

# Sequoia Elementary School Community Newsletter: Jan. 9, 2017

3730 Lincoln Avenue, Oakland, CA 94602 (510) 531-6696

[SequoiaSchool.net](http://SequoiaSchool.net) and [Facebook.com/groups/sequoiaelementary](https://Facebook.com/groups/sequoiaelementary)



## Three-Week Calendar



Wednesdays are minimum days

- Tue • Jan 10: **SSC Meeting**, 5–6 p.m., *Library*  
Fri • Jan 13: **Movie Night**, 5:30–8 p.m., *Auditorium*
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- Mon • Jan 16: **Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday: No School For Students**  
Wed • Jan 18: **Choir practice resumes, 1:25 p.m.**, *Auditorium*  
Fri • Jan 20: Last Day for Options Enrollment  
Fri • Jan 20: **MLK Oratorical Assembly**, *Auditorium*  
•Grades 3 - 5: 9–10:00 a.m.  
•Grades TK - 2: 10:30–11:30 a.m.  
Fri • Jan 20: **MLK Oratorical Evening Performances**,  
6:30–8:00 p.m., *Auditorium*
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- Thu • Jan 26: **Frozen Fruit Bar Sales on THURSDAY Due to Friday Holiday**, 3–3:30 p.m., *School yard*  
Fri • Jan 27: **Professional Development Day for Teachers: No School For Students**  
Sat • Jan 28: **Lunar New Year: Year of the Rooster Begins**

## School Closed for MLK Holiday Monday, Jan. 16

Sequoia Elementary will be closed Monday, Jan. 16 in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

La escuela Sequoia estará cerrada el lunes, 16 de enero en observancia del día de Martin Luther King, Jr.

Trường Học Sequoia sẽ đóng cửa Thứ Hai Ngày 16 Tháng 1 để mừng ngày lễ Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK)

學校會在一月十六日停課一天，來興祝馬丁·路德·金假期。多謝各位家長！

سيتم إغلاق سيكوييا الابتدائية الاثنين 16 يناير في الاحتفال عطلة مارتن لوثر كينغ.  
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## Sequoia's Annual MLK Oratorical Assembly Jan. 20

Sequoia's annual MLK Oratorical Assembly is scheduled for Friday, Jan. 20, 2017.

Students are invited to recite a poem/essay/speech relating to civil rights, freedom, justice and equality in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as well as other leaders of peace and justice such as Angela Davis, the late Nelson Mandela, Ella Baker, etc. Some classes will be preparing their own group presentations, while other students can choose to perform as an individual or as a small choral group (two or more students). All performances will be judged at the assemblies on 1/20/17, with top vote getters going on to Oakland Unified's district competition.

Every year we get approximately 80–90 of your children to participate. The commitment requires some work and discipline from these brave students. But when your child decides he/she will stand up in front of the school and recite, they grow in all sorts of ways! They develop public speaking skills, fine-tune their comprehension skills as they interpret written work, cultivate work ethic through repeated memorizing and rehearsing, deepen their understanding of equality and social justice, last but not least, gain self confidence!

Each classroom should have a binder of oratorical material available for students to choose from. Feel free to seek out pieces at the library, online, or in your own personal collections. A child's own written poem/essay would be a wonderful addition to the Oratorical. Do not feel as if you need to wait for your child's teacher to orchestrate or begin this process, and if you have any questions about material, feel free to email me below. Get started today as there is still time to be prepared!

If you are a parent/caregiver looking for a wonderful volunteer opportunity, please consider being part of the MLK Oratorical Coaching Team. Your role would be to help build our students' confidence, and coach them on delivery, articulation, pronunciation, gesturing and stage presence. No skills necessary, just a love of helping kids reach their highest potential! Contact Damond at [damondmoodie@sbcglobal.net](mailto:damondmoodie@sbcglobal.net) if you would like to help.



## Sequoia Choir News

Would your third–fifth grade child like to start off 2017 right? Then talk to them about joining the Sequoia Choir! We have openings for a few more students. Rehearsals start up again 1:25 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 18, in the auditorium.

See Ms. Roth, Room 5, for a permission slip. Or you can make a request via email: [jacqueline.roth@ousd.org](mailto:jacqueline.roth@ousd.org). For returning singers who paid for only one semester, second-semester tuition payments are now due.

## After School Enrichment Classes

In the next week Sequoia students will be receiving a packet with information on how to sign up for after school enrichment classes to be offered at Sequoia elementary starting the week of January 31. Please keep an eye out. The following classes will be offered: yoga (k-2), chess (3-5), craft kitchen (3-5), playwell (k-5), and Spanish (3-5). Enrollment is on a first come first served basis. Extra copies will be made available in the main office. For questions please email: [sequoiaenrichment@gmail.com](mailto:sequoiaenrichment@gmail.com).

