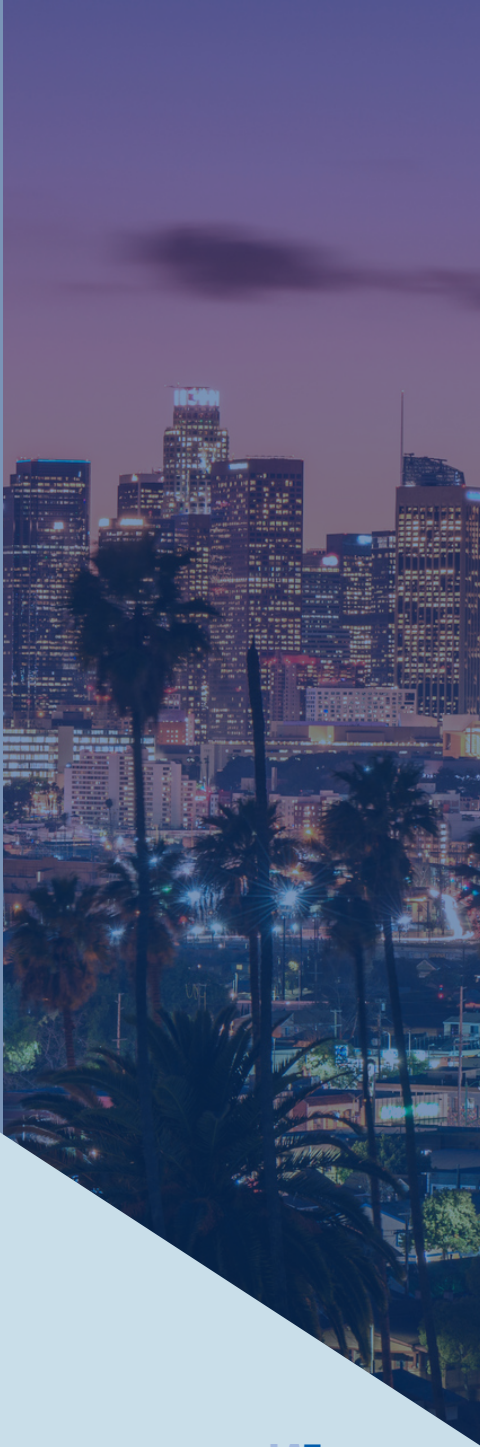


# EL RODEO

THE ROUNDUP

Year 114  
Issue 05  
Apr 2023

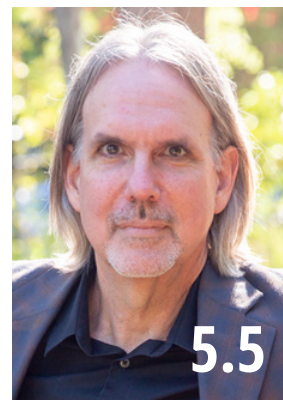
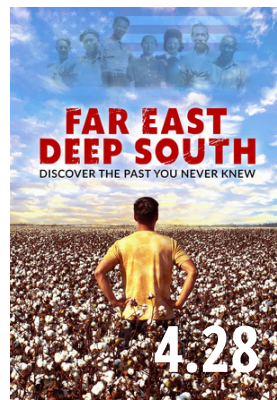
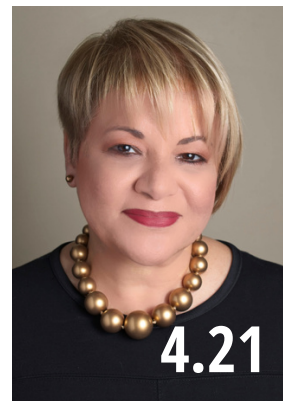
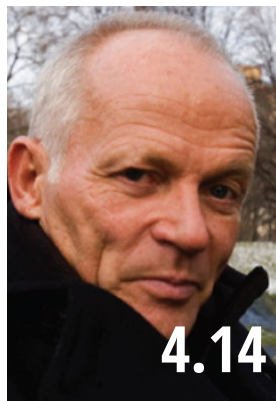




# #5

THE CLUB. FOUNDED IN 1909 AND AGING LIKE FINE WINE

## UPCOMING EVENTS



LA5  
**Rotary**   
Club of Los Angeles

555 W. 5th Street, 35th Fl  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

[www.rotaryla5.org](http://www.rotaryla5.org)  
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LA5



LAST CHANCE  
FOR TICKETS!



