

A PLACE CALLED HOME

NEWSLETTER • 2018-2019



AFTER 25 YEARS OF SERVICE, APCH IS STILL RISING!

...and not just because we've launched our 2nd year of **RISE High at APCH** in partnership with Da Vinci Schools, now open five days a week at The Bridge building on our campus. RISE provides a potent combination of robust academic support integrated with APCH's wraparound services, with a focus on serving young people in the foster care system, on probation, and without stable homes. After a successful inaugural year in 2017/18 serving 70 students, RISE launched school year 2018/19 with an enrollment goal of up to 120!

Last summer we opened our new **Welcome Center** featuring the **Debrah Constance Gateway** (named for our founder), includ-



Special thanks to architects John P. Zeichner and Dino Tadiar, and landscape designer Gabor & Allen

ing a comfortable **Membership Services** area and new restrooms (happy dance!). Opening the Welcome Center and The Bridge completes Phase 1 of our campus expansion and makeover. (Watch this space and pretty soon you'll be hearing about Phase 2!)

Most importantly, the numbers

of programs we provide, youth we serve, scholars going to college and young people placed in good internships and jobs have all gone up, and this fall we sent 112 scholars to college on APCH Shaheen Scholarships!

We've traveled an amazing path since that first day we opened

our doors in 1993 and 12 teens showed up. Twenty five years and 20,000 young people later, we have 700 enrolled and are welcoming up to 400 onto our campus and into our gardens every day, plus more than 100 in colleges across the country and dozens more in internships at APCH and in the community. And, our 75 dedicated staff members are providing love, support and opportunity for every single one!

A Place Called Home is providing a stable platform for youth and families who would otherwise be living from day to day to become self-sufficient and plan and prepare for a better future. *When the young people of A Place Called Home succeed, we all do.*



serving youth
and families
**FOR 25
YEARS**

OUR MISSION

A Place Called Home provides a safe, nurturing environment with proven programs in arts, education and wellness for the young people in South Central Los Angeles to help them improve their economic conditions and develop healthy, fulfilling and purposeful lives.

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During our 25 years of providing service for the youth and families of South Central, thousands of young people have passed through our doors, grown into adulthood, and gone on to have families and become contributing community members. Hundreds have graduated from college and become professionals making their way in L.A. and other parts of the country. Some have stayed in touch, but we are really missing the many who

A WAY TO PRACTICE GENEROSITY IS TO GIVE ENERGY WHERE IT IS NEEDED, WHETHER THAT IS IN THE FORM OF TIME, MONEY OR LOVE.

have not - where are you now?
Are you an alum with a story to tell about how APCH influenced your life? Please email me! Jonathan@apch.org

Looking Ahead

Working together, our Board of Directors, senior staff, and some trusted consultants are currently engaged in looking ahead and planning for A Place Called Home's next 25 years. We are paying close attention to the trends in education, well-being, economic opportunity, community change, politics and social evolution. We are "living in the

question" as we consider what the needs will be in our community over the next decade and beyond. And, we are preparing and empowering the young people at APCH to have leadership roles in our community and the world. More and more APCH members are pursuing higher education and then coming back to South L.A. to make a difference, or joining the workforce as artists, entrepreneurs and professionals who will influence culture and conditions for generations to come.

We are living through intense and troubling times, and every one of us can contribute to mak-

ing things better. At APCH we say, "Changing the world starts at home... A Place Called Home." Whether you are an APCH member, a parent, a volunteer or a donor, we invite you to invest in making things better for each individual, for the community, the City and the world. Please get involved, be in touch, and bring your positive energy to A Place Called Home. We will welcome you with open arms and then we'll get to work together!

Jonathan Zeichner



ANOTHER UNFORGETTABLE SUMMER!



Last summer 591 APCH members enjoyed eight unforgettable weeks of fun and enrichment! Beginning with a **Kids' Day Carnival** and ending with a massive **Griffith Park picnic**, there were research projects, art displays, gardening and harvest days, swimming, sailing, surfing, horseback riding, camping and 72 field trips in between! There is some kind of magic at APCH in the summer and our staff and volunteers loved bringing so

many new experiences to our youth, from our annual Puppet Parade, to Movie Nights, farmer's markets, Social Entrepreneurship Biz Camp and dozens more unique opportunities. The hardest part of summer at APCH is answering the question: "what was your favorite part?!"

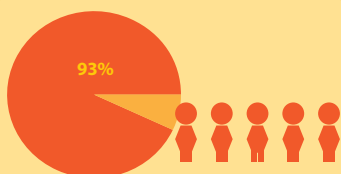
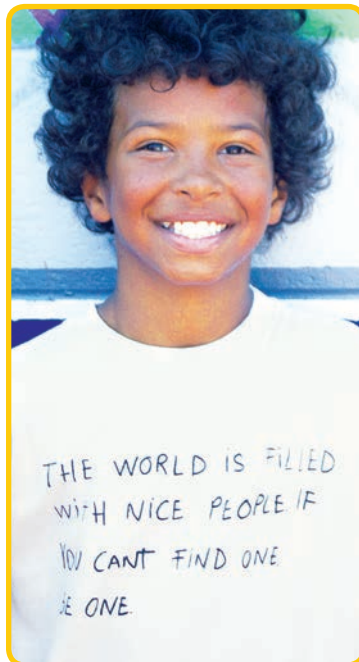
Special thanks to our partners: **24th Street Theater, 826LA, American Ballet Theater, Camp Bob Waldorf, Capital One, Casa 0101, Disney, Everybody**

Dance, Fulcrum Adventures, Geek Squad Academy, Gentle Barn, Horses in the Hood, ICM Partners, LA Kitchen, Los Angeles Clippers, Los Angeles Rams, MattMan Surf Kids Foundation, Mullen Lowe, NFTE Biz Camp, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, The Peninsula Beverly Hills, UCLA Marina Aquatic, Warner Bros., and USC's Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies.



