

CLUB NEWSLETTER
Fall 2018



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF HUNTINGTON VALLEY



**A PLACE TO
BECOME BEST FRIENDS**



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF HUNTINGTON VALLEY

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OAK VIEW BRANCH

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PACIFIC LIFE FOUNDATION BRANCH

15645 Gothard Street
Huntington Beach, CA 92647

LEARNING CENTER CHILD DEVELOPMENT PRESCHOOL

17565 Los Alamos Street
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

ROBERT MAYER CHILD DEVELOPMENT PRESCHOOL

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Huntington Beach, CA 92647

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A PLACE TO BECOME OUTSTANDING

Your Award Winning Club Named California Nonprofit of the Year

Boys & Girls Clubs of Huntington Valley was selected as a **2018 California Nonprofit of the Year** by State Senator Janet Nguyen. Celebrated on California Nonprofits Day, the Club's leadership team traveled to Sacramento to accept this special honor alongside other nonprofits doing extraordinary work.

"Nonprofits make California communities stronger, yet we're often so busy that we don't toot our own horns about the work we're doing," explains Jan Masaoka, CEO of the California Association of Nonprofits (CalNonprofits). "California Nonprofits Day is an opportunity for our elected officials to recognize the good work they see nonprofits doing in their districts, and it also demonstrates the

larger collective impact of nonprofits throughout California."

The Club's CEO Tanya Hoxsie says, **"We work hard every day to give the kids at our Clubs the very best. We're really proud that's being recognized this year.** In May, we received an award from Boys & Girls Clubs of America naming our Club **#1 in the nation for arts programming**, in early June, we received an award from the California Council for Adult Education for being an **exceptional partner to adult education programs**, and now we're being named the **Nonprofit of the Year**. We are so grateful to Senator Nguyen for shining a spotlight on the kids who need us most and the important work the Club is doing to help them."



A PLACE TO BECOME REVITALIZED

Haynes Family Huntington Beach Branch Gets An Update - from Good to Great!

If you haven't seen the Club's Haynes Family Huntington Beach Branch lately, you should come see us now. **Thanks to a large gift from McKenna Subaru of Huntington Beach, the Club was able to make a number of updates to make our facility even better than ever!**

Every room has gotten new supplies and materials throughout the whole facility, and major updates were made to the kindergarten room, the technology lab, and the teaching kitchen. The outside has a new look, too, with a fresh coat of paint and new

We're giving kids a chance to find their voice and make their own choices.

landscaping along the entry way. CEO Tanya Hoxsie says, "We want it to look like a nice happy place when kids walk up, so they feel comfortable, and know they're going to have fun when they get inside."

One of the biggest changes at the Club is a **new Unit Director, Ryan Brenes**, who began managing the Haynes Family Huntington Beach Branch during the first week of the school year. He says, "I am excited to meet new families at our Huntington Beach Branch. In the 8 years that I've worked for the Boys & Girls Club, I've now been the Unit Director at three different Club sites. I can take what I've learned from working at the other Clubs and build on what's been successful at our Huntington Beach Branch already. I'm looking forward to new opportunities to help our Club grow and get better all the time!"

In particular, I'll be focused on making the experience here at our Huntington Beach Branch consistent with the experience at our other Clubs. That way, a child can have the same fun and educational opportunities and

experiences at our Huntington Beach Branch as at our Kingston Branch or Pacific Life Foundation Branch.

To me, one of the most important things about the Boys & Girls Club experience is that **we're giving kids a chance to find their voice and make their own choices.** At school every day, they get told what to do and when to do it all day long. For some kids, even their bathroom breaks are scheduled. At a lot of other after school programs that have room rotations, that over-scheduled day just continues. But at our Club, that's not how we do things. Kids get to choose whether they want to work on homework, play on the playground, sign up for a class in



the teaching kitchen, work on an art project, do a STEM activity, play some foosball, whatever they want to do within in the safe framework of the Club. Kids not only have more fun because they get to do what they actually want to do, they learn important life skills that come from using your voice and making your own choices."

A PLACE TO BECOME PLAYFUL

Huntington Beach Branch to Get a New Playground on October 27

We're doing it again! The Club is teaming up with KaBOOM! for a third time to build the kids at our Clubs a new playground. This time, the Haynes Family Huntington Beach Branch is going to get an extreme playground makeover that will be designed with help from the play experts – kids at the Club!

