



Parent Guide

Creative Learning Place is a unique learning center which offers classes in a variety of subjects with the purpose of opening hands, hearts and minds. CLP was founded by Karen Golden, a professional storyteller, published author, recording artist, arts educator, community activist and homeschool mom. After thirty years of teaching, organizing conferences and classes, festivals and events, as well as hosting a daily talk show on public radio, Karen decided to put her knowledge of connecting people and ideas together to inspire children to find their talents and experience hands-on learning. Each instructor is meticulously hand picked by Karen, and they are not only qualified to teach, they are also visionaries who inspire students to become lifelong learners.



All Creative Learning Place classes take place on the second floor of the Westside Jewish Community Center. There is plenty of free parking in the lot located on the backside of the WJCC accessible by a service road from S. San Vicente (Between the WJCC and Olympia Medical Center).

5870 West Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90036

FOOD

Please pack a snack for your child if they are in a class with a duration of one hour or more. There will be a snack break. All students attending either of our clubs after a morning class, can eat lunch in the classroom or outside at the picnic pavilion with parent supervision. If parents will not be joining us for the club meeting and wish to have their child eat lunch at the WJCC, please let me know so we can arrange for enough parents to supervise lunch. Thank you!

SPECIAL BUILDING NOTE

The WJCC is a large complex with a pre-school, two swimming pools, senior center, gymnasium, table tennis center, auditorium, and many other multi-purpose rooms. Please supervise your child at all times when they are not in a class. Also, the WJCC houses many offices. Please refrain from loud talking or running while on the WJCC campus. Let's set an example of great homeschool behavior. Thank you! Also, there is no elevator access to the second floor.

REGISTRATION FEES

\$10 registration fee (covers insurance and billing expenses for this semester of classes).

\$5 registration fee for each additional child in your family.

\$5 registration fee if you are registering for only one club, either Opera Club or Service Learning Club.

DROP CLASSES

If you start a class and discover for any reason that it is not suitable for your child, you may try the next class. If you do not want to continue after the second class you will receive a refund for the tuition of the remaining classes. After the second class, you will not receive a refund.

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

Ends January 10th. After January 10th there will be an additional fee of \$10 per student added to your order.

PAYMENT

To register for classes please contact Karen Golden at karen@karengolden.com and request a registration form. For more information call (323) 933-4614. **A deposit of the registration fee is due prior to the first day of class to secure your child's place in the class.** You are not officially registered until payment is received.

The Creative Learning Place is in the process of becoming a vendor with Sky Mountain and Golden Valley Charter Schools. We have been assured that we will be approved as a vendor, but the process is not final. We are sorry for this inconvenience but we hope to achieve vendor status by the end of January and will notify you when this happens. If the vendor process is not completed by the first class, payment can be made on a weekly basis until approval is completed and school funding begins. If you will be using a charter school to pay for some or all of your classes, ask us for our charter school registration form. Thank you!



Winter 2010 Schedule of Classes

All the Wednesday classes will explore the topic of social awareness. Our winter theme is poverty, hunger and homelessness.

POETRY IN ALL ITS ARTS

Wednesdays: February 10–April 21

9:30am-11:00am, Ages 6–8

11:00am-12:30pm, Ages 9–13

Explore the many faces of poetry (detective, painter, cartoonist, filmmaker, storyteller) and how it is a part of music, art, science, theater and every day life! We will discover many exciting ways in which to write and “see.”

Instructor: Elena Karina Byrne

Elena Karina Byrne is a visual artist, teacher, book reviewer, editor, poetry consultant, as well as a moderator for *The Los Angeles Times* Festival of Books, and is the former 12 year Regional Director of the Poetry Society of America. She is currently Literary Programs Director for The Ruskin Art Club. Elena was the 2005 Poetry Co-Editor for *The Los Angeles Review* and was a judge for the 2006 PEN USA Literary Award in Poetry. Her writings have won numerous awards and she has been published in many anthologies and journals, including *The Yale Review*, *The Paris Review*, and *American Poetry Review*. Her books include *The Flammable Bird* and *Masque* (Tupelo Press).

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!

THEATRE AS A TOOL FOR SOCIAL ACTION

Wednesdays: February 10–April 21

9:30am–11:00am, Ages 9–13

11:00am–12:30pm, Ages 6–8

How do you feel about hunger, homelessness and poverty? Use the stage to express your opinion. In this class we will learn how to utilize drama to raise awareness. Participants will write monologues, create scenes, explore through role playing and drama games how to bring an idea and thought to life.

Instructor: Naomi Ackerman

Naomi Ackerman is an experienced educator, actress, writer and producer, whose credits include theater, musicals, film and television. She has performed her acclaimed one-woman show, *Flowers Aren't Enough*, globally over 1000 times. She researched and wrote this show which confronts the issue of relationship abuse. Naomi was one of the founding members of “View Points” an Arab-Jewish theatre group in Tel Aviv, sponsored and produced by the Peres Center for Peace. She also has performed extensively as a stilt walker, clown and street performer.