APCH programs and services are delivered via five core departments:

**Educational Services,
Health, Nutrition
& Well-being,
Arts & Creative Expressions,
Bridge to the Future, and
Community Engagement
& Volunteerism**



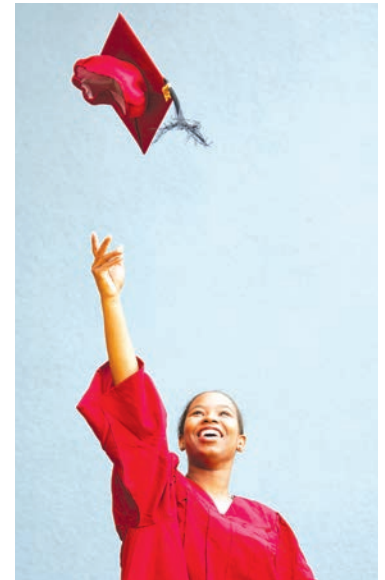
In 2017, membership retention remained at 93%. Unfortunately, that means 750 children are waiting to get into A Place Called Home.

A Place Called Home is excited to enter our second year of a dynamic and innovative education partnership with Da Vinci Schools. Our co-venture, **RISE High at APCH**, operates on our campus from 8am-4pm. RISE welcomes and supports teens and young adults who have not been effectively served by the traditional school system, especially those in the foster care or probation systems and living without stable



housing. RISE students have the opportunity to recover credits, earn a GED or high school diploma, grow as leaders, participate in college and career readiness programs, and engage in meaningful extracurricular activities. Through our partnership, APCH provides RISE students with wraparound support services and an array of enrichment, vocational and higher education classes and scholarships.

If you know a young person who has been caught up in the system or lacks a stable home and wants to pursue their education in a safe, supportive, and loving environment, please refer them to membership@apch.org.



COUNSELING



WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK

Jarely, a 13 year-old member, grew tremendously last summer, and now she is completing her last year in middle school. Jarely has faced challenges being comfortable with herself, expressing thoughts and feelings and interacting with staff and other members respectfully.

One day last summer, after a playful incident gone wrong with a friend, we saw Jarely's ability to activate **REACH (Respect, Empathy, Accountability, Courage and Hope)** when she held herself accountable for her actions - and we gave her her props. Following that incident, Jarely has been extremely helpful,

positive and in good spirits at APCH. She has built a better rapport with our staff, including the Counseling Department and Dr. Lucretia Taylor, Program Director for Teen and Young Adult Services, which is where she will be in another year.

Recently, during REACH Week, a field trip to "That's From Disneyland" (an amazing collection of Disney memorabilia) was offered as an incentive to members who exemplified REACH. And Miss Jarely was one of them!

Jarely's journey continues, and our counseling team is providing unconditional love and a safe place she can come and have

someone to speak to. We will continue to be here for her and every child at APCH as they develop and grow into their best selves.





KNOWLEDGE IS POWER



Our **Educational Services Department** proudly provides academic support, enrichment and a culturally relevant library. This summer, members explored Los Angeles - the ocean, art and people. Through historical

context, members found themselves reflected in the history of the land on which they live. They explored the City of Angels' founding and original center, Olvera Street, and visited the first Mexican-American

museum at Plaza de Arte y Cultura. Others "traveled the world" with a special APCH passport they created. They admired monuments, learned about cultural traditions and greeted each other in foreign

languages. Some visited their ancestral country, proudly sharing what they knew.

By recognizing similarities and differences among various cultures around the world, members began to develop an inclusive worldview that will serve them well throughout their lives. Via learning about current world events, members explored values and issues and practiced their critical thinking skills. They developed their speaking skills and voices by delivering famous words by Sojourner Truth, Charlie Chaplin and the poem "I Am Joaquín."

Historical context, identity, creativity plus strong academics equals powerful APCH members getting ready to lead and participate in the world.

It's easier to know where you're going if you know where you're from!

APCH STUDENTS ARE EXPLORING THE WORLD!



