



Mar Vista Community Council



MAR VISTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
Thursday, November 13th, 2014, at 7:00 PM
Mar Vista Recreation Center Auditorium
11430 Woodbine Street, Mar Vista, CA 90066

AGENDA

141113-BOD-AGENDA

1. **Call to Order and Welcome** – Chair (1 min.)
 - Meeting called to order at 7:11 p.m.
 - Quorum present – **Bill Koontz (Chair), Bill Duckett (Secretary), Bill Scheduling (Treasurer), Michael Millman, Brad Wilhite, Yvette Molinaro, Val Davidson, Michelle Krupkin, Ken Alpern, and Robin Doyno**
2. **Presentation of the Flag and Pledge of Allegiance** (1 min)
3. **Approval of October 2014 Minutes** (public comment permitted) (1 min)
 - Motion by **Bill Scheduling to approve. 2nd by Michelle Krupkin. Motion carries unanimously.**
4. **Public Comment & Announcements**--for items not on the agenda (max 1 min each unless waived by the Chair)
 - Albert Olson: Thanks to all who made Fall Festival a huge success. The \$5,400 raised in the silent auction is a record. Committee members who performed above and beyond were Tom Ponton, Yvette Molinaro, Jerry Hornof, Jeanne Kuntz, Susan Melly, Sara Roos, Bill Duckett, Lorraine Wells, Sharon Commins, Pat Petereson, Sherri Akers, and Albert Olson.**
5. **Special Presentation** – VHS report and presentation: Kids and events of Merit (10 min)
 - Sara Roos: Initiative is about paying attention to the 13 schools in CD 11, and especially recognizing students who go above and beyond. For individual commendations please see the attached file (Appendix B)**
6. **Elected Officials and City Department Reports** (max 1 min. each unless waived by the Chair)
 - a. CD 11 – CM Mike Bonin, rep. by Field Deputy Len Nguyen
Len.Nguyen@lacity.org
 - Len: Event to introduce new Neighborhood Prosecutor, Veronica de la Cruz-Robles on December 4th. Westside Winter Shelter Donation Drive December 19th.**
 - b. Mar Vista Recreation Center – Jason Kitahara, Director
 - Jason:**
 - c. CD 5 – Paul Koretz, rep by Joseph Galloway,
joejdg92@gmail.com
 - Joseph:**
 - d. US 36 – Janice Hahn
 - No report**
 - e. CA Assembly 54-Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, rep by Scott Malsin
scott.malsin@assembly.ca.gov
 - No report**
 - f. CA Senate 28
 - No report**

- g. CA Assembly 47
-No report
 - h. CA Assembly 62
-No report
 - i. 2nd Dist. L. A. County Board Supervisor Mark Ridley Thomas, rep. by Karly Katona, Karly.Katona@bos.lacounty.gov
-No report
 - j. Mayor of Los Angeles – Eric Garcetti, rep. by Daniel Tamm
Daniel.tamm@lacity.org
-No report
7. **Officers and Liaison** Reports (Action items included with public comment permitted, 1 min per speaker)
- a. Chair-Bill Koontz
 - i. **MOTION-Director's request, Robin Doyno:** Be it resolved that the MVCC shall aid the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority in the approaching count of the homeless in Los Angeles.
 - ii. **Grace Wellmen from Communities in Motion, spoke on the motion. This is required by HUD to ID homeless persons which in turn influences funds coming to the community. Needs coordinator to find volunteers and gather them for the count. This will take place on Wednesday, January 28th.**

Motion by Robin Doyno and 2nd by Bill Scheduling. Motion passed unanimously.