On October 27, volunteers like you will put the new playground together in just one day! Will you help? It will take 200 volunteers like you to put this beautiful new playground together in just six hours. The new playground is expected to give the kids at the Club a great place to play for the next 15 years. **Your six hour day of volunteering turns into more than a decade of putting smiles on kids' faces. We can't imagine a better way to spend a Saturday.**

Whether you are the most handy person in the world or wouldn't know the difference between a screwdriver and a wrench, we can still use your help! We need volunteers to help with all kinds of jobs, including mixing concrete, raking mulch, helping with food and drinks, helping take care of volunteers' children, working on garden beds, assembling benches, painting, or constructing the playground. There are lots of jobs for all ability levels. One of the volunteers at our last playground build said,

"This was one of the most amazing experiences that I have had in life. Participating in such a constructive, meaningful, massive action event with so many wonderful people was phenomenal. You have to see it to believe it. Every time I drive by this playground, I will cherish the thought of being part of this community!" You won't want to miss it!

To get involved as a volunteer, sign up online at tfaforms.com/4695264 or contact Eileen at 714-899-5900 ext 206 or eluong@bgchv.com.

THANK YOU TO KaBOOM! and all of our playground sponsors!

PARS • Pacific Life Foundation
A Little Help Foundation
Boand Family Foundation
Kiwanis Club of Fountain Valley
Kiwanis Club of Huntington Beach
McKenna Subaru
Surf City Rotary Club of HB



In 2017, the Club teamed up with KaBOOM! and Foresters Financial to build our Kingston Fountain Valley Branch playground in just 6 hours. We can't wait to do it again at the Huntington Beach Branch on October 27!

A PLACE TO BECOME A READER

Kids Get on Track for Success Thanks to the Club's Reading Programs

Learning to read is one of the most critical parts of a child's education. Reading specialists say that a child who doesn't learn to read by 3rd grade has a tremendous struggle going forward because after that, reading is the foundation for their learning in nearly all subjects.

The Club wants to make sure that the kids we serve are ready for success in school and that means ensuring their success in reading. For the past several years, the Club has been running two fantastic reading programs – READ Dogs and KidzLit.

Every week at our Huntington Beach Branch, volunteers bring therapy dogs to spend some time with the Club's struggling readers. Club staff member Lara Smith says, "The kids get someone who listens to them read with no judgment whatsoever. That someone just happens to be a dog and that makes it even more fun for the kids! Instead of dreading reading aloud, which is really common for struggling readers, they get excited about reading with the dogs. It's so fun to see their reading get better and their confidence improve."

The Club is also starting a new partnership with Parentis Foundation Experience Corps OC, an AARP affiliate that brings together volunteer retirees and K-3 graders for one-on-one reading tutoring sessions. The program will start this fall and we are excited to have another way to help kids get on track for reading success.

The kids at our Oak View Branch have some special reading opportunities, too, thanks to grant support from the O.L. Halsell Foundation and the Angels Baseball Foundation.

This summer the Club ran KidzLit for the fifth year in a row. This outstanding reading program is designed to help readers of all levels get better and better, whether they are reading well below grade or even well above grade, every child can learn from this program. In the summertime, it's typical for kids to lose ground in their reading. On average, kids lose about three months of reading learning every summer. Those statistics are worse for kids like those at our Oak View Branch who come from low-income households and whose families don't speak English at home. But for the kids at the Club,

What I like about the Boys & Girls Club is that it makes me feel safe and it feels like it's my home.



thanks to KidzLit, 90% of children not only avoided the summer slide, they improved their reading by a full grade level in just 8 weeks. Here's what one Club member has to say about the program. "I like KidzLit a lot because it helps me get better at reading and it helps me learn different kinds of words. **What I like about the Boys & Girls Club is that it makes me feel safe and it feels like it's my home.**"

A PLACE TO BECOME GRATEFUL

Parent of Club Alumni Makes \$5,000 Donation

Years ago, Veronica Lake's children Zack and Brianna joined the Club. Their family was struggling financially and Veronica was going back to school so that she could make a better life for herself and her kids. She counted on the Boys & Girls Club to give her kids a safe place to learn and play after school and the Club's scholarship program made it affordable, even on her tight budget. Her kids loved coming to the Club and Veronica really appreciated the special extras that the Club staff included her kids in, like the annual Toys for Tots party that helped give her children holiday gifts when she couldn't afford to give them much herself.

While Veronica was working and going to school, she also made time to volunteer as a basketball coach for the kids at the Club, because giving back to the community and doing her best for her kids have always been her priorities.

