

PEPOR

Parent Education Preschool Observation Report

Spring 2016 GCPEA (Glendale College Parent Education Association)



New members in Ms. Sarah's toddlers class: L-R: Anita with Keyleen, 22 mos; Vanina with Maya, 21 mos; Arineh with Matthew, 22 mos; Angela with Arianna, 24 mos; Meghedi with Erik, 22 mos.

This Semester ~ NEW Classes! NEW Moms! NEW Babies! Welcome to the GCPEA!

This semester, the Parent Ed Program is offering two additional classes at a new time; Infants 0-6 months and 7—12 months on Tuesdays from 12:30—2:30 PM at the Life Skills building with teacher Valerie Fredrickson, and Toddlers 20—26 months on Tuesdays from 2:45—4:45 PM at the Life Skills building with teacher Sarah Atin.

With state budget cuts always threatening to reduce—or entirely eliminate! - wonderful free programs such as our Parent Education program, we are lucky to have been able to offer these two new classes. Our program stays alive due to our many longtime faithful members who continue to attend classes until their children age out, and to our many new members who enroll each year. Thank you for helping to keep us alive! Keep spreading the word!

~by Diane Grigsby, PEPOR Editor

Greetings from our GCPEA Board President...

Happy Spring!! I hope you enjoyed the winter session and the beginnings of our Spring semester of classes. I hope you have settled into your class and have begun developing friendships.

Our annual Spring Luncheon is just around the corner! This year's theme is, "Diamonds and Daffodils" and it will take place at the MGM Ballroom, May 7th.

In addition to selling tickets for our Luncheon, we are currently collecting items for our class baskets, receiving donations (which have already started coming in), and soon we will be raffling off Disneyland tickets.

I am looking forward to the class gift baskets. Last year I won the motorized Jeep for my 4 year old son. *(photo on right)*. This time I hope to win something for my baby. The silent auction items have been awesome! Tickets will be on sale shortly so grab some friends and family and reserve a table. You can purchase them from your Class Representative (it may be the board member who has been visiting your class). They will be selling tickets for the next couple of weeks so be on the lookout!



I want to send a warm welcome to the new families that joined us this semester. We hope you had the chance to check out our website at www.gcpea.org, "like" us on Facebook, and follow GCPEA on Instagram. These are the best ways to find out what is happening throughout the semester. Also please don't hesitate to ask for answers or advice to a fellow classmate or board member. We are all on the journey of parenthood and can help each other out.

I look forward to seeing you at the luncheon and throughout the rest of the semester.

If you have any questions, suggestions, and comments, please share them at president@gcpea.org.

Jena Noyes

GCPEA President 2015-2016



Luncheon tickets! On Sale Now!
Save \$ before April 15th!



Glendale College Parent Education Association

Request the pleasure of your company at our

Annual Spring Luncheon and Silent Auction

Diamonds
&
Daffodils

Saturday, May 7th

MGM Ballroom

119 S. Kenwood

Glendale, CA 91205

\$40 p/person (Now- April 15, 2016)

\$45 p/person (April 16- 22)

Ticket includes valet parking, mimosa, hors d'oeuvres, bingo , Family style lunch and

GRAND PRIZE raffle ticket

Opportunity Raffle Tickets—2 for \$1 or 25 for \$10

50/50 Raffle Ticket—\$5.00 each

RSVP By Friday, April 22, 2016

Karen Preciado 626.347.6970

Caroline Gharibian 818.588.5251

fundraising@gcpea.com





Annual Spring Luncheon & Silent Auction

“Diamonds & Daffodils”



The GCPEA is celebrating 63 years of existence in our community. In 1953, Mrs. Toll began with only two classes. In present days there are over 20 classes in multiple locations throughout Glendale and the surrounding areas and serves over 500 families! In honor of 63 years, this year our Annual Spring Luncheon and Silent auction theme is “Diamonds and Daffodils”



Why daffodils? Daffodils are one of the earliest flowers to bloom in the spring and are often associated with springtime and rebirth. While the daffodil's primary symbolism is that of new beginnings, rebirth and the coming of spring. Daffodils in brighter shades of yellow depict respect, regard or cheerful togetherness. Some of our board members are moving on as their little ones have aged out of the program. They will have new beginnings in their lives as well as those new members joining the board. So let us sparkle up for an amazing luncheon!

