



January, 2015

Dear Parents and Guardians,

For the second year, in conjunction with NatureBridge and the National Park Service, Environmental Charter Middle School, Inglewood has planned **3-day (2-night)** field trips for the spring. These trips will include hands-on scientific exploration with NatureBridge Southern California, located in the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area (SAMO) or Channel Islands National Park (CHIS). We believe this experience will be a safe, fun, and exciting addition to your child's regular academic program at school.

The trips are single-gender and all will leave from our campus. The dates for these trips are as follows. Please note that we will be leaving for Naturebridge on Mondays at earlier times:

Grade 6 Girls: March 9-11 (depart ECMS 8 a.m. *note Monday*)

Grade 6 Boys: March 11-13 (depart ECMS 10 a.m.)

Grade 7 Girls: April 6-8 (depart ECMS 8 a.m.)

Grade 7 Boys: April 13-15 (depart ECMS 8 a.m. *note Monday*)

Grade 8 Girls: March 25-27 (depart ECMS 6 a.m.)

Grade 8 Boys: March 23-25 (depart ECMS 8 a.m. *note Monday*)

Founded in 1971, NatureBridge is a private non-profit organization dedicated to teaching science and environmental education in nature's classroom to inspire a personal connection to the natural world and responsible actions to sustain it. NatureBridge has five campuses located in six national parks, including: Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Olympic National Park, Yosemite National Park, Prince William Forest National Park, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, and the Channel Islands.

An experienced, professional faculty facilitates NatureBridge's science programs. Each instructor is also trained as a Wilderness First Responder. Small group instruction encourages an understanding of the basic principles of ecology through intimate association with the natural environment. The goal of any NatureBridge program is to broaden the student's awareness of the natural world and his/her relationship to it.

The *Packing List* has been included as well for your reference. **Grade 8** students should be sure to bring a plastic bowl, plate, and some utensils. Grade 8 students should pack into a bag they can carry on their backs or over their shoulders. Rolling bags will not roll on the rocky path in Channel Islands.

The weather is unpredictable and can be anything from hot sunshine to fog or cold windy rain at any time of the year. The enclosed required clothing list is self-explanatory and should be closely adhered to, as most activities will take place outdoors.

With the exception of pre-arranged special dietary needs, additional food items are not allowed and should be left at home. **Also, students cannot bring any electronic equipment of any kind (radios, games, cell phones, etc.).**

Should a medical emergency arise, students in most cases will be taken to nearby facilities and will be accompanied by at least one participating adult from our group. You will be contacted immediately if such an emergency arises. NatureBridge's office hours are from 8:30am - 5:00pm. After 5:00pm, voice mail messages can be left for students with the Environmental Science Education Manager at (310) 774-5990. For **EMERGENCIES ONLY**, the NatureBridge Education Manager can be called during non-office hours at (630) 660-3970.

Please complete the enclosed *Participant Registration Form* (all sides!) and return to **Maria Rubalcaba by February 13, 2015**. These forms are **required** for your child to attend this program.

If you have any questions about our upcoming NatureBridge program, please contact me at beth_bernstein@ecsonline.org or 310-793-0157. For further information about NatureBridge, please visit: www.naturebridge.org. We're looking forward to having your child join us!

Sincerely,



Beth Bernstein-Yamashiro
Principal



REGISTRATION, HEALTH SCREEN, AND PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT

PLEASE READ THIS ENTIRE DOCUMENT CAREFULLY AND PROVIDE ALL REQUESTED INFORMATION LEGIBLY AND IN INK. BE SURE TO SIGN AND DATE WHERE INDICATED ON THE LAST PAGE. INCOMPLETE AND/OR UNSIGNED FORMS MAY DELAY OR PRECLUDE PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM. PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN MUST COMPLETE AND SIGN FOR MINOR CHILDREN.

Participant Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Grade: _____ Male Female

Address: _____ () _____
 Street City State Zip Email Telephone

Participant is a: Minor Self Teacher Parent/Chaperone

Name of Parent(s) or Legal Guardian(s) (if Participant is a minor): (1) _____ (2) _____

Address(es) of Parent(s)/Legal Guardian (If different than above):

_____ () _____
 Street City State Zip Email Telephone

Participant Ethnicity: White African-American Asian-American Hispanic-American Native American Other

Name of School: _____ Name of Head Teacher or Group Contact: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACTS – Parent or Legal Guardian must be provided as first emergency contact

(1) Name _____ Relation _____ Email _____

Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____ Cell Phone/Pager _____

(2) Name _____ Relation _____ Email _____

Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____ Cell Phone/Pager _____

HEALTH INFORMATION - PLEASE FILL OUT COMPLETELY *DOCTOR SIGNATURE NOT REQUIRED*

Does the Participant have, or has the Participant had, any of the following conditions or symptoms?

