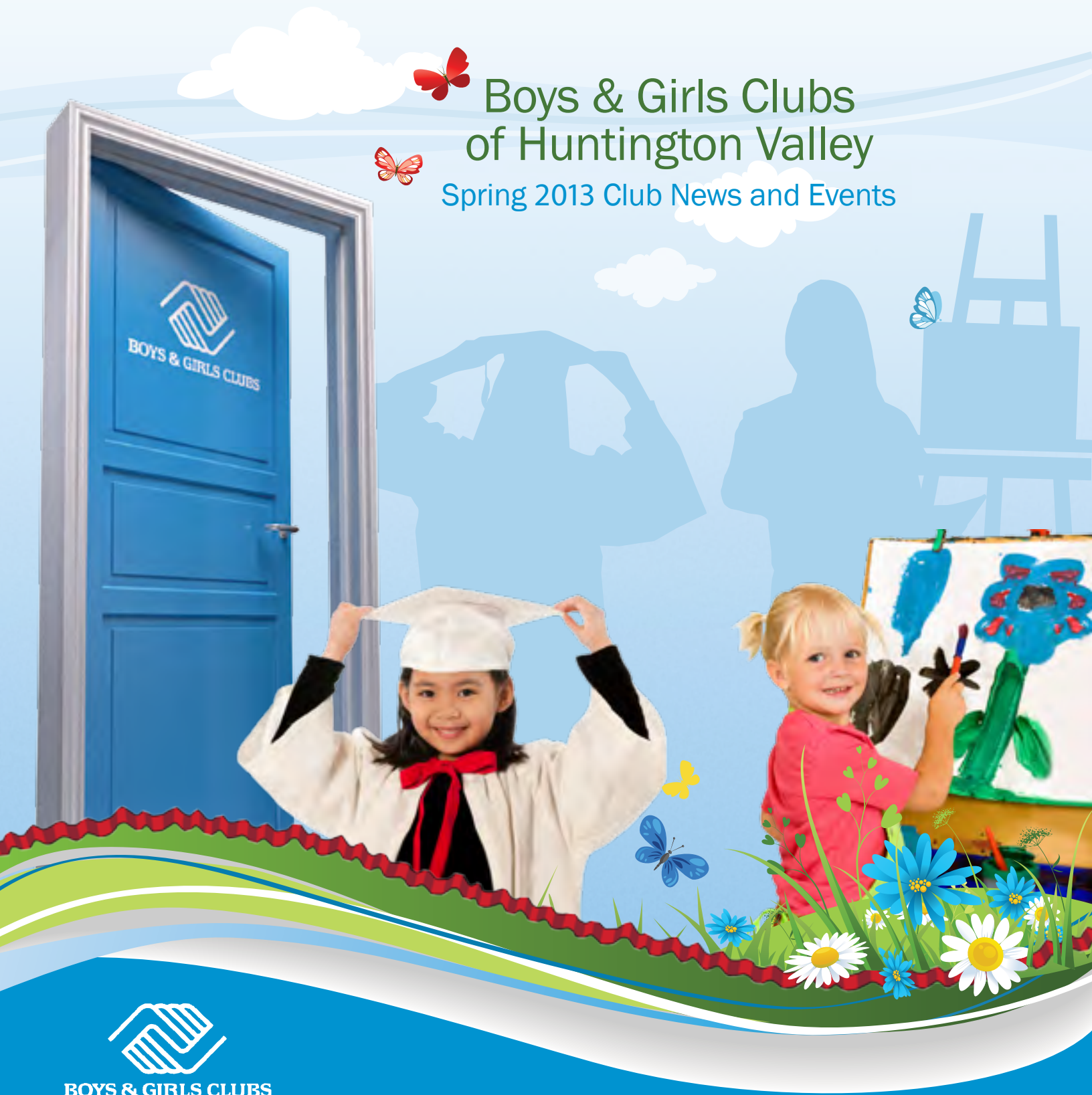


# **Boys & Girls Clubs** OF HUNTINGTON VALLEY **GREAT FUTURES START HERE.**

Boys & Girls Clubs  
of Huntington Valley  
Spring 2013 Club News and Events



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF HUNTINGTON VALLEY

# Community Support Helps Open Doors to GREAT FUTURES

Boys & Girls Clubs of Huntington Valley counts itself incredibly lucky to have the support of the community, which has come together so many times this spring to make a huge difference to the kids at the Club. THANK YOU to our special partners, Surf City Rotary Club of Huntington Beach, Payless Shoe Source, Ingram Micro, Orange Coast Memorial Medical Center, JMG Security Systems and Pacific Premier Bank. Each saw a special way to work together with the Club to meet the needs of our community's kids and make a BIG difference.

