Envious of the Whos' happiness, he makes plans to deprive them of their Christmas presents, roast beast and decorations and thus "prevent Christmas from coming."

However, he learns in the end that despite his success in stealing all the Christmas presents and decorations from the Whos, Christmas comes just the same. He realizes that Christmas is more than just gifts and presents.



Date: **Wednesday, December 14**

Time: 10:30 am—12:30 pm (check-in at 10:00 am)

Location: The Old Globe Theatre, 1363 Old Globe Way,
San Diego, Ca 92101

Fee: \$24 per person (min. 20, max. 45)

RSVP by Friday, December 2

CALIFORNIA BALLET: THE NUTCRACKER



The Nutcracker Ballet is based on the story "The Nutcracker and the King of Mice" written by E.T.A. Hoffman. Although what is seen on the stage today is different in detail from the original story, the basic plot remains the same; The story of a young German girl who dreams of a Nutcracker Prince and a fierce battle against a Mouse King with seven heads.

When Marius Petipa had the idea to choreograph the story into a ballet, it was actually based on a revision by Alexander Dumas, a well known French author. His version reflects more of what we have come to love as the Nutcracker Ballet. Come share in this holiday classic.

Date: **Friday, December 16**

Time: 7– 9 pm (check-in at 6:30 pm)

Location: San Diego Civic Theatre, 1100 Third Ave, San Diego, CA 92101

Fee: \$5 for students and siblings, \$15 for adults. Min. 10, max. 30.

CATS, THE MUSICAL

Come see the famous musical CATS! CATS was composed by Andrew Lloyd Webber, based on *Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats* by T. S. Eliot. It introduced the American standard song "Memory". Cats first opened in the London West End in 1981 and then on Broadway in 1982, each time directed by Trevor Nunn and choreographed by Gillian Lynne; it won numerous awards, including both the Laurence Olivier Award and the Tony Award for Best Musical.



Date: **Wednesday, January 11**

Time: 7:00 pm -9:00 pm (check-in at 6:30 pm)

Location: San Diego Civic Theatre, 1100 Third Ave, San Diego, Ca 92101

Fee: \$27 per person Section B, \$15 per person Section C

RSVP by Friday, December 16. Min. 10, max. 20

SAN DIEGO CHINESE HISTORICAL MUSEUM TOUR



Bring your students (K-12) to the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum for a tour of the museum's permanent collection and featured exhibit! This one hour docent-led tour provides an overview of the history of San Diego's Chinatown, Chinese art and culture, the museum's Asian garden, and an explanation of the current featured exhibit and permanent collection. Our tour will consist of a calligraphy presentation and brush painting activity.

Date: **Tuesday, January 17**

Time: 10:30 am—1:00 pm (check in at 10:00 am)

Location: San Diego Chinese Historical Museum, 404 Third Ave, San Diego, Ca 92101

Fee: \$ 6 per person

RSVP by Friday, January 6.

JOHN & JUAN: A HISTORY OF THE GOLDEN STATE

Natives and immigrants discover their common heritage in this educational romp through 500 years of California history. John and Juan will lead students in grades K-8 on this unforgettable journey. Program is especially geared for the 4th grade California history curriculum.



Date: **Thursday, January 19**

Time: 11:30 am– 1:00 pm (check in at 11:00 am)

Location: The California Center for the Arts, 340 North Escondido Blvd., Escondido, Ca 92025

Fee: \$ 3 per person

RSVP by Friday, January 6.

WHALE WATCHING

Come locate gray whales on their roundtrip migration. Search for other marine life such as seals, sea lions, migrating birds, and more. Get a close-up look and learn about gray whale baleen, barnacles, and prey items from naturalists during the cruise. Bring warm clothing and your binoculars for a memorable whale watching day.



Date: **Monday, January 23**

Time: 9:30am—1:30PM (check in at 9 am)

Location: 1050 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, Ca 92101

Fee: \$12 per person

RSVP by Friday, January 6.

