

Please review the Fall 2017 Class Schedule for age ranges of classes.

ACTIVISM (Brittany)

Description of this class is on it's way! Please check back soon.

ADVANCED NI HAO MANDARIN (Grace) *Foreign Language/Mandarin Chinese*

Want to be able to recognize and write Chinese characters? This program is perfect for students who have already had some Chinese learning experiences, and are interested in practicing Chinese conversational skills as well as writing abilities. With repetition and extension, students will learn 200 Chinese characters in various language contexts.

ADVANCED SAILING (SMWYC) *Sailing*

We are very happy to present our 2017 Fall Sailing Program in cooperation with the REALM Academy. Our program emphasizes having fun while learning to sail and once students have learned to sail we focus on the joy and adventure of sailing! Along the way we introduce STEM topics creating a deeper understanding of how the wind, sails and water interact while sailing.

Our advanced sailors (continuing and experienced) will:

- Spend as much time on the water as possible sailing and exploring Marina del Rey.
- Be challenged in faster and more powerful boats as conditions allow.
- Learn some of the finer points of sail trim, working their sail like a wing on an airplane.
- Learn concepts such as lift and drag and how they affect the boat above and below the water.

All students learn to work together to make rigging and sailing easier. When the wind gets too high, we often take a tour of the marina using one of the coach boats or a sail on our 22' keelboat. Our priorities are, in the following order: Safety, Fun, Education.

ADVENTURES IN ART (Linda) *Art*

The adventures continue with all new projects and materials. Artists can freely express their creativity, inventiveness and wacky sense of humor and aesthetics in this process-focused art class. The emphasis will continue to be on enjoying the ride, letting go of preconceptions, and experimentation.

ALGEBRA (Semester 1 of 2) (Joe) *Math*

In Algebra students will really begin to discover some of the exciting things math can allow them to do. Students will begin using all the arithmetic skills they've been developing over the past few years to begin solving riddles and puzzles that would otherwise seem impossible. Algebra helps students develop problem-solving strategies and skills, and the ability to recognize, express and work with mathematical relationships.

In this class we'll learn about:

- Integers, variables, terms and expressions
- Properties and characteristics of rational numbers
- Algebraic equations and inequalities
- Solving linear equations and graphing of points and lines

Fall 2017 Class Descriptions

The REALM Creative Academy

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- Solving systems of linear equations
- Monomials and polynomials - factoring quadratic equations
- Working with rational expressions

And if we have time second semester, we'll do a little intro into:

- Irrational and complex numbers
- Working with functions

The two class meetings each week will be supplemented with ungraded at home practice assignments.

Topics and concepts covered and additional resources are available at www.joesclasses.wordpress.com

ALGEBRA: WORD PROBLEMS (Joe) *Math*

In this class, students will practice translating words into numbers, variables and mathematical operations, and back again. The class will focus on (but not be limited to) algebraic word problems. Students will learn about real world applications of linear equations and systems of linear equations and so this class will mesh well with the Linear Equations and Polynomials class. We'll look at questions both numerically and visually, gaining practice in reading and creating graphs and charts. Students will explore logic, relations and numeric patterns.

The one class meeting each week will be supplemented with ungraded at home practice assignments.

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ANIMAL TALES FOR WRITERS/ILLUSTRATORS (Linda) *Science, Writing, Art*

Kids will become authors of a picture book that tells a story about the day in the life of an animal in their environment. Developing research skills and learning the craft of storytelling through words and pictures are the focus of this class. We will use books such as *Stellaluna*, *Verdi*, *Diary of a Worm*, *A Color of His Own*, *Pinduli*, and many of the Eric Carle books as inspiration.

ART ON THE GO (Linda) *Art*

This class takes our sketchbooks out and about. We will explore our beach, parks, neighborhoods, main street, courthouse, etc and draw and paint whatever we find along the way. Through our art we will capture the beauty and eccentricities of our area and learn to observe and record our inspirations.

ART WITH THE GREATS: ANIMAL ART AND CRITTER CREATIONS (Kimber) *Art, Art History*

Lions, tigers and bears, oh my! Since the very first cave paintings of deer and bison, animals have fascinated and inspired artists. With a concentration on art pieces and "critter creations" featuring animals with fur and feathers, students in this fun and dynamic class will be introduced to well known works of art, as well as unique animal art from around the world. Through ink, paint, sculpture and funky folk art, each creative class will focus on the many elements of color, shape and texture- as well as developing skills and expanding self confidence. Students will explore the history, tools, techniques and styles of famous and inspirational artists and then, along with their own amazing imaginations, use this as a guide and inspiration to create their own animal masterpieces. Exciting projects

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will include art sparked by Paul Klee's cat, Franz Marc's blue horses and yellow cows, Pablo Picasso's bull, Albrecht Durrer's rabbits and rhinos, Frida Kahlo's monkeys- and Andy Warhol's and David Hockney's dogs.

ARTQUARIUM: AQUATIC CREATIONS (Kimber) *Art, Natural Science, Habitats, Ecology-Environmental/Global Impact*

Are you a thalassophile? If you are a lover of the oceans and seas, then this class is for you! While creating different types of amazing ocean art, students in this fun and unique class will have a blast exploring the wild and wondrous oceans and seas around the world, aquatic life, seashore ecology, and much more; Through art and crafty creations, students will experience the thrill of ocean exploration as they "dive underwater" to discover the various kinds of plants and creatures that live in Earth's different underwater worlds. From the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans to the Indian and Arctic Oceans, and from sea to shiny sea, students will also dive into information about marine animal adaptations and diversity, and the importance of these special habitats. Then celebrating the beauty of these aquatic universes, exciting hands-on projects will inspire students to use their imagination and have fun working with painting, collage, mosaics, mobiles, and sculptures. Under-the-sea art adventures and multimedia projects will include driftwood and shell fish mobiles, fused glass sea creatures, beach inspired jewelry, sea salt clay sculptures and watercolor ocean-scapes. Through a variety of projects and using many art mediums, students will also discover the importance of the water environments- and powerful ways people can protect and preserve the oceans and seas of the world and all of its creatures. Surf's up!

BEACHCOMBERS (Joe) *Marine biology, Natural Science, Aesthetics*

There are many wonderful things about Southern California, but none more wonderful than the beach. For those of us lucky enough to get to spend time on the beach, a great way to make it even more special is to learn a little about it. The shore is a remarkable ecosystem, where land and water meet, terrestrial plants and animals - ourselves and others - overlap and interact with marine plants and animals, as well as the amazing life that inhabits the "intertidal zone". Birds frequent our beaches as they migrate along their various routes. The currents and tides carry flotsam to our shore. The unique weather patterns along the beach - from morning fogs to afternoon breezes and occasional violent storms - all have to do with the shore and how water and land and air all interact. We'll explore some of the many remarkable aspects of the beach as the opportunity presents itself in between just walking along the shore, exploring and having fun!

BIOME BOARD GAMES (Linda) *Science, Art, Research, Writing*

Students will use all their creative and research skills to create a board game that can be played with friends and family to share and continue the learning process. Each will choose their own biome and collect as much information on flora, fauna, climate, and inter-organism relationships and use it to create the board, the players and the question and action cards. The object of the game, like in real life in the wild, will be to collect "energy points" in a game of survival of the fittest.

BOLD POETS SOCIETY (Jimmy) *Literacy, Writing*

Roses are bright cardinal, Violets are exploding blue, come join the Bold Poets Society, we are looking for writers like you. Students will study age-appropriate verse through poems and books. We will befriend and look at language and how to 'paint a picture' using words. We will learn how to rhyme, rhyme schemes, slant rhymes, and look at when rhyming helps communicate and when it gets in the way. Introductions to alliteration, onomatopoeia, simile, metaphor in a fun way will occur. Most importantly we will write our own poetry and practice communicating what

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is going on within us, what we see, how we feel. I will assist students in feeling free to say what they need to while learning to remove any blocks getting in the way. REALM Poets, let us band together merry fellows!

BOOK DEVOURERS (Liz) *Literacy, Writing, Art*

Are you hungry for some delicious literature? In this class we will gobble up stories and learn to digest all the information they are giving us. In each class students will hear a story or poem read aloud and then we will use this piece of writing as our jumping off point for discussion. We will be learning about different literary techniques such as foreshadowing and metaphor.

CALIFORNIA WEATHER REPORT (Nathan) *Earth/Physical Science*

Students will investigate, experiment with, and give a live, filmed weather report on the ever changing conditions that make up our atmosphere. We will focus on climate zones, weather phenomena, and extreme weather conditions...all found in our home state. Students will use art projects and science experiments, research, and more to investigate the cause and effect of weather systems in and around California.

CASHFLOW (Jess M)

What's your dream? Freedom of time? Unlimited resources to travel the world? Whatever it may be, CASHFLOW teaches you how to get out of the Rat Race and onto the Fast Track, how to make your money work for you, not the other way around. In CASHFLOW we will use the online game that simulates real life financial strategies and situations. As a simulation, you learn valuable lessons and gain priceless insights into personal finance and investing without having to put your actual money at risk. Developed by Robert Kiyosaki, author of the #1 personal finance book of all time, Rich Dad Poor Dad, CASHFLOW is the ultimate realization of Robert's vision of an interactive tool for financial education, and the fulfillment of his belief that we learn best by doing. In class, we will practice real world investing with play money. Learn the differences between an asset and a liability. Discover the power of understanding your personal financial statement. Choose your dream and learn financial secrets to achieve it! CASHFLOW is an educational game that teaches accounting, finance, and investing at the same time - and makes learning fun!

