

Development & Special Events - We have been busy!

Grants: We sent in our signed contract for the Orange County Transportation Authority and will soon have an executed agreement that allows us to purchase five more buses! We submitted applications to Los Angeles Times Family Fund (for a reading/literacy program at Oak View), Western Digital (for OV), Union Bank (Twilight) and Festival of Children (OV). We received a pledge for \$24,000 from BGCA-OJP for mentoring, a \$10,000 grant from Pacific Life Foundation for Oak View, and payments from Orange County United Way, City of Fountain Valley, OCTA, and Children's Bureau for our ongoing grants. We submitted reports to Payless Shoe Source, Children's Bureau for CDBG funding for Oak View from the City of Huntington Beach, and Orange County Transportation Authority.

Events: We partnered with Payless Shoe Source and Surf City Rotary to provide 100 kids at Oak View with a brand new pair of shoes and socks! A grant from Payless gave us \$20 shoe vouchers for 100 kids to help make it possible and Rotary helped pay for the rest. For our fundraising events, we have been busy getting ready for Great Futures Start Here, Surf City Splash, and the JMG Golf Tournament. Promotional and solicitation materials have been sent to the printer in the last few weeks for each event and mailings will be going out this month for all three events. Watch your mailboxes! We revamped our auction website with this year's new look and the page is fully functional. If you

would like to purchase your table or tickets online or refer a friend to the website, visit www.bgchv.com/greatfutures.

Event Dates to remember are: April 5, 2013 – Surf City Splash, May 15, 2013 – JMG Golf Tournament, October 12, 2013 – “Great Futures Start Here” Annual Dinner & Auction.

Year End Fundraising: At the end of 2012, we tried a few efforts to enhance our holiday giving. These included an e-blast requesting support for our scholarship program with a video (www.bgchv.com/family), a direct mail piece to high income households in Huntington Beach, and our winter newsletter. The e-blast and direct mail piece were new for us this year and brought in about \$3,000. With video production cost of about \$500, this was overall a success.

Capital Campaign: We hosted our first cultivation event for Phases II & III of the campaign at the Hyatt Regency on February 7th. Thank you to all board members who helped build the list of prospects and get guests to attend. Now, it's time to follow up with all of our guests and work on building relationships and securing gifts. We also produced brand new materials for Phase II & III of the campaign, including a fresh new look, new case statement, and more. Stop by the development office to pick up a copy.

Matching Gifts: With help from a prospect research database that we recently purchased a subscription to, we are working on finding matching gift

opportunities among our existing and new donors. A big success came with a \$5,000 gift from an individual to support the technology lab at Huntington Beach. With just a few minutes of paperwork, we doubled the gift to \$10,000 thanks to a matching gift from Chevron.

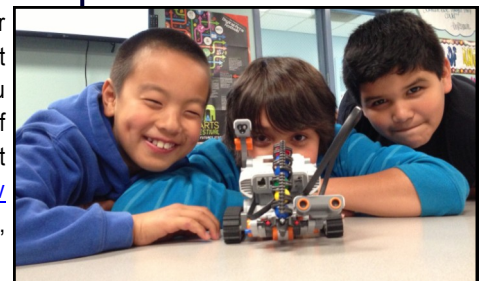
Marketing: Our annual report was sent out in the end of January – we hope you enjoyed reading all about the activities happening at our Clubs. We also sent out an e-blast with the report to all of our 7,000+ constituents. It had a click rate of over 95% meaning the 1750 people who opened it were coming back to look at it again and again. We continue to create ads for the Orange County Business Journal to promote Boys & Girls Clubs in Orange County and will have an ad featuring our Club's capital campaign in March. We submitted an ad for the spring/summer edition of the Fountain Pen and submitted information for listing our activities in Orange County Kids Guide's spring/summer edition. We are also working on spring break and summer enrollment materials to be distributed in local schools and at the Clubs. We sent press releases for several activities and events and got coverage in the local news for the Payless Shoes event and for awards for dedicated service given at the Annual Meeting. If you happened to miss any of these pieces check out www.facebook.com/bgchv to see the articles, video, and photo gallery.

Lego Engineers

Moving into Robotics

Over the past year, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Huntington Valley Kingston Branch has been strengthening its STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Math) programs by working with community member and retired engineer Tom McCann. Through working with Mr. McCann and the Kingston staff, our Club kids have experienced working with Earthquake simulation, bubble engineering, engineering concepts through the use of LEGOs, and now, robotics and programing!