JAZZ REACH! HANGIN' WITH THE GIANTS

Hangin' with the Giants is a fun, high-energy, interactive program designed to promote the inclusiveness and accessibility of jazz while highlighting the music of jazz greats, Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie, Miles Davis and Thelonious Monk. Recommended for students in grades K-4.



Date: **Thursday, January 26**

Time: 9:30am—10:30 am (check in at 9 am)

Location: California Center for the Arts, 340 North Escondido Blvd., Escondido, Ca 92025

Fee: \$3 per person

RSVP by Friday, January 13.

JAZZ REACH! BIG DRUMS/SMALL WORLD



Big Drum/Small World is an immersive, globally themed, multi-media program featuring performances of jazz composers from West Africa, Israel, Cuba, Puerto Rico, India, and the United States. The program features video interludes that help promote the value of creative collaboration, a way to explore our differences, share ideas, and discover common ground. Recommended for students grades 3-6.

Date: **Thursday, January 26**

Time: 11:15 am –12:15 pm (check in at 10:45 am)

Location: California Center for the Arts, 340 North Escondido Blvd., Escondido, Ca 92025

Fee: \$3 per person

RSVP by Friday, January 13.

TEEN FIELD TRIP: MARITIME MUSEUM CALIFORNIA CHALLENGE

The "One Day" *Californian* Challenge provides an opportunity to participate in teambuilding activities aboard our historic vessels. This unique setting encourages and supports teamwork while also challenging the individual with new learning experiences on the water. The first half of the day is dedicated to establishing teamwork with the overall goal and reward to sail the *Californian* in the afternoon.

Activities include rowing, small group team building, climbing the ship's rigging, and over 4 hours of sailing aboard the *Californian* with the opportunity to fire the ship's cannon (circumstances permitting).

Please note that parents do not need to stay with their students for Teen field trips.

Date: **Monday, January 30**

Time: 8:30 - 5:00 (check-in at 8 am)

Location: Maritime Museum of San Diego, 1492 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101

Fee: \$70/youth participant \$35 adult (limited availability). Min. 25/Max. 40 youth participants/3 adults. Extended units can be allocated over several months to assist with costs so turn in your RSVP form early.

RSVP by: Friday, January 20



SAN DIEGO SYMPHONY YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERT: PASSPORT TO THE WORLD



Travel around the world with a sampling of some music's greatest composers. Our journey will start in Europe, go across to Asia, then down to Africa and then South America. We'll wind up right at home in America! Learn how various cultures have influenced the symphonic music that we know and love.

Date: **Tuesday, January 31**

Time: 11:15am -12:15 pm (check in at 10:45 am)

Location: Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B Street, San Diego, Ca 92101

Fee: \$5 per person

RSVP by Friday, January 13

SAN DIEGO OPERA: MOBY DICK

This dazzling world premiere co-production opera explores one man's quest for a white whale that leaves death and destruction in its wake. Sung in English with English Supertitles.

All students and TLC Chaperones will be traveling to the opera in a charter bus. All students should arrive at the La Mesa TLC site by 5:00pm to check in. The bus will depart at 5:30pm. The bus will be arriving back at the La Mesa site between 8:30 and 9 pm.



Date: Thursday, February 16

Time: All students should arrive at the TLC La Mesa site by 5 pm to check in.

Location: San Diego Civic Theatre, 1100 3rd. Ave, San Diego, Ca 92101

Fee: Free for 3rd-12th grade students.

RSVP by Friday, February 3.

TEEN FIELD TRIP: CONTEMPORARY ART TOUR



Visit the Museum of Contemporary Art in La Jolla as you take a guided tour of their current exhibits. Students will gain a greater understanding of the works on view through visual inquiry and in-gallery activities. Next, take a guided walking tour of the renowned Stuart collection of public art on the display throughout the UCSD campus. Students will get an interactive, educational visit to these unique and often super-size pieces of contemporary art.

Students will travel to the museums via bus. All students should arrive at the TLC La Mesa site by 8 am. Please note that parents do not need to stay with their students for Teen field trips.