THE CELL (Linda) *Science, Art*

Individually they are microscopic, yet they are the building blocks of every living thing on Earth. By understanding how cells work we discover how we, ourselves, function as intricate and complicated living machines. This exploration into inner space takes us to the center of it all, the blueprints of life and the various structures that support the life of all plants and animals, from a single celled organism to the multi-organ, highly specialized systems of human beings. This class includes the study of cell structure and function, cell division and reproduction, unicellular organisms and the cells of different specialized tissues through the creation of models and other experiments and hands on activities.

CHEETAH CLUB: TIME TO RUN (Bonnie) *Health & Fitness*

That's what The Cheetahs do. This class promises to teach the power of always finishing what you start. We take off as soon as the whistle tweets and move our legs until the class period is up. Runner's build individual self-esteem and group esteem; we cheer each other on and are there to push and pull along. Gooooo Cheetahs!

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CHOIR (Elise) *Music Performance and Theory*

Do you have a kiddo who just LOVES to sing? Then the Do Re Mi Children's Choir is THE place to be! Children will learn how to navigate their voices, develop their ear, and create music as a group in this fun-filled musical jamboree! In addition, your child will learn the basics of music theory and solfege, all while singing the hip, catchy tunes of today!

CITY TREKKERS AND MIGHTY MAPPERS (Nathan) *Geography, Practical Life Skills*

Let's take a look at the world around us! Which way is east? West? North? South? How do I get from one place to another? It may seem like magic but we actually have to plan how to get from one place to another. In this class student will practice using maps, making maps, hiking around our neighborhood to what is where and eventually showing us how to get there! From using a compass to Google Maps, students will examine and practice using different tools, including their own mental maps to get around our local area.

CLASSIC CARD GAMES (Jess M) *Logic*

Come get hooked on card games and have some hands-on fun! We will be learning Phase 10, Canasta, Blackjack, Solitaire, Spit, Concentration, Hearts, Rummy, Snap, Gin Rummy, Spoons, and many more. We will experience many types of math, such as number order, probability, number theory, arithmetic, and strategy, all while actively engaging in our learning.

COMIC BOOKS: A HISTORY (Liz) *Writing, History, Art*

They say we get the heroes we need when we need them. In this class we will look at why certain comic book heroes rose when they did. Why did we need Superman in the 1930s? What was Captain America's role in WW2? What was it about the 1980s that led to the rise of mutants? We will be looking into the past of superheroes to see what they have to say about us. We will also look at comic books from around the world to see how this genre is being used to tell us about the past and also about the future. Students will create comic book timelines to keep all our information straight as well as create their book of heroes.

CONNECT THE DOTS (Joe) *General knowledge, Info-synthesis, Logical reasoning*

This is a new class this semester. The intention is for students to gain skill in seeing how various information and concepts can have associations and applications in wide-ranging and unexpected places. Each week we'll look at a new topic - just a little mini-lesson about something interesting - we'll challenge ourselves to find connections to see how we can fit in the new topic or idea, with previous topics - we'll keep track and see if we can eventually fit it all together.

In addition to that weekly exercise, we'll begin building our knowledge base, with the intent of broadening our range of understanding - the more we know, the more we'll be able to know - the more connections we'll be able to make. We'll be doing this via a game I've been developing with the help of the Think Tank class this past semester - it will involve "People," "Event," and "Thing" cards, which will be just that - cards with brief bits of info about significant people events and things - players try to make connections - build a path to get from one card to another.

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CURRENT EVENTS (Joe) *Political Science, Economics, Geography*

What's Happening?! In this class we'll find out what's going on in the world from week to week. We'll read about and discuss current events. For each class meeting, students will have the opportunity to share a news article - from a newspaper or online - that they've found during the previous week. We'll read it together in class and discuss relevant concepts and vocabulary that might be new or unfamiliar to some students. We'll also focus on Internet source verification and validation, civics, government/politics, geography, the environment, and the development of vocabulary and general knowledge.

There's always something interesting going on! We'll never know what to expect from week to week, except we can always count on there being something fascinating to discover! Come join us and find out what's up!

DINOSAUR MEASUREMENT (Jess M) *Math*

Just how big WERE the dinosaurs? Did you know that a Tyrannosaurus Rex was anywhere from 33 to 43 feet long and had the largest teeth of any land dinosaur? How big WERE his teeth? And what is a foot? Often times, these numbers are too big and difficult for students to comprehend. So rather than just READING about the sizes of dinosaurs, let's actually measure them and compare! We will be doing tons of measuring, tracking, recording, comparing, ordering, graphing, finding averages, and even building. This is a great opportunity to put your math skills to work, not only measuring, but figuring out HOW to measure certain objects.

ECO-ART: ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURE ART (Kimber) *Art, Ecology-Environmental/Global Impact*

Join us as we celebrate and explore the wild outdoors through natural-based art and cool crafts project! In this exciting Eco-Art class, students will learn all about nurturing nature in a totally fun and creative way. Students will explore ways to capture the amazing essence of our world by using elements of the great outdoors like wild flowers, rocks, shells, seed pods, leaves, sand, feathers, pine needles and cones — Using the bounty of these beautiful materials found in nature, projects will encourage creative expression and help students connect with, appreciate and nurture the natural world. Looking beyond the norm, nature art projects will also use many recyclable items made from organic materials and inspire the imagination; students will also learn more about recycling and innovative ways to use reuse natural materials, as well as everyday "garbage". Examples of beautiful nature art and projects include making handmade paper and journals, bird feeders, mosaics, wind chimes, natural dyes, body adornments and beads, nature prints, sand candles, baskets and natural weavings. We'll "go green" in the most colorful way, creating both beautiful art and a beautiful world!

THE ELEMENTS GAME (Joe) *Science*

This class explores the periodic table, its groupings and periods, atomic structure, and characteristics of individual chemical elements. There will be two primary aspects to each class meeting. We'll begin each week by doing brief research on the table itself or on a specific group or block of elements. Students will collaborate on reading and interpreting information and will then work together to answer a series of related questions. Following that, we'll explore the elements through gameplay.

Students can learn as we go, or access the game questions and answers - plus extra information - via <https://joesclasses.wordpress.com/other-classes/the-elements/> for at-home practice and study.

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ENGINEERING (Rebecca & Nathan) *Engineering*

Design, build, and sell a fun gadget! In this class, we will explore the entire engineering process from idea conception to product marketing. We aren't just building and tinkering, we are also learning how to invent, innovate, improve, and impress.

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS (Joe) *Philosophy, Logic, Rhetoric, Communication, Literacy, Info-synthesis*

Which are there more of - questions or answers? Does every question have an answer? Do some questions have more than one answer? Do some have none at all? Do all answers have a corresponding question? This class is going to explore questions - what they are and why we have them. We'll ask questions - mostly we'll ask the kinds of questions that have more answers than answerers. We'll learn about ourselves as we go - we'll ask, what are some questions we haven't thought of before? And then we'll think about them.

Each class meeting will explore a new question. Students will practice analysis, explanation, persuasion, rhetoric and debate. The general class format will be: presentation of the week's question, brief discussion, quick-write (ten to twelve minutes or so) and then group sharing, consideration and debate. As the semester progresses, students will be encouraged to develop and solidify at least one of their stronger views as a finished written presentation.

EXCURSIONS: NEW ZEALAND (Semester 1 of 2) (Jessie & Joe) *Travel, Research*

Description of this class is on it's way! Please check back soon.

EXPERIMENTAL GARDENING (Kara) *Science, Gardening, Sustainability*

Hanging PVC gardens? Drip irrigation with straws? Trash can planters? Come all gardeners, engineers, builders, and creators! In Experimental Gardening, students will design and build their very own unique gardening system. Through trial and error, students will find the most effective, drought friendly, and pest resistant way to urban garden!

EXPLORATORY ART (Tommy) *Art*

Description of this class is on it's way! Please check back soon.

FACE THE CROWD: A PUBLIC SPEAKING FORUM (Liz) *Public speaking, Writing, Organization, Note Taking*

Learning to speak well in front of a crowd is a skill that we all need to learn. But how do we do it? How does one articulate the information they want to give in a clear and organized manner? Each week in Face The Crowd students will be given instructions on how to write short speeches as well as how to think on their feet with short impromptu speeches. We will run each class as a short meeting, think ToastMasters but for kids. We will have an MC, an impromptu master, timekeepers, and a main speakers. Outside work will be required for this class so students will also get practice on time management.

FANTASY ART (Kimber) *Art*

The intrigue and possibility of fantasy creatures has always fascinated us — Whether it is fairies, ghosts and spirits, shape-shifting humans with magical powers or peculiar beasts of mythology and legend, these mythical creatures and beasts continue to entertain and amaze us. And when we can actually create images of our wildest imagination... it's a magic all of its own! Students in this unique class will embark on an amazing art adventure, an introduction to the world of fantasy art and cartoon creatures, as they learn how to draw and paint unicorns,

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mermaids, dragons, and more! Students will learn basic drawing techniques essential to these art forms and then explore and find their own unique style in the REALM of fantasy art. Character design, proportion, anatomy, comic book and graphic novel page design, with an emphasis on American and Japanese styles, will also be featured in this crazy cool class. Students will then capture the essence of these creatures, as well as their own personal designs, through a variety of art mediums and awesome projects.

