



school bulletin

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

May 28, 2010

Broad Prize Finalist Honor Brings \$250K

Fourteen high school seniors in Long Beach and Lakewood have earned a combined \$250,000 in college scholarships from The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation. The scholarships are part of \$2 million awarded by the foundation annually to the most improved school districts in the nation.

The Long Beach Unified School District qualified for the scholarships as one of the top five finalists for the 2009 Broad Prize for Urban Education, the largest education prize in the nation, given to urban school districts that demonstrate the greatest overall performance and improvement in student achievement while reducing achievement gaps.

As a five-time finalist and previous winner of the top prize, LBUSD has received more than \$1.2 million in scholarships from The Broad Foundation.

The scholarships go to high school seniors who have improved their grades over the course of their high school career and have financial need. Broad Prize scholars who enroll in four-year institutions receive \$20,000 paid out over four years (\$5,000 per year). Students who enroll in two-year institutions receive \$5,000 scholarships paid out over two

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Two Students Earn \$1.5M for College

Two students at the California Academy of Mathematics and Science have been offered nearly \$1.5 million in scholarships from prestigious colleges and universities.

Student Darron Kinney earned more than \$784,000 in offers from Howard University, the University of Chicago, UC Davis and Washington University. He will attend Columbia University on a \$192,404 full ride.

Classmate Kemi Oyewole earned \$664,000 in offers from UCLA, USC, Claremont McKenna College, Howard University and Cal State Long Beach. She will attend Spelman College on a \$124,000 scholarship.

The students participated in the nonprofit College Bound organization's programs to help students and their parents with college preparedness. Programs include Saturday school, summer camps, career and college advising, and college application assistance.

CAMS is a regional high school at Cal State Dominguez Hills and is run by the Long Beach Unified School District.

Three other students from Long Beach schools earned more than \$213,000 in scholarships with the help of College Bound. The students are Andrew Suttles (Poly), Jamal Matthews (Poly) and Aliyah Abdullah (Wilson).

Teachers Ratify Contract by 93 Percent Vote

The Teachers Association of Long Beach has ratified a tentative contract with the Long Beach Unified School District.

TALB reports that 2,000 employees, or 93 percent, voted in favor of the deal.

The union and LBUSD reached the tentative agreement on May 7. The agreement includes five unpaid furlough days next school year, along with other contract changes, in exchange for the preservation of 200 teaching jobs.

The contract is now likely to be considered for approval by the Board of Education at its June 1 meeting.

Upon the school board's final approval, three of the furlough days would occur Monday through Wednesday, Nov. 22 to 24. These dates immediately precede the Nov. 25 and 26 holiday for Thanksgiving. The fourth and fifth furlough days will be taken March 25 and March 28, 2011.

The agreement also calls for cost-saving measures related to health benefits, though

none of these measures will result in any increase in employee contributions toward monthly health care costs for full-time teachers. LBUSD employees currently pay zero in monthly payroll deductions for health care, and that will not change under the proposed agreement. See the school district's May 10 update for details on the tentative agreement, including supporting documents, available at www.lbschools.net under Bargaining Update.

Layoff hearings for teachers, meanwhile, continued this week, delaying the issuance of final layoff notices to roughly mid-June for some teachers. The school board has already OK'd 243 final layoff notices for teachers and other certificated employees.

Under the tentative contract agreement, the school district would restore 200 of the positions on the school board's final layoff list, no later than 30 work days following the board's action on the final list. The final layoff list may be OK'd by the school board in June.

Harte Custodian is Top Classified Employee

Harte Elementary School's custodian, Mingle Kwock, was named Classified Employee of the Year at the recent Ice Cream Social in honor of Classified Employee Week.

Kwock began working full-time as custodian at Harte nearly 10 years ago after substituting in the job occasionally and developing a high regard for his co-workers.

"I like the people there. We have a lot of hard-working people," Kwock said just after the announcement, adding, "this feels good, but I'm overwhelmed right now. I don't know what to say."

A man of few words, Kwock succinctly explained why he strives for excellence each

day at Harte.

"It's just my nature," he said. "I work."

Harte Principal Scott Tardibuono had more to say.

"If I didn't make him come to this event, he would not have been here," Tardibuono said of the modest winner. "But he's the consummate employee, the ultimate co-worker. There's nothing he won't do for anyone."

Several colleagues at Harte nominated Kwock, describing him as hardworking, positive, sweet, meticulous, conscientious, reliable, dependable, trustworthy, pleasant, courteous and respectful.

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TOP EMPLOYEE— Harte Elementary School Principal Scott Tardibuono, left, congratulates his school's custodian, Mingle Kwock, for earning the Classified Employee of the Year Award. Fifty-nine nominees vied for the award. Kwock and eight other finalists will be honored at the June 1 Board of Education meeting.



Robotics Students Excel in Competitions

Teams of robotics students from schools in the Long Beach Unified School District have earned top awards in recent competitions.

During a contest at Long Beach City College, students from LBUSD's California Academy of Mathematics and Science earned a first place award for their remotely operated vehicle, or ROV.

Several teams from other local schools earned honors in the ROV competition. Hamilton earned a second place award, and Lindsey took third. Robinson and Marshall also competed in the event, which is part of the Innovative Technology Experiences for Students and Teachers program, funded through a grant from the National Science Foundation in partnership with the Long Beach Unified School District. The grant provides teacher training and aims to help students develop an interest in the marine industry, especially students in the middle grades.

