



Innovations Academy

An Inquiry Based K-8 Public Charter School

Community Outreach & Exhibition Night

December 15, 2017

5:00-7:30 p.m.

Welcome!

We truly appreciate your presence. Be sure to do the following before leaving tonight:

- See the campus map on the last page to guide you.
- Visit at least three classrooms.
- Ask students questions about their projects.
- Visit the Garden/Nature Studies class out back.

INNOVATIONS ACADEMY

GARDEN- Mary

HLC Teresa 705	HLC Jill 704	HLC Jennifer 703	8 th Nora & Dominique 702	8 th Devon & Larissa 701
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3rd grade Jill & Alysa 604	3rd grade Dre & Samantha 603	5 th grade Keith & Stephanie 602	7 th grade Lisa & Meghan 601
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School Hours

Kindergarten:

Monday, 8:45am-12:30pm

Tuesday-Friday, 8:45am-2:15pm

Grades 1-8:

Monday, 8:45am-12:30pm Tuesday-

Friday, 8:45am-3:15pm

7 th Emily M & Sam H 509	5 th Emily L & Maria 508	4 th Terri & Allison 507	4 th Tom & Morgaine 506	2 nd Ali & Lex 505	2 nd Keely & Nyas 504	Learning Support Lisa 501, 02, 03
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1st Ashleigh & Courtney 401	1st Gabriela & Carolina 402	K Lauren & Nallely 403	K Clara & Brianna 404
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801- Patrick Spanish	802- Mary Nature Studies	803- Nikki Art	804- Bolling Robotics/ Media Arts
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Lunch Court

MPR
Make-up/Performing Arts

Jennifer
Salvador Center

Evan
Ceramics Kitchen

Learning Support
5th-8th grade
Stephanie & Jeff

Office:

Staff lounge,
Workroom,
& Administrative
offices

Front Gate

Lower Grade Playground

Guest Experts September - December

Allison Randolph, Marine Biologist
 Andrea Escobar, impacted by Hurricane Irma and Maria
 Cathleen Chilcote Wallace, Native Talk story teller
 Colonial Experts, Riley's Farm
 Corinne Rivera, Blogger
 Dr. Sharon Seirbert, Chiropractor
 Erica Simmons, Journalist
 Gabriela Dow, Cataclysms Disaster Relief
 Gerardo Juarez (Victoria's Dad), Immigration Story
 Gretchen Reuben, Journalist,
 Haley Thiltgen, Aquarium of the Bay naturalist
 Hamid Duadani (Amani's Grandpa), Immigration Story
 Hope Gunther Skin, Phlebotomist
 Invisibilia Podcast Crew
 Jason Handman, Fox 5 WeatherCast
 Jerami Martin, Navy Meteorologist
 Julie Ann Engel, Tower Garden
 Keith Mayer, Director of Quality, Eaton Aerospace
 Mike Conner, brain injury survivor
 Pernille Frandsen (Cece's Mom), Immigration Story
 Rhinny Huynh (Ashelyn's Mom), Immigration Story
 Ross Hendler, Media Arts Expert
 Ryan Garcia, Writer

Ryan Egen, Communications Director, The Memory Project
 Stephanie Sandoval, Archaeologist
 Zaynab Masrour (Kalim's Mom), Immigration Story

Field Studies September - December

Cabrillo National Monument
 California Center for the Arts
 Camp Surf
 Children's Museum, Escondido
 Classics4Kids Performance
 Doheny State beach
 Feeding San Diego Food Bank
 FLEET Science Center
 International Cottages
 JA Biztown
 Knotts Berry Farm Science Exhibit
 La Jolla Beach Day
 Living Coast
 Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater
 Marine Science Floating Lab
 Mingei Museum
 Museum of Man
 Natural History Museum
 New Children's Museum
 Old Poway Park
 Old Town

Presidio
 Riley's Farm
 San Diego Zoo
 San Diego Junior Theatre
 Scripps Institute of Oceanography
 San Diego Air and Space Museum
 San Diego Fire Department
 Star of India
 Los Coyotes Indian Reservation
 San Diego Archaeology Museum
 Wild Willows Farm

What is Project Based Learning (PBL)?

