# 2017-18 BELL Academy
## Cycle 3: Enrichment Cluster Options

| Name | Description |
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| **Animating with Javascript** | Want to learn the intricacies of JavaScript coding?  Do you wish you could build your own animations? Do you want to take the first steps towards creating your own gaming characters?  This SEM will focus on the fundamentals of coding using JavaScript.  Through this intensive process we will learn the basics of drawing simple shapes, debugging long lines of code, looping, functions, arrays, and objects.  It won't be easy, but it is the first step needed towards creating your own gaming character!  Our culminating project will be to create a simple shape along with a background proposal on how and why you chose to create this character. |
| **Building Dreams - Architecture and You** | Have you ever wanted to redesign your room? Do you ever wonder how skyscrapers or bridges are built? Do you like to put things together or take them apart to see how it works? Does design and planning intrigue you? In this cluster you will be exploring different phases of the drafting and design process of the world around you including drafting blueprints by hand and with the use of computer applications such as auto-CAD and/or Google Sketch-up, building miniature 3-D models, and understanding all aspects of the design and building process which may include New York City building codes, plumbing systems, electrical systems, structural engineering and architectural design.  At the end of this cluster we may visit the Architecture and Design department at the Museum of Modern Art or the Center for Architecture in New York City. |
| **Drama** | Are you a natural performer? Do you like to act? Are you creative and love to design sets? If so, Drama Club is the club for you! Drama Club is for students who enjoy acting, singing, dancing or being cast crew members. You will learn acting skills, play production, teamwork and have experience working on sets and props. As a club, you will hold performances for the school and spread your talents to our local community centers such as the YMCA or nursing home. |
| **Fashion** | Do you like fashion?  Are you interested in interior decorating or jewelry design? In this cluster, you will explore fashion trends of different decades and/or cultures.  You will design original fashion pieces that are inspired by those trends.  We will learn how to sketch, sew, and even market your design. You can create a pillow, quilt, hat, a pair of socks, masks, dresses, pants, jewelry, etc. There may also be a possible trip to the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT) to explore and learn more about the fashion industry and famous designers. |
| **Film Cluster: For the making and appreciation of films** | Do you enjoy watching films? Have you ever wondered how films are made? Would you enjoy creating your own script and movie? The film cluster will explore the world of film; the way they are shot, the directors' styles, the importance of imagery and dialogue and how all of these elements work together to create a successful film. As a final project, participants will analyze tactics used to design and deliver effective PSA (Public Service Announcement) messages. Participants will then create an informative PSA that incorporates research from multiple sources and the use of various communication techniques to express a clear, accurate message designed to reach a specific group with a message that will change the group's behavior. Trips might include visits to the Museum of the Moving Image and/or the Museum of Television and Radio. |

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| **Future Community Leaders** | Are you interested in taking action on our community or around the world? Is there someplace where you can help make a difference? Is there charity that you want to get involved with? Perhaps you're interested in helping animal shelters, Veterans, or the homeless? Through investigating and planning we will be able to address these issues, develop and carry out action plans to make a positive impact in our community. Field trips may include various points of interest. Together, we will decide! |
| **Genius Hour** | At many innovative companies, employees are given time each week to investigate a project of their choosing in the hopes of fostering greater creativity. In Genius Hour, students will be given their SEM time to dedicate to researching a real-world issue or problem and working towards its solution. Students will develop their own inquiry questions and research possible solutions to help answer this question. Students will use technology to create their solutions and present the, to our SEM. |
| **The Green Team** | Ever wonder how you can make a difference and improve the physical world around you? Do you ever feel concerned about how pollution can affect the wellbeing of animals and humans? Are you aware of the chemicals in our food and beauty products? Are you interested in future solutions to world problems including energy sources? In this cluster, you will consider the impact that humans have had on the environment. We will be committed to raising awareness about environmental issues and to reducing our environmental impact as individuals, a school community and citizens of the world. Field trips may include local community visits, as well as a trip to Alley Pond. |
| **It's Not All Fun and Games, or is it?** | Does solving problems make you excited? Do you enjoy figuring out riddles? In this cluster you'll be able to work on puzzles and learn critical problem solving skills while building STEM challenges. Projects will include creating games or puzzles to donate to local children's hospitals. A possible field trip could be to a local children's hospital or senior center to share our new games. |
| **RESPECT Team** | Are you interested in becoming a member of the BELL Academy RESPECT Team? Do you want to encourage BELL Academy students to embrace and share their differences? Being on the RESPECT Team will be a fun and challenging experience. One project you focus on is creating new activities for this year's RESPECT FOR ALL week. You will also have the opportunity to share your ideas and create fundraisers and activities around BELL. These activities will build upon our ongoing diversity programs and help BELL Academy embark upon new initiatives that promote respect and diversity and focus on preventing bullying, intimidation and bias-based harassment. |
| **Set Design** | Want to help out the school? We need artists and builders to help design the set, props, and costumes for the school play! Come help design, build, and paint the background scenery and props. If you are creative, hardworking, and like helping out then this is the SEM for you. |
| **String Ensemble** | Are you a musician interested in performing in a group setting? This cluster is open to all students with a desire to create and perform with others who share a passion for music. You will have the chance to arrange and play songs of your choosing, compose and record your own music and perform with an ensemble in multiple different settings. All ability levels are welcome and everyone is given the opportunity to improve as a musician and performer regardless of their skill level. We will be able to provide string instruments from the school so you do not need your own instrument to participate in this cluster. Students who play instruments other than strings are also encouraged to join. Possible class field trips include sitting in on a rehearsal of the NY Philharmonic and other musical performances around the city. *Students in this cluster typically remain in this cluster throughout the school year.* |
| **Wonderful Watercolors** | Calling all aspiring artists! Do you like to paint? In this cluster, we will study and experiment a variety of techniques and methods of watercolors. We will explore possible careers in the Visual Arts. In addition, we will explore careers that involve art and the application of watercolors. Did you know that Illustrators and fashion designers work with watercolors, for both high-end stores and magazine ad campaigns. A possible trip is the Morgan Library for Colors of the World workshop. We will display our work in local community venues such as our local library. |