

YEP!

Youth Enrichment Program

Play, Learn, Create, Explore, Grow.

2025-2026

I Make a Difference Award



Made in Hayward

The Place to Be After

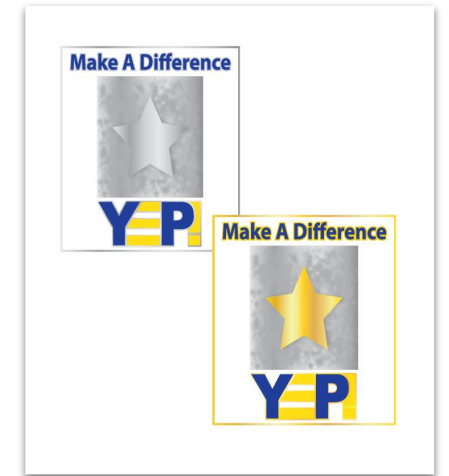
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September 2025

YEP's I Make a Difference Award

The I Make a Difference Award recognizes YEP staff who demonstrate exemplary work in action, creating quality experiences for students in YEP Expanded Learning spaces.

- This recognition is grounded in the [Quality Standards for Expanded Learning Programs](#) established by the California Department of Education.
 - Please explain in detail why you are nominating the staff member or site and how they meet the quality standards in detail and show with examples.
- Each month, from September to May, YEP Management will review the nominations and select an Operations Supervisor, Site Coordinator, Program Leader, or site team to be recognized for the award.
- The deadline for the month of October 2025 is **October 31st, 2025**.
- The nomination form can be accessed [HERE](#).



Quality Standard for Expanded Learning:

Quality Staff



Play, Learn, Create, Explore, Grow.



I Make A Difference

September 2025

Quality Standard for Expanded Learning: Quality Staff

Mariah Chandler has shown remarkable growth and leadership in her transition from Youth Professional to Program Leader. She creates a warm, engaging environment for TK and Kindergarten students while collaborating effectively with her team to deliver meaningful enrichment activities. Mariah's strong relationships with Southgate teachers and families have strengthened the bond between YEP and the school community, reflecting her dedication, compassion, and commitment to student growth.

Mariah Chandler

YEP Program Leader
Southgate Elementary School



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Quality Standard for Expanded Learning:

Quality Staff



Play, Learn, Create, Explore, Grow.



I Make A Difference September 2025

Quality Standard for Expanded Learning: Quality Staff

Jazmin is an exceptional staff member whose dedication and reliability consistently stand out. As a college student, she models responsibility and perseverance, often arriving early and staying late to support the program. Now in her second year volunteering with YAC, Jazmin continues to foster a safe, welcoming environment for students while bringing valuable experience and commitment to the Treeview program.

Jazmin Cruz

YEP Program Leader
Treeview Elementary School



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Youth Enrichment Program

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I Make A Difference

Septemeber 2025-2026



Sept 2025

The I Make a Difference Award recognizes YEP staff who demonstrate exemplary work in action, creating quality experiences for students in YEP Expanded Learning spaces.



Sept 2025

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Thank you &
Congratulations!

“There is no greater reward than working from your heart, and making a difference in the world.” - Carlos Santana

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2025-2026

I Make a Difference Award



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October - December

2025

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- Each month, from September to May, YEP Management will review the nominations and select an Operations Supervisor, Site Coordinator, Program Leader, or site team to be recognized for the award.
- The deadline for the month of January 2026 is **January 30th, 2026**.
- The nomination form can be accessed [HERE](#).



Quality Standard for Expanded Learning:

Program Management



Youth Enrichment Program

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I Make A Difference

October 2025

Quality Standard for Expanded Learning: Program Management

Andrea consistently ensures the program runs smoothly and with students' best interests at the center of every decision. She communicates clearly and proactively with staff to maintain alignment, strengthen teamwork, and support daily operations. Through her initiative in building program structures, supporting behavior management, and stepping in wherever needed, Andrea demonstrates exceptional reliability, flexibility, and leadership—making a meaningful and positive impact every day.

Andrea Arzate

YEP Site Coordinator
Cesar Chavez Middle School



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Quality Standard for Expanded Learning:

Clear vision, mission, and purpose



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I Make A Difference

October 2025

Quality Standard for Expanded Learning:
Clear vision, mission and purpose

Scarlette consistently leads with purpose and clarity, modeling our program's mission in her daily work. She takes initiative, manages middle school behavior with confidence and respect, and supports her team without hesitation. By promoting student leadership through YAC participation and meaningful in-group roles, she keeps students engaged and accountable. Her thoughtful communication, organization, and commitment to leading by example make her an invaluable part of our program's success.

Scarlette Galan Cortez

YEP Program Leader
Cesar Chavez Middle School



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Quality Standard for Expanded Learning:

Quality Staff



Youth Enrichment Program

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I Make A Difference

November 2025

Quality Standard for Expanded Learning: Quality staff

Nancy Fuentes consistently exemplifies excellence in inclusivity, collaboration, and staff support within the YEP program. She leads inclusive family engagement events that foster belonging and strengthen community connections, while motivating staff through teamwork, recognition, and positive support. Nancy also supports program operations, communication, and collaboration with school-day partners, increasing coordination and program awareness. Her dedication and leadership make her highly deserving of recognition as a Quality Staff member.

Nancy Fuentes

YEP Site Coordinator
Stonebrae Elementary School



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Quality Standard for Expanded Learning:

Quality Staff



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I Make A Difference

November 2025

Quality Standard for Expanded Learning: Quality staff

Dom is an exceptional staff member who helps make the program a fun, safe, and welcoming space for all. He supports students and the school community by leading lunchtime activities, serving as a second-year YAC advisor, and managing the YEP Store at Winton. Dom is a strong role model who engages students through meaningful interactions that encourage responsibility and positive behavior. His support of YEP-wide marketing efforts reflects his commitment, making him a valuable asset to Winton's YEP program and YEP as a whole.

Dominic Sanchez

YEP Program Leader
Winton Middle School



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Quality Standard for Expanded Learning:

Quality Staff



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I Make A Difference

December 2025

Quality Standard for Expanded Learning: Quality staff

Irvin demonstrates exceptional dedication to the success of the Bridge to College program by going above and beyond to support student enrollment and access. Despite challenges, he used creative problem-solving, flexibility, and strong collaboration with his site team and families to move the program forward. His professionalism, openness to feedback, and ability to balance site operations with added responsibilities reflect a strong commitment to continuous improvement and student success.

Irvin Araiza

YEP Operations Supervisor
Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School



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Quality Standard for Expanded Learning:

Active and engaged learning



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I Make A Difference

December 2025

Quality Standard for Expanded Learning:
Active and engaged learning

Alexis is a dedicated Program Leader who consistently excels in creating an active, engaging, and safe learning environment. She is committed to professional growth and goes above and beyond to make each day meaningful for her kindergarten students through enrichment and a positive classroom culture. As a collaborative and supportive leader, Alexis sets a strong example for her peers and represents the high standard of excellence at Eden Gardens.



Alexis De La O
YEP Program Leader
Eden Gardens Elementary School

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YEP!

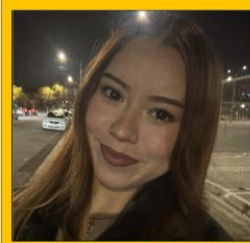
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Oct 2025

I Make A Difference Oct - Dec 2025-2026



Oct 2025



Nov 2025

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Nov 2025



Dec 2025



Dec 2025

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