## Surf City Rotary Club: Programs That Make a Difference

### Weekend Food Project

Over the last several years, Rotarians have gotten involved in the Twilight Education Project, which helps low-income English Language Learner families get on the path to success. While volunteering as tutors, helping out on field trips, or taking kids to pick out new shoes, they got to thinking about the big issue of food insecurity. Most families who participate in this program earn less than \$15,000 per year. That makes it hard to know where your next meal is coming from. During the week, kids can count on free school lunches. But Rotarians started worrying and wondering, "What about the weekends? What can we do to help?" Mike and Sloan Gallipeo spearheaded a Rotary project to give families in the program a backpack full of food to feed the kids breakfast and lunch over the weekend to make sure that no kids in our Twilight program spend the weekend hungry.

### "Splash" Dinner & Auction

The Club has been working hard on building a new Boys & Girls Club at Golden West College, and Surf City Rotary has been one of our long-time partners in this project. On April 5th, Rotary hosted its 6th Annual "Surf City Splash" dinner and auction. More than 230 guests attended the event at the Hilton Waterfront. They had a great time with dinner, dancing, and live and silent auctions. Thanks to all the generous sponsors and guests at this event, Surf City Rotary has now contributed more than \$200,000 to help build a new Club to reach at-risk youth in northwest Huntington Beach.



### Shoes for the Kids

Did you know that 100% of the 200+ kids at our Oak View Branch are living in poverty? Parents who are worrying about how to pay rent and put food on the table can't always afford to buy their kids new shoes. Payless Shoe Source and Surf City Rotary teamed up with the Boys & Girls Club to take 100 kids on a special shopping trip to local Payless stores. Each child was given a brand new pair of shoes and socks that they got to pick out themselves! Once kids were fitted, Rotary volunteers saw that many needed shoes two or more sizes larger than they had been wearing because their parents just hadn't been able to keep up with their growing feet and the cost of buying new shoes. Giving the kids new shoes made them feel comfortable, proud, and so excited that they were literally running and jumping for joy!





## Ingram Micro

### 500 Volunteers Help with Spring Spruce Up

500 volunteers from the national sales team at Costa Mesa tech company Ingram Micro helped the Boys & Girls Club get ready for spring. The massive team of volunteers split up among the Club's six locations to complete spring cleaning and renovation projects like painting, landscaping, and deep cleaning. A volunteer named Deanna said, "Our group painted our hearts out! We're so happy to be supporting the Boys & Girls Club!"



## JMG Security Systems & Pacific Premier Bank

### Long-Term Commitment to Our Community's Kids

For the 18th year in a row, JMG Security Systems has gone all out for the kids at the Club. They've coordinated an amazing golf tournament to make sure that the Club has the resources it needs to give top quality programs for the kids. For the second year, Pacific Premier Bank joined JMG as a host sponsor of the event. Selling out both courses at Mile Square Golf Course, this event raises more than \$75,000 each year. The total funds raised in the event's 18 year history exceed \$800,000! Funds raised at the golf tournament support the Club's general operations, making it possible to keep fees at less than half the average cost of comparable programs throughout Orange County and offer free programs for low-income families. JMG Security Systems is one of the Club's most important partners and we are grateful for their longstanding commitment to the kids at the Boys & Girls Club. For more information or to get involved, visit [www.jmgsecurity.com](http://www.jmgsecurity.com)



## Orange Coast Memorial Medical Center

### Helping Kids Eat Right, Get Fit and Have Fun

Orange Coast Memorial Medical Center is helping the Club fight food insecurity and childhood obesity through two important programs. Each week, they provide apples as a healthy snack for all children participating in the Club's evening Twilight Education Project. Food insecurity and childhood obesity often go hand in hand, and providing healthy food three nights per week and nutrition education for our community's young people gives youth enough to eat as well as the opportunity to develop healthy lifestyle habits. Orange Coast Memorial also donated exercise equipment to the Club's Kingston Branch in Fountain Valley, including exercise balls. Brad Martin, Orange Coast Memorial's Good Life Fitness Specialist, came out to the Club and trained our staff on how to use the new equipment and how to teach the children to use it. Thank you, Orange Coast Memorial, for helping the Club teach kids to get fit while they are having fun!