How do you visit countries around the world and never leave A Place Called Home? Become a **Travel Detective!** Throughout the summer, elementary school members in the Travel Detectives

class used their imaginations to journey far and near, following clues in pursuit of "stolen" Griffin Bucks – the incentive used at APCH during the school year to recognize hard work, demonstra-

tion of APCH's REACH pillars, and outstanding achievement. The travel search took members to all seven continents and to countries ranging from Mexico to China to Kenya to Germany. In addition to

exploring the cultures, natural features, and fun facts of each location, students learned critical map skills and information about world geography. Each day also included teams of members collaborating on interactive STEM challenges, creative art projects, and other fun activities. Use an ordinary piece of paper to construct a bridge that can hold over 100 pennies? Check! Make papel picado from Mexico or origami from Japan? You bet! Design a balloon-powered rocket that can travel the length of a 25-foot-long string? Done! Make ice cream in a bag using simple ingredients? Yum! These projects and more engaged members all through the summer, inspiring a desire to travel, learn about the incredible world we live in, and understand both the similarities and differences that unite and strengthen us. Got your passport? Let's go!



JUMP HIGHER, RUN FASTER AT APCH!



The girls at APCH continue to attract the spotlight as they take bases, dunk baskets, make goals, and serve up wins on any kind of court anywhere! At APCH, sports play a vital role in the growth of our members, not only physically

but also in building their confidence and social skills.

It was such a treat to see longtime member Larissa, now an APCH Shaheen Scholar in college, return to APCH as a summer camp counselor in the **Athletics Department**. She



was out on the athletics field all summer helping run our sports camps and implementing the pillars of "REACH" that she learned as a young member. With every kick of the ball, every dunk and push-up, she reminded members that sports

include Respect, Empathy, Accountability, and that it takes Courage and Hope to keep trying harder every step of the way. Her positive vibes helped her volleyball team come out as champions during our Summer Tournament with our partners, including HOLA, Bresee, and Virgil Middle School.

As hot as summer 2018 was, it also included a lot of "cool" field trips, like ice skating, visiting the Los Angeles Rams Camp, going to a Sparks basketball game, and participating in "Kids Take the Field" day at Dodger Stadium.

Every day, we provide entry-level to advanced sports classes and a fun, challenging and safe environment for our members to develop as athletes and teammates. Our curriculum aligns with the California State Standard Physical exam given at schools so we can help our members prepare to pass. This fall we are starting our first ALL GIRLS softball team!



YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT!

If there is one thing our members agree upon it is that eating fresh fruit and vegetables year round is an absolute APCH must! Through our ongoing partnership with **Food Forward**, more than 30,000 lbs (that's 15 tons!!) of fresh, locally grown fruits and veggies were used over the past 12 months for preparing healthy snacks and meals for our members and grocery bags distributed to families in need. In addition, APCH is on its way to growing more of its own food right here in South Los Angeles.

Last year, close to 1,000 lbs. of fruit, vegetables and herbs were harvested from APCH's very own gardens, and literally hundreds of floral arrangements, too! In our ongoing commitment to helping youth and families learn about well being and great food, our **NUA** department was excited to open its very own classroom, allowing us to expand our **Nutrition and Urban Agriculture classes** to four days a week and engage even more members into owning their own health and taste buds!

We serve 5,000 fresh, healthy meals to youth and distribute 400 bags of groceries to families each month.





THE ARTS ARE ESSENTIAL AT APCH



Here at APCH, we value the arts not only as a pathway to creativity and inspiration but as a critical tool for expressing the needs, desires, and the voices of our members and surrounding community. In addition to the arts developing social emotional learning, specifically for those in underserved communities, it has been proven that youth who are involved in highly effective non-school arts-based community programs are more likely to achieve academically, continue on to

higher education, become critical thinkers and better decision makers, and they also develop strong socialization and communication skills for life.

Our members have the opportunity to explore **Visual and Digital Arts, Dance, Music, Audio Recording and Technology**, and our newest addition, **Theater**, all on our 35,000 square foot campus. In separate departments that serve our youngest members to our young adults, our professional staff delivers on



APCH's deep commitment to the arts as a medium for developing whole human beings, whether

they are making art just for the joy of it or developing into future professional artists.



DANCE IS A MOVING EXPERIENCE

Along with opening the new Welcome Center, our main Dance Studio got a makeover! The space looks and feels like a professional dance studio, and every day it provides space for our members to explore new movements, allowing onlookers to observe, and adds a productive workspace for administrative staff.

For our youngest members, APCH provides a first experience with dance as a discipline, and we see the connection that it has to improved social skills, teamwork, confidence building, perseverance, developing good habits, and of course physical exercise.

Our new studio will allow us to

introduce more children to this art form we love so much, while continuing to develop those members who have found a new passion and way to creatively express themselves in dance. Connections with local partners, like Versa-Style, the Lineage Dance Company, Heidi Duckler Dance Theater, and The Music Center, as well as professional choreographers and educators, provide us with opportunities to expose our members to the thriving Los Angeles professional dance community. And, our own **APCH Dance Company** performs in recitals and at events year-round.



A VISUAL FEAST!



Our **Art Department** reached amazing heights this year, taking on grand endeavors, amazing field

trips, new chances to shine in the spotlight, and launching a new community event that brought in

hundreds of people for an amazing day of art!

In fall of 2017 we inaugurated the **APCH Comic Art and Literacy Expo (CALE)** to bridge the visual arts and literacy through sequential art and entertainment. The event was free and open to the community and featured book giveaways, exhibitors, artists, writers, and storytellers. The event attracted six hundred visitors, and **CALE 2018** promises to be even bigger!

