

THE LOTUS LAMP

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A Festive Time For Lotus



“Do a common thing in an uncommon way.” BOOKER T. WASHINGTON

Re-Admissions And New Admissions Begin

The beginning of the second trimester also marks the beginning of the re-admission process for our present students, and the recruitment of new students. This is an exciting time for Lotus as we attempt to expand our student body while we take steps to improve our program for those students who presently are a part of our extended family. The admissions process is especially challenging in today's educational environment where there are so many less expensive alternatives, and many that do not require testing or any significant screening.

The Lotus Academy is committed to maintaining the academic standards that have allowed it to flourish for the last twenty-seven years. That will mean attracting the best applicants that we can, and establishing a method whereby we can evaluate all those who do apply to make certain that they and Lotus are a good fit.

The re-admissions process is a vitally important part of the recruitment effort. Our first task in soliciting new students is to determine exactly how many openings there are in each one of our classes. Because we limit every class to no more than twenty-two students, we must have accurate information as to how many of our students will actually be with us in the next school year.

The 2001-2002 school year is the first where our plan to have just one class per grade (and no combined classes!) can be put into effect. It means that we will not have to concern ourselves with the dilemma that is presented when you have two first grade classes, for example, and you are trying to figure out how to make all of them fit into just one second grade class. Instead, there will be one class for each grade, kindergarten to eighth.

We sincerely hope that all of our present Lotus students will be back with us next year (with the exception of the eighth grade graduates!). We also hope that all of our parents will get their paperwork in on time. Please call the office if you have any questions.

Lotus Academy Website Ready To Be Unveiled

The Lotus Academy website is taking shape, and is ready to be launched in the second week of January. Of course, it can be found at "www.lotusacademy.org".

Though most of the images and contents have already been finalized, suggestions or contributions are always welcome. Once it is put into place, it will be constantly updated and revised so that there will always be a need for creative and innovative input from those who have something to say or to show.

The staff of Tekhen Enterprises, Ltd. has been working very hard to make this website second to none. Look for it on January 10th, and let us know how we can make it even more effective for and useful to you.

Drum Classes To Start In Second Trimester

In addition to the master jazz classes conducted by Mr. Rayburn Wright, Lotus students will also have the opportunity to learn African drumming and percussion by the renowned percussion musician (and Lotus parent) Leonard "Doc" Gibbs. The drumming classes will begin on Saturday, January 20th, from 10:00 am to 12 noon, and will be held on the third Saturday of every month. All students from the Upper School (grades five to eight) are eligible to enroll in the classes, and there is no charge for them. The instruction will be geared to ensure that all of the students learn the various instruments and master the basic African rhythms.

"Doc" Gibbs has indicated that the students in the class will form the nucleus of what will be the Lotus Academy Drum Corps. If you have an interest in having your child take part in this program, please call the office so that we can complete the registration process. We are looking forward to your child's participation!

"Mistakes are a fact of life. It is the response to the error that counts.

NIKKI GIOVANNI