## You Can Get Involved

If you or your business would like to get involved, please give the Club a call at 714-593-0753, ext. 109 to talk about your ideas and find out how your team's talents and resources can make the biggest difference to the kids at the Club.







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Fountain Valley, CA 92708  
Tel: 714-531-2582 • Fax: 714-531-7850  
www.bgchv.com

#### Kingston Branch

16582 Brookhurst Street  
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

#### Huntington Beach Branch

2309 Delaware Street  
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

#### Oak View Branch

17261 Oak Lane  
Huntington Beach, CA 92647

#### Learning Center

#### Child Development Preschool

17565 Los Alamos Street  
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

#### Robert Mayer

#### Child Development Preschool

15744 Goldenwest Street  
Huntington Beach, CA 92647

#### ClubHouse Academy

Fountain Valley, CA 92708  
714-593-0753

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# Youth of the Year: GREAT FUTURES in the Making

Each spring, Boys & Girls Club branches throughout the country choose a member that stands out from the crowd as a leader. Those youth are honored as "Youth of the Year." We are excited to tell you about these young people whose great futures will surely make a difference in the world.



Amanda Hay



Nina Simaan



Heather Harris

## MY GREAT FUTURE: Dance Instructor

### Amanda Hay

#### ClubHouse Academy

Amanda is part of the ClubHouse Theatre and the ClubHouse Academy's dance program. At the Club, she's become a role model for the younger kids, always helping them learn their routines and parts. To name just a few of the things she does to help the broader community, she's active in her school's student council, newspaper, and safety patrol. At the Club, she LOVES to dance. Here's what she has to say: "The Club helps me succeed by teaching me leadership skills when I'm working with younger kids and it gives me someone to talk to about my day (good or bad) and work through any problems. It also helps me succeed in dancing, singing and acting. My favorite memory at the Club is watching and helping with the winter dance recital. Seeing the way the kids looked up to me and the excitement on their faces is the best feeling in the world! I want to become a dance instructor at the Boys and Girls Club from age 16 until the day I retire. I also want to go to college, get married and have 2 or 3 kids."

## MY GREAT FUTURE: Pediatrician

### Nina Simaan

#### Fountain Valley Kingston Branch

Nina says of the Club, "The staff here are really helpful to me when I have a problem with my homework. I also am in Smart Moves and I really like it because it helps me make good decisions when I need to. We learn what's right and what's wrong and we help others do the same. Another way the Club helps me is with Healthy Habits. I like it because it teaches me how to be healthy and eat the right things for my body. One of the things I really liked this year was Bully Prevention Week. It was great because we raised awareness

about bullying and what we could do to stop it. We also learned what we could do to help others who were getting bullied. I made a pledge to take a stand against bullying and I think that was really special." In addition to participating in programs like these, she loves to just have fun with her friends at the Club doing things like playing "Just Dance" on the Wii or putting together routines for talent shows at the Club. When she grows up, she wants to work at the Club, then go on to medical school to become a pediatrician "so I can help out kids who are sick."

## MY GREAT FUTURE: Teacher & Olympian

### Heather Harris

#### Huntington Beach Branch

In her six years at the Club, 13-year-old Heather has shown herself to be an amazing person. She gets involved in everything and puts her all into each activity. She is part of the Torch Club, Smart Girls, Music Club, Fine Arts, and Power Hour. Community service is an important part of her life and she was even honored at Nickelodeon's Halo Awards for teens who give back to their community. She is our go-to member for helping with outdoor Club events. She loves track and field events in particular. She hopes to win a college scholarship for track and her dream is to be in the Olympics. Aside from her athletic ambitions, she hopes to become a teacher.



Youth of the Year Dinner at our HB Branch



# Great Talents - GREAT FUTURES

Kids at the Club are on the path to great futures using their artistic talents. With numerous opportunities for arts education at the Club – from theatre programs, to dance classes, to fine arts clubs, and more – kids are learning skills that will help them open the door to great futures.

This spring, two Club members earned national recognition for their outstanding works of art: Camryn Yarnall and James Sidrak.



