

**ROA Director Update**  
**Friday, February 25th, 2016**

Hello lovely ROA families,



We have had numerous students roam our complex. We find them at the far end of the pond, behind the building and going to a restaurant to pick up mints. We are asking that you please talk to your student and let him/her know that we really need to have him/her stay within the visibility of our office. To ensure our students' safety and since our insurance does not cover them beyond the front office area, we really need your support with this. Please do not ask them to wait for you upstairs by the parking lot, as again, we are not able to supervise. Please make sure that you also chat with your high school students about this, as we have found them hanging out behind the building. We want to ensure the safety of all our students and need your help in doing so. Thank you for your support with this.

Another quick, gentle reminder with regards to noise outside of the ROA resource center: Please remember that we are in a business park. We are surrounded by offices who are trying to conduct business and are asking that you please help us stay in the good graces of these businesses by making sure that we don't make too much noise outside and that we ask our students to stay out of the plants (please also ask them not to pull leaves off the plants and/or walk in the plant areas). We understand that is not always easy, but ask for your support. Thank you so much for your understanding and cooperation.

**Student Illnesses/Colds:** The cold weather has arrived and with that we see more sniffing and coughing on campus. Please be considerate and keep your student at home, if he/she is fighting a cold or is sick. Thank you for helping us keep everybody healthy.



There will be an **Elementary Math LAB workshop** available on **Tuesdays from 12:45-1:45** in Room 2 starting on March 1st. Alia Sparling will run it and she will be able to work with children grades one through six to help them gain confidence and understanding in Mathematics. Here is a short bio for Alia:

*Hello, my name is Alia Sparling and I am a new mathematics tutor for River Oaks Academy. I will be working with elementary school students from grades one through six. I am in my second year of study pursuing an Interdisciplinary Education Studies Major with a Spanish Minor at California Lutheran University. I have been working with children in various different academic, and nonacademic, settings for years. I have done things such as mentored, tutored at the elementary school, and taught at the Pre-School level. As for my math experience, I have done well in courses up through calculus and have taken a course focused on teaching math to elementary school students through my university. Teaching and helping children to gain*

*confidence and understanding, about both the subjects in front of them and themselves, is my passion and I look forward to passing those things on to your children.*



Please take advantage of the additional math support we are offering on campus with our new math tutor, Phuong. Here is her short bio for your information:

*Phuong Hong graduated from UCLA with a BS in Applied Mathematics and a Masters in Math Education. Since 1997, she taught math at the middle and high school level in public, charter, independent and at private schools. She loves working with students one on one and has tutored privately for over 20 years. In her free time, she enjoys watching her children's sport activities, exercising, being creative and baking.*

After the initial assessment of the group, Phuong will adjust the workshop depending on students' needs and strength. She will group students, if necessary, so they benefit the most from this workshop and make sure their needs are addressed.

Here is the info on the workshops/classes:

**STUDY HALL WITH PHUON ON WEDNESDAY, 11:30-12:30 FOR ALL GRADES**

**Thursday, 11-12 MATH LAB Workshop**

**Grades 5-8**

This workshop will be broken into stations for the first 30 minutes and the last 30 minutes will be open to one on one tutoring. The stations will focus on games/activities that cover Number Sense and Algebraic Skills. Students should bring the math materials that they are working on at home and be ready to ask for help.

**Friday, 11:30-12:30 MATH LAB Workshop ---NEW DAY AND TIME**

**High School students**

This workshop will spend first 15 minutes on study skills/review of math skills and the rest of the time will be open to one on one tutoring. Students will learn how to make different study aides to help them learn the math concepts. Students should bring the math materials that they are working on at home and be ready to ask for help.

We hope you will take advantage of this wonderful opportunity for your student to get more math support. Please don't hesitate to let us know, if you have any questions.

We are also working on getting another tutor for the younger students (Grades 1-5) set up. We hope to have that in place shortly.



Captivating Speakers  
March 18th - May 6th (8 weeks)  
10:15 am - 11:15 am

Calling all high-school students (12 students max)!!! We're happy to bring Chanti Nevin and her talented team from Captivating Speakers to River Oaks Academy. This exciting workshop challenges you to become a more effective communicator. Lessons are innovative and enjoyable with a focus on FUN!

This is a pilot class this semester only. If it is successful (which we are pretty certain it will be), we will bring Chanti back in the fall. So, if you are not able to get in, don't despair. **Also, please note that we will give preference to our seniors, since this is their one and only chance to take this worthwhile and super exciting course.**

Here is the link to the signup:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094eacad29a4fe3-captivating>

**Please note the following Workshop/Class Cancellations:**

Due to staff attending the California Charter School Association Conference, the following classes will be cancelled:

1. Maria's Applied Algebra class on Wednesday, March 16 @ 11:30
2. Parent Bootcamp on Wednesday, March 16 @ 10:15

Thank you for your understanding.