This aid (to be determined) and resolution shall recognize the importance of an accurate measure of our homeless community for a variety of reasons.
 - iii. **Special Presentation**
Certification of appreciation given to Albert Olson and Yvette Molinaro for the incredible work they did to make the 2014 Fall Festival an overwhelming success.
 - b. First Vice Chair-Mitchell Rische
 - c. Second Vice Chair-John Kuchta
 - d. Secretary-Bill Duckett
 - i. **Farmer's Market Update**
 - ii. **Sending Secretary motions**
Motions need to be sent to the Secretary in a timely manner that the agenda can be posted 72 hours in advance of the meeting. It is very difficult to try to find them via emails, posted agendas, and posted draft minutes as many times all or none of the above happens.
 - e. Treasurer-William Scheduling: NOTE: All funding motions must conform to all Empower funding guidelines and must be funded and paid in fiscal year 2014-15 or they will expire. All NPG and CIG grants approved by the Mar Vista Community Council are restricted funds according to Department of Neighborhood Empowerment regulations and must be used for the exact purpose approved by the MVCC. All Neighborhood Council Funding reports are available online at <http://done.lacity.org/onlinefunding/ncfunding.aspx>
 - i. **APPROVAL** of October MER
Motion by Bill Scheduling and 2nd by Robin Doyno carries unanimously.
 - ii. **APPROVAL** of funding request by William Scheduling for reimbursement of postage in the amount of \$29.95 (see supporting documents, APPENDIX)
Motion by Bill Scheduling and 2nd by Robin Doyno carries unanimously.

iii. **FUNDING MOTION:**

Whereas the Mar Vista Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a Pop-Up Mar Vista event on November 29th, 2014.

Therefore, the MVCC grants approval for funding in the amount of \$250 to provide promotional support. Promotional materials such as banners and maps will be printed and the Mar Vista Community Council logo will be displayed along with all other sponsors' logos. In addition, the Chamber asks for support in the form of a website post and e-blast to promote the event prior to the date. (See supporting documents Appendix B).

Friendly amendment by Michelle Krupkin to increase the dollar amount to \$350 accepted.
Friendly amendment by Bill Duckett to add the following wording: *In addition and in as the event will encourage walking and biking to local businesses, MVCC grants approval for the Green Committee to provide promotional support. The Green Committee's logo will be displayed along with all other sponsors' logos.*

Motion by Bill Scheduling and 2nd by Bill Duckett carries unanimously.

iv. **FUNDING MOTION:** Purchase and update Santa Sleigh Stop Signs and materials-not to exceed \$200.

Motion by Bill Scheduling and 2nd by Michelle Krupkin carries with 7 Ayes, 1 Nay, and one Abstention (Val Davidson)

v. **FUNDING MOTION:** Support Pacific LAPD's Winter Wonderland Toy Drive and Give-Away Program-not to exceed \$2000 for supplies, toys, food and rental of equipment.

-Bill Koontz: This means a lot to underprivileged children who line up many hours beforehand.

-Bill Scheduling: Need to be specific about who receives the funds. Funds will be given to the Boosters.

Motion by Bill Scheduling and 2nd by Michelle Krupkin carries with 8 Ayes and 1 Nay.

f. Mar Vista Bi Monthly LADOT/CD11/LAPD Traffic Committee Liaison - Linda Guagliano

Linda: Next meeting is November 19th. Agenda closes Saturday, November 15th. Road Closed sign South of Grand View Elementary School has still not been removed (Sunday Farmers' Market)

g. DWP MOU/LANCC Liaison-Open

h. DWP Recycled Water Liaison-Christopher McKinnon
www.ladwp.com/recycledwater

i. Fall Festival Liaison-Albert Olson/Yvette Molinaro

j. City Budget: John Kuchta

k. Recode LA: Sharon Commins

Sharon: Board should visit website and read everything.

l. Mar Vista Chamber of Commerce: Sarah Auerswald

Sarah: Pop-up Mar Vista on November 29th. Shop locally and ride your bike. Great Streets update: Council office has entered into talks with Caltrans regarding Venice Blvd.

