Happy New Year

JANUARY 2020

DONATE TO SUPPORT GREAT FUTURES

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF THE WEST VALLEY

Save the Date
YOUTH OF THE YEAR LUNCHEON
SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2020
11:30 AM - 2:30 PM
HILTON WOODLAND HILLS
6360 CANOGA AVE,
WOODLAND HILLS, CA 91367
MORE INFORMATION
(818) 610-1054
We have officially wrapped up our Arts Contest submissions and we are in the midst of judging! The winners of the contest and their families are invited to join us next week on January 23 for an exclusive reception, where they will accept their prizes and have the opportunity to browse the gallery before the rest of the public. The following day, January 24, the gallery will be open to all participants and others to browse and enjoy. Additionally, there will be a special highlight of Hale Middle School's "Save this Place for Me" exhibit and culminating project.

Once a Club Kid, Always a Club Kid!

At the beginning of the month, seven WVBGC Club alumni gathered at our Main Clubhouse for the Alumni Mixer. The former Club members in attendance were Rowall Vaquez (UC Merced), Ashley Carbajal (UC Riverside), Michelle Villanueva (UCLA), Antonio Saquic (CSUN-B2F), Fernando Gutierrez (Pierce College), Kierra Grundy (College of the Canyons), and Keenend Huerta (CSUN). The alumni enjoyed an afternoon of socializing and networking with some of our current high school Club members and they also had the opportunity to share how their positive Club experience prepared them for the future. We always love seeing past members return and inspire future alumni!
Dear Friends,

"It's all about relationships." We have known for decades that high-quality relationships are essential to young people growing, learning, and thriving, especially for the youth who face serious challenges in their lives and in the world around them. If we say relationships really matter, how do we make them a true priority for all young people to experience? How much do we invest in high-quality relationships within our families, schools, and youth programs?

January is National Mentoring Month, an annual nationwide mentoring campaign dedicated to celebrating and elevating the mentoring movement. Here at Boys & Girls Club of the West Valley, we are celebrating the power of relationships. We are reflecting on the growth of the mentoring movement, recognizing the need to recruit new mentors, and offering opportunities to thank mentors who have positively impacted our lives.

What we know about mentoring is that it matters to positive youth development. Similar to my experience, you likely have a story of a mentor from your own youth. Youth with mentors have higher rates of high school graduation and are less likely to drop out of school; they find themselves with more self-confidence, self-esteem, and they are able to create big goals. Mentors help children grow and they help close the social and/or economic opportunity gap.

This new year, I encourage you to volunteer and become a mentor as a way to help a lonely young person reach their full potential. YOU can help inspire the next generation! It costs nothing but time.

For more information regarding volunteer opportunities at our Club, please click here.

Warm regards,

Tim
President/CEO
New Board Member Highlight!

We are thrilled to have Nicole Nilos from First Bank join our awesome Board of Directors team!

"The Boys and Girls Club provides a safe place for children to play and dream, and to be a part of a Board of Directors that contributes to that is rewarding and an honor. It breaks my heart to know that there are so many children who do not have a safe structure, or warm environment. I truly believe in the value of investing in youth and even the smallest contribution can make a difference. As Lady Bird Johnson once said, “Children are likely to live up to what you believe of them.”"

View our Board of Directors

Keystone Members Volunteer at The Midnight Mission

Over winter break, some of our Keystone high school members had the opportunity to volunteer and serve meals to the homeless at The Midnight Mission in Downtown Los Angeles. The teens also toured the entire facility and learned in depth about the Mission’s resources that are available to the homeless population. We are so proud of our Keystone members for continuing to give back to the community!
From year-end physical assessments to multiple sport clinics to game room tournaments, our Triple Play department had their hands full the entire Winter Camp! During Camp, members participated in baseball and basketball clinics, where they learned fundamentals and new skills. The kids also competed in competitive game room tournaments for games such as air hockey, chess, and Connect Four. It was a fun couple of weeks that kept our members very active!
Contact Kelly for more information about our Great Futures Monthly Giving Club, contact Kelly Ventimiglia, Director of Philanthropy.

Special THANKS to our Club's Sponsors and Supporters!
Round of applause to the **Skylight Foundation** for their grant to help support our Club's General Operations!

Standing ovation to **The Frieda C. Fox Family Foundation** for their grant to help support our Technology Center!

Thumbs up to the **Stephen & Mary Birch Foundation** for their grant to help support our Club's General Operations!

Much gratitude to the **Greater Los Angeles New Car Dealers Association** for their year-end donation to support our Club's youth!

Thank you to **Kohl's National Giving Program** for their grant to help support Great Futures!

Special shout-out to **Timothy K. Gaspar Insurance Services** for the Van Sponsorship!

Many thanks to **Elks of Los Angeles Foundation** for their grant to help support our Club's General Operations!

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