In January, 25 APCH members visited Disney Television Animation for a tour and a voice acting workshop in a real recording booth where they learned about ADR (Automated Dialogue Replacement), and how theme songs for Disney Jr. promos are created. Later they shared pizza and Q & A with show creators,

producers, and writers.

Lastly, our **Spring Art Showcase** in May 2018 allowed dozens of APCH art students to shine in all eight disciplines of visual art and three digital media classes. Two new classes, Sewing for Fashion and Mixed Media Sculpture, were the nucleus of the show. Students created beautiful dresses, utilitarian bags, adorable purses, and other accessories that were displayed on mannequins. The mixed-media sculpture class had a long table overflowing with yummy desserts made of cardboard, spackle, newspaper and paint, providing the amazing illusion of a grand buffet. All told, the show included more than 250 pieces, and fellow members, staff, parents and the community enjoyed it thoroughly!

FLASH: We moved into a new art studio where, with triple the space of the old one, our capacity and the quality of our work, as well as the numbers of members and their energy, have all increased ten-fold!



The cast and crew of Billie! Backstage with Lady Day

ONSTAGE AT APCH'S NEW THEATER

The Marion Brucker Community Auditorium, also known as **The Bridge Theater**, has allowed A Place Called Home to host music, theater and community events. The launching of our own APCH Theater Program is providing our teens (to begin with) with classes in acting, writing, stage management, lighting design and production!

With the support of partners like the Oregon Shakespeare

Festival and the Fountain Theater, we have been taking youth to see plays and hosting culturally relevant play readings. For those talented teens that show a desire to pursue theater as a vocation or a passion, there are three annual opportunities to travel to Ashland, OR to visit the Oregon Shakespeare Festival and participate in their summer program for teens. This is just "Act I"... watch this space for lots more to come!

The Bridge Theater at A Place Called Home is a cultural hub for our community! If you need rental space, or have a project that you think we might be interested in, send us an email and start a dialogue! Contact Efrain, our Theater Facility Manager at TheBridge@apch.org



21ST CENTURY LEARNING

Our **Digital Media** department is focusing on project-based learning and partnering with our vocational development program to include opportunities for members to get practical knowledge and experience in the entertainment industry. We have been upgrading software and equipment (thanks Sony!) and our members are learning editing, motion graphics, anima-



tion, and photo altering with Adobe Creative Cloud programs.

Our teens are super engaged in graphic design, game design, and coding classes, while the littles and middles are learning beginning filmmaking, video special effects, photography, and editing. Young people at A Place Called Home are being prepared for the 21st century and beyond!

APCH'S 10TH ORIGINAL MUSIC ALBUM RELEASE!

This year's full-length album, **Words Within**, will feature amazing music from returning APCH member artists, MYDA, Martian X, and Jaziah Gibson. In addition, we have new voices Denise

Guerra and Alisson Ibarra taking the wheel and driving the album home with fresh new songs like *Broken Promises* and *Rare*. And, we are beyond excited to welcome guest artist, the amazing and tal-

ented Amber Riley, who worked alongside our members in the studio to write and produce the original song, *Dream*. Check it out on iTunes, Spotify, and Google Play, by searching A Place Called Home.



MUSIC PROVIDES A PORTAL

Our longstanding partnership with **Berklee College of Music** and the **Berklee City Music Network** have provided our members with year-round opportunities to participate in a multitude of musical experiences.

Summer 2018 activities included a visit from the **Berklee City Music Tour**, in which advanced network members conducted a master class and held a community performance at the Bridge Theater at APCH. We also had two members attend the Berklee Five-Week Program in Boston, and APCH member Alexander Castile received a scholarship to attend Berklee's four-year degree program in fall 2019!

As we enter our fall semester, the **APCH Music Department** is expanding our Piano and Music



Theory classes, while the Saturday **Accelerated Music Program (AMP)** will add accordion, guitar, and requinto to its offerings, in an effort to create our very own Mariachi Ensemble. Culturally relevant programming intends to engage our members and families, who represent our

diverse community.

Our newest addition to the APCH music team is Alexis Luque, who will co-lead the department with a focus on music education. Luque has a background in classical performance and arts education administration. He has worked with the LA Phil's YOLA

program at LACHSA, The Colburn School, and the San Francisco Symphony. This summer Alexis and APCH member Angel Rubin performed with the Inner City Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles at Disney Hall.



**Each year
at APCH our
music department gives
20 performances,
creates 1 original CD,
and provides
3-5 scholarships
to the Berklee College
of Music summer
program and academic
year in Boston.**



APCH SHAHEEN SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM MATRICULATES TO ANOTHER LEVEL



This year the **APCH Shaheen Scholarship** celebrated its 16th anniversary. Since 2002, our scholarship program has sent more than 410 young people to college!

For 2018/19 we welcomed a cohort of 47 incoming scholars into our program, and with a 91% retention rate for current scholars,

we now have a total of 112 APCH Shaheen Scholars in college! In June, 2018, seven scholars graduated with degrees and they have already started careers in mental health, education, and business, and some are enrolled in graduate school programs.

In 2018 several of our scholars explored the globe, visiting


China, India, Peru, Thailand, Korea and Washington, DC.

