

THE LOTUS LAMP

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Celebrating Kwanzaa At Lotus



The critical issue is that the leadership within the politically dominant culture in the United States utilizes schooling to inculcate its worldview as universal.

MWALIMU J. SHUJAA

Advisory Council

The Advisory Council of the Lotus Academy had a very productive meeting on December 13th with the Lotus Board of Directors. It was an excellent opportunity for the members of both bodies to meet each other, talk about the tasks ahead, and forge a plan for working together. In addition to the five Advisory Council committees (Information Technology, Grants & Donations, Parent Partnership, C.L.A.S., Marketing & Communication) that Advisory Council members may join, they are also eligible to work directly with the members of the Board of Directors on their Membership, Fund-Raising, and Nominations committees.

All Lotus Academy parents (and supporters) are reminded that they are invited to be a member of the Advisory Council. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 15, 2002. If you are interested, please call the office to obtain more information about joining the group that is at the forefront of making important things happen at Lotus.

Student Re-Admission

As all of our parents are aware, the deadline for submitting re-admission applications for your children is on Monday, January 28, 2002. It is extremely important that the forms be submitted on time so that the administration can begin the process of evaluating students, meeting with teachers, and getting all notices out by mid-February.

This year, many of our parents will be contacted by one or more of the school administration. The purpose will be to go over any special situations, answer questions about your child, and to make final decisions about scholarship aid. Again, the idea is to ensure that parents have the information that they need, at the earliest possible time, so that the process of re-admission can be completed during the second trimester.

This timeline for re-admission is especially important in light of the fact that the admissions drive for new students will begin the second week of January. Prospective new parents are being told that admission decisions for their children will be made and announced by the end of May if they have completed the application process by the end of March, 2002.

Earnest among the thoughtless, awake among the sleepers, the wise man advances like a racer, leaving behind the hack. BUDDHA

Summer Session 2002

The Summer Session at Lotus Academy will begin accepting applications on February 1st. The program this year is open to *any* students whose parents wish to involve them in a quality educational environment for seven weeks during the summer. It begins on July 1st, and will end on August 16th. Parents may make special arrangements in the event that the program schedule conflicts with their own vacation or summer plans.

This is *not* a remedial program, but rather has been designed to academically extend the school year with intensive instruction in math, computer science, creative writing, nature walks, and chess. Of course, students will have the opportunity to spend much of this time outdoors to take advantage of the weather that July and August offers.

The Summer Session has classes every day, Monday through Friday, and the school day is from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. Students may stay until 5:30 pm if they are enrolled in the summer after-school program. There truly are a limited number of spaces available, so parents are encouraged to apply early. Please call the office for information about requirements, costs, and application details.

Lotus Academy Youth Jazz Band Program

As a part of the expansion of the creative arts at Lotus, we are pleased to begin the organization of the Youth Jazz Band. The first session will be held on Saturday, January 5, 2002, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. That is also the last day for Lotus students to sign up for the Youth Jazz Band.

All of the students who are a part of the program have chosen the band instruments that they wish to play. Preparations are underway to assist them in getting their instruments, and to arrange for private lessons. Group instruction and band practice will take place on Saturday, with another session during the week for all participants.