Monday, January 12, 2015
5:30 p.m.
Taco Loco Hall
1429 Magnolia Ave

ART N Neighborhoods

CLEAN UP

THE LONG BEACH

NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Resources

2015

ALUMNI REUNION DINNER

The Neighborhood Leadership Program

Neighborhood Services

Please represent your class
Class of:
1992 1994 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015?

Applications

The deadline to submit applications to join the Neighborhood Leadership Program is **Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 4:30 p.m.** If you are interested in applying for the program, please submit your application before the deadline.

Neighborhood Leadership Program brochures and applications in **English and Spanish** (as well as class photos and more information) are all available from our website:

http://www.longbeach.gov/cd/neighborhood_services/nlp/default.asp

We will be offering a Candidate Information Session where you can meet and hear from graduates and learn more about the program.

Date: Wednesday, January 14, 2015
Time: 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Location: Small Business Development Center
309 Pine Avenue
Long Beach, CA 90802
(562) 570-1010
Free parking in City Place parking lot on 3rd Street between Long Beach Blvd. and Pine Ave

Program Goal

The goal of the program is to provide Long Beach residents the skills, knowledge and resources they need to improve the quality of life in their community.

Program Components

-Effective Leadership
-Human Relations and Team Building
-Community Project Planning
-Solving Neighborhood Problems
-Public Speaking
-Grant Writing/Fundraising

Benefits

-Mini Grants for Projects
-Spanish and Khmer Translation
- All Class Materials Provided Free
-Join an Established Network of Neighborhood Leaders
-Make New Friends

Class of 1994

Greg Diaz became the City of Merced's City Attorney in 2001, he worked with several projects including the opening of UC Merced, construction of the G Street Underpass and the renovation of the Merced Theatre. Recently, Greg was appointed as the Ventura City Attorney and the move south brings him closer to family and friends.

Margaret Madden serves on the Neighborhood, USA Board of Directors.

Class of 2002

Mary Zendejas was appointed to serve as a Commissioner in the Long Beach Transportation Company's Board of Directors. Mary is also currently enrolled in the Class of 2015 of Leadership Long Beach.

Class of 2004

Henry Salzer has achieved a number of accomplishments, he is an active member and former Vice President of the North Alamitos Beach Association (NABA). He received a plaque from the City of Long Beach for eight years of service in the Board of Examiners Appeals and Condemnations (BEAC) in which he served as Vice Chair and Board Member.

Class of 2005

Colleen McDonald is currently serving as Secretary of the Wrigley Association and served as their President in 2014.

Class of 2006

David Clement continues to serve as the President of the North Alamitos Beach Neighborhood Association (NABA). The association held several neighborhood cleanups in 2014. David also serves on the boards of Rose Park Neighborhood Association, Friends of Bixby Park and the Long Beach Heritage Museum. In March, David was appointed to serve on the Citizens Police Complaint Commission.

Class of 2009

Alma Campos served as Chair of the Peace Week 2014 Committee to instill a peaceful environment utilizing the teachings of Dr. King and to raise the consciousness of the community. The weeklong celebration was held in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s nonviolent movement and included an evening candlelight Peace March. The Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade took place along Martin Luther King, Jr. Ave. and the community celebration at King Park marked the end of Peace Week.

Jim Danno Serves on the Board of the Willmore City Heritage Association as the Community Outreach Officer. Last year, Jim donated hundreds of volunteer hours to help the Association complete the Children's Gateway Garden at Cesar Chavez Park. The park is Long Beach's first completely ADA compliant park garden.

Jim also organized the 4th Annual Winter in Willmore event at Drake Park. The event featured a 'Snow Day' with sledding, a jump house, face painting, crafts, music and food vendors. Over 1,200 members of the community attended and the event collected over 1,000 lbs. of canned goods for Food Finders. Jim also mentors some young men in the neighborhood, which he hopes will be in a future Neighborhood Leadership Program class.

Class of 2010

Ernie Villa was recognized at the second annual Harvey Milk Honorees Ceremony as a Vietnam veteran and for his contributions to the LGBTQ community and Long Beach historic preservation. Ernie's home was listed on Willmore City's Nextdoor.com as one of the top homes with holiday lights and decorations.

