



Meet
professionals
from different
industries!

Engage with
your
community!



An after-school learning institution for children and teenagers to develop writing, presentation, critical thinking, leadership & life skills.

About Us

Looking back at the challenges we faced as students and professionals, we realize that our success was based on a core set of skills and values, refined over time by hard work and experience. Now, as educators, we leverage our professional network and work experience to bring a new dimension to teaching.

The Open Classroom offers a rich and unique curriculum that does not only promote academic

excellence, but also supports children and youth to create an impact beyond the classroom. We have set out to create an educational program we wish we had along the way – a program designed to broaden students' horizons, support character development and cultivate a service mindset, while equipping them with essential knowledge and skills to excel in school and life.

~ Agnes & Yvonne

Meet Our Team

Agnes Kong | Co-founder

Agnes completed her primary and secondary education at Diocesan Girls' School. She achieved high distinctions at the HKCEE and HKAL exams (scoring 9As and 4As respectively) and was awarded the Hong Kong Sir Edward Youde Memorial Scholarship to study abroad. She attended Yale University and graduated summa cum laude and phi beta kappa in three years. She received her Master's of Business Administration from Harvard Business School. Agnes has worked for prominent investment banks and private equity firms, including Goldman Sachs (New York), J.P. Morgan (Hong Kong), IFC World Bank (Washington, DC), and the Carlyle Group (Hong Kong).

Yvonne Chu | Co-founder

Yvonne spent nine years at Diocesan Girls' School and continued her high school education at Crofton House School, Canada. Yvonne completed her undergraduate studies in Operations Research and Industrial Engineering at Cornell University and received her Master's Degree in Financial Engineering from Columbia University. Yvonne has accumulated work experience at Goldman Sachs New York, Sino Land and Asia Pacific Land Real Estate Fund.

Mary King | Teacher

Mary graduated from the University of California, Berkeley with a bachelor's degree in Development Studies and Education. Mary is a trained literacy tutor, experienced SAT instructor, English curriculum developer and education researcher. Having grown-up in a multi-cultural household in San Francisco, she has developed a deep sense of social responsibility and her lifelong pursuit is to resolve discrepancies within education system.

Kim Petersen | Teacher

Kim graduated from the University of San Francisco with a bachelor's degree in International Business and Chinese Studies. At USF, she was highly involved in various organizations that promoted education and community involvement, all the while advocating for cultural integration on the university campus. In addition, she studied abroad in Beijing for a semester in Spring 2011, an experience that exposed her to educational development in China. Kim has also been a dedicated children's performing arts teacher for over six years and is welcoming The Open Classroom as a new platform for teaching and creativity.

Ines Kwai-Pun | Teacher

Ines was one of the first graduates to receive their IGCSEs and bilingual IB diplomas from Kiangsu-Chekiang College International Section. She then went on to the University of Hong Kong to complete her Bachelor of Arts degree, double-majoring in English Studies and French. Her love of studying literary texts at HKU has made her a proud recipient of the Joseph S.M Yau Memorial Prize in English Literature. Three years of teaching at a learning centre with traditional values has led her to realise her dream of teaching in an environment where learning automatically follows enjoyment and appreciation of the text. With this experience, Ines is aware of the importance of catering to each student's individual needs and making lessons as enjoyable and memorable as possible.

Summer Facilitators

Top US and UK college students, representing an interesting mix of personal interests, cultural and academic backgrounds, will support and mentor our students to develop their talents and passions!

Allanah Jackson

- Sophomore and Peabody Scholar at Vanderbilt University | Major: Human and Organizational Development with a focus in Leadership
- Corporate Sponsorship Chair for Vanderbilt's branch of the American Cancer Society national fundraiser, Relay For Life
- Lifelong Pursuits: Becoming a leader who helps others grow to their fullest potential.