A Successful Event

In order to have a successful event there must be a lot of organized preparation. The fundraising committee Carolin and Karen, along with the rest of the board members, teachers and class reps have been working together to bring you an amazing event.

Come join us on Saturday, May 7th to see what all the hard work has paid off.



Thank You

Carolin and Karen would like to thank everyone who has helped with the Luncheon preparations from deciding your class basket themes to selling tickets for the event. It's a group effort to have an amazing event we can all enjoy!

Thank you teachers, class reps and board members for your hard work and dedication to our program.

Teachers and Class Reps.

Ms. Jane- Anya M.

Ms. Valerie- Caroline G.

Ms. Kelly- Aiko, Daniella, Robyn

Ms. Caryn- Anya M., Karoline

Ms. Sarah- Talin G., Ermine M.

Ms. Barbara- Ayda, Alina, Aylin, Savannah, Alis, Litit, Talin, Cintia

Board members

Jena, Camilla, Angie, Lindsay, Diane, Sevana, Matilda, Melina, Melissa and Ban



Annual Spring Luncheon & Silent Auction

“Diamonds & Daffodils”

Thank You To Our Sponsors!



Isacc Haddad, M.D.

Pediatrics & Adolescents

2990 E. Colorado Blvd., Suite 105C

Pasadena, CA 91107



St. George's Preschool



Sponsorship opportunities are still available.
Contact Karen Preciado fundraising@gmail.com

Auction and Raffle Items



Class Baskets

Art Supplies
Beach
Cocktail/Happy Hour
Coffee and Tea
Date Night
Kitchen
LA Dodgers
Men's Spa
New/Expecting Parent
Pampering Yourself
Spa
Theme Park
Trader Joes
Wine

In-Kind Donations

From various businesses include items,
gift cards, gift certificates.

Check out our website for up-to-date information
and silent auction items.

Don't forget to buy your raffle tickets.

Opportunity- 2 for \$1 or 25 for \$10
50/50 Draw -\$5 each

You don't need to be present to win!



Luncheon Sponsorship Opportunities



www.gcpea.org

Life Skills Building
1500 N. VERDUGO RD
GLENDALE, CA 91208
T: (818) 243-5196
F: (818) 243-5394

Diamonds & Daffodils

2016 Annual Spring Luncheon and Silent Auction

Please send this form to:

Glendale Community College
Life Skills Building
Attn: Barbara Flynn
1500 N. Verdugo Blvd.
Glendale, CA 91208

All sponsorship is requested by Friday, April 15, 2016

For pick-up, please contact Karen Preciado (626) 347-6970 or via e-mail fundraising@gcpea.org

Sponsorship Opportunities



Diamond Table Sponsor \$480

Company logo will be included on the event banners, flyers and program, company logo and link will be included on our website. Verbal recognition at event. Reserved table for 12. Centerpiece with company logo displayed on table. Company banner displayed (if provided by company). Display space available at event for company provided material.



Three "Carat" \$300

Company logo will be included on the event banners, flyers and program, company logo and link will be included on our website. Company banner displayed (if provided by company). Display space available at event for company provided material.



Two "Carat" \$200

Company logo will be included on the event banners, flyers and program, company logo and link will be included on our website. Display space available at event for company provided material.



One "Carat" \$100

Company business card will be included on the event program and company logo on the website.

Sponsor Name (As it is to appear in program): _____

Contact Name: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Check enclosed for \$ _____ payable to GCPEA ☐ New Sponsor ☐ Past Sponsor

GCPEA community deeply appreciates your generosity and support!

