

LOS ANGELES LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Dear Community,

As we reflect on the 2016-2017 school year, please join the LALA staff and me in acknowledging and celebrating the many wonderful learning experiences and educational opportunities that have taken place for our students at LALA, in numerous classrooms and in very creative and innovative ways.

I am proud of our accomplishments this school year and look forward to more successes in the future. Our Secondary Academy was granted five-year renewal by Los Angeles Unified School District in October. I would like to thank all the stakeholders who supported us throughout the process.

We adopted state approved English Language Arts and Math Curriculum this year, equipped our classrooms with 1:1 technology, implemented strategic intervention programs to support all learners, and added Visual Arts program to our Primary School. I am very grateful for support that we receive from our funders to make these opportunities possible for our students.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate our class of 2017! Our seniors worked very hard and I am very proud of their accomplishments! I wish them the best as they step ahead towards new challenges in life.

Arina Goldring
Executive Director



"It's an honor to be recognized by the Los Angeles Leadership Academy. Every child deserves a quality education and sound guidance. And the work the Academy does to empower its students to harness and develop their abilities so they can realize their dreams is extraordinary. These kids represent the future and having had the opportunity to visit the campus and see firsthand the interaction between these amazing students and the Academy was inspiring. I can't wait to see the wonderful things these students will do with their lives."

- David Madden, President, Entertainment, Fox Broadcasting Company

Join us Wednesday, May 24 at LALA's fundraising dinner for 2017 Honoree David Madden and Volunteer of the Year Allan Rudnick at UCLA's Luskin Conference Center Call Lauran Huff at 310-201-5033 or lauran@lpaevents.com for table and ticket information.

Since joining the Fox network in 2014, David Madden has overseen a number of hit series including *Empire*, *The X-Files*, *Brooklyn Nine-Nine*, *Lethal Weapon*, *24*, *Legacy*, *Star* and the Emmy Award-winning musical *Grease: Live*.

Previously, as President of Fox Television Studios, Madden developed and managed series programming such as *The Americans*, *The Riches*, and *The Shield* for the FX network and countless programs for AMC, Netflix, IFC, USA, A&E, TNT and the E! Channel, including *The Killing*, *White Collar* and *Burn Notice*. Under Madden, FTVS produced a number of original movies for television including *Flight 93*, *Redemption*, *L.A. Law: The Movie*, and *The Grid*.

With more than 20 feature films to his producing credit, the most recent, *Something the Lord Made* for HBO,

won the Emmy award and *Save the Last Dance* grossed \$90M domestically and sold 3M soundtrack units.

The Cort/Madden Company produced *Against the Ropes*, *The Out-of-Towners*, and *The Odd Couple 2* and while there Madden exec-produced *Runaway Bride*. As a producer at Interscope Communications he produced *The Hand That Rocks the Cradle* and *The Associate*, and as SVP of Production at Paramount Pictures he supervised such hits as *The Untouchables*, *Fatal Attraction*, *The Naked Gun*, and *The Accused*. As 20th Century Fox VP of Production he oversaw *Romancing the Stone*, *Revenge of the Nerds* and *The Fly*.

A native of Chicago, David Madden graduated *Magna Cum Laude* from Harvard with a major in English and did post-grad work at UCLA.

Los Angeles Leadership High School Receives Civic Learning Award of Distinction from Judicial Council of California.



This month, the Los Angeles Leadership Academy High School was honored with the Civic Learning Award of Distinction from the Judicial Council of California.

Co-sponsored by Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson, the awards celebrate public schools' efforts to engage K-12 students in civic learning and identify models that can be replicated in other schools.

LALA's mission of social justice and leadership, is implemented through a student government which includes an elected student leadership council and elected advisory representatives who collaborate to create service and leadership opportunities for the general student body;



"It takes great focus and stamina to create a school culture that is focused on empowering young people to practice effective social justice and leadership," said Principal Cynthia Cuprill (center). "Every member of the LALA faculty and staff contributes in their own way to realize this vision. We are honored that our efforts were recognized."