FIBER ARTS: DYES, PRINTS AND WACKY WEAVING (Kimber) *Art*

From tie-dyeing and batik- to screen printing and fabric painting, students in this crazy fun fabric class will explore a variety of visual and wearable art, cloth and canvas decorating from around the world. Using Indian wood blocks and personally carved creations, students will experiment with hand printed designs. In addition to different kinds of weaving, students will also experience different types of fabric painting techniques- including Shibori shape-resist, Arashi pole-wrap, Kumo pleat and bind dyeing. And of course, we can't do any type of cloth decorating without exploring groovy 60's tie-dyeing. Resist dye technique projects include Indonesian Batik, Nigerian Yoruba Adire Eleko cloth art and screen printing. Students will then create their very own wearable art canvas with tote bags, t-shirts, shoes and scarves- and be... a gorgeous walking, talking fiber art exhibit. Art to "dye" for!

FORESTS AND WOODLANDS (Kimber) *Natural Science, Ecology-Environmental/Global Impact, Geography, Art*

John Muir once said "The clearest way into the Universe is through a forest wilderness." Concentrating on the amazing forests and woodlands from around the world, students will explore these unique habitats and discover fascinating information about the animals, plants and other living things that live there. From beavers and bears to butterflies and birds, students will learn about the extraordinary creatures that live in these natural wild worlds, and how all living things in forests interact with each other and their environment. Through fun, engaging activities and hands-on science, research and art projects, students will answer questions like... what animals live in pine forests, woodlands, tropical forests and rainforests? How do the animals, trees and other living things in forests and woodlands adapt to their environment? What plants and trees grow in different forests? What is the difference between deciduous and coniferous forests? These environmental scientists, foresters and class ecologists will delve into all these questions, and more, including all the reasons why forests and woodlands are so important to people and wildlife. What products come from different kinds of forests? What is forestry and deforestation? Students will also explore how these valuable forests around the world are changing today and ways we all can become more ecologically conscious and conserve natural resources. It's a wild and wonderful world and every little bit is amazing!

GEOGRAPHY BUFFS (Liz) *Geography, History, World Cultures, Art*

You won't need a passport for this class but you will visit some amazing places. We will travel the world from the comfort of the REALM as we explore other cultures, learn about fascinating natural wonders, and learn what it means to be a part of this world. Each week we will investigate a topic or region as we add another stamp to our passport. Did I mention we would be making passports? To complete our journey we will create a landscape in a box to commemorate our favorite place.

GEOMETRY (Semester 1 of 2) (Joe) *Math*

Now that we've learned a little algebra, we can begin exploring some of the other amazing things Math can do. In Geometry we'll learn about lines and shapes and angles and their properties and relationships. We'll discover conjectures and learn about logic and proof. Students will learn about angle measurements, properties of parallel

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lines, triangles, circles and other polygons. Students will learn about similarity and congruency. Students will gain experience in graphing and working with the coordinate plane. We'll practice thinking and figuring analytically and look for ways to tie words and numbers and shapes and symbols together to describe concepts that are otherwise difficult to imagine, discovering along the way the power and glimpsing the potential of symbolic language.

The two class meetings each week will be supplemented with ungraded at home practice assignments.

Topics and concepts covered and additional resources are available at www.joesclasses.wordpress.com

GLOBAL EXPLORATION - ART AROUND THE WORLD (Kimber) *Art, Geography, Social Studies/World Cultures*

Welcome to the "Wonderful World of Art", where the exploration of our world's countries, cultures and creative expressions come together in a beautiful mix! While exploring geography and "traveling" through different countries around the world, students in this unique Cultural Art Adventure class will have a unique opportunity to experience and then create many kinds of arts and crafts from across the globe. Through exciting hands-on projects, entertaining stories and visual examples, students will discover that these expressions of creativity from each country are as different as the people themselves. While creating their own masterpieces, students will have fun exploring the similarities and differences of these cultural artistic expressions. Art can be used for so many things... for functional everyday items, decorations or body adornments... as an expression of self, as well as an expression of a country's personality, beliefs, values and cultural identity. What do we all have in common? What is "normal"? What is "beautiful"? Students will be challenged to think about acceptance and tolerance, and that what is unique or strange to one may be "normal" or "beautiful" to another. Taking inspiration from interesting environments and colorful cultures, students will then create, build and decorate different kinds of vibrant functional, wearable and decorative art- using a variety of media including painting, papier-mâché sculpture, molding, printmaking and clay. Special projects and cool multi-cultural creations include Aboriginal paintings, Nigerian Yoruba Adire Eleko cloth art, Japanese block printing, Mexican folk art sculptures, Torres Strait Island Masks, Pacific Northwestern, Canadian and Alaskan totem poles- and a variety of other body adornments and jewelry, textile art and folk art from around the world.

HAND SEWING (Kara)

Start with an idea, thread and needle and let's go! Join a circle of fun as we learn the basics of threading needles, selecting string lengths and knotting and progress into types of stitches and creating patterns or selecting and reading them. For students eight and above, we will make sample books for stitches to remember patterns and reference at home. Seasoned sewers may work on shirring, gathering, pleating, drawn thread, doll making, advanced hemming or other techniques. Students are welcome to bring their own ideas and work at their own paces. No sewing circle is complete without fun sewing music and tea.

HAPPY KID YOGA (Sarah) *Health & Wellness*

This class will give your child the tools to practice yoga anytime and anywhere! Poses and breathing techniques that promote confidence as well as partner poses that encourage sharing and building friendships are emphasized. These techniques help improve coordination, flexibility, focus and self-esteem. Yoga themes like gratitude and peace will be explored in kid-friendly language.

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HIKERS CLUB *Physical Education, Exercise*

Build strength, endurance, and general knowledge of the natural southern California environment through gentle to moderate hikes and organized play in the beautiful outdoor arenas of southern California.

HISTORY COMES TO LIFE (Kimber) *History, Language Arts, Drama, Art*

Through engaging stories, exciting dramatic play and fun, silly, zany... skits and reenactments, students will travel through time, stopping off at certain key points to explore important, life-changing events. We all love a good story! And when it's actually true... even better! Students will become a part of history as they explore information about important people and the daily life of a certain time period, and then act out life-altering events. Students will hone their research skills- and create a personal narrative through stories, letters, journal entries and scripts. As they build confidence and practice creative expression, students will also explore different elements, as well as the many ways to tell a story. What makes a great story? What does it take to engage an audience and have people listening, on the edge of their seats? And of course, this storytelling, wonder-weaving and reenactment of historical events will need that added art element of props and costume accessories. The past then comes alive when students share their scripts and stories- and have a ball role-playing and acting out historic events!

HISTORY DNA - SCIENTISTS (Joe) *History*

History DNA is a game that gives students an opportunity to learn about fascinating and influential figures from the past. It's played with an ever-growing deck of cards. Each card depicts a significant person from history. The game involves quiz questions about the historical individuals, identifications of the people, and competitions between different people based on character traits. During the Fall 2017 session, we'll be focusing on great scientists from the past:

- **Archimedes**
 - **Aristotle**
 - **Nicolaus Copernicus**
 - **Albert Einstein**
 - **Michael Faraday**
 - **Galileo Galilei**
 - **Edmond Halley**
 - **Edward Hubble**
 - **Johannes Kepler**
 - **Isaac Newton**
 - **Jonas Salk**
 - **Erwin Schrödinger**
 - **Nikola Tesla**
 - **Alfred Wegener**
-

HISTORY GAME - 1900-1950: THE BIRTH OF THE MODERN WORLD (Joe) *History*

The History Game gives students an opportunity to learn about important people, events and historical trends through gameplay. The game revolves around a collection of date/event memory cards - students can acquire cards by accurately connecting the date and event. Once a card is acquired, the student will have opportunities to score points by asking other students questions about the card's topic.

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Each class session will begin with a brief mini lesson about a topic of the week. This will be followed by a review of previous week's topics, and then gameplay.

This semester we'll be looking at World History during the period from 1900-1950.

THE HISTORY OF NATURE IN ART (Linda) *History, Art*

From cave paintings to post modern abstract art, people have turned to nature for inspiration for their creative endeavours. As the human relationship to nature changes so does the perception of nature in art. We will explore some of the artists that have pioneered the landscape and the portrayal of plants and animals including the Dutch landscapists, Georgia O'Keefe, Claude Monet, Ernst Haeckel, John James Audubon, Beatrix Potter, Henri Rousseau, and Andy Goldsworthy as well as a look at ancient Egypt, Medieval bestiaries, and Chinese ink paintings in the Shan Shui tradition.

HOW BIG IS OUR SOLAR SYSTEM? (8-9) (Jess M) *Math*

Our universe is huge, larger than most of us can even imagine. In fact, our solar system is beyond the grasp of most of us to truly visualize in our mind's eye. The systems of measurement we use just don't stand up to the truly huge numbers involved with gauging the size of the universe, the distances involved, and the masses and sizes of the objects it contains. However, there are some shortcuts to understanding those numbers, particularly those for distance. Come learn cool facts alongside what a light-year, AU, and parsec are. We will be diving into the metric system and practicing place value for extra ginormous numbers with the end goal of creating a super awesome scaled model of our solar system! Come shoot for the stars!

HOW BIG IS OUR SOLAR SYSTEM? (9-11) (Jess M) *Math*

Our universe is huge, larger than most of us can even imagine. In fact, our solar system is beyond the grasp of most of us to truly visualize in our mind's eye. The systems of measurement we use just don't stand up to the truly huge numbers involved with gauging the size of the universe, the distances involved, and the masses and sizes of the objects it contains. However, there are some shortcuts to understanding those numbers, particularly those for distance. Come learn cool facts alongside what a light-year, AU, and parsec are. We will be diving into the metric system, as well as scientific notation and decimal place value, with the end goal of creating a super awesome scaled model of our solar system! ! Come shoot for the stars!

