



# Gifted/Talented Programs Parent Newsletter

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



## Gifted Identification Update

One of the goals of the Gifted and Talented Program in LAUSD is to increase the percentage of identified gifted students, especially for underrepresented groups such as African-American and Hispanic students. This year, the criteria for identification has also been expanded to be more inclusive of students from low socioeconomic backgrounds. Additionally, students attending LAUSD schools on a permit will now be eligible for referral for gifted identification.

### Major Categories of Identification

**Intellectual Ability Category:** Students whose general intellectual development is advanced in relation to their peers.

**High Achievement Category (2nd Graders only):** Students who receive a qualifying score on the OLSAT-8 achievement test.

**High Achievement (Grade 4 and above)** Students who receive any combination of scores that meet the cutoff scores in Math and English Language Arts.

**Specific Academic Ability (Grade 4 and above)** Students who consistently function at highly advanced levels for three consecutive years in English/ELA/EL or Math. Students in grades 9-12 may also be considered in science or social studies.

**Creative Ability:** Students who perceive significant similarities and differences, challenge assumptions, and produce unique solutions.

**Leadership Ability** Students who show confidence, influence others, have problem-solving skills, and can clearly communicate orally and in writing.

**Visual/Performing Arts** Students who originate, perform, and produce at high levels in either dance, voice, drama, or in drawing or painting.

For more information about identification, visit the Introduction Section of our webpage at [www.lausd.net/gate](http://www.lausd.net/gate).



### Do you have a child that shows talent and interest in the arts?

Then contact your local school's Gifted Coordinator or Administrator about submitting an application for our District-wide "Talent Assessment." Students will be given the opportunity to demonstrate their strengths in the Visual Arts (drawing and painting) or Performing Arts (dance, drama, voice). Based on the assessment, your child may be identified as gifted in the arts.

Students in second grade and above attending LAUSD schools and who reside within LAUSD boundaries are eligible to apply. Students attending Charter schools within the LAUSD boundaries may also apply, however a fee-for-service approval must also be submitted.

The deadline to apply for Spring is April 25, 2012. The Spring Assessment will be held on May 19, 2012. Paperwork needs to be submitted three weeks prior to assessment date.

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

LaRoyce Bell, 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

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### SAVE THE DATE

#### Los Angeles City/County GATE Conference

Saturday, Dec. 17, 2011  
Pasadena Convention Center  
Visit [www.centralcities.org](http://www.centralcities.org)  
to register (fee required).



#### 2012 GATE/SAS Parent Meetings

6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

- District 1: Jan.30, Nobel MS
- District 2: Feb. 6, Poly HS
- District 3: Feb 13, Arlington Hts. ES
- District 4: Feb.16, Kim ES
- District 5: Feb.23, Nightingale MS
- District 6: Feb 27, Nimitz MS
- District 7: Mar. 1, 122nd St. ES
- District 8: Mar. 5, Taper ES

#### Free GATE/SAS Parent Conference

Saturday, May 12, 2012  
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.  
Virgil Middle School

### LAUSD Parents Want to Know: How can I tell if my child is gifted?



Every child is unique and shows his/her giftedness in different and often non-traditional ways. Here is a list of some characteristics frequently found in students identified as gifted or talented, including students from diverse backgrounds:

- Approaches tasks in different, unusual, and original ways.
- Likes flexibility in scheduling and experience; is resistant to routine drill.

- Shows fluency in his/her native language; uses expressive and extensive vocabulary.
- Is able to learn a second/third language at an accelerated pace.
- Uses body language and gestures expressively; has ability to interpret body language.
- Has strong powers of reasoning, ability to make comparisons and generalizations, and ability to see cause and effect.
- Improvises with commonplace materials and objects.

- Is more sensitive to social and moral issues, particularly those in which student's sense of reason seems to be violated.
  - Possesses a sense of justice and fairness, intuitively understands why certain behavior is good and another is bad.
  - Demonstrates high-level social skills and leadership qualities. Enjoys competition but also works in cooperation with others.
- If your child exhibits some or all of these behaviors, he/she just might be gifted!*



### Online Resources for Parents

- [www.centralcities.org](http://www.centralcities.org)
- [www.cagifted.org](http://www.cagifted.org)
- [www.lausd.net/gate](http://www.lausd.net/gate)
- [www.nagc.org](http://www.nagc.org)
- [www.hoagiesgifted.org](http://www.hoagiesgifted.org)
- [www.gifted-children.com](http://www.gifted-children.com)
- [www.2enewsletter.com](http://www.2enewsletter.com)