



# California Homeschool Network

*Strengthening the Voice of California Homeschoolers™*



**And all at once,  
summer collapsed into fall...**

Oscar Wilde

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November 2020

The CHN Board of Trustees wishes our families health and safety. We are here for homeschooling support. Visit our website at [www.californiahomeschool.net](http://www.californiahomeschool.net)



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# Which Curriculum?!

Ask for help from your support group.  
CHN keeps a list of Support Groups and Local Contacts at  
[www.californiahomeschool.net](http://www.californiahomeschool.net).

Resist the urge to buy too much. Start with a simple plan such as math games, library books, and Youtube videos for other subjects. This will buy you time to research and consider your child's needs.

Don't be afraid to switch books or find a new approach if things aren't working out.

Buy used if you can.

Advice you can trust direct from  
California Homeschool Network  
[www.californiahomeschool.net](http://www.californiahomeschool.net)

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California Homeschool Network

Strengthening the Voice of California Homeschoolers™  
Supporting California Homeschoolers for 26 years



# Homeschooling styles

If you have been on the internet researching homeschooling, or following your local homeschool groups, you have probably realized that there are many, many different ways that you can homeschool your children. Families often start out with one style of homeschooling, then slowly incorporate portions of other methods, when they find what does and doesn't work for them. Below, we are going to touch on some of the most popular homeschooling styles, so you can see a few of the many options available for educating your children.

## **School at Home**

School at Home is often the first style that people use when they begin homeschooling. This is especially true for families coming from public school, because it is the closest style to what they already know. School at Home incorporates standard textbooks, reading, test taking, book reports, spelling tests, quizzes, grades and all of the traditional things you think about when you hear the word "school". Parents often try to keep traditional school hours and have children sit at desks and proactively take on the teacher role by giving daily lessons in subjects like language arts, math, history, science and social studies. This method often works well for families who plan to only homeschool for a short period of time and will be re-entering the public school system within the next year.



## Unschooling/Child Led Learning

Unschooling and Child Led Learning are pretty much the opposite of School at Home. With these homeschooling styles, the parent acts more as a facilitator than an instructor. Children are not given any specific instruction in the traditional subjects, unless they ask for it and no set curriculum is used. Rather, the natural flow of life and the interests of the child are taken into consideration. When a child wants to know more about a subject, or asks questions, the parent helps their child find information and offers projects, field trips, books, videos and websites that can help them learn more about it. No subjects are mandatory as unschooling is driven by the motivation and engagement of the child, allowing them to learn to whatever depth or breadth they would like about the things that interest them. This style of homeschooling has similarities with the Unit Studies and Project Based styles described later.



## Gameschooling

Gameschooling is a homeschooling style that is new to many people. As the name implies, it uses games to teach every subject and concept to your children and it uses all types of games. Board games, card games, video games, dice games, role playing games... gameschoolers use all of them to learn. There are website and conferences dedicated to gameschooling and the unique learning opportunities they can give to your children. This is a great way to homeschool if the parent also loves games and can be exciting and engaging for the entire family.



## Classical

The most popular version of the Classical style of homeschooling is that taught in Susan Wise-Bauer and outlined in her book *The Well-Trained Mind*. This is a very academic style of homeschooling that is rich in literature and is based on methods that began in the middle ages. Many families that utilize the Classical Style teach their children languages like Greek and Latin, and concentrate on subjects like logic, critical thinking and the Socratic Method.



## Montessori

Maria Montessori was one of Italy's first female doctors. After observing poor Roman children at the end of the 19th century, she created the Montessori Method to help children thrive. With this style, the parent creates an open learning environment filled with activities that the child can visit as little or often as they wish. Children learn at their own pace through hands-on activities and creativity and leadership are encouraged. This style works best for self-motivated children, even though the activities are chosen by the parents.



## Charlotte Mason

The Charlotte Mason homeschooling style focuses heavily on classic literature, music, art and handicrafts. She felt that education was a discipline with the goal to create life long learners. The Charlotte Mason style incorporates reading, dictation, journaling



and nature studies while putting an emphasis on short lessons. It works well for students who love to read, but isn't very strong in teaching the sciences, so may need to be supplemented.