PBL is a teaching method in which students gain knowledge and skills by working for an extended period of time to investigate and respond to a complex question, problem or challenge. (www.bie.org)

At Innovations Academy:

- Projects are highly academic. Students are asked to think deeply, construct questions as well as develop answers and work on complex tasks.
- During our projects students are challenged to create original products, interview professional experts, apply skills through field study and work with a variety of people.

Ways to appreciate the quality of education at I.A:

1. Read our website
2. Research
 - a. www.edutopia.org
 - b. www.bie.org
 - c. www.alfiekohn.org
 - d. Article: Seven Essentials for Project Based Learning @ www.ASCD.org (archives)
3. Volunteer in a classroom.



Come See These Scheduled Presentations Tonight!

K (Lauren)	<p>The following groups will perform the Good Morning Song and explain their creations at their country booths:</p> <p>5:00pm - Group 1 5:30pm - Group 2 6:00pm - Group 3</p>
1 (Ashleigh)	<p>Students will perform tribal legends at the following times:</p> <p>5:10pm - Cherokee legend 5:20pm - Chinook legend 5:40pm - Kumeyaay legend 6:00pm - Iroquois legend 6:20pm - Sioux legend</p>
5 (Emily)	<p>Student news broadcasts will be shown at 5:30pm and 6:30pm.</p>



Essential Questions for Projects this Semester

K (Clara)	What is the purpose of a story? In what ways can stories be told?
K (Lauren)	How can we become global citizens?
1 (Ashleigh)	How do cultural aspects like legends and food vary among different Native American tribes?
1 (Gaby)	What is the theory of evolution and how has it helped us understand the world we know today?
2 (Ali & Keely)	Why are sharks important to our world and what can we do to help them flourish?
3 (Dre & Jill)	How can we design and build a structure to withstand flooding in a tropical climate zone?
4 (Terri & Tori)	Which Native American and Spanish cultural influences still remain today?
5 (Emily)	How can we use technology to inform our communities about global natural disasters?
6 (Keith & Steph)	How can we educate our community about the challenges faced by early humans, and their solutions to them?
7 (Emily)	How can we reveal, through narrative storytelling and scientific exploration, some of the invisible forces that so heavily influence our lives?
7 (Lisa)	How does geography and technology impact the development and preservation of a society?
8 (Devon & Nora)	How can we use our knowledge of Early America and what the Colonists needed to survive, to create a historically accurate item and then teach others how to recreate it?

Descriptions of Projects

Kindergarten (Lauren & Nalleli)
Room 403



Our kindergarten class began the year really engaged in songs and movement. As part of our morning meeting we incorporated a “Good Morning Song” to greet our friends as well as ask them how they are doing. The children began using other languages to say hello to each other based on their previous knowledge, which led us into translating the song in four other languages: Italian,

French, Japanese, and Spanish. Through this process the children learned to persevere through difficult articulation, make connections through similar letter sounds and words, and use the greetings independently with friends.

After learning the song in several of the languages, the children became more curious about the corresponding cultures. The Kindergarten family went on a field trip to the International Cottages in Balboa Park to help us understand more about the cultures as well as explore cultural representations. We studied the flags of each country, foods, and iconic structures. The children were broken up into country groups where they did research on the iPad, recreated buildings, bridges, and ruins. Finally, we did a “Taste Around the World” where we sampled food from each country.

During Exhibition Night we will be performing our Good Morning Song in five different languages, as well as lead a guided tour of the different cultures to learn more about their communities. In the background, there will be a music video of our class singing throughout the night. This is a video that we created and edited with Ross Hendler, a media arts expert. Please come join us as our classroom transforms into different areas of the world.

Kindergarten (Clara & Brianna)
Room 404

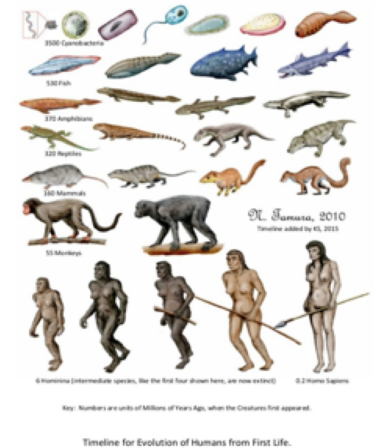
Students truly enjoy story time in our class. Stories make them smile and feel happy, which is the reason they created their own stories that they will share

with you! Tonight, students will be presenting ideas of characters and settings as well as their own illustrations and words. Some students will be sharing their stories and singing with seniors from the Sun Care Community. The preparation of these stories inspired students to explore diversity, unfamiliar places, people and situations. As a result, they improved their drafts, sharpening their knowledge, imagination, creativity and listening skills throughout the process.