She elaborates, "Whether creating models of sustainable energy in 9th grade Physics; learning about Billie Jean King in PE classes; letter-writing campaigns in "Intro to Activism" class; understanding inequitable access to organic food in the Farming for Social Justice class; participating in civil disobedience actions as part of the LGBTQ Studies or Chicano Studies class; taking for-credit college law courses on campus, working with local organizations on our annual Chavez Day of service, reading and writing about America's social justice in English classes, or working at polling stations for a Government class, our curriculum and our school culture are infused with social justice and civic engagement."

TEACHER'S UNION A-OK @ LALA



Smiling after meeting, ED Arina Goldring, CTA rep Peggy Upton who endorsed LALA for charter renewal, with LALA-CTA VP Jose Lovo (MS), President. Aimee Munoz-Lopez. Not present Nancy Jimenez for HS.

"We do not have an adversarial relationship with management," explains middle school teacher Aimee Marie Munoz-Lopez, President of the California Teachers Assn. chapter at LALA. "We meet monthly with Executive Director Arina Goldring and discuss issues from all three campuses.

"We feel we are being listened to by the current administration and we have achieved many important improvements, e.g. *now our families are also covered*. Critical to us. We are happy with our benefits, which include Dental and Vision."

"After a two-year year probationary period," Mrs. Goldring adds, "teachers become permanent if they receive satisfactory evaluations based on criteria that is included in the collective bargaining agreement."

Mrs. Goldring is proud that over the past four years teacher earnings have risen 11%. Ms. Munoz-Gomez says, "Our salary is now within a comfortable range of UTLA," (union for LAUSD.)

"Here's the thing," explains Ms. Munoz-Lopez, "working at a charter school is different. It depends more on teacher time. You don't have a large support staff. You find yourself involved a lot, whether volunteering or being volunteered. It comes with the smaller more intimate environment. It was a great help and relieved a lot of pressure when Admin heard us and was able to hire some paraprofessional aides."

FYI: Membership in the union is voluntary. Teachers who do not choose to join still get the same earnings and benefits that the union negotiates.



This year Harvard University interviewed one LALA senior and invited two to apply for admission.

SCHOLAR



Junior Nicholas Piloni, working with our partner Minds Matter, has been invited to Harvard Summer School. Last summer Nick went to Princeton.



"ONE HUNDRED" DAY



HS Principal Cynthia Cuprill with Moses Gonzales at the Posse Awards. Accepted at Kalamazoo. Moses is LALA's seventh Posse Scholar, which means a full ride worth \$200,000.



EL SISTEMA SOLAR



ROGER'S MS BOOK CLUB

Founder/Board member Roger Lowenstein has been leading a weekly book club at the MS where advanced students in our Gifted Program have been reading and discussing classic books all semester. Recently, they asked to read "Hamlet" because they said that they heard "The Lion King" might have been based on it. :)



DRESSED FOR SUCCESS

DACA Senior Bryan Perez and classmates at Career Day



MARTY TEACHES TRIG TODAY

Longtime LALA Board member Marty Frank has been a volunteer Math teacher since 2004. He has taught Algebra, Algebra 2, Geometry, Mathematical Analysis and AP Calculus, sometimes at 7am. His special students attend top colleges Carlos Lima, whom he mentored for six years, is a grad of UC Berkeley and UC San Diego, both degrees in Mechanical Engineering. Marty Frank was honored as Volunteer of the Year in 2008.

While still in HS , students take "Intro to Law 10" for college credit.



MS students and parents visit the HS Open House. Science teacher Todd Silverstein gives them a closeup of the cool things they will learn in HS Biology.



Visiting the Glendale Courthouse, students got to hear from deputy district attorneys, public defenders sheriff's officers, a bailiff, detective, court reporter, court administrator, and a judge. They also observed two arraignments,



Four of our college law students met LA County Supervisor Hilda Solis at the Young Women's Leadership Conference at the Downtown Courthouse. Goal is to encourage young women from diverse backgrounds to consider pursuing a legal career. Thanks to LA Mission Law Prof. Sylvia Machias, they engaged directly with professional women from similar backgrounds.

ACTIVIST



MS STUDENTS PLEDGE TO BE DRUG-FREE



NO GENTRIFICATION OF LINCOLN HEIGHTS



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