8. **Zone Director Reports**--may include motions to refer action items to the appropriate MVCC committee where desirable; Public comment permitted)

Zone 1 – No report

Zone 2 – No report

Zone 3 – No report

Zone 4 – No report

Zone 5 – No report

Zone 6 – No report

9. **Committee Reports & Consent Calendar** - Action items included, which may include motions to refer items to the appropriate MVCC committee where desirable (public comment permitted, 1 min per speaker unless waived by the Chair); items may be received and filed by consent if no discussion or public comment
- a. **Executive & Finance Committee**-Bill Koontz, Chair
 - b. **GGG 2015 AD HOC COMMITTEE**- Shelley Wiseman, Chair
 - c. **Recreation Open Space Enhancement Committee** – Jerry Hornof & Tom Ponton, Co-Chairs
 - d. **Green Committee** – Melissa Stoller, Chair; Jeanne Kuntz and Sherri Akers, Vice-Chairs
 - e. **Transportation & Infrastructure Committee** – Ken Alpern & Mitchell Rishe, Co-Chairs

-Motion to move all item e policy motions to the beginning or 7 made by Bill Scheduling and 2nd by Michelle Krupkin. Motion carries unanimously.

POLICY MOTION: Amendment to Outdoor Dining "R" Permit

MVCC, a member of the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils, supports the following WRAC motion: Request the LA City Council amend the outdoor dining "R" permit ordinance to include requiring a window sticker advising the public that the establishment has a proper permit.

[NOTE: The purpose of this motion is to allow NC members, street inspectors, or the public, to be able to identify illegal outdoor dining].

POLICY MOTION: Investigation of Code Circumvention by Offsite Parking 'Leasing'

MVCC, a member of the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils, supports the following WRAC motion: Request the City Council investigate the Planning Department circumventing code by allowing off site parking with only a lease agreement and not a covenant agreement or variance.

[NOTE: The purpose of this motion is to ensure that the Planning Department and the CPC are not violating code and/or law by allowing uses to "Lease" required parking spaces off site, when code requires them to have a covenant agreement, or file for a variance].

Motion to take both on consent made by Ken Alpern and 2nd by Michelle Krupkin. Motion carries unanimously.

POLICY MOTION: BMO Adjustments to Close Loopholes in the Law

~~MVCC, a member of the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils, supports the following WRAC motion: The WRAC supports CM Paul Koretz's proposed amendments to the Baseline Mansionization Ordinance (CF 14-0656). Amendments shall be approved and executed in 4 months, and other areas/districts may be added during the approval process as the city did for the Sign Ordinance.~~

~~*[Note: An ICO may be implemented concurrently with this approval process. The goal is a revised citywide policy, instead of a patchwork of HPOZs and RFA Overlays, which take up much time].*~~

Motion to move this up the agenda made by Bill Scheduling and 2nd by Brad Willhite carries unanimously.

Public Comment

Shelly Wagers: Been working for 10 years on Mansionization issue. Planning Department does not share a sense of urgency. Builders are front-running the change in the ordinance.

Friendly amendment to request Mar Vista be added to the queue accepted.

Motion by Ken Alpern and 2nd by Bill Scheduling. Motion carries unanimously.

Substitute Motion made by Bill Scheduling and 2nd by Bill Koontz carries unanimously:

The Board of the Mar Vista Neighborhood Council supports the motion from Councilmember Paul Koretz dated May 16, 2014 with respect to amending the city's Baseline Mansionization Ordinance number 179883.

The Board supports adoption of an ICO (Interim Control Ordinance) modeled on the Beverly Grove RFA (Residential Floor Area) Ordinance number 182754.

The Board urges that the ICO be applied as quickly and broadly as practicable and that the proposed BMO amendments be implemented with all possible speed.

The Board further requests Mar Vista be added to the queue.

This motion should be submitted to Council File 14-0656 as a Community Impact Statement.

