

Augustus Academy for Creative Arts and Technology



Charter Petition

Submitted to the Central Unified School District

For the term July 1, 2018 through and including June 30, 2023

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Affirmations and Declaration

As the authorized lead petitioner, I, Kelly English, hereby certify that the information submitted in this petition for a California public charter school to be named Augustus Academy for Creative Arts and Technology (“Augustus” or the “Charter School”), and to be located within the boundaries of the Central Unified School District (“CUSD” or the “District”) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief; I also certify that this petition does not constitute the conversion of a private school to the status of a public charter school; and further, I understand that if awarded a charter, the Charter School will follow any and all federal, state, and local laws and regulations that apply to the Charter School, including but not limited to:

The Charter School shall meet all statewide standards and conduct the student assessments required, pursuant to Education Code Sections 60605 and 60851, and any other statewide standards authorized in statute, or student assessments applicable to students in non-charter public schools. [Ref. Education Code Section 47605(c)(1)]

The Charter School declares that it shall be deemed the exclusive public school employer of the employees of Augustus Academy for Creative Arts and Technology for purposes of the Educational Employment Relations Act. [Ref. Education Code Section 47605(b)(6)]

The Charter School shall be non-sectarian in its programs, admissions policies, employment practices, and all other operations. [Ref. Education Code Section 47605(d)(1)]

The Charter School shall not charge tuition. [Ref. Education Code Section 47605(d)(1)]

The Charter School shall admit all students who wish to attend the Charter School, unless the Charter School receives a greater number of applications than there are spaces for students, in which case it will hold a public random drawing to determine admission. Except as required by Education Code Section 47605(d)(2), admission to the Charter School shall not be determined according to the place of residence of the student or his or her parents within the State. Preference in the public random drawing shall be given as required by Education Code Section 47605(d)(2)(B)(i)-(iv). In the event of a drawing, the chartering authority shall make reasonable efforts to accommodate the

growth of the Charter School in accordance with Education Code Section 47605(d)(2)(C). [Ref. Education Code Section 47605(d)(2)(A)-(C)]

The Charter School shall not discriminate on the basis of the characteristics listed in Education Code Section 220 (actual or perceived disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes set forth in Section 422.55 of the Penal Code, including immigration status, or association with an individual who has any of the aforementioned characteristics). [Ref. Education Code Section 47605(d)(1)]

The Charter School shall adhere to all provisions of federal law related to students with disabilities including, but not limited to, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004.

The Charter School shall meet all requirements for employment set forth in applicable provisions of law, including, but not limited to credentials, as necessary. [Ref. Title 5 California Code of Regulations Section 11967.5.1(f)(5)(C)]

The Charter School shall ensure that teachers in the Charter School hold a Commission on Teacher Credentialing certificate, permit, or other document equivalent to that which a teacher in other public schools is required to hold. As allowed by statute, flexibility will be given to noncore, noncollege preparatory teachers. [Ref. Education Code Section 47605(l)]

The Charter School shall at all times maintain all necessary and appropriate insurance coverage.

The Charter School shall, for each fiscal year, offer at a minimum, the number of minutes of instruction per grade level as required by Education Code Section 47612.5(a)(1)(A)-(D).

If a pupil is expelled or leaves the Charter School without graduating or completing the school year for any reason, the Charter School shall notify the superintendent of the school district of the pupil's last known address within

30 days, and shall, upon request, provide that school district with a copy of the cumulative record of the pupil, including report cards or a transcript of grades, and health information. If the pupil is subsequently expelled or leaves the school district without graduating or completing the school year for any reason, the school district shall provide this information to the Charter School within 30 days if the Charter School demonstrates that the pupil had been enrolled in the Charter School. [Ref. Education Code Section 47605(d)(3)]

The Charter School may encourage parental involvement, but shall notify the parents and guardians of applicant pupils and currently enrolled pupils that parental involvement is not a requirement for acceptance to, or continued enrollment at, the Charter School. [Ref. Education Code Section 47605(n)]

The Charter School shall maintain accurate and contemporaneous written records that document all pupil attendance and make these records available for audit and inspection. [Ref. Education Code Section 47612.5(a)(2)]

The Charter School shall, on a regular basis, consult with its parents and teachers regarding the Charter School's educational programs. [Ref. Education Code Section 47605(c)]

The Charter School shall comply with any applicable jurisdictional limitations to the locations of its facilities. [Ref. Education Code Sections 47605 and 47605.1]

The Charter School shall comply with all laws establishing the minimum and maximum age for public school enrollment. [Ref. Education Code Sections 47612(b) and 47610]

The Charter School shall comply with all applicable portions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act ("ESEA"), as reauthorized and amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act ("ESSA").

The Charter School shall comply with the Public Records Act.

The Charter School shall comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

The Charter School shall comply with the Ralph M. Brown Act.

