

2020-21 Classical Cottage School, Inc.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

N.B.: New this year - Classes are arranged by period, then by age: youngest to oldest.

*****First Period*****

8:00-8:30

Penmanship

Betsy Bellingham

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 6 to 11

Tuition: \$90.00 for 32 half-hour sessions

Materials Fee: \$40.00 (includes all writing materials)

Frustrated by how your child holds a pencil? Unable to read your child's writing? It is not too late to improve this important skill and correct bad habits, but it requires a concerted effort and proper training. Welcome to penmanship class! An early morning half-hour offering which will train a broad age range of Grammar school students to improve their handwriting and penmanship. Students will start by learning to write the alphabet using a simplified script, developing into cursive, with proper form. Their practice will refine their skills using copy work of poetry and Scripture. Proper pencil and paper position will be stressed and old bad habits replaced by new proper ones. Daily homework practice using perfect form is expected and will take 15-20 minutes.

8:30-9:30

Charlotte Mason Primer

Marina Bise

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 3 to 5

Tuition: \$145.00

Materials Fee: \$25.00

"Education is an atmosphere, a discipline, and a life." —Miss Mason

This primer class will introduce your child to the educational feast of learning about the beauty in our world with a variety of living books. Subjects and activities will include folk songs/hymns and poetry (alternating weekly) for improving memorization skills, short Bible lessons, picture study for exposure to beautiful art, and nature/listening walks with journaling (weather permitting) or nature-inspired crafts to become better acquainted with the natural world around us. Numbers and the alphabet will be gently introduced.

Stepping Stones to Reading

Kathy Herter

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 5 to 7

Tuition: \$145.00

Materials Fee: \$40.00

This is a beginning reading program, not a class for fluent readers. Students will learn the fifty most common sight words as well as learn the basic phonics of vowels and consonants. Homework will be given each class mainly to memorize the initial sight words and use them to begin reading basic sentences. The speed of the class will be determined by the student body's knowledge of sight words and phonics. We will review phonics through reading and games.

Lessons in the second semester or fourth quarter will include instruction on parts of speech and building sentences. Small books will be used to develop reading skills and students will work from various workbooks to build a basis for reading. Group reading and "take-home" packets will be the main focus of the second semester or final quarter (depending upon readiness). Homework will not be extensive, but will improve the level of progress made, so plan on ten minutes a day. Adjustments will be made based upon the needs of the class.

Tales to Tell A & B

Angie Steele

Prerequisites: None

Ages: Level A is for ages 6 to 8; Level B is for ages 8 to 10

Tuition: \$90.00 for 32 half-hour sessions

Materials Fee: \$30 (*Colored pencils provided*)

This class will survey three different collections of Tales throughout the year, pulling from various sources: The Grimms' Fairy Tales, Hans Christian Andersen's Fairy Tales, and American Tall Tales. With over 200 Grimm's Tales, 150 Andersen Tales, and 20-plus Tall Tales, we will cover the main stories every child should know, but also be sure to include some of the lesser known tales. When applicable, coloring books which feature the tales will be used to illustrate the stories, and a variety of Children's books will be read for comparison purposes. On occasion, if pleasing to the class, opportunities for acting out the tale will be provided. The students will compile a notebook throughout the year containing the 3 themes and the use of Literature Pockets will complement this notebook when applicable. Students will also create their own puppet based on a favorite character as a culminating class project.

Prima Lingua Latina I

Julie Shanabrook

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 6 to 8

Tuition: \$90.00 for 32 half hour sessions

Materials Fee: \$15.00

Prima Lingua Latina I is an introduction to Latin and a preparatory course for students who plan to continue taking Latin in the Upper School. Using much of the same vocabulary as the first 6 chapters of the Upper School text, *Lingua Latina*, students will learn basic grammar, declensions, and Latin sayings. Students in this class will also be introduced to the geography of Rome ("Rome was Built on Seven Hills!"), Roman culture, history focusing on the kingdom of Rome, and Latin songs and prayers. A weekly homework page will require about 30 minutes to complete, and memory work such as poems and endings from which students will benefit from daily repetition. All Prima students are encouraged to take advantage of "Memory Period" each week.

