



Young Horizons

Child Development Centers

www.younghorizons.org

Spring 2018

“Educate Early”

Grand Opening—Kohn Center Playground

Celebrating with our community partners



On March 23rd we celebrated the generosity of our community partners who helped make the wonderful new playground at our Kohn Center a possibility. Our donors from Kiwanis Club of Long Beach and Westland Real Estate Group and the Alevy Family Foundation were present to celebrate with us.

Also in attendance were members of the Young Horizons board of directors, community partners from Bring Me a Book Foundation and several parents.

The celebration included beautiful thank you cards made by the children and a ribbon cutting. The children swarmed the playground exuberantly enjoying their new equipment and “grass” ground cover. We are grateful beyond words for the generosity shown us by our friends and partners in our community. As the donor plaque states, “You have contributed to the smiles of children for years to come.”



Kiwanis members (Left to Right): Sue Baker, David Reed, President Rick Pinson, Clive Graham, [Sarah Soriano] and Andrea Sulsona.



Josh Kaplan, of the Alevy Family Foundation, pictured with Sarah Soriano



Children swarmed the playground after the ribbon cutting.

StoryBots Actors Come to Young Horizons

Stories brought to life with fun reading

The children from our Central Pacific Center were treated to a special surprise.

Erin Fitzgerald and Rafael Frensey, voice actors from the TV show, StoryBots, came to read to the children and share fun, interactive games. Children got to meet StoryBots characters Beep and Bo and each child received a free StoryBots book. The children had an amazing time.

We are thankful to Roselle Schafer, who coordinated the visit through her volunteer work with the Peace Fund.



Executive Director Message

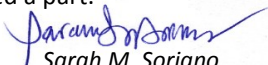


What is Your Passion?

Working with children is not for the faint of heart. This time period in a child's life is the most critical and formative. That is why, when we are hiring staff we ask this important question: "Why did you choose the field of early childhood education?" We screen for this component that makes all the difference. We want to know that they have a passion for working with young children and impacting their lives. We are grateful for dedicated staff who partner with us daily in our mission to improve the lives of the children and families we serve daily.

Do you have a passion for helping those less fortunate? We just held our 2nd Annual Wine & Cheese Spring Fest. We are so grateful for our dedicated board who worked tirelessly to support Young Horizons with this event. If you were not able to attend our event, we encourage you to support Young Horizons with a tax-deductible donation on our website. Funds raised support our important programs that truly help parents and children succeed.

As we look toward the end of our fiscal/school year, we know that the program we are providing has helped hundreds of children annually enter kindergarten ready to learn. A parent recently shared with us, "I knew my child would learn her ABC's and 123's, but she knows them in Spanish! My child knows Spanish!" The children in our center are prepared, socially, physically and academically to face a life of learning and we are honored to have played a part.


Sarah M. Soriano
Executive Director

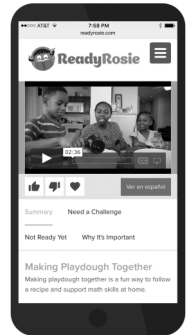
Ready Rosie

Parent Education Program Supported by Mayor's Fund for Education



ReadyRosie is a wonderful resource used to communicate with parents and to provide meaningful activities that parents can do at home to support their child's learning. Thanks to the generosity of the Mayor's Fund for Education, Young Horizons was selected to pilot this program, along with other providers in the community, the school district and the public libraries.

ReadyRosie is a simple tool for parents to hear about what we are doing in the classroom, discover activities and games they can play that relate to classroom learning and have fun with their child through meaningful interactions. Parents watch a modeled 2 minute video that they can view with their child and then play the activity/game. Parents receive the videos and communication via text message and/or email. Parents have been enthusiastic about the new program and are enjoying the extended learning this program offers. An emphasis of this program is for parents to have conversations and interactions with their children. We realize in this technological world in which we live, it is vital for parents to have face to face conversations with children and not rely on technology for children's entertainment. ReadyRosie is the perfect tool.

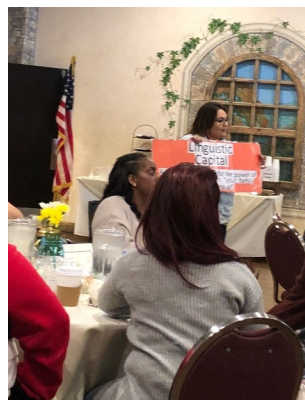


Professional Development Day

Investing in our teachers to promote quality care

Teachers' continuous growth and development is something we take seriously at Young Horizons. We have a dedicated plan to assist teachers individually and in their classroom and centers to continue learning and remaining abreast of trends and new research that will help them provide a better early learning environment for the children in their care.