HOW TO BE A JEDI IN LIFE (Jimmy) *Mindfulness, Athletics*

In a galaxy far, far away (but closer than you think) a group of children begin the journey from Youngling to Padawan to Jedi Knight at Dagobah West. In this continuing adventure (but open to new students) we go deeper into the Jedi Code of even-mindedness, service, honesty, courage, peacekeeping, discipline, and feats of heroism.

The Jedi Order demands the highest principles and teaches children how to be good citizens in the world. From lightsaber skills to meditation to cooperative games, these Jedi in training learn how to use The Force inside them for the good of all.

We immerse ourselves in the imaginative story line with our Jedi names and summon our 'best selves' in thought, word, and action. Teamwork and calmness are accentuated on the Jedi Knight journey.

Please review the Fall 2017 Class Schedule for age ranges of classes.

HOW TO SURVIVE A ZOMBIE APOCALYPSE (Kimber)

There's nothing worse than being stuck in an impending apocalypse without some basic knowledge, skills and crucial essentials on hand... and an impending zombie attack is no laughing matter! Through a series of games, lively "undead" question-and-solution stories and dramatic play scenarios (and using "zombies" as a jumping off point for exploring real information)... students in this crazy fun survival class will be challenged to think about all aspects of a zombie pandemic. What about health needs, containment, food storage and cure? In order to be extra prepared and gain some serious zombie knowledge, students will learn all about the physiology of a zombie (and previous human state), as well as how to create an all-hazards emergency kit (coincidentally suitable for earthquakes and other natural disasters) and perform basic first aid skills (as long as it's not a zombie bite). What wilderness and survival skills, tools and techniques will be needed for escaping an undead onslaught? Students will practice how to take care of basic living needs, create a safe shelter, and preserve and store food. And what about "catching" the virus? Students will also explore how a virus actually affects the body, how a virus spreads, the speed and distance travelled, prevention tips and how different living areas would be affected. Need to know the quickest direction to run? In addition, students will practice how to read a map to determine best exit routes and safe assembling areas, as well as locate the closest hospital, gas station, grocery stores, bank, and other buildings of importance.

All this and more... and of course, this class wouldn't be complete without some special effects zombie makeup play at the end of the day.

INTRO TO TECHNOLOGY (Digital Dragons) *Technology, Computers*

This brand new class for younger students will introduce fundamental technology skills and proper conduct for safely using the internet. Typing and mouse skills will be developed with fun online activities that simultaneously foster basic reading, writing, and math skills. Type basic sight words and turn them into amazing word clouds. Drag, drop, point and click objects to create drawings and interactive designs! In addition to building these great skills, we'll also conduct a variety of lessons and activities on Digital Citizenship, designed to help students protect themselves and behave appropriately online.

INTRODUCTION TO TRIGONOMETRY (Joe) *Math*

Usually trigonometry isn't taught at the middle school level, but we have a few students this year who are ready to take on the challenge. This class is being offered as a once-per-week class so we'll see how much ground we can cover - I anticipate it continuing second semester. We'll begin with basic trigonometric functions and relationships, we'll look at the unit circle and how that relates, we'll look at curves and inverse functions and how to use these relationships in algebraic equations. I think it will be a lot of fun and we'll see how far we can get.

The one class meeting each week will be supplemented with ungraded at home practice assignments.

JOURNEYS (Nathan & Jess M)

Journeys is an inspired, adventurous, learning community. Each semester the theme will guide the exploration. Students will saturate themselves with experiences, observations, encounters, and information to help them internalize meaningful thematic content. From this saturation period, students will search for what inspires them. Then, they will dig deeper into research while designing creative ways to showcase their knowledge and insights. Prepare for exciting excursions out in the world, insightful discoveries, research development and mini-lessons, and a memorable event and showcase! It is mind blowing goodness.

Please review the Fall 2017 Class Schedule for age ranges of classes.

KINDER ROBOTICS (Digital Dragons) *Robotics, Technology*

This class for young students will focus on robotics. Students will make simple, automated devices, experiment with line following robots that respond to different colors, and move on to the Lego® WeDo kit--an introductory robot kit that allows students to program robots with a simple drag and drop programming language. Previous REALM students will encounter brand new activities and robotics kits while first time students will learn the basics. Fundamental STEAM concepts such as collaboration, investigation, and problem-solving will be fostered while introducing engineering and technology skills that lead to more advanced systems in higher education.

KINGDOM ANIMALIA (Linda) *Science, Art*

Who are the members of Kingdom Animalia and how are they different and similar to plants?

Using various criteria, such as presence or absence of a backbone, type of reproduction, body covering, and “warm” or “cold-blooded” , we will organize and classify the major groups of animals and create a 3-D “Tree of Life”. Students will also learn to use and create their own dichotomous keys.

LAB DABLERS: EARTH, WIND & FIRE (Nathan) *Earth Science*

This class will look at the natural world from geology to metals to different types of energy sources and explore how we humans use these valuable resources to advance our own existence. We will cover different types of rocks and minerals, where they are found, how they are formed, and their uses in society. Where does metal come from? How do humans find/use it? And, what happens to it when we are finished using it? How can humans use wind to help the environment? We will investigate natural resources, our naturally recycling planet, and human impact in the course using projects, experiments, field work, and data collection.

LAB DABLERS: FORCES, MOTIONS, MAGNETS OH MY... (Nathan) *Science*

This is an experimental science class that will focus on the different natural forces that drive science, movement, and even our place in the cosmos! From flight to the gravitational pull that holds pluto in our Solar System, we will dig deep into the “how” and “why” while having a blast performing experiments that allow us to witness many of these invisible rules that we live by. Our class will be a hands on, experiment driven class where students ask questions, hypothesize answers, form theories, draw conclusions, record and analyze data.

LEGO MATH (5-7) (Jess M) *Math*

Come use Legos to put math into a fun and interesting context that will be impossible to put down! As you play with Lego blocks, you will build your spatial and proportional awareness. You will count the studs through adding and subtraction, and maybe even some basic multiplication! We will explore dimensions, build some towers, compose and decompose numbers, and practice the part-part whole method, all while playing with the famous toy!

LEGO MATH (8-9) (Jess M) *Math*

Come use Legos to put math into a fun and interesting context that will be impossible to put down! As you play with Lego blocks, you will build your spatial and proportional awareness. You will count the studs through multiplication and division with arrays! We will explore dimensions, build towers, compose and decompose numbers, practice fractions, learn mean, median, mode, and range, all while playing with the famous toy!

Please review the Fall 2017 Class Schedule for age ranges of classes.

LIFE ON THE FARM: WILLOW CREEK RANCH FARM (Nathan & Kara) *Practical Life Skills, Earth Science*

The best way to really understand what life on a farm is like is to actually live and work on a farm, so that's what we are going to do. This class will revolve around our trip to Willow Creek Farm in Mountain Ranch, California where students will get their hands dirty, earn their sleep, and find out what it really takes to be a farmer. Students will be taking notes and pictures of their journey in this class and filling a scrapbook with memories that will last a lifetime. We will be choosing a crop and a farm animal and following their journeys to the table tops around the world. Our class will study methods for farming and raising livestock, humane treatment and the overall efficiency of farming in relation to world hunger. We will study our crops and our livestock at the farm as well. Prior to our adventure we will focus on preparing for life on the farm by diving into the life of a farmer from an outside perspective. After our adventure, we will see how much we were really prepared, if our methods for preparing were even close, and describe what we learned and how we can implement these lessons into our lives.

LITERACY PLAYSHOP (Melody) *Literacy*

A love of reading and language will be fostered through many fun and engaging age-appropriate activities. These include story time, finger-plays, recognizing letters and their sounds, understanding how print works and making the reading-writing connection, playing with rhymes and other speech patterns, and noticing environmental print. Fine motor development will be supported through drawing, tracing, as well as pencil and paper activities including dot-to-dots and independently writing their names and letters. Stories, songs, games, creative projects, and literacy centers will keep little learners engaged as they explore the world of literacy through connection and play.

LITERARY OASIS (Liz or Brittany) *Literacy, Writing*

Don't get stranded in the desert of mediocre writing. Come relax and refresh yourself in the literary oasis. In this class we will be reading sections from great works of literature so we can learn what it was that made their writing so compelling. We will also work on learning new ways to organize our writing so we can tell a cohesive story from start to finish. When we are done we will be refreshed and ready to journey into the world of writing.

LIVING WORD PROBLEMS (Rebecca & Liz) *Math*

Approach word problems from a real life perspective. We will cover pre-algebra, algebra, geometry topics, and more by living out a different scenario each class. Solve these unpopular text book necessities in a fun and interactive way. If you want to break the barrier between word problems and math, this class is for you.

MARINE BIOLOGY: CORAL REEFS (Linda) *Science, Art*

Coral reefs are some of the most diverse and beautiful ecosystems on the planet. Home to hundreds of thousands of species, these living sculptures cover most of the continental shelves of the tropical regions. It all begins with a tiny polyp- the coral. This in depth look at the colorful world just below the surface includes a study in abiotic conditions, food webs, symbiotic relationships, taxonomy, and ecology as we build our own REALM coral reef.

