



PRESCHOOL AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

LE LYCÉE FRANÇAIS DE LOS ANGELES



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**LE LYCÉE
FRANÇAIS
DE LOS ANGELES**

“Learning French while learning in French will, I know, be an

ELEVATING AND LASTING INFLUENCE

in the lives of these youngsters.”

California Assemblyman Anthony C. Beilenson, in the official August 19, 1965, letter confirming a change in the California Education Code that allowed Le Lycée Français de Los Angeles, and subsequently many other schools, to teach in a second language

We teach the world.

The opportunity that our students have to excel and become truly literate in more than one culture is a rare gift. Le Lycée Français de Los Angeles offers the total package: the best of both the French and American educational systems; bilingualism; multiculturalism; rigorous academics and enriching extracurriculars; additional modern and ancient languages; and a complete school career from preschool through high school.

L.A.'S FIRST INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

As the most well-established international school in Los Angeles, Le Lycée Français de Los Angeles has been home to many of L.A.'s most intellectually ambitious, worldly and sophisticated youngsters. Beginning your child's education at Le Lycée at an early age establishes lifelong advantages for your child and family, no matter what personal and professional paths they pursue.

Our founders, Raymond and Esther Kabbaz, instinctively knew the benefits of a bilingual and bicultural education. They successfully lobbied to change the Education Code in California so that schools could teach in a language other than English, and paved the way for the many dual language schools that now exist.

THE BENEFITS OF BILINGUALISM

Learning two languages at the same time is a cerebral challenge that improves a child's brain, literally. Research shows that the brains of children who learn a second language before the age of seven have a higher density, which is linked to increased intellect.

A bilingual and bicultural education is a long-term commitment. Parents who choose Le Lycée for early education want their children to not only be fluent in both languages; they want their children to enjoy the unique benefits that come with being able to *think* and *function* in two sophisticated and important cultures—French and American. Students who begin at Le Lycée at an early age are able to speak—and think—in both French and English by the time they turn 12. As one of the few schools that goes from preschool through 12th grade, by graduation more than half of our students have been with us since the age of five or younger.

