2022 SUMMER SCHEDULE
@ SRCS, Helen Lehman Elementary School

SESSION 1: JUNE 13–17
Mornings 9:00am–12:00pm
• Design & Decorate Your Own Unicorn Toy (4th–7th)
• Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone: Acting Workshop (All)
• Kids Biz: How to Create a Successful Business (4th–7th)
• Let’s Do Art! (5th–7th)
• Programming in Python (6th–7th)
Afternoons 1:00pm–4:00pm
• Build a Mini Computer (5th–7th)
• Design & Decorate Your Own Unicorn Toy (4th–7th)
• Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Acting Workshop (All)
• Kids Biz: How to Create a Successful Business (4th–7th)
• Let’s Do Art! (5th–7th)

SESSION 2: JUNE 20–24
Mornings 9:00am–12:00pm
• Art from the Heart: Paint, Draw & Sculpture (All)
• Hand Building with Clay (All)
• Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s: Acting Workshop (All)
• Manga & Anime Art Class (5th–7th)
• Pre-Med for Kids (4th–7th)
• Programming in Python (6th–7th)
Afternoons 1:00pm–4:00pm
• Animal Portraits: Wild About Animals! (All)
• Build a Mini Computer (5th–7th)
• Hand Building with Clay (All)
• Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Acting Workshop (All)
• Pre-Med for Kids (4th–7th)
Session 1:

June 13–17
Mornings
9:00am–12:00pm

Design & Decorate Your Own Unicorn Toy (Grades 4–7)
Create and learn how to hand-sew your own unicorn! Once you’ve sewn it, make it uniquely yours by adding custom details and embellishments with markers and embroidery.
Instructor: Meret Piderman

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone: Acting Workshop (All Grades)
Bring to life the wild and zany characters of J.K. Rowling’s book, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stoner. Walk like Ron, talk like Hermione, moan like Myrtle and squeal like Peeves. Spend a week using theater games, improvisation and scripts to explore these rich and colorful characters from the Harry Potter stories. You may even choose to act out the roles of Professor McGonagall, master wizard Dumbledore or the huge lovable Hagrid, “keeper of the keys” at Hogwarts. Get on a Nimbus 2000 and hover over to Hogwarts School for Witchcraft and Wizardry. Explore the dark side with the villainous Voldemort or Quirrell.
Instructor: Raymond Skipp

Kids Biz: How to Create a Successful Business (Grades 4–7)
Bill Gates, Oprah Winfrey, and Mark Zuckerberg all started off as kids who were interested in being their own boss and seeing their creative ideas become a reality. In this class, you will learn what you need to know to start a successful business. We will work in collaborative teams to learn, step-by-step, how to create a business, using your creative approach to meeting customer’s needs. We will meet successful entrepreneurs who started businesses, we’ll learn many of the secrets to developing a business which is successful, ethical, and provides customers with a good product or service at a fair price. Unleash your critical thinking skills and creativity as you explore the exciting world of entrepreneurism!
Instructor: Michael Fanning

Let’s Do Art! (Grades 5–7)
You will learn the creative process of studying art in a fun interactive way, utilizing our own, creative way to brainstorm, problem-solve, and create our own art projects that will be unique. No project will be the same for each student!
An introduction to the art and life experiences of various artists and cultures to expand our appreciation of the role of the arts in different societies. You will use various techniques such as acrylics on canvas or paper, pom poms made of yarn to make mobile pieces and wall art, embroidery pieces, paper collages inspired by personal interpretations of various artists, art pieces made of yarn and buttons, and so much more!
Instructor: Gabriela Vargas

Programming in Python (Grades 6–7)
Code and create your own computer game with Python®. Learn how to make computer games using the popular Python programming language even if you’ve never programmed before! Begin by learning basic programming concepts and use these skills to build classic games like Rock, Paper, Scissors, Hangman or Tic-Tac-Toe, and then work your way up to more advanced games, like a text-based treasure hunting game. Along the way, you’ll learn key programming and math concepts that will help you take your programming to the next level.
Instructor: Geeta Menon
Session 1:

