

# L.A. youth teacher's guide

*Publishing Schedule*

**L.A. Youth will arrive between Oct. 16-23**

## Key to using the October 2007 issue:

ARTICLE and PAGE NUMBER	KEY TEACHING POINTS
<p><b>Don't 'baby' me</b> p. 5 Cindy is tired of offensive and demeaning cat calls that make her feel like an object.</p>	<p>What words do you find offensive? What do you think is the best way to respond to someone who offends you?</p>
<p><b>Doctor dreams</b> pp. 6-7 Inspired by his dad and the TV show House, Jose wants to help others with a career in medicine.</p>	<p>See lesson plan on p. 2.</p>
<p><b>Reality TV sucked me in</b> p. 8 Addicted to bad television, Desiree finally gave it up.</p>	<p>What do you think of reality TV? Can you learn anything from it?</p>
<p><b>Strays needs our help</b> p. 9 Leslie says that through adoption, we can stop animals from being killed in shelters because of overcrowding.</p>	<p>Do you think it's OK to euthanize animals in shelters? How do you think we can stop animals in shelters from being killed?</p>
<p><b>Testing my patience</b> pp. 10-11 Charlene feels her teachers focus too much on standardized tests, instead of inspiring their students to learn.</p>	<p>What makes a good teacher? Do you think schools focus too much on standardized tests?</p>
<p><b>Hiking in L.A.</b> pp. 14-15 Even in urban Los Angeles, teens can find the outdoors.</p>	<p>What activities do you like to do outdoors? What is a new activity you'd like to try?</p>
<p><b>Facing the future</b> pp. 16-17 With so many important decisions to make about college, Alana worries if she's ready.</p>	<p>What are your plans for after high school? How can you prepare yourself to make decisions that will affect your future?</p>
<p><b>My sister is a blessing</b> pp. 18-19 Jisu says her sister, who has cerebral palsy, is so much more than her disability.</p>	<p>Have you ever been treated differently than everyone else? What do you think causes a group of people to treat others differently?</p>
<p><b>COVER STORY You call this home?</b> pp. 20-21 Brandy, who lives in a group home, says the foster care system cares more about rules than the kids.</p>	<p>How do you want to be treated at home? Why are support, respect and freedom important?</p>
<p><b>A cool internship</b> p. 24 From recording voices to sketching cartoons, working at an animation studio was a blast for Joe.</p>	<p>What is your dream internship? What resources can you use to find a summer internship?</p>
<p><b>Behind the scenes with my favorite chef</b> p. 25 Samantha can't believe she got to interview Food Network star Giada De Laurentiis.</p>	<p>Who is your idol? What would you ask if you got a chance to interview that person?</p>

# Thinking about careers

*Helping students see what can influence their career choices*

A lesson plan based on "Doctor dreams" from the October 2007 issue of L.A. Youth. In this story Jose Dizon describes why he wants to be a doctor and how he has explored his interest in the medical field.

By Mike Fricano, Editor

**Grades:** 6-12

**Subjects:** Language arts, life skills

**Suggested time allowance:** 45 min.-1 hr.

**Overview:** In this lesson plan students will think about and discuss possible careers.

**Objective:**

Students will think about what influences the careers they're considering.

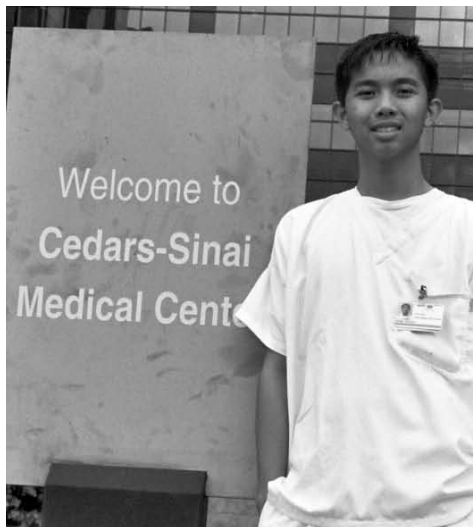
**Resources and material:**

- pens, paper
- copies of L.A. Youth article "Doctor dreams" (one per student)
- white board or blackboard

**Activities:**

1. On the board write: "Teacher" and "Doctor." Ask students to list reasons why they think people choose those careers and write those answers under each career. Reasons for teacher might include: like working with students, summers off, job security, a parent was a teacher, a teacher was an influence in their lives, inspirational movies like Freedom Writers or Mr. Holland's Opus. The reasons for doctor could be: want to help people, money, like science, challenging, a doctor has saved someone in their family, someone they know has an illness that they want to cure.