Date: Monday, February 6

Time: 9 am—3 pm (check in at 8 am at TLC La Mesa).

Locations: Museum of Contemporary Art (La Jolla), 700 Prospect Street, La Jolla, CA 92037 and UCSD Stuart Collection, 9500 Gilman Dr, La Jolla, CA 92093

Fee: \$13 per person (grades 7-12 and adults only)

RSVP by Friday, January 20.

USS MIDWAY MUSEUM TOUR

Come aboard and learn how weather affected all aspects of Midway life from launching and recovering aircraft to re-supplying the aircraft carrier at sea. Students will plot longitude and latitude positions as they participate in a simulated hurricane tracking activity. In addition, with the use of wind meters, students will track relative humidity, dew point, wind speed and temperature on board the flight deck of Midway. Our on board workshops are designed to teach Content Standards: Earth Sciences (4a, 4b, 4c, 4d).



Date: **Monday, February 27**

Time: 10 am—1 pm (check in at 9:30 am)

Location: USS Midway Museum, 901 N. Harbor Dr., San Diego, CA 92101 (Next to Navy pier)

Fee: \$7. Additional fee for parking. Min. 20, max. 50

MEDIEVAL TIMES



Imagine a history lesson presented by a King and his Noble Court, set within the walls of an 11th century-style castle. Every detail is painstakingly recreated as you take a personal journey back to the Middle Ages. Step back in time and experience spectacular horsemanship, amazing swordplay, medieval games of skill and an authentic jousting tournament between six brave knights of the realm. As the tournament takes place, the castle's serfs and wenches serve your students a feast fit for a King. Menu includes garlic bread, an oven-roasted chicken quarter, a sweet corn cobette, an herb-roasted potato, chocolate chip cookie, and bottled water.

Date: **Wednesday, February 29**

Time: 11:30 am -1:00 pm (check in at 11 am)

Location: Medieval Times, 7662 Beach Blvd., Buena Park Ca 90620

Fee: \$25 per person

RSVP by Friday, February 17. Min 10/Max 40

Full Day Core Class Descriptions

CHULA VISTA K-2 CORE: ADVENTURES WITH DR. SEUSS

Let's Go, Go, Go on an Adventure with Dr. Seuss Books! Students will be exposed to many of the classic Dr. Seuss books and create art projects related to them. Each student will have a chance to be their own author and illustrator and create a book of their own to share. Each student can bring their favorite Dr. Seuss book to share with the rest of the class! We will celebrate Dr. Seuss's contributions to literature on Monday March 19th at the TLC Assembly (Read across America); please join us by signing up today at your TLC site! Oh, the places we will go!



LA MESA K-2 CORE: OCEAN ADVENTURES



Dive into the sea! In this class, your child will explore the ocean through multiple different hands-on activities. Some of these activities will include drawing a map of the ocean, constructing a dolphin mobile, and painting a mural of waterborne vehicles. Students will not only learn about animals that live down deep but how humans travel on and underwater. Your child will begin their ocean adventure journey by writing postcards and completing a passport. As a class, we will work together to turn our environment into an underwater ocean life habitat. We hope to see you under the sea!

CHULA VISTA & LA MESA 3-5 CORE: DETECTIVE STORIES

Secretly assigned a fictional character to impersonate, students fill out a "missing persons" report on their character using beginning literary analysis (e.g., characterization, mood, point of view, plot, conflict). Students score points by creating challenging clues to their characters' identities while completing various literary-skills activities. As well, they become library detectives by examining classmates' files, culminating in a costumed lineup in which students attempt to solve other students' mystery identities.



SCRIPPS RANCH K-2 CORE: FAIRY TALES

In the land of make believe anything can happen! Get into character as you explore different fairy tales and nursery rhymes. Grow a bean stock, make a gingerbread man, and build a castle. These classic tales will come alive as students make connections and get creative with hands-on projects in math, science and art. The last day of class will be an enchanted festival where students can come dressed as their favorite character. Your imagination is sure to soar in this class!