NEW STUDENTS ALWAYS WELCOME

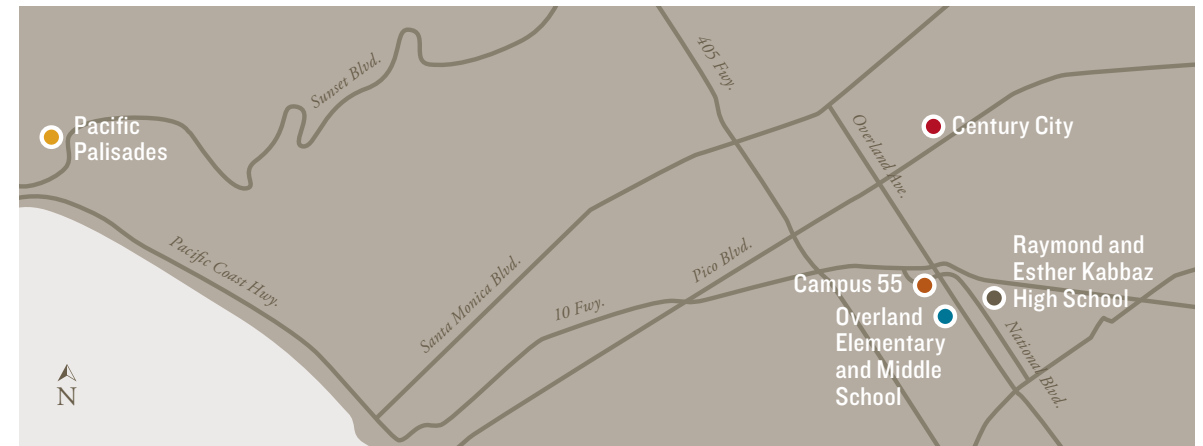
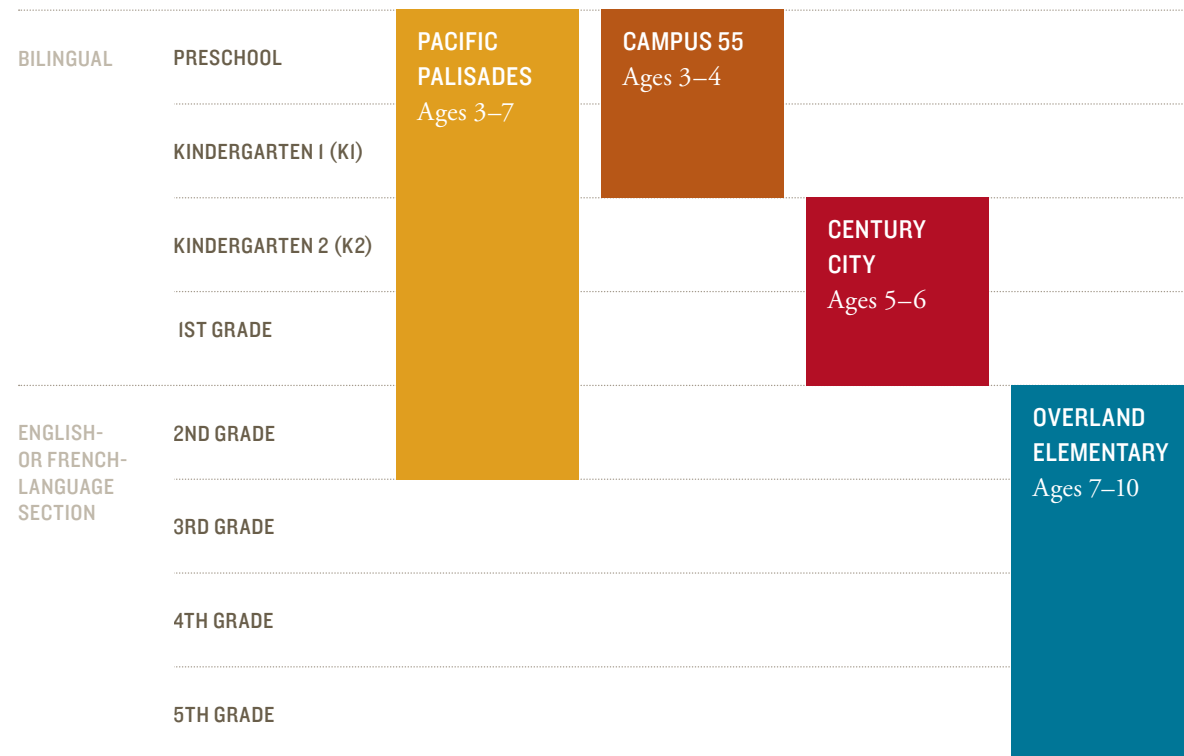
Children can always begin a multicultural, multidimensional education at Le Lycée at a later stage. Even if they do not speak a word of French, because of our English-Language Section, students can enter our school in any grade and pursue a top college-prep curriculum in English that mirrors the French coursework. They will still be fluent in French—at an AP language and literature level—by the time they graduate.

Lower Grades at a Glance

OUR CAMPUSES

The early education campuses at Le Lycée Français de Los Angeles are extraordinary places dedicated to the young student. Children who enter Le Lycée from preschool through 1st grade are taught in both French and English for a truly bilingual and language-immersive experience. At 2nd grade, students choose to pursue either the French-Language or English-Language Section.

CAMPUS BY CAMPUS, GRADE BY GRADE



Pacific Palisades Campus (Preschool–2nd grade)

16720 Marquez Avenue
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272
310-454-9395

Convenient to Malibu, Pacific Palisades, Santa Monica and the West Valley, this campus is located in a lovely residential neighborhood and engenders a tightly knit school community among the families. At 2nd or 3rd grade, students move to the Overland Elementary campus in West L.A.

Campus 55 (Preschool and K1)

3055 Overland Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90034
310-839-1055

Convenient to West L.A., Beverly Hills, West Hollywood, the South Bay, mid-Wilshire and Hancock Park, this campus is devoted to three- and four-year-olds with large, bright classrooms; a spacious gymnasium and library; and a big outdoor play area. Campus 55 students matriculate to the Century City campus after K1.

Century City Campus (K2 and 1st grade)

10361 W. Pico Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90064
310-836-3464, ext. 304

Located across from the Rancho Park Golf Course, Century City houses K2 and 1st grade students. Children matriculate from Campus 55 or Pacific Palisades, or can begin their Lycée education here. This large campus includes colorful and spacious classrooms, a garden, a dedicated gymnasium, an airy art room and a bilingual library. It is also home to Le Lycée’s legendary Théâtre Raymond Kabbaz, dedicated to French culture.