June 13–17
Afternoons
1:00pm–4:00pm

Build a Mini Computer (Grades 5–7)
How would you like to make your own mini computer? This course will show you how to combine electronics and software to create your own Raspberry Pi computer (a small computer the size of a credit card). From there, you’ll learn how to use it to control simple circuits and run software. After the class is over, you’ll get to keep it to continue working on it at home!
This course is suitable for all skill levels.
Instructor: Geoff Beidler

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Instructor: Meret Piderman

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Instructor: Laurie Sealy

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Instructor: Gabriela Vargas
Session 2:

June 20–24
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9:00am–12:00pm

Art from the Heart: Paint, Draw & Sculpture (All Grades)
Paint, draw, sculpt and move all things abstract! Creating abstract art is a freeing and exciting way to express yourself and explore fun, original artwork. We will look at many ways other artists used shapes, texture, form, color and movement to create their fun abstract art, and then you’ll let your imagination run wild to create your own unique art pieces.

Instructor: Sandra Novia

Hand Building with Clay (All Grades)
Learn basic skills to hand-build with clay. We will learn how to make a bowl, mug, an animal, and more! After you’ve made your creations, they will be glazed and kiln fired to take home and enjoy.

Instructor: Meret Piderman

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone: Acting Workshop (All Grades)
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Instructor: Raymond Skipp

Manga & Anime Art Class (Grades 4–7)
Let’s dive into the manga world and draw our favorite manga and anime characters as well as learn how to create our own unique characters. We will work with pencils, ink, markers and watercolors.

Topics: manga eyes, manga hair, hands, body, Chibi, Shojo, Studio Ghibli characters and more.

Instructor: Barbara Golden

Pre-Med for Kids (Grades 4–7)
The field of medicine is exciting and fun! Would you like to become a doctor, nurse, veterinarian, dentist, physical therapist, or occupational therapist? This hands-on, exciting class brings these careers to life, while students learn about human anatomy and the importance of learning math/science. This class includes interesting guest speakers who are health care practitioners, and engaging, hands-on activities. The instructor and an experienced teaching assistant provide individualized support so that every child will feel challenged and successful in this class.

Instructor: Michael Fanning

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Instructor: Geeta Menon
Animal Portraits: Wild About Animals! (All Grades)
Do you love animals? Learn fun techniques for fur, feathers or scales, while making full-size animal portraits of your favorite animals. Whether they are an endangered animals you choose to celebrate, your favorite wild animals, or your beloved pets, you will learn to use oil pastels to layer and blend colors and create texture, pattern and shading and bring your animals to life! Learn oil pastel techniques that blend and layer colors to create the beautiful majestic mane of a African Lion or the fur of an adorable Red Panda. Find out how to create the texture of a fuzzy, furry Sloth, a smooth Sea Otter or the patterns of the endangered Bengal White Tiger or the Amur Leopard. We will look closely at the beautiful eyes of an Asiatic Cheetah, Giant Panda, or Mountain Gorilla. Let’s have a wild time and create!

Instructor: Sandra Novia

Build a Mini Computer (Grades 5–7)
How would you like to make your own mini computer? This course will show you how to combine electronics and software to create your own Raspberry Pi computer (a small computer the size of a credit card). From there, you’ll learn how to use it to control simple circuits and run software. After the class is over, you’ll get to keep it to continue working on it at home!

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Instructor: Laurie Sealy
Barbara Golden was born in Switzerland, and has taught comics and cartooning for the past 15 years, in Germany as well as California. When her children were young, she created and published a cartoon series which reflected her life as a full-time mother and housewife. Barbara and her husband recently moved from the South Bay to Rohnert Park to be closer to their young grandchildren.

**Class:** Manga & Anime Art Class

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Geoff Beidler, B.S.