Current-Medical-Conditions		Diseases		Allergies	
1. Bleeding/Clotting Disorders	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	13. Chicken Pox	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	18. Hay Fever	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2. Asthma	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	14. Measles	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	19. Iodine	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
3. Diabetes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	15. Mumps	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	20. Poison Oak	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
4. Ear Infections	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	16. Other Diseases	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	21. Penicillin	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
5. Heart Defects/Hypertension	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	17. Date of last Tetanus shot:		22. Bees/Wasps/Insects	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
6. Psychiatric Treatment	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			22. Food	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
7. Seizure Disorder	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			24. Other Allergies	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
8. Immuno-Compromised	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			If Participant Has Allergies:	
9. Sleep Walking	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			25. Do you carry your own Epinephrine or Epi-pen?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
10. Bedwetting	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			26. Do you carry your own Inhaler?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
11. Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				
12. Hospitalized in the last 5 yrs?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				

If you have answered "yes" to any of the above items, please explain below. Provide corresponding number. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

Question No.	Explanation

Is the Participant taking any medication? Yes No

Please list all medications the Participant is taking and the purpose of each.**

**Participant must continue to take all medications during the Program unless otherwise instructed by your physician.

Is the Participant capable of participating in a 5 mile hike? Yes No

Are there any restrictions on the Participant's physical activity? Yes No

Please describe _____

Does the Participant have any food allergies? Please specify _____

Does the Participant have any food restrictions? Please specify _____

Please provide any additional information that you believe we should know to help us provide a quality experience for the Participant.

Name of Physician _____ Telephone Number _____

Medical Insurance carrier _____

Policy #/I.D.# _____ Subscriber Name _____

Additional information attached: Yes No

**PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT
(INCLUDING ASSUMPTION OF RISKS, RELEASE AND INDEMNIFICATION)
REQUIRED FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS**

PLEASE READ THIS ENTIRE AGREEMENT CAREFULLY. IT AFFECTS THE LEGAL RIGHTS OF PARTICIPANTS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN THE EVENT OF AN INJURY OR OTHER LOSS.

All Participants age 18 and older, including all teachers and chaperones, (referred to as "Adult Participants"), must sign this Participant Agreement. At least one parent or legal guardian (both referred to as "Parent") must sign on behalf of themselves individually as well as on behalf of their minor child or ward (referred to as "Minor Participant"). The term "I" as used in this Participant Agreement refers to the Adult Participant and/or Parent. The term "Program" refers to the NatureBridge program in which a Participant has enrolled.

In consideration of the Program, services, benefits and amenities provided by NatureBridge, a California Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation, I hereby understand, acknowledge and agree as follows:

Activities and Risks

Activities vary from program to program, and may include hiking, stewardship activities (for example, plant removal and trail maintenance), backpacking, skiing, snowshoeing, snorkeling, kayaking, canoeing, and other water craft

excursions. Some programs involve travel in NatureBridge vehicles driven by NatureBridge employees. I understand that this Program exposes its Participants to a variety of risks and hazards, foreseen and unforeseen, some of which are inherent and cannot be eliminated without fundamentally altering the unique character of the Program. These inherent risks include, but are not limited to, environmental risks and hazards, including rapidly moving, deep, or cold water; plants, insects, snakes, and predators, including large animals; falling and rolling rock; lightning; and unpredictable forces of nature, including weather that may change to extreme conditions without notice. Possible injuries and illnesses include allergic reactions, including, importantly, anaphylaxis, hypothermia, frostbite, high altitude illnesses, sunburn, heatstroke, dehydration, infectious diseases, musculoskeletal injuries, and other mild or serious conditions or injuries, including death. Emergency evacuation and medical care may be delayed twenty-four (24) hours or more due to the remote locations of some Program activities.

Assumption of the Risks

I understand that the description above of the risks involved in NatureBridge activities is not complete, and that other risks may result in property loss, personal injury, or death. For myself and for my Minor Participant, I agree to assume, to the fullest extent permitted by law, the risks of participation, known and unknown, inherent or not, and whether or not such risks are described above. I understand that participation in this Program is entirely voluntary and I consent to participation with full knowledge of the risky nature of the Program. If the Participant is a minor child, I have discussed the activities and risks with her or him and the child wishes to participate nevertheless.