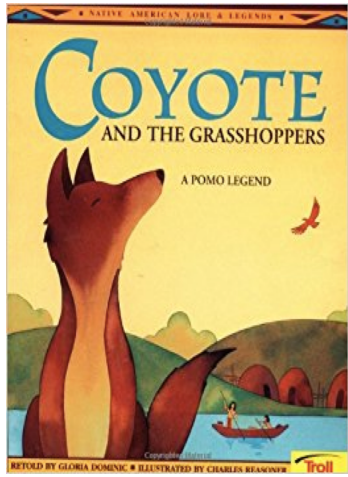
First Grade (Gaby & Carolina)
Room 402

The Writing Lovers had the burning question: How did we come to be on Earth? Come travel back in time with us to the Dark Ages - before the start of the universe as we know it! After researching different theories of evolution, come and see our findings about the Big Bang Theory, how our solar system developed, what the first forms of life were, how they evolved, the rise and fall of dinosaurs, and the evolution of humans over time. We will be displaying our writing, illustrations, and our stop-motion video regarding these topics.



First Grade (Ashleigh & Courtney)
Room 401

Early on this school year, the Kind Loving Explorers took an interest in the art of story telling. They explored various forms of story telling including oral legends, plays, storybooks, and puppet shows. In October, Kathleen Chilcote Wallace, a Native Talk storyteller, came and shared stories of the Kumeyaay people and their culture. The students were intrigued and wanted to know as much as possible about different Native American tribes, how they lived, and legends they passed down.



This led to research about tribes from each geographical region of the U.S.: Pacific Northwest, Southwest, Great Plains, Northeast, and Southeast. Students read books and poems, heard from experts, and researched online to learn how the tribes lived. They have cooked and tried traditional recipes from each tribe and created slideshow presentations to share what they discovered. Join us for a guided tour through the different tribes' cultures and sit down to enjoy a production of a legend from each of the five tribes and a viewing of our Powwow song filmed by media arts expert, Ross Hendler.

Second Grade (Ali, Keely, Lexi, Niyati)
Room 504 & 505



Second graders have been diving in to the world of sharks. They have become expert non-fiction readers and are ready to show you all that they have learned. Throughout their process of learning about these amazing creatures, they have discovered that sharks are extremely important members of our ecosystem and that many of them are endangered due to human

impact. Second graders wanted to take action but weren't quite sure what they could do. After meeting with Allison Randolph, a local marine biologist, students learned that there are several pieces of California legislation being discussed that would affect sharks. They figured out how people can influence policy and decided to write letters to our local senators. They visited the Scripps Institute of Oceanography labs and Living Coast to further their knowledge and collaboration with experts.

The students decided for exhibition that they wanted to inspire others to save our sharks as well. They decided to use their knowledge of non-fiction books (along with their experience dissecting a dogfish shark) to create a book for their guests to read. Students created maps to show our guests various issues regarding sharks. They also studied food chains and ocean ecosystems to

create a mural showing what the ocean may be like if the decimation of sharks continues. Come by and learn why you should be dedicated to SOS: Saving Our Sharks!

Third Grade (Jill, Dre, Alysa, Sam)
Room 603 & 603



Have you ever imagined what it would be like to experience a hurricane or lose everything in a flood? With the onset of hurricanes Maria, Irma, Jose, and Harvey in the tropical climate zones, third graders started out the year with many questions regarding hurricanes and their effect. After a visit from local meteorologist, Jason

Handman, we discovered that there was more to weather and climate than we thought! Following Hurricane Maria, we Skyped with a Floridian who has family in Puerto Rico. She spoke of the devastation her family experienced due to extreme flooding. Students were interested in how to lessen the effects of extreme weather.

As a result, we decided to research, design, and build structures that can withstand extreme flooding. Students have learned about Practical Action homes in Bangladesh, researched structural designs, and tested models of their own. Come see the result of our exploration and find out how to beat the flood!