COME AND SEE!



2<sup>nd</sup>  
ANNUAL  
FILM  
FESTIVAL

APRIL 15, 2023  
5 PM - 9 PM



COCKTAIL  
& WINE  
RECEPTION  
FOLLOWED BY  
SCREENINGS

COCKTAIL ATTIRE



[ROTARYLA5.ORG/EVENTS](https://rotaryla5.org/events)

APRIL 22, 2023

2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

Long Beach

Paint

# FOR A PURPOSE



CHILDREN'S COURT COMMITTEE

✦ JOIN THE EVENT ✦

The Children's Court Committee will host 25 participants (foster youth and chaperones) with a focus on teens between the ages of 12-18 for an event with Paint for a Purpose. Teens will create their own paintings to take home with expert, step-by-step instruction from the Paint for a Purpose staff.

LA5 is excited to offer this artistic experience to these foster youth.

A special thanks to Ylenia Mino, CEO of Paint for a Purpose, for directing this effort.

Email Ylenia directly at [ylenia@yleniamino.com](mailto:ylenia@yleniamino.com) to participate.

LA5'S ANNUAL

# CONSULS GENERAL DAY

Our annual gathering to host international dignitaries as special guests of LA5. One of the most exciting programs of LA5!

This year, produced by Past President Matt Ball.



## **SAVE THE DATE**

MAY 19, 2023  
NOON

## **LOCATION**

HUNTINGTON  
GARDENS,  
PASADENA

## **LIMITED SEATING**

Tickets available at  
[rotaryla5.org/events](http://rotaryla5.org/events)

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**Azim Vishani**  
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767203-08



*Having won zero awards or accolades, El Rodeo's very own Page Six is the finest news source in America, maybe even in the world.*

## By Ken Chong, Past President

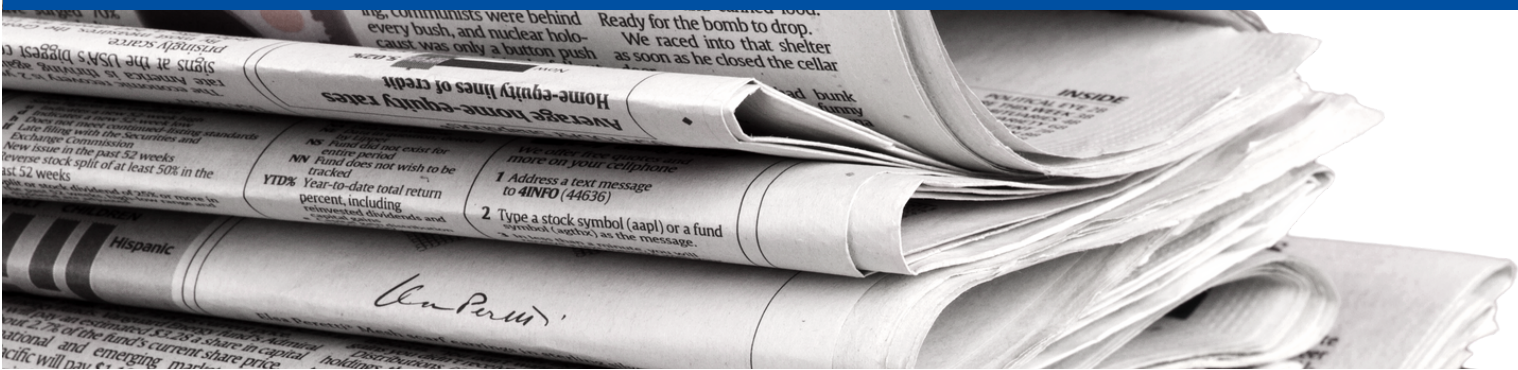
It's been a few months since my last Page 6 article and no one has asked me, "What's wrong?" Not a single Rotarian has missed my monthly missives. I could have just protested and punished the club by not writing anything for the remainder of the year. But that isn't what a Past President does. A Past President grabs the mic, takes the podium and rambles on if asked or not.