Club members in the LEGO Engineers program have recently entered into the realm of robotics and programing to go where no Club kid has gone before! With the help of the Huntington Beach Rotary Club and Mr. McCann, the Club kids were able to work with a new LEGO Mindstorm NXT 2.0 set. With the new Mindstorm set, our Club kids curiously began to start construction of the models and even began programing the models to do what the kids wanted to do. The club members built and programmed a robot that could recognize colors and shoot small plastic balls at the sight of a particular color. Not only were the kids amazed but the staff and Mr. McCann were definitely awed at how far the LEGO Engineers club has gone!



Kingston Branch, FV

Youth of the Year Dinner

On February 1st, Kingston club members who were honored as Kid of the Month in the year of 2012 gathered together with parents and loved ones to celebrate the great works and achievements of those members through an extravagant dinner ceremony know as, our Youth of the Year Dinner! After every child was honored and recognized, the Kingston Youth of the Year for 2013 was announced! Nina Simaan, Club member for over 3 years, earned the distinction of being named the Boys & Girls Clubs of Huntington Valley Kingston Branch's Youth of the Year 2013! Nina was voted by all of the staff members for her participation in Club programs such as SMART Girls and Healthy Habits, as well as for her character and kindness to



strangers and friends alike. Whether it's helping a kindergartener tie their shoe or giving an anti-bullying presentation, Nina is always ready to do her part as a Club Kid. Congratulations to all of the Kid of the Month members and congratulations to Nina Simaan!

Chinese New Year Carnival

On February 8th, we hosted our annual Chinese New Year Carnival! This is one of our most highly anticipated carnivals



for the year as it introduces our kids to the traditions of another culture. Our members welcomed in the year of the Snake as they participated in traditional Chinese games such as "Lucky Duck," as well as, exciting carnival games such as the newly constructed Funoodle Loop Challenge. We even had a Lion Dance ceremony to kick off our carnival! For many of our members, it was their first experience with lion dancing and it was definitely something they'll remember for years to come. You can bet many of our members are eagerly waiting for next year's carnival!

Robert Mayer Child Development Preschool, HB

January 11th marked our two year anniversary in the building! Children ages 3-5 have been actively working on criteria that help them learn how to write their name, sounds and recognition of the alphabet, counting from 1-30 and identifying the numbers, working on longer attention spans and of course building on their independence. The pre-k children worked on the letter "P" recently. Children came in their pajamas one day and we served pizza for lunch in correspondence to the letter of the week. The end of January I attended a 24 hour (Community Emergency Response Team) CERT training through Golden West College. I was trained in

Disaster Preparedness, Fire Safety, Light Search and Rescue, Disaster Psychology and Terrorism. Great information was distributed and I feel better equipped with knowledge in the event of a disaster or emergency.

February was a month filled with love and friendships! Staff has been incorporating the feeling "love," friendships, heart shapes, and mixing colors to make red, purple and pink into lesson plans. We celebrated Friendship Day on Thursday February 14th where the children created friendship grams to pass to their friends. We used this activity as a perfect opportunity to have the older children practice writing

their own name. February 13th licensed speech and language pathologists from Orange County Speech Services came out to screen our children. They screened in the areas of vocabulary, articulation, following directions, expressive language, receptive language and social skills. Ages 18 months – 5 years were eligible for this free opportunity.



Twilight Education Project, HB

Twilight resumed after a long two weeks off for winter break. The start of the New Year has brought new families and continues to expand around Huntington Beach community. With the start of the New Year, presentations

took place. Volunteers from AmeriCorp and THINK presented a Reading Night to all infant through 1st grade kids. We had about 10 volunteers that read to the kids. Parents were able to take books home as well.

This past month, our food program has continued to be a success for the families and our program. We are serving an average of 30 families and 50 food bags weekly. Not only is our food program continues to



Oak View Branch, HB

The members at Oak View Branch have been busy coming back from winter break. During winter break members got the opportunity to go on a field trip to our sister site in Fountain Valley. The members really enjoyed visiting Kingston because of their variety of activities and rooms. During the month of January, members also participated in Martin Luther King Day of Service by giving back to the community. One of the biggest events that took place during the month of January was our Payless shoe give away. The event was sponsored by Surf City Rotary Club of Huntington Beach and about a hundred members had the opportunity to be part of this wonderful event.

we were fortunate to start a nutrition classes through Second Harvest Food Bank. They will be providing monthly class for the kids about being healthy. This past weekend GWC Police Academy volunteered their time to clean up our playground and resurfacing our sand. Oak View is starting to come alive once again continues to excite the kids in being part of the Boys and Girls Club.