## **Unit Studies/Project Based**

Unit Studies or Project Based Learning are both styles that are multi-disciplinary in that they incorporate all of the educational subjects (math, language, science, etc.) into whatever topic is being learned about at the moment. These styles promote a deep dive structure of learning, using the child's



enthusiasm for a topic, along with hands-on learning, to connect the educational subjects together. It is closely related to Unschooling and Child Led Learning, but differs in that the parent can direct the process more, to help ensure all points are covered and that the student has a thorough understanding of the subject.

## **Distance Learning/Online Schooling**

As its name implies, Distance Learning or Online Schooling are both facilitated by instructors remotely. Students are given assignments and must complete them within a specific timeframe, receiving traditional grades and tests. These programs can have live instruction or be pre-recorded. They can also consist mainly



of online worksheets and testing, with teachers available for questions or problems, but not live instruction. This method is usually best for older students that are self-directed and disciplined enough to keep up with their workload. It is very similar to the School at Home style, but puts the responsibility for teaching on the school, rather than the parent.

## Eclectic

The Eclectic homeschooling style is what most homeschoolers ultimately use. An Eclectic homeschooler takes a little from the various homeschooling styles and puts them together into a unique program that works for their family. Rather than using just one, they



pick and choose parts from several, putting them together into a custom education that can be made unique for each child.

If you have started one of these styles of homeschooling, and found that it is not a good fit for you or your child, don't be afraid to change it. You can change styles, curriculums, times, days and classes whenever you need. That is the beauty of homeschooling - it is your journey, and you can change direction as often as needed to find what works and helps your child thrive. If you aren't sure what your style is, here's an online quiz that can give you an idea. [Online Quiz](#)

In the next section, we will offer some curriculum, books, links and ideas for each homeschooling style, to help you learn about some of the resources that are available to help your child thrive.





# The World is Our Classroom



Personalized Homeschool Education Made Simple



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## Exciting!

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- Charter funds accepted

[CelebrationEducation.com](http://CelebrationEducation.com)



**Discounts for new homeschoolers!**



Theme for 2020-2021

# EXPLORE!

History, flora and fauna, lost civilizations, and natural wonders.

# Resources for your Homeschooling Style



There are a near infinite number of resources available for homeschoolers to use. Listed below are some of the most popular ones to go with each homeschooling style mentioned in the previous article, along with links to their websites. Prices range from free, to very costly. Whenever possible, we recommend free or low cost curriculums and resources for your children. You do not have to spend a ton of money to educate them. You can if you want to, but you truly do not have to. And always remember the library is a great free resource close to home.

## School at Home

Discovery K12

Easy Peasy\*

Abeka\*

Bookshark

Blossom and Root

Build Your Library

Sonlight\*

The Good & the

Teaching Textbooks

Time4Learning

Beautiful\*

Power Homeschool

## Unschooling/Child Led Learning

John Holt Growing  
without Schooling

Happiness is Here

Wildschooling Group

Unschooling  
Mom2mom

Living Joyfully

Unschool Rules

Sandra Dodd

Unschooling to  
University

## Gameschooling

My Little Poppies  
Gameschool  
Academy  
Gameschool Math

Gameschooling by  
Subject  
100 Educational  
Games

Gameschool  
Buy/Sell/Trade  
Gameschool - A Day  
in theLife

## Classical

The Well Trained  
Mind  
Story of the World\*  
Memoria Press

Classical  
Conversations  
My Father's World\*  
Veritas Press\*

Home Grown  
Learners  
Classical Academic  
Press

## Montessori

Montessori Guide  
Montessori at Home  
Montessory  
Curriculums\*

Free Montessori  
Resources  
Child of the Redwood  
Trillium Ages 6-12

Montessori Printables  
A Montessori  
Homeschool  
Montessori  
Homeschooling

## Charlotte Mason

Blossom & Root  
Magic Forest  
Academy  
Winter Promise\*

Trail Guide to  
Learning\*  
Simply Charlotte  
Mason

Ambleside Online\*  
Joy Filled Mom  
Everything Charlotte  
Mason

## Unit Studies/Project Based

Build Your Library

Tapestry of Grace\*

Free Unit Studies\*

Gather 'Round\*

Layers of Learning

Plan a Unit Study

Moving Beyond the Page

Free PBL Lessons

More Free Unit Study Links\*

Rigorous PBL Projects

## Distance Learning/Online Schooling

Khan Academy

Silicon Valley HS

Connections Academy

Outschool

Bravewriter

Crash Course

Calvert Homeschool

Next Level

Mystery Science

Open Tent Academy

Study.com



# Excellence In Education Resource Center



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Game  
Curriculum



The original total homeschool resource center since 1991!