MARVEL SQUAD (Jimmy) *Math, Music, Athletics, Mindfulness*

Welcome to Marvel Squad! Movement, Math, Music, Problem Solving, Practical Life Skills and More! Through imaginative play and scenarios our home-made super heroes will pave the way to success. Why limit the creative capacities of our REALM students? Here we aid in the what-ifs and pro-actively work them into the class structure through constructive free-play. Each week various challenges from various disciplines cause our very own Marvel

Please review the Fall 2017 Class Schedule for age ranges of classes.

Squad to summon their talents, powers, and teamwork to meet the challenge. See you in the Marvel Universe this Fall.

MATH IN ART (Jess M) *Math/Geometry, Art*

Art and math may seem to be very different things, but people who enjoy math tend to look for mathematics in art! They want to see the patterns and angles and lines of perspective. There is a large amount of math involved in art, not to mention basic things like measuring, lines, symmetry, tessellations, circles, angles, patterns, and shapes. If you enjoy creating art and are interested in using math to help you, this is your hour!

MATH MARVELS (Nathan) *Math*

This class will be an overview of the 1st and 2nd grade basic math concepts including addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, money, time, and an introduction to fractions. Each two week section will cover one of the skills mentioned above. We will be using art, science, games, and contests along with worksheets and flashcards to practice. Our goal in this class is to fortify existing skill sets within each student as well as introduce new concepts for them to practice that will support them in other math classes.

ME ON THE MAP (Debbie) *Social Studies*

This hands-on social studies class teaches students about their place in the world. Students create maps including maps of The Realm, Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, California, USA, North America, and the World. Students also develop map skills by recognizing basic map symbols, using cardinal directions on maps, and identifying the shapes of California, The United States, and all seven continents on maps and globes. The class culminates with kids making their own Pirate Maps!

MEGA MATH (Jess M) *Math*

During this twice a week class, we will go over the nitty gritty of basic math skills. We will be covering number sense, place value into the millions, geometry, word problems, multiplication and division, odd vs. even, measurement, elapsed time, money, fractions, decimals, and graphing. Time to get serious about your love of math!!!

MENTAL MATH 1 (Joe) *Math*

Adding, Subtracting, Basic Multiplication and Division

This class focuses on developing our analytical thinking through mental computation and memorization. We'll focus primarily on arithmetical operations - striving to really get a grip on adding (one, two, and three-digit), subtracting (one, two, and three-digit), multiplying to 12x12, and dividing from 144 and lower. We'll practice holding numbers in our heads while we do two-step problems. We'll learn to parse problems and look for patterns to help us derive manageable methods of solution. Each class period will start with a warmup exercise presenting a new concept, application or technique and then we'll practice our skills through gameplay.

Topics and concepts covered and additional resources are available at www.joesclasses.wordpress.com

MENTAL MATH 2 (Joe) *Math*

Prerequisite = Multiplication to 12x12

Fall 2017 Class Descriptions

The REALM Creative Academy

Please review the Fall 2017 Class Schedule for age ranges of classes.

This class focuses on developing our analytical thinking through mental computation and memorization. We'll focus primarily on arithmetical operations - building on skills developed in **Mental Math 1**. We'll learn methods, tactics, and techniques for solving Two and Three-digit Multiplication, Roots, Factors, Division, and Fractions. We'll also play with fractions, decimals and percentages. We'll practice holding numbers in our heads while we do two, three and four-step problems. We'll learn to parse problems and look for patterns to help us derive algorithmic methods of solution. Each class period will start with a warmup exercise presenting a new concept, application or technique and then we'll practice our skills through gameplay.

Topics and concepts covered and additional resources are available at www.joesclasses.wordpress.com

MENTAL MATH 3 (Joe) *Math*

Prerequisite = Mental Math 2, or equivalent

This one's for the all-stars. Students who have been developing their mental math skills for awhile will further develop their abilities in two and three digit multiplication and division We'll also be working with fractions and percentages, and how to develop shortcuts and tricks of our own. We'll practice squaring numbers up to 100, and see if we can find ways to derive square roots. Each week we'll look for patterns and relationships within number sequences, and consider what insights those patterns can offer.

MICH HOUR: MATH INDIVIDUALIZED CURRICULUM HOUR *Math*

Description of this class is on it's way! Please check back soon.

MINDFULNESS AND MEDITATION (Jimmy) *Mindfulness*

Welcome to Square One of education - learning about yourself. Students will get in touch with their relationship to themselves, the world, and others through fun, awareness-building exercises. Students will gain tools for their 'toolbox' to make a solid foundation of self from which to grow and learn through the rest of school and life. REALM kids will learn how to deal with sensory experience, thoughts, mind-body connection, and stay in the moment. PBS (Pause, Breathe, Smile), Affirmation, Positive Self-Talk and Compassion are some of the mindfulness tools students come away with. Meditation here becomes accessible and useful. Meditations include breathing skills, listening skills, body scans, visualizations, and even some guided meditations lead by students. Accompanying our practice is role-playing games, reflective artistic endeavors in line with the week's lesson, some yoga and stretching, mindful eating, and sometimes even tea. Also included are Zen shorts and a whole lot of smiles :)

MINECRAFT (Digital Dragons) *Gaming, Digital Design, Engineering*

Calling all Minecrafters! Digital Dragon invites you to explore the world of Minecraft like you've never seen it before! Turn your structures into Red-Stone wired fortresses with triggered lightning, booby traps, and secret doors. Learn programming principles with Minecraft commands and command blocks that make characters and structures do amazing things, from controlling the time and weather to spawning creatures and portals to other dimensions. We'll have a blast exploring this amazing game, while learning more about the underlying STEAM principles that make it work.

Fall 2017 Class Descriptions

The REALM Creative Academy

Please review the Fall 2017 Class Schedule for age ranges of classes.

MINECRAFT MODMAKERS (Digital Dragons) *Programming, Game Design*

Do you love Minecraft? Why not take the next step and make your own mods? Creating everything from custom blocks, items, mobs, recipes, and even your own mini games, students are introduced to programming by going under the hood of their favorite game. Never coded before? No problem! Students constantly see the result of their growing coding skills in the Minecraft world that they create with their newfound skills, allowing for a creative, engaging approach to coding that fosters design-based thinking.

MODERN PHYSICS (Rebecca & Liz) *Science*

Come delve into the crazy world of relativity, quantum, and string theory. Fill in the gaps of your understanding, discuss the implications, ask the difficult questions, and understand how modern Physics is applied in everyday life.

MUSICAL THEATER (Jess M) *Music, Theater*

This class is for the student who wants to improve their musical theater performance skills. We will practice acting, dancing, vocal performance, music theory, stage presence, costume design, set creation, and even some playwriting! We will perform for family and friends at the end of the class. This is for those of you who love performing AND also for those who feel a little more withdrawn, who with encouragement, will be able to find your own voice!

MY SONG (Jimmy) *Music*

In My Song, REALM students will learn to channel their creativity and create their very own song. Course will be split into listening to music and making music all while focusing on the song. We identify the music: the beat, melody and chords, the instruments; and the message: the lyrics. We also focus on the forms of songs including the classic: verse-chorus-bridge and practice rhyming with various rhyme exercises. Accent on modern American guitar and pop music. We look at the artistic side of singer-songwriters and bands with study of flyers and album art and will create our very own flyers and album art. Also included is study of live performance and introduction to basic music theory. Class to culminate with a trip to the recording studio and students will take home a CD of their songs at the end of the semester.

NATURE LEARNERS (Kara & Salma) *Sustainability, Environmental Education, Science, Language Arts, Math*

Nature Learners is a nature and education immersion class where students will learn various subjects while using nature as their resource and classroom! This class is a beautiful mix of learning and nature. Come play outside with Nature Learners!

NI HAO MANDARIN (Grace) *Foreign Language/Mandarin Chinese*

Learning Chinese is fun! Our Intro to Mandarin classes are designed for students who have little or no previous experience in learning the Chinese language. Students will acquire knowledge of vocabulary and expressions from basic sentence structures so that they can apply to real life settings. You will be amazed by how quickly students can start to say complete sentences in Chinese.

NON-FICTION PERUSERS (Salma)

Description of this class is on it's way! Please check back soon.

Fall 2017 Class Descriptions

The REALM Creative Academy

Please review the Fall 2017 Class Schedule for age ranges of classes.

NON-FICTION SCIENTIFIC WRITING (Bonnie) *Reading, Writing, English, Science*

Here, Writers will begin to mature. They will read a variety of articles related to kids' health and practice summarizing them in their own academic voice. They will be asked to come out of their comfort zones and use a tone of confidence and authority in their writing. Vocabularies will increase and emphasis will be placed on patient puzzling during the editing process. Pertinent homework will be given to allow students enough class time to deepen their understandings.

NOVEL-TEA CLASSICS (Liz) *Literacy, Writing, Note Taking*

What does it mean to remember? What does it mean to be an individual? In this semester of Novel-Tea we will be reading the book *The Giver* by Lois Lowry. I am so excited to share this book with the students as it is my favorite book. Each week students will read 2-3 chapters of the book outside of class. In class we will have write about and discuss this dystopian future we are presented. We will discuss what it would mean to come of age in a society that makes decisions for you. How do you become an individual in a society that values consistency and sameness over everything else?

NUMBER PLAY (Jess M) *Math*

During this emergent math class, we will go over the nitty gritty of basic math skills. We will be covering basic number theory, one-to-one correspondence, number writing, shapes, patterns, basic time, adding, subtracting, skip counting, odd vs. even, measurement, time, money, and basic fractions. Time to instill a serious love of math!!!