Overland Elementary (2nd–5th grade)

3261 Overland Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90034
310-836-3464

All students from the Pacific Palisades and Century City campuses join together at the Overland Elementary campus in 2nd or 3rd grade. Through 5th grade, our students are located “up the hill” on our lush and expansive Elementary School campus.

ABOVE All of Le Lycée’s campuses are within a 10-mile radius of each other. While all of the lower grade campuses are open to any Lycée student, families tend to select their preferred campus based on geography.

Ages 3–4

PRESCHOOL AND KI

Our preschool students are immersed in a bilingual, multicultural environment from their first day in the classroom. With students and faculty who hail from more than 55 countries, Le Lycée's diversity is organic and ubiquitous, both culturally and socio-economically.



PRESCHOOLERS ARE LEARNERS TOO

The environment at preschool, which is often a child's introduction to school and being away from home, is warm, nurturing and fun. Our two preschool campuses are modern, clean, safe, and spacious, with an abundance of both indoor and outdoor space. There are ample opportunities for our preschoolers to stretch, to learn and to become more socially adept. Our highly qualified preschool staff provides our students with the resources they need to begin to grow into inquisitive young learners who develop readiness skills for elementary school.

In preschool our children are visibly engaged, happy and safe. Play and education are almost indistinguishable as our students are engrossed in a multitude of activities. Despite the recreational appearance of the activities, our students are involved in real work that facilitates character development and learning.

Lycée's multinational teachers possess many creative and unique methods to tap into the child's natural desire to learn as American and French teaching styles merge to create a dynamic approach to instruction.

TWO LANGUAGES ARE BETTER THAN ONE

There is ample evidence that learning in a second language helps students excel in the first language. The discipline required to switch between two languages actually improves a child's ability to focus on an individual task. A 2008 University of Washington study concluded that bilingual children have an increased ability to self-regulate, equipping them with a significant advantage for managing competing demands for attention.

Learning in two languages facilitates more organized thought and improves overall academics. These intersecting skills overlap to develop a methodical mind that functions in any language.

LEFT Socialization and learning to get along with children from all walks of life is one of the most important parts of the Lycée preschool experience.

CENTER K1 students work in small groups with their primary American teacher, while the French teacher's aide does a project with the other half of the class.

RIGHT Every Lycée lower school campus has a learning garden that our students actively tend, and then create meals from the fruits of their labor.

LEFT *Creative play is coupled with structured classroom time to give preschool students a well-rounded start to their education.*

RIGHT *Time on the computer introduces K1 students to the benefits of using technology in a learning environment.*

Today's American parents are increasingly aware of the advantages of raising multilingual, ambi-cultural children—from a compelling college admissions profile to increased and more interesting job prospects. While some Southern California schools are just beginning to implement a multicultural, dual language approach to education, Le Lycée has been doing it since 1964.

TWO TEACHERS, MANY CULTURES

Beginning in preschool, Le Lycée students are taught in both French and English. Each student has two teachers—one native French speaker and one native English speaker who are credentialed in early childhood education by either the State of California and/or the French Ministry of Education.

The children learn by being exposed to both languages and experiencing both cultures through play and story time, art projects, sports and food, and by honoring international celebrations, traditions and customs from many cultures. We celebrate a multitude of international holidays—from the French crêpes de la chandeleur to Chinese New Year to Mexican Cinco de Mayo. Proper manners are also a core component of Le Lycée's curriculum. Through daily rituals children learn to be polite and patient, have respect for others, share and take turns. They prepare to move on to their elementary school education.



“When I was teaching art, I had a young student who really stood out. He was polite, attentive, multilingual. He was a Lycée student. I thought to myself, when I have children I want them to go to school there.” Mrs. Nuka Solomon, parent of two Le Lycée Français de Los Angeles students



Preschool

A DAY IN THE LIFE

8:03 AM After drop-off, students have free time to chat, giggle and play before the formal day begins.

9:21 AM K1 students learn basic geometric shapes during circle time, conducted in French.

10:07 AM During some unstructured time, two friends leaf through Mélanie Watt's *Enfin, te voilà!*, a French-language picture book about being polite.

11:30 AM K1 students collaborate on a class mural about dreams, in commemoration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

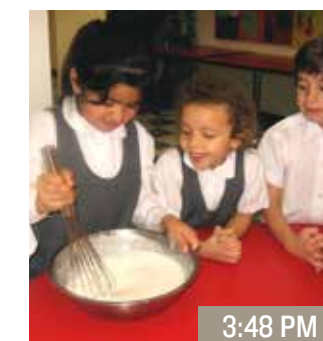
12:43 PM A preschool student takes her daily nap with her favorite toy and blanket.