## Services include:

- Book Store
- Seminars
- Classes
- Field Trips
- Private Satellite Program (PSP)
- Learning Style Assessments
- Park Day
- Counseling

All services available to the entire homeschool community.  
You do not have to be enrolled in our PSP to participate in our other services.

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2640-A7 S. Myrtle Ave. Monrovia, CA 91016 (626) 821-0025  
[www.excellenceineducationhomeschooling.com](http://www.excellenceineducationhomeschooling.com) and [www.gamecurriculum.com](http://www.gamecurriculum.com)

# Helping Your Child Write

By: Ann Ryan



NaNoWriMo as a Homeschool Resource

**#NaNoWriMo**

National Novel Writing Month

Podcast Episode 67

[www.learningoutsidethelines.com](http://www.learningoutsidethelines.com)

National Novel Writing Month AKA NANOWRIMO is an online creative writing program that started back in 1999. It's gained massive popularity over the years and many novels have been written because of this program. The original goal was to write a 50,000 word novel in one month. No editing, just write. Now it's grown into a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides tools, structure, community, and encouragement to help people find their voices, achieve creative goals, and build new worlds — on and off the page.



This is a great **FREE** resource to encourage writing. It's often a gateway to writing for many people and can really lead to success in the writing world. I've known a few people that have had great success using NaNoWriMo to write their first novel.

NaNoWriMo has lots of great **FREE** resources that can be used in a variety of ways and I encourage you to check them out to see if some of the activities will work for your student. You can use some of the more structured lessons or leave that all behind and just write!

Follow your child's lead. Be sure to leave the editing out of this! This is all about getting their ideas on paper and their voice heard. You can deal with grammar and spelling later. This is all about getting their ideas on paper.

Make this fun and cater to your child. If they want colored paper, color pencils, blank books, etc. then let them use whatever they like. Maybe buy a new notebook just for this to make it special. If they want to type it on the computer, that's fine too. Let them use whatever font they want.



You can set goals according to your child's style. You can have a time limit each day, a certain number of words each day, fill a page each day, etc. Don't stress about the details, just make it a fun special writing event. I encourage the parent to write **WITH** the child each day and take the time to really engage in the activity.

You also might want to make it special and have some treats to eat or tea while you write or light a candle on the table, etc. Make this as much or as little as you think your child will respond to.

## Writing 101

If you're new and want more info here's a 101 link with great resources. They even have a calendar and workbook if that's what you need. This 101 ideally starts in sept or oct to lay some ground work so you're ready to just write in Nov, however! You can honestly start whenever you want so don't feel discouraged or "behind" in any way.

<https://nanowrimo.org/nano-prep-101>



## Young Writers Program

Your child can sign up and receive some great resources. Goal setting, writing tools, and motivation. <https://ywp.nanowrimo.org/>



## For Educators

Lesson plans, ideas, student workbooks, and more and it's all broke down by elementary, middle school, and high school. It could easily be a whole writing class outline! <https://ywp.nanowrimo.org/pages/educator-resources>





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STUDENT POTENTIAL  
BECOMES  
ACTUAL.**



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- Individualized Education

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FusionHuntingtonBeach.com  
657.200.2300

**fusion**  
A REVOLUTIONARY WAY TO SCHOOL

**Fusion Mission Viejo**  
FusionMissionViejo.com  
949.716.7384

# Community College for your High School Student



Many parents are not aware of the concurrent enrollment program available at California's community colleges. These programs allow younger students, primarily high school aged, to attend community college courses, both online and in person.



High school students who complete a college course may receive credit for both high school and college for the class. As an example, one semester of foreign language at a community college gives the student 3-5 college credits, depending on the class, and may also give high school credit for 2 years in a foreign language program.

The college credits earned can be put towards a certificate or AA degree program at the community college. Or they can be accumulated and used to transfer to a four year university. Students can then transfer in to universities as sophomores or juniors, as opposed to incoming freshman, and generally do not have to go through the strenuous college application process that freshmen applicants do.