OLD SCHOOL PARK GAMES (Nathan) *Physical Education*

Let's get out and play! Games and contests, running and playing, teamwork, cooperation, leadership, winning, losing, competing and enjoying each and every moment of all of these vital life skills defines the core of this class. We will be leaving the center and heading to one of the local parks for each of these classes.

ORGANIC GARDENING (Kara) *Science, Gardening, Sustainability*

In Organic Gardening, students will learn where our food comes from, how food is grown, and how growing a garden can help our community. We will be getting down and dirty by planting and growing our own food! We will learn how to build an organic gardening system from the ground up, take care of the plants, and harvest our own food!

What did the big flower say to the small flower? Hey, Bud!

PASSIONATE READERS (Salma)

Description of this class is on it's way! Please check back soon.

PERSUASIVE ESSAY WRITING (10-11) (Bonnie) *Writing, English*

Students will have a dynamic time classifying the characteristics of persuasive writing. They will become aces at the pedagogical vocabulary of persuasion and learn how to choose loaded words to make their writing more convincing. Topics discussed include current events, as well as those inspired by personal laments. Expect about an hour per week of relevant homework.

Please review the Fall 2017 Class Schedule for age ranges of classes.

PERSUASIVE ESSAY WRITING (12+) (Bonnie) *Writing, English*

Writers will train in backing up their strong opinions with credible evidence and expanding on them with precision. We will break down: logical, ethical, and emotional appeals and use state test writing prompts to craft persuasive essays. Relevant homework will be given, so that there will be plenty of time allotted for building editing skills.

PLANET EARTH: GEOGRAPHY TO THE CORE (Kara) *Science, Geography*

What is the earth made of? How are mountains and volcanoes formed? What is a tectonic plate? In *Geography to the Core*, Students will dive deep into the fundamentals of the earth's geography. In addition to learning about geography, students will create art projects and models that recreate what they have learned.

Want to hear a mountain joke? Nah, you won't get over it.

POLE TO POLE (Kimber) *Natural Science, Habitats, Geography, History, Ecology-Environmental/Global Impact, Art*

The Arctic and Antarctica aren't just cool, they're unbelievably cold! Come take a wild and wonderful trip with us, as we travel from pole to pole, through the earth's coldest areas, all from the cozy warmth of our classroom! Through engaging presentations, virtual tours, historic journals and hands-on projects, adventurous students in this icy cool class will explore the wonders, geology and history of the distinctly different Arctic region up top and the Antarctic continent down below. Beyond the polar bears living in the Arctic and the different species of penguins in Antarctica, students will delve into information about the many unique animals that live in these remote areas. Students will discover that although both areas have icebergs and glaciers and that many believe that the Arctic is only a barren, snowy place like Antarctica, the Arctic is different because it has mountains, forests, prairies, lakes, and rivers— and the animals are also different. Students will research question like... what wildlife thrives in the distinct ecosystems and different habitats of the freezing Arctic- and in Antarctica, the coldest, driest, windiest continent in the world. And what about people? Students will learn about the Inuit and the Sámi, the native people who have lived in the arctic circle for thousands of years. Students will explore stories about the different aspects and experiences unique to their way of life. How do people live in such extreme habitats? And who were the first adventurers to explore these remote areas on both poles? Students will go through historic journals and fascinating stories- and learn about the perilous polar expeditions of the early 1900s when four courageous explorers raced to reach the North Pole (Peary and Cook) and the South Pole (Scott and Amundsen). What obstacles and hardships did they endure to discover the unknown? What was it like to travel across the ice? As students immerse themselves into all areas of Arctic and Antarctica life, they will also become aware of how global warming and human actions are dramatically affecting not only these special areas, but the entire planet- and think about things we all can do to make a difference. Cool class, Cool information!

PRE-ALGEBRA (Semester 1 of 2) (Jess M) *Math*

In *Pre-Algebra*, students will have an opportunity to develop an understanding, familiarity and expertise in advanced arithmetical operations. Students will learn how to work with fractions, decimals and percentages. Students will be introduced to concepts involving exponents and roots, factorization, primes, divisors, variables, negative numbers, equations, inequalities, ratios and proportions, unit conversions, and basic geometry (angles, perimeter, area, triangles, and quadrilaterals). This class will continue during second semester.

Fall 2017 Class Descriptions

The REALM Creative Academy

Please review the Fall 2017 Class Schedule for age ranges of classes.

PRE-ALGEBRA (Semester 1 of 2) (Joe) *Math*

In *Pre-Algebra*, students will have an opportunity to develop an understanding, familiarity and expertise in advanced arithmetical operations. Students will learn how to work with fractions, decimals and percentages. Students will be introduced to concepts involving exponents and roots, factorization, primes, divisors, variables, negative numbers, equations, inequalities, ratios and proportions, unit conversions, and basic geometry (angles, perimeter, area, triangles, and quadrilaterals). New topics will be introduced each week and will be supplemented and reinforced through gameplay. This class will continue during second semester.

The two class meetings each week will be supplemented with ungraded at home practice assignments.

Topics and concepts covered and additional resources are available at www.joesclasses.wordpress.com

PROFESSOR EGGHEAD: ASTRONAUTS (Rachel) *Astronomy, Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Geology*

Come blast off this session with the Egghead Astronaut Crew as we explore the far reaches of our universe! Students will set off rockets, mix chemicals, make reactions, look for life and rocks on other planets, recycle water in space, and make out of this world volcanoes on their way to becoming astronauts!

PURELY MADE (Kara) *Science, Sustainability, Home Economics*

Do you know what is in your shampoo, Chapstick, or sunscreen? The students in Purely Made will know exactly what is in theirs because they will create it themselves! In Purely Made, Students will make natural products, create product names, and design labels to use at home!

QUESTS (Semester 1 of 2) (Joe & Liz) *Research, Community-building, Literacy*

Quest is a multifaceted community based experiential learning program.

The Quest Program is designed to provide students an opportunity to explore themselves and their world in a supportive and encouraging environment. Students will embark on a series of outings and explorations, balanced by and followed with written, multi-media, and artistically creative projects. These projects will serve as responses to the experiences and discoveries students have during the course of the Quest. Students will create individual and group projects that will be presented at their culmination event at the end of the Quest.

This year, Quest will embark on a two-semester project, exploring the theme: "Ancestors: Discovering our Historical and Biological Roots".

RAW, VEGAN...DELICIOUS (Kara) *Sustainability, Cooking, Home Economics*

Fruits, Veggies, Raw Cooking? Oh My! Want to learn more about eating healthy, raw, delicious foods? In Raw, Vegan... Delicious, students will explore what it means to eat raw vegan foods and how to create mouthwatering recipes to share! We will be using only all-natural fruits, vegetables, grains, and oils to make our food. In the conclusion of the class, each student will have their own Raw Vegan cookbook to take home and recreate the recipes they made in class!

Why did the tofu cross the road? To prove he wasn't chicken!

Please review the Fall 2017 Class Schedule for age ranges of classes.

READ ALOUD AND DISCUSS THE CLASSICS UNDER A TREE (Salma) *Literacy*

There is nothing like spending time with a good book. In this class we will take the time to get to know some classic picture books as well as learn about some new favorites. Each class will focus on a picture book that will introduce the students to various literary techniques. Join us as we learn about foreshadowing in *The Stranger*, hyperbole with *Swamp Angel*, and onomatopoeia in *The Bear Snores On*.

A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT (Kimber) *Natural Science, Habitats, Ecology-Environmental/Global Impact, Geography*

Students in this fascinating and fun class will "raft down" rivers around the world and explore the unique and diverse habitats and incredible life that thrives there. From outer space, the earth looks like it's covered with these cool looking veins and arteries. As we explore and sail down different rivers like the Mississippi, the Nile or the Amazon, we will discover that these earth's arteries are really a vast web of rivers and streams that channel water across the planet. From mountains to oceans, from wetlands to marshlands, rivers are very important! How does a stream become a river? Why do beavers build dams? What is a watershed? What does glacial activity have to do with rivers? How are rivers important to all forms of life? Students will explore how rivers were key in starts of civilizations- and how today, rivers are still crucial sources of water and energy, transportation links, scenery and even recreation. Through visual presentations, entertaining stories, exciting art, and hands-on exploration and science projects, students will discover amazing information about river geology, wildlife, river birds, aquatic insects, plant life and so much more.

ROCKREATION (Kara) *Physical Education*

Want a fun way to exercise and get a strong, healthy body? Students will travel to Rockreation for 2 hours of free climb with certified instructors from Rockreation and The Realm. Students will learn the proper belay, climb, and rappelling techniques to become a great rock climber. Students will have access to bouldering walls, auto belays, and top rope climbs with a trained belayer.

ROCKS, MINERALS, CRYSTALS (Jean) *Science, Art*

Description of this class is on it's way! Please check back soon.

SCIENCE OF THE EARTH (Nathan) *Science*

Description of this class is on it's way! Please check back soon.

SCIENTIFIC ILLUSTRATION: NATURAL AND ANATOMICAL (Linda) *Art, Science*

This class blends art with scientific observation and a little bit of history thrown in for good measure. Before cameras those with curious minds and the desire to record their discoveries had to learn to draw with detailed accuracy. Even now in the digital age when nearly every curious mind has a camera as close as their smart phone, illustration can still show things that a picture cannot. Students will use various illustrative techniques such as graphite, pen and ink, mixed media, and acrylic paint to create botanical, zoological, and anatomical works of art inspired by inquisitive minds of the past such as Charles Darwin, Leonardo di Vinci, and Ernst Haeckel.