1:47 PM Hula hoops, obstacle courses and ball games are the norm during recess.

3:48 PM Sophisticated, nutritious food is a central component of Le Lycée Français de Los Angeles. Our students cook both as part of classroom instruction and as an after-school activity.



“We are more like a family than a class.”
Victor Velle, Le Lycée Français de Los Angeles student since preschool, now in high school



Ages 5–6

K2 AND 1ST GRADE

Attending kindergarten (K2) and 1st grade is when children begin to feel that they are in the “big” school, gaining more independence and achieving even greater academic milestones. Although this is a significant transition, our students ease into it because they journey through their academic careers from campus to campus together as a familial community.



SUBJECT BY SUBJECT

In K2 and 1st grade, each class has a French teacher and an English teacher, plus specialized teachers in art, dance and computer science. Students begin to learn by individual subject: French, English, math, science, music, fine arts and art history. Most subjects, except English, are taught in French so students continue to rapidly advance their knowledge of the language. Le Lycée’s curriculum follows the California standards as well as the exacting national curriculum of France, and is accredited by both the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and the French Ministry of Education.

At this level our young students become comfortable working in a classroom setting and are introduced to basic literacy and math-related skills while making important discoveries about language and their environment.

BECOMING STUDENTS

The main purpose of K2 is to ensure our children are successfully initiated into being students. The focus is on strengthening oral language skills and becoming familiar with the writing process, graphics and penmanship. Students discover the world beyond their homes and classrooms to the larger neighborhood and community. They encounter new concepts through experimentation; learn how to express themselves through body movement and organized physical education; gain a greater understanding of their emotions; and nurture their imaginations and creative expression.

LEFT Beginning in K2, Le Lycée’s classrooms average 15 to 20 students.

CENTER Students have access to the campus library and its collection of French and English books and educational games.

RIGHT Teaching the skill of penmanship is an integral part of the French curriculum.

“The administration has the highest aspirations for the education here. I want to live up to that standard.”

Miss Clara Campbell, Le Lycée Français de Los Angeles Elementary School English teacher



HOMEWORK, READING AND WRITING

Le Lycée 1st grade students continue to learn the French language in depth, both through speaking and introductory writing and reading. They also learn to read and write in English. They use the foundational skills they acquired in K2, and are asked to understand basic math concepts and solve simple math problems, as well as conduct a science experiment.

Students receive homework for the first time, which is not excessive. Rather, it is designed to ensure they understand what is being taught in the classroom each day. They are introduced to the *cahier de textes*, the traditional French agenda in which students record their entire year's worth of homework commitments. The *cahier de textes* is a hallmark of the French curriculum that our students use throughout their Lycée careers.

LEFT From an early age students are taught to be comfortable answering questions out loud, speaking to the group and standing up in front of the class.

CENTER Students wear their sports uniforms twice a week for PE, and their formal uniforms three times a week, beginning in K1.

RIGHT A K2 student is absorbed in a French lesson in which music serves as the primary method of instruction.

“Because of the small class size, it is so easy to be close to the students. I only have 15 students in my class, so how can any child fail? It is impossible. I see challenges right away and can remediate.” Mme. Michelle Magnier, French-Language Section literature, history and geography teacher, and parent of two Lycée graduates

Kindergarten and 1st Grade

A DAY IN THE LIFE

- 8:19 AM** A mom shares a secret and a kiss with her daughter during morning drop-off.
- 9:30 AM** A 1st grader practices beginning math concepts about numerical comparisons, using the euro as a tool.
- 11:43 AM** Students eat an organic, freshly cooked meal of shrimp scampi, green beans, baguette and cheese, and homemade carrot cake, provided by the school.
- 1:18 PM** First graders work on their self-portraits while getting a brief lesson in art history from the campus art teacher.
- 2:07 PM** A K2 student shares his knowledge of the days of the week, the months of the year and the seasons, in French, with his teacher and classmates.
- 2:49 PM** The K2 French teacher conducts her students in singing and playing the 18th-century French folk song *Au clair de la lune*.
- 3:02 PM** First graders rehearse their dance routine during PE class in preparation for the school's annual bilingual holiday show, performed at Théâtre Raymond Kabbaz.



