

## 2023 Session 4

March 20- June 9, 2023



Inspiring curiosity through a personalized, project-based learning experience

**2023 Session 4 – Monday, March 20 to Friday, June 9, 2023**

310.707.8538 | 500 CENTER STREET, EL SEGUNDO, CA 90245

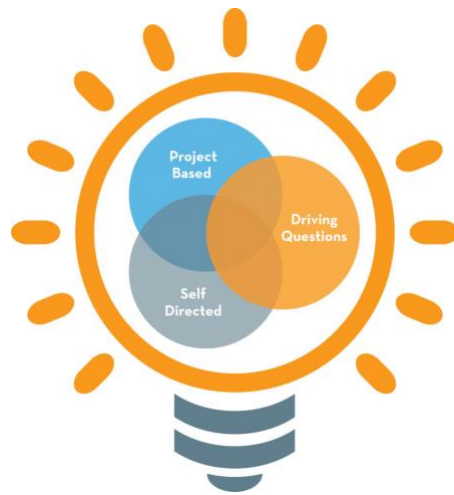
Nonprofit 501(c)(3) 81-4353194

# Welcome to the LOFT!

Our mission is to inspire curiosity in students through a personalized, hands-on, project-based learning experience.

At The LOFT, our goals are to support, enhance, and develop a joy for learning. We're excited to inspire your children this year and beyond!

Our labs and one-to-one instruction are aligned with California Standards. We provide Da Vinci Connection and homeschool families with work journal documentation including quality work samples.



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## 2023 Session 4 Schedule

Masks are optional at The LOFT. We ask that you continue to take precautions to further prevent the spread of COVID-19. Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 is asked to stay home for five days.

The Cohort program is best-experienced in-person and the expectation is the group will participate on campus unless illness, or such, prevents attendance.

**First Day:** Monday, March 20, 2023

**Last Day:** Friday, June 9, 2023

**Duration:**

- 10 Weeks of instruction for Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday Labs
- 9 weeks of instruction for Monday Labs due to holiday(s):
  - **No Labs on: April 3-7 for Spring Break**
  - No Monday Labs on: Memorial Day, May 29, 2023

## Price and Billing

Type	Number of Meetings Per week/ Session	Hours Per Week	Hours Per Session	Session Price
Labs	1 per week 10 per session	2	20	\$375
The Cohort – learning group for early teens	2 x per week 20 per session	8	40	\$1,500
Labs on Monday – less days due to Holiday	1 per week 8 per session	2	18	\$337.50
Tutoring – 2 learners for one hour - each				\$50
Tutoring – private 1 learner for one hour				\$85

- Payment is due by the first day of the Session.
- All students will be given a LOFT email address upon enrollment/payment.
- Commitment and billing are for the full session.
- There are no refunds or make-up classes if you miss a lab.
- As a non-profit, the LOFT appreciates donations and timely payments.
- A price adjustment is provided for holidays or labs canceled by the LOFT.
- The LOFT may cancel a lab if the minimum number of students is not achieved or charge small group rates.

## Payment

- Make checks payable to LOFT Academy US.
- The LOFT accepts credit card payments. A 4% processing fee is charged.

## General

- ❖ Signed acknowledgment of policies and release of liability must be submitted prior to attending The LOFT.
- ❖ For in-person classes, social and food breaks are built into the day. Each hour is approximately 50 minutes of instruction.
- ❖ For in person classes, please bring a lunch/snacks and water bottle.
- ❖ The LOFT is an electronic game free zone. Cell phone usage for parent/child communication only, please.

## Hardship

The LOFT is a non-profit organization and committed to offering a personalized learning experience to all. To date, we are proud to say we have helped many families with reduced tuition assistance. Unfortunately, money only goes so far, and the LOFT's scholarship fund and discounting ability has been exhausted. However, if financial hardship is preventing you from participating, please provide evidence of hardship to see if an extended payment arrangement can be made. We hope to have new donations made in the near future by generous supporters to help additional family's financial needs.

## Donations

It is through the generous donation of our community we are able to keep the cost for this premium learning experience so low. **Please consider The LOFT in your charitable contributions.** Donations help fund programs and extend our reach into the community to offer scholarships.