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## Variety Show Kickoff Meeting



The planning for the 2017 Sequoia Dads' Club Variety Show is underway, and we are holding our first planning meeting on Sunday, Jan. 22, 1-4 p.m.

We have a lot of key roles to fill in order to put together this awesome production. We're looking for volunteers to help with everything from helping to coach performers in workshops, to helping run our tryouts and rehearsals, to soliciting raffle prizes and selling ads for our program, to helping backstage on performance night. We're also seeking an assistant producer who is interested in taking over as co-producer for next year's show! It's a fun and rewarding event and a great team, and we'd love you to be part of it. If any of this sounds fun, please join us for our kickoff. RSVP to Stacey Gordon at [stacey@suiteseven.com](mailto:stacey@suiteseven.com). if you plan to attend.

The Variety Show is Saturday, March 18 this year. See <http://sequoiaschool.net/calendar-events/variety-show/> for key dates and more information about the event.

Please contact co-producers Stacey Gordon at [stacey@suiteseven.com](mailto:stacey@suiteseven.com) or 415-310-7334 and Heidi Aboites at [heidiaabotes@gmail.com](mailto:heidiaabotes@gmail.com) or 510-435-3973 if you have any questions.

## Bring Archery to Sequoia

Please help P.E. teacher Mr. Inclan bring archery to Sequoia by donating to his DonorsChoose.org project. You can read all the specifics on his link: <https://www.donorschoose.org/Mr.Inclan> He is already halfway to his goal and needs your help to get him to the finish line.

## Shout Outs!

Donations: Room 9 families  
Snack set-up: Annie, Amanda, Tara, Reka, Todd, Ariana  
Motor Skills: Annie, Andy, Reka, Brady, Rachel, Juliana, Myisha, Kirsten, Khia, Jaiya, Azael, Jeffrey  
Lunch help: Annie, Crystal, Reka  
Snack: Anabel, Clara, Ariana, Dominic

## Sequoia Auction Donations Needed

We are seeking donations of all kinds for the Third Annual Sequoia Family Dance & (mostly) Silent Auction, to be held on Saturday, Feb. 11. All proceeds will go toward Sequoia's enrichment programs! To register a donation, go to the link below and complete the form: <http://sequoiaschool.net/calendar-events/dance-auction>.

## Movie Night: Spy Kids on Jan. 13

The second Movie Night of the school year is Friday, Jan. 13, with a showing of "Spy Kids" (2001), rated PG. Parents can check-in and drop off their children between 5:30-6:30 p.m. and pick-up by 8 p.m. in the auditorium. A dinner of hot dogs, fruit, veggies, and popcorn is included. The cost is \$5 per child. The Movie Night is open to all Sequoia students and their siblings. Parents can drop off the kids and enjoy a few hours off. Parents are also welcome to stay and join in the fun. Supervised by the volunteers of the Dads' Club, kids will be secure and safe and guaranteed to have a blast.

Kids are allowed to dress-up in PJs, bring a pillow and a blanket and stake out a spot on the floor. If enough volunteers are available, the cafeteria open for eating, playing games, drawing, or reading as well.

After-school program (SHS/CDC) students who would like to participate should make arrangements with the coordinators of those programs. (Permission slips are available with SHS/CDC.)

All TK and Kindergarten students require parent chaperone.

We hope that all students will practice the core Sequoia values of Respect, Compassion, Responsibility and Honesty during the movie and will follow these guidelines during the movie: **No running, no rough play, no throwing, no taking belongings, no climbing, no piano, and no electronics.**

The Dads' Club volunteers may call a parent or guardian if a child cannot follow these rules.

## Sequoia Safety Patrol

During morning drop off... **PLEASE** do not allow your student to exit your vehicle on the drivers side. **It isn't safe** and the **S.S.P. will not assist**. Have your student ready to exit the vehicle before you drive into the cone zone it only takes a few minutes to cause a back up on Lincoln Ave.

Our S.S.P. is developing nicely. Our students are strong and want to enforce the schools safety plan. Soon you will see us on Lincoln and Hearst, we will complete our training when we return from winter break.

We will start our 3rd grade recruiting campaign in January 2017, we will come to the class room for a 15 minute presentation, students will need three (3) signatures parent, teacher and principle to participate.

Rules to remember: No U-turn's in the cone zone (drop off on Hearst)

**No jay walking**

**No speeding**

**Pull all the way forward (to the S.S.P. stop sign)**

**No hugging the S.S.P. students while on duty**

**Pull all the way up to curb**

(the students are not allowed to step off of the curb)

## Independent Study for Students Away from School

If your child must go out of town for five or more days, please drop by the office to sign up your child for an Independent Study Agreement. Please note that teachers need at least a one-week notice in order to prepare materials.