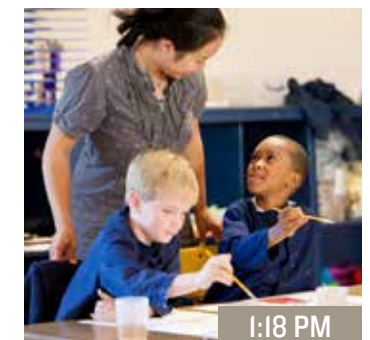
8:19 AM



9:30 AM



11:43 AM



1:18 PM



2:07 PM

“I like learning about different artists like Picasso, one of my favorites; and van Gogh and Matisse.” Sophia Landers, 1st grade Lycée student



2:49 PM



3:02 PM

Ages 7–10

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (2ND–5TH GRADE)

Whether our Elementary School students join us from the Century City campus, from the Pacific Palisades campus, or from another local school or a distant foreign country, they arrive wide-eyed and eager to attend the Overland Elementary Campus “up the hill,” as it has affectionately been called since the 1960s.



FRENCH-LANGUAGE SECTION OR ENGLISH-LANGUAGE SECTION

Children who are native French speakers and/or have achieved a level of mastery of the French language by the time they enter 2nd grade officially enter the French-Language Section, with the ultimate intention of pursuing the prestigious traditional French baccalaureate or the new superlative French-American baccalaureate exams.

Children who are not completely comfortable in French or do not want to pursue the traditional French curriculum enter the English-Language Section and do their principal studies in English. These English-Language Section students emerge from Elementary School more comfortable and confident in their world because they are exposed to more global experiences at an early age. They continue to learn

French at their own level throughout their Lycée careers, mastering it at an AP level by high school. They are also more than ready to take on the scholastic pursuits that follow, as well as build upon the strong foundation of learning French.

Both sections will take a third language in Middle or High School, as well as Greek and Latin. For non-English-speaking students, English as a second language is offered.

TEACHING BY SPECIALTY

Unlike in traditional American primary schools, our Lycée Elementary School students have a specialized teacher per subject including history and geography, math, science, social studies, art, music, French and English, regardless of section. This approach to teaching provides our students with specialists in each subject matter and prepares them for the rigors of our secondary education. It also opens them up to different teaching styles and personalities.

LEFT A teacher reviews a 3rd grader's math homework on converting units of measure, written in her cahier.

CENTER A 2nd grader practices spelling English words with various vowel sounds in her cahier.

RIGHT A small group of 4th graders rehearse a short comedic play they wrote, which they will perform at the end-of-year Theater Showcase.



Each year builds on the foundation laid in the previous year. English-language instruction complements the French instruction. Basic linguistic and logical skills are developed throughout the primary school years. Students acquire additional academic disciplines through child-centered activities and projects. Visual arts, drama, dance and music also play an important part in both sections.

CREATING COMPASSIONATE CHILDREN

Community service begins at a young age with the goal of developing civic-minded, humanitarian children. Instilling a concern for others is of paramount importance. Parents design community service projects for the school in which our young students play active roles. Children collect and sort books for the book drives, gather canned

goods for the food drive, and collect and deliver toys during the holidays.

As an *Eco-Ecole* internationally certified school, all Le Lycée campuses practice eco-conscious behavior that the teachers also build into the curriculum. Each year the school chooses an environmental theme—from waste reduction to biodiversity—that the teachers support through classroom studies, field trips and extracurricular activities, helping our children learn to protect our environment.

READY FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

As our students become more sophisticated, they are trained to think for themselves, encouraged to solve problems, and learn to use a variety of resources and conduct their own research. By the end of 5th grade, our students are unquestionably ready to tackle the demands of any middle school program, and can move seamlessly “down the hill” into Le Lycée Français de Los Angeles’ Middle School.

LEFT *Both French- and English-Language Section students study American Civilization.*

CENTER *Elementary school students read a wide variety of authors and poets including Roald Dahl, Victor Hugo, Edgar Allan Poe, Marie Desplechin and Jacques Prévert.*

RIGHT *Many educational field trips to places like the Ballona Creek Wetlands and the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) supplement our core curriculum.*

“If you want another truly global language... French is unquestionably top of the list. It can enhance your enjoyment of art, history, literature and food, while giving you an important tool in business and a useful one in diplomacy.” Robert Lane Greene, author of *You Are What You Speak*

Elementary School

A DAY IN THE LIFE

8:23 AM A 3rd grader eagerly traverses the Elementary School's main plaza as she heads to her first class of the day.

