



We engage children in an inspiring, challenging, and civically active educational experience that embraces learning through the arts.

*You are my other me.
I am who I am because of who we are.*



Wishing you a happy and healthy Thanksgiving from your LFCSA family!

LFCSA's Weekly E-blast

NO SCHOOL:

Parent Teacher Conferences - November 17th

Thanksgiving Break- November 20th - 24th

Pupil Free Day/Teacher Professional Development - November 27

Inside our Classrooms: Parent Involvement
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Community Event - Marsh Park Bioblitz

Si necesita traducción en español, llámenos a 323-539-2810

**Inside our Classrooms: Parent Involvement
It wouldn't be the same without YOU!**



Parent volunteers in our K/1 classrooms work with small groups.

As we approach Thanksgiving we have been reflecting on all the things we are thankful for, here at LFCSA.

Topping our thankful list is our LFCSA parent volunteers. We have been witnessing the strength of our community growing as our parents get involved in their classrooms, on committees and in leadership roles.

Room Parents: These wonderful parents have signed up this year to be the voice of your classroom. We rely on them to keep our classroom communities connected and informed. Our staff and teachers are so thankful to have them as partners.

Mari Forge
Kristin Miller
Anita Sheridan
Laura Lodsdon
Satina Henderson
Rebekah Faubion
Frances Sculthies
Helene Dina
Charlotte Young
Jennifer Monsalvez
Kim Thigpen
Carolin Bennett
Johanna Voutounou
Sarah Lee Samonte
Betsy Chapman
Christine Echeverri
Lara Sage

Melanie Blair
Bonnie Fisher
Andy Fisher
Max Tepper
Dena Robertson
Lea Kalani
Rhea Fuentes
Matthew Malone
Erin Ballew
Liz Mack
Yesenia DLC
Jessica Zeichner
Karen Linares
Molly McLaughlin

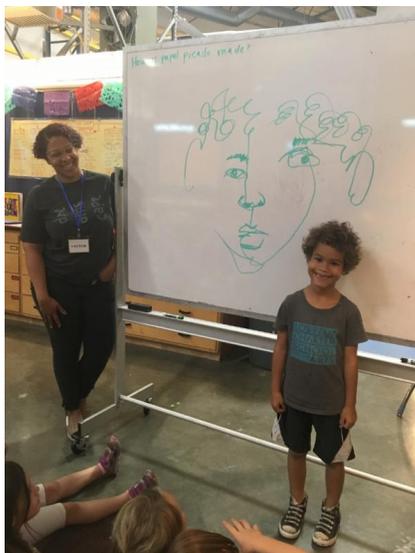
Classroom Volunteers:

Whether you are a mystery reader or just pop in to organize homework folders, our teachers are thankful to have you in their classrooms. If you have some time in the future, reach out to your room parents or teacher to ask what help they may need.

Specialist Volunteers:

Thank you to our wonderful parents who stopped by this Fall to help in our art, music or dance studios. Whether it was to share a talent or to clean paint brushes our team is grateful for the help.

Our Arts Specialist are always looking for more help in their studios. If you have a talent to share or just have some helping hands to spare, reach out to our specialists. No music, dance or visual arts skills required.



Portrait artist and parent Crystal Maria sharing her work with our K/1 students

Special Events:

This Fall has been jammed packed with special events from Halloween/Harvest Town to Photo Fundraiser to Arts to Remember and more! Parents' commitment and dedication to our school is what makes these important fundraisers a success.

A very special thank you to the parents who took on a leadership role during one of these events. We understand the amount of work that goes into these events and we need parents like you to take the reins and guide our volunteers. We appreciate you!

Thank you to the committee members for our two Fall Fundraisers:

Halloween/Harvest Town Committee

Adele Ortiz
Stefanie Villalobos
Jessica Navarro
Helene Dina
Karen Linares
Erin Ballew
Scott Cooper
Laura Logsdon
Rebekah Faubion
Frances Schulthies
Anita Sheridan
Lara Sage
Mari Forge
Bonnie Fisher
Jessica Zeichner
George Basil
Johanna Voutounou
Karin Davalos
Gina Sandoval
Rosa Andrade
Ellen Reese
Nicole Bruckman
Lea Kalani
Molly McLaughlin
Berenice Gonzalez
Matthew Malone
Rhea Fuentes
Yesenia De La Canal
Saratt Lee Samonte
David VaDyke
Teresa Lang
Nancy G Bennett

Photo Fundraiser Committee

Photographers:
Aaron Farley
Satina Henderson
Frank Terry
Ryan Pavlovich
Jonathan Friolo
Gail Salmo

Volunteers:
Anita Sheridan
Nick Franchot
Laura Logsdon
Rusty Logsdon
Remy Iglesias
Prokopis Frantzis
Ron Henderson
Sarah Lee Samonte
Max Tepper
Lili Ortega



Out parent volunteers making magic at Halloween/Harvet town

We have many more fun events heading your way in the Winter and Spring. Look out for emails from your room parents that will detail how you can join a Special Event team! We really need you!

