

the Omaha Homeschool Learning Center

Spring 2010

www.omahahomeschool.com

The Omaha Homeschool Learning Center

- provides weekly classes to supplement your home curriculum.
- brings classes that you already attend into one place and time to reduce travel time.
- has activities and classes for the entire family (ages 3 to high school).
- creates a community of learners and homeschool moms.

We are located at the Benson Baptist Church (64th and Maple). Most classes are held between 1-4pm on Wednesday afternoons, and we welcome you to bring the whole family down. Whether spending time in our Mom's Room, or finding a nook to call your own, you are welcome to make us your homeschool away from home. Kids should feel free to study or socialize when not in class.

Classes

Classes start February 3rd and end April 28th, excluding March 31st. A few high school classes will end on May 12th. Most classes are 50-minutes long and meet for twelve weeks. Tuition is typically \$80 for the entire semester, not a monthly charge. Some classes have additional charges for class fees or textbooks. Tuition may be higher for classes that meet for extended periods.

Parents' Role

Our mission is to provide support so that you can enjoy, enrich, prepare, and protect your children. These supplemental classes are meant to assist your homeschooling efforts, but we always want to affirm parents as their child's primary educator. Please be informed about your children's classes: ask questions, talk to teachers, and sit in on classes.

Because parents will remain the primary educators, please do not list the Learning Center or our individual teachers on state exempt school forms (Rule 12 or 13 for Nebraska).

We think it's best that moms stay at the Center while their kids are in class because we want everyone to have a relaxed and energizing Wednesday afternoon. Our hope is that we can help you find some time to rest and enjoy yourself among other like-minded homeschool moms. Fill up so that you can keep giving! But this is only a suggestion: you know better than we do how your life needs to run, and we know that it's not always possible to stay, even if you want to.

**Questions?
Contact Jack Donnelly
at (402) 293-7621 or
omahahomeschool@gmail.com**

Ecumenical Belief Statement

The Omaha Homeschool Learning Center is a Christian ministry, founded on ecumenical Catholic principles, which should be respected, but need not be accepted. Our classes are open to all homeschoolers, regardless of religious orientation, but parents should be aware that classes may be taught from a Christian perspective. It is our firm belief that God is eager to see Christian brothers and sisters join together to celebrate all that they hold in common. Jesus prayed that all of His followers “may be one, Father, just as You are in Me and I am in You. May they also be in Us so that the world may believe that You have sent Me” (Jn. 17: 20). John Paul II has written, “Indeed all the faithful are asked by the Spirit of God to do everything possible to strengthen the bonds of communion between all Christians and to increase cooperation between Christ's followers” (That They May Be One, 101). There are countless benefits for this unity, but surely the greatest is to proclaim in unison to an unbelieving world that Jesus is Lord!

Policies

SUPERVISION: Please be aware that the Learning Center is only responsible for the safety of children in the classroom; parents or the children themselves are in charge between classes and when children do not have class.

DRESS CODE: Please avoid tank tops, tube tops, halter tops, sun dresses, spandex, muscle shirts, bare backs, immodest necklines, etc. Shoulder straps should be at least three fingers wide. Midriff should not show when standing or sitting. Skirts and shorts should be an appropriate length (at least to the tips of the fingers with the arm hanging at the side). Clothing should cover undergarments. Pants must be worn no lower than the waist. If a student inadvertently wears an item that doesn't conform to the dress code, they may return home to change or accept a cover-up that will allow them to continue their day.

ILLNESS: Although any public area increases exposure to germs, we ask that you be responsible by not bringing sick children to the Learning Center. Colds are unavoidable, but children with a fever, severe cough, or any infectious disease should remain at home.

INCLEMENT WEATHER: An email will be sent out by 9 am if classes will not meet.

Payment

1. An initial, non-refundable deposit of \$20 per class must be made at the time of registration. This amount will be applied to the cost of the class.
2. Class fees are also non-refundable.
3. Full payment for classes can be made at registration or the balance may be paid in monthly payments on the first Wednesday of the month. The balance may be paid on any first Wednesday.