The Charter School shall meet or exceed the legally required minimum number of school days. [Ref. Title 5 California Code of Regulations Section 11960]

Kelly English, Lead Petitioner

Date

Founding Members

The founding members are educators, parents, researchers and community members who are dedicated to creating a strong educational experience for all children especially children who are non-traditional learners. Some of the founding members will also serve as the initial Board of Directors.

Table 1.1: Founding Members

<i>Member</i>	<i>Augustus Academy Board</i>	<i>Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment, Student Services</i>	<i>School Administration Finances</i>	<i>Project Management, Strategic Planning</i>	<i>Business & Financial Management</i>	<i>Facilities & Real Estate</i>	<i>Fundraising, Grant Writing, Donor Relations</i>	<i>Governance, Law, Compliance</i>	<i>Community Outreach, Communications</i>
English		X	X	X	X		X		X
Ellsworth		X			X	X			X
Barton		X						X	
Cameron	X			X	X			X	
Foster				X					X
Futterman		X						X	
Gilger		X		X			X		X
Gostanian				X		X		X	
Valdivia		X			X				
Weaver-Adams				X	X	X	X		X
Winters						X			X

Biographies of Founding Members**Kelly English, MA ABA - Lead Petitioner*****Role at Augustus: Executive Director***

As a Dyslexic, Kelly English had to forge her way through both the public school and private school systems without the accommodations necessary for true academic success. Beyond that qualifying factor, Kelly has established over a handful of start-up businesses, including Maverick Academic Prep, an educational program specifically for Dyslexic students and those with additional learning challenges. She has operated in both the for-profit and nonprofit sectors of business. Kelly managed the Music Center of Los Angeles County Blue Ribbon Membership Organization which was comprised of 750 female who were multi-millionaires. In so doing, she and the volunteers raised over \$2 million dollars which was a mammoth success. This however, does not include the additional training, certifications and degrees she has earned, not accommodated in any way, while in the academic environment. Kelly has earned a Bachelor's Degree in Interpersonal Communication, a Master's Degree in Human Behavior and has completed all coursework and supervised hours for a Board Certification for Behavior Analyst (BCBA) designation. Beyond her degrees and graduate level work, she has been trained and certified at the Master's Level in the Barton Reading and Spelling System, an Orton-Gillingham based curriculum designed for individuals with Dyslexia. Kelly has taught every level and age range using the Barton System. Kelly has also designed, created, written and produced a myriad of curricula for ages ranging from toddler to adult.

BA - Interpersonal Communication & Journalism, Minor Ancient World History - 1992 Azusa Pacific University

MA - Human Behavior - 2009 National University

Certified Diagnostician, Dyslexia - 2009 Bright Solutions for Dyslexia

LiPS Trained/Certified - 2012 Lindamood Bell Training Institute

ABA - 2012 Fresno Pacific University

Master Level Certified Barton Reading and Spelling Tutor - 2013 Bright Solutions for Dyslexia

Cyndi Ellsworth - Co-Petitioner***Role at Augustus: Paraprofessional***

Cyndi Ellsworth offers unparalleled skills in creativity and the culinary arts. What began as a hobby to find a creative outlet for her skills, Cyndi took things to the next level when she individually met with each homeowner of an 89-unit subdivision and coordinated and guided the interior design and layout of each home. Her talents are

not just limited to interior design, Cyndi is an expert in the graphic arts where she is proficient in Photoshop, Illustrator and digital design for embroidery. Teaching others to be skilled in these programs has been a joy in her life as she has taught countless others on a freelance basis. Developing a Charter School like Augustus has been a great blessing. Cyndi has been able to help unlock the creative potential and expand the intelligence of the brilliant students in Home Economics, Yearbook and other creative projects. Ultimately, Cyndi's true joy and happiness comes from being with her family. She and her wonderful husband have raised three wonderful children (ages 21, 16, 12). When not with the family, Cyndi enjoys sewing, quilting, traveling and serving in her church.

Advanced Adobe PhotoShop Techniques, Compumaster
Advanced Adobe Illustrator Creative Cloud, Ledet
Certified Interior Designer, The Interior Design Institute
Licensed California State Nail Technician
Certified Copic Arts Instructor

Jim Cameron - Technical Service Coordinator, JBT Corp

Role at Augustus: Board and Founding Team Member

Jim Cameron was born and raised in San Fernando, California and graduated in 1980 from Sylmar High School. He competed on the Varsity Basketball and Track teams, and his favorite class was Mechanical Drafting. After spending one semester at LA Valley College, he joined the Marines. Jim was trained as a Construction Surveyor and was attached to an Air Support Radar Team. He finished 3 tours of duty (12 years) in the Marine Corps as a Sergeant stationed at Quantico, VA. After meeting his wife-to-be, Jim moved back to California in 1994 and was married shortly thereafter.