“All my life I have been committed to transitioning the things I learn into everyday use with the long term goal of becoming a leader who helps others grow to their fullest potential. During this past semester, I have experienced my own leadership growth as I engaged in semester long group projects to solve a specific problem facing the Vanderbilt campus. The materials I've analyzed and lessons I have learned as a result of this work have made me incredibly excited to engage with students in order to help guide them and give them the tools they need for full and meaningful growth.” -- Allanah Jackson



Sophia Golec

- Junior and John Jay Scholar at Columbia University | Major: Biology with a concentration in English
- Event Planning Committee member for TEDxColumbiaCollege that hosts the annual TEDx conference at Columbia University
- Lifelong Pursuits: To learn languages. First through the efforts of my Polish parents, then during my own studies in school.

“As I progress through my college career, I find myself increasingly aware of the importance of leadership skills. In addition to my passion for the sciences, I continue to value languages, travel, and the simple joy of working in collaboration with others. I am excited to learn more about myself and about my peers as we work together to guide the students of the Young Leaders of Tomorrow program.” -- Sophia Golec

Annie Yao

- Junior at Yale University | Major: Molecular Biophysics & Biochemistry
- Involved in high school and college policy and debate through Youth & Government programs
- Executive committee member of the Yale Ballroom Dance Team



Topical Program G1-6

Through experiential learning and meeting with our network of guest speakers, students practice critical thinking, creativity and interviewing skills in a project-based environment. Topics are carefully chosen to broaden students' perspectives and build social awareness.

WEEK 1: BE A MUSIC PRODUCER July 8-12



Topic: Music Production

Guest Speaker: Kreative Studio <http://kreativestudio.org/> will be co-facilitating this program and host the students at their music studio in Lan Kwai Fong.

Field Trip: Visit the music studio and record your own sound!

Overview: Students will have the rare opportunity to work in every aspect of music production from conception to recording. After spending a few classroom sessions discussing the lyricism, musical genres and interviewing a professional music producer, students will get a chance to visit a recording studio and lend their voices to an original CD recording.

WEEK 2: BE AN ANIMATION FILMMAKER July 15-19



Topic: Lego Stop-Motion Film-making

Guest Speaker: Senior instructor from Children's Technology Workshop

Overview: What could be more exciting than turning your original story idea into an actual film using Legos! Students will begin by collaborating to compose a thoughtful and dynamic story board before constructing and filming their very own stop-motion short frame-by-frame under the guidance of an experienced animation filmmaker.

*recommended for students aged 8 & above

WEEK 3: BE A PHOTOGRAPHER July 22-26



Topic: Photography

Field Trip: Walking tour of Causeway Bay to snap photos for our portfolios.

Overview: Photography involves much more than a simple point and click. In this class students will explore the concepts of composition and perspective as they discover exactly how a camera works by constructing their very own pin-hole camera and head out into the streets of Hong Kong to translate this dynamic city into artwork from their own perspective!

Note: Program overview provides a general outline of how classes will be run. Class content and activities will be modified accordingly for different age groups.

Topical Program G1-6

“Our daughter has been participating in various modules since The Open Classroom started and we couldn’t be happier. The Open Classroom helps young people build confidence while learning about interesting and socially meaningful topics such as fair trade and helping people with disabilities.” -- Parent of G7, HKIS

WEEK 4: MEET THE HEAD CHEF July 29-Aug 2



Topic: Cooking and Nutrition

Field Trip: Visit Secret Ingredient’s private kitchen in Sheung Wan to meet their head chef and take a cooking class under his direction! Secret Ingredient <http://secretingredient.com.hk>, delivers locally produced, fresh ingredients and recipes to homes so that meals can be prepared efficiently and healthily.

Overview: We believe that cooking skills and good eating habits should be nurtured at a young age! In SI’s private kitchen, students will be involved with measuring ingredients, exploring how textures and tastes change and presenting food in artistic ways. They will learn where healthy ingredients come from before getting their “hands dirty” to create delicious and healthy canapes, pizza, yogurt and dessert.