Students are not limited to their local community college, and can take classes at any community college in the state. This can work well, because concurrent enrollment students are the last to be allowed to register, so if a desired class is full, they can search other community colleges for that class.

Concurrent enrollment classes are often free for k-12 students to take, aside from books, class fee and parking. And recently, many courses offer options that do not require an expensive college textbook.



Each community college in California will have it's own rules regarding K-12 student registration. Some only allow grades 10 and up to participate. Some require anyone younger than 9th grade to get instructor permission for a course. All require a special form to be submitted that must be signed by the student, parent, and principal of the school the student attends. K-12 students are limited to enrolling in a maximum of 11.5 units of college courses per semester, currently. Be sure to check the website of each community college you are interested in to see what their policies and requirements are.

Parents also need to be aware that students at a community college are considered adults and are required to behave as such. The school will not talk to or interact with a parent on behalf of the student. The student needs to be able to complete the enrollment paperwork and submit it themselves, interacting with admissions in person or electronically as needed. They must also be able to interact with their professors and fellow students and be responsible for completing their assignments. Note also that course content is intended for ages 18+, so you should be aware of that too. And most importantly, all college grades will go on their permanent transcript.

Taking courses at community college during high school is an excellent way to introduce teens to higher education. It can also allow them to explore different interests and majors before they are adults, letting them find out sooner what they would like to pursue once they have graduated. It can also enable high schoolers to earn an AA degree concurrently with their high school diploma, or soon after. It can also help them transfer in to a university as a sophomore or junior, cutting expenses and time to a Bachelor's degree significantly.



For more information about concurrent enrollment, check your local community college website. Here are a few links to Facebook Groups that may also be useful:

California Homeschool College Seekers - whose goal is to help families navigate going from homeschooling to college.



Homeschoolers taking College Classes in the Los Angeles Area - a parent group that compares colleges, classes and professors in the greater Los Angeles area.

Homeschoolers taking College Classes in Orange County - a parent group that compares community colleges, classes and professors in the Orange County area.

My children have a  
lifetime of learning  
ahead of them.



The most important  
thing I can teach  
them today is how to  
**love learning.**

# Careers in the Kitchen



When thinking about a career working with food, most people automatically think about being a chef in a fancy restaurant, or a grill cook at the local fast food chain, but there are many other cooking careers waiting to be filled.

What kind of kitchen career suits you best? Being self-employed or working as an employee for someone else? Maybe both! The opportunities are endless, and the ability to make a decent living and have a good time doing it are there. Working in the food industry has its pros and cons—there are challenges and rewards with a wide range of income potential, each unique to the individual, position, and geographic location.

## **Environment**

When considering a career in the kitchen, think about the type of cooking environment in which you can thrive and enjoy yourself. Different jobs have different demands. If you don't do well under pressure outside in the heat, then maybe being a food vendor in a tent at a local fair isn't for you. You might do well instead in a commercial kitchen with air conditioning and a controlled environment, such as at a school or a local restaurant.

## **School Cook**

A career as a school cook can be extremely rewarding and quite satisfying if you enjoy working with children as well as cooking. The pay is considerably higher than the minimum wage; school employees' retirement plans are out of this world compared to most; and the work schedule is fixed. A typical work week is Monday through Friday from 22

August to June, with the weekends and summers off every year, but this can vary slightly throughout the school year with the students' schedule. The menu is planned a year in advance and usually follows strict guidelines provided by the government and the district. Most school kitchens have good equipment. The downside is that most positions are not fulltime, and not all school districts offer many benefits other than retirement and sick days.

## **Camp Cook**



A camp cook's work is usually seasonal but can really work out well as a summer job. Camps usually run in the summer but can start as early as March and end as late as November. The typical camp kitchen environment is rustic and somewhat limited on resources and equipment

compared to the top-of-the-line equipment found in a fancy restaurant, but it really depends on the camp itself.

If you are considering employment in a camp, the type of camp can be important because it is a reflection on the type of kitchen environment you will experience and where you will also be expected to pull off three meals in a day for your camper clientele.

## **Food Vendor**

For self-employed food vendors the opportunities are endless, the challenges are many, but the rewards are plentiful.

