

# MARSHALL FUNDAMENTAL NEWSLETTER



SPRING 2018 ISSUE



LEADERSHIP

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# SPOTLIGHT:

## Marshall Fundamental Volunteers

*"As a student I spent many wonderful hours reading, learning and spending time with friends in the school library. I volunteer at Marshall's library to give my children and other students the same or better experience. The library is the heart of the school!"*



**Katrina Ortega** is a Marshall Fundamental parent who believes in the power of words and reading. It's evident in her commitment to the library and her personal endeavor to improve the collection. Upon Katrina's eldest child enrolling at Marshall, she has tirelessly worked in increasing the amount of books in circulation, as well as assisting the librarian with her long term plans. She also started the Friends of the Marshall Library (bringing along many friends) and organized the school's first Scholastic Book Fair in over a decade, which has now become an annual event.

**Joshua Chen** is a community member who has made significant contributions to Marshall Fundamental. During his four years of service, he has volunteered his time with tutoring, providing classroom support, and mentoring our Christian Club. In addition, he has shepherded friends and resources including Developers to teach Intro to Coding, A Director/Producer coach for Filmmaking, and Screenwriting enrichment courses. Joshua has attended field trips, assisted with PTSA clean-up days, has donated office supplies, and provides support to teachers and staff. He is a diamond in the rough who dedicates his time to cultivate seeds for student success.



*"I enjoy having the privilege of seeing students progress, grow, overcome challenges, and realize their significance. I also get to see the huge impact teachers and staff make on these young lives and be a part of helping students and teachers achieve their goals. Another highlight for me is being able to open doors of opportunity and helping students see the potential that is within them."*

*"While attending a school event and chatting with a staff member, she challenged me to volunteer and get involved. Since then I've been stepping inside the school halls regularly, meeting new people, interacting with students and staff, talking with other parents, and loving this wonderful new community I've discovered at Marshall. I feel very fortunate to meet and work beside parents and staff from various cultures, backgrounds, and skills."*



**Lena Bayrakdarian** is the current PTSA President. Lena is a long time Marshall parent, both of her daughters are high school aged. Although, she is freshly getting involved in the Marshall community, don't let her starting time fool you. Under Lena's leadership, the PTSA has been moving along nicely. In addition to the traditional staff luncheons and treats. The PTSA has scheduled two Beautification Days, the 6th grade Potluck, increased donations and memberships, hosted the new family meet and greet, as well as, providing equipment for students.

# Girls Build LA

On Friday, December 15th, 45 female students from Marshall Fundamental joined 10,000 other female students to participate in the Girls Build LA Summit. The event held at the Los Angeles Convention Center celebrated women empowerment in areas of STEM, technology, and development of leadership skills.

The speakers included Ibtihaj Muhammad, Moj Mahdara, Bozoma Saint John, Beatriz Acevedo, Tara Deveaux, Christy Haubegger, Kamala Harris and much more, with keynote speaker Hilary Clinton.

“[Ibtihaj] Muhammad inspired me because although she was in hijab she continued to fight and work hard for what she wanted, to achieve her Olympic dream. She moved me to become a better athlete by inspiring me to train harder, overcome obstacles and disregard negative comments by other competitors. Muhammad also taught me that being an athlete isn't so much a physical battle as it is a mental game.”

- Samantha Leung, High School Student

“It was an amazing opportunity for girls' empowerment. The speakers were phenomenal and held the girls' attention with every word. I believe that this summit is just the first step for life-long learning about empowerment.”

- Catherine Charles, Counselor

“By listening to these awe-inspiring speakers who have fully dedicated their lives to advocating for women power and voice, I learned the importance of self-love. I learned that my uniqueness should be embraced and fully utilized to project my voice in society.”

- Sol Melodie Ahn, High School Student

“Ibtihaj Muhammad, the many other esteemed speakers, and the thousands of other girls like me who attended the event, have made a lasting impression on the way I will impact my world as a girl who strives to build LA.”

- Millie Root, High School Student

“Girls Build LA was an amazing experience that I would recommend to anyone who got the opportunity to go. There were so many inspirational women present, and I feel so lucky to have gone! This event was so empowering, and I wish I could go again!”

- Zoe Reed, High School Student

“It was really fun to hear the different stories of women. It was great seeing girls come together for the event. Since the event, I've tried to speak up more.”

- Giannina Tornek, Middle School Student

“Girls Build LA was incredibly inspirational and allowed us to listen to several amazing role models.”

- Maia Bowman, Middle School Student





# Student Achievement

## Young Legislators Program 2018



Marshall Fundamental Secondary School congratulates Kobe Uwagboi, Mark Cruz, Alejandro Moreno, and Mary Valbaneda, who completed an application, wrote an essay, and were selected to participate in Assemblymember Chris Holden's Young Legislators Program 2018!