A few weeks ago, Silicon Valley Bank collapsed, sparking panic in our banking system. This was a problem for President **Malinda**, whose day job is that of a bank and marketing executive. Her phone buzzed with missed calls and urgent texts from all corners of her bank as she was preparing for Friday's meeting. She knew she couldn't be out of pocket while running the meeting and needed to find a Past President to fill in last minute. At 11:45, she

realized all the good past presidents weren't at the meeting, so she was left with me. If you were there, you know we had major technical difficulties (thank you Past President **Paul** for jumping in and getting everything to work), started 20 minutes late and I fumbled through the script. It was a little messy, but we got everything done and ended on time. Members think that any chance for the mic, I will jump at it. It







really isn't true. I'd prefer to eat lunch and watch the show. What I do love is fining people and I will suffer through all the other parts of running a meeting if I can get to the end with the fines. But being asked to run a meeting 15 minutes before the start time pretty much meant no fines. 😊

Even though we started 20 minutes late, I finished the last item on the agenda and looked down at my watch with 1:25p staring back at me. Remember, Past President **Paul** out fined me last year and took my title as fine master and Past Presidents **Megan** and **Charisse** have endlessly teased me with their crystal gavels that the club does not want me to have. My fining self-confidence has burst, but I pressed onward in an attempt to levy a fine in the final 5 minutes. I decided to ask if anyone wanted to make my day and volunteer a \$20 fine for some Happy News. I scanned the room only to find silence. Then a hero emerges, **Michael Stevens**, \$20 fine because he is happy to pick up his daughter

from the airport that afternoon for Spring Break. BAM! That was what I needed to break the ice. Past President **Paul**, \$20 fine for his daughter making the Dean's List at Colorado Christian University, BAM! Then **Paul Jacques** offers up \$20 to acknowledge Past President Paul's son, Xander, for doing a such a great job as a sound engineer working for him and his band. BAM! But wait, that doesn't seem right for **Paul Jacques** to acknowledge Past President Paul's son?!? I think that means PP Paul forgot some happy news...another \$20 fine to PP Paul. BAM! And all that gavel banging must have gotten **Judge Green's** blood pumping. He never leaves me hanging up there. He offers up another \$20 for returning from London from his daughter's wedding. Proud Pappa, who I have already fined TWICE for what looked like a beautiful and extravagant wedding party. John has already been charged double jeopardy for this event, I almost didn't want to take a fine for a 3rd time. I said almost. \$20, BAM! Maybe the Judge feels like some of us who used to work in food service and are generous tippers at restaurants.

Thank you Michael, Past President Paul, Paul Jacques, the Judge and all the generous Rotarians who participate in the fun over and over again. This Washed Up Past President thanks you from the bottom of his heart. You're all great Rotarians! Service Above Self!



# BATTLESHIP IOWA

CHILDREN'S COURT COMMITTEE

TOUR



## CHILDREN'S COURT COMMITTEE USS IOWA TOUR

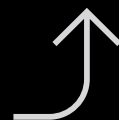
LA5 will host 40 participants (foster youth and chaperones), with a focus on kids between the ages of 11-12 for an experience on the USS Iowa. Kids will experience a guided tour of the ship for 1 1/2 – 2 hours and a meal at Vicky's Doghouse Cafe. We are excited to offer this historical experience to these foster youth.

A special thanks to Bruce Murdoch for spearheading this event.



May 13, 2023  
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm  
San Pedro

Contact Bruce Murdoch  
at [dbmurdoch17@gmail.com](mailto:dbmurdoch17@gmail.com)  
to participate





— NEW —

## Foster Youth Benefits Eligibility Tool

Helping young people in foster care or probation, and their caregivers, discover and access critical benefits.

With funding support from the Office of Child Protection and the Rotary Club of Los Angeles, and in partnership with Alliance for Children's Rights, the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) has launched an online tool to provide a customized informative report on resources for youth ages 14–26 who are currently or formerly in foster care and on probation and their caregivers, helping them access critical supports they need to thrive. The online tool, accessible on [the DCFS website](#), allows users to filter eligibility results based on age and on education and employment status.

This new interactive, easy-to-use tool empowers transition age youth involved in or formerly involved in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems, as well as their caregivers and other supportive adults, to discover the public benefits for which they qualify—housing support, healthcare, financial aid for school, employment opportunities, and much more. Users are encouraged to share their individualized results with their social workers to further explore the programs for which they may be eligible.