11:30 AM Our students learn the essentials of both U.S. and world history, geography and social studies.

12:43 PM After lunch, students have plenty of time to burn off some energy on the playground before returning to class.

1:19 PM In music class, children sing the French and American anthems *La Marseillaise* and *The Star-Spangled Banner*, and French folk songs such as Matthieu Chedid's *Le soldat rose*. They also learn classics including Prokofiev's *Pierre et le loup*.

1:56 PM During PE class, a young swimmer finishes her laps in the campus pool.

2:47 PM In science class, 4th graders choose their own research project on the cause and effect of natural disasters such as the BP oil spill and the Haitian earthquake.

3:28 PM Taught by a classically trained teacher, ballet students practice first position during an afternoon elective dance class.



8:23 AM



11:30 AM



12:43 PM



1:19 PM



1:56 PM



2:47 PM



3:28 PM



Preschool through 5th Grade

EXTRACURRICULAR AND AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Le Lycée Français de Los Angeles offers an astonishing array of extracurricular enrichment opportunities, some in French, some in English. All are located on site so students can conveniently and easily transition into the activities. Parents have the peace of mind that their children are engaged in enriching programs in the security of their Lycée environment.



OPTIONS GALORE

Our after-school activities go far beyond “day care.” Options include cooking lessons, art classes, music lessons, choir, chess, ballet, jazz, swimming, karate, tennis, fencing and team sports like soccer. Study hall is also available for students who need extra help or would like to do their homework before going home.

The older Elementary School students can begin learning Mandarin Chinese language and culture as an extracurricular activity and continue that into Middle and High School.

LIFELONG, WORLDWIDE FRIENDSHIPS

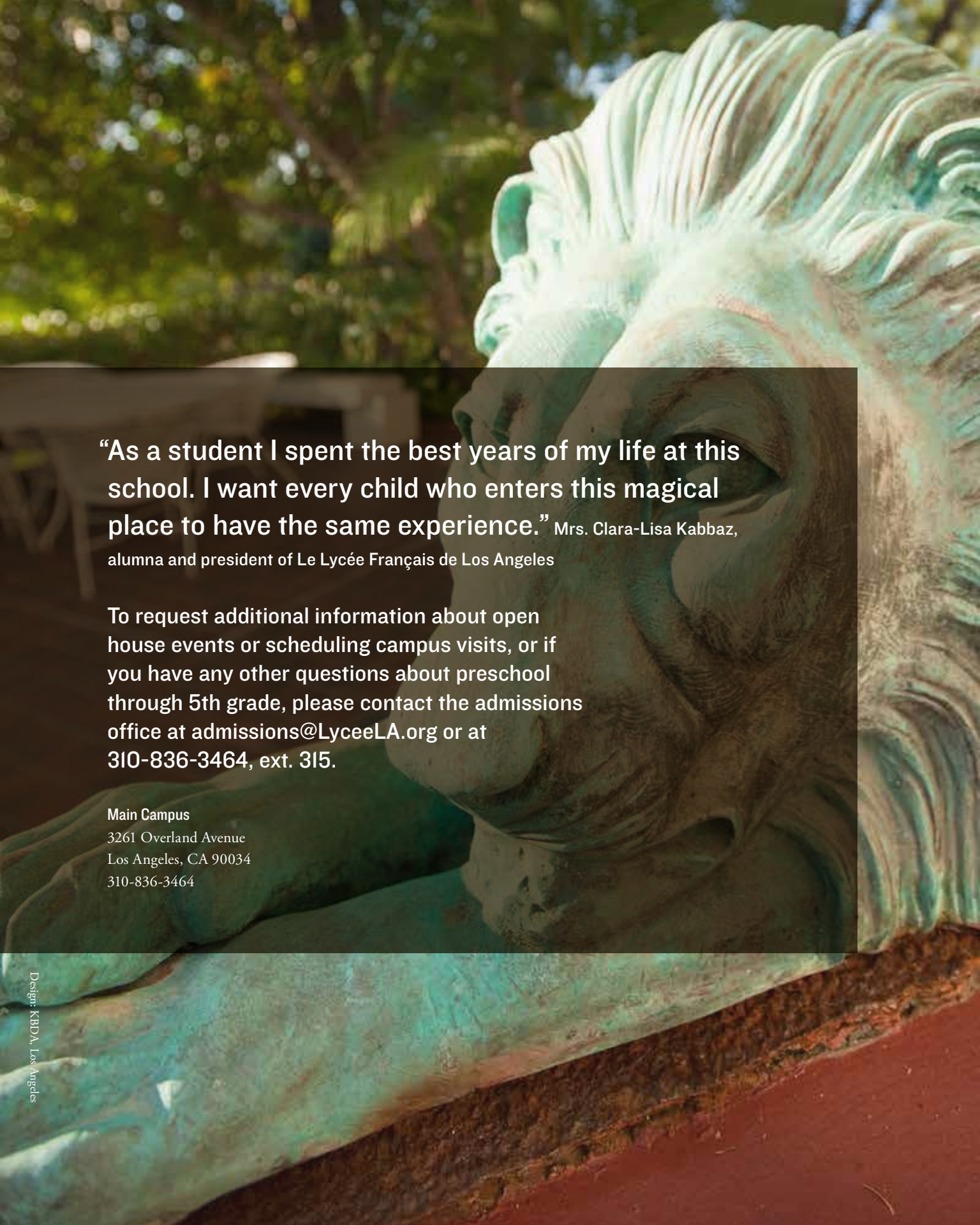
One of the most distinguishing factors of a Lycée education are the enduring friendships that develop among our students. Our alumni report lasting relationships with their Lycée classmates who span the globe. Whether they meet in preschool, in 5th grade or as freshmen in high school, the exclusive bonds created through a Lycée education last a lifetime.

