



# Young Horizons

Child Development Centers

[www.younghorizons.org](http://www.younghorizons.org)

Fall 2017

*“Educate Early”*

## Westerly School Visits Young Horizons

*7th Graders Plan and Facilitate Science Activities for Our Preschoolers*

This May, our preschool children at the Kohn Center received a wonderful treat. The 7th grade class from Westerly School planned and facilitated a “Science Day” for our children to learn and enjoy.

The mission of Westerly School of Long Beach is to develop each child’s full potential intellectually, emotionally, morally and physically. Part of the school’s plan is to build a strong self-concept, personal independence and social responsibility.

This day was part of their contribution to their community. The 7th grade children had fun science activities planned for our children. The activities included everything from making slime to observing how baking soda and vinegar react to each other in an acid



based reaction creating carbon dioxide. Our Preschoolers enjoyed the science activities and having older children teach them about science concepts. We were impressed that all of these activities were planned and facilitated entirely by the 7th grade Westerly students.

We are grateful for community members who contribute to our centers so our children have the opportunity to see what can be found in their communities. We thank Westerly School of Long Beach for their fun and educational visit.



## Week of the Young Child

*Promoting the Importance of Early Learning*

The Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration hosted by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) celebrating young children, early learning, their teachers and families. This year the Week of the Young Child was celebrated from April 24th to the 28th and was a perfect occasion to highlight the work being done by our incredible teaching staff at Young Horizons.

Our Week of the Young Child awareness campaign was very successful. We used our social media accounts to demonstrate the various activities provided for every day of this week. We kicked-off the week with Music Monday, which noted the importance of music in developing math, language and literacy skills. That was followed by Tasty Tuesday which encouraged healthy nutrition and fitness habits. Work Together Wednesday was about building things together using all kinds of materials, from tree branches to a shape made of blocks. Artsy Thursday motivated children to make their own decisions on open-ended art projects that helped them develop creativity and social skills. Family Friday was the last day of the Week of the Young Child and it promoted the importance of family and parents’ engagement in their child’s life. We look forward each year to participating in this worthwhile celebration.



## Executive Director Message



### *Preparing for a new school year*

We are getting ready to start a new school year, meet new children and their families and welcome them into the Young Horizons family. Each year we watch as our graduates leave to enter Kindergarten and a life of learning. We have worked hard to prepare them not only for school but for life. We wish each of our graduates and their families much success.

We are excited to announce our new website has launched! We have transitioned to a .ORG domain as well. Please visit us at <http://www.younghorizons.org> and check us out. We were very fortunate to work with Sue Reveche of Reveche Media and are very pleased with the end product. Please share your thoughts with us.

A wonderful change that has taken place is a victory at the state capitol. After years of a "Freeze" to the income eligibility scale, our legislators have approved an increase which will allow more families to qualify for subsidized care. Families with incomes at or below 70% of the State Median Income qualify for subsidized care. We have begun enrollment for 2017-18 so if you know of a family that needs care, please share this information with them. Together, we can better serve the children and their families in Long Beach who so critically need our services.

Sarah M. Soriano  
Executive Director

## Young Horizons Welcomes New Officers *Board of Directors Elections*

The Board of Directors elected their new officers for the 2017-2019 term of office:

Chair	Roger Scott
Vice-Chair	Debra Fixen
Secretary	Sandy Wedgeworth
Treasurer	Misi Tagaloa

Congratulations and thank you to each new officer. We look forward to working with them to meet our mission of improving the lives of our children and their families through high-quality early education programs and services.

Each of these board members is dedicated and passionate about serving our children and their families. We appreciate their commitment to Young Horizons and all that we represent.



### **Nancy Ramirez**

#### *Celebrating 25 Years of Service*

One of our most loved and dedicated staff, Nancy Ramirez, will be celebrating her 25th anniversary at Young Horizons. Nancy has seen hundreds of children grow, learn and develop over her tenure and has even been able to serve second generation children from her first class of 25 years ago.

We are grateful for the years of service Nancy has given us. She has been a loyal, dedicated staff member always willing to go the extra mile to fulfill our mission. Young Horizons will recognize her with an award for her 25 years of service during our Staff Development Day on September 1, 2017. We hope for many more years seeing her smiling face light up as she assists another child in developing a new skill or learning a new word. Thank you Nancy!