Alice Robinson continues to feed the hungry at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park in Long Beach. Every first Wednesday of the month, Robinson and her volunteers help feed around 100 people. In 2014, she celebrated the 11th year anniversary of the program she began with Class of 2000 NLP graduate **Stella Davis.**

Class of 2011

Emily Tanaka activated a vacant storefront space at 241 East 7th St. with art for two months as part of the Downtown Long Beach Business Association Storefront Activation Grant Program. As part of the Long Beach Heritage Advocacy Committee, she helped save a historic mural at the Port of Long Beach from being razed and organized a Port of Long Beach boat tour. Emily also volunteered at the Bembridge Historic House as a tour guide for Long Beach third grade class tours. Emily is also serving on the Alumni Support team as a Guest Facilitator and also designed the cover of this newsletter!

Ida Marie Briggs helped the Neighborhood Leadership Program with writing and researching Alumni Highlights under the title of "NLP Historian". Marie resigned her position as historian in 2014 after collecting, cataloging and composing highlights for our graduates for the past three years. Thank you Marie!

From **Magaly Molina**, 2014 Highlight Historian: "*As a fellow graduate of the Neighborhood Leadership Program I would like to give you a BIG thank you for your time and effort you put into this. At times it could be very overwhelming but you stuck with it and for that we thank you.*"

Erika Moreno is working for the North Division of the Long Beach Police Department as a Community Liaison. Erika also serves as a member of the Neighborhood Leadership Program Alumni Support Team.

Class of 2012

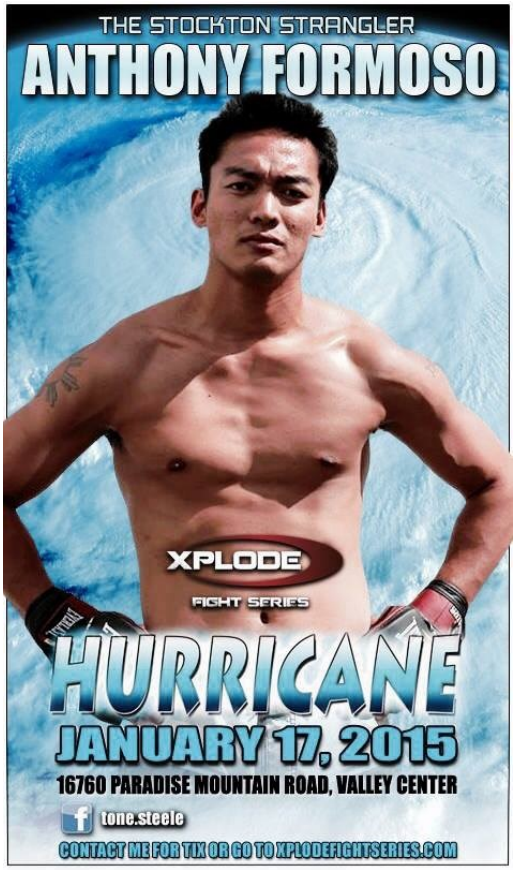
Lewis Brownson has been volunteering for the Long Beach Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Los Angeles (SPCALA) for the past three years. He works with about 80

dogs a day and helps to train them. It was at the SPCALA that Lewis met and adopted his dog, a 2-year old Papillon named Miranda. Since graduating from the Neighborhood Leadership Program, Lewis has been a reliable and helpful volunteer at every NLP Graduation event.

In 2014, **Angel Cutno** became President of RotarAct Long Beach - a young professional's branch of Rotary International. In the first few months of her presidency, her club successfully hosted the 82nd Annual Great Sand Sculpture Contest and raised several thousand dollars to donate to the Library Foundation. The club has also partnered with the Anaheim Orange Cherry Seventh Neighborhood Association (AOC7) during their annual book fair, with the Long Beach Day Nursery for Operation Santa Claus, and has hosted BBQs and outings for local veterans. In addition, Angel teaches at a new charter school in Long Beach: Intellectual Virtues Academy and she will be chartering a non-profit to bring books and teach financial responsibility to the children in her neighborhood through the group Traveling Stories.