Now, years later, Veronica has become successful as a business owner and HR professional, using the MBA that she earned while her kids were at the Boys & Girls Club. She remembers the Club with a lot of gratitude for being there for her when her family needed it the most. She says, "I opened my company a year and half ago and it's been doing really well. **I am a true believer in giving back and the Boys & Girls Club was there for us when I didn't have much.**" So, this summer, she donated \$5,000 to support the programs that meant the most to her family – the Club's basketball league and the holiday party for kids in need. Veronica even brought along several of the boys she coached in the Club's basketball league, hoping to instill in them the same value she has for

giving back to the community. She wanted them to see that you should do as much as you can to help others, just like others have helped you.

The Club is thrilled to have had a small part in Veronica's success story and so grateful that she chose to pay it forward to the next group of families who need a helping hand. Veronica knows that the Club's scholarship program is not giving a hand out, it's giving a hand up to families who are working hard to provide for their families, make a better life for themselves, and ultimately make our whole community a better place.



Would you like to be the person that gets another family on the path to a GREAT FUTURE?

Please make a donation to the Club's scholarship program today using the enclosed envelope.

A PLACE TO BECOME A SCIENTIST

New Partnership and Programming Gets Kids Excited About STEM

This summer, the Club joined Imagine Science OC, a partnership of youth serving agencies who collaborate to reach underserved groups of children and give them top quality STEM learning opportunities during their out of school time.

CEO Tanya Hoxsie comments, “This program is special for the Club for a couple of big reasons. First, it gives us a **chance to partner with some of the other largest youth serving agencies in our community.** We’re working with Boys & Girls Clubs of Garden Grove, the 4-H Council, the YMCA, and Girls Inc, all learning with each other and from each other about how we can best help teach our kids and give them the support they need in STEM. This has been a fantastic opportunity for our staff to connect with staff from other agencies who understand what we do and we all help each other get even better than ever at helping the kids who need us most.”

Unit Director Grisel Voigt says, “The other amazing thing about this program is that it offers our Club **a library of curriculum and materials that we could never afford on our own.** Thanks to Imagine Science, we have Lego Robotics kits and iPads that we can just borrow when we need them to run our program. Having access to those resources even some of the time is a big win for our kids. This summer, we ran the FUNgineering engineering curriculum and got to borrow all the curriculum and materials for the program. It’s opened up the world of STEM for the kids in ways that are so fun for them – they got excited to come see what they would get to create and build each day at the Club.”

After piloting the Club’s involvement in the program during the summer, **the Club has now officially signed on for a full year of partnership in the Imagine Science OC collaborative.** That means a commitment to giving 250 children at least 18 hours of STEM education and activities throughout the coming year.

The kids are just as excited to continue this program as our staff are. One member says, “**In Imagine Science, I love to make things! When we work on a project, we first learn what’s going to happen, how we’re going to make it, and how it works. I really like that.**” As with all of our STEM programs, this little girl’s reaction is just

what the Club is striving for. She’s learning to use STEM as a way to discover how her world works and having fun doing it. That’s how future scientists are made!



A PLACE TO BECOME INVESTED

Your Donation to the Club's Endowment Helps Generations of Children



Have you heard about the Club's new endowment campaign? The campaign is called "Celebrating Our Past, Securing Our Future." The Club has been here for kids in our community for 50 years, and we want to make sure that the Club is here for the next 50 years for every child that needs it. To do that, the Club is working toward building a substantial endowment that will help sustain the Club for the long-term, keep the organization in a stable financial position no matter what changes may happen in the economy in the years to come, and help the organization grow as our community's needs grow.

THANK YOU CLUB 50 MEMBERS!

The following generous donors have pledged to donate \$50,000 to help get the Club's endowment off to a great start.

John Bishop & Barbara Nieto
Resa Evans & Dave Theil
Bob & Tanya Hoxsie
Anonymous Bitcoin Donor

The Club is so grateful to these individuals for recognizing how important the Club is for our community's children today and in years to come. Want to join them in pledging \$50,000 or more over the next five years? Call Laura at 714-309-4962.

So far, **more than \$200,000 has been committed** to this important campaign by generous donors like you and **the Club is working toward doubling that number in the next year. Would you like to help the Club reach that goal?** You can use the enclosed envelope to make your gift or go online to bgchv.com/give. Whether you'd like to give \$10 each month for a \$120 annual gift or join our Club 50 members in giving \$50,000, your gift of any size makes a big difference in helping secure the Club's future. If you'd like to set up a recurring gift, make a long-term pledge, or include the Club's endowment in your estate plans, please call 714-309-4962 or email laura@bgchv.com.



Now Accepting Bitcoin Donations!

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Donate your Bitcoin to the Club!

You can help the Club's endowment grow and it's easy to do.

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