**501(c)(3) 81-4355194**

# Schedule At-A-Glance

## Monday

Time	Subject	Grades	Title	Facilitator(s)	Cost
	<b>9:00 to 11:00</b>				
9:00 to 11:00	HS	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	History Alive: War and Peace, 1919-1946	David	\$337.50
9:00 to 11:00	Math	4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	Foundational Math and the Mathlete	Brad	\$337.50
9:00 to 11:00	LAN	4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	Immersion Spanish	Carlos	\$337.50
	<b>11:30 to 1:20</b>				
11:30 to 1:20	ELA/HS	4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	Raise the Bar/ Level 2	David	\$337.50
11:30 to 1:20	Math	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Algebra I	Brad	\$337.50
	<b>1:30 to 3:20</b>				
1:30 to 3:20	HS/ELA	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Big History Project, Level 2	David	\$337.50
1:30 to 3:20	Math	4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	Art Architecture and Design	Brad	\$337.50
1:30 to 3:20	Math	4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	The Art of Math	Brad	\$337.50
	<b>3:30 to 4:30</b>				
3:30 to 4:30	ELA	1 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	Tutor	David	tutor
3:30 to 4:30	Math	1 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	Tutor	Brad	tutor

Subject Key:			
ELA	English Language Arts	SEL	Social & Emotional Learning
Math	Math	HS	History and Social Science
CT	Critical Thinking	PF	Arts/Performance
SC	Science	LAN	Foreign Language
PS	Problem Solving		

**Tuesday**

Time	Subject	Grades	Title	Facilitator(s)	Cost
<b>9:00 to 11:00</b>					
9:00 to 11:00	HS/CT	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Research Topics– LOFT Angeles Times *library card	David	\$375
9:00 to 11:00	Math	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Algebra I	Brad	\$375
<b>11:30 to 1:20</b>					
11:30 to 1:20	ELA	4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	Geography 101	Brad	\$375
11:30 to 1:20	1-1	Any	1-1 Tutoring with David (Intervention techniques)	David	\$85/hr
11:30 to 3:20*	CT/SC/PS/ ELA/SEL/HS	7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	*Cohort – meets 2x per week for 4 hours each day	Rick/Dilette	\$1,500
<b>1:30 to 3:20</b>					
1:30 to 3:20	ELA/PS/CT	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Say What? The Art of Debate	David	\$375
1:30 to 3:20	Math	4 <sup>th</sup> /5 <sup>th</sup>	Art Architecture and Design	Brad	\$375
11:30 to 3:20*	CT/SC/PS/ ELA/SEL/HS	7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Cohort – meets 2x per week for 4 hours each day	Rick/Dilette	-
<b>3:45 to 5:30</b>					
3:30 to 4:30	ELA	1 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	Tutor	David	Tutor
3:30 to 4:30	Math	1 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	Tutor	Brad	Tutor

Subject Key:			
ELA	English Language Arts	SEL	Social & Emotional Learning
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SC	Science	LAN	Foreign Language
PS	Problem Solving		



## Wednesday

Time	Subject	Grades	Title	Facilitator(s)	Cost
<b>9:00 to 11:00</b>					
9:00 to 11:00	ELA	4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	Raise the Bar- student writing intensive	David	\$375
9:00 to 11:00	Math	7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	CPM 1, 2, 3 Math Support (review/previews)	Maria/Brad	\$375
9:00 to 11:00	CT/PS/SEL	4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	Shared Inquiry – interpreting the short story	Rick/Dilette	\$375
<b>11:30 to 1:20</b>					
11:30 to 1:20	ELA	4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	Culture Club/Nat Geo Discovery	David	\$400
11:30 to 1:20	ELA	5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	Math Fundamentals	Brad	\$375
11:30 to 3:20*	CT/SC/PS/ ELA/SEL/HS	7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Cohort* – meets 2x per week for 4 hours each day	Rick/Dilette	-
<b>1:30 to 3:20</b>					
1:30 to 3:20	HIS/ELA	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Big History Project	David	\$375
1:30 to 3:20	ELA	4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	Creative Writing	Brad	\$375
11:30 to 3:20*	CT/SC/PS/ ELA/SEL/HS	7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Cohort – meets 2x per week for 4 hours each day	Rick/Dilette	-
<b>3:30-5:30</b>					
3:30 to 5:30	LAN	5 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Immersion Spanish	Carlos	\$375
3:30 to 4:30	ELA	1 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	Tutoring Intervention	David	\$85/hr