In November, Angel made a last-minute decision to compete in the Miss Long Beach Pageant, and was selected as a runner-up. In March of 2015, Angel will be joining a team of pianists in a local production of "Into the Woods" to pursue her love of music.

Anthony Formoso is working as a Brazilian Jujitsu coach at The Compound Mixed Martial Arts & Fitness Club in Escondido, California. He also debuted as a Mixed Martial Arts fighter at the Xplode Fight Series event on May 17, 2014. His current fight record is 2-0 after his recent victory of Saturday, December 20, 2014 and he is set to fight again on Saturday, January 17, 2015 at the Xplode Fight Series *Hurricane* event.



Class of 2013

Stephen Metz was part of the team of filmmakers that created “The Game Don’t Change – Just the Players.” The film examines local gang life and how this impacts our community. Long Beach Police Chief Jim McDonnell recognized the filmmakers with a citation in honor of their work. Stephen also organized the second annual Taste of Uptown event in conjunction with the Long Beach Art

We are pleased to offer a few examples of Long Beach art and beautification projects inspired and completed by Neighborhood Leadership Program graduates!

7th Street and Orange Avenue
Sunny and Sunshine Daye (Class of 2001)
And Hilario Avena (Class of 2007)

Corner of Long Beach Blvd. and Neece Street
Inspired by Team Thrive Class of 2008

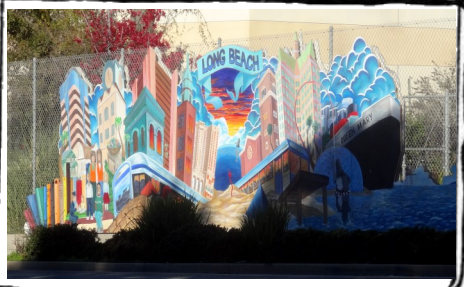
Peace Garden at King Park
Central Neighborhood Advisory Committee

Edison Elementary School
Ina Parker Hicks (Class of 2009)

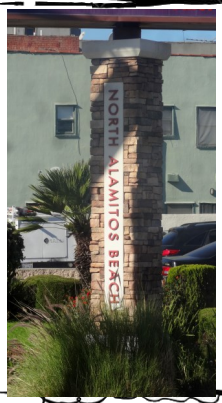
Heng Heng Market
Corner of 10th Street and Orange Ave
Class of 1998 Class Project

Two Medians on Pacific Avenue
Annie Greenfeld (Class of 2003)
and Colleen McDonald (Class of 2005)

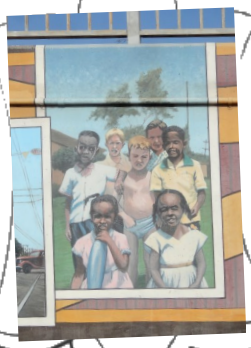
Willmore Heritage Garden
Jim Dano (Class of 2009)



Edison Elementary School Murals
T.J. Norcutt (Class of 2001)



4th Street and Cherry Avenue
Alumni From North Alamitos
Beach Association (NABA)
David Clement (Class of 2006),
Henry Salzer (Class of 2004) and
Tom Krolosky (Class of 2004)



7th Street Freeway Onramp
Inspired by Autrilla Scott (Class of 1996)

Gaviota Ave
Neighborhood Zoo - Animals of Our
Many Cultures Mural

Drake Park Gazebo
Inspired by Teresa Gonzalez (Class of 1992)

Council's A-Lot Initiative and with help from **Gloria Bradley** and **Dan Garcia** (both from the Class of 2013.) The Taste of Uptown event featured food from over 40 local food vendors and service providers as well as an art element from the A-Lot Initiative, which brings art to vacant lots in the city.

Dan Garcia serves as President of the Jordan Softball Booster Club that applied and received its 501c(3) determination in 2014. During the year, the club organized several fundraisers including a California/ Nevada state line turnaround, a car wash fundraiser and an end of season team banquet. In July, Garcia was elected as Membership Chairman of the iconic Long Beach Century Club which has been supporting Long Beach amateur athletes since 1957.