**Message from Ms. Alejandra:**

"Dear Parents and Students:

This week my life took a sudden and unexpected turn: the opportunity of a new job for my husband and the chance to rejoin my son again on the east coast arose out of the blue. Eight years in California without my oldest child have been difficult and so it is with great happiness that I announce that my husband, young daughter and I will be leaving California at the end of the current session.

I also want to say however, that I feel conflicted and terribly saddened at leaving the River Oaks family. The students in this academy are remarkable, intelligent, open-minded and passionate human beings that have made every day of teaching a pleasure and an honor. I am heartbroken to leave them and will miss witnessing the amazing things they will do with their lives. I hope and ask that we stay in touch if possible because their absence in my life will be a great loss to me. Thank you to the parents in this unique school, for allowing me to work with your brilliant, exemplary children, to the welcoming and creative teachers and staff, and very specially to Claudia Weintraub for her vision, her strength, her guidance and her trust in my work. Claudia is a once-in-a-lifetime encounter, fertile soil for creativity and drive, and a true example I will strive to follow as I move forward in life. I am grateful for the endless riches this school and its

greater family have shown me in the past few years. There are simply no words so I will now just say gracias, merci and gratias vobis ago. "C'est n'est qu'un au revoir, mes frères, ce n'est qu'un au revoir!"

With all my affection,  
Alejandra Abella  
Instructor  
River Oaks Academy"



**The Opera Lab** is an innovative highly interactive program designed to teach your students the A-B-and high Cs of opera! Guided by four professional singers specially trained in improvisation, your students will learn the building blocks of this fascinating art form and use them to construct their very own opera, performed for them on the spot.

With its music, theatrics, spectacle and humor, opera has everything people love. That is why year after year, community members and educators who experience Opera Santa Barbara's programs beg for more. Opera Santa Barbara's program, **The Opera Lab** brings an interactive build-an-opera adventure to your students – at no charge to your school!

Our educational outreach programs are made possible due to the generous support of corporate and individual donations.

They will be at ROA on **Wednesday, March 9 at 1:00**. Please sign-up on SignUpGenius.



#### **ATTENTION, SENIORS AND PARENTS!**

THE FAFSA (FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID), THE FORM USED BY MOST COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TO DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL AID, NEEDS TO BE FILED BY **MARCH 2, 2016**. IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE IN COMPLETING THE FAFSA, CONTACT RICHARD INTLEKOFER, COUNSELOR, AT [rintlekofer@roavc.com](mailto:rintelekofer@roavc.com). IN ADDITION, MOORPARK COLLEGE WILL BE OFFERING A FREE FAFSA WORKSHOP ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, AT 10 AM ON THE MOORPARK CAMPUS. INFORMATION ABOUT THIS OPPORTUNITY CAN BE FOUND HERE:<http://www.moorparkcollege.edu/departments/student-services/financial-aid>

#### **Attention High-School Students!!**

The Career Education Center (CEC) is about to release their new course catalog for 2016-2017. There are some exciting changes, including even more career pathway courses for you to explore. The CEC is also transitioning to a new registration method, so please note that we will keep you updated as we learn more. As soon as the course catalog is available, we will let you know.



Attention ROA students!

**Given that workshops started at the end of the month, we have decided to extend the problem of the month deadline to February 29th. Have some fun: take the challenge :)**

We hope to engage students at all levels of math, to solve the problem of the month. Put your solutions in the mailbox by Tezo's desk and at the end of the month we'll post the winners!

Together, let's grow in our understanding of the value of problem solving. Let's develop and strengthen our ability to find patterns, solve problems in a variety of ways, and persevere through challenging, engaging tasks. Remember that mistakes are valuable, questions are important, math is about creativity and making sense, connecting and communicating, going deeper, not faster!

Check out the beautifully designed and hand made " Problem of the Month" board outside of Claudia's office.

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**Important Dates:**

	Board meeting	March 3, 2016
	@ 6:00 (open to public)	
	<b><u>Class Cancellations</u></b>	<b>March</b>
	<b>16 (Wednesday) one day only:</b> Maria's Applied Algebra and Parent Boot Camp are cancelled due to staff attending a conference	
Spring Break	March 25 <sup>th</sup> -April 1 <sup>st</sup>	
	Memorial Day	May 30 <sup>th</sup>
	Graduation and Year-End Party	June 8 <sup>th</sup>
	Last day of school	June 9 <sup>th</sup>

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Have a wonderful weekend  
Your River Oaks homeschool team,  
Leslie, Nick, Maria, Michal, Kathy, Amylynn, Leina, Teri, Sherri, Nadia, Marni  
Tezo and Beverly, Gina, Mr. I,  
and  
Claudia