Our newest scholars are just

starting their exciting journeys in higher education at Santa Monica College, West LA College, LA Trade Tech, UC Santa Barbara, UC Irvine, UC Davis, Cal State Northridge, Humboldt State, Cal State East Bay, and more!!

In summer 2018, our scholars demonstrated their love for giving back to their APCH community. Eleven returning scholars interned at APCH as Summer Associates. Four incoming scholars also challenged themselves this summer and interned at APCH, while completing their APCH Summer Intensive work!

Congratulations to all of our APCH Shaheen Scholars and appreciation and thanks to all of our donors, especially The David and Linda Shaheen Foundation!



APCH has served more than 20,000 young people since we opened our doors in 1993.

More than 400 members cross our threshold each day, and we have 112 APCH Shaheen Scholars in college.

TEEN & YOUNG ADULT SERVICES HAS SOME STATS!

1. Two teens are studying abroad for a year! One in Slovakia and one in France, through our partnership with Rotary Los Angeles!

2. We hosted our inaugural Career Exploration Fair with 84 members meeting 26 employers!

3. The APCH Shaheen Scholarship welcomed a record-breaking **47 new scholars** into the 2018-2019 academic year,

and along with our current scholars, we are sending 112 students to college this year!

4. Through our Professional Readiness and Employment Preparation (PREP) program, so far this year (fall 2018) APCH Teen Services has hosted **27 teen interns** and hired **11 APCH Shaheen Scholars** as Summer Associates!

5. Seven APCH Shaheen Scholars received Bachelor's

degrees in June 2018, and are entering the workforce and/or graduate schools!

6. Sixteen APCH members spent four days visiting five universities on our annual **Northern California College Tour!**

7. Our LIFE Mentoring program is managing **50 active matches**, the most in the history of the program - and, yes, we have added a second staffer to this growing program!

8. Our Theater program partnered with our PREP program to launch our **Oregon Shakespeare Festival** partnership and send six teens to two overnight trips in Ashland, Oregon!

9. We finished up the 2017/18 school year with 80 students enrolled in RISE High, and a commitment to increasing enrollment to up to 120 in 2018/19!



MENTORING AT APCH IS A WAY OF L.I.F.E.

The APCH **L.I.F.E. (Lead, Influence, Foster, Empower) Mentoring** program supports and facilitates meaningful, nurturing one-on-one mentor : mentee relationships between our teens and adults in the community. L.I.F.E. Mentoring allows teens to connect with positive role models who support them in developing to their full potential and making informed, responsible decisions for themselves, and as involved members of our community.

Our mentoring program is entering its 6th year. This past year mentors and mentees, in addition to the twice monthly outings for each match, participated in a number of group activities, including a summer bonfire, beach paddleboarding, self empowerment workshops, poetry concerts, live sporting events and uplifting movie screenings. All amazing opportunities that allowed for matches to have fun and build community.

Three incredible highlights for the LIFE Mentoring Program in 2018:

- We grew our match roster to 50.
- We celebrated a 100% graduation rate and college bound success for every high school senior paired with a mentor.
- Thanks to the Eva Longoria Foundation, we added a second mentor case manager to our staff, which will allow us to continue to grow the program in the coming year!

THE POWER OF GIRLS IS AWESOME



APCH's **GirlPower (GP)** Program creates a sisterhood - a safe space where young women ages 14-18 can grow together and identify themselves individually. Through group activities, field trips, guest speakers, and community service, GP provides an

abundance of opportunities for young women to develop character and make positive life choices.

This year we created two tiers of GirlPower to accommodate the ever-growing interest in the program! Tier 1, comprising freshmen and sophomores, learned

about social justice issues facing women today, the importance of friendships and healthy relationships, and they further developed their sense of self. Our upperclasswomen (Tier 2) spent their time developing leadership skills and launching their inaugural International Service Project. Tier 2 ladies selected an organization serving girls in Southern Peru and began collecting materials to create personalized hygiene kits, complete with special notes from our young women. They even collected 45 books in Spanish to help the girls build a library.

The APCH GirlPower Program provides opportunities for young women to develop their voices and transform into capable leaders and changemakers in their community and world. We are proud to have such an amazing group of strong young women represent A Place Called Home!

BECOMING A MAN



Journey is a peer-mentoring program for our 14-18 year old young men where they develop leadership skills, character, and a real sense of brotherhood with each other as they learn what it is to become a 21st century man.

All year long, workshops, guest speakers, community service initiatives, and group outings help our young boys develop into mature and compassionate young men.

This past year, our Journey men

learned the importance of discovering their passion, networking, resiliency, and self-care. These points were modeled and reinforced by special guest speakers, including two senior executives in the film industry, a former U.S. Army Special Forces Green Beret, and a men's international organization that supports men in supporting each other's personal development and community involvement.

Journey is seven years strong, and each annual cohort continues to build on the previous ones and add to a growing Journey alumni network. Journey graduates are returning during pivotal sessions to support in grounding new cohorts into the team culture. It is their way of honoring the past and paying it forward.

The Journey program is propelling a new wave of consciousness that will redefine what it means to be a man.