## Thursday

Time	Subject	Grades	Title	Facilitator(s)	Cost
	<b>9:00 to 11:00</b>				
9:00 to 11:00	ELA/HS	5 <sup>th</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup>	History Alive: War and Peace, 1919-1946	David	\$375
9:00 to 11:00	Math	4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	Math Fundamentals	Brad	\$375
	<b>11:30 to 1:20</b>				
11:30 to 1:20	ELA	4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	Raise the Bar- Student Writing Intensive *Level 4	David	\$375
11:30 to 1:20	Math	4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	Creative Writing	Brad	\$375
	<b>1:30 to 3:20</b>				
1:30 to 3:20	PF/HS	4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	Say What? The Art of Debate	David	\$375
1:30 to 3:20	Math	4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	The Art of Math	Brad	\$375
	<b>3:45 to 5:30</b>				
3:30 to 4:30	ELA	4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	Tutor	David	Tutor
3:30 to 4:30	Math	4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	Tutor	Brad	Tutor

Subject Key:			
ELA	English Language Arts	SEL	Social & Emotional Learning
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SC	Science	LAN	Foreign Language
PS	Problem Solving		

**Friday**

Time	Subject	Grades	Title	Facilitator(s)	Cost
	<b>9:00 to 11:00</b>				
9:00 to 11:00	ELA	4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	Raise the Bar, Level 1 & 2 (Beginners welcome)	David	\$375
9:00 to 11:00	Math	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Algebra I	Brad	\$375
	<b>11:30 to 1:20</b>				
11:30-1:20	ELA	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Playing Shakespeare	David	\$375
11:30-1:20	Math	4 <sup>th</sup> /5 <sup>th</sup>	Foundational Math and the Mathlete	Brad	\$375
	<b>1:30 to 3:20</b>				
1:30 to 3:20	ELA	All	Tutoring	David	\$85/Hr
1:30 to 3:20	Math	4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	Creative Writing	Brad	\$375
	<b>4:30 to 5:30</b>				
3:30 to 4:30	ELA	4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	Tutor- Reading Comprehension (1-1)	David	Tutor/hourly
3:30 to 4:30	Math	4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	Tutor- Math Fundamentals (1-1)	Brad	Tutor/hourly

Subject Key:			
ELA	English Language Arts	SEL	Social & Emotional Learning
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# The COHORT

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The Cohort is an **engaging, project-based, academic program designed to develop critical thinkers while expanding social skills.** The program is designed for a small group of early teens to move through the yearlong curriculum together. The small group setting promotes trust within the peer-group to facilitate deep and lively conversations that stimulate critical thinking, cooperation, and social skills.

The Cohort meets twice a week for four hours and is designed to build a community of inquiry over the course of the year. 21st century skills will be developed through collaboration, research, questioning, and analyzing with peers in academic areas such as science, reading, writing, and philosophy!

As members of the Cohort pursue their studies, they will receive guidance and support from co-teachers, Rick Sharp and Dilette Chiprin. Together, Rick and Dilette bring over 45 years of experience as masters of leading constructivist style learning, social-emotional development, and problem-solving skills.

The consistency of the cohort members and the length of time they spend together builds trust and promotes deep learning and lively discussions. The topics are designed to exercise academic muscle and promote critical thinking as well as social and emotional learning.

The Cohort meets 16 times over 8 weeks, for a total of 64 hours of group instruction.