**"Creating anytime access to information and resources promotes individual agency for transition age youth to help them develop and achieve their employment and education goals. This tool provides basic information for youth, caregivers, and other adult supporters about important resources to help empower lives and transform futures."**

— Jennifer L. Braun, *Alliance for Children's Rights President & CEO*

[EXPLORE THE FINDER](#)

NEW MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENT

# meet the member



*Marietta*

**MARIETTA MELROSE**

Actress & COO  
Bash Revenue

[MARIETTA'S REEL](#)

NEW MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENT

# meet the member



**HASSAN BASH**

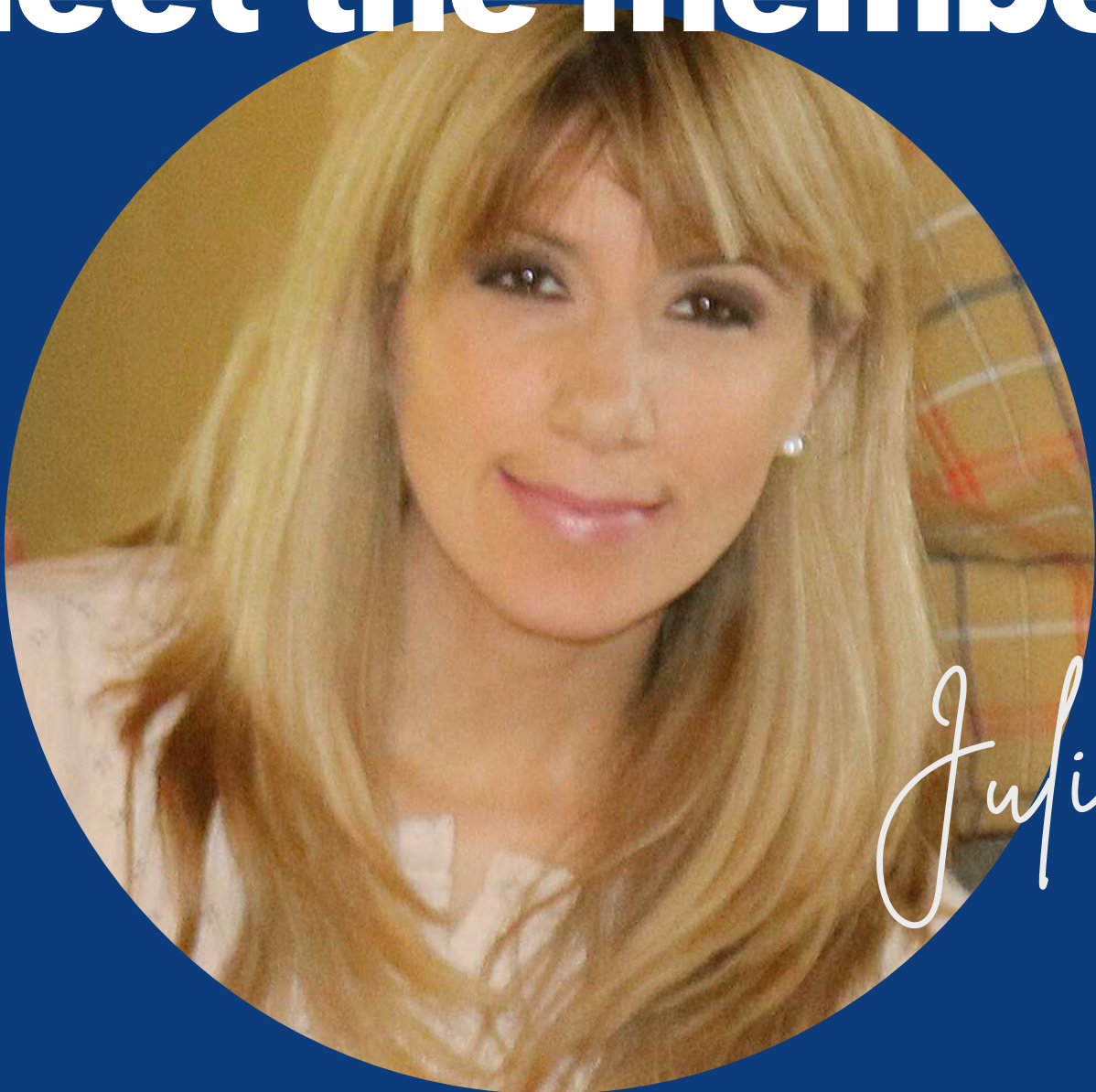
CEO

Bash Revenue

[MORE INFO HERE](#)

NEW MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENT

# meet the member



*Julie*

**JULIE ARKO**

Chief Marketing & Development Officer  
Village Book Builders

[MORE INFO HERE](#)

# ARROYO

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Your insurance partners at Arroyo Arcadia are passionate about helping you through proactive risk management and a personal, consultative approach. We have been providing insurance solutions to the local community since 1981. We have extensive experience with insurance placement, risk management and strategy with a diverse client base comprised of many different types of business.