Prima Lingua Latina III

Julie Shanabrook

Prerequisites: Prima Lingua Latina II

Ages: 8-10

Tuition: \$90.00 for 32 half hour sessions

Materials Fee: \$15.00

Prima Lingua Latina III is the third year of an introduction to Latin and a preparatory course for students who plan to continue taking Latin in the Upper School. Using much of the same vocabulary in the first 6 chapters of the Upper School text, *Lingua Latina*, students will learn basic grammar, declensions, and Latin sayings. Students in this class will also be introduced to the geography of Rome, Roman culture and history with an emphasis on the Empire, and the reading and translation of simple fairy tales in Latin. All Prima students are encouraged to take advantage of "Memory Period" each week.

Around the World with Literature: South America & Europe

Melissa McKay

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 8 to 10

Tuition: \$145.00

Materials Fee: \$35.00

Using the Beautiful Feet Literature Guide, we will use critically acclaimed books as an entry to explore the geography and cultures of South America and Europe. After reading aloud in class, we will identify the setting of the story and do map work. Follow up activities will include nature study, art, poetry, and history. Some titles include *Stone Soup* by Marcia Brown, *The Little Prince* by Antoine De Saint-Exupery, and *We're Sailing to Galapagos* by Laurie Krebs.

World Games

Mimi Larsen

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 10 to 12

Tuition: \$145.00

Materials Fee: \$30.00

This class is sure to be a fun, interactive, and engaging way to learn about the people, places, and events that defined the Middle Ages to the Modern Era. We'll explore, compare, and contrast cultural, geographical, political, economic, and historical characteristics prevalent to this time period across all continents. Weekly games and challenges will be utilized to enhance the learning experience.

Observation Drawing

Karen Magro

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 9 to 12

Tuition: \$175.00 (This class meets 3x/month for 1.5 hours; it does not meet on Classical Enrichment days.)

Materials Fee: \$50.00

“If people knew how hard I worked to get my mastery, it wouldn't seem so wonderful at all.” –Michelangelo

Learning to draw is a valuable experience regardless of how students feel about their level of natural ability. It lengthens attention spans, teaches innovation, develops originality and self-expression, and strengthens powers of observation. Becoming increasingly observant is an important part of learning in any discipline, so developing the ability to observe well impacts all of life. As with Latin, learning *how* to learn is probably the greatest benefit of observation drawing. Students become good at drawing when they are willing to pay attention, practice, make lots of mistakes, and learn from their mistakes without judgment. These disciplines and attitudes are the foundation of this class!

Drawing skills improve dramatically with daily practice, so the class will include daily homework (30 minutes per day) in sketchbooks to help students cultivate a creative habit and see clear personal improvement by the end of the year. In-class drawing practice and instruction will rely heavily on “coaching” with strategic questions to help students change habits of thinking, see objects differently, experiment, and begin to ask questions of themselves that will lead to new ideas and solutions when they're stuck. After some instruction, students draw what they see (objects provided by the teacher each week) in an attitude of “creative concentration” with instrumental background music and/or audio stories stimulating the shift from left- to right-brain thinking as they work. It's a delightful way to wake up the brain as the day begins!

N.B.: Students will be given supplies on the first day of class, including one sketchbook. Families may need to provide additional sketchbook(s) if their student fills the one provided (so they can continue daily drawing assignments).

*******Second Period*******

9:35-10:35

Great Books: Year 2

Samantha Elkins

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 3 to 5

Tuition: \$145.00

Materials Fee: \$25.00

In Great Books, we will read through age appropriate literature reading, a different story each week to help cultivate a love of reading. We will also discuss different elements of a story such as setting, characters, plot, conflict, and illustrations. Students will create a “keepsake” journal or project to help record thoughts from literature in tangible form (with age appropriate expectations). During project/journal time, we will practice using safety scissors, holding pencils, coloring in the lines, etc. This class is for young children mature enough to sit still through the reading of long story books, though we will start in the fall by reading 2 smaller books, breaking up the reading time with a project. As the year progresses, longer books will be incorporated as their attention span increases.