POLICY MOTION: Mandarin and English Dual-Language Immersion Elementary School Project at Mark Twain Middle School: The MVCC, on behalf of our neighboring stakeholders, requests the following items be studied as part of the Mark Twain DEIR and further requests that any significant impacts be mitigated back to zero:

- traffic increase
- traffic management plan utilizing remote and all potential dropoff and pickup sites, such as on or near Venice Blvd.
- tangible traffic solutions, such as one-way streets, off-street busports and cross-campus drives
- safe routes to school [to help mitigate traffic impacts]
- a staggered start and end to the school day be enforced for the Mandarin Immersion Program and the Middle School Program, to help minimize traffic impacts to the local neighborhood caused by drop off and pick up traffic
- circulation pattern/ingress and egress [where will the buses load/unload/idling and fumes adjacent to residences]
- construction impacts
- serious consideration be given to adopt Dr. Patton's proposal for this facility
- proposed buildings [location of, size, mass, scale, height]
- any loss of playground, sports field, or open space from the construction of the new school
- any loss of playground or open space from the establishment of parking, and to consider underground or remote parking alternatives
- The use of existing local alternative elementary school campuses for the current elementary English and Spanish programs:
 - to allow the Mandarin Program to continue to grow at its existing location --to explore better utilization of other Westside schools that are currently under-enrolled
 - to address the concerns of Mar Vista parents that this campus will best achieve the right balance of accommodating the needs of local families with the needs of the LAUSD in general
- water-preservation, energy-efficient and LEED-certified buildings to be used in construction
- any other proposed uses besides classrooms
- LAUSD ensures 90% of the students in this program, and any future program that will increase student enrollment, use school bus transportation only to access the school

-Motion by Ken Alpern and 2nd by Bill Scheduling

-Presentation by LAUSD: Claudia Vizcarra introduced Pamela Marton who talked about why they need a new site for the program and why this site was chosen. Program began at Broadway Elementary which was experiencing enrollment decline. Mark Twain enrollment has declined from a high of 1,393 to less than 700. Grandview has had a dual immersion Spanish and Venice has a Language Magnet program so has taken on the Spanish Immersion students. The need now is a middle school that would take on the Mandarin Immersion students. Mark Twain is experienced with taking the Spanish Immersion students. Room at Mark Twain to take on the Mandarin Immersion students. Scott Singleterry: Facilities development manager gave a project overview. Comments can be emailed to cequa-comments@lausd.net. Draft EIR due in January 2015. Final should be out in April or May 2015.

PUBLIC COMMENT

-Mary Ann Hereford: Sees this as very important to parents who want their children to continue the dual language program.

-Vincent Chan: Puts children's needs above his own. This is a good program and wants to do what he can to make this as easy on the neighborhood as possible.

-John Stern: Addressed underutilization of the schools in the area and wants to see a recommendation that the funds be freed and that all empty classrooms be used instead. This goes beyond Dr. Patton's proposal.

-Kadi Sibi: Parent at MI school and coordinates car pool and would be willing to offer same help with this school.

-Charlene Dekker: Walgrove cannot absorb traffic for a whole new school the size of Mark Twain.

-Spencer Rosenheck: Kindergartner at Broadway. Opted out of Coer d'Alene and a private school to be in this program. Mark Twain would be his home Middle School. Anxious for a path forward beyond elementary school.

-Staci Boggeri: Just wants to be able to move around on the roads in neighborhood.

-Chaka Forman:

-Kerry Olinger: Gone through two dual immersion programs. Concerned with credentialing issues. Concerned about traffic. Worried about construction.

-Sharon Commins: Need to see site plan and elevations. Cequa needs everything you want studied in it. Pack it! Wants to know what will happen to the sports field because there is so little in the neighborhood as is.

-Christopher Lawrence: Co-President of parent council of MI and also a resident of Mar Vista. Deals with traffic every day but considers this more important.

