



# Parent Newsletter

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## Choices 2019-2020

### How to apply for Gifted Magnets and Schools for Advanced Studies

Every fall, parents in LAUSD have had the opportunity to apply to magnet schools across the District. This year, for the first time, this process includes applying to Schools for Advanced Studies (SAS). Magnet programs offer families a variety of choices, including programs specifically designed for gifted/high ability students in grades 1-12. There are currently 47 Gifted Magnets and 4 Highly Gifted Magnets. SAS sites are schools that receive the SAS designation for their exemplary Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) implementation. If your child's resident school is one of the 149 SAS sites, you do not need to apply through the Choices process. Students residing within the boundaries of a designated SAS site who meet SAS eligibility criteria must be placed in the site's SAS/GATE program. If you have questions, contact your school directly. If you reside within LAUSD boundaries and you want your child to attend an SAS site that is not your child's resident school, then you must submit an application through the Choices process. SAS sites serve students in grades K-12.

The Choices application window opens on Monday, October 1, 2018 and closes on Friday, November 9, 2018. Applications are submitted online at [GoTo.Lausd.Net](http://GoTo.Lausd.Net). For a list of SAS sites and Gifted and Highly Gifted Magnets go to [achieve.lausd.net/gate](http://achieve.lausd.net/gate) and click on "GATE Program Options." For information regarding the application and student selection process or for information regarding verification of eligibility, call the Choices Support Line at (213) 241-4177 or visit [echoices.lausd.net](http://echoices.lausd.net).

The charts on page 2 provide the different criteria for Gifted Magnets and SAS sites at-a-glance. For detailed criteria information, please refer to the Choices brochure, available at local LAUSD schools and public libraries.

### Family Day Out

#### Free ideas for family time

Experience the Kelp Forest Exploration Show at the California Science Center. Learn about the 188,000 gallon Kelp Forest exhibit and speak with a staff diver. Weekend show times are at 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Explore five new exhibitions at the California African American Museum. Exhibits by Nina Chanel Abney and Robert Pruitt are on display as well as *California Bound: Slavery on the New Frontier, 1848-1865*, *Los Angeles Freedom Rally, 1963*, and *The Notion of Family*.

See the 30-year tradition of Día de los Muertos festivities at Olvera Street. From October 25 through November 2, 2018, vibrant and colorful processions are presented nightly, as well as altars, children's workshops, and face painting.

## Required criteria to apply for Gifted Magnets and Schools for Advanced Studies

<p><b>1</b></p> <p><b>BE IDENTIFIED</b></p> <p>Be identified as gifted by LAUSD in the Intellectual, High Achievement, Specific Academic, Creative, or Leadership Ability Category</p>	<p>or</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>BE VERIFIED</b></p> <p>Be verified as eligible by the current school of attendance as meeting critical thinking/achievement criteria</p>	<p>or</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>HAS SCORED</b></p> <p>Has scored in the Standard Exceeded Range on the Smarter Balanced Assessment or have a national percentile score of 85 or above in total reading and math</p>	<p>and</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p><b>RESIDE</b></p> <p>Reside within LAUSD boundaries at the time of application and while participating in the program</p>
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## Required criteria to apply for Highly Gifted Magnets

<p><b>1</b></p> <p><b>BE IDENTIFIED</b></p> <p>Be identified as highly gifted (percentile score of 99.9) on an Intellectual assessment administered by an LAUSD designated GATE psychologist</p>	<p>or</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>BE IDENTIFIED</b></p> <p>Be identified as gifted with a percentile score of 99.5-99.8 (considered "highly gifted applicable") on an Intellectual assessment administered by an LAUSD designated GATE psychologist</p>	<p>and</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>RESIDE</b></p> <p>Reside within LAUSD boundaries at the time of application and while participating in the program</p>
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**Important Dates**

- ◆ **October 1:** 2019-20 Choices application opens
- ◆ **October 6:** Conservatory of Fine Arts Returning Student Registration
- ◆ **October 13:** Conservatory of Fine Arts New Student Registration
- ◆ **October 17:** Deadline for schools to submit application for November 2018 Auditions/ Demonstrations for Visual and Performing Arts
- ◆ **November 9:** 2019-20 Choices application due
- ◆ **November 12:** Veterans' Day Holiday
- ◆ **November 19-23:** Thanksgiving Break

## School Spotlight

### Shenandoah Elementary School (Local District West)

Gifted fourth graders in Shenandoah Elementary's room 43 started the school year using the program, Sanford Harmony, to focus on developing their social skills. Many gifted learners struggle to develop strong, healthy relationships that support their learning, and some don't feel like they fit in with their peers.

By engaging in community-building activities such as games that promote self-confidence and require them to work collaboratively, students are learning that they are unique and special, but share many similarities as well. They practice showing respect by supporting each other's efforts to reach individual and classroom goals. Children who have struggled in the past to fit in are laughing, talking, cooperating, and connecting with their classmates. It's exciting to watch them create a classroom where they want to see each other succeed!

(If your school has something to share for the "School Spotlight" section, please email Susanna Furfari, District Coordinator, at [susanna.furfari@lausd.net](mailto:susanna.furfari@lausd.net).)