Fearfully & Wonderfully Made*

Debbie Snyder

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 5 to 8

Tuition: \$145.00

Materials Fee: \$40.00 (Supplies & Notebooks)

**(Formerly “Beginning Anatomy and Healthy Habits”)*

Welcome to an honoring exploration of God's creation while discovering the expectations of how to care for the temple He has given us which houses His Spirit! Students learn through weekly lessons, discussion, and a variety of activities how healthy habits impact our lives with guidance toward making good choices in what we eat and how we treat our bodies.

First Semester: Hands-on nutrition, the pros and cons of sugar, fast food restaurants, honey & bees, how to read a food label, the importance of water, exercise, and much more.

Second Semester: Anatomy (MY BODY): Each child traces and cuts out his/her own body, places his/her body on a large board, learns about each part of the body, learns what to eat in order to keep these body parts healthy, and places body parts on his/her individual paper body.

Story of the World II: Middle Ages

Betsy Bellingham

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 6 to 8

Tuition: \$145.00

Materials Fee: \$45.00

This second volume of *Story of the World: The Middle Ages* by Susan Wise Bauer will cover approximately 400 A.D. - 1600 A.D. with a few jumps forward or back as related to specific events. Each class will consist of listening to a section while coloring pages connected to it in the workbook, map work, discussion, and an occasional activity or craft. We will journey through the Middle Ages and supplement the reading with various related and engaging children's story books. Having the main text at home will be helpful, but is not a requirement. No homework will be required.

Classical Studies II: Ancient Rome

Mimi Larsen/Angie Steele

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 9 to 11

Tuition: \$145.00

Materials Fee: \$30.00

This is the second course in a 3-year Classical Studies cycle, a core thread of the Grammar School which offers an introduction to history in an informative and inspiring way. Students do not need to take these classes in chronological order. In this one hour class, children will explore Ancient Rome with an emphasis on history, buildings, culture, geography, and famous men. Map work, timelines, interactive copybook and other projects will be used to reinforce the understanding of these people, places and events in Ancient Rome as well as their impact on future societies. Occasional homework assignments will be given, not to exceed thirty minutes.

Conversational Spanish

Renee LaFaver

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 9 to 12

Tuition: \$145.00

Materials Fee: \$10.00 *plus book purchase described below**

Students in this class will enjoy learning vocabulary based on themes that apply to them as 10-12 year olds - food, pets, sports and so many more! This vocabulary will then be used to form basic sentences and questions in order to create as much dialog as possible during every class. Pairing up kids for dialogs and activities will encourage them to help each other as they realize how easy it is to express themselves in a foreign language! Although our focus will be mainly on speaking and listening, students will do some note-taking as a visual for memorization. We'll engage in the target language through games and other interesting activities throughout the year! Parents, please purchase *My First Spanish-English Visual Dictionary*, ISBN-13: 978-1-55407-194-4, ISBN-10: 1-55407-194-1 (© 2006) and bring it to class the first day of school. (Current Amazon price is \$4.58.)

Learning Through Literature

Melissa McKay

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 10 to 12

Tuition: \$145.00

Materials Fee: \$25.00

With a focus on Newbery Award winning books, students will develop the fundamental skills necessary to recognize literary elements of a story, such as characterization, setting, plot, conflict, and theme. Weekly classroom participation will be expected as we discuss the books. In-class activities will help students understand and interact with the story. At home, students will read weekly from the literature and answer comprehension questions which will be discussed in class. There

will be a written book response at the end of reading each book. This class is considered a bridge class to the Upper School with weekly homework expectations.

The books that students will read include: *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH* by Robert C. O'Brian; *The Slave Dancer* by Paula Fox; *Belle Prater's Boy* by Ruth White; *The Watsons Go To Birmingham* by Christopher Paul Curtis; *Incident at Hawk's Hill* by Allan W. Eckert.

*******Third Period*******

11:00-12:00

Children's Seasons

Betsy Bellingham

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 3 to 5

Tuition: \$145.00

Materials Fee: \$25.00

Learn which holidays and seasons we associate with the months of the year through stories, imaginative play, songs, and art. Children will develop skills in number and letter sound recognition while being introduced to the calendar months, themes, and days of the week. "M is for May and Mother's Day..."