NOT JUST A JOB... THE RIGHT JOB FOR YOU



APCH's **P.R.E.P. (Professional Readiness and Employment Pathways)** provides comprehensive preparation and wraparound services for our teens and young adults as they explore a variety of career and vocational pathways. Through site visits, panel presentations, information sessions, careers fairs and aptitude assessments, members prepare to make informed decisions about their next steps after high school. Members receive individualized support and mentorship -- from identifying career interests to sharpening financial literacy skills -- to help them gain the necessary skills they need to enter the workforce ready to excel.

The APCH Internship and Externship programs provide members with opportunities to gain paid work experience with

local and statewide employers. Members build meaningful, professional relationships and strengthen marketable skills and competencies to become competitive candidates for future career opportunities. P.R.E.P. sparks curiosity, fosters the development of foundational skills, strengthens character through real-world experiences, and provides access to meaningful professional relationships. The goal: to prepare and assist our young adults in finding employment in fulfilling, good paying jobs and careers.



**Are you an employer?
Interested in getting
involved? To learn
more about PREP,
email prep@apch.org**

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE & ENTREPRENEURSHIP



APCH YOUTH TAKE CARE OF BUSINESS!



In our **Social Enterprise & Entrepreneurship** classes, you can find us repurposing coffee grounds, used paper, secondhand frames, and old mugs to develop products that don't cause harm to our planet. Candles, lip balms, face scrubs, chalkboard frames, and beeswax wraps are just a few of the products our members have been making this year. By selling their own invented products, members in the SEE program develop fearlessness, creativity, interpersonal communications skills, and the power of persuasion.

Ta-DAH! We are announcing the radical success of our **2018 BizCamp partnership with the Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE)**.

We had 24 middle and high school members come up with business ideas that create positive social or environmental impact, put together a pitch

deck, and present to judges from Warner Bros, MullenLowe, DIFF Eyewear, Herbalife, and APCH's Leadership Council. Wow!

Drumroll, please... eighth grade member Hennessey Soto-Silvas not only won first prize at APCH BizCamp, but she and her product were selected to compete in **NFTE's National Business Challenge in New York in October 2018!** NFTE flew her to the Big Apple to compete for up to \$15,000, as well as the opportunity to sell her products to buyers in NYC. Check our Facebook page and Instagram for the results of Hennessey's Great Adventure!

**To learn more or
get involved with our
Social Enterprise &
Entrepreneurship
program, email
changemakers@apch.org**



APCH AND OUR COMMUNITY ARE PARTNERS



Over our 25 years serving thousands of youth and families in South Central, APCH has built trust and a two-way commitment with our community to stay informed and involved in making things better for everyone.

We host community events throughout the year, including committee and town hall meetings, political debates, voting, distribution, educational and cultural events and more. Our staff sit on the CD9 Coalition, Community Police Advisory Board, Exposition Park Community Advisory Committee, the Historic Central Avenue B.I.D., Central Avenue Business Association, The Jazz Festival Committee, Pedestrian Advisory Board, Safe Passages, and others.

Some of our events provide for the community's immediate needs, such as our **Cinderella & Prince Charming Project**, **Health and Garden Expo**,

Community Movie Nights, **Backpack to School event**, **Comic Art & Literacy Expo**, **Thanksgiving Food Distribution and Community Dinner** and our **A Place Called Home for the Holidays Festival** and toy giveaway.

Even though everything at APCH is FREE for our constituents, our message to the families we work with is, "please don't come to APCH just to get free services and stuff, we want you to get involved here and in your community so together we can make positive change. If there's a need or a problem in the community, let's work together to find a solution."

To inquire about how your company can sponsor one of our very cool & popular events, email us at sponsor@apch.org

BE THE CHANGE...



APCH has been serving the community of South Central Los Angeles for 25 years. Through our **Civics and Community**

Engagement program, we are educating and empowering our members to participate in the democratic process, community

issues and concerns, and political discussion and debate all the way from the neighborhood to the halls of congress. Some of the growing number of exposure and involvement opportunities include the CD9 Coalition, Community Police Advisory Board, The Historic Central Avenue B.I.D., the Central Avenue Jazz Festival, the Pedestrian Advisory Board, our local Neighborhood Councils, Safe Passages, and others. This coming year we will be taking our teens on field trips to experience their local, state and federal governments at work.

Students and family members can also make a difference by participating in community service projects, leading youth voter registration efforts, and volunteering for APCH's community events

such as: **The Cinderella & Prince Charming Project**, **The JIVE LIVE New Year's Race**, our **Thanksgiving Food Distribution and Community Dinner**, **The APCH Health and Garden Expo**, **Community Movie Nights**, our **Backpack to School event**, and our **A Place Called Home for the Holidays Festival**.

"You cannot change any society unless you take responsibility for it, unless you see yourself as belonging to it and responsible for changing it."

*— Grace Lee Boggs (1915-2015)
Community activist, social movements philosopher, writer.
Born in Rhode Island to Chinese immigrants.*



ROYALTY HOLDS COURT AT APCH

Our **Cinderella & Prince Charming Project** had its Sweet Sixteen in 2018, and celebrated with another year of dressing prom and graduation royalty! More than 1,000 girls and 300 boys participated as inspirational speakers presented self-improvement and empowerment workshops and the teens got to “shop” in our boutique, choosing from over 3,000 formal dresses and 800 suits, plus jewelry, shoes, and ac-

cessories. Disney granted APCH a handsome sponsorship, Friar Tux provided formal wear for the boys, BofA provided tote bags, and our own GirlPower girls and Journey boys rolled up their sleeves and hosted the event. Congratulations to the Class of 2018! We hope your culminations were memorable and that you will be leading the way and paying it forward in your communities and the world!



