

Happiest Holidays! Best of 2015, What's Up 2016?

Description



Happy Holidays!

During the busiest time of year, I want to take a moment to say thank you to our amazing readers who continue to inspire and motivate me to keep writing here in this space. I hope this blog is filled with helpful information that makes your school admissions process easier, more straightforward, basically anything that's less stressful or confusing. My co-authors and I firmly believe the private school admissions process, while competitive, doesn't have to be mysterious.

Most Popular Posts of 2015

Here's a roundup of the most popular posts of 2015

[L.A. Private Elementary School Tuition List 2015-16.](#) The tuition list held the top spot all year.

[Differences Between Progressive And Traditional Schools](#). Figuring out a school's educational philosophy can be a stumbling block when you're touring schools. Sometimes parents wonder whether a progressive school will [prepare their young child](#) for middle and high school. We've written [a lot](#) about the obvious and subtle things to look for to determine the type of school you're looking for and we'll touch on it again in 2016.

[The Lowdown On School Tours](#). Our contributors like Alice, bring fresh new voices to the site and offer their own experience and perspectives. Like talking to a friend, really.

[Getting Into Harvard-Westlake for 9th Grade](#) by Alice. Again, valuable advice from a mom who's been there.

[Beyond The Brochure's School Profiles](#) were some of the most-read posts of the year.

Most popular search terms 2015:

The stuff readers search for on the blog helps me know what people are interested in reading about. Sometimes it surprises me, like the search for thank you notes.

[Parent interviews](#) and [thank you notes](#) were two of the most popular search terms. [Feeder schools](#) are always of interest, too. And writing your [Family Message](#) popped up often.

What's happening in 2016?

I'm taking a few weeks off from the blog, but I'll be back in January 2016 with new posts, school profiles, financial aid, guest contributors, events and lots more! I'm fascinated by the culture of private schools, so I'll be writing about that too. These schools are expensive. They are not perfect. Some are much better than others. Ultimately, a school's culture says a lot about it. Are the parents nice? Are the school administrators responsive to parents? Is the school obsessed with the wealthy families to the detriment of everyone else? Are the big annual events held at swanky country clubs where some families will feel uncomfortable? Those sort of questions interest me. L.A. private school culture is one of the most controversial things I've covered. Who knew a post about a handbag would cause such an uproar on the blog's Facebook Page a few months ago? Silly me. I try to balance the ridiculous with the meaningful. But, sometimes we all need to know what super-fancy [à la carte Bag](#) will be seen on the arms of moms at private schools around L.A. or about the [most outlandish field trip ever](#). Always with a wink and a nod:)

If you want to send me an email, I'm at csimon2007 at gmail dot com (I got an email from a blog reader in Australia recently!)

You can always find me on the [Facebook Page](#) and if you want to buy a copy of *Beyond The Brochure*, it's on [Amazon](#).

Finally, check out [this amazing gift guide](#) by my friend [Elaine Sir](#) that includes a gift suggestion by moi that's fabulous and only \$12!

XOXO

Christina

Category

1. Beyond The Brochure

Date Created

December 20, 2015

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