Early American History for Children I

Mimi Larsen

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 5 to 7

Tuition: \$145.00

Materials Fee: \$30.00

This class is a literature based approach to learning American history for young children. The students will learn about our nation's history as they listen to "living" books about famous Americans and key events. Beginning with the Vikings and the discovery of North America, class will progress through the Colonial Age to the founding of our nation, finishing with Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War. In-class activities and craft projects will reinforce and supplement the readings. The children will create their own Early American History Book, completing pages weekly. Homework is optional.

Primary Learning Through Literature

Kathy Herter

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 6 to 9

Tuition: \$145.00

Materials Fee: \$35.00

The focus of Primary Learning through Literature is to strive to give each child confidence in his/her reading skills. This class will not teach reading, but develop the skills associated (especially for those who may not be as willing to work for "mom"). Classes for the year will be divided into quarters. The first quarter will be independent reading of books with a small worksheet and "fun" sheet for each week. Depending upon class readiness, we will then delve into the "regular" format of learning through literature. The students will begin reading books of various genres as a class.

Each class will consist of oral recitation of selections; basic English grammar review; and practice in writing skills during the first quarter. Then for the remainder of the year, we will use comprehension questions and group discussions stemming from the readings as well as continuing to read aloud from the text. Book lists will be provided and will have the possibility of revision based on the need for a greater challenge.

The class will read at least three books over the year. Proposed books include: *Skylark* by Patricia MacLachlan, *Ralph S. Mouse* by Beverly Cleary, *A Mouse Called Wolf* by Dick King-Smith, *The Cricket in Times Square* by George Seldon, and *My Father's Dragon* by Ruth Stiles Gannett. Homework will be about ten to fifteen minutes a day.

Science in Creation

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 7 to 9

Tuition: \$145.00

Materials Fee: \$50.00

Debbie Snyder

Formerly known as “Science Lab”, Science in Creation will use the Days of Creation as a guide. The students will learn through hands-on interactive lessons about light, darkness, clouds, water, plants, sun, moon, stars, planets, fish, birds, man, animals, the five senses, magnetism, magic tricks, volcanoes, and much, much more! Come see the beauty of God’s creation through the lens of a scientist!

American Sign Language: Through Songs and Stories (YearB)

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 8 to 10

Tuition: \$145.00

Materials Fee: \$25.00

Leila Robertson

American Sign Language (ASL) is a visual language using shape, placement, and movement of the hands along with facial expression and body movement to communicate. It is primarily used in the United States and Canada. In this class, students will have the opportunity to learn and use the ASL alphabet, ASL numbers, and a large variety of ASL signs for the purposes of signing songs, poems, prayers, and ASL storytelling of children's books. No previous knowledge of ASL is needed as the focus of this class is learning signs in the context of songs and stories and then performing the final product at the end of the year. Games will be used often to review signs and give the students an opportunity to practice ASL with one another. In class, we will learn our new signs, review our old signs, and work together to sign out the songs and plays we are learning.

For homework each week the students will need to practice the new signs learned and review previously learned signs and, periodically, complete a homework sheet. Homework sheets and reviewing of signs will take 5-10 minutes each day. Students will receive a binder (or folder) for carrying home sign language flash cards, sheets with signs for songs and performances, and class papers. By the end of the year, the students will invite their parents to join us for an ASL performance. For example, in the past we have learned and performed *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle and *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein.

Please note that there is a two year cycle to these ASL classes. Year A and Year B are independent of each other and a student can take both. Some of the signs taught will be the same in each year, but different signs will be taught in Year A than in Year B. Year A’s main focus is learning ASL signs based on themes (food, feelings, animals,...) and Year B’s main focus is learning ASL signs for the purposes of signing songs, stories, and children’s books. If your child has taken ASL this year and would like to take it again next year, wonderful!