SHARING THE WORLD - PRACTICAL LIFE SKILLS (Jimmy) *Mindfulness*

This class goes to the heart of social-emotional learning and holistic education. From how to shake hands to how to deal with inner emotions, Practical Life Skills teaches us how to get along with ourselves and each other. We will

Please review the Fall 2017 Class Schedule for age ranges of classes.

start to get in touch with personal responsibility and we will learn how to stay light about it and not take ourselves too seriously. REALM students will practice basic everyday actions like buying healthy snacks from the store, making a telephone call, asking for help, helping out and being of service, how to read the room, how to tune in to people or the environment around us, how to gather needed information, dealing with setbacks, and prioritizing. Our goal is happy and healthy and this class takes the time to be mindful of those most basic aims.

SOLUTIONS: NAVIGATING CONFLICT FOR BOYS (Jimmy) *Mindfulness*

In 'Solutions - Navigating Conflict for Boys' we work together to deal with that age old process of growing up. We will look at what healthy choices are and how to make them. We will deal with real-life situational ethics of the how and when to do what. Students will practice respect, speaking and listening. Here REALM students get a chance to practice the art of debate and the art of being assertive and not aggressive. Some NVC Non-Violent Communication will be examined and we will borrow from the Tao Te Ching on cultivating a wise approach to being in the the world as we know it.

SPANISH (Margarita) *Foreign Language/Spanish, Culture*

Kids will explore language, culture, and customs from over 20 countries around the world. They will learn practical real world Spanish that they can use for travel! Focus will be on vocabulary building skills and usefully phrases those words are used around. We will use, videos, songs, and interactive games to enhance the language absorption. A private online classroom dojo will be created where parents will receive links to videos and tips on how to practice at home.

SPANISH FIESTA (Margarita) *Foreign Language/Spanish, Culture*

Piñatas, Guacamole, and the Mariachi! Kids will get to explore not only the language but culture of over 20 Spanish countries around the world. Kids will play interactive games to learn vocabulary and short phrases that are fundamental to language learning and acquisition. Parents will also have access to our own private online classroom dojo where parents will receive links to videos and tips on how to practice at home.

SPANISH WONDERS (Margarita) *Foreign Language/Spanish*

Each week kids will explore the wonders of a Spanish speaking country around the world. We will use interactive games and songs to learn vocabulary and communication skills. Kids will explore the wonder of traveling to a foreign country and how they can communicate to get what they want! Every week will be a new adventure and a new challenge to communicate in the new land we explore. A customized online classroom dojo will be created for each class so parents will have links to videos and tips on practicing at home!

SPORTS CLUB (Jimmy) *Athletics*

Welcome to REALM Sports Club. Time to get some exercise and have a field day! As any REALM student who has taken Sports will tell you our themes have not and will not vary: Teamwork and Sportsmanship carry the day for each class. Classic sports such as Soccer, touch-Football, Basketball, Wiffle Ball, and Volleyball are taught and played in a fun, non-judgmental environment. Basic skills such as stretching, throwing, catching, shooting, passing, defense, etc. are taught for each sport. We also have our requisite timed obstacle courses (competing against our previous times only). Sports teaches many life lessons in a healthy way: interpersonal relationships, trust, strategy,

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mindfulness, coordination, hand-eye, mind-body, motor skills and most importantly how to win, how to lose, and how to work together. Bonus: a trip to a Los Angeles professional sports game in the mix.

STORYBOOK ADVENTURES (Kara) *Literacy, Reading Comprehension*

Follow me through a land of make believe! A land filled with princesses and pirates, cowboys and sailors, even rhinos and puppies! In this class, Students will listen to a story and then imagine their lives inside of that story. After a fun discussion on life in the story, Students will partake in an activity related to the story such as an art project, a game, or put on a play!

STUDENT GOVERNMENT (Nathan & Jimmy) *Political Science/Committee*

REALM cabinet members will meet each week to put their minds together and execute their democratic duty to help make The REALM a better place. Introduction to Robert's Rules and the functioning of government committees, from finance to fun, will be carried out. Discussion, compromise, delegation, diplomacy, voting, minority opinion, and real-time action will go on Thursday mornings. One of the best ways to learn about ourselves is to be on a team working together to make the best choices for the whole. REALM student government is a discovery of empowerment that we can make positive choices for the future. For Spring semester we will continue our work from Fall semester and keep on with our projects including t-shirt design and selling, fundraising, events, working to raise a REALM flag and make plaques. Students will learn to work together and carry out plans and learn to see that their efforts can make change.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT IN TRAINING (Jimmy) *Political Science/Committee*

Here rests our future - the REALM Student Government in Training. Tomorrow's leaders will gain the basic footing of working together for the betterment of the whole. Introduction to democracy and Robert's Rules occurs in a safe atmosphere. Teamwork exercises on the regular - this REALM class brings the students together. Kids learn to voice opinions and respect others opinions and even work on that age old art of compromise. A Cabinet elected from within with rotating positions learns to put differences aside and function in a way which keeps service forefront. Watch out Student Government, the Student Government in Training is on your heels and, although will be helpers where we can be to the efforts of the Student Government, will also be working for positive change at our beloved REALM Academy.

SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE (Linda) *Science, Art*

In our growing world how we use resources and the impact we have on our environment are becoming increasingly urgent. We will explore the various ways we can reduce our footprint and live in closer harmony with nature. Inspired by creative green architecture we will design our own greenhouses and build models of them incorporating all we have learned about energy and water conservation, sustainable material choices, and waste management.

SWEET SALVAGE ART (Kimber) *Art, Ecology, Environmental/Global Impact*

Salvage Art is a unique and fast developing medium in the art world, but even better... it's tons of fun and good for the environment! It's amazing what kids can come up with when given the space and opportunity to explore the unusual! Throughout this exciting class, fun projects will use recyclable items and inspire creativity- while teaching students to reuse a wide variety of things, "garbage", in a new and exciting way. Always creating new projects, and using wild imagination and recycled computer parts, metal bits and pieces, broken toys and baubles, our student

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Eco-Artists will create their own fantastic artistic masterpieces. All the while, whether it's magical creatures, animals and robots, these crafty inventors will also be demonstrating the benefits of thoughtful consumption, mindfulness, abundance, and reinterpreting wealth and waste. How cool is that? Terrific Trash-To-Treasure projects will include "The Wild Things" creatures, recycled canvas and mixed-media sculptures, "Sweet Salvage" beads and jewelry, funky wind chimes and mobiles, print art and "Wacky Weaving". While we don't promise that we will be able to solve the world's garbage woes...we do promise a totally enjoyable experience that not only produces exquisite art projects, but is kind to the Earth as well.

TED TALKS (Kara)

Description of this class is on it's way! Please check back soon.

TEST TAKING STRATEGIES (Joe) *General knowledge, Logical reasoning*

This class will explore a variety of strategies helpful when taking standardized (and other) tests. Students will practice strategies by completing actual practice test samples. Students will learn to make educated guesses, narrow their options, how not to second guess themselves, stay focused, prioritize responses, save time for review, read questions closely (and slowly and more than once), stay relaxed, arrive prepared, plan ahead, focus on understanding over memorization (but know when memorization is necessary and how to do it), and how to be confident. Plus we'll practice study methods like active reading, repetition, flashcards, note-taking, how to highlight material without over-highlighting and more! The class will focus on multiple choice and short answer style questions, if time allows we might cover some longer answer and essay strategies, but we probably won't go too deeply into that.

THINK TANK (Joe) *Research, Communication, Literacy, Info-synthesis*

The REALM Think Tank is an experience in self-guided learning - it is an environment that guides each student in discovering his or her ability to learn. The Think Tank guides students along the learning and creative process from the posing of an initial question, through research and discovery, to the creation of a completed product demonstrating and sharing their accomplishments and new understanding.

This process gives students the experience of learning a self-chosen topic or skill, and an awareness of their ability to take control of their own education. We will raise questions like: What is learning? How do I learn? What do I want to learn? Are different ways of learning better for different subjects? What can I accomplish with the new knowledge I've found?

More advanced students will begin exploring the distinction between learning information and learning concepts. We will begin actively building a foundation of knowledge and comprehension to help expand our overall understanding of ourselves and our potentials. Students will begin focusing on synthesis and connection - asking questions like, how do the things we know connect and inform other things we know and new things we learn/discover?

TRUE GIRLS (Kelly) *Personal Growth & Development, Spiritual Psychology*

Come join an exquisite group of girls on this semester long journey of exploring and expressing your true glorious Self. True Girl classes foster deep connections with Self and others while building a strong community of like-minded friends. These classes will focus on embracing your strong, confident, and unique Spirit and sharing it with each

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other. We will nurture ourselves and each other on all levels- mind, body and soul through fun creative art projects, music, yoga and healthy food celebrations. Each one of us radiates a unique brilliance that is meant to illuminate the world and this course will support you in shining your light out into the world with confidence and joy.

UNITS OF MEASURE (Nathan) *Math*

In this class we will practice recognizing and applying different units of measure. From millimeters to kilometers, inches to miles, solids to liquids, and everything in between students will practice, translate, and record areas of measurement appropriate for their learning levels.

