

PISF Students Visit Kidspace

By **KEN JUANER MALATE**
The Outlook

Students from the Pasadena Independent Schools Foundation (PISF) saw firsthand how “learning and play are one” after visiting Kidspace Children’s Museum in Pasadena last Monday.

The slogan is true in every sense as the museum provides a creative environment that promotes higher learning through self-directed, interactive experiences in the arts, sciences and humanities, to enrich children, families and the community.

“We host about 200,000 people each year,” said Timithie Gould, marketing and communications manager. “We feature exhibits and programs that are sure to enthrall children of all ages. We even have activities like baby yoga.”

Kidspace has a lot of activities that keep children busy for days. It has more than 20 exhibits to explore, including the Raindrop climber, which scales to about 40 feet high. Children can also participate in its Nature Exchange where they can bring samples of rocks, plant life, soil, or other natural objects to trade. They can then do research about the items they brought in and pass on some knowledge, which leads to points to their Nature Exchange Membership card that they can use to trade for new items and artifacts.

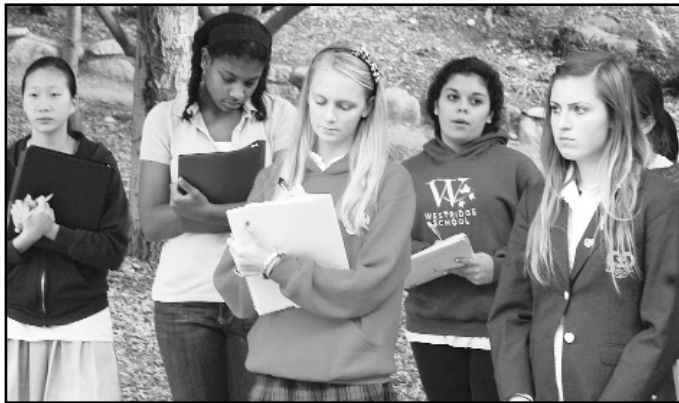
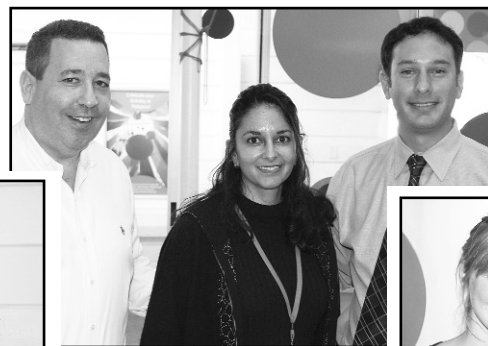
Part of the tour included a trip to the back lot of the museum. The students were shown the Harvest corner, a place where children can plant

vegetations and have an opportunity to harvest the goods.

Education Director Valerie Oguss led the tour for PISF. She talked about the importance of learning and activities for the children. There was one important thing she stressed: “The parents cannot leave their children here by themselves,” said Oguss. “The goal is to promote interaction between the parent and the child.”

When Oguss was asked where the \$10,000 donations would go to, she said, “I’ve been really dreaming about giving the museum a really strong art program. We have made sure to have a strong science program; this place is rooted in a strong science program. It would be nice to have a strong art program to go along with that.”

Ellen Kim of Westridge School added: “I thought the presentation was conducted well. I like how she [Oguss] laid out the points and cleared up the goal of the establishment.”



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