

# Sequoia Elementary School Community Newsletter: Dec. 11, 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)



## Four-Week Calendar

*Wednesdays are minimum days. Note that multiple events occur on the same days.*

Tue • Dec 12: **First Night of Hanukkah**, begins at sundown

**NO SSC Meeting**

Mon • Dec 18: **MLK Oratorical Prep Begins**, times TBA

Tue • Dec 19: **Sequoia Choir Winter Daytime Assembly**, 9:15–9:45 a.m., Auditorium

Wed • Dec 20: **Sequoia Choir Winter Evening Performance**, 7–7:30 p.m., Auditorium

Thu • Dec 21: **First Day of Winter/December Solstice**

Fri • Dec 22: **Lost & Found Items Cleared and Donated**

Dec 25–Jan 5: **Winter Recess: No School For Students**

## Winter Break Dec. 25–Jan. 5

Sequoia will be closed for Winter Recess from Monday, Dec. 25 through Friday, Jan. 5. School will resume on Monday, Jan. 8.



Sequoia estará cerrada por el receso de invierno desde el lunes 25 de diciembre hasta el viernes 5 de enero. La escuela reanudará sus actividades el lunes 8 de enero.

Sequoia 學校會在十二月二十五日星期一至明年一月五日星期五放冬季假期。在明年2018年一月八日恢復上課。

Sequoia sẽ đóng cửa vào mùa đông Recess từ thứ Hai, 25 tháng 12 đến thứ Sáu, ngày 5 tháng Một. Trường sẽ tiếp tục vào ngày Thứ Hai 8 Tháng Một.

سيغلق سيكوييا لعطلة الشتاء من يوم الاثنين 25 ديسمبر حتى الجمعة 5 يناير. ستستأنف المدرسة يوم الاثنين 8 يناير.

## A Student Council Message

Hello Sequoia students and parents. The Student Council is proud to announce December's Spirit Day. The theme this month is "Mix Matched Day." You can wear clashing colors, backwards shirts, and more crazy things. The date is Friday, Dec. 15. Dress up and bring your inner Squirrel Spirit out!

–Sequoia Student Council

## Winter Choir Performances

Come hear the beautiful harmonies of the Sequoia Choir! The evening concert will take place on Wednesday, Dec. 20, from 7 to 7:30 p.m. The daytime assembly will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 19, from 9:15 to 9:45 a.m. Both performances are free and in the auditorium.



## Sequoia After School Enrichment Registration Open

This week, after school enrichment program information for winter session January 8 through March 12 was sent home with students. More classes have been added. Registration is open now until Monday, Dec. 18. Please register directly with the class provider.

Please note changes to the information in the flyer:

- Tiny Techs start time: 2:50 p.m. (Kinder-only class)
- Craft Kitchen extended class until Tuesday, Mar. 13

Questions? Contact [sequoia.afterschoolenrichment@gmail.com](mailto:sequoia.afterschoolenrichment@gmail.com). We hope you can try a class! Thank you.

–Sequoia Afterschool Enrichment Team

## Try SoulCycle in December for Free

SoulCycle Berkeley is offering a two-week promotion with Sequoia Elementary families to try out classes, on them! The promotion runs Dec. 16–31. Eligible class times are as follows:

- All 7 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. classes
- Tuesday and Thursday 9:30 a.m. classes
- Friday 8:30 a.m. class
- Saturday and Sunday 10:45 a.m. classes
- Sunday 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. classes

To take advantage of this promotion, create an account at [soul-cycle.com](http://soul-cycle.com) and then call the studio at (510) 313-1500 up to 30 minutes before your desired class to reserve your bike. Make sure to mention you are Sequoia Elementary family!

## 2018 Family Dance & Silent Auction Feb. 10, 5–8 p.m.

### Raise the Ruff

Everyone in the community is invited to join us for this family-friendly party. No stuffy black-tie event, the Fourth Annual Family Dance & Auction will feature:

- Kid-friendly tunes spun by Mr. D's Music Club
- A variety of yummy food trucks and a bake sale
- Mini photo sessions with acclaimed photographer Mitch Tobias ([mitchtobias.com](http://mitchtobias.com))
- An auction of many fantastic items and one-of-a-kind experiences



### Give a Little and Get a Lot in Return

Your participation is an invaluable part of our fundraising efforts. Donate an item or service for the auction at [bit.ly/sequoiaauction](http://bit.ly/sequoiaauction) and help to raise money for Sequoia's enrichment programs. Become a sponsor and promote your business on our website. Contact us at [sequoiaauctionteam@gmail.com](mailto:sequoiaauctionteam@gmail.com) for more information.