## The Cohort (age target: early teens)

### Session 1: Thinking with the Thinkers: The Science and Literature of the Enlightenment

<b>Grade Target:</b>	early teens
<b>Meeting frequency:</b>	TWO times per week on Tuesday AND Wednesday
<b>Time:</b>	11:30am - 3:20pm
<b>Number of meetings</b>	16 meetings spanning 8 weeks on Tuesdays and Wednesdays
<b>Facilitators:</b>	Rick and Dilette – teaching partners
<b>Subjects covered:</b>	Science, neuroscience, reading, writing, social & emotional learning, critical thinking, and problem solving.
<b>Commitment:</b>	Year-long commitment strongly recommended

#### Description:

The main goals of the cohort are to build critical thinking, problem solving, and social connection. When we mix those all together we get what we call a Community of Inquiry. This year, we will attempt to accomplish those goals as we look at one of the

most exciting times in Western history...The Enlightenment, also called the Age of Reason. How did the ideas of modern science and the modern scientific method arise? What philosophical thought gave rise to discomfort with kings, queens, and monarchs leading to the rise and spread of democracy? Whose voices were included and whose were not? How did this thinking influence art and literature?

Through readings in primary sources, history, and historical fiction, investigations into art using the Getty's D.B.A.E (Discipline Based Art Education), hands on, personal re-discovery of major scientific discoveries, and discussion based learning in the Enlightenment style, we will immerse ourselves in the joy, excitement, exhilaration, and connection of Enlightenment thinking. Sounds fun doesn't it?! We certainly believe it will be.

Our goal is to build a Culture of Thinking from which we will investigate emergent interests, issues, and problems in a trusting environment of engaged learners that leads us forward into a sustained Community of Inquiry over the coming sessions of the year. This class meets on Tuesday and Wednesday from 11:30am to 3:20pm.

<b>Home Practice:</b>	Yes, approximately 1.5 – 3 hours per week
<b>Materials:</b>	Yes, check with Rick and Dilette
<b>Chromebook:</b>	The Cohort will make use of Chromebooks in their project work. If you do not have a Chromebook or access to a computer with a Chrome browser, we have a limited number that can be used while at The Loft.
<b>Work journal support:</b>	Work samples and description of class progress will be provided via Google Docs for you to fulfill DVC work journals or charter school proof of learning requirements.
<b>Grade Target:</b>	7th – 8th Cohort (6th with approval)
<b>In-person attendance</b>	Due to the nature of hands-on projects and the lively discussion, the Cohort is best delivered in-person.
<b>Commitment:</b>	The Cohort is designed to build a community of inquiry over the course of the academic year. As such, students are highly encouraged to attend all sessions.

### Application for The Cohort

Inclusion in The Cohort is based on an application and a family interview to ensure a good fit. True to our mission statement, class size will be limited to an 10 to 1 teacher: student ratio.

If interested in joining The Cohort, please apply and we will schedule a family interview.

<https://www.loftacademy.org/middle-school-cohort/#about>

### Student Questionnaire

Please have your student print and complete the “Student Questionnaire” document to bring with them during their interview.

<https://www.loftacademy.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/STUDENT-QUESTIONNAIRE-MSc.pdf>

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# SCIENCE LAB DESCRIPTIONS

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## The Cohort: Thinking with the Thinkers: The Science and Literature of the Enlightenment

(see above for more details about the Cohort)

**Grade Target:** early teens

**Meeting frequency:** TWO times per week on Tuesday AND Wednesday

**Time:** 11:30am - 3:20pm

**Facilitator:** Rick and Dilette

**Commitment:** Year-long commitment strongly recommended

**Description:** The main goals of the cohort are to build critical thinking, problem solving, and social connection. When we mix those all together we get what we call a Community of Inquiry. This year, we will attempt to accomplish those goals as we look at one of the most exciting times in Western history...The Enlightenment, also called the Age of Reason. How did the ideas of modern science and the modern scientific method arise? What philosophical thought gave rise to discomfort with kings, queens, and monarchs leading to the rise and spread of democracy? Whose voices were included and whose were not? How did this thinking influence art and literature?

Through readings in primary sources, history, and historical fiction, investigations into art using the Getty's D.B.A.E (Discipline Based Art Education), hands on, personal re-discovery of major scientific discoveries, and discussion based learning in the Enlightenment style, we will immerse ourselves in the joy, excitement, exhilaration, and connection of Enlightenment thinking. Sounds fun doesn't it?! We certainly believe it will be.

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## Geography 101 \*NEW

**Grade Target:** 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Brad

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** Learn the basics of cartography, the world map controversy, the nations of the world and their capitals, the states of our nation and their capitals, as well as some of how geography and weather come together.