Scholarships

Scholarships are based on participation in the mission of the Learning Center, such as volunteering. We have positions open for housekeeping and teacher's assistants, both in the classroom and outside. If you have younger children with you, we may still be able to use your assistance. Simply indicate this on the registration form. Teachers and volunteers receive priority registration, if forms are received before Jan 31st.

Omaha Homeschool Learning Center Registration

Parent's Name:		Phone:	
<input type="checkbox"/> No information has changed since my previous registration. I have reviewed all the information on the emergency and consent form and agree to all terms.			
<input type="checkbox"/> My child has an allergy that you need to be aware of. This information is included on the emergency form.			
Address:		Cell Phone:	
City, State, Zip		Email	

	Name: Birth date	Name: Birth date	Name: Birth date
1pm			
2pm			
3pm			
Other			

	Name: Birth date	Name: Birth date	Name: Birth date
1pm			
2pm			
3pm			
Other			

VOLUNTEERS: Teachers and volunteers receive priority registration, if forms are received before December 31st. Volunteers are automatically considered for scholarships. (An application need not be completed.)

Teacher's Assistant Housekeeping (before or after classes)

I'm available at 12:30 1 pm 2 pm 3 pm after classes

I can do work outside of Learning Center hours.

Total number of hours per day that you would like to volunteer: _____

I will have young children with me while volunteering.

Please include a non-refundable \$20 deposit for each class, which will be applied to the cost of the class. Checks may be made payable to OHLC. Mail completed form to **620 S. 67th St., Omaha, NE 68106**. Questions? Contact Jack Donnelly at omahahomeschool@gmail.com or 402-293-7621.

For office use only:

_____ Consent

_____ Ck #

_____ Amount

_____ Recv'd

Emergency and Consent Form

No Change of Information: If you have previously completed this form and your information has not changed, you need only check the corresponding box on the registration form on page 3.

Parent's Name:	Cell Phone:
Children's Names and Ages:	
Emergency Contact with phone number	
Doctor's Name and Phone	
Insurance Company, Policy Number, Group Number	
Medical Consideration or Allergies (specify child)	

Consent

_____ I give permission for my child(ren) to participate in any activity sponsored by the Omaha Homeschool Learning Center as it relates to classes that I have enrolled my child(ren) in.
Initial

_____ I waive, release, and indemnify the Omaha Homeschool Learning Center and Benson Baptist Church, its agents, director, officers, employees, and volunteers from all demands, claims, or liabilities, in law or in equity, which have arisen or may arise from any Omaha Homeschool Learning Center activity and which involves any damage, loss, or injury to me, my child(ren) named on this form or our property. In the event that I cannot be reached in an emergency during an Omaha Homeschool Learning Center activity, I hereby give my permission to the physician or dentist selected by the Learning Center supervisor to secure proper medical treatment for any of my children deemed necessary, at no expense to the church or to the Omaha Homeschool Learning Center.
Initial

Child Supervision Responsibility

_____ I understand that I am personally responsible for my child(ren)'s safety and supervision during the times that he/she is attending Omaha Homeschool Learning Center classes. In the event that I am not on the premises, I will leave an emergency contact number.
Initial

Non-Refundable Initial Payment

_____ I understand that the \$20 per class initial payment is non-refundable and can not be credited and will be applied toward the class tuition. The payment will only be refunded if the class is cancelled. If my child(ren)'s schedule changes, this payment can be transferred to another class or to another family member's class. I understand that class fees are not refundable.
Initial

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

The Omaha Homeschool Learning Center

The age range for classes is listed after the class title (e.g., “6-10”). These are only suggestions: parents should make the final determination. Feel free to ask for guidance. Class details and description appear on the pages that follow.

