



## Special Programs Broaden Minds and Forge Memories

Special Programs are special because they allow students to become deeply engaged in the exploration of the world. For these two weeks, each group of students focuses on one engrossing activity: attending and discussing ten plays, hiking and biking around the Bay Area, saber fencing, appreciating music, studying animals, exploring Spain or the Southwest, observing celestial objects at Mount Wilson Observatory, enjoying baseball, or

scuba diving in the Phillippines. Students and staff have been preparing for these intense explorations for weeks. Now they are engaged in the programs. Graduates tell us that the Special Programs forge bonds and memories that are never forgotten. You can keep tabs on some programs by checking on their blogs. Here are two:

Spain: <http://spainspecialprogram2011.blogspot.com/>  
Universe: <http://maybeckuniverse.blogspot.com>

### Maybeck Calendar Reminders

#### April

- Friday 1st: Special Program Prep Day
- Monday 4th - Friday 15th: Special Programs
- Monday 18th - Friday 22nd: Spring Break
- Tuesday 26th: MPA meeting
- Tuesday 26th: AP Test Bubbling Party
- Wednesday 27th: No block schedule
- Thursday 28th: All-school Berkeley Rep outing
- Friday 29th, 6:40 PM: ACT outing - No Exit
- Saturday 30th: Restorative Yoga Pick-a-Party

#### May

- Friday 6th - Sunday 8th: Full Moon Trip to Wagon Caves
- Monday 9th: Staff Planning Day - no school
- Thursday 12th, 7:00 PM: Spring Slide Night
- Saturday 14th: Prom
- Sunday 15th: Plant Walk and Picnic Pick-a-Party
- Friday 20th, 5:00 PM: Film and Art Night
- Friday 27th: SAC Day

#### **Tuesday, April 26, 7:15 PM**

#### **April MPA Meeting**

Please join us for the March meeting of the MPA. We'll convene at Maybeck at 7:15 PM to discuss Special Programs and end-of-year activities.

**Please note: there will be no block schedule on Wednesday, April 27. All classes will meet.**

#### **Thursday, April 28**

#### **All-school Berkeley Rep Outing**

Sarah Ruhl's new translation of Chekhov's *Three Sisters* is our destination for this all-school theatre outing. We'll leave school en masse at 11 AM to see the noon matinee, and students will be released from Berkeley Rep at 3:30 PM.

#### **Friday, April 29, 6:40 PM**

#### **ACT Outing: Sartre's No Exit**

Our next ACT outing will take us to an innovative multimedia production of Sartre's existentialist classic, *No Exit*. As described on the ACT website: "A mysterious valet ushers three people into a shabby hotel room, and they soon discover that hell isn't fire and brimstone at all—it's other people arguing about their lives." On the evening of the 29th, we'll be meeting at North Berkeley BART at 6:40 PM sharp to trek to the city.

• **Special Programs** •  
**Monday, April 4 - Friday, April 15**

• **Spring Break** •  
**Monday, April 18 - Friday, April 22**

**Friday, May 6 - Sunday, May 8**

## **Full Moon Trip: Wagon Caves**

The next Full Moon trip will venture forth to Wagon Caves, a nature preserve in the Santa Lucia mountains (just inland from the Big Sur coastline), and the home of wildflowers, oaks, and some very impressive rocks. We'll clamber around on some boulders, climb some trees, and camp out in tents. Numbers will be limited by car availability, but we expect to be able to take at least 12 students. Sign up by April 29 if you'd like to come along.

**Staff Planning day on Monday, May 9 - no school!**

**Thursday, May 12, 7:00 PM**

## **Save the Date: Spring Slide Night**

Bring a dish to share and enjoy slides from each of Maybeck's 2011 Special Programs. Take a whirlwind tour of the Philippines, Spain, the Great Southwest, Bay Area hiking and biking trails...

**Saturday, May 14**

## **All-school Prom**

Maybeck's all-school prom is coming up in May. Keep an eye out for further details.

**Friday, May 20, 5:00-9:00 PM**

## **Save the Date: Film and Art Night**

All students will have the opportunity to show off their artistic skills - whether in music, theatre, film, visual arts, or other fields - at Film and Art Night in May. This evening will celebrate our talented community. Start preparing to share now. For more information, check in with Sue or Eric.

## **MPA Pick-a-Party: Plant Walk and Picnic**

Date: Sunday, May 15

Time: 9:30 AM

Location: Tilden Park (exact meeting place tba)

Host: Alan Siegel

Price: \$20 adult/\$15 ages 13-18/\$10 ages 12 and under

On this beautiful and informative walk, you'll learn ancient and modern uses for wild plants, from first aid to emergency rations to basketry. Learn to identify and use common plants such as mugwort, monkey flower, yerba buena and thimbleberry. Improve your locavore credentials and enjoy each other's company. We'll forage some food on the trail and share a picnic lunch after the hike. We'll keep up a moderate pace over hilly trails in Tilden Park. Bring your camera, sketch book, water and hiking shoes.

Amateur ethnobotanist (and Maybeck parent) Alan Siegel has led plant walks in the East Bay for over 35 years, for groups ranging from the Girl Scouts to AP Environmental Science classes. He is currently completing the docent training at the Botanic Garden in Tilden Park.

Please reserve your spot now by contacting Sue Miller at [smiller@library.berkeley.edu](mailto:smiller@library.berkeley.edu) or 510-526-9060.

## **Upcoming Standardized Test Dates**

Saturday, April 9: ACTs

Saturday, May 7: SATs

Saturday, June 4: SATs

Saturday, June 11: ACTs

## **MPA Pick-a-Party: Restorative Yoga**

Date: Saturday, April 30

Time: 2:00 – 4:00 PM

Location: The Yoga Room

2530 San Pablo Avenue

Berkeley

Host: Shari Ser

Phone: 510-549-9194

# of Guests: 25 teens and adults

Price: \$25 per person

Maybeck parent and experienced Iyengar yoga instructor Shari Ser will lead a 1½-hour restorative yoga class for teens and adults. Restorative Yoga focuses on gentle, supported poses to help you release into a deep state of relaxation. Everyone is welcome and no previous yoga experience is necessary. There will be plenty of time to mingle, chat, and enjoy a restorative afternoon!

Please don't eat two hours before the class and wear comfortable clothes. Yoga mats will be provided. Bring your own if you wish. If you have any special needs or accommodations, please call Shari or email her at [cloudgate1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cloudgate1@sbcglobal.net).

To join this party, call or email Donna Jaffe at 510-548-8544 or [djaffe@peaceablekingdom.com](mailto:djaffe@peaceablekingdom.com) with your name and the number of people who will attend. Please bring a check made out to Maybeck High School to the event.

## **AP Testing Schedule**

**Monday, May 2 - Thursday, May 12**

**If you're taking an AP Test, remember to turn up for the mandatory Bubbling Party on April 26!**

- APES: Monday, May 2, 8:00 AM
- Chemistry: Monday, May 2, 8:00 AM
- Psychology: Monday, May 2, 12:30 PM
- Spanish Language: Tuesday, May 3, 8:00 AM
- Calculus AB: Wednesday, May 4, 8:00
- English Literature: Thursday, May 5, 8:00
- US History: Friday, May 6, 8:00 AM
- Biology: Monday, May 9, 8:00 AM
- French: Tuesday, May 10, 12:00 PM
- English Language: Wednesday, May 11, 8:00 AM
- World History: Thursday, May 12, 8:00 AM
- Music Theory: Wednesday, May 18, 8:00 AM