VOLUNTEERING AT APCH IS FUN AND FULFILLING



There's never a dull moment when you volunteer at APCH! Whether helping a child solve a homework problem, plant a seed, or learn a new song on the ukulele, there are daily and hourly moments of joy and achievement. Volunteering here offers much more than an opportunity to check off your community service hours or complete a work requirement. We welcome you to contribute your time, talents, experience and education to building a

strong, healthy and engaged community. With each hour of service you provide at APCH, the opportunities for our youth are expanded and multiplied. For 25 years, volunteers have been a pillar in our APCH community.

**Find out for yourself!
To learn how you can get
involved please write to
volunteer@apch.org**

8TH ANNUAL STAKEHOLDERS CIRCLE – APCH LISTENS

Every May at APCH we invite a group of 20-30 parents, members, volunteers and staff to gather for a few hours on a Saturday morning to exchange thoughts, observations and aspirations about how to make APCH even stronger and better. Staff share new developments and plans with constituents, and our members and families share about what's happening in the community and what kinds of programs and services they think are needed in the future. Immigration concerns and the need for more support for many of the families we serve were big topics in 2018. Others included



education, our waiting list, crime, and gentrification. Key takeaways are recorded and con-

veyed to our leadership for consideration as we plan for the year(s) ahead. The voices of our

stakeholders will always be welcome at A Place Called Home.

EMERGING PROFESSIONALS SUPPORT APCH ON OUR LEADERSHIP COUNCIL



The **Leadership Council**, or the "LC", is a group of 15-20 emerging professionals from diverse backgrounds and industries that believe in APCH's mission and want to learn more about nonprofit and philanthro-

py. The LC mounts two annual fundraisers, Stars & Strikes and West Coast Game Night, and LC members also volunteer, mentor, participate in a career day for our teens, and help out at APCH community events.



Interested in joining the APCH Leadership Council?
Email info@apch.org and include
"Leadership Council" in the subject line.

A STARRY NIGHT AT THE APCH BOWL

The APCH Leadership Council does it again! For 13 years the LC has successfully mounted an amazing **CELEBRITY BOWLING EVENT! STARS & STRIKES 2018** featured some of the music industry's popular names and some of LA's most skilled bowlers! Huge shout out to our Official Media Sponsor, 102.7 KIIS FM, for their continued support, as well as our Official Celebrity Ambassador Danielle Herrington. This super cool and fun annual event has been elevated to new heights with cool prizes such as American AAdvantage Miles and the introduction of Bowl-a-Rama!

Catering was provided by Delaware North, total experts in the "yummy" department.

Thanks to all our event sponsors for showing your love for the cause - you rock! Because of your commitment to APCH, we've been able to extend our free programs to the youth of South Central Los Angeles for 25 years! We hope you enjoyed the night as much as we did. See you next year!

**To learn how
your company can sponsor
Stars & Strikes, email
sponsor@apch.org**

APCH ADDS NEW FUNDRAISER WOULD YOU LIKE TO PLAY A GAME??



Introducing **WEST COAST GAME NIGHT**, celebrating the best of west coast hip-hop and funky fun while raising awareness and support for A Place Called Home and the youth of South Central Los Angeles! Thanks to everyone who came out to The Iron Triangle Brewery on October 5th, 2018 for the 2nd annual West Coast Game Night, hosted by our dynamic Leadership Council of emerging professionals. The eve-

ning featured music presented by Media Partner REAL 92.3, poker for great prizes, Jumbo Jenga, Connect4, Uno and other popular games where you might have been playing alongside the artist you were listening to on the way to the event! Special thanks to everyone for joining the fun! Last but not least, thank you to APCH's incredible Leadership Council for launching this exciting event! See you all again next year!

Check our website for info about
the next Stars & Strikes and
West Coast Game Night in 2019!



GIRLPOWER AWARDS LUNCHEON

Last year's GirlPower Awards Luncheon was really amazing and moving and we are grateful to our amazing honorees,
Elena of Avalor, Paula Silver, Brenda Rios-Panos, Jennifer M. Lynch
Don't miss our next GirlPower Awards Luncheon on May 10, 2019,
with honorees to be announced!



SAVE THE DATE: MAY 10, 2019
The next GirlPower Luncheon!

2017 GALA FOR THE CHILDREN

Last year's Gala for the Children was a grand success,
thanks to our amazing honorees, **Stephen Bruno and Latham Watkins, LLP**
Don't miss our 25th Anniversary Gala on 12/5/18 with honorees
David Sameth and Arturo Sneider, and lots of special surprises!



SAVE THE DATE: DECEMBER 5, 2018
at the Beverly Hilton Hotel
2018 GALA FOR THE CHILDREN honoring
David Sameth and Arturo Sneider



WE LOVE OUR DONORS (9/1/2017 - 8/30/2018)

Our deepest appreciation goes out to the dedicated individuals on the Board of Directors and Lifetime Directors of A Place Called Home, who TOGETHER give and raise more than a million dollars each year.