This is a job for the risk taker—the truly dedicated, self-motivated person. The opportunity to make as much money as you want lies here, but so does the stress of running your own business, keeping your eye on the goal, and coming up with a niche product that everyone wants to try. It basically boils down to owning your own restaurant or having a mobile food service either in a truck or in a tent and serving a menu of your own choice.

There are many financial risks along with mental and physical challenges involved with running your own food business. The expense of equipment, upkeep, inventory, finding events, and employees are just a few. There is also a liability factor in owing your own business. There is a personal liability if someone gets sick after they have eaten your food. There must be practices and procedures in place for proper food protocol. Protecting the public is of the utmost importance because your business is depending on it. Not only could you make your patrons extremely ill, but you could also be subjected to heavy fines and lawsuits. It is your name and reputation on the line. The hours are long, and the planning is detailed and intense, but the ability to make a five-figure amount in a four-day weekend is not outside the realm of possibility for extremely successful food vendors.

Whether you are a grill cook, a school cook, or own a concession stand, it can make for a good career choice for males and females alike. The opportunities in the food industry are plentiful for the person seeking a career in this field and can be lucrative for a self-motivated individual.



Jacqueline Warner takes joy in the little things in life. She is a historian, genealogist, and freelance writer. She enjoys a daily life in the country living amongst her family. As a history major at Ohio State University, she helped create a researchable Native American oral history archive and presented research papers at three national history conferences. She has written articles in several magazines, newspapers, and ledgers and looks forward to writing many more!

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Since 1987 *The Concord Review* has published 1,394 research papers from authors in 46 U.S. States and 42 other countries. TCR remains the only quarterly journal in the world to publish the academic history papers of secondary students and believes that the pursuit of academic excellence in secondary schools should be given the same attention as the pursuit of excellence in STEM and other extracurricular activities.

Our Winter Issue (Volume 31, Number Two) contains 11 essays on various historical topics, and there is an essay on “The Freedmen’s Bureau” by a homescholar from Brentwood, Tennessee. We invite you to find out more information and to subscribe to the journal on our [website!](#)

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Are you looking to help your homescholars further develop their research and writing skills? For 7 years now, TCR has offered intensive in-person and online workshops in historical research and writing for secondary school students. Hundreds of students have attended where they have worked with experienced instructors who coach them on formulating productive research questions; finding and making discerning use of primary and secondary sources; marshaling evidence to support one’s position or narrative; and writing and re-writing. Registration is now open for our popular summer programs, and you can find out more information and sign up on our [website!](#)

November 2020

# WILD KIDS

SEASONAL NATURE EDUCATION FOR KIDS AND THEIR GROWN UPS



**Finding Hiking  
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Accessible for All**

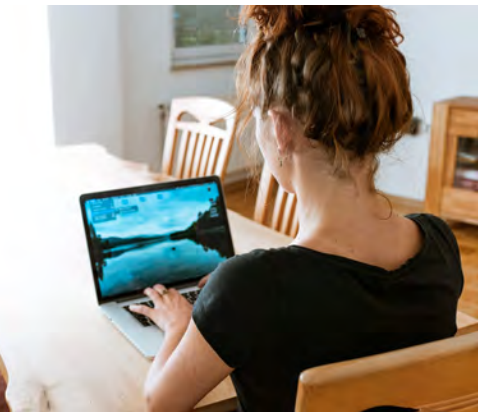
**Nature ID Sheets for  
Leaves, twigs, Nuts  
& Berries**

**Fall Nature Art**

**Learning Herbs:  
Calamint  
& Dead Nettle**

**Seasonal poetry,  
activities, nature  
journal pages & more**

Happy November! Here's this month's issue of Wild Kids Magazine for November 2020. This month's issue is 18 pages and as always, it's ad-free and 100% free to read digitally or print out. Feel free to pass it on to anyone who might benefit.



# Tips for Working from Home While Homeschooling

My homeschooling journey has changed a lot over the past sixteen years. My favorite memories are of having all four of our children at home, spread out over the kitchen and living room. Now, with only one left studying at home, my days look a lot different. My middle schooler is a lot more independent and can complete most of her studies with little input from me. I have started my own business, and most days find my daughter and me sitting side by side working on our own projects.

While this stage of homeschooling looks different from the cozy days I look back on so fondly, I want to make sure that my daughter and I still take advantage of the gift of time that we have together. Here are some helpful hints I have found for making the most of the time I have left with her, while also accomplishing the tasks involved with running my own business from home.