Participating students designed underwater robots and competed in timed events at the LBCC contest, which was part of the Marine Advanced Technology Center International ROV Competition, featuring teams from public and private middle schools, high schools and colleges.

Hamilton Middle School also took first place in a robotics competition held recently at CAMS. Among the winners at Hamilton were several English Language Development students, who researched and developed their robot in less than eight weeks. Hamilton teachers Racquel Welch-Kitchen and Ethan George worked with the winning students.

"I'm particularly proud of our ROV team," Hamilton Principal David Downing said. "This team prepared for competition against groups with greater experience and was victorious. We celebrated with both of our robotics teams throughout the week."

Lakewood NJROTC Among Best in U.S.

Lakewood High School's Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps ranks No. 1 among the 56 NJROTC units in Southern California and Arizona.

The Lakewood unit also qualified for, and competed in the National Drill, Athletic and Academic Competition, which is reserved for the 26 best units in the United States.

Lakewood NJROTC earned its high ranking after a recent inspection by a Navy commander, who described outstanding school support from principals, teachers and families.

"I would like to thank the school and district for their continued outstanding support of the NJROTC program, as well as to commend the Naval Science instructors and cadets for their remarkable performance," NJROTC Area 11 Manager Kenneth Liles said in an inspection report letter.

Hughes Musicians Deemed 'Superior'

The Hughes Middle School Intermediate String Orchestra earned a "Unanimous Superior" rating at the Regional Southern California School Band and Orchestra Festival held recently at Kennedy High School in La Palma. Only 5 percent of the groups that participate in the Regionals earn the coveted Unanimous Superior.

The festival included sight-reading (playing a piece students had never seen before). The Hughes musicians earned the highest grades possible from each judge.

Several Hughes Symphony Orchestra musicians also earned Superior ratings at the Regional Solo/Ensemble Festival. Students distinguishing themselves were Budampet Ramundam, violin; Vanessa Wilder, piano; Yuqi Ma, violin; Bray Turner, trumpet; and Colin deCure, violin.



WINNING ART— Millikan High School tenth grader Dominique Labat earned first place in the "Expressing Feelings Through Art" 2010 Los Angeles County High School Program, with this self portrait, "Color Me Joy." Labat's teacher is Kathleen Charvat. The contest is sponsored by the nonprofit Light Bringer Project in association with Mental Health America of Los Angeles County.

• Broad Scholars

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years (\$2,500 per year).

The scholarship selection process was managed by Scholarship Management Services, a division of Scholarship America. An independent selection committee further reviewed application materials and selected recipients.

Local winners are Aliyah Abdullah (Wilson), Eric Chau (Poly), Judy Cheng (Wilson), Karla Gonzalez (Wilson), Rubit Guzman (Jordan), Julie Hannsun (Poly), Juan Hurtado (Poly), Mariah Kelly (Wilson), Daidy Leon (Lakewood), Guadalupe Ornelas (Lakewood), Alejandro Rodriguez (Lakewood), Esmeralda Salcido (Millikan), Nicole Taylor (Millikan), and Mary Thach (Millikan).

Retirement Events

Honoree	Date	Contact
Evelyn Tahiru	June 4	Tanya Kent 420-9595
Liz Meripol	June 18	Jeanne Powell 423-5434

SCHOOL BULLETIN

Official publication of the Long Beach Unified School District issued bi-weekly during the school year from the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, 1515 Hughes Way, Long Beach, California 90810. (562) 997-8000. www.lbschools.net

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DeMille Farewell

DeMille Middle School will commemorate 54 years of serving students during a Closing Celebration from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, June 11 in the gym. The school is closing to make room for the construction of a new, small high school.

Meet the family of legendary movie director Cecile B. DeMille, whose films included "Samson and Delilah," and "The Ten Commandments." Join staff and students for tacos, funnel cakes, one last tour of the school, and drawings for DeMille memorabilia.

Contact the school at ext. 4500 for more information.

• Top Employee

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Fifty-nine nominees vied for the award. The nominees and nine finalists were recognized at the Ice Cream Social.

The eight other finalists were Dominga Beltran, staff secretary at the Literacy Office; Yvette Brotherton, transportation aide at Newcomb; Jason Church, plant supervisor at Cabrillo; Michael De-Four, plant supervisor at Washington; Sylvia Flegal, office supervisor at MacArthur; Gracie Hind, school data technician at Millikan; David Parker, office supervisor at Stevenson; and Dorothy Price, intermediate accounting assistant at the Professional Development Office.

The finalist and top winner will be recognized at the June 1 school board meeting.

Dates to Remember

June	Event
2	Great Outdoors Month 8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Flag Day/Citizenship Day," Grades K-5, ed.tv 8
3	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Adventures in Poetry III," Grades 3-6, ed.tv 8
5	World Environment Day 8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Independence Day(s)," Grades K-3, ed.tv 8
9	Anne Frank's Birthday
12	National History Day Contest
13-17	Flag Day
14	Spring Semester Ends
17	Last Day for Teachers
18	Juneteenth
19	Fathers Day
20	Helen Keller's Birthday
27	