Gloria Bradley serves as president of the Country Club Manor Neighborhood Association. The association has an "Alley Clean Team" that holds weekly one-hour alley clean ups and reports illegally dumped items and graffiti via the City's "Go Long Beach App." In 2014, the association helped to plant over 200 trees in the Country Club Manor neighborhood and its surroundings. The association also held a number of other events like ice cream socials, a disaster preparedness resource fair, neighborhood clean-ups and the second annual tree decorating and lighting event at Scherer Park.

Bilal Chaka serves as the current President of the West Long Beach Association. In November 20, 2014, the Association held a potluck dinner that included turkey, mashed potatoes, dressing, gravy and other dishes from association members.

ART IS NOT WHAT YOU SEE BUT WHAT YOU MAKE OTHERS SEE.
-EDGAR DEGAS

Marina Escobedo is currently working as a Field Deputy for the 9th Council district office. She is also currently participating in the Leadership Long Beach Institute Class of 2015. Marina helped facilitate the City of Long Beach Community Forum on driver's licenses and low cost auto insurance. She participated in Senator Ricardo Lara's educational workshop on how undocumented residents may obtain low car insurance and a driver's license under Assembly Bill No. 60.

Lazara Gonzalez organized a Purpose Project fundraiser in 2014 raising close to $12,000 for families dealing with the aftermath of cancer. This year, she is looking to hold the 2015 Purpose Project fundraiser by holding a human foosball tournament where 100% of the proceeds will go directly to families dealing with the aftermath of cancer.

Heather Kern appeared in the Long Beach Post and the Long Beach Business Journal for her role as a Special Projects Manager for Localism, an organization with a mission to enable a more connected community, influence people to choose locally owned merchants, local growers, and other local organizations. Heather was part of the team that created MADE in Long Beach, which is a hosted space for pop-ups, new retail concepts, and locally made goods. The store is now open at 236 Pine Avenue.

Class of 2014

Tanisha Pitts acquired a career position with Magic Johnson Enterprises as Executive Assistant during her time in NLP. Upon graduation from NLP, she was promoted as the Community Relations Liaison with the WNBA Los Angeles Sparks. In this role, she manages and supports the development and execution of day-to-day and long-term community relations initiatives. The position requires her to plan and execute community initiatives and events, as well as develop and maintain community partnerships while working closely with partners like Magic Johnson Enterprises, Magic Johnson Foundation and the Los Angeles Dodgers

Jesus Lopez joined the board of the Anaheim Orange Cherry Seventh Neighborhood Association (AOC7). Jesus and AOC7 participated in the Saturday, October 25 Friends of Bixby Park Halloween Carnival. The carnival was a fundraiser and the proceeds were used to help pay for new Bixby Park recreation center lobby furniture.

Alumni In Action

Better Balance for Long Beach held its 8th Annual One Day Christmas Store – Shopping with Dignity on Saturday, December 20, 2014 at the Long Beach Convention Center. Every Year, **Annie Greenfeld Wisner** (Class of 2003), **Jack Smith** (Class of 2006) and **Dan Pressburg** (Class of 2008) organize a free shopping experience for families that cannot afford Christmas presents. Hundreds of families are treated to shop for family members. Parents shop for their kids and kids shop for their parents in a separate store. This year, 245 families were invited to shop at the store. After choosing presents for family members, each gift is wrapped. Yellow Cab is also a partner at the event and provides free transportation for the families after they have completed their shopping.

Octavio Mojica (Class of 2014), **Ina Parker Hicks** (Class of 2009) and **Dan Pressburg** (Class of 2008) were named to the Empower Uptown Team. The team is a steering committee of 20 residents that has been involved with the Participatory Budgeting Project to help community members decide how to spend part of a public budget.

The members of Alamitos Orange Cherry and Seventh (AOC7) Street Neighborhood Association have been busy. Among the graduates who helped AOC7 have a successful year in 2014 are **Rocio Torres** (Class of 1998), **Mary Simmons** (Class of 2012), **Tommie Simmons** (Class of 2012), **Andre Beasley** (Class of 2012), and **Jesus Lopez** (Class of 2014). The association held their second annual literacy fair which was a success! In May of 2014, AOC7 gave away 5,000 free books to more than 400 children at MacArthur Park. The neighborhood had a chance to experience the fun of dancing, multicultural performers, literacy booths, storytelling, face painting, and food.