We operate as a nonprofit organization under the 501 (c) (3) designation.
Our Internal Revenue Service number is 95-3876072



Annual Luncheon Donation Form



Life Skills Building
1500 N. VERDUGO RD
GLENDALE, CA 91208
T: (818) 243-5196
F: (818) 243-5394

Diamonds & Daffodils

2016 Annual Spring Luncheon and Silent Auction Donation Form

Please send this form and your business card along with your donation to:

Glendale Community College
Life Skills Building
ATTN Barbara Flynn
1500 N. Verdugo Blvd.
Glendale, CA 91208

All donations are requested by Friday, April 15, 2016

For pick-up, please contact Karen Preciado (626) 347-6970 or via e-mail fundraising@gcpea.org

Business Name: _____

Contact Name: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Item Value: _____ ☐ New Donor ☐ Past Donor

Donated Item: _____

Additional Description and Information (any restrictions, blackout dates, etc.):

Please remember to include a business card and if possible, a picture brochure, or any other materials or information that we can use to better advertise your donation to prospective bidders.

Thank you for supporting the Glendale College Parent Education Association!

We operate as a nonprofit organization under the 501 (c) (3) designation.
Our Internal Revenue Service number is 95-3876072

Scenes from last year's Spring Luncheon



Above: GCPEA members enjoying lunch at the 2015 Spring Luncheon Fundraiser.

***Be sure to join us this
year! Sat. May 7 !***



Above: Ms. Patti raises her hand to bid on a last-minute auction item during last year's Spring Luncheon.

Below: The beautiful table setting. Last year's theme was "Sail Away," a fun, blue and white nautical atmosphere.



More Scenes from 2015 Spring Luncheon



Left:

Ms. Kelly attended the Luncheon with one of her daughters.

Right top:

Two GCPEA members strike a fun pose upon entering.

Right bottom:

A dance troupe performed a wonderful, fun routine!



*Bring
your
friends
and
family!
Sat.
May
7th!*



From Babies to Toddlers in the Blink of an Eye!

By Danielle Wiese, Class Reporter, Friday Morning 7-19 mos. at Life Skills Bldg, with Teacher Miss Kelly Higgins-Paulsen

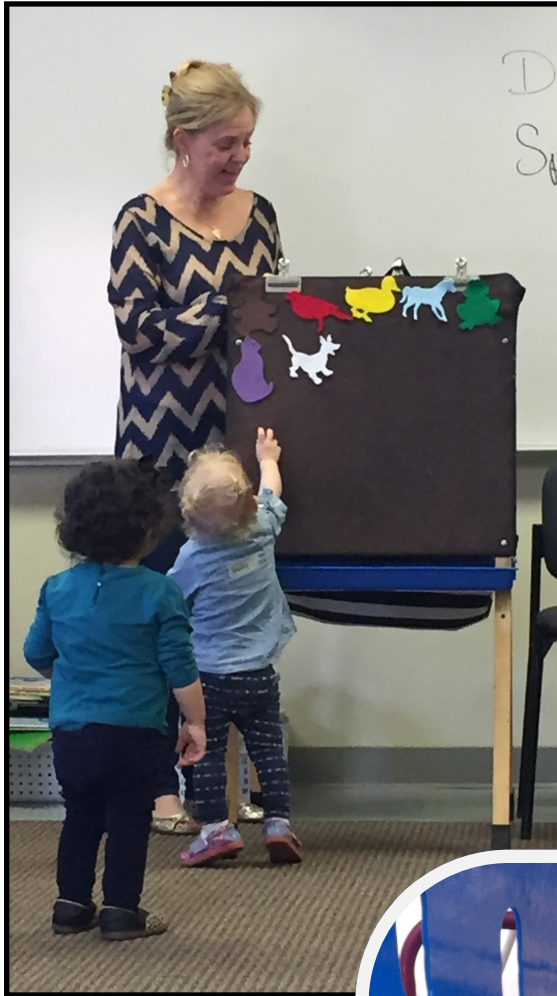
Oh my, how things have changed! We have a great class this semester with so many babies having turned toddlers – and not just any toddlers, but running, climbing, dancing, and talking toddlers! With so much going on in our classroom, there is rarely a quite moment anymore – but our wonderful teacher Miss Kelly always manages to somehow engage us in meaningful discussion topics. So far, topics this semester have ranged from child development, to family relationships, and the ever-popular topic of positive discipline. We are so lucky to have such a knowledgeable instructor in Miss Kelly, who often shares her own experiences as a parent, to help us learn many valuable tools to tame these wild toddlers!

