



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE LOS ANGELES HARBOR

clubhouse news

Mike Lansing with San Pedro Club alumnus and recently named American Ballet Theater Principal Dancer, Misty Copeland, during her visit to the Club in March.

Case for Support

A message from Executive Director Mike Lansing.

All nonprofits must be able to justify their Case for Support as the donors of today expect a real return on their investment/donation. I believe that this is only fair as you have so many options to choose from with your philanthropy and as a nonprofit we must justify your support. We are sending this publication to you once again in the hope that it will reinforce the great success of our child development efforts AND will make you feel confident that your participation is warranted. Make no mistake about it – we could not sponsor the comprehensive programs and services we provide and have such great IMPACT on the lives of so many at-risk youth without YOUR generosity! We continue to serve More YOUTH, with More IMPACT while producing More VALUE because of each and every one of you, our donors. For that we are all most thankful.

I truly hope you will take a few moments to read this newsletter to see all the great things we are accomplishing. Inserted you will find our most recent College Bound IMPACT page showing our tremendous growth and continuing success sponsoring this college pathway program. The backside of that insert showcases our Case for Support which summarizes other important data concerning our efforts and ability to meet the needs of so many youth – especially “those who need us most.”

The new school year is upon us and we are tasked once again to provide more youth with the child development opportunities and support they so desperately need. We are not providing “hand-outs” – just some very important “helping hands.” Thank you once again for being an important part of this effort. Thank you in advance for your continuing support/investment.

I truly hope you agree with our “Case.”

Mike Lansing
Mike Lansing

Headlines

- Success of San Pedro Club alumnus, Misty Copeland
- College Bound's largest graduating class to date
- New additions to our Clubhouses

Bids for Kids

Friday, October 2, 2015

Hyatt Regency Long Beach

Join us for our celebration of the 20th Annual Bids for Kids as we venture back to the *Roaring 20s*! The evening will include dinner, silent and live auctions and, for the first time ever, casino tables. Flappers and bootleggers welcome.

For more information visit

www.bgclaharbor.com/BidsForKids or call (310) 833-0514.



FREE to join!

If you are an alumnus of our San Pedro Club or Wilmington Club, please call (310) 833-1322 ext. 249 or visit:

www.bgclaharbor.org/alumni

Enjoy special recognition and invitations to alumni events.

Serving 14 Club sites in the Los Angeles Harbor area

San Pedro Boys & Girls Club
Banning High School
Barton Hill Elementary
Dana Middle School

Wilmington Boys & Girls Club
Daniel's Field
Fleming Middle School
Fries Avenue Elementary

Port of L.A. Boys & Girls Club
George De La Torre Elementary
Gulf Avenue Elementary
Harry Bridges Span School

Park Western Elementary
Wilmington Middle School

Alumni Accomplishments

Misty Copeland Named Principal Dancer

Earlier this summer our San Pedro Club alumnus, Misty Copeland, made history by becoming the first African American female Principal Dancer with the American Ballet Theater. This announcement was made shortly after Misty was named as one of Time magazine's "100 Most Influential People" and made the cover of the magazine.

Like most of our members, Misty first attended our Club because it was a safe place where she could participate in activities with friends and avoid turmoil in her neighborhood and home life. In her 2014 memoir, *Life in Motion: An Unlikely Ballerina*, she describes the Club as one of the few places she felt comfortable during her upbringing.

At the age of 13, after much prodding, Misty participated in the free introductory ballet lessons taking place in our gym. She was discovered to be a prodigy and only five years later Misty was invited to join the American Ballet Theatre studio company.

We are so proud to have given Misty the opportunity to take her first ballet class when many youth in our community are not able to afford arts education.

Misty's success has served as the inspiration for our Arts Academy where we offer free expert education to our members with the latest resources in music, fine arts, dance, 3D modeling, animation, video game design, graphic design, photography, film production and record production. Our Arts Academy education is available at our San Pedro and Wilmington Clubhouses, Monday through Saturday during the school-year.

Congratulations to Misty Copeland! She continues to inspire our community and young people everywhere to dream big and work hard.



Our Youth of the Year Moves on to Greater Success

A message from Youth of the Year Diana Meza as she departs from the Club to start college and accomplish her goals. Diana overcame many obstacles including family turmoil, low-income and crime in her Wilmington community.



I will be attending Chico State in the fall. I've always wanted to say that. When we are little, we are constantly thinking about what we want to become when we are older, whether it's a dancer, a doctor, or even a superstar. We grow up listening to people around us trying to mold us.

Well my molding didn't happen because of a person, it happened because of a place that I love to call my second home, the Boys & Girls Club. The Club taught me what it is to feel and be empowered.

I love my Clubhouse. It has played a crucial role in my development as a young woman. The Club gave me a safe haven and wings to fly. It led me to take on new challenges and explore opportunities as well as conquering obstacles. Once a Club kid, always a Club kid.

As I am getting ready to head out to Chico and hit reality as a college student. I must confess to all the teens out there: you can do anything. Life is always changing and you have to learn to go with it. One must be open to the changes that can happen because with changes there are always new opportunities for growth.