WEEK 5: MEET THE ANIMAL RESCUERS Aug 5-9



Topic: Animal Rights - Pet-care as a social responsibility

Field Trip: Visit the SPCA, <http://scpa.org.hk>, site in Wan Chai and meet the animals!

Overview: Students discuss various issues and challenges facing pets and animals today. They will learn that pet ownership does not equate to toy ownership and even touches on animal conservation for endangered species. These classroom-based lessons will be reinforced by a trip to the SPCA in Wan Chai where the class will participate in a special presentation: “Respect for life begins with concern for animals”, that will not only discuss animals and how to take care of them, but also about the animals’ needs, some important considerations before homing a pet and the welfare of animals.

WEEK 6: MEET THE ACTORS Aug 12-16



Topic: Drama - Theory and practice

Guest Speakers: Shadow Players acting troupe, <http://hkshadowplayers.com>, will be visiting the classroom and directing various improvisational and acting exercises with our young thespians!

Overview: Our summer topical program will end on a high note as our theater and silver-screen hopefuls learn about the history of theater before putting their dramatical talent to work in fun acting exercises and workshops led by a local Hong Kong acting troupe. Students will not only act out short scenes but will discuss the importance of projection, dramatization and staging before putting on a mini production!

Note: Program overview provides a general outline of how classes will be run. Class content and activities will be modified accordingly for different age groups.

Topical Program K1-3

Our weekly 5-day workshops provide a meaningful base in preparation for our Writing Foundation courses! Your little learners will engage in fun topics that open their eyes to the world around them while building confidence in speaking and developing knowledge in phonics, writing ability, creativity and collaboration skills.

WEEK 1: AROUND THE WORLD IN 5 DAYS July 15-19



Little ones are naturally and intuitively eager to explore new places and ideas. Children will discuss and contrast the diversity this world has to offer – people, places and cultures – and inquire how we can take part in a global community. As the concept of diversity is introduced, students understand their roles as global citizens of the Earth.

WEEK 2: SUMMER STORY LAND July 22-26

“Once upon a time...” With stories as inspiration, children make sense of their worlds and understand how people relate to one another. Our little readers will be introduced to classic and modern stories that teach them important morals and values that strengthen their various developmental skills.



WEEK 3: MANNERS MATTER July 29-Aug 2



What does having good etiquette mean? From telephone calls to proper table manners, how should we behave in public, in the classroom or at someone else’s house? Learn and practice respectful manners through situational role play, story reading and other engaging activities. Common courtesies paves the way for positive interactions, good relationships and social success.

WEEK 4: AFRICAN SAFARI Aug 5-9

Join us for a thrilling expedition deep into the African continent where we will meet lions and cheetahs and so much more! Our miniature explorers will learn about animal conservation while discussing the different components of the African eco-system and how the animals thrive in such an exotic world!



“Prior to joining The Open Classroom's classes our son being somewhat shy, was reluctant to express himself. Since attending the different modules offered, he is much more comfortable in expressing himself with confidence. This is evident in the success rate with the local schools applied. Most importantly, he looks forward to his classes and has very good rapport with the teachers.” -- Parent of K3, Lingnan

Writing Workshops G1-9

Solid writing skills are one of the most vital, transferable skills that will serve students well for the rest of their lives.

With this in mind, we design writing programs so students can become better explainers, better persuaders, better storytellers and better thinkers.

Through studying excerpts from **renowned books** and **engaging articles**, students grow as writers. Each 5-day workshop, inspired by a **weekly theme**, challenges students with reading material that promotes **critical thinking** and illustrates a **new writing style**. In our small, interactive classes, students receive **individualized instruction** and **feedback** on multiple drafts to perfect their final masterpiece!