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Agency Team Recognition/Invitee, Liberty Mutual Presidents Awards Celebration 2019



Elite Agency Designation, Chubb Cornerstone



A MESSAGE FROM

# THE PRES

---

Malinda Monterrosa  
President

I've officially started the countdown of remaining meetings ... just a couple of months remain until this club moves on to much bigger and better under the leadership of **President Gary Jimenez**.

Until then, we have a busy, club calendar, including service, social, and some great programs!

You want to attend what has become an annual **film festival** this weekend - **April 15**. Several clubs from D5280 are participating, and I've heard it's expected to be a great turnout! **Mel Scott** is superhuman, and everything she commits to producing turns to gold - and this event will be no different.

Our **Major Donor Reception** on **May 11** is led by the most amazing host committee, which includes **Mike Hainkel, Heather Shuemaker, Erick Weiss, Ken Chong, Paul Ekstrand, and Meg Barron**. Those who've donated generously to the Foundation are in for a lovely evening. Want to make sure you get your invite to this exclusive event? Donate to the Foundation here.

**Carmen Estrada-Schaye** is coordinating a program



## ...CONTINUED

featuring guest speaker Amy Zeiring on May 12 - whom LA5 will honor as our "Woman of the Year" for her incredible work advocating for the safety and well-being of women. Amy's films have influenced congressional action.

Scholarship application review is taking place as I type this, and soon the committee will congregate to interview the students and choose the final twenty-five scholarship recipients. As you know - all this meaningful work culminates with **Scholarship Day on June 16!**

**Past President Matt Ball** is coordinating what is shaping up to be one of the best **Consuls General** Days to date! We're road-tripping to Huntington Gardens for this program on **May 19**. What a perfect background for networking with our favorite international dignitaries!

**Bruce Murdoch** and **Past President Mike Birkholm** are producing an amazing program that will bring a storied LA5 tradition back to life and recognize local leader **Wayne Ratkovich** for his work to address homelessness. This program will take place **June 9** at the Jonathan Club. Certainly, be on the lookout for information on this, as it's gonna be a good one!

**President-Elect Gary Jimenez** is planning an insanely entertaining **Presidents Party** for the end of May! If this party is any insight into how well coordinated and how much fun his Rotary year is going to be, you're in for a treat!

As you can see, there's still so much to do, and we have very little time left this Rotary year!

We're in for lots of fun, service, community connections, and impact. Get excited.

The last few months have been a ride- and I want to thank everyone that continues to ensure that this club thrives and is one of the best ... ever. You make our meetings fun and enjoyable and our events meaningful and impactful.

Alongside events and programs, so much work is done out of the spotlight in this club to ensure we continue our century+ legacy of impact. Please read on for just a bit of what's been happening behind the scenes ...





**JT Warring** and **Herb McGurk** have, for years, ensured that villages in Myanmar are provided with clean water. Political unrest and the pandemic have put a bit of a pause on this work recently, but water systems in Myanmar are back on the roadmap, and with the help of **Past President Matt Ball** and LDS, it looks like NINE water systems will be built over the next 12-18 months!



**Gus Opperman**, **Christina Moses**, and **Judy Smith** have been working with the First Five Collaborative and clubs in Bolivia to support and stand up several medical projects in and around - Cochabamba. We hope this work will culminate in a humanitarian trip where members from the first five Rotary clubs will converge in South America.



**Mel Scott**, **Lauren Schlau**, and **Past President Paul Ekstrand** launched a new committee in LA5 that works with Defy Ventures to support reintegrating incarcerated adults into society. We've already met a gentleman who benefitted not just from the time and wisdom of our Rotarians, but from the generosity of this club - and he is quick to give credit to LA5 for his life being altered for the better. Mel, Lauren, and Paul would argue that he's changed ours for the better.