Geoff Beidler is a software engineer working at Fresenius Medical Care. Geoff is a professional engineer with over 20 years of experience, and an amateur computer builder for 30 years.

**Class:** Build a Mini Computer

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Michael Fanning, Ed.D.

Dr. Michael Fanning is an experienced teacher and professor who uses engaging project based learning to teach students all subjects, including science and business. He shows students how they can apply their academic knowledge and skills in rewarding and interesting careers.

**Classes:** Kids Biz: How to Create a Successful Business, Pre-Med for Kids

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Geeta Menon, M.S.

Geeta Menon, M.S., in Computer Science and B.S., in Mathematics and Computer Science has many years of programming and teaching experience in various schools, colleges and universities, in the U.S. and abroad. She currently works as an information technology analyst/programmer at the School of Extended and International Education (SEIE) at Sonoma State University.

**Class:** Programming in Python
Sandra Novia
Sandra Novia is a local teaching artist, who is dedicated to ensuring high-level art education continues in the classroom and beyond! She has been teaching in Sonoma County both publically and privately for over 20 years. In addition to teaching with the Rincon Valley Education Foundation, Sandra was recently part of a teaching program for Creative Sonoma, where she taught art in 42 primary and secondary classrooms all over Sonoma County. She also teaches in all the Sonoma Public Libraries, local cultural art centers, home schooling, The Museum of Sonoma County and with the Excel program at Sonoma State University for 6 yrs. Sandra loves the artistic exchange with the students and believes it to be good medicine for all the crazy events that we’ve had to face these past few years and continue to creatively navigate in Sonoma County.

**Classes:**
- Animal Portraits: Wild About Animals!
- Art from the Heart: Paint, Draw & Sculpture

Meret Piderman
Meret Pidermen has been teaching fiber/art to grades 1–8 for over 20 years, teaching art and art history K–8.

**Classes:**
- Design & Decorate Your Own Unicorn Toy
- Hand Building with Clay

Laurie Sealy
Laurie Sealy has been designing interesting and engaging learning activities for many years. She has a strong background in K-8th grade science and she also has her own successful consulting business.

**Classes:**
- Kids Biz: How to Run a Successful Business
- Pre-Med for Kids

Raymond Skipp
Raymond Skipp is a graduate of the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London, England. He currently teaches drama in many local schools. Besides performing in both film and television, he has an extensive Shakespearean background. He has been teaching for EXCEL since 1988. Raymond is fond of reminding parents, “Children are not things to be molded, but are people to be unfolded.”

**Class:**
- Harry Potter Acting Workshops
Gabriela Vargas

Gabriela C. Vargas is a professional graphic designer with over 15 years of experience. She believes in clean, smart and effective visual elements that accomplish the best communication design solutions. Her strongest skills are brand, editorial and packaging design with a keen attention to typography and color. Gabriela has worked at companies such as Mattel, Inc., a Fortune 500 company, Equinox- formerly known as The Sports Club Company, among others. In the recent years, she has worked from her studio, GDesign, as a creative consultant and graphic designer, specializing in brand, collateral, and print promotional materials. Her clients range from Sonoma State University, Maker Media, Burrito factory, Dot Dot Dot Design, Advancement Branding, Gravenstein Schools Foundation, Graton Day Labor Center, and Interfaith Sustainable Food Collaborative, among others. Gabriela is passionate about her work and is a creative, motivated team player and key communicator.

Class:
Let’s Do Art!
EXCEL is a unique summer academic enrichment program that offers students grades 3–7, interactive classes in science, technology, engineering, the arts and more!

EXCEL is distinctively focused towards fostering and developing essential 21st Century and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) skills like problem-solving, critical thinking, creativity and collaboration in a hands-on, interactive, fun campus environment!

EXCEL, an award winning program, celebrates its 40th year this summer at Sonoma State, and has served over 23,000 students since 1982.

Join the mailing list: sonoma.education/excel22