Early Classes	1:00-1:50	2:00-2:50	3:00-3:50	Other Times	
	Young Explorers 3-5	Young Explorers 3-5	Young Explorers 3-5		
	Dance 5-9	PE 6-10	Guitar I 6-Adult		
Writers’ Workshop 9-18 11:30-12:15	Hands-On Science 6-10	Art 6-10	Art 6-10		
	Guitar I 6-Adult	Guitar II 6-Adult	Drama 6-10		
Writing Groups 9-18 11:45-12:30	American Sign Language 8-adult	Drama 10-18	Fun with Food 6-9		
	Comfort Cooking 10 and up	Tae Kwon Do, Beginning	Simply Music 6-adult	Shakespeare Play 13-18 12:30-2pm Thursdays	
Dance 10-Adult 12:00-12:50	Art 10-18	Hands-On Science 10-14	Machine Sewing 8-Adult		
	PE 10-18	Spanish 1 12-18	Wildlife Discovery 10-14		
Apologia Biology 13-18 12-2pm		ACT Prep 13-18	Exploring Narnia 9-11		
Apologia Chemistry 15-18 12-2pm		Constitution 14-Adult	Silk Screen Art 10-Adult		
		Critical Thinking 14-Adult	Tae Kwon Do, Advanced		
			Ballroom Dance 13-Adult		

Class Descriptions

Most classes are 50 minutes long. Tuition covers the entire semester and is not a monthly charge. Some classes have additional charges for class fees, which are non-refundable. Supplies should be purchased by students prior to class. Ages listed are only suggestions: parents should make the final determination. Feel free to ask for guidance, if needed.

ACT Test Preparation (13-18) This course repeats last semester's content. Kevin Burge

This class is packed with tips, strategies, and plenty of essential English, math, reading, and science review. Students will gain a competitive advantage by becoming familiar with the test's format, learn tips that will turn complex algebra problems into simple arithmetic, and ease reading comprehension and science reasoning problems by zeroing in on main ideas, topic sentences, and key words. Mr. Burge will also offer advice for students who want to ace the new, optional essay test. Homework: 1-2 hrs per week.

Time: 2pm, ending May 12th Cost: \$85 for 14 weeks

Supplies: Kaplan ACT 2009 Comprehensive Program. (No CD-ROM needed)

Introduction to American Sign Language (8-adult) Corinne Larson

This course repeats last semester's content. Enter into the expressive and beautiful realm of sign language. The lessons and activities in this class will teach signs and expressions which can be used in everyday communication using American Sign Language (ASL). Students will also learn about a unique culture as they explore a little of the history and background of the deaf world. Many colleges are now accepting sign language as a foreign language.

Time: 1pm Cost: \$80 Class Fee: \$5

Apologia Biology, 2nd semester (13-18) Jeanne Patton

This college-preparatory biology course provides a detailed introduction to the methods and concepts of general biology. Heavily emphasizing the vocabulary of biology, it provides a strong background in the scientific method, the five-kingdom classification scheme, biochemistry, cellular biology, molecular and Mendelian genetics, and ecosystems. This course does not contain a discussion of human anatomy, which most college professors do not consider to be a part of a college-prep course. Homework: 2-4 hours per week.

Time: 12-1:50pm, ending May 12th Cost: \$170 per semester Class Fee: \$20, plus one ream of paper

Supplies: Exploring Creation with Biology, 2nd edition

Apologia Chemistry, 2nd semester (ages 15-18) Kevin Burge

A laboratory-based high school course that gives students a rigorous foundation in chemistry. Over the year, material will include such topics as thermochemistry, thermodynamics, kinetics, acids and bases, solutions, atomic structure, the gas laws, and equilibrium. Students who take this course should be well prepared for a challenging university chemistry course. Prerequisite: Algebra I. Please be sure to obtain the second edition of the text. Homework: 2-4 hours per week.

Time: 12-1:50pm, ending May 12th Cost: \$170 per semester Class Fee: \$25

Supplies: Exploring Creation with Chemistry, 2nd edition

Art All new projects this semester!

Tamara Hood

In these beginners' classes, students learn to express themselves artistically as they apply the five basic elements of art in a variety of mediums, including drawing, painting, including various media from pencil, charcoal, color pencils and pastels (chalk) to water color and acrylics. Students will discover that in all mediums, the creative process starts by using line, shape, form, color, and pattern to translate a mental image into a finished artistic product. Art history and styles will be included, focus on American artists and discussing the different styles and techniques that changed or developed over time.

