

Tell me, and I forget.
Show me, and I remember.
Involve me, and I understand.

LASF and Humanities

LASF is committed to humanities education in literature, languages and social studies. At the elementary level, LASF's instructor program introduces students to a multicultural experience as they learn about everything from Chinese New Year and culture to Native Californians to their own ethnic roots. History is showcased in units on the Gold Rush and Lafayette History.

LASF brings California Poets in the Schools to all 4th and 10th graders. Writing for Mastery programs at both Stanley and Acalanes provide tutorial writing for students. Foreign-language tutors offer Stanley and Acalanes foreign-language students the opportunity to interact and communicate with native speakers.



In the area of humanities, LASF offers students a broad range of unique and unforgettable educational experiences.

About LASF

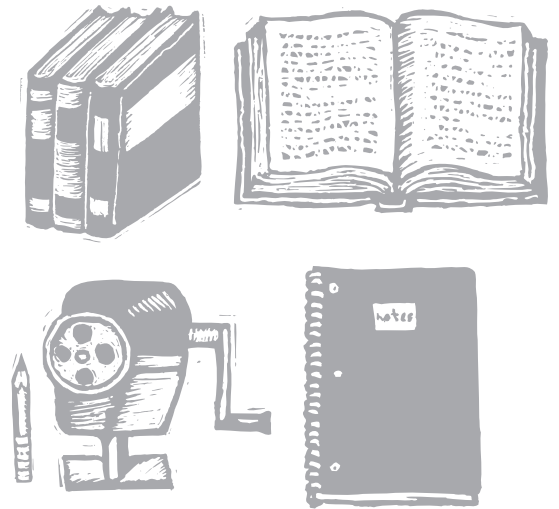
The Lafayette Arts & Science Foundation is a private, nonprofit educational foundation run by volunteers to benefit the children attending Burton Valley, Happy Valley, Lafayette and Springhill Elementary Schools, Stanley Middle School and Acalanes High School. Our mission: **to support and enrich the education of every child in the Lafayette public schools through a broad community-based effort.**

The 2005/06 school year marks the 25th anniversary of LASF. Since 1980, LASF has been providing core academic programs and educational enrichment to Lafayette students in partnership with our schools and our community.

Since LASF's humble beginnings, it has raised more than \$9 million to benefit our community's students and schools. Thanks in part to the Foundation's continuing support, Lafayette public schools today remain among the highest-ranked in California.



Exploring Humanities 2005/06



CELEBRATING
25
YEARS

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Lafayette Arts & Science Foundation

Supporting and enriching the education of every child in the Lafayette public schools through a broad community-based effort

Kindergarten

Native Americans: This three-session class provides an overview of five different Native American tribes. Food, clothing, homes, ceremonies, tools and weapons all come to life with hands-on artifacts. Students participate in storytelling, songs, dances and other projects. Sign language, artifacts and crafts are part of the learning experience.

First Grade

Chinese New Year: This two-session unit is a first-hand look at Chinese New Year, along with beliefs and customs. Many hands-on artifacts are included to help this culture come to life for students, along with a look at food, clothing, music, storytelling and the decorative designs of China. An art project is included with this unit.

Second Grade

Ethnic Folk Tales Through Storytelling: Through storytelling, this three-session unit brings folk tales from around the world into the classroom. Students learn the storytelling skills necessary for relating their own ethnic and family stories.

Third Grade

Lafayette History: This five-hour program familiarizes third graders with the history and development of Lafayette. Students begin their study with information on the local Native American tribes—incaluding their daily lives, customs and ways of life. The founding of our city in 1848, as well as its first schools and businesses, will be studied through the use of artifacts, maps, slides and computer materials. A tour of Lafayette Cemetery and downtown historical sites is included in this living history program.



A Town Called Lafayette... A Child's Historical Study, by Emily Haas and Mary McCosker and supported through a grant by LASF, is used as a text in every third-grade classroom.

Fourth Grade

California Poets in the Schools: This program brings a poet into the classroom to introduce students to various styles of poetry through readings and discussion. Over the course of five sessions, the poet will work with the students as they are taught and encouraged to write, read, interpret and enjoy poetry.

Gold Rush: Students spend the day exploring the Gold Rush within the context of California History. Topics covered include preparing for and experiencing the trip to the gold fields, the work of mining and its effect on the environment, "gold fever" and stories of real people in California during the Gold Rush. Students will make a gold poke and pan for gold. Whenever possible, the role of children will be emphasized. Artifacts are displayed and discussed.

California Natives: Through a combination of slides, demonstration and hands-on use of artifacts, students learn about the food, clothing, shelter, tools, weapons and traditions of this native group. Students experience life as a Native Californian by face painting, handicrafts and playing games of skill and chance.

Fifth Grade

Princes, Pioneers, Politicians and Pathfinders: This unit is a hands-on look at the lives and times of eight figures from four historical periods. Students explore Prince Henry, Queen Isabella, Anne Hutchinson, Ben Franklin, George Washington, Abigail Adams, Sacajawea and Daniel Boone through artifacts, literature and other cultural elements.

Sixth through Eighth Grades

Writing for Mastery: The goal of this program is to improve 6th and 7th-grade students' writing by giving individual feedback in the organizational and developmental stages of writing and to increase the number of opportunities students have to write. Students meet with a writing tutor to review their rough draft, then have a second, one-on-one meeting after they have had a chance to implement the suggestions. Feedback from this second meeting can then be incorporated into a final draft.

Foreign Language Program: LASF instructors guide students in the appreciation and creation of cultural art and artifacts. Students become culturally immersed through specific projects that bring alive the countries they are studying. In other classrooms, students converse with native speakers and develop their language skills.

MY Access! LASF helps fund this innovative Web-based writing environment to improve student writing. The program applies artificial intelligence principles to guide students and provide consistent and relevant feedback, at the same time engaging and motivating them to write more and improve their composition skills.

High School

California Poets in the Schools: This program offers the sophomore classes a supplemental unit in poetry taught by a local poet from California Poets in the Schools, the largest writers-in-the-schools program in the nation.

Writing for Mastery: LASF's Writing for Mastery program provides writing tutors in Social Studies. Tutors meet one-on-one with students, with the goal of helping them learn the vital skill of writing a well thought-out, organized research paper.



Foreign Language Enhancement: Working with the Foreign Language department, LASF introduces drama and culture into the classroom.

LASF also funds readers to help teachers read and correct writing projects, purchases books for English classes, literary magazine subscriptions and other teaching supplies.