This is a six-month no-cost program for our students offering them wide-ranging experiences. The highlights from the 2017 Session included visits to the Rose Bowl, USC, University of La

Verne, UCLA, Citrus College including school tours. A tour of Union Station where students learned about Union Station and transportation system in the Los Angeles area. Visits to the Municipal Water District, as well as, trips to facilities in Northern California including Facebook in Menlo Park and more.

### Young Legislator Mark Cruz

**College choices:** USC, UCLA, and Howard University

**Essay:** Improving equality.

*Mark feels this program will benefit him in taking his ideas to the next level and provide him with a hands-on view of the legislative process.*

### Young Legislator Alejandro Moreno

**College choices:** Indiana University, UC Berkeley, and USC

**Essay:** Shifting funds from prison to the educational system  
**Major:** Economics and Entrepreneurship

*Alex stated that this program will help him become more comfortable with the government system.*

### Young Legislator Kobe Uwagboi

**College choices:** UC Berkeley, UCLA, and UC Irvine

**Essay:** Universal Background Checks  
**Major:** Business Administration or Business Marketing

*Kobe feels the program will benefit him in meeting influential people in the political arena.*

### Young Legislator Mary Valbaneda

**College choices:** Tulane University, San Diego State, and Azusa Pacific University

**Essay:** Creating a bill benefiting more kids to higher education.

*Mary feels the program will give her an insight of how bills are created and passed.*



## W.E.B. Crew

“W.E.B. Crew stands for Where Everybody Belongs. The goal of W.E.B. Crew is to have all students, especially middle school students, feel included. We do this by activities such as Know Your Classmates Day, 6th Grade Orientation and Nobody Eats Alone Day. Students know that if they don't have anyone to talk to they have W.E.B. Crew!”

- Lanisha Kelly

Asst. Principal of Guidance and Discipline





and Success!

# Student Awards and Recognition

## Spelling Bee Winners

Congratulations to Marshall's Spelling Bee winner **Elizabeth Amicone** and runner up **Ethan Allen**. **Elizabeth Amicone** finished as the District's 2nd place Middle School winner.



## CIF Spirit of the Sport Award

The CIF Spirit of the Sport Award was awarded to Senior, **Samantha James**. **Samantha** has been presented with the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) Spirit of Sport Award and a financial scholarship, as the 2017 Fall Female Southern Section Recipient. This award recognizes one male and one female state-wide winner during each season of sport. Student-athletes are selected based on exemplary sportsmanship, school/community service, and leadership. Samantha was awarded during her Fall season for Volleyball. She will also play softball in the spring.



## 2018 Puente Statewide Academic and Leadership Award

Congratulations to **Omar Reyes-Diaz**, Puente Statewide Academic & Leadership Award recipient. After high school, Mr. Diaz plans to attend Cal Poly Pomona or UC Berkeley majoring in Electrical Engineering. Previously he played Varsity Soccer. He is currently a member of Puente, The Armenian Club, and the National Honors Society.



## Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association

Congratulations to **Marshall Fundamental Marching Band and Colorguard!** Marshall's Marching Band finished in 6th place in the SCSBOA Championships with a high Auxiliary. Gratitude to Corey Whitt, Muisical Director; Rob Guzman, Colorguard Director; and to the hard-working Marshall Fundamental Music Boosters.



## AP Scholar with Distinction Award

At the end of their junior year the following students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award. This award is granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. Congratulations to **Isaac Ahn, Kachik Ashkaryan, Benjamino Cruz, Alena DeV Vaughn, Elijah Khan, Hunter Kumuro, Atticus Moats, Isabella Poschl** and **Abigail Schlecht!**



1st Row Left to Right: **Abigail Schlecht, Alena DeV Vaughn, Isabella Poschl**  
2nd Row Left to Right: **Atticus Moats, Ben Cruz, Elijah Khan, Hunter Kumuro, Isaac Ahn, and Kachik Ashkaryan**



# Community Partnerships

## Sister City: Mishima, Japan

**What is a Sister City?** A sister city is a long-term partnership between two communities in two countries.

**On Wednesday, October 25, 2017**, a delegation from the City of Mishima, Japan, Pasadena's sister city visited Marshall Fundamental School. The delegation was comprised of Mayor Takeisha Toyooka and several of his City Council Members. Administrators and members of our student government joined in escorting the delegation into science, math, and art classes. During our visit, it was discovered senior, Hunter Kumoro, had visited the City of Mishima a few years prior. He joined the delegation during lunch and engaged Mishima City Council members in Japanese. **Mishima** is a city located in eastern Shizuoka Prefecture, Japan. The city, which covers an area of 62.02 square kilometers, had an estimated population of 109,872.