Week 1: Letter Writing July 8-12

Level	Grade	Writing Style	Topic
Foundation 0	1	Descriptive	<i>Travel Postcards</i>
Foundation 1	2	Inquisitive	<i>How is Santa Claus' summer going?</i>
Foundation 2	3	Opinion	<i>Email: I would like you to build a _____</i>
Foundation 3	4-5	Advice	<i>To a person in history</i>
Enrichment 1	6	Appreciation	<i>To someone in your life you wish to articulate gratitude to</i>
Enrichment 2	7	Advice	<i>To a friend in need</i>
Enrichment 3	8-9	Cover Letter	<i>How do you market yourself without sounding boastful?</i>

“My elder son has taken classes at The Open Classroom since its inception, a year later, his younger brother joined as well. Both of them enjoy the learning a great deal and they genuinely look forward to their weekly classes there. Classes are fun and conducted in small groups so teachers are able to identify the individual student’s strength and weakness after only a few classes. The detailed evaluation by the teachers after each module is very thoughtful and helpful to me. This personalized experience and tailored-training helped my kids grow their strength and overcome their weakness quite effectively.” -- Parent of Year 4 and K3, CIS

Writing Workshops G1-9

Week 2: World Mythology July 15-19

Level	Grade	Writing Style	Topic
Foundation 0	1	Descriptive	<i>Make your own god/goddess of _____</i>
Foundation 1	2	Descriptive	<i>Make your own god/goddess of _____</i>
Foundation 2	3	Fiction	<i>Creation myths</i>
Foundation 3	4-5	Compare and Contrast	<i>The strengths and flaws of different mythical figures</i>
Enrichment 1	6	Persuasive	<i>Convince citizens to vote in the election of a mythical creature</i>
Enrichment 2	7	Speech	<i>Design a speech for Zeus to deliver before battle</i>
Enrichment 3	8-9	Negotiation	<i>Analyze and advise Paris' dilemma</i>

Week 3: Science Fiction & Fantasy July 22-26

Week	Grade	Writing Style	Topic
Foundation 0	1	Descriptive	<i>Create your own imaginary friend</i>
Foundation 1	2	Persuasive	<i>Aliens are invading, and it is your job to get them to leave!</i>
Foundation 2	3	Descriptive	<i>Create your own original world</i>
Foundation 3	4-5	Fiction	<i>As a newly arrived alien, how do you cope with life on Earth?</i>
Enrichment 1	6	Non-Fiction	<i>Book Review - Artemis Fowl</i>
Enrichment 2	7	Fiction	<i>Design your own government for a new world</i>
Enrichment 3	8-9	Compare and Contrast	<i>Create a new invention and explain what issues it will solve</i>

“After joining The Open Classroom programs, she was taught to take time to analyze the characters and content of different stories. Then I noticed that her reading habits have changed and her writing skills are improving. She has less grammatical mistakes in her written work. I am impressed that her writing speed has improved significantly under the teacher’s guidance.” -- Parent of P5, St Paul’s Convent

Writing Workshops G1-9

Week 4: A Day in the Life of... July 29-Aug 2

Week	Grade	Writing Style	Topic
Foundation 0	1	Fiction	<i>Plants and animals</i>
Foundation 1	2	Fiction	<i>The Magic Finger</i>
Foundation 2	3	Biography	<i>Dr. Seuss</i>
Foundation 3	4-5	Fiction	<i>A favorite toy</i>
Enrichment 1	6	Fiction	<i>As your alter ego</i>
Enrichment 2	7	Biography	<i>A Celebrity/Singer</i>
Enrichment 3	8-9	Biography	<i>A Leader</i>

Week 5: Presenting - Myself Aug 5-9

Week	Grade	Writing Style	Topic
Foundation 0	1	Descriptive	<i>Construct an imaginary online profile</i>
Foundation 1	2	Opinion	<i>Why I would make an excellent _____</i>
Foundation 2	3	Creative/Current Events	<i>Create your own superhero identity to solve a world issue</i>
Foundation 3	4-5	Aspirational	<i>Who I hope to become</i>
Enrichment 1	6	Informative	<i>How has entering secondary school changed you? Or how do you think it will?</i>
Enrichment 2	7	Informative	<i>Reflect upon your achievements and fallbacks as a successful person in a career of your choice</i>
Enrichment 3	8-9	Informative	<i>Explain why you look up to your role model and how he/she has changed you</i>