AOC7 also completed a Neighborhood Partners Program (NPP) Grant which helped their 10th Street Corridor Beautification Project. In June 2014, Public Works put in 39 sidewalks cuts for tree wells and the association planted purple crepe myrtle trees, from Cherry Ave to Alamitos Avenue on the 10th Street corridor. AOC7, along with over 200 friends, family, neighbors and volunteers, completed the tree planting event. Today, AOC7 is working on their next NPP grant which will help with phase two of the 10th Street Corridor Beautification Project: public litter containers to install in the neighborhood.

Martha Cota (Class of 2011) and **Evangelina Ramirez** (Class of 2002) formed a community group called Long Beach Latinos in Action. In 2014, they organized a women's conference entitled "Mujer Transformada." The conference had over 300 women attend and it was designed to motivate the attendees to transform their lives by taking claiming control of them. Latinos in Action also organized four workshops to inform the community about Assembly Bill #60.

The following NLP Graduates are making a difference in our city by serving as City Commissioners:

Terry Beebe (Class of 2013), **Alma Campos** (Class of 2009) and **David Clement** (Class of 2007) serves on the Citizen Police Complaint Commission. **Elliot Gonzales** (Class of 2010) serves on the Sustainable City Commission. **Dale Neal** (Class of 2013) serves on the Homeless Services Advisory Committee. **Jorge Rivera** (Class of 2011) serves on the Pacific Gateway Workforce Investment Board. **Mary Zendejas** (Class of 2002) serves on the Citizen's Advisory Commission on Disabilities.

Neighborhood Leadership Program Alumni represented the program at the 2014 Martin Luther King Jr. Parade. Among those representing NLP at the parade were **Margaret Madden** (Class of 1994), **Marine Man** (Class of 1997), **Francisco Rodriguez** (Class of 2004), **Jacque Ervin** and **Reyna Ochoa** (Class of 2006), **Mayra Ochoa** and **Paula Trzicky** (Class of 2010), **Erika Moreno** (Class of 2011), **Douglas Champion, Vanessa Davis, Tommie Simmons, Mary Simmons** and **Isela Zarate** (Class of 2012). All of these graduates recruited for the NLP Class of 2014 by passing out program brochures and applications to people along the parade route.

Grab your NLP Sweatshirt (or a black T-shirt) and come represent the Neighborhood Leadership Program as we march in the 2015 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade! The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade will take place on Saturday, January 17, 2015, commencing at 9:30 a.m. This year's theme is "From Poverty to Prosperity." The parade will originate on Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue and Anaheim Street and will proceed north to Martin Luther King, Jr. Park.

At the conclusion of the Parade, the celebration will continue at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park. This festive-filled program includes entertainment, food booths, crafts and merchandise vendors. Also, there will be a children and teen area, which includes games and rides. The hours will be from 12:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Please RSVP to Francisco.Rodriguez@longbeach.gov

THE NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP PROGRAM CREED

As graduating Alumni of Neighborhood Leardership Program (NLP) we carry the responsibility of representing the core values of the City of Long Beach Neighborhood Leadership Program.

At all times, in all places we will respect others while trusting the process of creating a safe environment and being committed to improving community. Because Neighborhood Leadership Program emphasizes team work, we agree to support our elected, appointed and volunteer leaders, and to create change through consensus, inclusion and community building.

As NLP graduates, we are motivated by previous alumni and we will make efforts on a continuing basis to inspire new generations of neighborhood leaders.

We will be mindful of taking advantage of opportunities to give back to NLP. This is our own little way of sharing our pride for Long Beach!

CREED WRITTEN BY MEMBERS OF THE
NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP PROGRAM
ALUMNI ASSISTANCE TEAM
ON JUNE 29, 2014

Cover design by Emily Tanaka
Neighborhood Leadership Program Graduate Class of 2011