



## POSITION POSTING

The Knox School of Santa Barbara is a private school for gifted and talented children with a focus on project-based learning, academic differentiation and SEL support for our unique learners.

## POSITION TITLE

Lead Teacher with experience in 1st-4th grades

## DESCRIPTION OF POSITIONS & ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

The Knox School of Santa Barbara, a school for gifted children which opened in the Fall of 2013, is seeking an exceptional lead teacher to join a distinctive faculty team. The impassioned mission of the school is to provide a stimulating and nurturing environment where, alongside an engaging and challenging curriculum, the social and emotional needs of gifted and talented children are respected and compassionately supported. The Knox School of Santa Barbara ensures a student-centered and strength-based approach to learning. The Knox School is located in beautiful Santa Barbara County, home to a world-class university, museums and restaurants, farmers markets and wineries, and outstanding outdoor opportunities for biking, hiking, riding, and surfing, contributing to a vibrant quality of life.

Successful candidates for the full-time position will display a diverse range of qualities, competencies and experience as described below.

## QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE, AND KNOWLEDGE

The successful candidate for this position will be an inspirational, passionate, and sensitive educator with the ability to deliver an inquiry-based, interdisciplinary program to cultivate cognitive skills, and compassionately honor the affective needs of gifted students. A minimum of two years of teaching experience at the elementary level is required. An excellent candidate will be an exemplary teacher, motivator, and learner, with strong interpersonal skills, and an ability to respectfully communicate with children, parents, and colleagues. Through differentiated instruction, and by using a variety of styles and modalities, the successful candidate will be able to inspire mixed-ability classes and create challenging and engaging learning opportunities for all children. The ideal candidate will have a high level of awareness of current developments, research, and best practices in the field of gifted education.

## DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- To effectively design a classroom milieu that supports the academic and affective needs of gifted students
- To teach the Unit Study for a mixed grade level (please see website for information on Unit Study)
- To teach in your expertise area of Language Arts (e.g., Reading/Writing Workshop) or math, and/or science courses (please see website for course descriptions)
- To possess an in-depth understanding of gifted development and a personality to support and guide students' social and emotional development
- To possess an ability to differentiate and individualize instruction and curriculum to a myriad of learning styles and abilities
- To liaison with team members to ensure effective delivery of differentiated, project- and inquiry-based curriculum to specified classes and individuals
- To participate in the design, development, implementation and review of the curriculum
- To participate in the design, development, implementation and review of assessment and reporting systems
- To participate in professional development trainings to further proficiency and knowledge in the teaching and learning process of gifted students

## THE SCHOOL

Because of the unmet need and latent demand for an environment which supports both the intellectual needs as well as the affective needs of gifted learners, The Knox School of Santa Barbara was formed. The Knox School of Santa Barbara is an independent co-ed day school for gifted and talented children (grades JK-8), which opened its doors in the Fall of 2013. Classes are small with a high teacher to students ratio in order to individualize and differentiate for each student.

## MISSION

The mission of the Knox School of Santa Barbara is to provide a stimulating and nurturing environment where, alongside an engaging and challenging curriculum, the social and emotional needs of gifted and talented students are respected and compassionately supported.

The Knox School of Santa Barbara offers an exemplary program developed specifically for gifted children; our respectful and supportive approach to learning optimizes each student's intellectual, academic, social and emotional development.

## FINANCIAL POSITION

The school is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, non-profit organization, and is financed entirely from school fees, grants, and private funding.

## THE FACILITIES

Located at 1525 Santa Barbara Street, the Knox School is housed in classrooms on the campus of the Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara. The School lies across the street from one of the city's most beautiful spots often called the "crown jewel" of city parks. Alice Keck Park Gardens feature a large botanical collection (75 different tree and plant species), a pond with koi and turtles, a sensory garden, a low water-using demonstration garden, picnic areas and gazebo. A block away is Alameda Park, the home of Kids' World, an 8,000 square foot playground designed by children in consultation with playground experts containing a castle, swings and slides. These

large parks are a perfect venue for hands-on learning, physical exercise, and exploration.

## THE FACULTY

Our Faculty is made up of a professional and supportive staff sensitive to the instructional and emotional needs of gifted learners who can provide an emotionally safe haven where both strengths and weaknesses are understood and respected, one where it is safe for students to discover and reveal who they really are. These are teachers who are not threatened by their students' intelligence but who welcome their intellectual debates, give opportunities to delve deeply into topics of interest and take joy in their students' strengths.

You can learn more about our Faculty at:  
<http://knoxschools.org/about/faculty-and-staff>

## BENEFITS/SALARY

The benefits and salary package for positions are regionally competitive based on level of experience. Start date for positions will be early August 2025.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Interested candidates should send an application at the earliest possible time but no later than March 31, 2025. The review of files will begin as soon as applications are received. The Knox School of Santa Barbara reserves the right to appoint a lead teacher before the stated application deadline should an exceptionally appropriate candidate be identified.

Please provide:

1. A current résumé not to exceed two pages
2. A maximum two-page statement outlining educational philosophy and leadership style (preferred)
3. A maximum of four letters of reference and/or reference names & contacts which may already be in your possession

All applications should be sent by email to [careers@knoxschools.org](mailto:careers@knoxschools.org). If you have any questions, please email or call us at (805) 222-0107.

The Knox School of Santa Barbara believes that each individual is entitled to equal employment opportunity without regard to race, color, age, disability, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, ancestry, genetic information, citizenship, veteran status, or any other class protected under federal, state or local laws.