My daughter has always been a bookworm. However, her writing skills were not improving from reading books because her reading habit was to simply scan through a book to find out the ending of the story. After joining The Open Classroom programs, she was taught to take time to analyze the characters and content of different stories. Then I noticed that she started to read books in a different manner. Her reading habits have changed and her writing skills are improving. She has less grammatical mistakes in her written work. I am impressed that her writing speed has improved significantly under the teacher's guidance. I hope she can gain more from this program in the future. -- Parent of P5 St. Paul's Convent

Writing Workshops G1-9

Week 6: Comics and Graphic Novels

Aug 12-16

Week	Grade	Writing Style	Topic
Foundation 0	1	Journal	<i>Diary of a _____ Kid</i>
Foundation 1	2	Dialogue	<i>Scripting a comic strip</i>
Foundation 2	3	Descriptive	<i>The villain who wants to be good</i>
Foundation 3	4-5	Persuasive	<i>Speak out for superhero equality</i>
Enrichment 1	6	Reflective	<i>Not fitting in (Persepolis)</i>
Enrichment 2	7	Persuasive	<i>Should history textbooks be written in graphic novel form?</i>
Enrichment 3	8-9	Informative	<i>"You must do the thing you cannot do." - Eleanor Roosevelt</i>

Week 7: Picture Prompts

Aug 19-23

Week	Grade	Writing Style	Topic
Foundation 0	1	Descriptive/Creative	<i>Setting - Write about interacting with the pictured setting</i>
Foundation 1	2	Descriptive/Logic	<i>Sequencing events and story building</i>
Foundation 2	3	Informative	<i>Create your own _____ with detailed instructions</i>
Foundation 3	4-5	Descriptive	<i>Sporting event (Action)</i>
Enrichment 1	6	Descriptive	<i>Dinner Party (Characterization)</i>
Enrichment 2	7	Persuasive	<i>Equality (Theme: Martin Luther King Jr.)</i>
Enrichment 3	8-9	Analytical	<i>Famous artwork</i>

The typical spoon-feeding education can be dreary and in some way less effective for some kids, but this interactive style of teaching can inspire the children to think outside of the box and stimulate their interests in learning. Creativity can be more valuable than sheer intake of information, especially in the early stage of childhood. I would highly recommend

The Open Classroom to all the parents who wish to provide their kids with a learning environment which is fun and stimulating. -- Parent of P2, SIS

Private Tutorial Programs

Designed and led by experienced instructors who attended top U.S. colleges, our intensive preparation program equips students with essential knowledge, invaluable strategies and techniques to ace any exam!

PSAT & SAT Program

SAT Critical Reading & Writing Approach

- Builds **textual analysis skills, vocabulary** and **grammar** that are critical to ace critical reading and writing sections.
- Teaches **key strategies** such as understanding common question types, how to **avoid typical SAT question traps** and effectively narrow down answer choices.
- Improves essay scores by teaching students the **specific style** and **grading criteria** for the SAT essay. Students will have extensive opportunities to **practice writing** and **receive feedback**.

SAT Math Approach

- Reviews topics covered on the SAT math sections and equips students with test taking methods to **increase efficiency and speed**.
- Provides an overview of **essential SAT math topics** in tandem with an exploration of how the math section is designed. Students will navigate quickly through the less challenging questions and use our strategies to tackle more complicated problems.