Fourth Grade (Terri, Tori, Allison, Morganne)
Room 506 & 507

Students will present live TV commercials about one of the Spanish or Native American cultural influences which have originated in California history and still remain today. Throughout the course of the semester, fourth graders have learned about California history from the period of the Native American settlements to exploration and colonization from Mexico and England. Students collected their research through a combination of reading, Social Studies

lectures, guest speakers, and field study to The Presidio and the Cabrillo National Monument. The children thought critically about the cultural elements they have studied in present day Californian culture and identified their significance in relation to their historical impact. Because these influences mold the culture of California, we are using the medium of television commercial to succinctly portray them to our community audience.



Fifth Grade (Emily & Maria)
Room 508



In the fifth grade class, viewers will have two opportunities to watch the students' very own news broadcasts researched, written, filmed and edited by the students themselves. Viewers will learn about eight different cataclysms that have affected our planet from the beginning of time.

When the news broadcasts are not being shown, our guests will be able to tour our room to see evidence of our research and learning. We have written to a class of students in Texas, asking about the recent hurricanes. We have also written to 28 different city councils around the US asking for their natural disaster survival plan. Evidence of those responses will be present.

Sixth Grade (Keith & Steph)
Room 602

Our exhibition will be a dual-location experience. The classroom will be transformed into a museum-like research zone. Visitors will circulate through multi-media exhibits, learning about five early ancestors as well as the theory of evolution.

In the garden area, students will transform the Nature Play Space into a field work site, including hands-on, interactive, survival exhibits including fire, shelter, stone tools, archaeological excavation, and whittling.



Our goal is that the community members who visit will walk away genuinely more knowledgeable about the evolution of early humans, the hardships they faced, the tools they created, and the way these advancements contributed to our evolution.

7th Grade (Emily & Sam)
Room 509



The 7th grade explored the driving question, "How can we reveal, through narrative storytelling and scientific exploration, some of the invisible forces that so heavily influence our lives?" Students began to address this question with a conversation in which they explored the word invisible. They generated ideas regarding things we interact with on a daily basis that we do not see. They listened to a podcast entitled Invisibilia whose mission is to create narratives "about the invisible forces that control human behavior – ideas, beliefs, assumptions and emotions." Students each listened to an episode of Invisibilia which discussed a topic they found interesting. They listened closely, studying the structure, presentation of information, and overall style,

with the intention to create their own version of the podcast. Students interviewed the Executive Producer of Invisibilia, Meghan Keane, as well as the Project Manager, Liana Simonds, with the intention of gaining perspective regarding the work that goes into each episode. Students then utilized this expert advice to select another invisible force and worked in groups to generate a podcast episode through extensive research and collaboration.

The topics chosen are as follows: souls, atoms, space, emotions, quantum entanglement, mental disorders, and pain. Students recorded their episodes at the San Diego Audio Video recording studio with the assistance of two sound technicians. They then worked together to edit their episodes. Students then utilized their persuasive writing skills to draft letters that they will send to Invisibilia regarding why each group's topic is important and should be aired on the show. We invite your feedback as you listen to our podcasts and read our letters to see how we revealed the invisible.

Seventh Grade (Lisa & Meghan)
Room 601

When you walk into the classroom, you will enter the world between 300 and 1400CE. 3D polyhedral world maps will guide you from one location of the world to another. Our focus will be on important events and people from medieval civilizations. As you visit each society, you will learn about the highlights of each civilization by browsing through ABC history reference books dedicated to future IA 7th grade students, and through letters and journal entries from people of the past. Students worked in groups to learn about life in Medieval Europe, Africa, China, Japan. They explored the Aztecs, Mayans and Incas of Mesoamerica who existed during this time period as well. The three project deliverables that will be exhibited are 1) A 3D world map that includes a highlight of each group's medieval civilization. 2) An ABC Book for each group's civilization, which will be published as a legacy and resource for our future 7th grade classes as they study medieval history. 3) A "weathered" collection of letters or journal entries describing daily life from their visit!



Eighth Grade (Devon, Nora, Larissa, Dominique)
Room 701

We are going to be taking you back. Way back. Back to when the first settlers came to America and started the beautiful country that we live in today. Imagine traveling across the Atlantic (it only took 4-6 months!) and arriving onto a land that was fertile, appeared uninhabited, and all yours!