Ages 6-10: Time: 2pm, 3pm Cost: \$80 Class Fee: \$15 Students should bring a paint smock.

Ages 10-18: Time: 1pm Cost: \$80 Class Fee: \$15 Students should bring a paint smock.

Ballroom Dancing (high school-adult)

Nate Woodhams

Is it exercise or socializing? Are students learning dexterity or etiquette? Once the music starts, it all comes together in this lively, energizing class. Learn to dance swing (East Coast), waltz, foxtrot, and tango (American style). This class is offered in partnership with Arts For All, a dynamic non-profit education program, whose goal is to provide quality classes that are affordable to all. This class is for beginners and for those with dance experience. Open to last semester's students and new ones.

Time: 3pm Cost: \$80

Beginner's Machine Sewing (8-adult)

Kristie Schroll

Learn the rewarding, life-long skill of sewing! If you always wanted to learn sewing but didn't know where to begin, here is the class for you. This class will take beginner boys and girls and get them started on the road to being independent sewers. Students will learn how to select fabric, read a pattern, hem, and complete four projects such as poncho (or vest for boys), pillow case or camping stuff sack, simple skirt, simple shorts or pajama pants.

Time: 3pm Cost: \$80 Class Fee: \$5 (Students will also need to purchase fabric for projects.)

Comfort Cooking (10 and up)

Lisa Epperson

Real cooking, real tasty! Step into the kitchen and produce tasty creations while learning food preparation and cooking skills. Students will create such comfort cuisine as turkey chili, fried vegetables, pancakes, roll and cut sugar cookies, and more. Students will also learn about legumes, fruits, grains, meat substitutes, vegetables, and proteins.

Time: 1pm Cost: \$80 Class Fee: \$15

The Constitution (14-adult)

Glenn Freeman

Glenn Freeman continues his exploration of the United States government with a comprehensive and thorough study of the Constitution itself. This new offering will examine the amendments in more detail, and will also include the rise of political parties and the true meaning of the separation church state. Students will investigate competing interpretations: does the original meaning of the document endure or can Americans create new meanings to suit their particular needs?

Time: 2pm Cost: \$80 Class Fee: \$3

Critical Thinking and Rhetorical Analysis (15-18)

Jack Donnelly

Arguments surround us, whether it's deciding the right age to open a Facebook account, evaluating government health bills, buying a computer, or looking at a billboard. In fact, it's so commonplace that it's easy to overlook the complexity of even the simplest argument. Understood properly, the study of argumentation, or rhetoric, represents the highest synthesis of all academic pursuits, and the most important to practical living. Course work will include defining features of arguments, evaluating claims, examining logical structures, using evidence effectively, and studying different types of arguments (causal, resemblance, ethical, and proposal). 1-3 hours of homework per week

Time: 2pm, ending May 12th Cost: \$85 for 14 weeks Class Fee: \$7 for copies

Supplies: Writing Arguments (Ramage, **7th Edition**)

Dance Open to last semester's students and new ones

Diana Newman

Classes are based on classical ballet technique and include choreography in jazz, lyrical, classical and interpretive styles. Christian music is used for all dance class instruction and choreography. Emphasis is on movement that is modest and based on the concept of worship not performance. This class is offered in partnership with PATH, offering faith-based professional training in the performing arts that helps children discover themselves as children of God.

Ages 5-9: Time: 1pm Cost: \$80 Class Fee: None

Ages 10 and up: Time: 12pm Cost: \$80 Class Fee: None

Drama Open to last semester's students and new ones

Diana Newman

Learn how to share God's Word through drama! Through games, exercises and role playing students will learn basic acting concepts, such as blocking, character development, and improvisation. These concepts will be used to learn how to share God's message through skits and monologues. This class is offered in partnership with PATH, offering faith-based professional training in the performing arts that helps children discover themselves as children of God.