This February, we closed our centers for one day to focus on just this. Training topics included Relationships Matter—shifting teachers' view from dealing with challenging behavior to establishing caring, safe and secure relationships with children. Staff also had a time of reflection to review the goals they have set for their children, parents, classroom and professional growth. The day concluded with a special visit by Aaron Cash and Mike Murray who provided a music and dance workshop which ended in a "dance party" for staff. Getting up, moving and having fun made for a perfect day of learning.



Read Across America

YH participates in national day of reading

Across the country, thousands of schools, libraries, and community centers participate by bringing together children and books, to celebrate reading with young people. The National Education Association established this yearly event to raise awareness of the importance of reading to children and teaching them to enjoy books.

Several of our board members and parents took the time to read to our children. They enjoyed the time they spent reading and the children loved having special guests read to them. One of the parents loved it so much, she wants to make it a monthly tradition.

Community members are welcome to visit the centers and read their favorite book with the children. Promoting early literacy is a great way to prepare young children for lifelong learning and instills a love of reading. Thank you to all who make this day a success.



Mayor's 'Go Long Beach Award' Recipients

Board Member and Executive Director Honored

Mayor Robert Garcia selected two of our very own as recipients of his Go Long Beach Awards this Spring. Thirty-three individuals were honored for their contributions to the city. "This year we are honoring some amazing and courageous leaders from across the city," Mayor Robert Garcia said in a statement. "They have all worked tirelessly to make Long Beach a better place and we are eternally grateful for their efforts." (quoted in the Long Beach Post)

Congratulations to Danita Humphrey, board member, and Sarah Soriano, executive director, for receiving this award. Ms. Humphrey was recognized for her long track record of serving the community in a variety of roles and serving on various boards. Ms. Soriano was recognized for her involvement in the Early Childhood Education community as a supporter and advocate for Early Childhood Education. Each has made numerous contributions to Long Beach and to Young Horizons and we join our mayor is saying, "Thank you."



STAFF APPRECIATION:

Administrative Professionals Day

We celebrate our Administrative Professionals on April 25. Administrative staff take care of all the paperwork in the background that keeps our centers enrolled.

Teacher Appreciation Week

May 7-11 we celebrate our teachers for all the hard work they do. Make sure you thank the teachers in your life too.

HOLIDAYS/EVENTS

Our centers will be closed in observance of the following:

- 5/28 Memorial Day
- 7/4 Independence Day
- 8/31 Professional Development Day
- 9/3 Labor Day
- 11/23 & 11/24 Thanksgiving Day
- 12/24 & 12/25 Christmas
- 12/31 New Year's Day Eve
- 1/1/19 New Year's Day

Graduations:

- 6/8 Grisham Center-4:00pm
- 6/15 North Pacific Center-4:00pm
- 6/22 Ludloff Center-3:30/4:00pm
- 6/20 Central Pacific Center-10am/1pm
- 6/29 Kohn Center-4:00pm

Family Picnic:

Each year the Organization of Parents and Teachers (OPT) hosts a Family Picnic for families and staff—past and present—to enjoy time together with food, fun, and games. The picnic will be held on Saturday, June 23rd from 10:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m. at Recreation Park. Hamburgers and Hot Dogs are provided by the OPT. We invite current and past board members, staff and parents to come out and enjoy a fun-filled day with the Young Horizons family.



Young Horizons
 Child Development Centers
 501 Atlantic Avenue
 Long Beach, CA 90802

Address Service Requested

To our friend (s):



***ELECTRONIC
 NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE***

Please email us at info@younghorizons.org
 if you prefer to connect electronically.

Our mission is to provide quality childcare and preschool programs in a caring, loving and learning environment.

Young Horizons is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization serving children in Long Beach. Donations are tax deductible to the limit allowed by law.

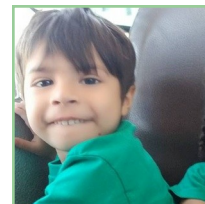
Board of Directors

Founder: Dr. Gerhard Kohn

- Daysha Austin
- Debra Fixen
- Steven Gratch
- Frank Gutierrez
- David Haisley
- Danita Humphrey
- Katie Larson
- Roger Scott- *Chair*
- Sandy Wedgeworth
- Dina Zapalski

Advisory Board

- Dr. Martha Bernadett
- Edward Ludloff
- Michael Mais
- Roland Spongberg
- Ed Sudario
- Ron Whittaker



Serving 416 children in five Long Beach locations

Kohn Center/Main Office
 501 Atlantic Ave.

North Pacific Center
 2418 Pacific Ave.

Grisham Center
 11 A W. 49th St.

Central Pacific Center
 1840 Pacific Ave.

Ludloff Center
 2650 Pacific Ave.

License #198000638

Young Horizons is an equal opportunity provider and employer
 Office: 562 437-8991 Fax: 562 436-8847

www.younghorizons.org

Proud Member of:

