



# Gifted/Talented Programs Parent Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 5  
June 2013

**LAUSD CORE BELIEFS:** 1. Start with students, 2. Families are our partners, 3. Success is in the classroom, 4. Diversity is our strength, 5. Effective teaching, leadership, and accountability are the keys to our success.

Los Angeles Unified School District  
OFFICE OF CURRICULUM,  
INSTRUCTION, AND SCHOOL SUPPORT  
333 S. Beaudry Ave.  
25th Floor  
Los Angeles CA, 90017  
(213) 241-6500

Dr. Debbie Dillard, District Coordinator  
Dr. Lucy Hunt, District Specialist  
Erin Yoshida-Ehrmann, District Specialist  
Catherine Estrada, District Specialist  
Wynne Wong-Cheng, Psychological Services Specialist  
Yolanda Muñoz, Secretary



## Words of Wisdom from Dr. Bertie Kingore

On Saturday, April 20, Dr. Bertie Kingore was the keynote speaker at the Fourth Annual GATE/SAS Parent Conference at Virgil Middle School. She helped parents understand characteristics of their gifted children and shared ideas to develop their talents while supporting their social-emotional needs. Here are 20 tips Dr. Kingore gives parents to further nurture their gifted children:

1. Appreciate gifted learners as children.
2. Interact with families of gifted children.
3. Recognize how the personal and instructional needs of a gifted child differ from others.
4. Appreciate the differences among high achievers, gifted learners, and creative thinkers.
5. Understand the developmental crises for gifted students.
6. Assure your child that being different is okay.
7. Be an encourager.
8. Emphasize that what is learned is more important than any grade.
9. Be an active listener and elicit student perceptions.
10. Follow their interests and leads in learning situations rather than pressure them with your agenda.
11. Talk up to them.
12. Enjoy music, plays, museums, art, sports, and historical places together and discuss the experience.
13. Model life-long learning habits.
14. Facilitate real-life reading, writing, science, and math experiences.
15. Give books and learning games as presents, and then spend some time together reading and playing those games.
16. Recognize that gifted children need to question and respond critically.
17. Maintain a sense of humor!  
AT SCHOOL:
18. Support school efforts to differentiate and provide services for advanced and gifted children.
19. As appropriate, supply home perspectives and feedback on your child's well-being, responses to learning and interests.
20. Be an advocate more than an advisory.

*Excerpted from GIFTED EDUCATION COMMUNICATOR, California Association for the Gifted, Summer, 2008*

## Saturday Conservatory of Fine Arts Spring Showcase



-Painting by Jenna Yoo, Visual Arts Conservatory Student, 9th Grade

Each May, students from the Saturday Conservatory of Fine Arts in grades 3-12 culminate the program by highlighting their artwork and talents at the end-of-the-year showcase. Visual Arts students display a variety of vibrant, creative art including oil and water-color paintings, pencil sketches, sculptures, fabric designs, and architectural models at Cal State LA. Performing Arts students feature outstanding modern and classical performances in voice, drama and dance at Burroughs Middle School.

We commend the dedication of the teachers, directors, volunteers and support staff who contribute to making the Conservatory a success year after year. We especially wish to thank the parents who make the commitment to bring their children each week to develop and enrich their artistic abilities.

*To see more artwork and a video clip of a voice performance from the showcase, visit [www.facebook.com/LAUSDGATE](http://www.facebook.com/LAUSDGATE).*

## Exciting News from Gifted/ Talented Programs!

- Gifted/Talented Programs is pleased to welcome our new District Coordinator, Dr. Debbie Dillard. Dr. Dillard comes to us with expertise in gifted education, magnet programs, and professional development, most recently serving as District Coordinator in Student Integration Services. Dr. Dillard has been an active supporter of Gifted/Talented Programs for many years, providing GATE professional development through workshops and conferences, administrative assistance with the GATE Conservatory of Fine Arts, and expertise regarding magnet programs for gifted students. We are excited for Dr. Dillard to join our "small but mighty" team as we continue to serve schools and families.
- As of April 2013, there were **76,378** students identified as gifted in LAUSD, an increase of 9,218 students as compared to the same time last year. Many of the gains are attributed to the automatic identification of students for High/Achievement/Specific Academic Ability, the implementation of Project TIP (Targeted Identification Program), and the continued hard work of our GATE coordinators, administrators, psychologists, and District office staff. Congratulations to all for making a difference!
- Over 300 parents attended the Fourth Annual GATE/SAS Parent Conference in April, about 100 more than last year. We hope you will join us again next year!

## Ideas for Summer Learning



- [Khan Academy](http://www.khanacademy.org) <[www.khanacademy.org](http://www.khanacademy.org)> Online video tutorials for students in math, science, SAT Prep and more!
- [iTunes U](http://iTunes.com): Download app from iTunes to view college course content on your Apple devices
- [National Association for Gifted Children](http://www.nagc.org) <[www.nagc.org](http://www.nagc.org)> Search summer opportunities for gifted students by state
- [Los Angeles Public Library](http://www.lapl.org) <[www.lapl.org](http://www.lapl.org)> and [City of Los Angeles Parks and Recreation](http://www.laparks.org) <[www.laparks.org](http://www.laparks.org)> Look for summer activities at libraries and parks in your area
- [Discover Los Angeles: 100 Free Things to Do](http://www.discoverlosangeles.com/blog/100-free-things-do-los-angeles-free-activities) <<http://www.discoverlosangeles.com/blog/100-free-things-do-los-angeles-free-activities>> Free! Need I say more.

### Stay Connected to Gifted/Talented Programs!



www.lausd.net/gate  
www.facebook.com/LAUSDGATE  
twitter.com/LAUSDGATE



## DATES TO REMEMBER



- Last Day for Students-Traditional schools: June 7
- Last Day for Students-Multi-Track Schools (Tracks A, B, C): June 28
- GATE Office Closure (limited personnel): June 17-July 17
- GATE Office Fully Reopens: July 18
- First Day for Students-Traditional schools: August 13
- First Day for Students-Multi-Track Schools (Tracks B, C, D): July 1 (Track A First Day-August 15; Track D off-August 14)
- eChoices Application Period Opens: October 1
- eChoices Application Deadline: November 13