Make a difference in someone's life. You can be a leader. I have made so many memories that no one can take away from me. I am and forever will be a "Club Kid," who loves her life because the Boys & Girls Club exists.



College Bound scholarship recipients on stage at the Warner Grand Theatre.

Our Largest College Bound Graduating Class Ever

On May 28 at the Warner Grand Theatre, Los Angeles Harbor high school seniors gathered with their families to celebrate their completion of our College Bound program. This year College Bound served more high school seniors than ever with 466 participants.

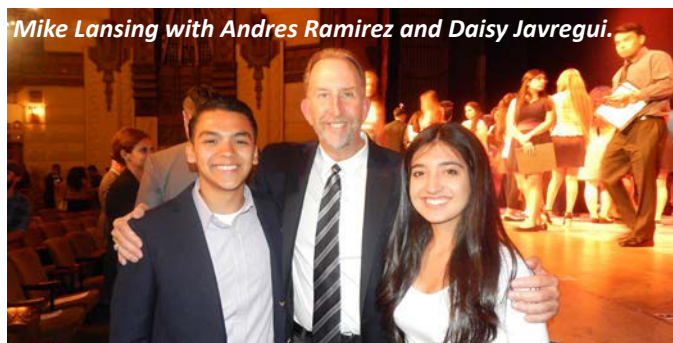
Los Angeles Unified School District Board President Dr. Richard Vladovic delivered the keynote address. He recalled when he previously delivered the keynote address at the College Bound Celebration in 2004. Then the class was comprised of about 40 students. This year, **98% of students graduating from high school through the program are going to college** in the fall to such schools as Cornell University, USC, CSULB and Long Angeles Harbor College.

Opening Doors for an Award Winning Scholar

Daisy Javregui is a senior at Banning High School and has been a Wilmington Club member since her sophomore year. Despite her family's low-income status, Daisy is a very focused student. Her GPA surpassed a 4.0 and she still made time to volunteer in our Keystone student leadership group and our Jr. Staff program. With assistance in applying for financial aid through our College Bound program, Daisy is the winner of two prestigious four-year scholarships: The Gates Millennium and the Posse Foundation scholarships. All doors are now open for Daisy as she attends Pepperdine University in the Fall.

From Seeking Refuge to a Full-Tuition Scholarship

Andres Ramirez found solace at the Wilmington Boys & Girls Club to escape gang crime in his neighborhood. A family member joining a gang almost pulled Andres down that path. Fortunately, he chose to focus on his academics and community service. He has had intensive case management from College Bound since his junior year and received much support in completing his applications. We are very proud that is Andres a recipient of a full-tuition Posse scholarship to attend UC Berkley and he will be the first in his family to attend college.



Mike Lansing with Andres Ramirez and Daisy Javregui.

Thank You to Our Scholarship Donors

With the rising cost of tuition, it is often the staggering cost of higher education that results in many students not being able to go to college despite their hard work and perseverance. At our College Bound Celebration, we awarded \$107,000 in scholarships to 101 exemplary students thanks to generous donations from **College Futures Foundation, Palos Verdes Peninsula Rotary, the Joe Rich Family Foundation, Herb and Arlene Zimmer and Suzy Zimmerman of State Farm.**



Paying it Forward: College Bound Alumni, Christian Velasquez (LMU) and David Rosales (Stanislaus State), raised funds to award a scholarship won by Jose Beltran to attend CSULB.

New Additions to

Port of L.A. Club High School Center Renovation



Our Port of L.A. Club has been a part of our organization since 2002. Thanks to generous support from the Port of L.A., we are able to operate in a facility adjacent to the Rancho San Pedro public housing community. These are truly the youth who need us most.

We are always looking for ways to improve the Clubhouse to attract more youth and upgrade our programs. Teens make their own choice of where to go after school. More is needed beyond the “essentials” to draw them through our doors and keep them off of the streets.

Fortunately Aaron’s Inc. announced a \$1 million partnership with Boys & Girls Clubs of America to upgrade facilities for teen members. Our Port Club was selected as one to receive an upgrade.

Our teens worked with Aaron’s volunteers to design the transformation. The refurbishment included painting, wall art, furniture and electronics.

Over 100 high school students attended the unveiling where our members thanked Aaron’s Inc. and their volunteers. Aaron’s has provided not only a great space for our members, but also a great lesson for them on the importance of giving back to the community.



Dana Padilla (seated center), BGCA Cyber Safety Ambassador, and friends enjoy the newly refurbished College Bound Center.

San Pedro Club Modular Buildings



Last school year, attendance at our San Pedro Club grew by 23% from the previous school year. We are seeing more and more youth in need of the services we offer including daily supper, tutoring and enrichment programs.

Thanks to several generous contributions, including support from the Ralph M. Parsons Foundation, we now have two new modular buildings for additional program space.

We are also lowering our minimum age requirement from 6 to 5 years old. One of the new moduls will become a center for kindergarteners and first grade students so that we can better serve our youngest members with targeted programs.