Committees:

Our school greatly values our parent created and led committees! This is a wonderful way to be a proactive part of our school community. Many of our committee members wanted to initiate positive change and created a committee to work on issues that were important to them.

We have already seen the benefits of the work our Green Team, Build Committee and Garden Committee have put in this year! Our chill zone and garden got a recent revamp and a new recycling program has been set into action, thanks to these groups!



Our Garden committee hard at work

Parent representatives:

LFCSA actively seek parents to join us as we make important decisions that effect our students and school community. Our parent representatives that hold seats on our Board of Directors, School Site Council, Social Emotional Learning and Middle School Expansion committees are a vital part of our decision making teams.

Their leadership has helped guide our school through our renewal process, has informed our yearly budgets, helped shape our new social-emotional curriculum and is guiding us as we expand to middle school.

Your participation in the governing of our school is vital and we are thankful you chose to take on this role!

PTA:

Last but not least, our incredible PTA board and members work tirelessly all year long to build a strong LFCSA community, inform our parents, fundraise for the school and just make sure we are all having fun! We appreciate all you do for LFCSA. You are our heart!

With all these great opportunities to join the LFCSA Parent Volunteer team, we hope you consider volunteering this year, it is a sure way to make a lasting impact on our school!

THANK YOU!

**Information: Community Build Day -
TOMORROW Saturday November 18th**

Speaking of volunteering....come to LFCSA's Annual Fall Community Build Day! Help improve our school by participating in several building and repairing projects.

Parent volunteers will be leading each project and we need your help to get each goal complete! Build a sandwich board or two, repair the garden, drywall a shipping container, create a safe pathway along the side of the building and much more!

Kids will be working on projects as well and they are welcome and encouraged to help support their school in this very tangible way.

This community event brings us all together and allows families and kids to bond while making a difference. It also teaches our kids the very important lesson that their hard work pays off, and that volunteering our time is the kind of community activism that makes LFSCA thrive. Bring a friend or a family member! Shifts are morning or afternoon, but come for even just an hour or two to lend a hand!

Saturday, November 18th

9:00a.m. - 5:00p.m.

Community Lunch served to both shifts at 12:00p.m.

There are shifts and jobs to sign up for or just come ready to help! Tools needed to borrow/use that day: cordless drills/screw drivers and bits, chop saw, extension cords, shovels, wheelbarrows. Mention the tools you can bring in the sign up genius.

Please email Stephanie Ragle for any specific questions: sragle@mac.com.

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/508054dadaa2aa57-community2>

Information: Attendance 101 What you need to know!

Why is it important to come to school?

Attending school every day has a positive impact on student learning and helps to put students on a track towards success. Our curriculum is project based and child-centered. Our students often work on projects in groups and when your child is absent they miss out on making decisions with their classmates that can effect their projects.

Our arts integration is one of the things that makes LFCSA special. When your child is absent they are most likely going to miss their weekly opportunity to explore the curriculum with one of their specialists.

What is the financial consequences of missing school?

LFCSA is a free, public charter and like all LAUSD public school we rely on our allocated government funds to operate. How these funds are calculated is through our ADA (Average Daily Attendance). The district calls it "butts in seats", here at LFCSA we call it "butts in seats or on the floor!"

Every time your child comes to school we receive \$60. When they don't come, we lose that money. We use that budgeted money to pay our teacher's salaries, provide

our classrooms with supplies and pay our day to day operational costs.

**This school year we already have had a total of 1301 absences.
We lost \$78,060 in funding!**

My child is sick, what can I do when this happens?

If your child is sick, inform your teacher via email. You can find your teachers email on our website. If your child sees a doctor for their illness, provide your teacher with the doctor's note. This will be considered an "excused absence."

Other "excused absences":

Bereavement

Religious holiday

*Note: Excused absences do not count as attendance. They only inform the school as to why your student is absent and we will take these into consideration if your child is chronically absent.

I have a doctor's appointment, trip planned or want to take my child on a special outing, what should I do?

Parents and guardians are responsible for ensuring that children attend school.

- Consider booking your doctor's appointment after school or later in the school day. You can sign your child out at the front office after they have attended part of the day and they will still be able to get marked present.
- Most amusement parks do not open until after 10:00am, consider having your child attend school in the morning before taking them to their special family outing.
- If you have a trip planned contact your teacher a week in advance to get your child an Independent Study. The school can change their absences to presence when you return the work.

Tell me more about this Independent Study!

An Independent Study is an educational contract created for your child by their teacher. Inform your teacher if your child will be out 3 or more days. Your teacher will create an individualized work folder to help your child stay up to date on work they will be missing while they are away.

Once your child returns to school and turns in their work, we can change their absences to presents.

Coming soon...

Our school is currently working on providing a **1 day**, online independent study sign up. The system is being piloted and once we work out the kinks, families can request an independent study for ANY day your child is absent. The contract and school work will be downloadable from our website!

