

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Policy – Academic Pace Policy

The LA Galaxy Academy expects excellence from its student-athletes both on the field and in the classroom. The Academic Program utilizes an online curriculum to provide flexibility in timing and accessibility to accommodate the student-athletes' rigorous schedules; however, using classroom time wisely and taking advantage of the resources offered while at the StubHub Center is paramount. Students are expected to consistently engage in their studies at the proper pace and with integrity. Please see the following page regarding the Academic Pace Policy for more details.

New Structure – Peer Learning System

The Peer Learning System is a new structure being implemented to enable students' interaction and facilitate collaboration in the learning environment. Please see the following page regarding the goals, guidelines, and expectations for the new classroom structure.

Updated Policy – Attendance

Please see the following page regarding the important updates to the Attendance Policy.

COLLEGE COUNSELING

- Remaining SAT Dates: Mar 11, May 6, June 3
- Remaining ACT Date: Feb 11

Time Sensitive Senior Tasks

- SAT or ACT
- Register with NCAA Eligibility Center
- Fulfill Visual Performing Arts requirement for UC/CSU
- Complete college application(s) & FAFSA

SEMESTER 2 WET LAB DATES

Physics: Feb 9, March 9, April 6, May 4
 Chemistry: Feb 16, March 16, Apr 13, May 11
 Biology: Feb 14, March 14, Apr 11, May 9

ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

Past Events:

Jan 12 – Academy Alumni (Ethan Zubak, BJ O'Hara, and Christian Onalfo) came to the Academy classroom for a Q&A about life after high school. The alumni provided great insight for the student-athletes regarding the importance of education and the value of always working hard.

Jan 25 – The student-athletes visited the Compton Courthouse where they learned about the criminal justice system. They heard from Judge Lonergan, a judicial assistant, court bailiff, court stenographer, defense attorney, and district attorney. The students also observed live court proceedings.

Upcoming Events:

Feb 21 – Field Trip to Angeles National Forest. Student-athletes will participate in the living learning laboratory in the Big Tujunga watershed. They will participate in a classroom session and forest experience. Please see the following page regarding the Living Learning Laboratory Program for more details.

March – Date TBD. Student-athletes will visit a local elementary school to read books to the students.

Enrichment Program Opportunities?

If you have ideas or opportunities for field trips, guest speakers, and/or character development workshops, please email Ms. Baduria.

LA Galaxy Academy 16s / 18s Calendar

February 17

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
January 29	30	31	February 1	2	3	4
			16 8:45am Training 18 10:15am Training First Semester Ends	16 8:45am Training 18 10:15am Training CA Connections Recess	16 8:45am Training 18 10:15am Training No Assignments Added	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	16 8:45am Training 18 10:15am Training Second Semester Begins	16 8:45am Training 18 10:15am Training	16 8:45am Training 18 10:15am Training	16 8:45am Training 18 10:15am Training Physics Lab	16 8:45am Training 18 10:15am Training SAT Reg. due for March Test Date	@ Arsenal ACT Test
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	16 8:45am Training 18 10:15am Training	16 8:45am Training 18 10:15am Training Biology Lab	16 8:45am Training 18 10:15am Training GSAC Meeting	16 8:45am Training 18 10:15am Training Chemistry Lab	GA Cup	GA Cup
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
GA Cup	GA Cup	Field Trip to LA National Forest	16 8:45am Training 18 10:15am Training	16 8:45am Training 18 10:15am Training	16 8:45am Training 18 10:15am Training	vs Strikers
26	27	28	March 1	2	3	4
	16 8:45am Training 18 10:15am Training	16 8:45am Training 18 10:15am Training SAT Late Reg. due for March Test Date				

GSAC Members:

Ian Lonergan – 11th grader



Jacob Muchnick – 10th grader



Cameron Williams – 10th grader



Cesar Rivera – 10th grader



Anthony Rodriguez – 10th grader



Marco Ceja – 9th grader



A look back at Enrichment Program events, through the eyes of an LA Galaxy Academy student-athlete!

In the month of December, the LA Galaxy's educational staff and all the Academy players did charitable, enjoyable, and helpful events. These events that the educational staff and Academy players attended were visiting Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA), Finance Park, and to reward our Academy boys for their generosity - the educational staff planned a holiday party that had Chick-fil-A to eat and a Fifa tournament.

While visiting CHLA our players and staff read books to hospitalized kids and their families who were in the halls. Some boys labeled and packaged books to give to children and their families in the hospital, and the rest who were not reading to people in the hospital or labeling books were wrapping gifts for the children and families who couldn't spend Christmas at their homes.

We also went to the Finance Park, an organization that teaches young adults how to spend money wisely and most importantly show them how the real world is for adults. The boys were split into small groups and received tablets. On those tablets they were given "a career, some were given a family, and some were single." After issued their "adult life", the boys had to go out on their tablets and buy real life necessities such as cars, groceries, a house, insurance, etc. The purpose of this to see if the boys spent their money wisely or if they went into debt.

Lastly for the month of December, our Academy educational staff wanted to reward the boys for not only their hard work and generosity at CHLA and Finance Park but also on the soccer field and in school. To reward the boys, the staff acquired three PS4s (PlayStation 4) from the Academy players, a ping pong table from the LA Galaxy lounge, and Chick-fil-a for lunch. The PS4s were used for a Fifa soccer tournament which we enjoyed a lot. All in all the month of December was a great month full of fun and charitable events which we all enjoyed.

