



EL SOL
Science and Arts Academy



Students

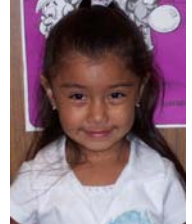
Preschool

El Sol Science and Arts Academy is a charter school located in downtown Santa Ana. Its goal is to provide exceptional education that prepares students for high school and college.

Over a year ago, El Sol leaders began assessing the need for early childhood education. Leaders found out that there was an insufficient supply of quality preschools. Therefore, **El Sol opened a preschool for 24 students on October 3, 2006. The preschool will have 60 children in the second year and 80 in the third.**

El Sol Preschool has an innovative approach to early childhood education. It incorporates parent education and health services into the preschool program. In addition, retired teachers and pediatricians are utilized to provide most of these services. El Sol promises to be a national model that will provide health and educational benefits to young children.

The program needs the support of community leaders and business people like yourself! Many organizations (see Partners page) have already been instrumental in establishing the programs at El Sol. In order to continue and grow El Sol needs to increased support for other community partners.



Monique Daviss
Executive Director

Rebecca Ortiz
Preschool Director

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Preschool + Parents = Collaboration



Parents are a child's first and last teacher in life. This is why El Sol provides a parent education program through UCI HABLA. This program engages children and their families in reading and play activities. Over time, the parent learns how to sustain these activities for optimal child development.

How it works

A trained AmeriCorps home visitor brings a book or toy to the home twice a week for two years and each session is 30-minutes. Home visitors utilize books and toys to interact with the child to model positive verbal interaction and parenting techniques. Books and toys stay in the home and parents, over time, learn how to sustain different types of language interaction that are necessary for child development. Retired teachers and pediatricians visit the home periodically to provide additional training in health and education.

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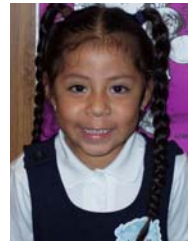


Students

Preschool + Good Health = Optimal Learning

El Sol Preschool students typically have limited access health care. Therefore, El Sol has a **FREE** health and dental care program with a four pronged approach. Services are available for preschool students and their siblings.

1. Health assessments are provided by retired pediatricians who are recruited by Children First. Pediatricians refer students for treatment to UCI Medical van.
2. UCI medical van visits El Sol every Friday for students to get treatment from a UCI doctor.
3. Dental services will be provided through Healthy Smiles of Orange County.



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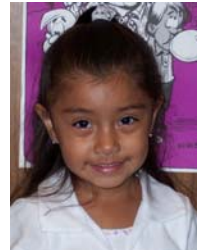
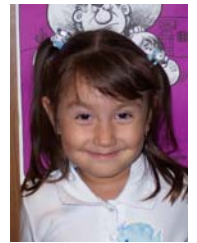


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Preschool + Results = Model Program

Students



Will the Program Work?

We think it will! To prove it we have hired two independent evaluators to set up measurement tools, monitor and assess the program for 3 years. They will look at:

- Possible ways the program can be replicated across California and nation.
- Impact of preschool education on children.
- Impact of access and improved health and dental care on children.
- Impact of retirees on early childhood education.
- Effect of the program's impact on retirees and the quality of their lives.

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Preschool + Quality Staff = Exceptional Education

El Sol has quality leadership, staff and volunteers that enables them to provide quality education. When you have a fantastic team and community support, you will have exceptional education. Meet the team!

Monique Daviss is the Executive Director of El Sol K-6 school and is the administrator for the preschool.

Rebecca Ortiz is the Director of El Sol. Ms. Ortiz has a Ph.D. in Child Development from UC, Riverside. She oversees daily operations of the school, teaches and is working obtaining a state license for the school.

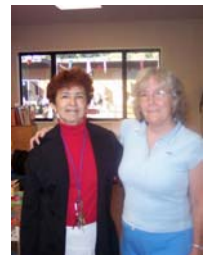
Monique Daviss
Executive Director



Amanda Conklin is the lead teacher. She has a Masters in Education and has been working at El Sol for many years as an after school teacher.

Rebecca Ortiz
Preschool Director

Merage Volunteers: Peggy Edwards is a retired teacher and a lead teacher. She has a Credential and Masters in Education. **Terry Costa** is a teacher's aide. She has a Masters in Journalism and is a retired hotel area manager.



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Parents are required to volunteer at the school on a weekly basis to enhance the program and become more aware of what their children are learning.



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Preschool + Partners = Success!

El Sol is fortunate to have many partners in the community. Below are organizations that have provided funding, services and equipment for children and families. Thank you for your support and commitment to helping at-risk children in Santa Ana.



Individual Donors

- Paul and Lilly Merage
- Walkie and Janet Ray
- Marc Levin
- Nira Roston
- Mathis Family Fund
- The Beatrice Levy Trust
- The Louise Merage Trust
- Michael and Ellie Gordon
- Michael and Nancy Meyer
- Randall and Gloria May

IHA

Institute for Healthcare Advancement



Head Start Orange County

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