VIRTUAL ROCKET SCIENCE (Digital Dragons) *Rocket Science, Engineering*

Do you dream of being an astronaut? Come build virtual rockets and put satellites in simulated orbit. Students will use Kerbal Space Program, a space flight simulator where players control an aerospace program, build and fly spacecraft in a realistic physics simulation, and explore the "Kerbal" solar system. Students will develop real world STEAM skills by learning to build virtual multiple stage rockets, lunar landers, and satellites while wrangling gravity, orbital mechanics, and the laws of physics themselves in this exciting and inspiring new course.

VISIONARIES: CONVENTION - ELEMENTARY IDEAS (Jimmy & Bonnie)

Description of this class is on it's way! Please check back soon.

WINDJAMMERS SAILING (SMWYC) *Sailing*

Our program emphasizes SAILING! Each student will be on the water the very first lesson, with the instructor alongside in a coach boat. Students will learn how to purposely capsize their boat, and then recover their boat, and bail the water out. This is consistently the most popular lesson in the program. Tacking (zigzagging left and right towards the direction of the wind), is the first sailing skill to learn. There are 5 steps to executing a good tack. When the students have learned to sail upwind, they learn how to sail downwind. What goes up, must come down. Gybing involves turning the boat left and right with the wind coming from behind.

In the beginning, students will be on the water 1 on 1 with the instructor. As the class progresses, more students, each in their boat, will sail.

The "sailing pizza" will teach the students the different "points of sail". Don't sail into the anchovies! Students will learn how to, and be responsible for, rigging and de-rigging their boats. Learning knots, the names of the parts of a boat and rigging, and the names of the parts of a sail are just part of the fun.

We begin by sailing only in the finger in front of our dock. As the students progress, we sail in the basin, then in the main channel. When we can sail upwind across the main channel to the gas dock (where the store sells ice cream), and then downwind back to the dock, we have really accomplished something.

Students learn to work together to make rigging and sailing easier. When the wind gets too high, we often take a tour of the marina using one of the coach boats. Our priorities are, in the following order: Safety, Fun, Education.

WOMEN IN LITERATURE (Bonnie) *Literature*

Women writers- what makes them tick? We will begin the class reading Mary Shelly's Frankenstein and delve into if there is a relationship between the female author and The Monster itself. Could this monster be a reflection of her

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inner conflict living during the early 1800s? This class will take a look at some of the cultural restrictions and biological realities placed on women and read works of ladies who have used their writing to speak to them. Works include: short stories, a poem, and excerpts from both House on Mango Street and Are You There God? It's Me Margaret.

WONDERS OF SPANISH (Margarita) *Foreign Language/Spanish*

Each week kids will explore the wonders of a Spanish speaking country around the world. We will use interactive games and songs to learn vocabulary and communication skills. Kids will explore the wonder of traveling to a foreign country and how they can communicate to get what they want! Every week will be a new adventure and a new challenge to communicate in the new land we explore. A customized online classroom dojo will be created for each class so parents will have links to videos and tips on practicing at home!

WORD PLAY AND PENMANSHIP (Jess M) *Writing*

Does your hand get tired after writing a descent amount? Are you having a hard time reading your own writing? Have no fear, help is here! Come practice the correct formation of your letters and numbers, how we form them on and between lines, and how to properly hold your pencil! We will use fun games, songs, and smiley faces to help us remember the rules, and we may even experiment with some of those squishy, funny-looking pencil grips.

Depending on how quickly we master our letter formation, we may even venture into the wonderful world of cursive!

A WORLD FULL OF NUMBERS (5-6) (Melody) *Math*

This class introduces children to the wonderful world of numbers! Friendly familiarization with numbers 1 through 20 takes place through stories, hands-on games, puzzles, observing the world outside and inside the classroom, and fun math exercises. We also practice writing numbers, counting out loud, and use of shapes and objects comes into play. Basic adding, subtracting, and skip-counting occur. Accent is on approach to math keeping things fun, positive and useful.

A WORLD FULL OF NUMBERS (10+) (Jimmy) *Math*

This class incorporates the fun-side of math and the real-world application of math while continuing to improve our academic understanding of mathematics. We will continue our multiplication (understanding common factors and multiples) and division practices (understanding fractions). Aspects of Geometry will be taught: angles and triangles, radius and circumference of circles, calculating and understanding volume, area, and perimeter in various objects. We will do basic graphing and use it in the following examples. Through examining baseball statistics we can see how we can calculate averages and make predictions and smart choices. Through looking at interest on a loan we will see how numbers can compound. Through looking at trends in stocks we can analyze stock portfolios. Some of Joe's Exploratory Math will be in the mix (Golden Ratio, Fibonacci Sequence found in nature). We will also learn to not get discouraged, hold our positive attitude, and follow through. Math: YES!

WORLD GAMES, STRATEGY AND PLAY (Kimber) *Geography, Games, Strategy, Critical Thinking*

What better way to learn than through play! How exciting is that? Board games have been played in most cultures and societies, in almost every single country, throughout history- and for very good reason - It's fun! Some games,

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like Checkers, Chess, Backgammon and Mancala have even been played for over 1500 years. Students in this lively class will explore and learn how to play a variety of fun games from around the world. Focusing primarily on playing grid and board games that require strategy and forward thinking, students will also be introduced to the history and discover why these games have "stood the test of time" and have lasted so long. In addition to social and fair game play, students will learn the different rules and then practice strategy, "cause and effect", diplomacy and critical thinking, all of which is also known as "Game Brain" thinking. Throughout the class, students will not only play a wide variety of games but also discuss how these games are similar and different, and explore what makes a game enjoyable and rewarding. Is it luck, knowledge, strategy or skill? How are games like Alquerque, Pente and Go similar? What does it mean to "squaffle"? How do you play Len Choa from Thailand or Mu Torere from New Zealand? What is the difference between the older games and the more contemporary ones, like Monopoly, Scrabble and Risk? And what on earth is a Grogard? Using all of their play practice, discoveries and "universal game appeal", students will then create, play and test their very own board games. Let the games begin!

WORLD MUSIC and UKULELE (Elise) *Music Performance and Theory*

Why the Ukulele? Well, as small as it is, it is a real instrument that kids don't have any trouble holding, handling and playing. Because of its size, finding frets, strings and playing basic chords becomes manageable and very enjoyable for children as young as five years of age. Besides strumming patterns and basic music theory, we will be learning favorite children's songs that are catchy and easy to grasp. Musical concepts and songs are highlighted through a fun, musical journey we follow together as a class, taking us to far away lands and learning about them through music.

WORLD POLITICS (Joe & Liz) *Political Science, Economics, Geography*

Students in this class will explore global political systems and economies. They will learn how different forms of government operate and they will discover how nations operating under various systems interact. Each student will choose a country to explore in depth. Students will prepare written reports and spoken presentations about their chosen country and will represent that country in mock summit negotiations.

WOVEN WORDS (Debbie or Jessie) *Language Arts*

This class introduces students to the world of writing in an environment where their efforts and approximations are encouraged and applauded. Each class begins with a mini-lesson, moves into independent writing time, partner work and ends with a sharing time. Students write about everyday events from their lives and turn them into focused, well-structured stories. The students learn to breathe life into characters by making them talk, think, and interact.

WRITER'S CONVENTION (Brittany)

Description of this class is on it's way! Please check back soon.

WRITOTIA (Writopia) *Creative Writing*

Writopia workshops are fun, engaging, and highly productive. We challenge students to set and achieve writing goals: they are encouraged to complete at least one well-developed, polished piece throughout the course of their workshop. Through our innovative workshop method, we empower students as peer leaders as they gain skills in

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writing, editing, analysis, and effective communication. The workshops allow a community of young writers to find each other, connect via their literary passions, and have lots of fun.

Workshops are student-centered and author-led. Students may find themselves drawn to any number of forms and genres, including fiction, personal narrative/memoir, playwriting, and screenwriting. Our students flourish in these multi-genre workshops where they can gain exposure to diverse styles and voices. Instructors help writers harness their ideas with the goal of completing one, polished piece by the end of each trimester or summer session.

Sessions are peppered with original and fun writing exercises, but focus primarily on writing—and completing—stories. It is a true workshop in which students get to share their writing in a safe and supportive space; students learn how to give and receive insightful feedback.

X-FILES ALIEN ART (Linda) *Art*

Imagination and a creative drive are the only requirements for this alien inspired art class. We will create extra-terrestrial life and UFOs in paint, found objects, stuffies and puppets. We will also find inspiration in crop circles as well as foil hats just in case THEY are listening.

YES AND...IMPROV COMEDY (Rachel) *Theater*

This theater course focuses on active imagination and engaged play. We will be learning the building blocks of improvisation as established by Viola Spolin & Del Close. In addition to improv games and scenes we will implement not only the basics of improv comedy but explore deeper into building relationships, team work, communication and active listening. Come ready to play!

YES AND...UTILIZING IMPROV COMEDY TO CREATE THEATER (Rachel) *Theater*

This theater course is separated into two sections. Our first section is dedicated to engaged play where we will learn and explore improvisational comedy through theatre games originally taught by Viola Spolin and Del Close. When we are ready - we will begin our second section where we will take pieces of the students work they have created through improv games and begin to develop them for the theater. The end of this course will result in a live performance!

ZOOLOGY (Linda) *Science, Art*

The animal kingdom, in all its fantastic diversity is infinitely easier to explore and begin to understand when we organize and classify its members. In doing so the secrets of our own evolution begin to reveal themselves. As early as Aristotle people have theorized on why and how animals look and act the way they do. Why do some, like the orangutan, seem so much like us while others, such as the octopus, could be aliens from another planet? In this class we will classify, identify and discover the many variations of animal's morphology, embryology, and behaviours as we create a "tree of life."