-Darren Hereford: Echoed Christopher's sentiments. Parents would be dropping

-Crystal Kaza: No second choice

-Lily Chan: Co President of MI Parent Association wants to be a good neighbor. Traffic in this area is bad anyway and this association is willing to bend over backwards to mitigate.

-Robert Liu: Parent w/child @ Broadway and looking forward to this change.

-Jushal Kapadia: Has a 1st grader @ Broadway and a son who will start in two years. People in close proximity will walk. There is too much value to this project to not try to mitigate the traffic issues.

-Keily Graham-Lawrence: Lives by the forum so familiar with traffic moving through her neighborhood. Parents are motivated to make this work.

-Ken March: Purchased home in neighborhood because he loves this program.

-Eric Kostello: Son goes to Broadway and lives in a cut-through neighborhood so understands the concern. Supports mitigation.

-Pat Hachiya: Parents are motivated to do anything to make this work.
-Chaka Forman: Has children at local elementary school and will go to Mark Twain. Program is great.
-Douglas Weston: Has 3rd grade daughter @ Broadway. He is resident of Venice. Most of the traffic problems stem from much bigger developments than this program.

Substitute motion made by Ken Alperin with 2nd by Bill Scheduling to take the major points from all the policy motions regarding Mandarin Immersion Elementary School Project at Mark Twain Middle School and fold them into this motion passed with 9 Ayes and one Nay.

~~**POLICY MOTION: Mandarin and English Dual Language Immersion Elementary School Project at Mark Twain Middle School:** With the existing traffic congestion running North & South on both Walgrove and Beethoven between the Culver City Border to Santa Monica and beyond, causing gridlock traffic at every signal light, an increase in traffic generated by a minimum of 500 new students to Mark Twain School Campus from the Mandarin Immersion program at Broadway would severely impact this and surrounding neighborhoods, bring the traffic that runs through Mar Vista on the North & South Streets and the Venice Neighborhood streets to a standstill with unbearable traffic congestion. Because the Mandarin Immersion Program is an important program, we recommend that LAUSD ensure 90% of students in this program and any future program that will increase student enrollment, use school bus transportation only.~~

~~**POLICY MOTION: Mandarin and English Dual Language Immersion Elementary School Project at Mark Twain Middle School:** Serious consideration be given to adopt Dr. Patton's proposal for this facility as it utilizes existing classrooms that are currently not being used at the Mark Twain Campus, brings much needed refurbishments to the entire school, reduces the amount of Bond Money used on the project by millions of dollars, while allowing some of the open space that may have been removed and used to construct 15 new Classrooms, to allow for a substantial pick up and drop off area for the increased use of the School Bus Service and private car drop off and pick up, taking this traffic off local neighborhood streets.~~

~~**POLICY MOTION: Mandarin and English Dual Language Immersion Elementary School Project at Mark Twain Middle School:** A staggered start and end to the school day be enforced for the Mandarin Immersion Program and the Middle School Program, to help minimize traffic impacts to the local neighborhood caused by drop off and pick up traffic.~~

POLICY MOTION: Restoring Both Northbound Overland Avenue to Westbound I-10:

In the interest of public safety, the Mar Vista Community Council opposes the reduction from two northbound Overland Avenue lanes that can access the I-10 westbound freeway to only one lane, and calls upon the LADOT to increase the number of westbound I-10 accessible lanes on northbound Overland Avenue back to two lanes.

MOTION: LADOT Study Of Overland Bridge Over the I-10 Freeway and Pedestrian Safety:

In the interest of public safety, the MVCC calls upon the LADOT to complete a study on the intersection of northbound Overland Avenue and the Westbound I-10 on-ramp, as well as a study to consider limiting pedestrian flow to the western side of the Overland Bridge over the I-10 freeway, within the next three months.

Motion to put over the above two motions by Ken Alpern and 2nd by Bill Duckett carries unanimously.