Our 8th graders have been researching what it took to create the Colonies and how hard life was when living in one of the first communities that later became a part of the United States. They researched an element of everyday life in early

America and then actually recreated it with their own two hands. Students were asked to find something that helped the Colonists to not only survive in their new land, but also thrive. Students then documented the process of what they had to do to create this item and then created a page that went into a do-it-yourself book called DIY: Early America.



This project included researching reputable and reliable resources, contacting and learning from experts in the community, and then creating a page with informational writing, images and diagrams explaining the process. When you come visit us, you will experience students showing their creations and encouraging you to try using them or learn a little bit more about life in Colonial America. Our book will also be available for purchase so that you can recreate these items yourself.

Extending and Enriching Self-Expression at Innovations

Art (Nikki)

Come to the Art Room to see a sampling of completed and in-progress Art projects from our K-2nd grade Artists as well as some beautiful and inspired works from the Middle School Printmaking Elective. Artwork will be accompanied by project descriptions and photographs of students engaged in the creative process of Art-Making.



Ceramics (Evan)

Take a tour of the pottery class room and see the tools and equipment that students use. Observe the capabilities of large scale pottery! Come and see Evan in the process of creating a giant bowl that is 25x bigger than

what the students have been creating throughout the school year.



Nature Studies (Mary)



Check out what K-5 students have been exploring this semester with Mary in Nature Studies! During Exhibition Night, your child has the opportunity to introduce you to observation tools, explain bio facts, and share observations and scientific illustrations from his/her nature studies journal. Although weekly Nature Studies classes take place in our outdoor classroom in the garden, tonight you will find the Nature Studies materials in the Nature Nook in Room 802.

PE (Coach Curry)

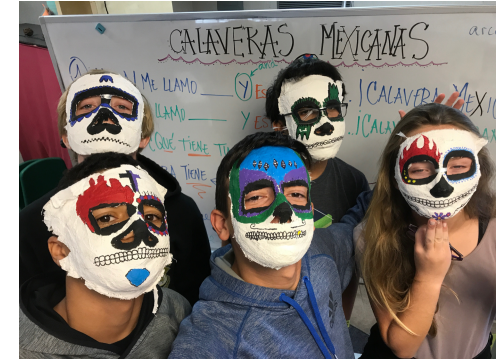
PE at Innovations Academy focuses on learning the basic/advanced skills associated with a collection of sports selections that mirror the seasonal sport change of high school athletics and gives the students a chance to explore different sports to determine whether or not they would like to pursue a certain sport competitively or recreationally. By learning how to play football, volleyball, basketball, track and field, baseball and softball, students build their confidence, courage and resilience. They learn how to succeed and they learn from their failures through smart practice habits, basic fundamental skills and reinforcement through repetition.



Spanish (Patrick)

The topic the students have been investigating is "El Dia de los Muertos" (The Day of the Dead). We began to explore the meaning of this

Mexican celebration by creating plaster masks (a great way to start learning words for different parts of the face) and "Papel Picado" (a decorative Mexican paper). We then painted our masks like skulls and used different colors to emulate the style of Mexican art. All the students made videos in pairs describing their skulls in Spanish. We invite you to room 801 to see our work!



Performing Arts (Natasha)



During the first semester, grades 3rd through 5th enjoyed classes in drama and cultural dance and movement. In performing arts they worked on becoming comfortable with public speaking, improv, building a character and understanding how to convey emotions on stage. In cultural dance and movement, they learned dances from Greece, Mexico, Ghana, New Zealand and Italy. They took turns researching facts about that country and then shared them with their peers. They also played games that children in those countries play.

Students involved in the all school production of "Snow White and the Thirteen Dwarfs" rehearsed for 10 weeks and performed several very successful shows last weekend. Come in and see our new sound and lighting equipment, purchased with kind donations from the pledge drive, along with costumes, props and pictures from the show. There will be information about the next production that will audition in January.



Robotics (Bolling)

Come explore what goes on in Robotics class in room 804. Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade families will have the opportunity to watch students showcase their knowledge of the Probot car. 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade families will be able to explore the robots and software they will be working with in the upcoming months.