SCRIPPS RANCH 3-5 CORE: FOLK TALES



Challenged by an old storyteller to bring back his dying art, students improve their literacy and geography skills by analyzing folk tales from various cultures and ultimately writing their own. In groups, students read and listen to stories; learn universal themes and story components; practice techniques of projection, pace, and dramatic flair; and apply their knowledge to create original folktales to be performed before parents and guests at a culminating Folk Tale Festival.

Full Day Adventure Descriptions



ADVENTURES IN ANTHROPOLOGY (CV, LM, SR)

Join the fun. Learn about ancient arts and cultures from around the world in hands on history classes. Come and explore the exciting cultures of Native Americans, Ancient Egyptians, and the Maya people of Meso-America. Each session participants discover something new – they find out about Navajo sand paintings, construct dream catchers, study the art and architecture of Maya steles, even learn how to make a mummy, and much more.

INVENTOR'S TOY WORKSHOP – K-2 (CV, LM, SR)

Learn how to think like an inventor! In this class students will learn about the history of toys and how they have changed over time, as well as hear inspiring stories of other children inventing. They will explore the science of motion and become "toymakers," learning how to use everyday materials to construct a variety of toys. Students will also participate in exciting creativity challenges, and learn how to use creative thinking techniques to become more fluent and flexible thinkers.



INVENTOR'S TOY WORKSHOP – 3-5 (CV, LM, SR)



Learn how to think like an inventor and open your imagination to possibilities! In this class students will learn the process of inventing, as well as consider historical inventions and how they have influenced our world. They will explore math, engineering, and science principles through deconstructing appliances, and constructing their own mechanical craft projects, learning to look at everyday materials in new ways. Students will also participate in fun creativity challenges, and learn how to use a variety of creative thinking tools and techniques to become more innovative thinkers.

CRAZY ABOUT COLOR (CV, LM, SR)

Modern art was about newness and change. It's building blocks are form and color, visual excitement through structure and imagination. We will explore international modern art in all it's forms. Students will experiment with subject matters significant in the many phases of modern art such as expressionism, surrealism, and pop art while we examine the artists of this movement.



Temecula K-6 Descriptions



FOLKTALES

Learn about folktales from around the world and geography skills at the same time. Folktales teach universal themes that are timeless. Develop practicing techniques of projection, pace, and dramatic flair! Learn how to read a script and identify important story components. Create your own creative folktale, learn storytelling tips, and improve your literacy skills.

ROBERTO'S RAINFOREST

Student teams study the fascinating ecosystem of rainforests while on an imaginary expedition on which they construct a large classroom replica of a rainforest (including various flora and fauna, and natives), and learn and voice concerns about the survival of these regions. Students will learn the importance of our rainforests by learning about the different plants and animals that live in the rainforests, and the many natural resources the rainforests provide us.



ART

Creating art lets us more fully appreciate the artworks we encounter because we can understand the processes used to make them. By exploring the Masters, we can better understand social circumstances and historical periods. In these classes, students will discover their abilities through the making and understanding of visual art through history. In

a supportive environment, hands-on art education will expose students to creative problem-solving while developing their skills and creativity. All projects are age-appropriate while focusing on quality task performance in a "there are no mistakes" environment. Let's unearth the joy of making art!

Counselor's Corner

WORK PERMITS

Need a Work Permit?

Students may obtain a work permit through the school counselor. Student must be in good academic and behavior standing in order for a work permit to be issued. Guidelines set forth by the state of California on the work permit must also be followed. The work permit needs to be filled out in its entirety in order for processing; this includes all phone numbers, addresses, signatures and insurance information. Work permits will not be issued if ANY information is missing. Please allow one week for processing the temporary work permit. The official work permit is issued through the San Diego work permit office and is mailed directly to the employer within six weeks, pending approval. For further questions please contact Jeff Fechner at counselor@learningchoice.org



California High School Exit Examination

CAHSEE

Passing the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) is a graduation requirement. The CAHSEE assesses California academic content standards for English-Language Arts and Mathematics.