The Children's Court Committee - led by **Walker Van Antwerp** and **Michelle Dicks** - is moving and shaking, keeping our legacy alive with the County and the Court. We recently helped launch an online benefit guide for youth who have aged out of the system - a much-needed resource.

Generous donors to the Foundation have chosen such well-deserving organizations to receive Community Grant funds this year.

In the following pages, you'll find evidence of some of this amazing work by these amazing Rotarians and their committees. You'll also see some of the resulting accolades and thank you's from organizations that have been meaningfully impacted by this club's generosity (YOUR generosity).



I hope you'll take the time to read through everything, as it will give you a deep sense of pride. Appreciate you.



## adopt -a-family

SUPPORTING A SINGLE  
MOM OF SEVEN OVER  
THE HOLIDAYS





**first responder  
appreciation projects**  
SUPPORTING CENTRAL  
DIVISION STATION 01

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March 10, 2023

Malinda Monterrosa  
Rotary Club of Los Angeles  
555 W. 5th Street, 35th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

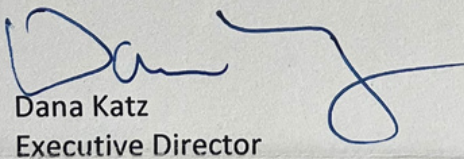
Dear Malinda:

Thank you for supporting the men and women of the LAPD! Your recent donation of \$500 to the Los Angeles Police Foundation will provide critically needed resources for LAPD's Central Division's breakroom.

Each year the Los Angeles Police Foundation continues to advance its mission of creating partnerships to provide resources that help our police department perform at its highest level. With support from donors like you, the LAPD is better equipped, better trained, and better prepared to keep our families and communities safe.

Thank you for helping to keep our city SAFER. STRONGER. TOGETHER.

With appreciation,



Dana Katz  
Executive Director

Dana Katz  
Executive Director

*The Los Angeles Police Foundation (Tax ID# 95-4700442) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.  
Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.  
No goods or services were provided in exchange for your contribution.  
Please keep this letter as your receipt.*

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**Jennifer L. Braun** President & CEO

**ALLIANCE**  
for **CHILDREN'S**  
**RIGHTS**

December 22, 2022

Malinda Monterrosa, President  
Rotary Club of Los Angeles  
555 W. 5th Street, 35th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

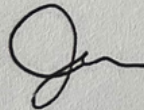
Dear Malinda,

On behalf of the Alliance for Children's Rights, it is my great pleasure to thank the Los Angeles Rotary Club (LA 5) for its recent \$20,000 grant. This generous gift provided \$10,000 to support our Adoptions Program and \$10,000 to fund \$100 gift cards for adopting families at this year's National Adoption Day.

Your kind donation to our Adoptions Program is helping us to bring stability and wellbeing to children and youth, by supporting their adoption out of Los Angeles County's foster care system. And, through thoughtful gift cards, you've provided those young people and their families – all of whom finalized their adoptions on November 19 – with welcome support to help meet their essential needs or to celebrate the end of their journeys in our child welfare system.

We are very grateful for your continued partnership and meaningful investment in our community.

With warmest regards, and best wishes for the holiday season,



Jennifer L. Braun  
President and CEO

*In compliance with Internal Revenue  
verification of your contribution of \$  
the full extent of the law. No goods  
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**national adoption day**  
**SUPPORTING KIDS**  
**ALLIANCE AND**  
**EDELMAN CHILDREN'S**  
**COURT**

3333 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 550 Los Angeles, CA 90010

P | 213.368.6010 F | 213.368.6016 [allianceforchildrensrights.org](http://allianceforchildrensrights.org)



**bike build**  
**SUPPORTING TOGETHER**  
**WE RISE AND**  
**WELLNEST FAMILIES**

December 16, 2022

Malinda Monterrosa  
President  
Rotary Club of Los Angeles  
555 W. 5th Street, 35th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

*Thank you for your generosity!*

Dear Ms. Monterrosa,

On behalf of Wellnest, I thank you for your generosity towards the children, youth, and families we serve. Your **in-kind donation of 30 bikes**, valued at **\$2,500.00**, received **October 15, 2022**, contributes greatly to our services and allows us to better support our community and clients who live with great need.

For more than 98 years, Wellnest has been a leading provider of emotional health and wellness services and programs to underserved communities in Los Angeles. It is our vision that everyone has access to the support needed to achieve the emotional well-being critical to reaching their full potential. Thanks to generous individuals like you, we continue this legacy and impactful work. Your contribution provides the support our clients need to grow and overcome challenges in pursuit of attaining their dreams of healthy, promising futures.

