



# TOTALS



## Bouncy Houses

➤ SERGEI SYCHEV, THE founder of **Planet Bouncy**, provides crack customer service and a selection of inflatable jumpers and slides in themes ranging from Strawberry Shortcake to Scooby-Doo to monster trucks. When we called the company, the hunky Sychev personally took our order. We went with a Wall-E model, which he delivered to our yard and set up on time. The bouncy house was immaculate, near new, and the kids caromed in it for hours. Our party was on Mother's Day, and we wanted the pickup to be a few hours later than usual. Sychev worked around a dinner engagement with his own mother and arrived with a smile at 7 p.m. to deflate Wall-E to a neat little package and to leave more than a few moms with bouncy dreams of their own. // 310-977-4160 or [planetbouncy.com](http://planetbouncy.com).

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### Arts Education Program

➤ HOUSED IN A FORMER National Guard facility in Old Pasadena, the **Armory Center for the Arts** has become one of the region's great citadels for cultivating creative expression. The year-round arts education program nurtures talent as young as three years old. Most of the instructors hold M.F.A. degrees and rather than teach conformity, they provide the materials, tools, and techniques to help realize the students' visions. For a preschooler, this might mean constructing a spaceship that lands on Mars or Venus of her own creation, while a teenager-old might build a miniature Case Study house. Parents can observe their budding geniuses from the Armory's balcony while multitasking through free Wi-Fi. // 857 N. Raymond Ave., Pasadena 626-792-5101 for [armoryarts.org](http://armoryarts.org).



### Concerts

➤ THERE'S A REASON **Summersounds** comes out at the Hollywood Bowl: sell-out within days. The shows, designed for children three and older, figuratively take the audience to various neighborhood hotspots in L.A. with lively music, audience participation, and dance or performance. The events—priced at \$7 per person—are upendantic and last about 45 minutes, just the right length for the ant-in-the-pants crowd. The patio venue, next to the Bowers Museum, is shady and intimate. Performances take place in the morning, meaning (human) it's naptime when you return home. // 2301 N. Highland Ave., Hollywood 323-850-2000 or [hollywoodbowl.com](http://hollywoodbowl.com) / [summersounds.com](http://summersounds.com).

### Teen Clothing

➤ TRUE, YOU MIGHT HAVE to talk your daughter into the \$40 Levi's instead of the \$106 True Religion. But at least you've got the choice. **Bloomingleaks** is the best meeting point between tween-friendly styles and budget-stripped wallets. The department store doubles as a place to teach quality over quantity—while snagging a pink-and-navy rugby-striped Spandril tee or a Peñon olive-camouflage dress with a brocade Boardwalk to the department. gris shoes by Stuart Weitzman and Michael Kors. For boys there's Quaker and Diesel, lots of music-themed tees, and an entire Polo section. Unlike many stores, this one doesn't make you feel as if you've been transported into a Hanns Montana video. // Westfield Century City, 10250 Santa Monica Blvd., 310-772-2900 or [bloomingleaks.com](http://bloomingleaks.com).