



# school bulletin

ISSUED BI-WEEKLY SEPTEMBER THROUGH JUNE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

February 18, 2005

## Muir Arts Instruction Wins County Honors

Muir Elementary School recently was named one of four finalists in Los Angeles County for a Bravo Award recognizing outstanding arts education.

Muir and the other finalists will be honored, and the top award will be given, at a March 1 celebration at The Music Center of Los Angeles County. The winning school will receive \$10,000 from Robinsons-May. Producer and director Garry Marshall will emcee the event at the Millennium Biltmore.

The four finalists for the top school award competed among a field of 28 nominated schools this year. Award nominations are made by principals, faculty committees, superintendents or parents.

"Teachers are encouraged to 'think the arts' in presenting their subjects, and the staff takes pride in devising interesting ways to connect the arts with their subject area," according to Muir's nomination papers.

Muir's arts magnet classes offer instruction in theater, choral and instrumental music, dance and visual arts. The school has a drama and dance teacher, music specialist with vocal and choral training, a technology specialist and a part-time instrumental music teacher.

A Composer of the Month program at Muir focuses the entire student body on a selected music composer, whether they are in the computer lab, cafeteria, library or classroom.

Muir emphasizes arts performance. Each month, a grade level performs for the entire student body, giving a musical, dance or theatrical presentation. Performances are well attended by parents and community members.

## L.B. English Learners Far Outperform State

Recent results from the California English Language Development Test show that English language learners in the Long Beach Unified School District are being redesignated as fluent English proficient at more than double the statewide rate.

Nearly 17 percent of limited English students in Long Beach were reclassified as fully proficient in 2003-04, far exceeding the statewide figure of 8 percent.

The strong performance in Long Beach is the result of efforts to monitor students' progress and intervene early so they can transition to rigorous classes without additional help in English.

Approximately 27,000, or 28 percent, of students in LBUSD schools speak English as a second language.

Kindergartners and first graders are tested in speaking and listening skills. Students in grades 2 through 12 also are tested in reading and writing.

## Smithsonian Scholars to Visit Local Schools

Three scholars from the Smithsonian Institution will visit Long Beach Unified School District schools to conduct stimulating workshops and assemblies.

Volcanologist William Melson, folklore scholar Jim Garry and clothing and costume expert Claudia Kidwell will visit as part of the Smithsonian Scholar Program March 6-12. More than 3,000 local students will benefit from the visits.

The Smithsonian, the museum complex in Washington, D.C., brings scholars into schools to conduct assemblies and lectures. This year students will discover truths and misconceptions about growling beasts, or explore the history of clothing in America, or learn more about volcanoes, tsunamis, earthquakes and the active earth of Southern California.

Teachers and Public Corporation for the Arts staff work together to prepare for these visits, helping the Smithsonian Scholars make their presentations fit curriculum goals to ensure the best experience possible for students.

The visits are offered at no charge to schools, which were eligible to apply to host a scholar during the week.

Smithsonian Week 2005 LBUSD schools are Alvarado, Buffum, Butler, Cabrillo, Chavez, Cleveland, Grant, Lakewood, Longfellow, Lowell, Madison, McKinley, Millikan, Prisk, Renaissance, Stanford, Twain, Washington and Willard.

Each Smithsonian Scholar brings a wealth of study and experience to their classroom encounters in LBUSD schools.

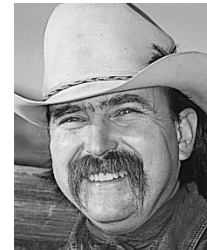
- William Melson has studied eruptions, tsunamis and volcanic hazards in Costa Rica,

Peru, Philippines, Iceland, Colombia, Papua New Guinea and at Washington state's Mt. St. Helens. He has studied and explored the deep-sea floor and acted as chief scientist on two cruises of the drilling ship Glomar Challenger. He also authored the first college-level textbook about lunar rocks and served on the Apollo 14 Preliminary Examination Team.

- Jim Garry began his career as a naturalist but soon became interested in the people of the West, incorporating the natural history of the region into his work. He has worked as a cowboy, horse wrangler, media consultant, wilderness guide, teacher, political consultant, river runner, artist-in-residence, biologist, folklore collector and more. He now works as a freelance lecturer, writer and storyteller, teaching others about Western and wild land heritage. His research and teaching encompass natural history, human history, folklore and myth.