US Geography through National Parks

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 10 to 12

Tuition: \$145.00

Materials Fee: \$30.00

Kacky Kasinksi

Students will be learning the states and capitals while “traveling” between National Parks. Memorizing all the Parks will be an encouraged bonus! Class time will begin with consistent map-labeling for continual reinforcement. Each week will be centered around a different region. Within each region, we will take a focused look at local and National Parks. As this class is for the older GS students, we will also have time in class each week to write a short 4-6 (or more) sentence paragraph in our “travel journals” imagining what we “saw” at the park of the day. Each class will end with 10 minutes of geography card games and/or geography bingo. The materials fee covers the purchase of *National Parks Guide USA* from National Geographic Kids, as well as travel journals and a folder (all of which must come to class each week), photocopying, games, and miscellaneous supplies, etc. Students will weekly need to bring their own set of colored pencils to class each.

Learning Through Literature

Angie Steele

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 10 to 12

Tuition: \$145.00

Materials Fee: \$25.00

With a focus on Newbery Award winning books, students will develop the fundamental skills necessary to recognize literary elements of a story, such as characterization, setting, plot, conflict and theme. Weekly classroom participation will be expected as we discuss the books. In-class activities will help students understand and interact with the story. At home, students will read weekly from the literature and answer comprehension questions which will be discussed in class. There will be a written book response at the end of reading each book. This class is considered a bridge class to the Upper School with weekly homework expectations.

The books that students will read include: *Call it Courage* by Armstrong Sperry; *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* by E. L. Konigsburg; *The Cat Who Went to Heaven* by Elizabeth Coatsworth; *The Bronze Bow* by Elizabeth George Speare and *Misty of Chincoteague* by Marguerite Henry.

*******Fourth Period*******

12:50-1:50

Spanish Rhymes & Songs

Renee LaFaver

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 3 to 5

Tuition: \$145.00

Materials Fee: \$10.00

Early primary children will engage in the Spanish language as it refers to colors, numbers, and themes such as pets, food, and household items. Students will be read to in both Spanish and English, and pictures will be used to help recite learned vocabulary. As weather permits, we will go outside to practice commands such as “run”, “walk”, “jump” and “dance” in the target language. We will sing songs, learn rhymes, and play games using both Spanish and English. Students do not need to have any reading skills; picture books, flash cards, toys, and manipulatives will help children learn. This class will also help students develop social, emotional, and cognitive skills. New content will be added to support what was taught last year, enriching the exposure for returning students as well as newcomers.

Poetry & Recitation A & B (Year I)

Leila Robertson

Prerequisites: None

Ages: Level A is for ages 5 to 7; Level B is for ages 7 to 9

Tuition: \$90.00 for 32 half-hour sessions

Materials Fee: \$20.00

Good poetry uses words to engage the imagination and stimulate thoughts. It is able to move words from the intellectual realm and connect them to the emotional realm, placing a deeper impression on our mind and heart. Poetry lends itself to memorization and can be used to lift emotions and teach truths. In this class students will be exposed to and discuss poems. They will also have the opportunity to memorize selected poems which they will recite in class.

Please be aware that there is a three year cycle of this class; Year I, Year II, and Year III. A student could take poetry three years in a row before the same material is covered again. Each of the three years will have different weekly poetry sheets and different memory poems. If your child has already taken this class and would like to take it again, wonderful! He or she will hear and memorize different poems than the year before.

Class overview: In class each week we will read new poems together. The selection of weekly poems will be organized by theme, author, or type. Class discussions will include interpretation of the poems as well as learning about key elements of poetry. A new poetry sheet will be given to the students each week. A binder to hold these poetry sheets will be provided. While the week’s collection of poems are being read to the students the students will have the opportunity to color in the provided illustrations or coloring sheet.

Each week for homework students will be asked to spend 5-10 minutes daily memorizing an assigned memory poem or part of a memory poem. The memory poems will be given as a laminated card, so that it can be easily taken out of the binder and used for memory work at home. The students will be encouraged to recite this poem or part of the poem orally in class the following week. At the end of the school year, the students will have an opportunity to recite all of the memory poems and earn a Poetry Memory Master Metal.