## Set Aside Dedicated Time for Working and for Schooling

To ensure I am using my time wisely and not letting my work life take over my home life, I make sure to set aside specific times for work. Right now, this happens to be the early morning hours. Something is satisfying about getting up while the rest of the house sleeps, starting my day off with prayer, and then tackling the day's workload. When 8:00 rolls around, I know it is time to set aside my work, wake my daughter, and help her get her day started. When we are schooling together, I make sure to give her my undivided attention.



## Get Out of the House

The freedom to get out of the house and do school anywhere is one of the luxuries of homeschooling. My daughter no longer begs to go to the local playground, and field trips to the local zoo have lost their appeal for her. However, she does like to get out, have a change of scenery, and still get her studies done.

Therefore, we have instituted twice-monthly "Coffee Shop School." There's something that appeals to us both about setting up our laptops at the coffee shop, nibbling on scones, and sipping warm beverages. An added bonus is she gets her work done more quickly without the distractions of home—and so do I!

## Make Time for Fun

With work deadlines and school assignments vying for attention along with household chores, it can be easy to become so focused on daily tasks that we forget to have fun. My daughter and I both get through our work faster if we plan for an afternoon walk with friends or break for an impromptu midday visit to the yogurt shop. When we look back on these years, I want it to be with fondness. Making time for fun and relaxation goes a long way to making this stage of life both productive and memorable.



## Stay Healthy: Spirit, Soul, and Body

As a working homeschool mom, it can be easy to forget to take care of yourself in the daily chaos of meeting the needs of clients, students, and family. Taking care of myself means I am better able to tend to the needs of those the Lord has entrusted to my care. Number one on this list is making private prayer and Bible study a top priority. Additionally, the rewards of meeting



with other women for prayer, fellowship, and discussion of the Word more than make up for the time taken from other pursuits. Nutritious meals, fresh air, and exercise do wonders for a tired body and weary mind. As much as I wish I could get by on

less sleep, I know I need at least eight hours each night to restore my body and prepare for the demands each day brings.



## Know on Whom You Can Rely

Although life is busy and chaotic, what keeps me going is knowing that I am not traveling this road alone. When life seems overwhelming, I cling to the promise of Philippians 4:13: "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me."

What joy it is to know my strength comes not from me, but from the Heavenly Father who loves me and equips me to carry out the work He has set aside for me.

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth" (Psalm 121:1-2).

### About Kristen

Kristen Grossman is a wife, mom, and follower of Christ. Homeschooling has been a wonderful way to educate her four kiddos while zig-zagging across the country supporting her husband Bill's career. Now residing in northern California, Kristen indulges her love of the written word at [KristenGrossmanProse.com](http://KristenGrossmanProse.com). When not writing, Kristen drives her daughter's volleyball carpool, hikes the California hills, or curls up with her Bible and a cup of coffee.

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# California Homeschool Network Family EXPO



CHN's 2021  
Family Expo Theme:

**Unleashing Your  
Family's Super  
Power!**



CHN's Family Expo in Garden Grove is the homeschool conference for all! From beginning homeschoolers, to veterans, young and old - there is something for everyone! The CHN Family Expo is a locally produced, all-inclusive event. We are here to promote the "community" in our homeschooling community.

**May  
13<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>  
2021**

**REGISTER  
HERE**

**Great  
Wolf  
Lodge**

<b>Ticket Type</b>	<b>CHN Member</b>	<b>Non Member</b>	Pricing includes attendance to all 4 days of Expo. One day tickets not available. CHN Family Membership is \$30 per year. Special room rates will be available from Great Wolf Lodge.
Adult (20 & Up)	\$65	\$85	
Caregiver	\$20	\$40	
Teen (13-19)	\$60	\$80	
Child (3-12)	\$55	\$75	
Child (under 3)	Free	Free	
Grandparent	Free	Free	

# Thinking About Homeschooling?



Many families who have recently been forced to try school at home are thinking about switching permanently to the homeschool option. Thankfully, California is a great state for homeschooling and provides several options for families to choose from.

In California, children who turn six by September 1 must be enrolled in a legal school. There are three primary options available to parents who want to homeschool.