LEFT Karate is a popular after-school activity that students can begin in K2 and continue through high school.

CENTER Supervised after-school study hall is offered, where students can work on a group project or get help with their homework.

RIGHT Students use some downtime to catch up on their favorite French comic books.

“My two all-American jock sons are something special at the Lycée, unlike they would be at a traditional American school. Plus they speak French, which girls think is pretty COOL.” Mrs. Eve Coquillard, former Le Lycée Français de Los Angeles student and parent of two current students



“As a student I spent the best years of my life at this school. I want every child who enters this magical place to have the same experience.” Mrs. Clara-Lisa Kabbaz, alumna and president of Le Lycée Français de Los Angeles

To request additional information about open house events or scheduling campus visits, or if you have any other questions about preschool through 5th grade, please contact the admissions office at admissions@LyceeLA.org or at 310-836-3464, ext. 315.

Main Campus
3261 Overland Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90034
310-836-3464

Design: KDDA, Los Angeles

WHY FRENCH?

La Francophonie, which brings together all of the countries around the world with a French-speaking heritage, has 56 member nations, almost one-third of the world's countries. In addition to countries where French is everyone's native language, La Francophonie includes countries such as Canada, Switzerland and Tunisia, in which French is spoken as a second or third language.

French is also at the root of many English words; according to the French Cultural Services of the French Embassy and the American Association of Teachers of French, 40 to 50 percent of English vocabulary comes from French. *Alchemy, altruism, ambition, courteous, debate, explore, finance, garden, grammar, humane, humor, imagination, language, liberty, literature, magic, medicine, melody, nourish,*

niche, opinion, persistence, philosophy, rhyme, safety, symphony, theater, university, vacation, volunteer and *zenith* all have French roots. As children develop greater skills in French, they improve their English skills and even improve their scores on American standardized tests like the SAT.

If that is not enough, think about art, literature, food, fashion, the Olympics, history and etiquette. French is the first language of the three musketeers, Little Red Riding Hood, Sleeping Beauty and Cinderella. Knowing French enhances our students' understanding and enjoyment of all things of French origin—they not only lead globally sophisticated lives, but they live them with style and panache. And by many accounts, French is the most beautiful spoken language in the world.

ABOVE Anchored by the 100-year-old Morton Bay fig tree, our Overland Elementary campus features colorful classrooms; modern play equipment; dedicated art, music and dance rooms; learning gardens; a multilingual library; lush landscaping; an outdoor amphitheater; and multiple sports areas, including tennis facilities and a swimming pool.

ACCREDITATIONS AND AFFILIATIONS

Le Lycée Français de Los Angeles is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and the French Ministry of Education.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Le Lycée Français de Los Angeles admits students of any race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, ancestry, or national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, disability, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, ancestry, or national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, financial access programs, or athletic and other school-administered programs.

www.LyceelA.org 310-836-3464



Le Lycée Français
de Los Angeles