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## Shop AmazonSmile and Support Sequoia

Do your holiday shopping and support our school with every purchase, using AmazonSmile—a charity version of Amazon.com with all the same products and prices.



When you click the link on our website (<http://sequoiaschool.net/donate/shop-for-sequoia/>) and shop on AmazonSmile, Sequoia Dads' Club will receive 6–8% of the cost of your purchase, and if you choose Sequoia Dads' Club as your AmazonSmile charity, we will receive an extra 0.5%.

## Shout Outs

Thank you TK and K!

**Donations:** Ruby, Siimi, Waylon, Preston, Ava, Liliana, Amanda

**Toys for Tots:** Liliana, Waylon

**Motor Skills:** Leslie, Pam, David, Sasha, Aruna, Erik, Lynell, Johai, John, Lance, Annie

**Box Tops:** Freja

**Vacuuming and Sweeping:** Pam, Pam, Pam

**December birthday celebration:** Kate

**Book Fair Donations:** Jordan, Waylon

**Book Organizing and Classroom help:** Sharon, Ms. A

**Care train:** Eliseo, Ava, Ruby, Waylon, Annie, Abilene

**Snack set-up:** Pam, Arin, Tomoko, Sasha, Saniyyah

**Lunch help:** David, Pam

**Snack:** Lucas, Madeline, Freja, Malaya, Sam



## Arabic Translations Needed

The Sequoia newsletter team needs a parent volunteer to help with Arabic translations. Each week the newsletter features an article translated into several languages, thanks to parent translators. To help, email [SequoiaNewsTeam@googlegroups.com](mailto:SequoiaNewsTeam@googlegroups.com).

## Printed Newsletter Opt-Out

To help Sequoia save money, we offer families the option to opt out of receiving a printed copy of the newsletter (which is posted on the school website, the school's Facebook page and Yahoo community group). Complete the form on the website to opt out; capitalize "Oakland" in the security question field (on a computer, not phone): <http://sequoiaschool.net/parent-resources/newsletters-communities/newsletter-opt-out/>.

## Stay Connected With OUSD

Don't miss out on enrollment information, Board of Education meetings, updates about the budget, feel good stories about our students, and everything in between! #iamoused

- Follow @ousdnews on [Facebook](https://Facebook.com/groups/sequoiaelementary), [Twitter](https://Twitter.com/ousdnews) and [YouTube](https://YouTube.com/ousdnews)
- Subscribe to any of our newsletters for news that's important to you at <https://signup.e2ma.net/signup/1853642/1801679/>

## Shop at Mountain Hardware

Sequoia families have two weeks until our exclusive invitations to the Mountain Hardware Employee Store expire on Dec. 24! Shop for 40–60% off of retail for the Mountain Hardware family of brands, including Columbia, Sorel and prANa. Ten percent of all in-store purchases go back to Sequoia. There are a big stack of passes in the office for you to share with your family of friends! See more information at <http://sequoiaschool.net/donate/shop-for-sequoia/>.

## Holiday Artisan Markets and Dimond Lights Celebration

The Holiday Artisan Markets will be Dec. 16–17, 12–6 p.m. at 3525 Fruitvale Ave. at MacArthur Blvd., and The Dimond Lights Celebration will be Dec. 16, 6–9 p.m. Bring your lighted bikes, scooters, or other wheels. Come and enjoy a variety of artisans and musicians:

- Artisan markets
- Live music
- Arts and crafts workshops
- Science activities for kids and teens
- Hawaiian beer and wine bar
- Santa and more

A few spots are still available for musicians, both youth and adult, and a few additional artisans. Sequoia student bakers and crafts. Kids also welcome to have a table at the festival. Contact Sara at [yosgurl@yahoo.com](mailto:yosgurl@yahoo.com).

## Independent Study

If your student will be absent for more than five days, please visit the school office to fill out an Independent Study Agreement form. **Please note that teachers need a one week notice to prepare assignments and materials for your student.**

## Sequoia's Annual MLK Oratorical Assembly is Approaching in Jan. 2018

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. Some classes prepare group presentations, while other students perform as an individual or as a small choral group (two or more students). Top performances go on to Oakland Unified's district competition.

Beginning the week of Dec. 18, we will begin encouraging the students to commit to a piece so that they can use part of the Winter Break to begin rehearsing. January assembly dates are TBD.

We need volunteers for the MLK Oratorical Coaching Team 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@comcast.net](mailto:damondmoodie@comcast.net).