Snack and break time are no longer a time for relaxation! These curious creatures are tearing up the outdoor play yard. While the slide seems to be a popular activity for most, others find excitement in trying out bikes and toy cars as new

modes of transportation. It is so much fun to see the joy on the kids faces as they finally master the stairs on the climber or take their first solo plunge down the slide. ~~~*continued, next page....*



Ms. Kelly using her doll puppets to engage her toddlers.



By far, my favorite part of the morning is rug time. Miss Kelly does such a fantastic job of engaging the kids with different puppets, felt board props, piano playing, parachute swaying, and jingle bell ringing – that even we, as the parents, get lost in the fun and silliness. It's amazing to watch how our kids remember the songs from week to week, and how they are able to participate more each time we sing by imitating the actions (stomping feet) or sounds (tick-tock) that go along with the music. It's even more amazing to hear them make the animal noises or say the colors that they see out loud. But seriously, between "Brown Bear, Brown Bear" and the "ABC Song" with the Jack and Jill puppets, I think the cuteness overload in our class is palatable. To see so many of the kids gathered up at the front of the room to get a closer look at the blue horse and purple cat on the felt board, or take turns

kissing the Jack and Jill puppets...it is just the sweetest thing. And don't even get me started on some of the awesome dance moves that these toddlers are showing off during the "Freeze Dance!"

Thank you Miss Kelly for once again being such a caring, thoughtful, and dedicated teacher. We are looking forward to having lots more fun as the semester continues and especially to our upcoming field trip to Travel Town in Griffith Park. ☺



All photos taken with permission of parents.

Greetings from Ms. Caryn's Toddlers Class!

By Anya Marshall, Class Reporter, Friday morning class for ages 20—26 months at Life Skills Bldg.

Last semester was so fun, and informative, that re-enrolling in Ms. Caryn's class, was a "must," and thanks to the new "roll-over" enrollment process it was a seamless transition from Fall semester, through Winter session, and into Spring!

We have a few new faces in our class this semester, but most of our classmates are re-enrollees, which really adds to the already familiar and safe environment of our class. Aria (my almost 2 1/2 year-old) absolutely loves our Friday class; I can tell because the

minute we drive on campus, she is kicking, wiggling and squealing "Pa-ant Ed Cwass! Pa-ant Ed Cwass!" Though she truly enjoys all of her Parent Ed classes, there's just something about the Lifeskills Building that excites her! Probably because her first classes were at the LifeSkills building, and now, it's a firm part of our routine...or maybe it's just Ms. Caryn! I just know that her comfort level is mostly on "high," during Ms. Caryn's class; if you know Aria, you can tell that she really lets loose there! :)



Ms. Caryn greets her toddler students during rug time.



Parachute time is always a class favorite!

Continued on next page.....

Ms. Caryn is just spectacular with the kids, and parents alike. Her discussions are clear, open, and relevant, even when it's tough to keep all the kids wrangled and quiet-ish. Still, I feel she conveys a lot of information, in a kind and respectful manner, and is always willing to talk one-on-one. The only shame, is that the class is so short! Granted... It would be longer if we could make it to class ON TIME more than once in a Blue Moon! Ha ha!

