

1135-VG-953 **Victoria Kofman*** (drkofman@gmail.com), Buffalo Grove, IL. *Gifted For All.*

Stella Academy is a non-for-profit learning center which provides gifted-level math education for all its students. Student success exclusively defines the center's survival since *Stella* operates on parental contributions only. The students are mostly children of immigrants. Students who come to *Stella* in the 40-85th percentile range on national tests consistently and significantly increase their performance within a year—without any sort of "test prep" in their *Stella* curriculum.

Stella's program starts from introducing numbers (see VikaSchool.com/Book) and concludes with Algebra-level material. The beginning of the program teaches the fundamentals of mental computations and problem solving. Later, *Stella* introduces integers utilizing vectors, teaches elements of geometry using drafting and construction problems, teaches pivoting using verbal and number problems, helps students discover *sine*-function by prompting them to draw *y*-projection of a unit vector, and more.

Stella constantly improves its math program and fits the needs of students of various abilities. In spite of differences in ability, all our students are engaged in problem solving and develop strong interest in STEM. (Received September 17, 2017)