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# MATH LABS DESCRIPTIONS

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## Foundational Math and the Mathlete

**Grade Target:** 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Brad

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** All math simply begins with counting. Whether by counting up, down, in groups, or out, Brad will work to improve your kiddo's numeracy, and hone their dexterity with the basic algorithms. As confidence grows, fractions, decimals, percentages, and algebra will be either introduced, or worked over so that students really can stretch and grow!

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## Art Architecture and Design

**Grade Target:** 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Brad

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** Taking inspiration from the intersection of math and nature this class will be an immersive, hands-on lab where students design and build solid structures including: cathedrals, large indoor spaces, and other famous design monuments.

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## Algebra I \*NEW

**Grade Target:** 7<sup>th</sup>/ 8<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Brad

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** A smaller and more purposeful class aimed at aiding students who want to move ahead in math in middle school and high school. The course will cover the material from Algebra I in a fun and different way as we work on understanding and facility with the concepts and topics from basic algebra equations to proofs and an intro to advanced topics.

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## The Art of Math

**Grade Target:** 4<sup>th</sup> -5<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Brad

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** With math all around us this course will be examining the connection between math and art. We will look at how famous artists have used math in their work, and how math has several patterns and processes that are artistic. We will also explore some of the art and math of architecture.



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### CPM Math

**Grade Target:** 6<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Brad

**Materials:** Students will be asked to bring their current CPM lessons, either printed or on their laptop.

**Description:** This lab is intended for 6th-8th grade students that are using the CPM (College Preparatory Math) curriculum. Students will work on completing and making corrections on their current assignments while receiving tutoring on the content as needed. We will follow the timeline for assignments provided to DV Connect students. Michelle has tutored groups of junior high and high school students in a similar fashion and is looking forward to helping students at the LOFT with this same model. Some of the benefits of this model include; having an intentional space and adequate block of time for students to study and complete their work, the presence of a tutor to help with challenging content, learning through working collaboratively and helping fellow students and the opportunity to practice organizational and study skills.

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### Math Foundational Skills, Level 3

**Grade Target:** 6<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Brad

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** Math is a language complete with an alphabet, punctuation, grammar, and syntax. As the concepts become more complicated, like algebra, integers, exponents, and geometry, being “fluent” in that language becomes more and more important for developing confidence and competence. This lab will focus on the fundamentals and developing key skills so that students can speak, read, and write math. Hands-on work with story problems and projects will highlight this dynamic lab.

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### Tutoring, Math – Levels 1, 2, and 3

**Grade Target:** All

**Schedule:** Monday to Friday

**Facilitator:** Varies

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** We offer comprehensive, one-to-one tutoring in math from 1<sup>st</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Whether your young one needs a little foundational support, full intervention, or just a boost, we will provide support in a caring environment and encourage their growth.

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# ENGLISH & LANGUAGE ARTS

## DESCRIPTIONS

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### The Hamilton Education Project

**Grade Target:** 4<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** David

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** The Hamilton Education Program Online is a primer for studying Alexander Hamilton and the Founding Era. When the students have completed the activities in the Hamilton Education Program Online, they will have a greater knowledge of the Founding Era, familiarity with reading and understanding primary sources, and experience using primary sources to create their own interpretations of Founding Era events, as Lin-Manuel Miranda did in the musical Hamilton. The foundation of studying history is the analysis of primary source documents, but 18th-century texts can be difficult for young secondary students. The study of primary sources in this guide will start with the analysis of an image and then move on to the analysis of two texts. The class will culminate in either a student created project or virtual performance.

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### Mega-Manga Graphic Novel Lab

**Grade Target:** 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Brad

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** Explore this medium that combines art and story-telling this year! We'll begin by reading famous stories that have been turned into graphic novels, and then some new material that bridges the gap like the John Lewis biography in this style. Over the course of the session we'll develop techniques on: character creation, plot evolution, conflicts and themes. With stories in hand we will storyboard and create our own graphic narratives using free-hand or computer art from *Storyboard That*. Class will culminate on a 'comic-con' inspired final day to share work with each other and others at The LOFT.

