

THE ACE JOURNEY

ACADEMICS • CREATIVITY • EXCELLENCE

The newsletter of ACE Academy - Austin's first and only school dedicated to understanding, engaging, and nurturing the gifted child.



“ To the mind, curiosity is its own reward. And the by-product of perpetual curiosity is wisdom. ”

- Chip R. Bell

SUMMER WONDERS AND ACE HIT NEW RECORDS

SUMMER WONDERS AND ACE ACADEMY ENROLL HIGHEST NUMBER OF STUDENTS YET

The numbers are in: with a record-breaking 215 students in Session I and 245 in Session II, Summer Wonders enrollment this year hit an all time high. Admissions were capped for the first time in Summer Wonders history.

Course offerings this year were as exciting and enriching as ever, exploring everything from ancient civilizations to animal behavior, from cartography to video programming, from sustainability to shoes.

We hear the same thing from parents every year, and this year was no different: “I wish we could take these classes too!” It’s no surprise we’ve

won the Austin Chronicle Reader’s Poll “Best Summer Camp” award for three years running.

ACE Academy will also see its highest numbers yet, kicking off the 2012-2013 school year with 50 new students, setting our student body at 143. With new teachers and teachers’ aides, new class offerings, new equipment and technology (such as iPads in the primary classrooms), and a host of events to look forward to, 2012-2013 is looking to be our best year yet.

While we are thrilled to serve more gifted children than ever before, the hunt continues for a campus large enough to match our mission - see Austin Gifted Updates on page two for details on how you can help.

NEWS

AUSTIN GIFTED UPDATES

SITE SEARCH CONTINUES

The Austin Gifted Site Committee is still looking for property, undeveloped or with pre-existing facilities, to transform into a permanent home for ACE.

We are fortunate to rent our current space in a beautifully-wooded and central location, which allows us access to both nature and the cultural offerings of Austin—we would be thrilled to replicate this environment.

The Site Committee is also looking for new volunteer members, particularly those with experience in architecture, real estate, fund-raising, and interior design.

For further information, interest in joining the committee, or to notify us of potential properties, please send an email to info@austingifted.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

Parent Coffee

Fri. 9/7 (after drop-off, 8:15-9:30)

Information Session

Wed. 9/12 (1:00 PM)

Google+ Tutorial

Saturday, 9/15/12 (1:30 - 3:30 PM)
Cafeteria/Room 310

We will be hosting Google+ Training for parents on Saturday, September 15. We will provide demonstrations of the platform, answer questions and have staff members on hand to help set your profile. Please RSVP to Katie Yates at kyates@austingifted.org

Field Studies Day (Rosh Hashana)
Mon. 9/17

Field Studies Day (Yom Kippur)
Wed. 9/26

Parent Education Seminar,
Sat. 9/29 (9 AM - Noon)



New faculty and staff, (L-R) Top row: Libby Banks, David Dean-Jones, Swapna Deepak, Mary Hannah Duhon Second row: Ben Griffin, Claire Hermes Bottom row: Jenny Mulder, Mark Smith

NEW FACES AT ACE

ACE Academy is proud to welcome the following new faculty and staff members:

Libby Banks, Red Pod TA; David Dean-Jones, PhD., Latin and Philosophy; Swapna Deepak, Science; Mary Hannah Duhon, Elementary TA; Ben Griffin, Yellow Pod TA; Claire Hermes, Yellow Pod TA; Jenny Mulder, Blue Pod TA; Mark Smith, Red Pod TA.

For faculty and staff bios, please visit our website:

www.austingifted.org

ACE WELCOMES NEW PARENT COUNCIL OFFICERS

NEW MEMBERS ANNOUNCED FOR 2012-2013

Behind the success of each Field Day, Spring Gala, Annual Fund, and almost every Austin Gifted event, not to mention our monthly staff birthday treats, Teacher Appreciation week, and fund-raising efforts, is our tireless, inimitably generous ACE Academy Parent Council.

Comprised of a general Parent Council Body, which includes all parents of ACE student, and elected Council Members, the Parent Council serves to support the staff and students of ACE Academy. The Parent Council Board Officers meet monthly, and the body

three times during the school year. Dates for the meetings will be scheduled following the first Parent Council meeting.

We are pleased to announce Board Officers for the 2012-2013 school year:

President - Danor Padden
Vice President - Brian Ferguson
Treasurer - Carmen Sutherland
Secretary - Leigh Cody

For more information on participating as a Parent Council member, please email Danor Padden: danorpadden@gmail.com

PRIMARY PODS GO DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM

Primary students at ACE Academy will soon be swiping their way to success. Thanks to the generosity of ACE families, we now have 12 new iPads, which were among the auction items at our annual Spring Gala.

In each primary classroom, students will use iPads to share videos and information in line with their curriculum and theme. For reading groups and math, classes will use them to help differentiate and create individualized lessons for each group. The iPads will also provide alternative writing methods for students to express themselves.