Jim was hired on at Sinclair Systems International in San Jose, California. He worked at Sinclair Systems for over 19 years. His career at Sinclair ranged from a Parts Warehouse Clerk to a Technician, a Service Coordinator, a Supervisor, a Safety Coordinator, an Asset Manager, and finally a Domestic/International Shipping Supervisor. Jim is currently with JBT Corp as a Technical Service Coordinator, coordinating 27 technicians and up to 200 projects yearly. His greatest passion is his family, his wife, 22-year old twin sons and a new granddaughter.

Kevin Foster, PhD - Lead Pastor, LifeBridge Community Church***Role at Augustus: Board and Founding Team Member***

Kevin Foster is a transplant from Illinois, and for the past 13 years, he has pastored a grassroots church body that is community minded and always willing to serve. Schools are a number one priority for the church's outreach program, assisting with Parent/Teacher Conference weeks, school carnivals and the introduction of the Color Fun Run at Rio Vista Middle School just this last Spring. The kickoff event had an attendance of over 600 students. Pastor Kevin is a member of the Mayor's Faith Outreach Counsel, and he has studied and authored conflict resolution programs for the most positive outcomes in crisis. He is married to a Central Unified School District teacher and their three daughters attend schools in the Central Unified School District.

Cassandra Valdivia, RN BSN - Valdivia & Associates LNC***Role at Augustus: Board and Founding Team Member***

Cassandra Valdivia comes to the Augustus Board with over 20 years of experience in nursing. She has served in various nursing positions in the hospital including ICU, Administrative, Emergency Department and most recently Forensic nursing. She considers nursing her part time job, and she considers being the mom of three dyslexic kids her full time job. Cassandra became interested in Augustus when she was asked to share about her career with students and later started volunteering with students to teach them about nursing and forensics. She is committed to developing a Charter School where students will find their passion including science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Cassandra can be found with her kids at their activities, in the Emergency Department, on-call for sexual assault cases, playing with her two dogs, or taking part in activities at her local church.

Gina Weaver-Adams, Designer - Gina Adams Designs***Role at Augustus: Board and Founding Team Member***

Gina Weaver-Adams has spent the last two decades working in the field of design and event planning. Most of Gina's work history includes computer operations for many programs and systems. She has knowledge of maintaining, organizing and establishing daily operations for professional offices. She is known for taking a mess and "fixing" it. Gina has worked in many capacities in professional offices to include, hiring, retaining, training and releasing employees, setting up new offices, dealing with licensing and state protocol, and payroll. Her areas of strength have been handling financial statements, tax returns and budget.

As a Designer, Gina has the gift to transform a room, home or office and make it beautiful while functioning perfectly. She has designed and brought to full function hundreds of rooms and homes. Her client list includes doctors, attorneys, accountants, various professionals and city officials. Locally, Gina has worked with Peoples Church to design their Women's Ministry retreats, Christmas Tea, Spring Brunch and Bible study. Gina enjoys traveling and spending time with her family, both immediate and extended.

Joetta Winter - Real Estate Agent, Realty Concepts, Inc.

Role at Augustus: Board and Founding Team Member

Joetta Winter is an experienced Real Estate Sales Associate who has been honored for the prestigious Five Star Real Estate Agent Award for four consecutive years during her 26 years as a realtor. Joetta is highly adept at negotiating a sales price, staging a property for sale and identifying opportunities. Joetta specializes in residential properties and foreclosed properties. Her philosophy is that every one of her buyers or sellers are treated with the utmost value and respect. She has always taken pride in the high quality of service given to her clients before, during and after every real estate transaction.

Additional Founding Team Members (Not Petitioners or Current Board Members)

Gregory Gostanian - Gostanian General Building Corporation

Role at Augustus: Founding Member

Gregory Gostanian established Gostanian General Building Corporation in 1977. He is a General Contractor but calls himself a builder, and loves it. The more difficult the project, the better. His experience spans commercial, industrial, educational, government and residential projects with vast experience in each of these areas. If one were to ask him about his passion, the top of the list would be projects that help others whether it be churches, missions, non-profits, community buildings or sometimes just that one that needs some help. In his 40-year legacy, he has had many opportunities to do just that. Greg is not only passionate about what he does, but he does it well and is recognized by clients and peers as a capable, talented and dependable contractor.

Greg is committed to his wife, Mackie, and his four children and their families including two magnificent grandsons, Jacob and Luke, with another bundle of joy due soon. He serves in a variety of roles at Peoples Church in Fresno, CA and has been

involved with community service with the Fresno County Sheriff's department as well as the Sheriff's Air Squadron. Aviation is not only his personal interest, but it has provided him with opportunities to serve.