Ages 6-10: Time: 3pm Cost: \$80 Class Fee: \$5

Ages 10-18: Time: 2pm Cost: \$80 Class Fee: \$5

Exploring Narnia (8-11)

Jamie Kimmons

From Beaversdam to Cair Paravel, the world of Narnia has beckoned to children for generations. Join us as we discover all the riches of C.S. Lewis' The Magician's Nephew. The class will focus on the wonderful story itself, but will also enhance primary comprehension skills using techniques such as story mapping, vocabulary, cause and effect, character descriptions, alternate endings, compare and contrast, and Venn Diagrams.

Time: 3pm Cost: \$80 Class Fee: \$5

Fun Food Creations (6-9)

Lisa Epperson

Kids love to cook and help in the kitchen—now you can let us take care of the mess! Kids will love making and eating these foods. They may not even notice that they are also learning introductory cooking techniques, such as measuring ingredients, beating and combining foods, or simple cooking methods. They are sure to enjoy their hot dog pizzas, mini-pickles, creamy salsa dip and veggies, apple and peanut butter caramel dip, quesadilla pizzas, pigs in a blanket, cheesy and chocolate fondues with fruit sticks, and more.

Time: 3pm Cost: \$80 Class Fee: \$15

Guitar (6-Adult)

Darren Mill

Students learn basic skills necessary to play contemporary guitar; this includes some music theory, technical chords, etudes and studies. The instructor will use a variety of personalized methods and instruction. Music played may include a variety of styles. Acoustic and electric guitars are welcome.

Beginning Guitar I Time: 1pm Cost: \$80 Class Fee: \$8

Beginning Guitar II Prerequisite: one year of Beginning Guitar I or equivalent experience.

Time: 2pm Cost: \$80 Class Fee: \$8

Hands-On Science Open to last semester's students and new ones

Sandy Hawes

A variety of hands-on experiments will help students have fun while learning about magnetism and motion, with special emphasis on Newton's first two laws of motion. This class includes both experiential learning and the scientific concepts that underlie the experiment. The older class will be challenged more academically than the younger class.

Ages 6-10: Time: 1pm Cost: \$80 Class Fee: \$10

Ages 10-14: Time: 2pm Cost: \$80 Class Fee: \$10

PE

Marty McCombs

Ages 6-10: Students engage in aerobic exercise through games and activities, including relays, balloon sports, traditional exercise, and more. Students improve motor skills, learn sportsmanship, and have fun! Note: this class is held in a large open room rather than the gymnasium.

Time: 2pm Cost: \$80 Class Fee: None

Ages 10-18: Students engage in aerobic exercise through games and activities, including kickball, dodge ball, football, basketball, and more. Students are also taught techniques and specific skills of sports, while improving motor skills, learning sportsmanship, and having fun!

Time: 1pm Cost: \$80 Class Fee: None

Performing Shakespeare: The Play's The Thing (13-18)

Jack Donnelly

Nothing makes the Bard come alive like a performance. Studying a role allows students to appreciate and apprehend Shakespeare's work in a way that mere reading can never match. This class will train students to confidently deliver some of the most eloquent lines in the English language as they perform a shortened version of one of Shakespeare's masterpieces. Students will audition for roles on January 13th and must be available for dress rehearsals and performances during the first week of May. Homework: memorize lines.

Time: 12:30-2:00pm on Thursdays Cost: \$80 Class Fee: \$15

Silk Screen Art (10 and up)

Inna Kulagina

Silk screening applies art fundamentals in an exciting and novel way. This course screen will stress the skill as a mode of expression and concentrate on basic techniques and experimentation. Students will learn how to draw their concept for the silk painting, stretch the silk, transfer the drawing, and then paint it. The wonderful results look very professional. (See our website for some samples.) Students should be able to create three or four silk paintings, sizes 18" x 24" and 24" x 28"

Time: 3pm Cost: \$80 Class Fee: \$15

Simply Music Piano (7-Adult) Open to last semester's students and new ones

Sandy Larsen

Simply Music is a remarkable Australian-developed piano and keyboard program that has beginning students playing great sounding contemporary, blues, classical, and accompaniment pieces—immediately, from their very first lessons. In addition, composition and improvisation projects encourage students to express themselves musically. Homework involves approximately 15-20 minutes practice per day, 5-6 days per week. One parent should plan to attend class with his/her minor child(ren). (Please contact Mrs. Larsen if this is impossible for you.) Mrs. Larsen is an accredited Simply Music teacher and a homeschool mom.