- Claudia Kidwell has curated numerous exhibitions and written articles on the history of clothing and costume in America. Her research topics are as varied as the development of the ready-to-wear industry to women's contributions to World War II efforts and how fashion reveals social issues.

The Smithsonian is the world's largest museum complex, with exhibits on American history, space travel, fine arts and other fields.



Garry



Melson



Kidwell

## Board OKs New Award for High School Seniors

The Long Beach Unified School District Board of Education recently approved plans to honor high school seniors who go above and beyond regular coursework to take the most challenging classes.

Advanced Academic Achievement Awards will honor seniors upon graduation, starting with the Class of 2005. Awards will include a special designation on student diplomas.

The achievement awards are part of the school district's series of high school initiatives designed to prepare more students for college and the working world. International Baccalaureate and Advanced Placement (AP) courses have become increasingly important for college admissions and scholarships. Enrollment in AP courses has increased by 1,700 students districtwide this school year.

The new awards were suggested during a recent Coffee with Chris, a regular meeting where employees share ideas with Superintendent Chris Steinhauser. Award criteria were developed by Poly High School AP teacher Steven Meckna, GATE coordinator Wendy Hayes-Ebright, Poly PACE director Dick Garretson, Millikan AP teacher Linda Faust, Lakewood counselor Cindy Vial, Jordan IB coordinator Steve Rockenbach and History Office program coordinator Kristal Cheek.

Graduating seniors may be honored for one of three new categories:

- Advanced Academic Achievement Recognition will honor students who take and pass with a grade of C or better at least one AP course before graduation. Qualifying students

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## Summer School

Applications for certificated and classified summer school positions will be available at all schools and business offices starting Friday, February 18. All applications are to be returned by Friday, March 18 to Human Resource Services, Attn: Summer School.

Summer school session for elementary grades is June 22-July 22; middle school is June 27-July 28 (M-Th); and high school is June 27-July 29.

Applications for School for Adults should be submitted directly to School for Adults. Applications for ROP should be submitted to the ROP Office.

Elementary applicants should consider teaching at the same grade as during the traditional school year, as summer schools will be presenting the Open Court unit reserved for summer school.

Applicants for certificated positions must receive satisfactory evaluations and hold a valid, up-to-date credential for the appropriate level or subject to be taught. Hours taught during Summer School will count for STRS credit.

## Names in the News

Wendy Hayes-Ebright, GATE coordinator, was recently awarded the Distinguished Service Award from the California Association for the Gifted.

Recently honored as Outstanding Volunteers In Public Schools are **Darlene Anderson**, Muir; **Isabel Ashley**, Longfellow; **Melania Campano**, Hudson; **Catalina Ceja**, Washington; **Mary Cole**, MacArthur; **Billy DeBinion**, Butler; **Carol Faroqui**, Powell; **Virginia Gonzalez**, International; **Lori Mae Johnson**, Hill; **Jeanette Kull**, Bethune; **Linda Long**, Hughes; **Libbi Marchio**, Burroughs; **Fabi Moy**, Cubberley; **Lisa Noble**, Marshall; **Regina Ortiz**, Gompers; **Laura Pena**, Burnett; **Judith Pineda**, Addams; **Peggy Reed-Smith**, Lindbergh; **Betty Rodriguez**, Tincher; **Jesus Rojero**, Hamilton; and **Don Rudnick**, Kettering.

## Millikan Musical

The Millikan High School Fine Arts Department is presenting the award-winning Rodgers and Hammerstein musical "The King and I." Performances will take place in the Millikan Auditorium on March 2-5 at 7 p.m. each night. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors. For more information, call Bonnie Annes at ext. 4142.

## Job Opportunity

Applications for bus driver are now being accepted at the Personnel Commission, 999 Atlantic Ave., third floor.

## In Memoriam

**Delinda Berry**  
recreation aide, Harte  
February 2, 2005

## Summit Offers Free Parent Workshops

The 10th Annual Parent Summit will be held Saturday, February 26 at Hughes Middle School from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The summit, designed especially for students in grades 5 through 12 and their parents, will feature more than 20 interactive parent workshops, college and trade school information, continental breakfast, box lunch and a motivational speaker and assembly for students. To pre-register or for more information call Suzanne Maiden at 438-9904.