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We're sorry if we overlooked you, misspelled or incorrectly listed your name. Please let us know and we will gladly correct our records for future newsletters, info@apch.org.



This is an extraordinary time in history and Los Angeles is ahead of the curve on many fronts, both positive and negative. There are still too many families living in poverty, too many immigrants living in the shadows, too many youth being lost to the streets and to prison, and the divide between the 1% and the 99%

is growing wider.

I have been on the APCH Board of Directors for five years and now I am excited to step into the role of Chair in this, our 25th anniversary year. It is my honor to lead and work alongside a dynamic group of committed directors and an inspired executive director as we plan and execute a strong, innovative and resourceful vision for the next 25 years.

I like to build and grow sustainable businesses that deliver high quality solutions to problems in the marketplace. I think of APCH the same way- the challenges and problems in the inner-city are great, and APCH is a dependable system that provides all young people with a chance at

growing up to be healthy, constructive adults. And the stronger they are and the more of them we can prepare to lead and contribute, the better the world is going to be!

I fall asleep some nights thinking about our waiting list of youth and their families. What will their lives be like if they can't get into APCH soon? This is why we are so committed to growth and why I hope you will visit our website and support our work. Together we can make a real difference.

Barbara Glazer

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST BOARD MEMBERS!



Robert Gibbs started his career at the age of 19, working at a boutique music agency in Philadelphia and then in Atlanta. He is now a Partner/Senior Music Agent for ICM Partners, a talent and literary agency representing clients in the fields of motion pictures, television, publishing, music, theater, broadcast, branded entertainment and digital media in the United States and Europe.

Robert joined ICM Partners in 2006 and was named a Partner in

2016. He leads and works with key teammates in the Concerts/Urban/Pop Contemporary department. Prior to joining ICM Partners, Robert was an agent at Creative Artists Agency.

We have been working with ICM Partners for several years and are super excited to have Robert join the Board!



Michelle Raimo Kouyate is a multiple Academy Award nominated producer with vast and varied

experience, working in live action and animation and as both an executive and a producer. She is currently the principal of MRK Productions with a deal at Sony Pictures. Michelle most recently produced **The Emoji Movie** for Sony Pictures Animation.

Michelle was President of Production for Sony Pictures Animation and responsible for overseeing all aspects of the development and production of all film, television and direct-to-DVD projects on the Sony Pictures Animation slate. Before joining Sony, Michelle developed and executive produced, **Silver Linings Playbook**, which received eight Academy Award nominations.

Michelle brings an abundance of passion and focus and we are thrilled to have her joining the Board!

Jonathan Zeichner, *Executive Director*
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YEARS**

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2018 - 2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(v) volunteer opportunities available. Please contact us at volunteer@apch.org

(s) sponsorship opportunities available, please contact us at sponsor@apch.org

OCTOBER 5

West Coast Game Night

OCTOBER 20

Comic Art & Literacy Expo (CALE)

OCTOBER 26

Fall Festival & Halloween Party (v)(s)

NOVEMBER 17

Thanksgiving Food Sorting (v)

NOVEMBER 21

Community Thanksgiving Dinner & Grocery Distribution (v)(s)

NOVEMBER 27

Giving Tuesday (v)(s)

DECEMBER 5

APCH Gala for the Children (s)

DECEMBER 8

Adopt-A-Family (v)(s)

DECEMBER 14

APCH Home for the Holidays Prep and Setup (v)(s)

DECEMBER 15

Home for the Holidays A Festival of Free Gifts for Hundreds of Families (v)(s)

JANUARY 7

Jive Live New Year's Run (s)
sign up at: <http://tinyurl.com/zmx7mrr>



APRIL 26 - 27

Cinderella & Prince Charming Project (v)(s)

MAY 10

GirlPower Awards Luncheon & Boutique (s)

MAY 11

Health & Garden Expo (v)(s)

JUNE-JULY

Summer Movie Nights (v)(s)



AUGUST 2

Backpack to School Supply Sorting and Prep (v)

AUGUST 3

Backpack to School Festival (v)(s)

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER (monthly)
Open Mic Nights (s)



Visit apch.org for all the details, full calendar of programs and activities, and information on how to get involved.

Brighten the lives of families in need throughout the year and for the holidays!



Learn more about our annual Adopt-A-Family program by visiting apch.org/adopt-a-family



Scan this code to watch the APCH Video on your mobile device

JOIN THE APCH FAMILY - Your donation provides direct support to youth of South Central Los Angeles

- \$35 Provides a child with sports, fitness, yoga and good sportsmanship activities for one month.
- \$55 Provides a child with fresh cooked nutritious dinners and snacks for one month.
- \$100 Provides one elementary or middle-school child who is struggling to keep up at school with tutoring for one month.
- \$250 Provides weekly gardening classes and supplies for 25 students.
- \$500 Provides a summer field trip for 50 children.
- \$1,000 Provides 10 teenagers with academic guidance/College Prep for one month.
- \$2,500-\$7,000 Provides tuition support for a young person who will be the first in his/her family to attend college.

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