2. Reading. Have them read Jose's story about why he wants to be a doctor on



pages 6-7 of the October issue of L.A. Youth.

**Reading comprehension exercise:**

Have them write down the reasons why Jose wants to be a doctor. They should easily be able to identify the three primary reasons why he wants to be a doctor: his favorite show is House; time he spent with his father, who is a doctor in the Philippines; and his volunteering at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. But challenge them to be more specific.

What about House got Jose interested?

--The show featured rare cases that the TV doctors solved like mysteries, which was very intriguing.

--House's sarcastic personality showed Jose that doctors don't have to be uptight.

What about his dad's job influenced Jose?

--His dad's devotion. His dad answered every call without ever complaining, because he knew that his work was so important.

--How his dad calmly juggled lots of tasks at once.

--The way people treated his dad with respect.

--On the way home when Jose was still tired, his dad seemed ready to do another shift.

What were the best parts of his volunteer work at Cedars-Sinai?

--Working in the Saperstein Critical Care Tower where he was around patients.

--His work contributed to patient care.

--He realized how important hospitals and medical care are to everyone.

3. Discussion: What careers are you interested in?

Have the students share their lists of Jose's influences and write a master list on the board. Then talk about what current activities, interests or people in their own lives are influencing their possible career choices. Have students write down their career possibilities and what things are influencing those choices. For students who aren't sure what they want to do, perhaps they'll be able to more clearly see how their own interests could suggest possible careers.

4. Writing assignment: After reading "Doctor dreams," sharing their lists and discussing them, have students write an essay in which they write about a career they're considering with an emphasis on why they've chosen that career.

**Extension activity**

Ask students to research a career or job that they would like to pursue, and present their findings to the class.

Some career-oriented quizzes can be found at the following websites:

[www.careerkey.org/english/](http://www.careerkey.org/english/)

[www.iccweb.com/careerfocus/index.asp](http://www.iccweb.com/careerfocus/index.asp)

[www.princetonreview.com/cte/quiz/career\\_quiz1.asp](http://www.princetonreview.com/cte/quiz/career_quiz1.asp)



## Would you like a speaker from L.A. Youth?

Editors Laura Lee and Mike Francano speak about journalism, current events, working as a reporter, how to be a better writer and how students can get involved in L.A. Youth.

Call Laura or Mike at (323) 938-9194 or e-mail [llee@layouth.com](mailto:llee@layouth.com) or [mfricano@layouth.com](mailto:mfricano@layouth.com).

**THANKS TO TEACHERS** who contributed letters to the editor: Keith Kesler, Excel Charter Academy; Jolie Augustine, Wilson MS in Glendale; J.B. Blair, Hutchinson MS in La Mirada.

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Next Newcomer's Orientation: **Saturday, Dec. 8, 11 a.m. - noon** at  
L.A. Youth at 5967 W. Third Street Suite 301, L.A. 90036 *(between Fairfax and La Brea)*

Call Amanda, Laura or Mike at (323) 938-9194

# L.A. youth

## IS MOVING AND NEEDS YOUR HELP

As a teacher who receives L.A. Youth and supports what we do, we urgently need your support. We lost our lease and must relocate our office. Your support will help us relocate without disrupting our journalism training program and the quality of the publication you receive six times a year. Your donation will be applied to our anticipated moving expenses, which include first and last month's rent, security deposit, facility upgrades and equipment and furnishing costs.

Please consider sending us a tax-deductible contribution to help defray our moving costs. Thank you!

**YES, I would like to donate \$20 or more to help defray moving costs for L.A. Youth.**

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