Exploratory Spanish A & B

Griselda Westfall

Prerequisites: None

Ages: Level A is for ages 5 to 7; Level B is for ages 7 to 9

Tuition: \$90.00 for 32 half-hour sessions

Materials Fee: \$30.00

Exploratory Spanish A offers a fun introduction to the Spanish language and covers some of the culture and geography of Spanish-speaking countries. Children are issued example passports as we discuss similarities and differences among territories. Useful conversational phrases, relevant vocabulary and simple grammar concepts are taught using immersion - sometimes even with entertaining puppets! Children at this age will develop a love for the language through enjoyable stories, activities, and games to keep them engaged. Occasional worksheets will be provided to reinforce concepts learned in class, and flash cards will be used to help memorize vocabulary words. Students will learn to speak and read simple sentences in Spanish while learning with delight.

Exploratory Spanish B, for older children, offers a fun, interactive, and more structured introduction to the Spanish language. Example passports are issued as we learn about the culture and geography of different Spanish-speaking countries. Children at this level will have the advantage of applying all four elements of language learning: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. A strong emphasis will be placed on vocabulary memorization through enjoyable activities which include entertaining puppets and games to keep them engaged. Students will gain confidence by speaking and reading whole sentences in Spanish. Some written activities will be done in class, and the only homework assigned will be reviewing and memorizing new vocabulary each week.

Living Lessons, Form I

Kathleen Soutsos

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 6 to 8

Tuition: \$145.00

Materials Fee: \$45.00

Based on the Charlotte Mason principle that children will make their own relationship with what they observe and are presented with, a feast of ideas will be spread before them in an attempt to kindle and foster a passion for the good, the true, and the beautiful.

This "First Form" of Living Lessons will provide each child with a feast of ideas and "things worth observing" through picture study, poetry study, living books, handicrafts and nature study.

Dividing the year into three terms, this class will do an in-depth study of three artists and three poets. Each student will be asked to memorize one poem per term. We will explore and practice the art of nature journaling based on Law's *Guide to Nature Journaling*. We will also spend time together with delightful, inspiring, and informative living books. When the colder days of winter keep us indoors, we will begin the study of astronomy using H.A. Rey's *Find the Constellations*, and other living books. In an effort to make our short lessons memorable and exciting, we will work on habits of full attention and giving our best effort. True to the wise words of Miss Mason, "never be indoors when you can rightly be without," this class will primarily meet outside under the back pavilion unless it is below 40 degrees.

An optional (but highly encouraged) private trip to the National Gallery of Art will be offered in the winter for a behind the scenes visit to see the works of the artist we are studying.

Living Lessons, Form II***Leslie Hofbauer/Marina Bise****Prerequisites:** None**Ages:** 9 to 11**Tuition:** \$145.00**Materials Fee:** \$45.00

(*formerly "Sampler, Charlotte Mason")

"An observant child should be put in the way of things worth observing." Charlotte Mason

Based on the Charlotte Mason principle that children will make their own relationship with what they observe and are presented with, a feast of ideas will be spread before them in an attempt to kindle and foster a passion for the good, the true, and the beautiful.

Dividing the year into three terms, this class will do an in-depth study of three artists and three poets. Each student will be asked to memorize one poem per term. We will explore and practice the art of nature journaling based on Law's *Guide to Nature Journaling*. Since one is never too old for picture books, we will sprinkle our time together with delightful, inspiring, and informative living books. In an effort to make our short lessons memorable and exciting, we will work on habits of full attention and giving our best effort. True to the wise words of Miss Mason, "never be indoors when you can rightly be without," this class will primarily meet outside under the back pavilion unless it is below 40 degrees. In those colder days of winter, we will continue our study of architecture and drawing indoors.

This changing class builds from the previous year with new material, making each year different for returning students, yet always welcoming to newcomers. Each year plans for an optional (but highly encouraged) private trip to the National Gallery of Art, offered in the winter, for a behind the scenes view of the featured artist's works we've studied.

