

CLUB NEWSLETTER  
Winter 2013



*Wishing you all the*  
**JOY** & SIMPLE  
*of the Season* PLEASURES





## BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF HUNTINGTON VALLEY

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### ROBERT MAYER CHILD DEVELOPMENT PRESCHOOL

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Fountain Valley, CA 92708

714-593-0753

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# Your Donations Help Families Break the Welfare Cycle

As a supporter of the Boys & Girls Club, you've probably thought about what a difference the Club makes to kids and how your support helps kids get on the path to a great future. But, what you might not realize is that your support helps whole families do better.

We'd like to share with you what a mom named Jamie told the Club, "I am a single, working mother. With help from the Boys & Girls Club's scholarship program, I am able to go to work. I don't have to stay home and depend on welfare, which is the one thing I do NOT want. Deep down in my heart, the Boys & Girls Club is so helpful to my family."

When you make a contribution to the Club's scholarship program to sponsor a child, you are making a difference in so many ways. You are giving a child the help they need to do well in school. You are giving a child a safe, fun place to learn and play. You are helping a child build good character and values. You are helping a child gain the skills he needs to grow up to be a success. You are doing even more than that, though.

By making a donation to the Club, you are helping moms and dads, too. You are giving parents the opportunity to work to provide for their kids – the dignity of

knowing they are working for a living, not accepting a handout. You're giving kids a stable home environment by giving moms and dads the means to put food on the table and a roof over their children's heads.

All of those big changes come with a pretty low price tag. You can make a difference to a family that needs your help for just \$25. Your \$25 donation to the Boys & Girls Club will sponsor a child for a month. Or, you can choose



to make a recurring gift of \$25 every month for a whole year. Will you make your donation using the enclosed blue envelope today? Imagine how good you'll feel knowing you've changed the life of a family like Jamie's!



# Boys & Girls Club Teaches Kids Great Values through Community Service

Part of the Club's mission is to teach kids to be caring citizens. We believe that by helping kids learn to give back to the community at a young age, they will develop a lifelong commitment to helping others – just like yours. One of the ways that kids at the Club learn about giving back is through the Torch Club. Kids design their own community service projects and carry them out with some help and guidance from a Club staff advisor.

At our Huntington Beach Branch, the Torch Club has been busy! They ran an end of summer toy drive for children at a local homeless shelter. They visited Sunrise of Huntington Beach, an assisted living center for seniors, to brighten up elderly residents' day by bringing cookies and playing board games one afternoon. They pitched in to make Halloween fun for all the kids at the Club by setting up and running a "Mystery Maze" at the Club's Halloween carnival. For the Thanksgiving holiday, they ran a canned food drive to help families who depend on the Orange County Food Bank. All year round, they are thinking of ways that they can help. Your support helps teach kids the important values of kindness and generosity. We thank you for helping our community's future leaders learn that they can make a difference to those in need in our community.

Our Fountain Valley Kingston Branch has been working hard on helping the community and focusing on gratitude. This fall, the kids at the Club wanted to do something special for troops who are currently deployed. Because our military makes so many sacrifices for us, the kids decided to make a sacrifice for them – they gave up some of their own Halloween candy to send it to the troops as a special thank you. Unit Director Gricel Voigt says, "Not only did they bring bags of candy, the kids also wrote letters thanking the troops for their service. It was so amazing to see how many kids donated ALL their candy."



## A Special Thank You Gift, Just for You!

Thank you for choosing to make the kids at Boys & Girls Clubs of Huntington Valley one of your giving priorities this year. We know that there are many worthwhile charities here in our community. That's why we so appreciate the confidence you show in the Boys & Girls Club when you make a contribution to help the kids at the Club. Every dollar that you give to the Boys & Girls Club changes children's lives for the better and we thank you for it. As a thank you gift, we have enclosed a special holiday ornament. When you hang it in your home, we hope it reminds you of the good you have done this year for kids in need by partnering with the Boys & Girls Club to open the door to children's great futures.

# Learning Center Preschool Earns 5-Year National Accreditation

The Club's Learning Center Child Development Preschool has earned prestigious 5-year accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) – the nation's leading organization of early childhood professionals. This is the third time that the Learning Center has earned this distinction. Going beyond mere licensure, NAEYC accreditation is given only to early childhood education programs that meet rigorous standards in curriculum, teaching, facilities, staffing, management, and more. Fewer than 10% of all preschools earn this honor. In fact, the Learning Center is the only preschool in Fountain Valley to earn this distinctive mark of quality early childhood education.


