



CASA

Center for Academic and Social Advancement
Liberating and Empowering Communities of Learners

Se ha dicho... It's been said...

VOL. IV SUMMER 2009

El Maga's Story Time & Family Book Fair

Great things are on the way for the children of Mi Clase Mágica (MCM) and La Clase Mágica (LCM) at St. Leo's Mission in Solana Beach thanks to a literacy grant awarded from Target. Program participants, in partnership with the Solana Beach Branch Library, will now enjoy an ongoing activity dedicated to story telling by multilingual readers with multicultural props

and puppets. Following our CASA philosophy, El Maga's Story Time will foster a love of leisure reading and introduce new and exciting methods of reading development all while promoting positive self-image.

To promote reading to the entire family, a community Family Book Fair at St. Leo's Mission is scheduled for Spring 2010. Book Fair vendors will include

The Solana Beach Branch Library and independent booksellers among others. CASA is now accepting donations of new and/or used books for this exciting event! For more information on how to donate books or to reserve a vendor booth please contact Daisy Rodríguez, at 858-534-5271 or d1rodriguez@ucsd.edu.

Reflecting on 20 years of La Clase Mágica's impact on children's lives, this child participant from the beginning years of the program celebrates an accomplishment in his journey through the maze (LCM's curriculum).



¡Estamos Creciendo!

Específicamente, we are growing a sustainable foods garden! The Environmental Protection Hub at Los Robles in Vista is working with Victory Gardens (www.victorygardenssandiego.com) to create a growing space where La Clase Mágica (LCM) participants will take part in our new *Hubs of Innovation* 21st Century curriculum and get their hands in the earth while connecting with the community. LCM participants and residents of Los Robles will work together to plan and maintain the garden, and food

will be shared with the community in farmer's markets, where children and their families will be able to "purchase" different fruits and veggies with the tokens they've earned at site. Parents will be encouraged to help the children pick and choose what healthy items they would like to spend their play money on, fostering two other core values of the Hubs curriculum, Health & Nutrition and Financial Literacy. The garden should be installed and productive by late September. Keep an eye out for updates and opportunities to do some gardening yourself!



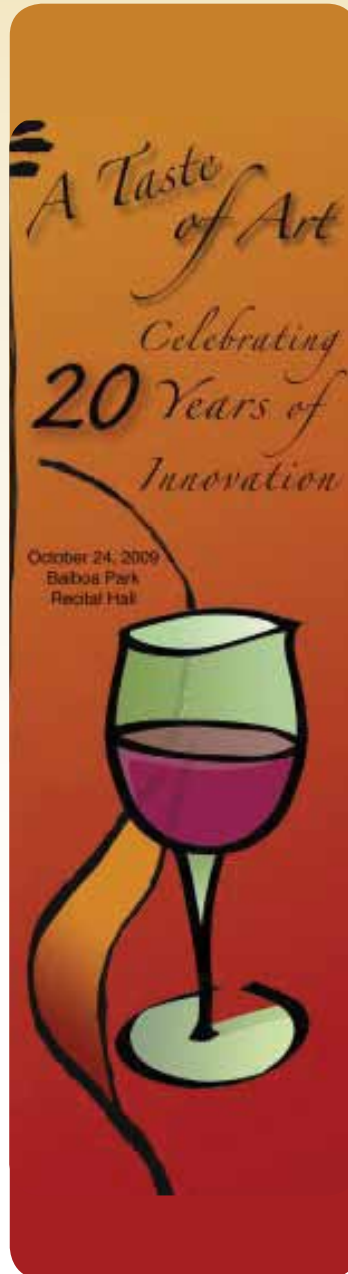
This summer we were very fortunate to have Jenny Hazlehurst as a part of our research team. She began the design of our environmental sustainability curriculum and formed partnerships with various organizations, such as Victory Gardens, REI, and Get to Know California to provide resources for our sites, and was the driving force behind the creation of the community garden at Los Robles.

CASA Annual Fundraiser, A Taste of Art: Celebrating 20 Years of Innovation

This year our community benefit, which will be held Saturday October 24, 2009 at 5:00pm, will celebrate 20 years of CASA's innovative program, La Clase Mágica. Renowned classical guitarist, Greg Shirer, will once again transform the cozy Recital Hall at Balboa Park into a moonlit night over Madrid. Guests will enjoy a silent auction and the opportunity to bid on inspiring work by local San Diegan artists, custom gift baskets, and getaways such as a pleasurable stay at the Pala Casino Spa Resort or a family friendly adventure at Sea World. The evening's refreshments, a fine selection of wines and hors d'oeuvres, will be generously provided by an array of local restaurants, and the evening's dessert, will be kindly donated by the European Cake Gallery.

Join us as we celebrate our 20th Anniversary!

For tickets, donations, or to place a celebratory ad, please contact Daisy Rodríguez at 858.534.5271 or d1rodriguez@ucsd.edu



Check out CASA's new and improved website!
www.casasd.org

Ways you can help:

- Be a part of a community advisory board.
 - Be a part of our CASA board.
 - Volunteer at one of our sites.
 - Make a monetary donation.
 - Facilitate a workshop.
- Please contact Daisy Rodríguez : d1rodriguez@ucsd.edu for more information.