Release and Indemnification

I, an adult Participant or Parent of a Minor Participant, for myself and on behalf of that Minor Participant, agree to release, indemnify, protect, and hold harmless, and promise not to sue, NatureBridge and/or its affiliated institutes, and/or any of their respective officers, directors, employees, contractors, and insurers (the "Released Parties"), with respect to any and all claims, demands, damages, losses, or liabilities, including, but not limited to, claims for personal injury or death, which I or my Minor Participant may suffer, arising out of or in any way related to my, or my Minor Participant's, participation in the Program. The claims hereby released and indemnified against include those caused by or arising from the negligence of a Released Party, or any of them, but not those caused by or arising from any reckless or intentionally wrongful act or omission. If a Released Party is required to defend any claim brought by and/or on behalf of me, a family member, and/or my Minor Participant, I or my, and/or the Minor Participant's, heirs or executors agree to pay such Released Party's costs of litigation and attorney's fees if and to the extent the Released Party successfully defends against such claim.

Medical

I represent that the medical information I have provided above is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge.

I authorize NatureBridge staff who have received appropriate training to administer basic first aid and "over the counter" medication, including aspirin, Tylenol, ibuprofen, Benadryl, Neosporin, Pepto-Bismol, and similar medications. I understand that NatureBridge staff does not carry epinephrine for the treatment of life threatening allergic reactions which might occur during the Program. If my Minor Participant has a known life-threatening allergy, or if I have been advised that he or she should be prepared for a possible serious allergic reaction, my Minor Participant has been provided with auto-injectable epinephrine and a physician's instructions for its use, and I have instructed my Minor Participant to have these available at all times during the Program. If my Minor Participant is enrolling in the Program as part of a school or other group, I have also informed the person in charge of the school or other group of this allergy and any applicable physician-prescribed protective measures.

I authorize any adult chaperone or member of the NatureBridge staff to obtain medical care for my Minor Participant (or me, if I am unable to consent), and to consent to any X-ray, examination, anesthetic, diagnosis, treatment and/or hospital care that may be recommended by a licensed physician and/or dentist. In the event of

minor illnesses or injuries, I understand that NatureBridge will attempt to contact me at the earliest practicable opportunity. In the event of major illnesses or injuries, I understand that NatureBridge will attempt to contact me before the commencement of any medical treatment, unless my Minor Participant's condition is such that treatment must be commenced immediately before contact with me can be made. Even if I cannot be reached, this authorization remains in full force and effect.

I agree to assume full financial responsibility for the costs of any evacuation and/or any medical care/treatment that I or my Minor Participant may receive.

Other Provisions

I agree that NatureBridge and its designees may use, without restriction or compensation, my likeness, or that of my Minor Participant, whether in photographs or video, as well as any writing, artwork and/or testimonials created by me or my Minor Participant and submitted to NatureBridge. I agree that once submitted, these materials shall become the property of NatureBridge.

I understand that during part of the Program, my Minor Participant will be under the supervision of teachers, chaperones, and other adults who are not NatureBridge employees, and who have not been selected, and are not supervised, by NatureBridge. I understand and agree that NatureBridge is not responsible for the actions of any such individuals.

NatureBridge uses independent contractors for some services, and such independent contractors, and not NatureBridge, are solely responsible for any losses or injuries caused by their acts or omissions.

I understand that this Participant Agreement is intended by NatureBridge to have as broad an effect as the law permits, and that if any part of this Participant Agreement is found to be invalid for any reason, the remainder of the Participant Agreement shall remain valid and fully enforceable.

I agree that if there is a dispute between me or my Minor Participant, on the one hand, and a Released Party, on the other, such dispute will be governed by the substantive laws of the State of California, and that any lawsuit against any of the Released Parties will be filed and maintained in a court of competent jurisdiction in San Francisco County, California.

I have carefully read this Participant Agreement, I understand its terms, and am signing it voluntarily. I have had any questions concerning the Program answered to my satisfaction.

I have been advised to consult with an attorney of my choosing if I have any questions regarding the translation of this Participant Agreement. I understand that in the event of any issue regarding the translation, the English version of this Participant Agreement shall control.

Name of Participant _____
Print Name

Parent or Guardian Signature (For Minor Participant) Print Name Date

Adult Participant Signature (if age 18 or older) Date