

# Class Descriptions



## **"Spanish Music and Movement" and Spanish 1 and Spanish 2**

Beginning Spanish is being offered by Ms. Mercedes Margritz. Mercedes is a native speaker from Mexico. She has worked with school age children through her own company and several other language institutes in the County. She teaches Spanish through games, songs and dances, as well as through learning about Hispanic countries and cultures. The class is taught primarily in Spanish and the children are provided opportunities for verbal and written use of the language. There will be one class for younger students, K-2, and another class for older students 3-5.



## **Singing**

Ms. Elizabeth Podsiadlo, the Opera Singing Chef, is teaching a singing class offered to all grade levels. For the past four years, she has directed a children's choir comprised of local Mira Mesa Children called, the River Rim Children's Choir, with which she has performed and produced recordings to raise money for charity. During this class, she will teach the children many songs that involve challenging rhythms and simple harmonies.



## **Theater**

Mrs. Jennifer Kvalvik will be teaching this course in theater arts. This course offers an introduction to acting for students from all grade levels. Short comedic plays and theatre games allow students to nurture their creativity, improve their verbal skills, and bolster their self-confidence. The class will culminate in a fun, theatrical performance for family and friends.



## **Famous Artists . . . a hands on class**

Andrea Heath, a local artist and teacher, is offering another exciting after-school art course open to all students. This class will be focused on learning about famous artists in history and is structured to provide students a creative outlet while emulating the artist's various styles. Students will create both 2 and 3-dimensional pieces and will be using a variety of media such as: pastels, paint, fabric, recyclables, wire, collage, wood and more. Mrs. Heath has a Bachelor of Fine Art degree from the University of Alaska, Anchorage in painting and sculpture and in addition to making and exhibiting her own art, she has worked as a teacher for fifteen years.



## **Sports**

Coach Cahill will be teaching this high energy class. In this active, fun-filled class, students will participate in variety of sports related activities. The class will be structured similar to a physical education class. This class is open to all students.



## **"Write On!" – Computer Publishing**

An introduction to computer publishing is being offered to students in grades 2 through 5 by Mrs. Ruth French. A former computer educator, Ruth has more than 15 years of classroom teaching experience, and is the current editor of the "Poppy Paper" for the nonprofit organization, Boosters of Old Town (BOOT). This course focuses on utilizing basic software tools to create documents for publication. Lessons will include page layout, graphic skills, ClipArt applications, and photo manipulation. A strong emphasis will be placed on keyboarding lessons to assist students with their typing skills. The culminating project will be a student-created "newsletter." Ruth's teaching approach is to provide a meaningful connection between computer technology and the students' needs in fun and exciting ways.



## **Self Defense**

Mrs. Patty Bertram will be teaching a class in basic self defense for students in grades 2-5. Mrs. Bertram has a brown belt in Karate. This class will give students an introduction to some basic skills in self defense.



## **Chess**

Mr. Tim Orque, president of the San Diego Cosmopolitan Chess Association, will be hosting this Chess Club. The students will learn basic and game play and strategy. We're surely that this wonderful program for young students should be able to train them to become Grandmasters in the near future. This class will be available for students in grades 2-5.



## **5<sup>th</sup> grade Coed Kickball**

Coach Cahill will teach this class for older students. Students will learn the skills associated with kickball and team sports. The students will play kickball games with other students their same age.