

April 10th, 2009
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Los Angeles County High School for the Arts

Principal's Message

Many schools trumpet mission statements proclaiming that “*all children will learn*”. The degree to which that is true varies, of course, and is largely determined by how a school prioritizes and allocates its resources. The second minimum day of the semester marked an historic moment at LACHSA. It was a time when we ended classes early for the faculty to discuss the important issues related to special education and our students. This might sound unremarkable, save for the fact that those present were comprised of our credentialed academic faculty, our arts chairs, and our professional teaching artists—all 93 of them! Our school-wide focus on the larger issues of student support—especially special education—will be a sustained effort; this meeting with all of the faculty marked merely a beginning.

Our chief aim for this meeting was simple. As a community we have a moral and legal responsibility to support all of our students, including our most vulnerable, and to begin to equip all of our faculty—especially teaching artists—with the skills and strategies to support student learning in a special education and all-school context. The afternoon was intense and energizing, and highlighted the need for ongoing support to our faculty. Special acknowledgement goes to the Arts High Foundation for their generous support of this afternoon.

For many of our students they take comfort in the fact that our school allows them to be themselves and to demonstrate talent, success, and achievement in many individual ways. We have to support that in all aspects of our school and in all ways possible. Our focus on student support and special education is meant to achieve just that.

George Simpson

Upcoming Events

NO SCHOOL 4/13 - 17
Spring Break

Visual Arts: Spring Show 4/24-26
Infusion Gallery
719 Spring Street, Los Angeles
Reception, 4/25 6:30 - 8:30

Theatre: For Colored Girls... 4/24-25
Barnsdall Gallery Theatre
4800 Hollywood Blvd, Hollywood
4/24 7:30 p.m.
4/25 2:30 & 7:30 p.m.

Important Announcements

Congratulations to the Music Department!

Congratulations to the LACHSA Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Combo for their outstanding performance last Saturday at the Next Generation High School Jazz Festival. Our jazz ensemble received 1st place for the 2nd time in 3 years.

Congratulations also go out to **Levon Henry** and **John Egizi** who both received *Outstanding Solo* awards. Special congratulations to **Jason Goldman** for his tremendous work and outstanding composition.

Graduation is coming!

Dorothy Chandler Pavilion
June 12th 2:00 p.m.

Tickets will be available for all LACHSA families May 1st on-line at the following link: <http://www.itsmyseat.com/DisplayEvent.html?sse=569129>

Save the Date!

LACHSA Parent Townhall Meeting: *Looking Ahead*
Sunday, May 3rd 1:30 p.m.
Location TBA
All welcome!