We sincerely appreciate your generosity and willingness to support Wellnest. Together we will provide more hope, healing and opportunity to the children, youth, families, and communities we serve!

Warmest Regards,

Charlene Dimas-Peinado, LCSW, EML  
President and CEO

*Your donation is deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. No goods or services were provided in exchange for this donation. Please consult with your tax advisor to ensure you are within the deductibility guidelines applicable to your personal situation. Wellnest is a 501(c)(3), nonprofit organization, Federal Tax ID# 95-1690974.*

Exposition Park Office  
3787 South Vermont Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90007  
T 323.766.2345

Leimert Park Office  
4401 Crenshaw Blvd., #300  
Los Angeles, CA 90043  
T 323.290.8360

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Life Learning Center  
5054 South Vermont Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90037  
T 323.373.2400

Wateridge Office  
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Los Angeles, CA 90056  
T 310.388.9000

Integrated Care Adventist  
Health White Memorial  
1701 E. Cesar E. Chavez, # 532  
Los Angeles, CA 90033  
T 323.545.3522

The Nest on Florence -  
David & Susan Hirsch Building  
410 E. Florence Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90003  
T 323.373.2400

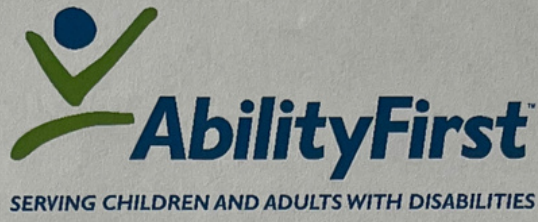


## disney day

SUPPORTING FOSTER  
YOUTH AND TOGETHER  
WE RISE



"The most gratifying  
volunteer opportunity I  
have ever participated in."  
-Chris Cieszko



December 21, 2022

Ms. Malinda Monterrosa  
President  
Rotary Club of Los Angeles  
555 W. 5th Street, 35th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Dear Malinda,

Thank you for the \$10,000 grant from the Rotary Club of Los Angeles Foundation, to support AbilityFirst Camp Paivika. We are so grateful for your support, and glad that LA5 members were able to join us at camp this summer.

As you know, AbilityFirst was established by members of LA5 in 1926. We are proud of our heritage and grateful for your continued commitment to our programs. Thank you again for supporting AbilityFirst, its people, and its programs.

Sincerely,

Lori Gangemi  
CEO

AbilityFirst has not provided any goods or services in return for the extent allowed by law. AbilityFirst is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization with EIN 95-1690983.

**camp paivika**

**SUPPORTING ABILITY  
FIRST**





February 6, 2023

Rotary Club Of Los Angeles  
555 W 5th St 35th FL  
Los Angeles, CA 90013-1010

Dear Rotarians,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, Scouts, and staff, thank you for your generous **\$1,000.00** investment in the Western Los Angeles County Council. Your donation helps nearly 4,700 Scouts participate in our vales based recreational and educational programs and activities that develop young people of character as defined by the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

In 2022, Scouts returned to programming and camps and we closed out the year grateful for their participation and your support. Some 2022 highlights were:

- We developed new partnerships with the State of California to provide more than 1,000 under resourced youth with access to the outdoors and coastal adventures.
- Scouts advanced through our programs. In total we had: 1,437 Cub Scout ranks awarded; 1,502 Scouts BSA ranks awarded including 184 Eagles; 14 total Venturing awards; and 6,988 Merit Badges earned.
- Emerald Bay Outdoor Academy provides opportunities for schools and groups outside of Scouting to learn about environmental stewardship, nature, and science in a way that is hands on, hosted nearly 650 youth.

You have helped to shape the lives of so many through your generosity. You have positively influenced youth during the most critical years of their development, your gift bears fruit when they thrive, give back to their community, and help strengthen the social and economic fabric of the nation.