ClubHouse Academy, FV

January marked the end of the fall/winter sports seasons. The basketball finals were full of excitement. Two of the finals went down to the wire and the division 2 final was decided by a single point. Soccer finals were just as exciting. All the finals were decided by two goals or less. The division 1 final was the highlight of the playoffs. The teams battled hard with many lead changes over regulation and overtime. The game was won in penalty kicks when the Sounders' coach's son scored the winning goal. Even with a closes contested game our players, coaches, and fans showed great sportsmanship.

The theatre program has been hard at work perfecting their performance of *Annie Jr.* Six casts will be performing Annie over the next two weekends. Be sure to catch a show as our ClubHouse Theatre kids performs this classic musical that you are sure to enjoy.



At the ClubHouse Academy we had our first female (and fourth overall) student be promoted to black belt in our Karate department. She came to the Boys & Girls Club with very little karate experience, but worked hard to achieve such an impressive honor.

Another exciting event that is taking place at our branch was the start of a basketball league early this month. We have about 30 players eager for the league to get going. Also, during this month



Learning Center Child Development Preschool, FV

January was a very busy month. We started the month with an Oral Health Education presentation by some students in the Dental Hygiene program at Concorde Career College and a free Dental screening for all participating students from the Healthy Smiles Organization. The Orange County Speech

Services also came for a free Speech evaluation and screening for students 0-5.

The Preschool programs are also busy learning about the community and community workers; to enrich their learning, the Fountain Valley Police, along with Officer Mike Fitzpatrick and Officer McGraw came to the Center to educate the children on not talking to strangers and being safe. Officer Fitzpatrick allowed the children to check out the inside of the police car. On the following day, the local Fountain Valley Fire Department also came to educate the children on fire safety and gave an informative discussion about Duck and Cover, and what to do in case of a fire; before they left, the children were able to see how high the fire ladder can be extended and how loud the fire engine siren was. It was a great experience for the children to be able to meet our local heroes.

February was another busy month for us. We kept busy preparing for Vietnamese/ Chinese New Year with a curriculum based on hands on activities and arts and crafts. One of our teacher's performed a Vietnamese dance for all the students and the Pre-K children paraded a Dragon that they made using cardboard boxes around the school using musical instruments and wishing everyone "Gung Hey Fat Choy", which means Happy New Year in Chinese. The celebration ended with a Pot luck and a special red envelope from the school to each child. On February 14th, the children had a Friendship Day celebration. Kids exchanged Friendship cards and parents brought fruits and vegetables for a Healthy Snack Party.



HB Branch wins 3 BGCA Awards

At the beginning of each school year our club registers for National programs. One of these programs, Digital Arts, is designed to integrate our children in fun, educational activities that develop computer skills and to also create career paths for our members. There are six different categories for our members to participate in. The first two, Digital Photo Illustration and Digital Music Making, have both been submitted for the regional competition. I am very pleased to announce that we had two regional winners for Digital Music Making, Noah Perkins age 11 and James Sidrak age 16. Both members were given a Certificate of Accomplishment and a \$50 dollar gift cards to Best Buy.

We just received word that James' submission was the National Winner for his age group. We look forward to seeing his work displayed at the National Conference in May. This is a great start to this program and we look forward to completing the more categories.

Another success story for our Club is the Ready, set, CRAFT! Program. Each month Boys & Girls Club members are asked to submit a photograph of their best arts and crafts work to our Artist of the Month Contest. Each month has a new theme to

inspire youth. Winning artwork is posted on the BGCA web site and the winning artist receives a \$500 U.S. Savings Bond. The Club also receives \$500 to support arts programming. In the first month of this program, an HB Club member - Camryn, age 12 WON! To see the art work and Camryn's essay explaining her work go to:

bgca.org/meetourpartners/Pages/artistofthemonth.aspx and read all about it. I promise you will be impressed!

YOUTH OF THE YEAR

We have crowned our Youth of the Year. With so many great candidates this year it was especially tough on the judges. With over 300 people in attendance at our 9th annual dinner, we selected Heather Harris as our 2013 Youth of the Year. Heather has been a member for five and a half years. She has always done great work in all our programs but has been extremely proficient in Torch Club. In Torch Club Heather has been the example for club service. Whether it has been beach clean-ups, in-club service projects, peer leadership or just leading by setting a positive example Heather has done it all. Heather has been our go to member for any special events and we are proud to call her our Youth of the Year.