Our Clubhouses

Wilmington Club Multimedia Studio



We consider it a priority to attract high school and middle school students with programs that not only interest them, but also nurture their creativity and help them develop new skills.

Using our San Pedro Club's successful multimedia learning studio as inspiration, we installed a similar venue for expert instruction at our Wilmington Clubhouse.

Our Wilmington Club multimedia learning studio was made possible by several generous supporters including our Bronze Partner L.A. County Supervisor Don Knabe and the S. Mark Taper Foundation. It provides opportunities unlike any other after-school program in the Wilmington community, including instruction in photography, graphic design, record production and film production.

During the Spring Arts Academy semester, students utilized the latest professional photography equipment available in our studio to explore their creativity. One photograph by POLA High School senior, Brian Mata, caught Supervisor Knabe's attention during a visit to the studio and Brian signed the photo as a gift of appreciation to our Supervisor.

The recording studio includes professional beat makers, mixing console and recording booth. We find that many students are initially attracted to the recording equipment because they want to record a song that might lead to fame. We use these opportunities to teach them how to use the recording equipment from a production standpoint and develop valuable skills in audio recording.

The graphic design program utilizes the latest design programs and tools. Our students have been using their new skills for marketing purposes to promote events and programs at the Wilmington Club. We utilize one-on-one guidance in all of our programs to provide new students with the basics while supporting more advanced students in expanding their abilities.

We are expanding the film production aspect of the program to include both creative and journalistic endeavors. We also plan to introduce a 3D design and printing program - already very popular at our San Pedro Club - to the Wilmington Clubhouse studio.



Beat production in the Wilmington Club recording studio.

What We Did On Our Summer Vacation



Our Washington D.C. leadership trip participants with Congresswoman Janice Hahn at the U.S. Capitol.



Photography students capturing images of the South Coast Botanic Garden

At the Boys & Girls Club, there is so much to do during the summer that we don't really take a vacation. We run low-cost and free summer camps and day care at our San Pedro, Wilmington and Port of L.A. Clubhouses as well as our Harry Bridges Span School site to ensure that our youth have a place to go when school is out.

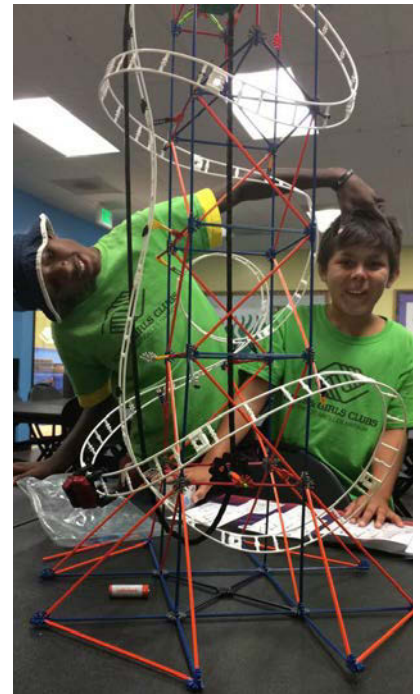
This year our summer programs served about 670 youth, ages 6-18. The all-day camps included daily nutritious breakfast, lunch and snack as well as frequent field trips.

Leadership Trip to Washington D.C.: Thanks to the generous support of George Mayer (Coastline Equity) and his friends, we were able to take 17 of our teen Club members to Washington D.C. for a political and historical immersion trip. Our students visited the Capitol, saw the many national monuments and visited Boys & Girls Clubs of America's Government Relations Office.

Summer in the Garden: The South Coast Botanic Garden in Palos Verdes generously partnered with us to supplement our San Pedro Club programs. Our photography and fine

arts students visited to work on botany based creations. The youngest campers visited a story time session with a Garden volunteer and our STEAM middle school campers visited to study the garden's variety of plants.

STEAM Education: To keep our students engaged and ready for school, we incorporated STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) education based projects into our summer programs.



Welcome New Board Members

As our most committed volunteers, our Board members nurture our abilities and ensure we are keeping to our mission of serving those who need us most. We have been fortunate, since our organization was started in 1937, to have a Board that sincerely cares about the well-being of our youth and our community. Without our Board we would not have become the largest youth serving, daily, private, nonprofit organization in the Los Angeles Harbor region.

Tamara Powers was granted the reigns of Board President at the start of this year from Yvonne Bogdanovich after two terms and four years of dedicated service during which the Club experienced much growth. Tamara joined our Board of Directors in 2007 and since then has served on our Executive Board as Vice President of Resource Development before being elected to the role of President.



We also welcome five new members who have joined our Board of Directors in the past year. Their fresh ideas and support are already making a difference. Thank you and welcome to **Joseph Brajevich (Glaser Weil)**, **Chris Farnsworth (Keesal, Young & Logan)**, **Steve Lopes (USC Athletics)**, **Mark McConico (XL Group)**, and **Jen Prindle (Raytheon)**.



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