Information: Communication is Important to Us

We understand it is hard to to stay connected and we have been noticing our parent partners are making a real effort this year to help us build a strong school community.

We don't want you to miss out on important school information, announcements and classroom events.

Here is a list of communication outlets the school uses to keep you informed.

1. Read the weekly e-blast! It is our school's main form of communication. Everything we need you to know, is in it! Important school news, announcements, special school and community events and much, much more.

2. Check out your Room Parent E-mails! Not only are these emails a way to plan class playdates and classroom celebrations, your teacher, the PTA and the school often rely on our room parents to send out time-sensitive information. Since our e-blast only goes out on Fridays, we often ask our room parents to send out reminders for us.

3. Our [website](#) is a great resource! We have a tab that is dedicated to you. Click on the "Families" tab to access our school calendar, information about our lunch program, read our parent handbook and much more...

Also on our website you can find contact information for all our teachers. specialists and staff.

4. Social media tools made for you!

We also update our facebook page, instagram and Vimeo Learning channel regularly with photos and videos that give parents a sneak peek into our daily routine.

5. Parent Community Facebook page! This is not monitored or used by the school to get information to you. Although a great resource to connect with your fellow parents. Please do not rely on this page to get school communication.

How to communicate with us? We want to hear from you.

Here are some people that are available to help:

Your teacher:

This is the first person to reach out to if you have questions or concerns about your child.

Our front office staff:

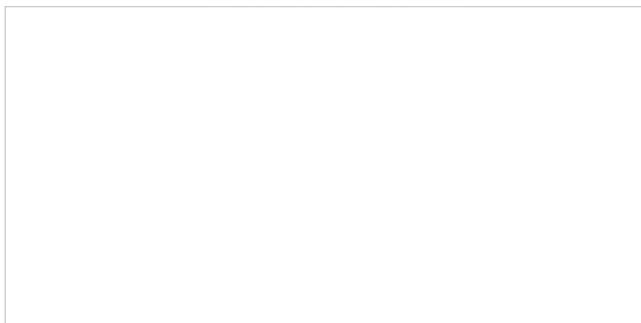
- Lunch questions/volunteering/medication - sabra@loshelzarts.org
- Admissions/enrollment/e-blast/events - johanna@loshelzarts.org
- Attendance/independent study - jessica@loshelzart.org
- Immunizations/student records - brenda@loshelzarts.org
- Special Education - karin@loshelzarts.org
- After school program: CAP@loshelzarts.org

Our Counselor:

If you have questions about behavior interventions and our social emotional learning please email our School counselor canda@losfelizarts.org

If you have a specific question about a incident that happened at school, always email your teacher first, they can help you contact our intervention team to find out more.

Mrs. Nelson's Book Fair is Coming
December 4th - 8th from 7:30am - 5:30pm
in the Auditorium



This is one of our favorite events! Everyone has a chance to buy beautiful books for the holidays and let all of our students know how much our community values reading. It's an extremely fun event to volunteer for, please click see to [sign up](#).

The **Gift of Giving Campaign** is also back. This program was created to raise funds to ensure that every student has the opportunity to bring home a book from the fair.

During the book fair the LFCSA PTA will be selling LFCSA mini notebooks, necklaces, stickers, and temporary tattoos at the book fair. All proceeds from the purchase of these items will go to the **Gift of Giving Campaign**.

New this year:

Students can only visit the book fair during their scheduled classroom visit or with an adult. Class visits this year will be longer to give students more time to shop, however if your child would like to return to the book fair on another day, you must accompany them.

Send money with your child ONLY on their scheduled class day. Make sure money is placed in a clearly labeled ziplock bag or an envelope with your child and teacher name written on it. We are encouraging parents to come in and make purchases either with your children or off your child's wish list.

Class visit dates will be announced the week before the fair.

Thank you for your support.

Community: Marsh Park Bioblitz

The council for watershed health CWH is holding a community science Bioblitz at

Marsh Park. A Bioblitz is an event where volunteer scientists, families, students, and other community members try to identify as many plant and animal species as possible in a given time period in a specific location. It's a great way to connect to the great outdoors, science, and the LA River since Marsh Park is located right next to it! The event will include a site tour of Marsh Park's eco-friendly green infrastructure features and a presentation of the results from CWH's water monitoring activities there. We will conclude with the Bioblitz, in which we will take photos of insects, animals, and plants and upload them to an app called iNaturalist that connects these observations to scientists who can identify the species for you!
[Register for the event here.](#)

Upcoming Events

Please refer to our [school calendar](#) for updates to upcoming events

November 20th - 24th

Thanksgiving Break

November 27th

Pupil free day - Teacher Professional Development

December 1st

Catalyst Educator Day

Contact

Los Feliz Charter School for the Arts
2709 Media Center Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90065
(323) 539-2810

Stay Connected



"Instruction ends in the school-room, but education ends only with life."

- Frederick W. Robertson

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