- f. **Planning and Land Use Management Committee**-Steve Wallace & Michael Millman, Co-Chairs
 - g. **Education, Arts and Culture Committee** – Brad Wilhite, chair Sara Roos, Vice- Chair
 - h. **Santa Monica Airport Committee** – Bill Duckett, chair Martin Rubin, Vice-Chair
 - i. **Safety and Security Committee** – Rob Kadota, Chair
 - j. **Historic FS 62 Ad Hoc Committee** – Rachel Swanger & Roy Persinko, Co-Chairs
 - k. **Community Outreach Committee** – Bill Duckett, Chair John Kuchta, Vice-Chair
 - l. **Elections and By-laws**- Bill Scheduling, chair
 - m. **Great Streets Ad Hoc Committee** – Michelle Krupkin, chair
 - n. **Aging in Place Ad Hoc**- Bill Duckett, chair
10. **Discussion Calendar**
11. **Unfinished Business** - Action items held over from previous meeting (Public comment permitted)
12. **New Business** -(Public comment permitted)
13. **Grievances**, if any, received
13. **Future agenda items**
14. **Adjournment**
- Motion to adjourn at 9:56 p.m. by Michelle Krupkin and 2nd by Brad Wilhite.**

**in compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting, may be viewed at <http://www.marvista.org> or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact secretary@marvista.org.*

***As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or any auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting chair@marvista.org.*

Appendix A

Scheduling Postal Expenditures:

USPS June 20, 2012:	\$7.40
USPS July 10, 2012:	\$7.40
USPS Aug. 18, 2012:	\$5.05
USPS Sept. 15, 2012:	\$5.05
USPS Oct. 25, 2012:	\$5.05
total:	\$29.95

**NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL FUNDING PROGRAM
FUNDING REQUEST FORM**



Please complete in full to request funding from a Neighborhood Council.

REQUEST DATE: 11/1/14 Funding Amount: **\$29.95**

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL: Mar Vista

Please complete the information below for the Requester/Payee:

Name of Requester: Wm.L.Scheding

Are you a board member of this Neighborhood Council? Yes

Is this a request for a recurring payment? No

If yes, enter term: _____

Is this request a payment for services requiring a 1099? No

Is this a request for an out of state vendor? No

Payable to: William Scheding

Remittance Address: 12301 Clover Ave,

City: Los Angeles State: CA

Zip Code: 90066

Email Address: ws@marvista.org Number: 310-502-5402

Motion to approve up to \$30 for postage reimbursement to Treasurer, Scheding for forms sent to DONE.

DECLARATION

I, the Requester, understand that I am requesting public funds from the Neighborhood Council and that such funds are restricted under the guidelines set forth by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment. I further agree to provide any documentation requested by the Department to authorize payment or review the appropriateness of the request.

W. Scheding

REQUESTER'S SIGNATURE DATE

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL USE ONLY

William L. Scheding Budget Category: outreach

TREASURER'S NAME AND SIGNATURE Amended : _____

Bill Koontz # _____ Approved: _____

SIGNER'S NAME AND SIGNATURE DATE Denied :