Another big reason Ms. Caryn's class is so successful (besides her exuberant Rug Time, and Storytimes), is our tender and caring class assistant, Ms. Chake! She definitely has a way with the kids, of course, as all our GCC assistants do, but more than that, she takes time to remember the kids' names, and evokes more patience in us all, to help our children to help themselves. She really is a gem, and a huge part of our class's success!

I want to say thanks to all the awesome Moms, Dads, and Grandparents we have in our class! The crafts that you help to provide, the snacks that you freak-out about bringing on-time (ha, ha) and the fact that you just make it to class with us, at all some days (especially you moms of two or more)...The energy that you bring to class is invaluable. Thanks to you, and your beautiful children, my daughter's favorite day of the week is Friday!

Yay, Parent Ed! ☺



All photos used with parents permission

Welcome, New Members!

Every year, it is great to see new faces— new moms and dads who have found our program!

Since 1954, (62 years!) we have been providing free classes to families with children ages birth to 5 years. And our wonderful program remains strong largely through word-of-mouth! That's just how great this program is!

So, below are just a few of our newest members. Pictured here, or not, we at the Glendale College Parent Education Association (GCPEA) want to send out a very warm welcome to YOU, our newest members! We hope that you are learning a lot about raising children and becoming great parents! And, like many, many members—past and present—we hope that you find the program to be a valuable resource and continue to take classes until your child ages out of the program when he/she starts kindergarten! ~~Diane Grigsby, PEPOR Editor

Right: Laura & daughter, Alexa, 17 mos.

Below: Diana with husband Andreas and their son, Alexander.





Left: Darryl with sons, Charlie, age 3 and Henry, age 8, who was visiting during his school's spring break.

Below: All new moms in Ms. Valerie's Tuesday afternoon class for ages 0—12 month at the Life Skills Building. Ms. Valerie is 3rd from left.



Greetings from Ms. Kelly's Thursday Morning Multi-age Class!

Anya Marshall here, gladly reporting for Ms. Kelly's class, Thursdays at John Muir Elementary School, in a cozy little classroom on the school's playground. Though the room is a tight squeeze, Ms. Kelly has organized the class so that the first half of class takes place at a very nearby park! As Aria is always raring to go to the park, this setup is perfect for us! You've got the social, outdoor situation at the park followed by a lovely stroll into the school, then Rug Time right into an enthralling Storytime, into the glory of Snack Time, then crafts/playtime and we end it all with the parachute! Needless to say NAP Time, after class, is a breeze!



Fun with play-doh at Ms. Kelly's multi-age class at John Muir school.

Being in smaller quarters might get a little cramped for some, but I find that this class is full of SUCH great teaching moments for Aria, and her classmates. I feel that while the limited floor space might be less convenient at times, it's preparing them for what's to come, school-wise, meanwhile creating opportunities for kids, and parents alike, to be more social and cooperative.

Plus, I know a lot of our little ones really like the fact that once we step outside our classroom, they're in a world of "big kids!" Many times, we've had some "big kids" (Elementary School age), help with Parachute Time! It's the highlight of their recess, I'm guessing! The older children have sometimes helped, really show their maturity and generosity, while younger children are inspired, more cooperative, and are excited by their "much older" peers. It really is a beautiful balance, that I credit to the children, the parents, and Ms. Kelly.

Continued, next page...

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Ms. Kelly really has a great class going, but then again, she always does. Eight years ago continuing for almost three years, I was a nanny for a good friend of mine, and one of our weekly pleasures was getting to Ms. Kelly's class. Her beautiful and animated gift of song, her magnetic storytime, her generous and patient energy during discussions. Today she brings the same joy, and better, because now my daughter, has the benefit of having Ms. Kelly. I know first-hand that teaching is a joyous blessing, and an endless crusade. When we say that someone's "gift" is to teach, we are acknowledging that they have mastered the performance art of conveying information, to the point of inspiring greatness. And it looks effortless on her. To Aria, Ms. Kelly is fun and musical; but to me, as a parent, Ms. Kelly is invaluable.

