

# Advanced Learning Options (ALO) 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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## Selection of New and Continuing Schools for Advanced Studies (SAS) Sites

The Schools for Advanced Studies (SAS) program started in the 1998–1999 school year and was created as an alternative to the Gifted/High Ability Magnet program to service gifted/high ability learners throughout the District. Schools are designated as SAS sites for a five-year cycle. The Gifted/Talented Programs Office is accepting applications until December 2015 from interested schools wishing to offer or continue to offer an SAS Program for the next five-year cycle beginning in the 2016-2017 school year. Magnet schools and independent charter schools are not eligible to apply.

To be selected for SAS designation, schools must demonstrate evidence of a strong GATE program.

### Required SAS Components:

- Ability to meet/exceed identification goals for gifted students
- Quality differentiated instruction and academic achievement of GATE students
- Commitment by staff to participate in professional development to meet the academic and social-emotional needs of gifted students
- Engagement and participation of GATE/SAS parents
- Appropriate use of funds to support the GATE/SAS program
- Full implementation of District GATE/SAS program policies


The list of new and continuing SAS schools will be posted on the GATE website in February 2016. SAS student applications for the 2016-2017 school year will be posted in spring 2016 (dates TBD). Students living within LAUSD boundaries who meet the SAS criteria are eligible to apply to multiple SAS schools. Resident students are not required to submit an SAS application.

If a current SAS school does not reapply or is not selected for renewal, then students who were previously granted an SAS permit will still be able to attend the school until the final grade of matriculation.

Go to [achieve.lausd.net/gate](http://achieve.lausd.net/gate) and select “GATE Program Options” for updates about the SAS program.



Get Ready for the New PSAT with **Khan Academy!**



At Khan Academy, your child has free access to thousands of questions approved by the College Board, four official SAT practice tests, and the ability to create personalized study plans based on their PSAT results. Visit <https://www.khanacademy.org/sat> and get started today!

## Affiliated Charters and SAS

“Affiliated” charter schools are unique to LAUSD. They are a both a charter and District school. These schools are granted more flexibility in designing and monitoring their instructional programs while still maintaining the ability to receive support and services from LAUSD.

All affiliated charter schools are eligible to apply for SAS

site designation. However, according to State and District policies, affiliated charter schools that are selected as SAS sites will not be permitted to participate in the SAS enrollment process in the same way as regular District SAS schools.

Non-resident students must first participate in the affiliated charter school’s open lottery

process. All students once enrolled at the affiliated charter school (resident and non-resident) who meet the SAS criteria are to be placed in the SAS program.

For more information about enrollment procedures and timelines, please contact affiliated charter schools directly.

## Parent and Community Engagement

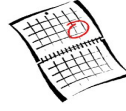
Parent involvement is a critical part of a District's and school's GATE Program. A school should hold at least two GATE specific parent meetings per year, keep parents informed of GATE/SAS meetings and conferences, share related bulletins and newsletters, and have an active parent representative that can give input to the Annual GATE Report (due each spring).

Gifted/Talented Programs would like to invite all parents to attend our GATE/SAS parent workshops, held in each Local District, to learn more about the GATE program and the needs of gifted learners. Translation in Spanish will be provided. Pre-registration is not required.



We hope you will join us in learning more about your gifted child!

### Parent Meeting Dates:



- **Monday, Feb. 1:** Grant High HS (Northeast Valley)
- **Thursday, Feb. 4:** Nobel MS (Northwest Valley)
- **Monday, Feb. 8:** Peary MS (South)
- **Thursday, Feb. 11:** Nightingale MS (East)
- **Thursday, Feb. 18:** Loyola Village ES (West)
- **Friday, Feb 26:** Lee Medical Magnet (Central)

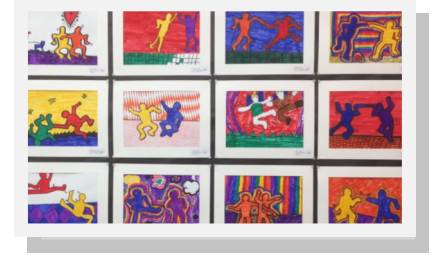
### Parent Meeting Schedule:

- **5:30-6:30 pm:** GATE/SAS Parent Workshop (all grade levels)
  - **6:30-7:30 pm:** Overview of OLSAT Test for Identification in the High Achievement Category (parents of 2nd grade students)
- Call Gifted/Talented Programs at (213) 241-6500 for more information.

### **SAVE THE DATE:**

**2016 GATE/SAS Parent Conference**  
RFK Community Schools, Los Angeles  
Saturday, March 12, 2016  
8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

## Conservatory Corner



*The Saturday Conservatory of Fine Arts at Cal State L.A is off to a great start! There were about 300 students who excitedly started class in October in the Visual Arts and about 300 students in the Performing Arts. On November 7, 2015 the Performing Arts Conservatory held their first Open House and showcased the talents of the staff and students in the areas of dance, drama, and voice.*

### Upcoming Dates to Remember for Conservatory Parents

- **Dec. 26 and Jan. 2** No class
- **Jan. 9:** Open House for Visual Arts
- **Jan. 16:** No classes
- **Jan. 23:** Parent meeting for Performing Arts
- **Feb. 13:** No classes

## Helping Your Gifted Child Succeed

Each child has abilities in certain areas, either in mathematics, language and literature, science, social science/history, music, visual and performing arts, leadership, athletics or any other field. To help gifted children discover their exceptional talents, parents can help them explore their interests and skills.

### Tips

- Pay close attention to the comments and observations of your child
- Create an environment that will allow personal expression
- Stimulate the skills and interests of your child: for example, science, animal care, electronics, carpentry, technology, arts and crafts
- Encourage your child to explore the beauty of different cultures through languages, literature, music, dance, crafts and culinary arts, among others
- Promote curiosity and discovery
- Recognize effort and progress beyond perfection
- Demonstrate how mistakes are opportunities for learning
- Encourage positive ways to solve different problems
- Teach them to understand and manage their emotional reactions
- Promote a healthy lifestyle
- Involve them in service to the community

For more resources about nurturing your gifted child, visit the parent pages at these websites:

[achieve.lausd.net/gate](http://achieve.lausd.net/gate)  
[www.cagifted.org](http://www.cagifted.org)  
[www.nagc.org](http://www.nagc.org)  
[www.sengifted.org](http://www.sengifted.org)