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### Big History Project, Level 2

**Grade Target:** 6<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** David

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** Harness the curiosity and creativity of your students with a supercharged social studies curriculum that gets beyond facts. Following the curriculum with inspired Socratic discussion, students in this lab will draw mind-blowing connections between past, present and future.

BHP delivers a big picture look at the world, and helps students develop a framework to organize what they're learning both in and out of school. After they leave this class,

students will have a better understanding of how we got here, where we're going, and how they fit in. It's a place that was 13.8 billion years in the making. This lab will be modified to fit into the Loft's weekly time block and will continue into the next session.

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### **Raising the Bar: building writing skills (IEW) \*Check calendar for levels**

**Grade Target:** 4<sup>th</sup> -5<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** David

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** Reading is language function, while writing is a motor function. This class will merge the two using key-word outlines. We will build the skills to succeed: helping students understand that research, organizing, clarifying ideas, and improving grammar and presentation are all essential to strong writing. I'm following along with Ken Pudewa's Student Writing Intensive process. It is important to note that this is a technical approach to mastery through developing and practicing a new skill in graduated steps.

Resources: Ken Pudewa IEW spelling [podcast](#)- extension

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### **Creative Writing Intensive**

**Grade Target:** 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** David

**Materials:** Short stories and books TBD will be requested.

**Description:** This year we'll be diving deep into the process of creative writing in a year-long intensive designed to make reading and writing figurative language more accessible, while addressing reading standards for expository, informational, and narrative writing styles. Students will develop narratives (real and imagined) using well-structured descriptive writing. We'll also explore poetry vs prose, how authors use mythology as source material, and even addressing the memoir vs the autobiography. This class is truly epic in scope and parents are encouraged to continue sessions throughout the academic year.

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### **Say What?! The Art of Debate**

**Grade Target:** 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** David

**Materials:** None

**Description:** A number of studies have reported that participation in debate increases critical thinking skills with students. Debate participation promotes problem solving and innovative thinking, and helps students to build links between words and ideas that make concepts more meaningful. Students will learn to see the value in both sides of an issue. As F. Scott Fitzgerald once said, "The test of a first-rate intelligence is the ability to hold two opposed ideas in mind at the same time and still retain the ability to function."

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## Shared Inquiry and the Short Story

**Grade Target:** 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitators:** Rick & Dilette

**Materials:** Short Stories TBD (will be supplied) from the Junior Great Books Program

**Description:** Based on the work of University of Chicago professor Mortimer Adler, the Junior Great Books program uses a distinctive discussion method called “Shared Inquiry.” It builds its discussion around short stories which can be read in one sitting, but are actually read three times. First for enjoyment and to get the “big picture.” Second, for detail and to notice language, author style and intent, and deeper layers. And finally, to answer an “interpretive question,” defined as a question that has at least two plausible answers which can be supported within the text. In this class, we will read and discuss 2-5 short stories from the Great Books curriculum Series 5-7, which include short stories like: Thank You, Ma’am, Langston Hughes; Thunder, Elephant, and Dorobo, an African folktale as told by Humphrey Harman; All Summer in a Day, Ray Bradbury; A Game of Catch, Richard Wilbur, and many more.

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## Creative Writing

**Grade Target:** 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** Brad

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** Students may feel reluctant and threatened by a blank piece of paper and a request to write a story about a given topic. However, with some inspiration and fun activities, reluctant writers gain confidence and eager writers gain the skills to create higher quality writing. We’ll start with the six traits of writing: ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, and conventions and see where go from there!

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## The LOFT Angeles Times, Research Topics

**Grade Target:** 5<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitators:** David C.

**Materials:** Please have an active library card from the El Segundo branch

**Description:** This class is going to switch up the traditional newspaper research and shift our emphasis to hand-writing a research paper. We’ll demystify the ancient art of researching without a computer as we practice creating bibliography cards, outlines and other resources at the library to write a paper we can be truly proud of. Classes will occasionally meet at the El Segundo Library.

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## Playing Shakespeare

**Grade target:** 6<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** David C.

**Materials:** N/A

**Description:** Included

**Description:** Using scriptural analysis and performance-based techniques, this lab will study the language and style of William Shakespeare. Participants will work collaboratively, while exploring the history of the period, Renaissance traditions, and the playwright himself. Literature and writing evidence will be displayed through detailed

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character analysis. Performance aspects include understanding the difference between prose and poetry and how actors use them in performance.