- ▶ File a Private School Affidavit (PSA), effectively creating your own private school.
- ▶ Enroll in a Private Satellite Program (PSP).
- ▶ Enroll in a public ISP or Charter school with either a virtual or homeschool option.

To learn the details about these options, visit our "How to Homeschool" page on our website, download "Just the Facts" below, and watch the video on the next page.

## **JUST THE FACTS**

New to homeschooling? Start by downloading our step-by-step guide to starting your homeschool!

**DOWNLOAD JUST THE FACTS**

# How to Homeschool in California



By Laura Kazan Founder: CA Homeschool College Seekers

## How to Homeschool in California



California Homeschool Network

*Strengthening the Voice of California Homeschoolers™*





# Alternatives to Public School

Children between the ages of 6 and 18 must be enrolled in a public school or a specified alternative, and that is your decision to make! Kindergarten is not mandatory, but children who turn 6 by September 1st must enroll that school year (*California Education Code §48222, 48224*). Each family has unique needs and circumstances, so choosing an alternative will require considering your individual family situation and the needs of each child.

## Your Options:

- **Private School** There are two home-based private school options:
  - Establish a Home-Based Private School by filing a [Private School Affidavit \(PSA\)](#) You may establish a private school in your home and enroll your child as an alternative to public school. This will give you the ultimate in control over your schedule and curriculum. If you establish a home-based private school, you will be the administrator responsible for record keeping, curriculum and all aspects of your child's education.
  - Enroll in a [Private School Satellite Program \(PSP\)](#) PSPs (formerly known as umbrella schools) file a California private school affidavit every year as part of their legal obligation to be in compliance with California Education Code. They can enroll families who want to homeschool. Some PSPs offer classes, both site based and online, curriculum packages and/or activities for their members. Others offer guidance and record keeping, but leave the day-to-day details to the parents. Fees, guidance and requirements vary widely with each school.
- **Public ISP/Charter School** Some public schools and charter schools offer independent study. These public programs are funded by tax dollars, so there is no fee to attend. Some offer a set curriculum you do at home or online. Others allow parents to select some materials. The curriculum will be aligned with Common Core and testing is required. If you enroll in one of these programs, you will need to keep the records required by your program and regularly meet with a credentialed teacher to turn in required paperwork. The amount of freedom you have in choosing what to study depends on the program's policies and your assigned teacher.
- **Credentialed tutor** A parent with an appropriate current California teacher's credential may teach his/her child under the private tutorial exemption. Parents may also hire a credentialed tutor for their child. Tutors are required to teach for a minimum of 3 hours each day, 175 days per school year, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:00 pm. (*California Education Code §48224*)

# CHN Local Contacts

CHN Local Contacts are homeschooling families who serve as ambassadors to their local communities for California Homeschool Network. We will be happy to answer your questions about homeschooling, refer you to local support groups or private/public ISPs, and keep you abreast of the local legal climate in your county. We also organize homeschool information events and are available to provide you with information on local resources. If your county is not listed below, or if you are unable to reach your local contact, call the Homeschool Hotline toll free at \*1(800)327-5339 for answers to your homeschooling questions.

<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>CONTACT INFO</b>
Alameda	Michai Freeman	510-326-8718 Email
Contra Costa	Michelle Tryner	Email
Humboldt	Brenda Lory	707-617-2538 Email
Imperial	Stephanie Laurean	760-693-7951 Email
Indio	Lynette Ridgel	Email
Kern	Terri Larner	Email
Kern	Laura Deatherage	661-900-2054 Email
Los Angeles (Culver/Westchester)	Tina Janzen	310-902-7034 Email
Los Angeles (Culver/Inglewood)	Adrienne Quinn Washington	323-369-7669 Email
Los Angeles (San Gabriel Valley)	Vicki Giansante	Email
Los Angeles (Long Beach)	Siri Hirth	Email
Marin	Julie Schiffman	415-446-8844 Email
Orange	Laurel Ward	714-649-0657 Email
Orange (North)	Teresa Fitzpatrick	Email
Placer	Ariana Flamik	Email

