

Retired AUSD Employee and Students to Receive Volunteer Awards

A retired AUSD employee and three AUSD students will receive community volunteer awards from the City of Alameda next Thursday, October 26.

Don Sherratt -- who worked at AUSD for more than 40 years as a teacher, principal, and district administrator and who has served as a community volunteer for just as long – has been named Community Volunteer of the Year by the City of Alameda.

Sherratt's volunteer roles over the years have included:

- Commissioner & President, Alameda Recreation & Parks Commission (10 years)
- President, Alameda Babe Ruth (including serving as president)
- Member, Board of Alameda Boys & Girls Club (35 years and still going strong!)
- Member and Chair, Personnel Committee of Trinity Lutheran Church
- Trustee, Board of the Alameda County Agricultural Fair Association (since 2012)
 - Member, Racing Committee
 - Co-Chair, Operations Committee
- Member, Peralta Community College Bond Oversight Committee

And he doesn't stop. Two years ago, Don volunteered to not only join AUSD's Measure I Citizen's Bond Oversight Committee but serve as its chair. And last year he became a founding member of the Alameda High School Hall of Fame (and is still on the selection committee).

"Don is a model for us all on how to be involved in the community in a consistent, constructive, and caring way," says Superintendent Sean McPhetridge. "I personally benefited greatly from his mentorship as a new administrator in the district when I started here, and I know many who have also valued his personal dedication to AUSD and Alameda writ large."

Three AUSD students are receiving Community Service Youth Awards.

Emily Chau, a senior at Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School, is being honored for her work with the EHS Red Cross Club, through which she has coordinated monthly Bingo at convalescent homes, set up blood pressure booths for city events, participated in holiday gift wrapping to raise funds for

disasters and other projects. Emily is also Vice President of the EHS Kiwanis Key Club and volunteers as a tutor with the Salvation Army.

Lily Conable, a junior at Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School, volunteers at Encinal's Student Justice Center. She led a Women's Rights Rally at the school last spring and helped lead successful period products drive this past spring to bring attention to the issue of menstrual equity. Assembly Member Cristina Garcia recognized Lily for her efforts, and one of the bills for which she fought for (AB10 to put period products in schools) is now on the Governor's desk.

Lily interned this summer at CARE in Atlanta. CARE works around the globe to save lives, defeat poverty, and achieve social justice.

Ken Der, a senior at ASTI, sits on the School Site Council and the Alameda Board of Education as a student member. He is active in the school's "No Place for Hate" campaign, and he has reinvigorated ASTI's tutoring program at Ruby Bridges Elementary School. He is now talking about expanding it to Maya Lin School. In recognition of this contribution, Ken received a state-wide student activist award from the California Teachers Association.

Ken also approached the City requesting to intern as a volunteer to improve the bus system in Alameda, and he ended up creating an inventory of bus stops that could use benches or bike racks.

"I am so grateful and appreciative for the work that volunteers and students contribute to the community and to AUSD," McPhetridge says. "These people are pillars of our community and role models for us all."

The City of Alameda will hold an awards reception for the winners at the Alameda Elks Lodge next Thursday, October 26. The ceremony begins at 6:30 pm.