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### **History Alive! War and Peace, 1919-1946** \*needs teacher approval

**Grade Target:** 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** David C.

**Materials:** Occasional book purchase

**Description:** Our year long journey of asking *how* and *why* history happens through role-play activities, hands-on projects, and traditional note-taking activities will continue as our conversation will shift to a more global perspective. How nation-building and other world historical events led to the ‘Great War’, how the ‘Treaty of Versailles’ created the rise of Nazism. We’ll also explore other lesser known, lesser studied topics of injustice on U.S. soil such as: The Tulsa Massacre, Japanese Internment, and other systemic inequalities. The questions we’ll continue to explore are: is war inevitable, are we destined to repeat the same errors in history over and over, or is peace achievable.

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### **History Alive! California History**

**Grade Target:** 4<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** David

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** You know about the Hamilton and Burr duel, but have you heard of [David S. Terry](#) and [David Broderick](#)?

Did you know that the movie industry and [surfing](#) both came into being in California in 1907?

The story of California, from its geomorphic origins to its ranking as the sixth or seventh largest economy in the world is both dramatic and sublime. It is expansive and illustrative of histories everywhere. Students will delve and explore vital connections between California's present and its past, while learning and recognizing significant changes in its history. 4th grade aligned. Please feel free to comment in the margins with any questions! My biggest source book for this class has been Kevin Starr's brilliant book: "California". Highly recommended to you for further discussion! I'll also occasionally be using [Thinklink](#) with the kids- check it out here for extension activities!

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### **Culture Club / Nat Geo Discovery**

**Grade target:** 4<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup>

**Facilitator:** David C.

**Materials:** Additional \$25 fee included in tuition for food prep. Please advise Center Director if any allergies are present with student.

**Description:** Students will still explore and experience world cultures in this ‘foodie’ immersive lab. Students will build a definition of the word together by looking at geological, historical changes, as well as various fauna and flora in world regions. They will read stories from different countries, explore those cultures on a map, and cook and

eat foods when we can that represent various cultural traditions. In addition, students will celebrate and write stories around various cultural traditions.

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### **Tutoring, Reading and Writing – Levels 1, 2, and 3**

**Grade Target:** All

**Schedule:** Monday to Friday

**Facilitator:** Varies

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** We offer comprehensive, one-to-one tutoring in language arts from 1<sup>st</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades. Whether your young one needs a little foundational support, full intervention, or just a boost, we will provide support in a caring environment and encourage their growth.

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# SPANISH DESCRIPTIONS

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## Spanish Immersion for Beginners + - Level 1, 2, and 3

**Grade Target:** Appropriate for anyone interested in learning Spanish

**Facilitator:** Carlos A.

**Materials:** Included

**Description:** The most effective way to learn something new is to do it! Through projects such as cooking, science, board games, and other fun-filled activities, Spanish vocabulary and phrases will be heard/spoken/read/written and brought to life through the relevance of the activity.

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# TUTORING & SMALL GROUPS

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## ONE to One Tutoring – Private

**Grade Target:** 1<sup>st</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>

**Schedule:** Monday to Friday available

**Price:** \$85

**Time:** per hour

**Description:** We offer comprehensive, one-to-one tutoring in all subject areas from 1<sup>st</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades. Whether your young one needs a little foundational support, full intervention, or just a boost - let us help you reach your academic goals.

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## TWO to One Tutoring – 2 learners

**Grade Target:** 1<sup>st</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>

**Schedule:** Monday to Friday available

**Price:** \$50 per learner

**Time:** per hour

**Description:** We offer comprehensive tutoring in all subject areas. Partner up with a buddy at a similar academic level and enjoy the fun of learning together. Whether your young one needs a little foundational support, full intervention, or just a boost - let us help you reach your academic goals.

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## Small Group

**Grade Target:** 1<sup>st</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>

**Schedule:** Monday to Friday available

**Price:** \$500 per learner for a 11-week session. A small group has 4 learners (or more at the group's request).

**Time:** Small groups meet for 2 hours.

**Description:** The LOFT will design a Lab to meet your specific needs for your small group.

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