Camryn Yarnall

Camryn was named Boys & Girls Clubs of America's Artist of the Month for her beautiful painting of a chickadee bird. The contest asked youth to submit photos of artwork that showed something they love. Camryn wrote this essay to accompany her beautiful painting:

"My name is Camryn and I am 12 years old. I have always loved art and take art classes during school and sometimes after school on Tuesdays. I go to middle school and I love to play soccer. After school, I also go to the Boys & Girls Club and draw in my free time. I painted a bird for the 'I Love' contest for January because I absolutely love birds. I decided to do a painting of a chickadee on a snowy branch because I think the little bird is adorable and the snowy branch and red berries remind me of Christmas. I really enjoyed painting this bird and I thought it was perfect for the 'I Love' contest."

Each year, 20,000 youth compete in Boys & Girls Clubs of America's Digital Arts Festivals. The Digital Arts Festivals competition features six categories: Music Making, Photography, Game Design, Graphic Design, Film and Animation. The Festivals allow Boys & Girls Clubs throughout the world to give young people an avenue to get creative and design original pieces of digital artwork – from songs and photography to stop-motion animation and short films. We are proud that one of our Club members, James Sidrak, was named a national winner in the annual competition. Sidrak is a member of the Huntington Beach Branch and has been volunteering as a program assistant with the younger children for the last two years. He earned top honors for his entry in the music making category for 16-18 year olds.



James Sidrak

In the music making category, Boys & Girls Clubs of America asked members to use computer generated music-making software to create a song that speaks to their peers about future life goals. Sidrak's song, entitled "Confusion," showcased his creativity and tech skills learned at the Club.

"Through the Digital Arts Festivals we're able to inspire our future photographers, designers, game developers, filmmakers and musicians," said Dan Rauzi, Senior Director of Arts, Technology and Careers at Boys & Girls Clubs of America. "It is amazing what our kids and teens can do when given access to technology and allowed to express themselves creatively."

## You Can Give a Child a GREAT FUTURE

In your neighborhood, who meets kids as they get off the bus? Maybe stay at home moms or babysitters. It's a different story in the Oak View neighborhood of Huntington Beach, sometimes called the Slater Slums. There are gang members waiting in the streets and alleys. They are there to talk to the kids, especially middle schoolers. They make it seem like life in the gang is a great thing – cool new friends, people to look out for you. But, as you know, it comes at a huge price.

**You can give kids a safe alternative to gangs. The Boys & Girls Club.** For kids like 6<sup>th</sup> grader Rafael, the Club has been a life saver. Instead of walking and talking with the guys in the local gang and being lured into a dangerous life, he's coming to the Boys & Girls Club.

His mom insisted that he start coming to the Club when it first opened in October. At first, he was really rebellious. He refused to talk to the other kids. He didn't want to listen to the staff and he didn't understand why he had to be there. However, with all the fun activities, he learned pretty quickly just how awesome an afternoon at the Club can be. Now, he's one of the first to arrive and the last to leave every day. He signs up for just about every new program the Club has to offer. And, he has become a really social kid who loves to get other kids together for games.

Rebecca, the Oak View Branch's Program Director, says, "It's such a great thing to be able to give him a safe place to be – off the streets. It's scary out there for the kids with gang members hanging around the neighborhood. I'm so glad we can be here to keep the kids safe." You and your support are what makes that possible.

**Will you change the life of a child like Rafael?** \$25 sponsors a child at Oak View for a month and \$250 sponsors a child for a whole school year. **Please use the enclosed envelope to make a gift to sponsor a child at the Boys & Girls Club today.**



**GREAT FUTURES START HERE.**



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## Celebrating Our Youngest Club Members

The "Week of the Young Child" is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). This special week, from April 14-20 this year, is designed to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs. The Boys & Girls Club's Learning Center and Robert Mayer Child Development Preschools joined in the festivities with lots of fun activities that celebrate the children we serve and focused on this year's special theme – "Early Years Are Learning Years."

One of the most important ways our preschools celebrate is by getting parents involved in their children's early education. This year, parents wrote special notes for their kids about what makes them special. Each of these was read during "Circle Time" in the classrooms to make children feel proud and good about themselves. We also got parents into the classroom with special morning events - "Muffins with Mom" and "Donuts with Dad." Kids worked with their parents to make special crafts that they got to take home. We rounded out the week with a carnival for the kids. One little girl named Caitlin told us, "Week of the Young Child made me feel happy inside" – that's just what we were hoping for!