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COUNTY	NAME	CONTACT INFO
Riverside	Maria Egbert	Email
Riverside	Lynette Ridgel	Email
San Bernardino (High Desert)	Erika Schron	Email
San Bernardino (Yucaipa)	Heather Martinson	909-446-5962 Email
San Bernardino & High Desert	Lynette Ridgel	Email
Shasta	Trina Reuber	Email
Tehama	Trina Rueber	Email
Tulare	Rhonda Hamilton	Email
Ventura	Christy Bruncker	Email
Unique Situations (Bilingual: Spanish)	Maria Egbert	Email
Unique Situations (Gifted)	Becca Orlowski	858-576-1239 Email
Unique Situations (Learning Challenges)	Erika Schron	Email
Unique Situations (Special Needs)	Pam Ragland	Email



**California Homeschool Network** would like to take this opportunity to formally welcome our newest Board of Trustees members, Yedine Rodriguez, Liss Aldana and Laura Deatherage. We are delighted to have them join our team and are thankful for their volunteer service with CHN. We look forward to working together to serve the homeschool community and ensure it has a strong, vibrant future in California.



My name is Yedine Rodriguez and I have made a home in Southern California after moving across the country and overseas for more than 20 years. I am a military spouse who has homeschooled in seven states. So I understand the challenges of finding a homeschool community and making connections. I homeschooled my two children independently for 13 years and issued diplomas to both. My oldest is a UC graduate and my youngest is currently attending a private art and design university. I have been an active participant in many homeschool groups and organizations through the years. I enjoy traveling, playing board games, and attending theatre performances. I have a passion for meeting and helping homeschoolers in their homeschooling journey and I hope to help many families through my volunteer work with the CHN Board.



I am honored and very excited to be part of the CHN board of trustees. I am the lucky mom of two free spirited children and we have been in this homeschooling adventure for the last 7.5 years. We have tried three different methods of homeschooling such as traditional public school, PSA and now we are so happy being part of a public charter school that supports my children's individualized education. I love the outdoors and exploring new places, I have a little obsession with books and love reading to my kids. My background is business administration and marketing. As a community organizer and leader I have created activities and programs to enrich children's education. My passion is to teach Spanish and my Latino roots and traditions to my children and share these with our community. My hope is to bring the community together, embrace our diversity and make this a very inclusive community for all.



My name is Laura Deatherage. I am a small business owner. I also am on hiatus from finishing a degree in psychology, but hope to be able to afford to return to finish my degree soon. I have a degree in Healthcare Administration and have worked for several local area hospitals and clinics as well as private doctor's offices. My passion is helping people, especially kids and advocating for disenfranchised groups. I joined this group to advocate for every child's education and for parents to be able to choose which path would help their kids reach their goals. I hope to participate in committees on advocacy, events and fundraising to meet my goals. I am truly excited and thankful for this opportunity to serve our community and look forward to meeting with all of you!



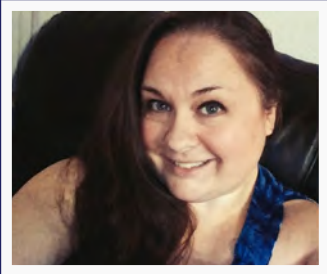
# CHN BOARD OF TRUSTEES



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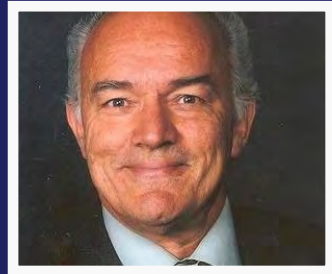
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**Trustee**  
**Liss Aldana**



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**Emeritus Trustee**  
**Martin Forte**

# CHNews

## November 2020

We hope you found our newsletter helpful and that it provided information and activities that are useful on your homeschooling journey, whether you are brand new or a seasoned pro.

California Homeschool Network is an all-volunteer organization of energetic and dedicated homeschooling families working to preserve educational freedom. CHN monitors and responds to legislation which may pose a threat to homeschooling. We also inform and empower homeschooling families, educate the public and foster community among home educators in the state of California.

Thank you,  
California Homeschool Network

**JOIN TODAY!**



California Homeschool Network was founded in 1994 by a statewide group of homeschooling families. We are an inclusive group, which means we serve families from all religious and ethnic affiliations that practice all homeschooling styles.

### Submissions & Advertising

To submit articles, curriculum reviews, homeschool information or for questions about content or advertising in upcoming issues of California Homeschool Network's quarterly newsletter, please contact our editor at [editor@californiahomeschool.net](mailto:editor@californiahomeschool.net)

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