## Recent Promotions

The following classified employees recently received promotions:

**Diana Galindo**, Human Resource Services technician, Nutrition Services;  
**Joseph Hill**, plant supervisor II, Franklin;  
**Nancy Johnson**, Nutrition Services supervisor I, Mann;  
**Denise Kokot**, Nutrition Services supervisor II, Hill;  
**Armando Ledezma**, middle school office supervisor, Robinson;  
**Tovah Lennon**, instructional aide-intensive behavioral treatment, The Willows;  
**Brian Linton**, plant supervisor I, Holmes;  
**Lorena Manzo**, human resource assistant, Human Resource Services;  
**Elizabeth Masters**, nutrition services supervisor II, Tincher;  
**Rhonda Mendoza**, senior nutrition services worker, Millikan;  
**Maria Sanchez**, Head Start instructional aide, Head Start;  
**Conrado Santiago**, intermediate Nutrition Services worker, Stephens;  
**James Shaw**, school safety supervisor, School Safety and Emergency Preparedness;  
**Phyllis Sherman**, intermediate Nutrition Services worker, Jefferson;  
**Julia Thomas**, plant supervisor I, MacArthur.

## Resignations, Leaves

Certificated employees planning to retire, resign or request leave of absence for the 2005-06 school year should submit the appropriate form to their site administrator by March 1. For information, contact your site administrator.

### SCHOOL BULLETIN

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(562) 997-8000. www.lbusd.k12.ca.us

CHRISTOPHER J. STEINHAUSER  
Superintendent of Schools

### BOARD OF EDUCATION

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## • High School Award

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also must attempt at least one AP exam before graduation.

• Advanced Academic Achievement with Honors will recognize students who take and pass with a grade of C or better at least three AP courses before graduation. Qualifying students must attempt at least three AP exams before graduation, and must pass one of the exams with a score of three or better before their senior year. As an alternative to these criteria, students also may complete all of the requirements for the nationally recognized International Baccalaureate Certificate before graduation.

• Advanced Academic Achievement with Highest Honors will go to students who take and pass with a grade of C or better at least five Advanced Placement courses before graduation. Qualifying students must attempt at least five AP exams before graduation and pass at least two of the exams with a score of three or better before their senior year. As an alternative to these criteria, students may complete all the requirements for the International Baccalaureate Diploma before graduation.

## Dates to Remember

### March

	American Red Cross Month
	Music In Our Schools Month
	National Middle Level Education Month
	National Nutrition Month
	Women's History Month
	Youth Art Month
1	Korean Independence Movement Day
1	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30-- "The American Parade: We the Women" (Women's History Month), Grades 9-12, ed.tv 8
2	NEA's Read Across America
2	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00-- "Women's History Month," Grades K-3, ed.tv 8
3	Adoption of U.S. National Anthem
3	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30-- "School Bus and the Exceptional Child," Grades K-12, ed.tv 8
4	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30-- "Charles Russell: His Personal West" (Art), Grades K-5, ed.tv 8
5	Black American Day
7-11	Newspaper In Education Week
7	Conservation, Bird and Arbor Day
8	International Women's Day
8	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30-- "The Struggle for Women's Rights" (Susan B. Anthony's Birthday), Grades 9-12, ed.tv 8
10	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30-- "Reading Rainbow: Once There Was a Tree," Grades 1-5, ed.tv 8
11	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30-- "One Fine Day" and "Take the Power" (Women's History Month), Grades 3-12, ed.tv 8
15	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30-- "Ask For It" (Drug Education), Grades 1-2, ed.tv 8
17	Absolutely Incredible Kid Day
17	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30-- "School Bus and the Exceptional Child," Grades K-12, ed.tv 8
18	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30-- "Indian Artists of the Southwest," Grades 6-8, ed.tv 8
22	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30-- "Cesar Chavez," Grades 6-12, ed.tv 8
23	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00; 24 - 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30-- "Adventures in Poetry 1," Grades 3-6, ed.tv 8
25	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30-- "The Velveteen Rabbit" (Literature), Grades K-5, ed.tv 8
27	Easter Sunday
28-April 1	Spring Recess
31	Cesar Chavez Day

## CPR Class Sign-Ups

Long Beach School for Adults is offering American Red Cross Adult, Child and Infant CPR training to all employees needing to update their skills. Classes will be offered 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays March 5, April 16 and May 7 at 3701 E. Willow St. The fee is \$19.95. To reserve a seat, call 595-8893, ext. 221.