CAHSEE results are being used for state and federal accountability purposes. The CAHSEE must be administered according to state standards and guidelines. There is no cost for the test. Testing must be conducted on the specific dates listed below to ensure security of the test throughout the state.

Test sessions will start at 9:00AM, with check in at 8:30 at each school site. The next CAHSEE will be given on February 7 and 8, 2012. This test administration is open to all TLC 10th, 11th and 12th graders.

Tuesday, February 7, 9AM--English Language Arts portion of the test.

Wednesday, February 8, 9AM—Mathematics portion of the test.

Need help studying? Talk to your EP to get a CAHSEE study guide. You can also find exam blueprints, released test questions, and study guides online at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/hs/resources.asp>

A look ahead to the other testing dates...

English–Language Arts (Tuesday)	Mathematics (Wednesday)	Grades
May 8, 2012	May 9, 2012	11, 12

Parent Corner

This is a community forum to share information. These are not TLC-sponsored activities or classes, but are provided for your information. Please be sure to verify all information before attending.

SIX FLAGS READING PROGRAM



Read to Succeed is a free educational program from Six Flags and Discovery Education that inspires K-6 students to engage in recreational reading. Students who complete six hours of recreational, non-school-related reading are eligible to earn a free admission ticket to a participating Six Flags theme park. Homeschool teachers can now register for the 2011-2012 Read to Succeed program! This year, every homeschool teacher must register as an individual family, even if you participated in the program previously as a homeschool co-op, organization or group. All homeschool teachers must register in order to participate in the program. Get Step-by-Step Guides and FAQs online at <http://readtosucceed.discoveryeducation.com/homeschool.cfm>.

SHOGEN RYU KARATE PROGRAM

Shogen Ryu Karate emphasizes the philosophy of peace, and has its origins from Okinawa, Japan. It is a cultural art, not a sport inspired by fighting. By perfecting techniques, students learn patience and perseverance, by leading drills, they gain leadership skills. Are you interested in a Shogen Ryu Karate Program? Contact Rafael Gutierrez to register your interest. Rafael has taught children's karate for more than seven years, and is licensed to teach Shogen Ryu Karate from the main dojo in Okinawa, Japan. He holds regular classes at the Japanese Friendship Garden in Balboa Park, but may be able hold classes in another location if there is enough interest.



Fees: \$12.50 per class session (two classes per week), or \$100 per month. Belts cost about \$10 each, and uniforms are around \$35 (although prices vary by quality and size)

Contact: Rafael H. Gutierrez, M.D., Licensed Shogen-Ryu Karate-do instructor, (619) 261-6314

SOCCKER CLINICS



YOUTH SOCCER CLINICS

Catalyst Playground: Fun, non-competitive atmosphere teaches the rules of soccer, foundational soccer skills, basic coordination, and social interaction. Ages 2-6.

Recreational & Competitive Skills: Advanced shooting, goalkeeping, attacking, and defending skills for the AYSO or club soccer levels. Ages 7+.

Speed, Strength, & Injury Deterrence: Proper body mechanics and technique for athletic movements is emphasized to lower the risk for injury in soccer. Ages 7+.

Thanksgiving Camp: Half and full day soccer camp on November 21-23. All ages, positions and skill levels welcome. Register in Oct. to save money. Available spots are limited.

ADULT FITNESS

Personal Trainer: Customized workouts, special attention and expert instruction to reach your fitness goals.

Catalyst Fitness (C-Fit) Circuits: Group exercises formatted with interval training for cardio, strength and calorie burn to maximize your efforts in a quick workout.