We are so lucky to have the staff we have, here at GCC, but certainly Ms. Kelly can't do it alone! Ms. Genia, our wonderful class assistant, deserves so much credit for the positive vibe, and smooth flow of class. Every time we get to class, there's Ms. Genia with a genuine smile, gentleness, and sense of familiarity that we all look forward to, and really need, as primary caregivers. And she was the same, back when I nannied, years ago. Thank you, Ms. Genia.



Parachute time with Ms. Kelly.
(Photos by Anya Marshall.)

Between Ms. Genia and Ms. Kelly, the "bar" is high, but I have to thank all the other parents and grandparents who make up the MEAT of our terrific class! It means so much to me, and Aria, that you all treat it with such warmth, respect, and open interest. We are so happy to be a part of your community, and look forward to coming to class with you, until it's time to move on to "big school!" Thank you Moms, Dads, Grandparents, Aunties, and Siblings, for such a great class; for the friendship and memories! Cheers! ☺

Happy Scenes from Monday Morning Multi-age Class

~ photos by Any



from Ms. Jane's Class at Columbus Elementary

Anya Marshall

Yay! The parachute! The use of the parachute in our classes teaches our children so many things!

~As the children are instructed by the teacher to either hold the handles or sit in the middle, they are learning: teamwork, group interaction and cooperation.

~As the teacher and assistants sing songs pertaining to the parachute, children are learning colors, songs and their ABCs.

~As the parents move the parachute up and down and around, children are learning movement and developing a sense of rhythm;

~And, so much more! Yay! The parachute! ~Diane Grigsby, PEPOR Editor



Our Spring Break is April 11 –16.

What will YOU be doing?

~~Here's just a few ideas...

Monday, April 11: See a movie! Every Monday at the Americana in Glendale is Mommy & Me movie day! See a movie at 11 AM with your baby or toddler. The sound is turned down just a little, and the lights are turned up just a little. It is expected that children will make noise, so it's okay! And there is a table down front to change diapers without having to miss the movie by going to the restroom! :-)

Tuesday, April 12: Eat ice cream! It's FREE cone day at participating Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream stores! A free single in a cup or cone!

Thursday, April 14: Visit the Ark! Every Thursday is free admittance to visit Noah's Ark at the Skirball Museum. Great for ages 1 –10! 2701 N. Sepulveda Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90049. Parking is free!

Friday, April 15: Nighttime family fun! The Autry Museum in Griffith Park is having a free concert and arts and crafts for kids in the evening from 6—11 PM.

April 10—16: No fees! Fine Forgiveness Week at the Glendale Libraries! Return your overdue items and pay no fines!

Plus, celebrate National Library Week. Children ages 4 and up can participate in "Where's Waldo?" scavenger hunts at various Glendale libraries.



Do you **LOVE** our program?



Have you been wondering what you can do to show your **LOVE**?



Well, we would **LOVE** to have you join the GCPEA board!

All you have to do is....

- 1) come to our Board meeting on Wednesday, June 1st at 5:30 PM.
(We provide child care and food).
- 2) Decide which role you feel is best suited to you.

For example,

~if you are a creative type, then perhaps you would like to help out with our annual Luncheon.

~Or, if you are pretty good with computers, perhaps you would like to handle our website and facebook pages.


~Or, if you are pretty good at event planning, then perhaps you would like to handle our annual Harvest festival.

~Or, if you like to write, perhaps you would like to handle this newsletter.

~Or, if you don't know what you could do, perhaps you could assist another board member, or be a Class Representative.

We would **LOVE** to have you!

We would **LOVE** to see you on Wednesday, June 1st, 5:30 pm at the Life Skills Building. The meeting will last less than one hour.

Thank you! Come show us your **LOVE!** 

Six Years at Parent Ed. ~ A Fond Farewell

By Diane Grigsby, PEPOR Editor

I don't know how I got here. I don't know where the time went. But here I am, looking back at a whole six years that have now come to an end because my youngest will begin kindergarten in the fall.