**Please note: If we do not enroll enough students in the writing and theater classes, there will be one class of each combining students ages 6 and up. Both teachers are experienced teaching multi-age classrooms. Writing will be from 9:30am–11:00am, Theater from 11:00am–12:30pm.*

SERVICE LEARNING CLUB

Bi-monthly, Wednesdays: Feb.10, Feb. 24, March 10, 24, and April 21

1:00pm–2:00pm, Ages 6 and up. Parents are free and welcome to join us!

Do you want to teach your children how to be conscious citizens and help others? How can we make a difference in the lives of our community and our world? Learn how to get involved through service learning. In this club participants will receive a copy of *A Kids guide to Hunger and Homelessness—How to take Action*, by Cathryn Berger Kaye. Each week we will move toward creating our own service project.

Facilitator: Karen Golden and special guests.

HOMESCHOOL SWIM PROGRAM

Wednesdays, 10:00am–3:00pm

Discounted lesson rates for homeschoolers at the award winning Lenny Krazelburg Swim School on the campus of the Westside Jewish Community Center, which has two, newly renovated, state-of-the-art indoor saline swimming pools! For more information about the swim school visit www.Lennykswim.com and to set up your free swim evaluation call (323) 525-0323 and tell them you are interested in the homeschool program.

STORY PORTRAITS: TRUE STORIES FROM NOW, THEN & LONG AGO

Fridays: Feb. 12–April 23

9:30am–11:00am, Ages 6–8

11:00am–12:30pm, Ages 9-13

Learn about the art of personal storytelling while exploring your stories, family stories, historical stories, and true stories. Meet real life tricksters and heroes, discover what makes a good story and learn to craft, shape and share your own life adventures. In this highly participatory class students will hear a variety of stories from Karen and special guests and tell their own. Good storytelling skills are the basis of creative writing and public speaking.

Instructor: Karen Golden

Karen Golden began telling stories at her dinner table at age three and playing the saxophone at eight. Today her table is the size of North America! Karen teaches the art of storytelling through workshops and residencies at schools, universities, and other educational institutions. In 2009 Karen was chosen to be on the Los Angeles County Arts Commission roster of teaching artists.

ART: EXPLORING PORTRAITS

Fridays: Feb. 12–April 23

9:30am–11:00am, Ages 9–13

11:00am–12:30pm, Ages 6–8

Using traditional drawing materials such as charcoal and pastel, students will create expressive self-portraits, learning proportion and various conventions of portraiture and self-portraiture, while becoming acquainted with artists who created many self-portraits during their lifetime, such as Van Gogh, Frida Kahlo, and Rembrandt. We will also explore a contemporary practice of constructing self-portraits out of non-traditional art techniques, such as cellophane, photos, avatars, and other digital identities.

This class is suitable for any age and the students will choose projects depending on their level of comfort and past experience. The goal is to introduce beginning to advanced drawing skills, develop or deepen the ability to observe life, and understand the proportion of life drawing. We will use mirrors to look at ourselves and use photography for fun and creative interpretation of the meaning of self-portraiture. The format of this class is studio, meaning students will be engaged in projects of their interest continuously for the duration of the class with the ability to stop and listen for directions and instructions from the teacher.

Instructor: Julianna Ostrovsky

Julianna Ostrovsky has an MFA in painting and sculpture from Columbia University. Her work has been nationally and internationally exhibited. As a teaching artist, Julianna has instructed workshops for grades K-12 and has led in-depth painting and drawing studios for youth and adults. She currently teaches the young artist workshops at Otis College of Art and Design.

Please bring to class the following supplies:

- A box for art supplies.
- Powder pastel set. Or pastel pencil set.
- One ebony drawing pencil, eraser, sharpener.
- A felt tip black marker (not Sharpie).
- A large bristol board pad of paper.

Optional supplies:

- Shammy and charcoal
- Conti crayons in earth tones.
- Large clip drawing board

*If you were part of the "Drawing The Bones" class In December, you have all the supplies!

Here is a good example:

<http://www.dickblick.com/products/generals-drawing-class-essential-tools-kit/#photos>

**Please note: If we do not enroll enough students in the Art and Storytelling classes, there will be one class of each combining students ages 6 and up. Both teachers are experienced teaching multi-age classrooms. Storytelling will be from 9:30am–11:00am, art from 11:00am–12:30pm.*

OPERA CLUB

Bi-monthly: Feb. 12, Feb. 26, March 12, 26, and April 9

1:00pm–2:00pm, Ages 6 and up. Parents are free and welcome to join us!

Would you like to learn about opera in a fun and interactive way? Come join our opera appreciation club. This program will be taught by the LA-Opera education outreach, Opera Club parents and other guests. Members of the Opera Club may have the opportunity to attend free performances of the LA Opera during the 2010 season. During our fall session we attended two amazing main stage performances and had second row seats!

Fee free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Phone: (323)933-4614

email: karen@karengolden.com