- Marco Ceja Jr.

Academic Pace Policy

The LA Galaxy Academy expects excellence from its student-athletes both on the field and in the classroom. The Academic Program utilizes an online curriculum in order to provide flexibility in timing and accessibility, to accommodate the student-athletes' rigorous schedules (i.e. for travel, illness, appointments); however, using classroom time wisely and taking advantage of the resources offered while at the StubHub Center is paramount. Students are expected to consistently engage in their studies at the proper pace and with integrity.

*At the end of a class session, students totaling 17 overdue lessons or more, will report to Morning Study Hall from 9am – 11:30am, rather than training, the following day.

*Students mandated to report to Morning Study Hall, are not to rush through work in the evening; rather, they must complete the work with integrity and due diligence (with the support of the Education Staff) while in Morning Study Hall.

*Minimizing overdue lessons in the evening will not excuse a student from Morning Study Hall.

*Students totaling 16 overdue lessons or less, will be eligible to be excused at 3pm from class or EXOS to participate in an afternoon session with the technical staff.

*The policy is meant to ensure that:

- Class time is being used to complete school work
- Proper study habits are being learned and utilized (avoiding procrastination)
- Consistent work is being completed by students daily (avoid the accumulation of overdue lessons due to neglect of schoolwork)
- Students seek assistance when support is needed on an assignment

*If overdue lesson accumulation occurs *after* a student shows *due diligence* and *exhausts* CA Connections and LA Galaxy Academy resources, then the Academy staff will use discretion in accommodating extenuating circumstances



Peer Learning System

Goals:

- Enable students to interact with one another in learning environment
- Facilitate collaboration amongst peers and classmates
- Foster mentor/mentee dynamic within the Academy
- Make classroom management more manageable
- Scaffold students to plan ahead and manage time wisely

Guidelines and Requirements:

- Students plan their use of the Peer Learning System during a time that does not disrupt the learning space
- Students must sign up for PLS and indicate the following:
 - Course / Teacher / Assignment
 - Names of students involved
 - Time period
- Receive approval from Learning Coaches
- Upon completion of collaboration, proof of work must be shown to a LC (notes, submitted assignment, etc)
- PLS is prohibited for assessments

Expectations:

- PLS should consist of collaboration, not cheating
- Students should peer teach/tutor/collaborate to support one another, not give them answers
- Each student's work should be their own and original

Update to Attendance Policy

The morning of an absence, the parent or legal guardian should notify William Bizzaro for soccer reasons, and Stefanie Baduria for school reasons, to report the reason for the absence.

- Any documentation for the absence, is due within three (3) days or the absence will be considered unexcused.

Examples of Excused Absences

- Verified Illness
- Medical Appointments
- Recognized Religious Observances
- Court Appearance
- Funerals
- College Visits

Examples of Unexcused Absences:

- Family Vacation
- Assistance at Home or Work
- Babysitting Family Members
- Oversleeping
- Traffic
- DMV Appointments
- Studying for Exams

One unexcused absence is considered ditching school, and it will result in a missed match.



Living Learning Laboratory Program Description

The National Forest Foundation (NFF) is partnering with local communities and the U.S. Forest Service to revitalize the Angeles National Forest and the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument. The living learning laboratory takes place in the Big Tujunga watershed, a priority restoration area, and engages youth by connecting them to the outdoors through site-based restoration, monitoring, and online comparison of sightings.

Our current Living Learning Laboratory Program typically includes a session in the classroom and a 4-5 hour experience in the forest with a high school class or environmental club. We can easily accommodate 35-50 students per trip and have hosted trips as large as 135 students depending on the available adult chaperones. The NFF covers the cost of the bus, the outdoor instruction and can assist with food costs for the day.

In class session:

We like to start with a discussion of the forest ecosystem, where our water comes from, and watershed health in the class that is integrated with the curriculum. We also introduce students to the iNaturalist app and online program so they can log their observations and findings from the field and also see what other students are observing. The iNaturalist element can either be part of a class session or completed as a take home assignment.

Forest Experience:

Out in the field students actively learn about the San Gabriel Mountains ecosystem and watershed health. We start the day off with students participating in an active restoration project, which may entail removing invasive species, planting trees or shrubs, monitoring conditions, or other elements for 1.5 hours. We integrate some learning modules such as carbon sequestration, food web, ecosystem services, endangered species, impacts to rivers and streams, park planning, and restoration. The students also spend time exploring the outdoors on a hike, observing various plants and animals, and participating in some guided exercises to listen and draw in nature. The program has built in flexibility to make it applicable to the group participating.

The typical Forest Experience looks like this:

9:00 am	Arrival to Angeles National Forest Picnic Area
9:00 am to 9:30 am	Introduction to location, quick game, and snack
9:30 am to 11 am	Active restoration project
11 am to 12: 15 pm	Forest exploration modules
12: 15 pm to 12:45pm	Lunch
12:45 pm to 1:15 pm	Final exploration module
1:30 pm	Departure



To learn more and find how to participate please contact Edward Belden, ebelden@nationalforests.org.