USE SOCCER SITTER FOR YOUR NEXT DATE NIGHT

Bring your kid(s) to our Soccer Sitter Clinics one Saturday each month while mom and dad enjoy a much-deserved carefree night out. Children can range from ages 2 (must be potty-trained) to 13 and child to coach ratio is never more than 6 to 1. At Soccer Sitter Clinics, your child will have fun with soccer games and other children's activities as well as the movie room. Call/Email to learn how your child can participate for FREE at the next Soccer Sitter Clinic

The
Catalyst
Training
Center

Web: www.TCTCsoccer.com
Phone: (619) 715-5531
Email: TrainAtCatalyst@gmail.com
Address: 9588 Distribution Ave. Ste. E
San Diego, CA 92121
(Off Miramar Rd)

**CONTACT US OR
VISIT OUR SITE TO
VIEW THE EVENT
CALENDAR FOR
DATES AND TIMES**

“DESIGN OUR HOLIDAY CARD” ART CONTEST

This Year's Art Theme

THE FUTURE OF OUR NATION

CONTEST RULES AND REGULATIONS:

- 1. ENTRY PERIOD:** The Middleton, Young & Mizney, LLP (MYM) "Design Our Holiday Card" art contest will begin accepting submissions on October 11, 2011. Entries must be received no later than 5pm on November 11, 2011.
- 2. ELIGIBILITY:** The contest is open to children enrolled in a California charter school in three grade categories: (1) grades K-3; (2) grades 4-8; and (3) grades 9-12. Employees of MYM as well as their immediate family members (spouses, parents, siblings and children) are not eligible. The contest is subject to all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations and is void where prohibited by law.
- 3. RULES OF ENTRY:** MYM is not responsible for any lost, late, incomplete, invalid, uncollectible or misdirected entries. Submissions will not be returned and become property of MYM. By entering the contest you agree that MYM has the right to display, copy, distribute, and otherwise use the art work as it sees fit without any fee or other form of compensation. MYM intends to reproduce the art work with full credit to the winner on its holiday card that is mailed to over 350 charter schools throughout the State.
- 4. THEME OF ART WORK:** Art work must be based upon the theme: "The Future of Our Nation" - contestants can design art work with any interpretation of this theme.
- 5. SPECIFICATIONS FOR SUBMISSIONS:** Only individual and original art work may be submitted. All mediums accepted on paper. Min. size 4"x 6" and max. size 18" x 24".

6. DOCUMENTATION ON SUBMISSIONS: To be considered a complete submission, the following information must be legible and complete on the back of all entries: Title of picture, Full name of artist, Grade and age, Name of Charter School, School mailing address, Student email address & Student phone number

7. MAIL ENTRIES TO:
Middleton, Young & Mizney, LLP
ATTN: Art Contest, 701 University Avenue, Suite 150
Sacramento, CA 95825

8. AGREEMENT TO RULES: By entering the contest, you fully and unconditionally agree to and accept the rules as outlined herein and agree to accept the decisions of MYM and the contest judges which are final and binding.

9. JUDGING CRITERIA: Entries must meet all rules and submission criteria as stated herein to be eligible. Entries will be evaluated by a panel of judges. Art work will be judged on artistic merit and creativity. Winners will be announced in November on the Middleton, Young & Mizney, LLP website at www.mycharterlaw.com and winners will be notified by telephone and mail.

Entry Deadline:
November 11th



FIRST PRIZE

The 1st prize winners in the three categories will receive the following cash prize: grades K-3: \$100; grades 4-8: \$200; grades 9-12: \$500. One of the 1st prize winners will be selected and utilized as the design of the MYM holiday card. All winners will be displayed on our website.

SECOND PRIZE

The 2nd prize winners in the three categories will receive the following cash prize: grades K-3: \$50; grades 4-8: \$100; grades 9-12: \$350 and the art work will be displayed on our website.

THIRD PRIZE

The 3rd prize winners in the three categories will receive the following cash prize: grades K-3: \$25; grades 4-8: \$50; grades 9-12: \$150 and the art work will be displayed on our website.

YOUTH POSTER CONTEST

FIRST ANNUAL SAN DIEGO HUMANE SOCIETY AND SPCA 2012 YOUTH ART POSTER CONTEST

Description:

Students from grades Kindergarten through 12th are invited to create a poster that celebrates the human-animal bond by portraying one or more of the following:

- What animals mean to you
- Why animals are important in our lives
- How animals enrich our lives
- A positive connection between people and their pets

Delivery and Deadline:

All posters must be received by February 3, 2012. Winners will be announced April 2012.