Over the years, I have seen many of my Parent Ed friends leave as their children aged out of the program. And now, it's my turn. I really can't believe it. It makes me sad, but mostly it fills me with love because this program has helped me raise my two children.

As editor of this newsletter, I decided to take the privilege and share my journey with you through words and pictures because I know that my story is really our story. You, too, will soon be looking at your children during rug time and realize that they have become the oldest in the class. Sigh. Thank you, Parent Ed. I shall be forever grateful.



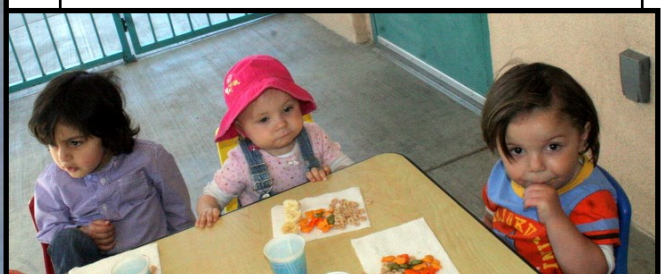
Above: This is my daughter, Victoria, at around 16 months out in the play yard. She started the program at 8 weeks old.

Below: This is my son Henry at 1 year old at rug time, dressed for Halloween. He started the program at 9 months old.



Playing together. My son here is now 2 1/2.

Below: sitting on the left is Shant, my kids oldest friend here at Parent Ed. He is same age as my son.





Above: Ms. Amity singing Happy Birthday when my daughter turned 2.

Dear Ms. Amity: 🎵 *"I think you're wonderful...."* 🎵



Above: Me and my kids on a field trip to Travel Town



Above: My oldest friend in the program, Maro, with her son Shant when he was a toddler.



Above: My son (on left) and Shant when they graduated from the program last June. Look how big they've gotten! Here, they are 5 years old.

"To discipline is to teach." ~Ms. Amity



*“Catch
your
child
being
good!”*

~Ms.
Barbara

Ms. Genia dear (above), and Ms. Rosa (below) have been with my kids since they were infants. What an exceptional pair of Classroom Assistants! Words cannot express my admiration for them, and my night time gal, Ms. Chake.



Finally, I want to say that I am in awe of how exceptional this program is! And, in my mind, it is offered to us for free because ensuring that ALL parents receive education on how to be a good parent is MORE important than money. Now isn't that honorable? THAT'S why this program is so good!

And to my other teachers not pictured here whom I, personally, have had many classes with:

~Ms. Jane, whom I've shared laughs with,

~Ms. Kelly, who is like everyone's best girlfriend,

~My lovely, always smiling and joyful, Ms. Patti, and

~Ms. Sarah, who always managed to make me think deeply,

THANK YOU! I am happy, lucky, and grateful that my children's delicate, formative years were influenced, in part, by wonderful teachers like you. God bless. ☺



Left: My kids all grown up. Ms. Barbara presented my son with his diploma and cap last spring.

Below: Ms. Barbara with my kids on the last day of Parent Ed for my son last spring. Here, my daughter is 4 years old and my son is 5.

I've taken many classes with Ms. Barbara. I've learned so much from her. She's helped make me a better mother. I have much appreciation for her commitment and dedication as the Director of this program. Thank you, Ms. Barbara. God bless.



*"Picture
your
child at
age 23."*

~Ms. Barbara

The Glendale College Parent Education Association

Requests the honor of your presence
at our annual

Spring Luncheon & Silent Auction...

Diamonds & Daffodils

MGM Ballroom

119 S. Kenwood, Glendale, CA 91205

Saturday, May 7th

10:30—2:30 PM

\$40 per person until April 15th; \$45 per person after.

Includes valet parking, mimosas, hors d'oeuvres, bingo, family-style lunch
and grand prize raffle ticket

Tickets available now for purchase inside your classroom.

Bring your family and friends!