Virginia: Cradle of America**Kelly Summers****Prerequisites:** None**Ages:** 9 to 12**Tuition:** \$145.00**Materials Fee:** \$45.00

In Virginia History, students will learn about Jamestown, Royal Governors, Capt. John Smith, representative government, Indian tribes native to Virginia, plantations, agrarian society, and forces leading to the Civil War. And this is just the tip of the iceberg! Classes will be lectures using slides and notes through "fill-in the-blank." Students will finish with a Virginia "Scrapbook" of their work. We will play fun games to encourage memorization of facts and dates. Students must be able to write well enough to keep up with class through guided notes and be proficient with scissors.

Writing Apprentice: Narrative**Karen Magro****Prerequisites:** None**Ages:** 10 to 12**Tuition:** \$145.00**Materials Fee:** \$50.00*"We become what we behold. We shape our tools, and thereafter our tools shape us." –Marshall McLuhan*

This class is designed to make writing accessible and fun for students who naturally enjoy writing, as well as those who don't! Students earn stars when they turn in assignments; stars are "cashed in" for books from the Treasure Chest throughout the year, and also yield fun (substantive) prizes on the last day of school at our end-of-the-year celebration of becoming better writers.

Students who hate writing usually dislike it because they feel inadequate in the subject. This class breaks writing into bite-sized pieces, allowing students to experience small repeated successes so they can step into future writing classes with greater confidence.

Good writing springs from reading, hearing, and imitating quality literature, so we'll use strong examples of parable, myth, and other narratives as models for students' own creative writing. Your student will be empowered to write well by playing with the building blocks of language and story. We'll use an adapted version of Classical Academic Press' *Writing and*

Rhetoric books (*Narrative I* and *Narrative II*) to explore the elements of story. Each assignment is designed to fill your young writing apprentice's "tool belt" with specific foundational skills. Students will learn about the basic structure of all stories and practice isolating the main idea, developing conflict (the middle of a story), amplifying stories with dialogue and description, and making creative changes to existing stories. They'll also learn how to identify fact from opinion, define and identify different types of narrative, outline stories, summarize longer narratives, change the point of view in a story, and more.

Students will revise their work based on constructive teacher feedback and will have opportunities to share their work with each other in class. The average student should expect to spend about an hour per week at home polishing old work and generating new material by practicing what we explored in class. Assignments will be self-explanatory and shouldn't require the help of a parent. Students will need a 3-ring binder with notebook paper, and a writing utensil (or computer, if your student prefers to type assignments), but the materials fee covers everything else needed for class.

*******Fifth Period*******

2:00-3:30

Fifty Nifty States

Renee LaFaver

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 6 to 8

Tuition: \$175.00 (This class meets 3x/month for 1.5 hours; it does not meet on Classical Enrichment days.)

Materials Fee: \$10.00 *plus book purchase described below**

Let's hit the road and find out what makes each state in our country unique! Students will start this year by learning how to create a floor plan of their bedroom or playground area and progress to being able to know what they are seeing on maps of our states! Fun, hands-on activities will grab their attention as we introduce regional location of states, borders, waterways, and capital cities. We'll tackle abbreviations and special geographic features. Map reading will include understanding legends, symbols, and the use of compass points. Kids will work in teams to solve puzzles in order to help build their knowledge base of all 50 states! *Parents, please purchase *The Complete Book of Maps and Geography*, ISBN-10: 0769685595, ISBN-13: 978-0769685595 (© 2009) and bring it to class the first day of school. (Current Amazon price is \$2.99.) I will store the books in our classroom for safe keeping throughout the year so they don't get lost since we will be using them weekly in class.

Sing for Joy

Sofia Cuddeback

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 8 to 11

Tuition: \$175.00 (This class meets 3x/month for 1.5 hours; it does not meet on Classical Enrichment days.)

Materials Fee: \$10.00

This course is designed to introduce the grammar-aged child to the building blocks of singing, which are basic voice production, pitch production, sight singing and basic composition. The first semester will utilize Christmas carols to implement these techniques because, though they are musically simple, Christmas carols are aesthetically beautiful and profound, while their texts are incredibly important in conveying an important aspect of the Judeo-Christian patrimony. The second semester will focus on age appropriate rounds, folk songs and choral pieces. Both semesters would be couched in the Ward Method of teaching children fundamental sight singing and composition techniques. Both semesters will also include listening to the music of great classical composers with an introduction to their lives and times to develop musical sensitivity in singing.