Licensed General Contractors

Susan Barton - Founder & Developer, Barton Reading and Spelling System, Bright Solutions

Role at Augustus: Founding Member

Susan Barton is a frequent and popular speaker at conferences focusing on Dyslexia, Reading Instruction, Early Intervention and Response to Intervention, and Adult Literacy issues. Susan is also an instructor of Phonemic Awareness and Multisensory Teaching Techniques through the University of California, of Learning Disabilities at West Valley College, and of the graduate-level courses Screening for Dyslexia, Tutoring People with Dyslexia, and Understanding Dyslexia and ADHD through the University of San Diego.

In the past few years, Susan has presented at these conferences: the American Speech Hearing Association's National Conference, the Learning Disabilities National Conference, the Canadian Dyslexia Association, the Oregon branch of the International Dyslexia Association, California Literacy, many regional and statewide conferences of the International Reading Association, many regional and statewide conferences for the Association for Christian Schools International, the California and Arizona Charter Schools conferences, the California Association of School Psychologists, the California Kindergarten conference, and the Early Childhood Educators conference, to name just a few.

Hall of Honor, International Dyslexia Association

Jeff Gilger, Ph.D. - Founder & Director, The UCM Alliance for Family and Child Health and Development

Role at Augustus: Founding Member

Jeff Gilger is a Professor of Developmental Psychological Science and the Carlston Cunningham Chair in Cognitive Development at the University of California, Merced. For many years, the Alliance founder, Dr. Gilger has met with parents and children facing learning and health related issues in school and at home. Upon coming to UC Merced in 2011, Dr. Gilger immediately recognized the need for a centralized organization in the Merced area that could advise and direct families and professionals in need of consultation, referrals or information about various childhood

conditions. He also recognized the value of a physical presence in the community to help connect the university with the local population and to facilitate health and learning-related research. Hence the Alliance formally launched in Spring 2016 and partnerships are starting to develop. Initial programs of the Alliance are in part funded by First 5 of California and an endowment by the Cunningham family.

Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology/Behavioral Genetics, 1987 — University of California, Santa Barbara

M.A. in Experimental Psychology/Personality, 1984 — University of California, Santa Barbara

M.S. in Clinical Child/School Psychology, 1982 — California State University, Hayward

B.A. in Psychology/Abnormal and Clinical Psychology, 1980 — California State University, Hayward

Research Interests:

Normal and abnormal neuropsychological development and genetics

Etiology of learning-language disorders

Susan Clare, Ph.D., BCBA - Retired Board-Certified Behavior Analyst

Role at Augustus: Founding Member

Susan Clare has the depth and breadth of knowledge and experience in the field of behavior and behavioral intervention that many practitioners may only ever achieve half of. Starting out in the field of Speech Pathologist and Autism Specialist while many Autists were being institutionalized. To some 20 years later, seeing the dissolution of the asylums and the need for better mental health care for those with severe cognitive health issues. Dr. Clare has run her own school and program specifically for Autistic children and has worked with this fascinating and challenging population for over 40 years. Prior to partial retirement, Dr. Clare was an adjunct professor in the School of Psychology at Fresno Pacific University and supervised many hopeful BCBA students with care and great success.

Dr. Clare enjoys her semi-retired life with her husband of 45+ years but is always willing to assist her former BCBA and students with grace and care.

Ph.D. and Board Certified Behavior Analyst ("BCBA")

Master of Arts

Speech-Language Pathology/Pathologist, Psychologist

Bachelor of Arts

University of Kansas, Portland State, University of Utah, 1966 – 1992

Kathy Futterman, Ed.D., ET/P - Dyslexia Expert***Role at Augustus: Founding Member***

Kathy Futterman, Ed.D., ET/P has worked in the field of special education for over 22 years, primarily with students with language-based learning issues in the areas of reading, writing and spelling. She has worked in a variety of settings including private clinics, public and private schools and at the university level. She is a Lecturer and Fieldwork Supervisor at California State University at East Bay in the departments of Educational Psychology and Teacher Education teaching courses on inclusion, curriculum and instruction, assessment and special education to candidates earning their Education Specialist, Multiple Subject, Single Subject or Speech/Language Pathology credential.

Kathy is committed to working with the Augustus Charter Academy for Creative Arts and Technology team members to ensure early and accurate identification of dyslexia and related reading and writing disorders, mandatory teacher training and Structured Literacy remediation programs are successfully implemented in California public schools. Kathy also has a private practice as an Educational Therapist in Contra Costa County, California.

Doctor of Education (Ed.D.), Educational Leadership for Social Justice - 2017, California State University-East Bay

Level II Education Specialist Credential - 2010, California State University-East Bay

Ph.D. candidate, Learning Disabilities - 2001, Northwestern University

Dual Credential in Elementary Education & Special Education - 1996, Wheelock College

Masters of Arts, Child Study/Child Development - 1995, Tufts University

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology - 1992, UC San Diego