Deliver posters via mail to:

**Attn: Community Programs
San Diego Humane Society and SPCA
5500 Gaines Street
San Diego, CA 92110**

Entry rules:

1. Open to Kindergarten through 12th grade. Student work will be judged in 4 categories, based on grade level.
2. Poster size must be 11" x 17".
3. Student may use any media: marker, paint, ink, crayon, computer-generated, photography, or collage.
4. Must be artist's original work: no tracing, clip or pre-illustrated computer art.
5. No collaborative entries including adults (such as parents or teachers).
6. Tape a copy of the form below to the back of each entry. Do not write directly on the poster.
7. Inclusion in the contest is based on the discretion of the San Diego Humane Society. No images glorifying violence toward animals or pet overpopulation will be accepted.

Prizes:

- 1st Place:** San Diego Humane Society t-shirt, \$50 gift card.
- 2nd Place:** San Diego Humane Society t-shirt and \$25 gift card.
- 3rd Place:** San Diego Humane Society t-shirt and \$10 gift card.
- All participants will receive a participation award via email.

**Questions? Contact Kristin MacDonald at (619) 299-7012 x2911
or email kmacdonald@sdhumane.org**



Poster Title: _____

Student Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Student Email: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____

Teacher: _____



**THE LEARNING CHOICE
ACADEMY**

The Learning Choice (TLC) Academy is a California charter school dedicated to assisting parents who school their children in grades kindergarten through 12 at home.

TLC Academy's mission is to empower students to reach their full potential by providing choice in education within collaborative triads of parents, students, and school.

We are committed to communicating with and engaging parents as partners in their children's education. We are also committed to obtaining community resources for our school and invite all members of our community to assist us in the education of our students.

Locations:

Chula Vista

861 Harold Pl, Ste 301
Chula Vista, CA 91914
Phone: 619-656-4233
Fax: 619-397-0221

La Mesa

4215 Spring St, Ste A-104
La Mesa, CA 91941
Phone: 619-463-8811
Fax: 619-463-8339

Scripps Ranch

9950 Scripps Lake Dr, Ste 105
San Diego, CA 92131
Phone: 858-536-8388
Fax: 858-536-8339

Temecula

27715 Jefferson Av, Ste 109
Temecula, CA 92590
Phone: 951-676-4200
Fax: 951-676-4220

E-mail: info@learningchoice.org



2011-12 BOARD MEETINGS

All Board of Directors meetings are open to the public. Agendas will be posted at your local site and on the website the week before each meeting, and meeting minutes are available at your site after board approval at the following meeting. Board meetings are held at 5:30 pm at the TLC La Mesa site.



- Wednesday, December 7
- Wednesday, January 11
- Wednesday, February 8
- Wednesday, March 7
- Wednesday, April 4
- Wednesday, May 2
- Wednesday, June 6
- Wednesday, July 11

IMPORTANT DATES

November 1-2	CAHSEE
November 7	Field Trip: Wolf Encounters (FULL)
November 14	Talent Show Auditions
November 14	Teen Field Trip: Dave and Busters
November 21	Assembly: Birds of Prey
November 21	Field Trip: Japanese Friendship Garden
December 5	Teen Field Trip: Birch Aquarium
December 6	Field Trip: The Elves and the Shoemaker
December 9	Field Trip: Knott's Berry Farm
December 12	Talent Show
December 14	Field Trip: The Grinch
December 16	Field Trip: The Nutcracker
January 9	Spelling Bee
January 9	Assembly: African Drums, Dance, and Cheetahs
January 11	Field Trip: Cats (the Musical)
January 17	Field Trip: Chinese Historical Museum
January 19	Field Trip: John and Juan
January 23	Field Trip: Whale Watching
January 26	Field Trip: Jazz Reach (2 separate events)
January 30	Teen Field Trip: Maritime Museum
January 31	Field Trip: San Diego Symphony