To earn accreditation, the Learning Center was reviewed based on more than 400 criteria. The process included an extensive self-study and on-site visits by assessors from NAEYC. After this extensive review process, the Learning Center not only received accreditation, but also earned special commendations from NAEYC for:

- Outstanding teaching
- Outstanding leadership and management
- Positive relationships among children and adults at the school
- Positive relationships between the school and families
- Community partnerships that benefit the children at the school
- Use of formal assessments of children's milestones to encourage children's learning and development

Learning Center Director Chelo Loshak says, "NAEYC accreditation is the gold standard in early childhood

education. We're proud that our program has earned this honor. We're eager to welcome new families and show them what a wonderful experience they will have at our Learning Center." The Learning Center is located at 17565 Los Alamos Street in Fountain Valley, conveniently close to the 405 freeway for working parents who commute. The Learning Center has open enrollment and slots are currently

available. For further information, parents can stop by the preschool anytime or call 714-593-0753.



**The Learning Center is the ONLY nationally accredited preschool in Fountain Valley**





# Club Fundraiser Supports Scholarship Fund and Free Programs

## **"GREAT FUTURES START HERE" ANNUAL BENEFIT RAISES \$450,000**

More than 550 community members came together to raise \$450,000 and make the Club's "Great Futures Start Here" Annual Benefit a big success! The Club gives special thanks to Title Sponsor Kingston Technology for a \$50,000 contribution. At the event, guests enjoyed performances by the ClubHouse Theatre and had the opportunity to bid on exotic getaways, fine jewelry, and lots more in the live and silent auctions. When emcee Ed Arnold asked the crowd to sponsor children at the Oak View Branch, Hyundai Motor America stepped up with a \$10,000 gift to sponsor 40 children! Funds raised at this event each year allow the Club to offer free programs like its Oak View Branch after school program and its Twilight Education Project for English Language Learner families. The event also



allows the Club to offer scholarship programs so that all children in the community who need the Club's services have access to them.

The Club thanks all of its generous donors and guests at the event – your support makes a world of difference to every child who walks through our doors.

## **LONGTIME SUPPORTER ROBERT MAYER HONORED AS "CHAMPION OF YOUTH"**

The Club began a new tradition at this year's annual benefit by awarding the "Champion of Youth" honor to a member of the community who goes above and beyond to help create great futures for kids. Robert Mayer, Sr. of the Robert Mayer Corporation was named the inaugural honoree for his decades of commitment to the kids at the Boys & Girls Club. Mr. Mayer not



only helps the Club with significant contributions each year, he also gave the lead gift that allowed the organization to build the Robert Mayer Child Development Preschool at Golden West College.

Now, hundreds of children benefit from the preschool each year. And, with childcare on the community college's campus, moms and dads can get the education they need to provide a great future for their kids. Mr. Mayer's investment in and commitment to the Boys & Girls Club changes local families' lives for the better each and every day. CEO Tanya Hoxsie says, "He was the first person to believe in our dream of building a new Club. Without him, we wouldn't be where we are today."



## **SAVE THE DATE! October 4, 2014**

You won't want to miss all the fun at next year's "Great Futures Start Here" event! Tell your friends and mark your calendar now for Saturday, October 4, 2014!



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF HUNTINGTON VALLEY

# Thank you!

Your support of the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Benefit Dinner & Auction opens the door to a GREAT FUTURE for kids in need.

## GREAT FUTURES START HERE.

### Title Sponsor - \$50,000

Kingston Technology Company

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## Your Item Donations Are Needed Year Round!

Do your in-laws always give you a Christmas gift you just don't want? Or, are you a business manager with excess inventory at the end of the year? You can do some good with your unwanted items – you can give them to the Boys & Girls Club! The Club holds several auction fundraisers throughout the year to raise money for free programs, scholarships to help families in need, and to build a new Boys & Girls Club. The Club will accept donations of auction items anytime throughout the year. We can even pick your donation up if you can't deliver it. As we approach the end of the year, remember that you can make your donation now and get a write-off on your 2013 taxes.

**Call 714-593-0753, ext. 109 to make your donation.**

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We apologize for any errors or omissions.

# Happy HOLIDAYS

FROM THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF HUNTINGTON VALLEY

## Boys & Girls Club Upgrades Its Bus Fleet

After many years of getting by with buses that are older than some of our staff members, new emissions regulations and a generous grant have pushed the Club's bus fleet into the 21st century.

Last year, the Club received word from the California Highway Patrol, which inspects our bus fleet regularly, that our entire fleet needed to be upgraded to meet new clean air regulations. Our team was worried. Some of our buses

So, we knew we'd have to find a way to make it happen.

A grant from Orange County Transportation Authority helped save the day! They covered 80% of the cost of purchasing seven brand new buses with a grant of more than \$700,000. This completely revitalized our fleet. The rest of our upgrade is expensive, but worthwhile. We are replacing our remaining 5 older buses with newer used buses.

They are better for the environment, have better safety features, and a lot fewer miles. With a completely revamped bus fleet, we can keep kids and families on the road to success for years to come!



were from the mid-1980s! They were so old that they couldn't be upgraded to meet the standards. For others, upgrades would cost more than the buses were worth. The costs of purchasing new buses and upgrading others seemed like a staggering figure.

But, our fleet of buses is critical to the Club's operations – they are how we transport more than a thousand kids to and from school every day and how we get hundreds of families to our Twilight Education Project in the evenings.

