**SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AND APPLICATION**

The Garden Cooperative Nursery School is a small school comprised of 30 children and their families. Our teaching staff of three is supported daily by parent volunteers. We strive to incorporate a diverse group from our community that is representative of the various races, ethnicities, backgrounds, religious beliefs, family structures, abilities, and socio-economic levels that make up Los Angeles. Families that join our co-op are united by a common desire to be highly participatory in their child’s preschool experience, a commitment to learning a non-violent approach to working with children that highlights curiosity and respect, and a belief in play-based learning that honors each child’s individual needs and learning timetable and builds on their emerging interests. If this sounds appealing to you, but you are unable to afford the tuition at our school, we have some exciting news. As of the 2018-2019 school year, The Garden will be launching a new scholarship program in efforts to make our program available to a broader range of community members. While we recognize the time commitment to join our school remains significant, as this is an essential component of co-op community development and functionality, we hope that by eliminating monetary barriers, your family may be able to join us.

**Program Stats:**

Time commitment

* 1 volunteer workday per week (8:30am – 1:30pm) - 5 hours per week
* 1 family job – approx. 5 hours per week, but schedule, location and type of duties determined based on family skills and needs
* 1 monthly evening meeting (Thursday, 7:00pm-9:00pm) – 2 hours per month
* 1 housekeeping day per year (weekend) – 5 hours total
* 1 maintenance day per year (weekend) – 5 hours total
* fundraiser event support – approx. 10 hours total
* 4-session parenting course – 8 hours total
* attachment period to support your child’s transition – 3 days/week for first month

Financial commitment

Full tuition for the 2019-2020 School Year will be:

* Third-year students (4.5-5.5 years old) - 5 days/week: $398 per month
* Second-year students (3.5-4.5 years old) - 4 days/week: $357 per month
* **First-year students (2.5-3.5 years old) - 3 days/week: $316 per month**

**Please note, first-year students are only eligible to attend 3 days/per week. The school day is from 9:00am – 12:30pm.**

(There is an optional afternoon program 1 day per week for second-year students and 2 days per week for third-year students. This program incurs an additional $75 per month per day. Scholarships do not apply directly to this program, but may be factored in when you calculate your family’s anticipated level of need on the chart below.)

Fundraising Commitment

* $500 per family per year to be raised through school fundraiser efforts

What You Get

* A caring community of supportive parents who will become your extended family
* A teaching staff dedicated to supporting your child’s individual needs and growth
* A fun-filled play-based and child-led learning experience for the whole family
* Free non-violent parenting education course and on-going training

Scholarship Units

Please indicate the level of scholarship your family would like to apply for in the chart below. Scholarships will be determined based on the total scholarship funds available each year, the number of applicants, and enrollment slots available. If your family is granted a scholarship, please note that you will remain eligible for that level of scholarship throughout your family’s three-year term of membership (though we will check in with you annually to determine that the same level of support is still required). All registration fees and security deposits will be reduced by the same percentage as tuition in alignment with the scholarship granted.

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| **TUITION** | **SIGN YOUR NAME NEXT TO THE MONTHLY TUITION RATE YOUR FAMILY IS ABLE TO PAY** | **SCHOLARSHIP UNITS** |
| $398 |  | N/A Year One |
| $357 |  | N/A Year One |
| $316 |  | No Scholarship Required Year 1 |
| $279 |  | 3 Units of Scholarship |
| $239 |  | 4 Units of Scholarship |
| $199 |  | 5 Units of Scholarship |
| $159 |  | 6 Units of Scholarship |
| $119 |  | 7 Units of Scholarship |
| $80 |  | 8 Units of Scholarship |
| $40 |  | 9 Units of Scholarship |
| $0 |  | 10 Units of Scholarship |

Please share a brief but specific description of financial need including a sketch of current household finances, an explanation of why the scholarship will make a difference, and any other information you would like the committee to consider. (More information may be requested by the scholarship committee.)

I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ sign acknowledging that I have filled this form out in good faith representing the needs of my family accurately and honestly. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE