



MEET THE CHALLENGE!

A Message from Executive Director, Mike Lansing

Our organization has adopted a new slogan this year - "Meet the Challenge". In my 19th year at the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Los Angeles Harbor, the challenges we face as an organization have become even more severe given the economic realities, difficulties, limitations and sometimes the outright dangers that a growing number of local families and especially their children must face.

Day in and day out I witness our kids who "Meet the Challenge" and truly overcome tremendous odds due to their indelible spirit and the efforts of so many caring adults and supporters. These children could easily give up, but with the Club providing a safe place to go and a plethora of programs and activities that allow them to develop and succeed - they "Meet the Challenge" and will soon be leading our community and possibly the greater Los Angeles area as productive, caring and involved adults.

This is why our new slogan is so very appropriate at the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Los Angeles Harbor. Because without the commitment of our Board, staff and YOU our donors - we could not continue to make available the most up to date facilities nor sponsor the most comprehensive child development programming possible for over 8,000 youth annually. And that number is growing as our College Bound and Arts Academy programs attract continually more at-risk youth and provide a pathway to their development and success. One illustration: our high school and middle school attendance has increased by a combined 70 percent over the last two years alone. Now THAT is a challenge!

TODAY, we have a tremendous opportunity which can assist our efforts to continually "Meet the Challenge." For every new or upgraded donation we raise from the previous year, a generous, anonymous donor will match it through a Challenge Grant up to \$250,000. I thank you in advance for your continuing support and I hope you will assist us in meeting this \$250,000 goal - EVERY dollar counts!

Mike Lansing



Executive Director Mike Lansing with our Keystone teen volunteers at our San Pedro Club Thanksgiving dinner.

FIRST YEAR OF ARTS ACADEMY ENDS WITH SHOWCASE AT THE WARNER GRAND

On December 4, we celebrated the culmination of the Arts Academy's first year with a dynamic showcase at the Warner Grand Theater in San Pedro. This gave our

youth members the opportunity to present their final projects and performances on a fully equipped, landmark stage in their community. **(cont. next page)**

Serving 15 sites
in San Pedro
and Wilmington

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Los Angeles Harbor

San Pedro Boys & Girls Club
Harry Bridges Span School
Barton Hill Elementary
Island Ave. Elementary

Wilmington Boys & Girls Club
Park Western Elementary
Wilmington Middle School
Fleming Middle School

Port of LA Boys & Girls Club
Banning High School
San Pedro High School
Fries Ave. Elementary

Dana Middle School
Gulf Ave. Elementary
Daniel's Field

ARTS ACADEMY SHOWCASE

(cont. from cover) There, they showcased their work with the type of production attention that professional artists and performers normally receive.

We opened our showcase with a fine arts gallery in the Warner Grand Theater lobby. This semester, our Art Director Sandra Avila and Art Coordinator Maritza Mejia led the fine arts lessons with a focus on inspiration from the great masters. Our students from elementary school to high school recreated iconic pieces that many had seen during our field trips to the Getty Center in Los Angeles and MOLAA in Long Beach during the semester. Our more advanced students took the inspiration to create their own original works.

Also featured in the theater lobby, was a demonstration of our students' game design and 3D modeling projects presented by Digital Studio Director Alex Monita. Thanks to the Taco Bell Foundation for Teens and Mark Wahlberg Youth Foundation, we are able to provide education for our youth in these two areas with the latest design programs and technology.

Our live performances commenced with sets from our Wilmington Club and San Pedro Club bands. The bands played crowd favorites from several eras of rock 'n' roll from the 1950s onward. Some of our middle school and high school music students were first introduced to their instruments only twelve weeks before our showcase when the semester started. Their dedication to the lessons and personal attention from our instructors like Music Director Edwin Porras and Music Instructor Omar Tassi enabled them



Performance of The Nutcracker at our Showcase.

to perform as a group after only a few weeks of instruction.

After a stirring musical set, our students went back to classical roots with a ballet performance of selections from the *The Nutcracker*. The piece included the dancing talents of our elementary, middle and high school students performing iconic scenes from this seasonal production. Following the traditional set, our San Pedro Club high school dance team performed emotional solo pieces and electrifying group numbers choreographed by Dance Instructor Nathan Billingslea.

We are so proud of all of our Arts Academy participants for their amazing growth and inspiring achievements this past year. Director of Programs and Arts Academy Coordinator Tony Tripp established the Arts Academy at the start of 2013 to improve and expand our Comprehensive Arts Programming. We are now seeing the skill level and talent of our students flourish to new artistic heights.



Our Wilmington Club band playing rock hits.



A fine arts gallery opened our showcase at the Warner Grand.

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT



Valero is a longtime partner of our organization that has provided our Clubs with essential resources, generous funds and great volunteers.

Their support has been fundamental in helping us provide our successful enrichment programming to the number of youth whom we serve.

Valero employees, including our Board Vice President Steve Faichney, have undertaken volunteer tasks such as painting inside of the Wilmington Club, installing shelves in rooms and planting trees.

The support we receive from generous business partners like Valero has enabled us to sustain and expand the services we offer to harbor area youth.

OVER 2,400 THANKSGIVING DINNERS SERVED



Board Member Ken Pope and NCL volunteers at Wilmington Boys & Girls Club.



NCL ticktoker taking family portraits at San Pedro Boys & Girls Club.

Thanks to our generous supporters helping us “Meet the Challenge,” our annual Thanksgiving Dinners were a huge success! From November 19 to November 22, we hosted Thanksgiving Dinners for our youth members and their families at our San Pedro Club, Wilmington Club, Port of Los Angeles Club and our newest Club site at the Harry Bridges Span School. Our Club Thanksgiving Dinners have been an annual tradition for decades and have grown larger every year as we have expanded. This year, we made sure that even more families than previous years had a wonderful Thanksgiving with over 2,400 meals served.

For some of our families, this is the only opportunity they will have to eat a hot meal together all year. We were able to meet this incredible need with help from local organizations and individuals. The National Charity League Palos Verdes Chapter, Palos Verdes Rotary, San Pedro Rotary and Los Angeles City Fire Department Chief of Staff and Club Board Member John Vidovich donated the turkeys and hams for all four Thanksgiving Dinners. Bonert’s Slice of Pie donated all of the pumpkin pies served at the dinners.

Our program coordinators and youth created festive decorations to turn our Club gyms into welcoming dining halls where we could celebrate as a community. Our Arts Academy bands entertained the crowds and our younger students performed seasonal works.

Our Club Directors, Leo Ignacio, Cara Askew and Mirella Espinoza at our San Pedro Club; Antonio Prieto and Hilda Chacon at our Wilmington Club; Sonia Espinoza at our Port of Los Angeles Club; and Rucinda Sepulveda at our Harry Bridges Span School Club site organized the dinners to reflect the unique culture and community of each Club.

Volunteers from both Rotary groups led by Rotary members, Board Member Suzy Zimmerman, Director of Development Derald Sidler and Director of Special Events Deanna Deering attended the Harry Bridges Span School dinner to assist in serving. National Charity League mother-daughter team volunteers assisted at the San Pedro Club dinner and the Wilmington Club dinner, serving meals and taking family portraits for attendees to have a keepsake of the evening.

Student volunteers from Marymount California University, who are currently assisting with our programming, volunteered as servers at the Port of Los Angeles Club dinner. The Port of Los Angeles employee band even donated their time to entertain our families at the same dinner.

We had plenty to be thankful for this season, especially the incredible support we received to make our Thanksgiving Dinners a memorable experience for all.



San Pedro Club families celebrating Thanksgiving as a community.



A Port of LA Boys & Girls Club family enjoying Thanksgiving dinner.

COLLEGE BOUND APPLICATION WORKSHOPS



College Bound high school seniors taking notes at a San Pedro Club workshop about the UC application process.

College Bound Director Yesenia Aguilar and Coordinators Maria Flores, Jenna Mendoza and Lloby Agredano have been very busy this fall guiding our high school seniors through the college application process. Every Monday through Saturday, our College Bound Centers at our San Pedro Club, Wilmington Club and Port of Los Angeles Club have been packed with high school students, especially seniors, preparing their applications with the support of our College Bound coordinators and case managers.

Fall is the season of college application deadlines and we have been making sure that our students have the resources they need to turn in excellent applications. Earlier this year, we boasted our highest graduation and college enrollment level yet with 98 percent of College Bound high school seniors graduating on time and 97 percent of graduates starting college this fall. We plan to sustain this

growth by sending even more graduates to college in 2014.

In addition to one-on-one mentoring provided by our case managers and volunteer tutors, our College Bound coordinators have been conducting two workshops per week on all aspects of college applications. The workshops have been attended by up to 80 seniors at each Club with topics ranging from “Selecting a College” to “Personal Statement Writing” to “Filling Out the UC Application.”

As a start to the application season, we hung up our “Walls of Fame” at each Club. Each Wall displays pictures of our seniors. Once their college acceptance letters start coming in, we will add the names of the colleges they have been accepted to under their pictures. Our seniors are always so proud to display their accomplishments and list the colleges that have accepted them under their pictures.



A College Bound tutor helping Wilmington Club students with their personal statements.

KEYSTONE VOLUNTEERS MEETING THE CHALLENGE

Our mission has always been to help the youth we serve reach their full potential as productive, caring and responsible citizens. Our Keystone volunteers demonstrate this every day in their communities. Keystone is a Boys & Girls Clubs of America premier teen program sponsored by Taco Bell Foundation for Teens with a focus on leadership development through community service.

High School Center Directors Cara Askew and Hilda Chacon and High School Center Coordinator Kevin Orantes lead the Keystone groups at our San Pedro Club, Wilmington Club,



Wilmington Club Keystone volunteering at a homeless outreach event on Thanksgiving day.

and Port of Los Angeles Club respectively. They recruit students who are diligent participants in academics, arts and athletics programming to create a team of volunteers who can learn from each other’s strengths and bring something unique to their group.

Our Keystone volunteers complete a variety of service projects across Los Angeles, especially in their own communities. Every week, they “Meet the Challenge” whether it’s cleaning up graffiti in a Los Angeles park, raising money for charity, volunteering at local community events, or participating in the Boys & Girls Club Teen Summit at UCLA.

During the Thanksgiving break, the Keystone groups from our San Pedro Club and Port of Los Angeles Club created hygiene packets in Christmas stockings for distribution to homeless individuals. Our Wilmington Club Keystone volunteers spent their Thanksgiving day preparing and serving traditional holiday meals at a homeless outreach event at Maya Mexican Restaurant in Wilmington. We look forward to what the new year holds for our Keystone teens and what they will accomplish next!

BRINGING BOYS & GIRLS CLUB TO 11 SCHOOL SITES

We serve 2,250 youth every day throughout San Pedro and Wilmington. In addition to the youth we serve at our San Pedro Club, Wilmington Club and Port of Los Angeles Club, we serve 1,020 youth members at eleven Club sites that we operate at LAUSD elementary, middle and high schools in our communities. At our local schools, we provide a safe, nurturing environment and implement our “Triple A Strategy” with enrichment programming in academics, arts and athletics.

Our newest Club site, which opened this fall at the Harry Bridges Span School in Wilmington, has allowed us to introduce a variety of new programs for elementary and middle school students. At our new site, we started an after school music education program taught by Harmony Project instructors with instruments donated by the International Longshore and Warehouse Union. The classes take students through a variety of musical disciplines as they develop their performance skills. Next semester, we plan to introduce a marching band and drum line to the program.

The youth we serve in our school Club sites are engaged in the programming we offer and their hard work is paying off. Our Fleming Middle School dance team took first place at the 2013 West Coast National Dance Competition in Las Vegas and will defend their title this coming spring. At Wilmington Middle School, we extended their robotics class and assisted in their participation at the 2013 FIRST Lego League International Competition at Legoland

Youth from our Fleming Middle School Club dance team in the Belmont Shore Holiday Parade.



A Harmony Project instructor leads our Harry Bridges Span School youth members through their music lesson.

earlier this year where they won the first place prize.

In many cases at our school Club sites, we have stepped in to support and extend already existing programming. At Wilmington Middle School, Dana Middle School and Banning High School we coordinate after school practice for marching band and drill team and we added a drumline program at Fleming Middle School. This broadens rehearsal and performance opportunities as well as increases the number of youth who are able to partake in music education at the schools we serve.

Director of School Sites Bryan Jebo and his team organize programming that provides our youth with after-school support and opportunities that they would not otherwise receive. In their own schools, our youth can stay after hours and continue their education to reach their full potential.



Band and drill practice at our Club site at Wilmington Middle School.

FIRST SEASON OF FLAG FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

This fall, Athletic Director Philip Jones and Head Coaches Phillip Redd and Thomas McKenzie started flag football leagues for elementary and middle school boys and girls. The middle school teams ended their season with championship games against local teams at Daniel’s Field in San Pedro.

The Wilmington Club Colts led by Coach Johnny Walter showed vast improvement during the season to win the third place trophy. The San Pedro Club had two major wins with the Bears winning first place and the Seahawks taking the second place prize.

Next season, our San Pedro Club and Wilmington Club

will start soccer and basketball leagues available for boys and girls of all ages who would like to develop their athletic skills and learn valuable lessons about team work.



Wilmington Club Colts with their third place trophy.

CLUB ALUMNI SUCCESS

Our College Bound program, founded by Executive Director Mike Lansing in 2002, has helped us significantly increase the rate of our alumni attending college where they are thriving in their educational experiences and beyond. One such alumni is Marlene Chavez who graduated in June of 2013 from the University of California, San Diego. She now works as a College Bound case manager at our Wilmington Club High School Center as she applies to graduate school.

Marlene started attending the Wilmington Boys & Girls Club when she was in middle school. She feels that the Club got her on the right track even before starting high school. She was an engaged participant of our College Bound program which helped her achieve a high GPA and guided her through the college application process. The Club also gave her experience balancing multiple activities as she was involved in Keystone, basketball and volunteered as an athletic coach and tutor.

As the first in her family to attend college, Marlene was awarded a generous scholarship from Palos Verdes Rotary in addition to several other scholarships and grants that the Club helped her attain. She passes on the valuable lessons she learned as a Club member and college student to the College Bound participants she mentors every day. She

describes her job as, "it doesn't even feel like work, just guiding the kids in the right direction. With every kid I work with, I know that I'm making a difference."

Her father was her biggest cheerleader and was so supportive of her plans to go to college that he was well-known by the coordinators and students at the Wilmington Club. She was very proud during her college graduation because although her father had passed, she had accomplished what he had always dreamed for her.

Marlene is applying for a spot in the Speech Pathology graduate program at California State University, Long Beach. She plans to work in an elementary school with children who have communication disorders. The experience in education she is receiving in her role as a College Bound case manager is helping her reach her goal.



GIVE THE GIFT OF HELPING EXPAND OUR PROGRAMMING FOR HARBOR AREA YOUTH

We have a wonderful opportunity to significantly expand our programs for harbor area youth due to our **Meet the Challenge Matching Grant**. A generous, anonymous donor will match every new or upgraded donation from the previous year, dollar for dollar up to \$250,000. Give today and your donation will help us provide educational opportunities to even more youth!

Double Your Impact

Give a new donation of

\$100
today

and

Your gift will become

\$200



There is a variety of ways to support our youth while taking advantage of tax benefits. For more information, please contact our Director of Development Derald Sidler at (310) 833-1322 ext. 242 or email Deralds@bgclaharbor.org.

- **Bequest:** Identify BGCLAH as a beneficiary of a will or trust
- **Gift annuity:** Make a gift and, in turn, receive fixed payments for life
- **Retirement Assets:** Designate BGCLAH as a beneficiary of an IRA, 401 (k), 401 (3b) or pension
- **Gift of stock or appreciated assets:** Avoid capital gains tax while making a contribution
- **Life Estate Reserved:** Gift your property to BGCLAH while retaining right to use
- **Charitable Remainder Trust:** Transfer cash or property and receive fixed payments for life with the remainder going to BGCLAH



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE LOS ANGELES HARBOR

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President

Yvonne Bogdanovich
Community Volunteer

First Vice President, Development

Tamara Powers
Community Volunteer

Secretary

Gary Bettis
Bettis Insurance, President

Second Vice President, Facilities

Gary Bettis
Bettis Insurance, President

Legal Advisor

Joseph N. Mirkovich
Russell, Mirkovich & Morrow

Third Vice President, Board Governance

Steve Faichney
Valero-Wilmington Refinery

Human Resources

Raime Quick
Mattel, Inc.

Board Financial Officer

Rick J. Pielago
Vuoso & Pielago, CPAs

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Edward Alvarado

Alvarado Consulting, Inc.

Sergio Carrillo

Carrillo Strategies

Wyatt Wilson

Spirit Cruises-Ports O' Call

James Artiano

Artiano & Associates, APC

Kirstin Ericson

Keesal Young & Logan

Kenton R. Pope

Total Terminals International, LLC

Bryan Bero

ES & Associates

John Kostrencich

Port of Los Angeles

John Vidovich

Assistant Chief – LAFD

Betsy Brien

Phillips 66

Dennis Lane

Green Hills Memorial Park

Suzy Zimmerman

State Farm

Francesca M. Brooks

Francesca M. Brooks, A Professional Law Corporation

Catherine Cocke

Structural Focus

Alan Goldstein

Merrill Lynch

Gwen E. Butterfield

Butterfield Communications, Inc.

Melissa Alvarado

Community Volunteer

Andres Jimenez, M.D.

San Pedro Family Medicine

Jonathan Marselis

Wells Fargo Bank



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE LOS ANGELES HARBOR

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. Postage
PAID
SAN PEDRO, CALIF.
PERMIT NO. 90

1200 S. Cabrillo Avenue, San Pedro, California 90731
www.bgclaharbor.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE LOS ANGELES HARBOR

2013 PARTNERS

PLATINUM

Valero
Pasha
ILWU

Port of Los Angeles

GOLD

Rich Development
Phillips 66
Union Pacific

SILVER

BNSF
WBCT
Tesoro

SA Recycling
Martin Chevrolet

Al Larson Boat Shop

Fast Lane Transportation
Green Hills Memorial Park

Ports O' Call/ Spirit Cruises

BRONZE

Juanita's Foods, Vopak, Malaga Bank, Metro Ports, PCMC, Ports America,
Keesal Young & Logan, Warren E&P, Supervisor Don Knabe