Time: 3pm Cost: \$80 Supplies: Students will need a keyboard or piano to practice at home.

Class fee: \$66—includes Level 1 books, practice pad, CD and DVD to keep, as well as the mandatory fees to Simply Music. (For students who have already purchased the above materials, the class fee is only the \$24 mandatory fee to Simply Music.)

Spanish 1 (12 to 18) Open to last semester's students and new ones

Robert Besta

Students increase their vocabulary and knowledge of common conversation through the study of grammar, verb conjugation, and language usage. Through teacher-led instructions and interactive games, role-plays, stories, and music, students will have opportunities to further their verbal, written, and oral language skills. Peer teaching will help reinforce acquired skills. Approx. 1-2 hrs. homework per week. Students need no previous Spanish experience.

Time: 2pm Cost: \$80 Class Fee: \$5

Tae Kwon Do For Christ

Wesley Hall

Tae Kwon Do teaches self-confidence, self-discipline, courtesy, integrity, healthy lifestyle, weight control, obedience to parents, good reading and study habits, and self-defense. Former students may continue their work; new students are welcome. Homework: 30 minutes to 1 hour per week. Uniform, testing, and belt fees are optional expenses

Beginning (Ages vary): 2pm Cost: \$80 Class Fee: None

Advanced (Ages vary): 3pm Cost: \$80 Class Fee: None

Wildlife Discovery (11-14)

Pam Font-Gabel

Come join us for an exciting semester of discovery and critical thinking! Students will engage in a study of wildlife habitats and ecological niches through a variety of activities. Additionally, wildlife adaptations, competition, and survival needs will be introduced. Students are encouraged to keep a journal as we engage in observations and discussions about bio-diversity and environmental protection. A hands-on and peer engagement approach will be used throughout the course. Classes are based on the Project WILD and Project Learning Tree curriculum, an interdisciplinary approach to environmental education.

Time: 3pm Cost: \$80 Class fee: \$6

Writing Groups (9-18) Open to last semester's students and new ones

Jack Donnelly

Writing groups have turned the tables on how so many students view writing, changing their perception of writing from chore to recreation. Students meet once a week to share their writings and enjoy each other's company: a real audience motivates students to write by providing a fun environment and peer feedback. The instructor provides additional personalized comments to direct student growth in needed areas. Students are free to choose any topic, but this class is especially rewarding to budding fiction writers. Mr. Donnelly is a certified English teacher and homeschool dad, with a Master's in English Literature, currently teaching at UNO and Metropolitan Community College.

Time: 11:45-12:30 Cost: \$80 Class Fee: None

The Writers' Workshop (9-18) Open to last semester's students and new ones

Jack Donnelly

The Writers' Workshop is an instructor-led, structured approach to acquire and improve skills to prepare students to write on the high school and college level. The instruction and evaluation will be adapted to each student's skill level: beginning writers will learn composition fundamentals while more proficient students will hone their writing skills to a greater degree of sophistication. The class will include direct instruction on writing style and techniques, including grammar and usage. Students will be given specific assignment in which they will apply the writing process to such genres as personal narrative, descriptive, or expository. Mr. Donnelly is a certified English teacher and homeschool dad, with a Master's in English Literature, currently teaching at UNO and Metropolitan Community College.

Time: 11:30-12:15 Cost: \$80 Class Fee: None

Young Explorers (ages 3-5; must be potty trained)

Holly Donnelly

Sing, dance, paint...play! Students enjoy lively activities, crafts, and story time, while developing fine motor skills, listening, and coordination through positive social interaction. This non-academic class emphasizes that play is the work of children and provides a great opportunity for individual and social activities. New learning experiences occur each hour; students may sign up for 1, 2, or 3 hours.

Time: 1pm, 2pm, 3pm Cost: \$80 (or \$215 for full 3 hours) Class Fee: \$5 (covers all hours of enrollment)