Life Cycle Science

Kacky Kasinski

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 9 to 11

Tuition: \$175.00 (This class meets 3x/month for 1.5 hours; it does not meet on Classical Enrichment days.)

Materials Fee: \$50.00

Students will be using the *Biology for Logic Stage* Student Guide by Elemental Science. Following this guide we will learn about Ecology, Plants, Invertebrates, Vertebrates, and the Human Body. We will be writing in the guide during class so students need to be mature enough to follow along willingly and able to copy information from the board. Class time will consist of vocabulary, reading aloud, doing an experiment or demonstration, sketching and recording information, and writing conclusions as a class. A few activities may require outside of class time observation with some recording of findings at home. There will be optional additional readings outside of class as well. The materials fee covers the student guide purchase, specimen samples, a small set of class microscopes, slide sets, and miscellaneous experiment supplies. Students will need to bring their guide and their own set of colored pencils to each class. A list of titles for the optional additional readings will be sent out early summer (totally optional!).

Intro to Speech & Debate

Debbie Snyder

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 10 to 12

Tuition: \$175.00 (This class meets 3x/month for 1.5 hours; it does not meet on Classical Enrichment days.)

Materials Fee: \$10.00

This class includes storytelling, impromptu speaking, speech games, beginning debate, and more. Different types of speeches will be developed and memorized. There will be a speech presentation at the end of each semester for siblings and parents. Outside competitions will be encouraged but are not mandatory.

First Semester: Beginning Debate & Platform Speeches: Original Oratory, Persuasive & Expository

Second Semester: Beginning Debate & Interpretive Speeches: Monologue, Duo, Open Interpretation, Dramatic, & Humorous.

N.B.: *Every year offers different speech skills which build with age. New speeches are written and prepared each year; new goals are set. Many homeschool students participate in this activity for many years, especially when involved in competitions. Classical Cottage School offers an advanced class for speech and debate at the high school level for ages 13-18.*

Shakespeare with Kids

Melissa McKay

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 10 to 12

Tuition: \$175.00 (This class meets 3x/month for 1.5 hours; it does not meet on Classical Enrichment days.)

Materials Fee: \$25.00

“Small cheer and great welcome makes a merry feast.” William Shakespeare, The Comedy of Errors, Act 3 scene 1

This class will introduce your children to one of the greatest authors of the English language. We will begin by learning about Shakespeare, his time period, and the Globe theater, then investigate several of his plays. We'll read from Lamb's *Tales from Shakespeare*, a wonderful book designed to make the stories accessible to the young while retaining much of the original Shakespearean language. Through class discussion, students will become familiar with the plays while exploring the stories, the verse, the imagery, and the characters. Additionally, students will memorize passages, and have opportunities for acting out short scenes in class.

Discovering the Great Artists II

Angie Steele

Prerequisites: None

Ages: 10 to 12

Tuition: \$175.00 (This class meets 3x/month for 1.5 hours; it does not meet on Classical Enrichment days.)

Materials Fee: \$40.00

Exploring the artists' backgrounds and critiquing their works of art, students will study the Great Masters from the Renaissance to the present. The majority of each class will be spent doing a hands-on activity in which the students will apply the styles and techniques of the artists while allowing for individual creativity. Some of the artists that will be covered include Rembrandt, Monet, Matisse, Mondrian, O'Keeffe, Cassatt, Rockwell and Degas. These artists are different than those explored in Discovering the Great Artists I.

Study Hall**Fee:** \$20.00

Study Hall is intended for students who are mature enough to sit and work independently and silently for an entire hour. They must bring enough work to occupy their time, or a book to read, and understand that Study Hall is not social hour. Study Hall Monitors do not assist with schoolwork. Students must register for Study Hall in advance, attendance will be taken weekly, and parents will be notified if ever the student is absent. Study Hall is offered throughout the day as long as classrooms are available. See the PC for more details.