Yours in Scouting,

Lee Harrison  
Scout Executive/CEO

*Please consider this letter an official receipt for your tax-deductible contribution. No goods or services were provided to you in consideration of this gift. The Western Los Angeles County Council is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization. Federal Tax ID #95-2788856.*

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Van Nuys, CA 91406-3753  
(818)785-8700  
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**community grants**  
SUPPORTING BSA  
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**LOS ANGELES  
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1700 Stadium Way Suite 100 | Los Angeles, CA 90012  
(310) 552-4139 | supportlafd.org

December 12, 2022

Rotary Club of Los Angeles  
555 W 5th St, 35th Fl  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Dear To Whom,

Thank you for your generous donation to the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) Foundation in support of the firefighters and paramedics at LAFD Fire Station 10.

The City's budget limitations cannot cover the numerous needs of all 106 stations in the City of Los Angeles. The Adopt-A-Fire-Station Program was created to provide funding for necessary equipment and supplies at the fire stations. As requested, your contribution will be allocated to LAFD Fire Station 10.

*This letter confirms that your donation of \$500 was received on 10/24/2022. The LAFD Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a Tax ID number of: EIN #27-2007326. No goods or services were exchanged for your contribution. Your gift is tax-deductible to the full extent permitted by law.*

On behalf of the firefighters at LAFD Fire Station 10, thank you for your support. Your gift is truly appreciated.

Best regards,

Liz Lin  
President

Copied: LAFD Fire Station 10

**first responder  
appreciation projects**  
SUPPORTING FIRE  
STATION 10



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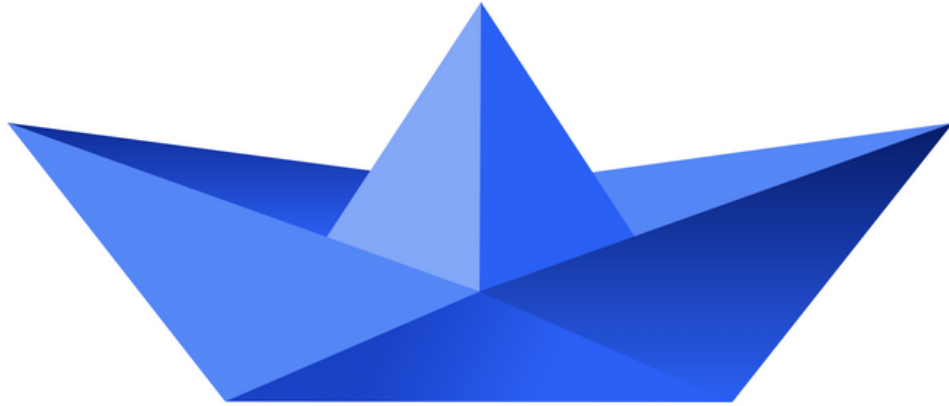
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# Student Corner

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for helping us keep the lights on, fun, and fancy



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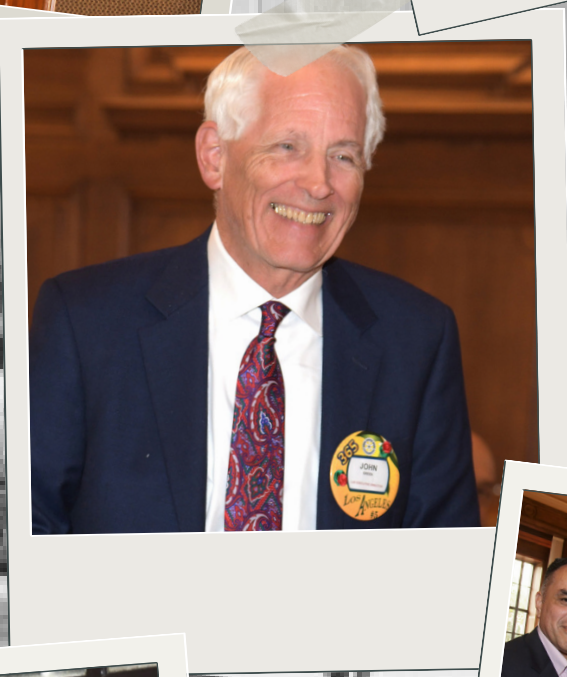


SPRING HAS SPRUNG  
FOR  
*Rotarians*





# Meetings. Memories. Magic.





# Sheriff Luna



# Meetings. Memories. Magic.



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# Women's Day.



# Meetings. Memories. Magic.



# LA City Attorney



**WE WANT**

**YOUR**

**FEEDBACK!**



[MEMBERFEEDBACK@ROTARYLA5.ORG](mailto:MEMBERFEEDBACK@ROTARYLA5.ORG)