SSAT Program (Upper and Lower Level)

SSAT Verbal & Writing Approach

- Builds **vocabulary** and **sharpens reading comprehension skills of inference and deduction** that are critical to ace the SSAT verbal and reading sections.
- Teaches students **key strategies** such as **understanding the most common question types**, how to **manage time** during the test, how to effectively **eliminate answer choices** and when to make **educated guesses**.
- Improves essay quality by teaching students relevant **writing techniques** and **time management skills** and providing personalized feedback on students' writing.

SSAT Math Approach

- Reviews topics covered on the SSAT math sections and equips students with **test taking methods to increase efficiency and speed**.
- Familiarizes students with both the **essential SSAT math topics** and how the math section is designed. Students will navigate quickly through the less challenging questions and use our strategies to tackle more complicated problems.

Private lessons also available for:

ACT, TOEFL, Entrance Exams, Writing, Personal Statements

Interviews and more!

This year I applied to boarding school and successfully got into Choate Rosemary Hall! This would never have happened had I not taken the SSAT and private classes offered at the Open Classroom. The class educated me on testing strategies, writing techniques and vocabulary. These all came in useful in my final SSAT test. I am grateful to the instructors. -- Year 9, GSIS

YOUNG LEADERS OF TOMORROW

A 2-week summer holiday program designed and led by Ivy League graduates, to help students develop leadership skills, self-awareness and a service mindset.



“Throughout the past two weeks, I have learnt that while I manage to make quality comments, I should be assertive in taking charge of situations. While this is a weakness I should work on, the numerous guest speakers convinced me that there are different forms of leadership, and that I should find the skills, techniques and strengths that best suit my form of leadership.”

– Grade 12, Exeter graduate going to Princeton University

WHEN?

Session 1: June 24 – July 5

Session 2: July 22 – August 2

WHO? Students completing Grades 9-12 / Form 3-6

HOW?

To apply, contact info@theopenclassroom.com.hk or 2541 1336.

To find out more, visit www.young-leaders-of-tomorrow.com

WHAT IS IT ABOUT?

- Leadership Simulation
- Leadership Case Studies
- Consultant to NGO projects (former partner organizations include Grameen Foundation, Dialogue in the Dark, Crossroads and Table for Two)
- Exposure to Inspirational Leaders
- Self Awareness and Inner Leader Workshops
- Optional college related workshops (personal statement, interview, choosing major) and networking event
- Group and one-on-one coaching during and after program

YOUNG LEADERS OF TOMORROW PRESENTS:

9PATHS Extension Program

A practical program that engages students in a series of workshops that prepare them for 3-days of job shadowing with a personally-matched mentor (from our carefully pre-selected pool of prominent Hong Kong professionals - see bios below for a selected few) culminating in the development of a final personal portfolio and presentation.

The logo for 9PATHS, featuring the text "9PATHS" in white, bold, sans-serif font inside a dark brown square with a fine, diagonal hatched pattern.

WHEN?

- Orientation Session - July 6, 2013 (full day)
- Individual Consultation - July 9 or 10, 2013 (about 1 hour per person)
- Professionalism Module
- Job Shadowing Session - 3 full days within July 8 - August 8, 2013
- Portfolio Session - August 12-14, 2013 (3 full days)
- Final Presentation - August 24, 2013 (2-5pm)

WHO? Students completing Grades 9-12 / Form 3-6

HOW?

To apply, contact info@theopenclassroom.com.hk or 2541 1336.

To find out more, visit www.young-leaders-of-tomorrow.com

WHO ARE THE MENTORS?

- Erwin Huang (Social Enterprise) - Deputy chairman at Tse Sui Luen Jewelry and CEO at WebOrganic
- Ada Wong (Fashion & Retail) - President of Maud Frizon; one of key innovators behind the Chocoolate chain
- Simon Hwang (Finance) - Wharton and Berkeley graduate; founded Pangu Capital
- Pong Nan (Music & Entertainment) - Singer, song writer, and producer for East Asia Music

Other mentors include experienced professionals from the arts & architecture, mobile gaming, interior design, education and legal fields