## KAPPA College Prep Cohort Program

The **KAPPA Alpha Psi Pasadena Alumni Chapter** is partnering with Marshall Fundamental Secondary School Class of 2020 male students, as part of a KAPPA College Prep Cohort Program. The College Prep Cohort was created to support male students over the four years of their high school career; helping them with their academics, organizing community activities, preparing them for ACT, PSAT, and SAT, attending college tours, assisting with the college application process, with the end goal of these young men making comparable impacts to the community.

Some of the service projects completed over the past two years include participating in Holiday Toy Drives, serving the homeless during the Thanksgiving Holiday, and gardening at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day On, Not Off Campus Beautification Project.

During a group discussion the young men mentioned, they are committed to the mentorship program. They're also getting a better sense of community. Mr. Eddie Gorton, Director expressed his appreciation to these young men for giving up their Saturday mornings to participate in the monthly meetings and the other community events. They often talk about their personal goals and aspirations for high school and beyond, as well as, growing the program for the next cohort of male students.





# Athletics Program

## Marshall Boosters Announces "Fund Run" for March 3

By Sarah Hilbert

With a beautiful new gymnasium, energetic parent support, a generous donor, and the ongoing dedication of the Marshall Athletic Boosters, our school athletics program is poised for great things in 2018! The well-rounded program features 12 high school sports and 26 teams for both boys and girls and contributes to a spirited student body by promoting athletic achievement and sportsmanship. Of Marshall's 1,100 high school students, more than 450 individuals participate in high school athletics; the high school program can count 535 players when including athletes who play multiple sports.



JV Boys Basketball

Recently, a community member— who has asked to remain anonymous – offered a generous donation of \$75,000 that will cover the purchase of all high school team uniforms this year. The donor noted that the act was to support Marshall athletes' team spirit, motivation, and teammate camaraderie, something not lost on Principal Dr. Anderson. "It is this type of support from our community partners that build morale among the athletes, our athletic program, and the entire student body," he says. "We are proud of how our athletes represent Marshall in the community and we are grateful and appreciative of the generous donation to support our student athletes and our school."



JV Girls Volleyball

Inspired by the donor's charity and motivated to encourage additional support of our teams, Marshall Athletic Boosters has announced the Marshall "Fund" Run, a walk-and-run-a-thon scheduled for Saturday, March 3, 2018, from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm. Funds for this event will go toward all Track and Field needs, including daily PE classes, the LEARNs middle school athletic program, and for our high school athletic programs. Philip Calafat, the school's Athletic Director, points out that investment in Marshall's physical spaces is critical to a successful program, noting "Marshall has a high percentage of students wanting to participate in competitive sports. Our greatest challenge is our physical plant with limited field availability."

Here's where the Marshall Athletic Boosters step in! Founded 10 years ago during the deep budget cuts forced by the Great Recession, the Boosters provide critical financial assistance for team equipment and uniform purchases, field and facility improvements, tournament fees, student assistance, and special initiatives. Comprising Marshall parents, supporters and sports enthusiasts, the Boosters meet monthly and relies on consistent and dependable parent support to make Marshall athletics competitive.

Every student is encouraged to participate in the Marshall Fund Run. The Booster's first-year goal is to raise \$50,000; to do that, the Boosters must secure partnerships for gifts and awards, business donations, and widespread collaboration with all parent groups and student volunteers. Wayne Hammack, Athletic Booster Chairperson, invites everyone to join in the Marshall Fund Run: "Please consider joining us as we look to build upon our past successes to make Marshall's athletic program the best it can be."



Track & Field

To donate directly to the Fund Run, visit  
[www.marshallfundrun.com](http://www.marshallfundrun.com)

For questions, donations, and how to help contact:  
[marshallfundrun@gmail.com](mailto:marshallfundrun@gmail.com)

- Wayne Hammack, Athletic Boosters Chairperson - [mfhs.athleticboosters@gmail.com](mailto:mfhs.athleticboosters@gmail.com)
- Rex Moats, Fundraising Chairperson - [ramejwfamily@gmail.com](mailto:ramejwfamily@gmail.com)



JV Girls Basketball



## Upcoming Events

Spring Art Festival - Mar 8th and Mar 9th at 6 pm  
Musical: Grease - April 5th thru April 7th at 7 pm  
Voices Concert - April 19th at 7 pm  
Spring Dance Concert - April 20th at 7 pm  
New Families Transition Night - May 3rd at 6 pm  
Band Spring Concert - May 4th at 7 pm  
Open House - May 17th at 6pm

## Save the Date!

**Marshall Fund Run!**

**March 3rd - 8:00 am to 12:00 noon**

**Donate: [www.marshallfundrun.com](http://www.marshallfundrun.com)**

**For more information:**

**[marshallfundrun@gmail.com](mailto:marshallfundrun@gmail.com)**



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Secondary School

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