DEPARTMENT USE ONLY

AUTHORIZATION CATEGORY: _____ Authorization Code: _____

- NPG CIP > \$2,500
- LEASE SPONSORED EVENT ADVANCED PAYMENT DEPARTMENT APPROVAL SIGNATURE

Appendix B

School	Student	Grade	Achievement
Mar Vista	Keira B	1	
	Audrey M	1	The Mar Vista School PTA Summer Reading Challenge was a huge success! Over 80 students each read more than 1,000 pages during the Summer and received a certificate of achievement. Two students in each grade with the highest number of pages read during Summer were announced at assembly, and invited to enjoy a special lunch in the Library with Principal Choe and our wonderful Librarian, Mrs. Marino. These 10 winners read a combined 112,036 pages over the summer:
	Dominic S	2	Page totals ranged from 3,335 pp to 35,917 pp
	Sharon C	2	
	Josh H	3	
	Ryan S	3	
	Peyton W	4	
	Eliot R	4	
	Katie L	5	
	Amalea B	5	35,917 pp!!
PalmsMS	Ian L	7	Ian is a 7th grade violinist in the Palms Advanced Orchestra. He is an outstanding violinist and violist and goes above and beyond by volunteering to perform at many events. This Fall he played at the Westside Middle School Magnet Fair outside the Palms Magnet room at LACES, in a duet and solo during the Palms M.S. Band concert at the Mar Vista Fall Festival at Mar Vista Park as well as performing many Friday Lunch Recitals at school. When we have an opportunity and need a performer, Ian is always there and well prepared.
	Alex L	7	Alex is a 7th grade flutist in the Palms Gold Band and a tenor sax player in our Jazz Band. Alex is an outstanding musician and has volunteered to play at the Westside Middle School Magnet Fair outside the Palms Magnet room at LACES, in a duet and solo during the Palms M.S. concert at the Mar Vista Fall Festival at Mar Vista Park and a Friday Lunch Recital at school. He is always well prepared and willing to help when we need a performer.
	Logan S	8	Logan is an 8th grade violinist in the Palms Advanced Orchestra. He has been in Orchestra all three years at Palms M.S. He goes above and beyond by performing at the Westside Middle School Magnet Fair outside the Palms Magnet room at LACES and has performed at the previous two Magnet Fairs at Johnny Cochran M.S. and he performs in Friday Lunch Recitals at school. Logan is very dedicated to the violin and practices every day. He always volunteers to play for every outside opportunity he can.

	Imari S	8 Imari is an 8th grade student at Palms Middle School. She has volunteered to speak to an auditorium filled with visiting parents and students. She is poised and clear on why she is here at Palms, to learn and share ideas with others. Imari was also a participant in a workshop on Bullying. This was held in our library on behalf of the International Visitors Council of Los Angeles. The visitors were from Uganda here to study Minority Rights in the U.S. Imari was singled out to receive a gift from one representative because he recognized her ability to speak on this issue and offer ideas to the United States Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program.
	Layla A	8 Layla (8th grade) submitted a letter to Letters about Literature, a competition sponsored by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, in which a student writes to an author describing how that author's work affected the student's life. Judges selected her letter as the California winner out of roughly 1,000 letters in Level 2, Grade 7 and 8. Layla's letter was compiled with the state winners from the rest of the country into a volume that is now in the Library of Congress. Layla is an 'A' student at Palms Middle School.
	Caitlin C	8 Caitlin's letter in the competition sponsored by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, "Letters about Literature" was selected as one the ten California Level 2 finalists, (7th and 8th grade students). In addition to being an accomplished writer, Caitlin's artwork submission to the PTA Reflections competition last year made it to the final round of judging in Sacramento. She is "an accomplished, wonderful violist and pianist", according to her music teacher, Ms. J West. She has been an 'A' student at Palms Middle School.
	Julian L	8 Julian is an 8th grade student who is achieving in his studies at Palms Middle School. According to his counselor, Ms. A Perez he had some difficulties in the 6th and 7th grade. Both he and his counselor are proud of his accomplishments and see him as eligible for culmination at this time.
VHS	Lisa S	12 Nordstrom scholarship, \$10K; 1 of 80 selected from 13K applications. Award recognizes outstanding students nationally for exceptional scholastic achievement and community involvement.
	Lisa S	12 ABC News Cool Kid; Recognizing community leadership and service
	Njeri G	12 National Black Scholar (based on PSAT)
	Nora B	12 National Hispanic Scholar (based on PSAT)
	Alex S	12 National Hispanic Scholar (based on PSAT)

Jordan L	12 Only student selected from LAUSD to join the National Choir in Tennessee.
Robotics Club	Honored as tournament host for 1/24/15