## Preschoolers Visit Space Shuttle Endeavour *Field Trip Expands Learning*

This year, the Organization of Parents and Teachers (OPT) selected the California Science Center as our Preschool Field Trip destination. The Space Shuttle Endeavour exhibit was created to educate the community about everything related to space and to spark the sense of curiosity in people's minds.

The children enjoyed learning about the 25 Space Shuttle Endeavour voyages to outer space and how NASA managed to continue utilizing it again and again.

Our teachers explained how the engines helped the space shuttle leave the Earth's atmosphere and remain in orbit.

The children also had the opportunity to explore other areas of the Science Center and participate in hands-on activities with water, sand and air.

Your donations support these types of field trips that expand children's learning. Donate today.



## Congratulations Class of 2017

### Another Year of Bright, Confident and Happy Graduates

Every year, Young Horizons celebrates the accomplishments of our Preschoolers as they embark on their educational journey. We have 156 graduates going to Kindergarten. Each of our five centers had ceremonies that recognized each child's abilities. It was wonderful to see the proud and excited parents, grandparents, relatives and friends celebrate their Preschooler's graduation. It is always a joyous occasion and our staff feels grateful in knowing that these children are ready to learn.

Many of our graduates have been with Young Horizons since they were six months old and we love, care and nurture all our little ones. It is always difficult to say goodbye to the graduates but we feel honored to have been a part of their lives and look forward to the new school year and the opportunity to serve.



## Sarah Soriano Elected CCDAA Southern Section President

### Sharing Her Leadership With Our State

Congratulations to our Executive Director on her election as the Southern Section President for the California Child Development Administrators Association (CCDAA). Ms. Soriano will serve a two-year term as president. Her passion for early education and developing leadership is a perfect match for this association's goals and mission.

For over 70 years CCDAA has been providing and developing leadership and education opportunities that support publicly funded early care and education programs for children from birth to 13 and their families. CCDAA advocates for publicly funded early care and education programs across California, resulting in a better life by supporting the development of the child's physical and intellectual well being and providing a safe and high quality learning environment.

## Spring Fest

### Creating Relationships While Fundraising for YH

Young Horizons was very excited to host its first ever Spring Fest fundraiser at Shoreline Village. This event included wine tasting from a local wine maker, opportunity drawings and live jazz music to liven up the evening. We are grateful to the Young Horizons Board of Directors for making this event a complete success.

One of our families shared what impact Young Horizons has had in their life, enabling the parents to work while their children receive a high-quality educational program. We look forward to next year's Spring Fest. Please plan on joining us.



## Event Calendar

### Join us

### Open House

**Wednesday, September 20**

4:30—5:30 pm.

All locations:

Kohn Center—501 Atlantic Ave.

Central Pacific—1850 Pacific Ave.

North Pacific—2418 Pacific Ave.

Ludloff Center—2650 Pacific Ave.

Grisham Center—11 A W. 49th St.

### Half Day Preschool

**New school year begins**

**August 9, 2017**

We still have openings— ENROLL NOW.

### Read for the Record

Thursday, October 19, 2017 - All Day. Remember you can sign up to read to the children. Jumpstart's *Read for the Record*® brings much needed attention to high-quality early learning through reading.

Each year on *Read for the Record*® day, people gather for the world's largest shared reading experience by reading the same book. Last year more than 2.3 million adults and children participated in Jumpstart's *Read for the Record*®. Call the main office for further information.

Can't make it on the 19th but want to help out? We would love to give a copy of this book to each of our children. Contact us at 562 437-8991 Ext. 14 if interested in making this a reality.

### Holidays we will be closed:

11/23 & 24 Thanksgiving Day and the following day

12/22 thru 12/26 in observance of the Christmas Holiday

1/1/18 in observance of New Year's Day

1/15/18 Martin Luther King Holiday



**Young Horizons**  
 Child Development Centers  
 501 Atlantic Avenue  
 Long Beach, CA 90802

Address Service Requested

To our friend (s):

 ***ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER***  
***NOW AVAILABLE***  
 Please email us at [info@younghorizons.org](mailto:info@younghorizons.org)  
 if you prefer to connect electronically.

***\*\*NOW ENROLLING\*\****  
 Call for information (562) 437-8991 or visit  
 our website: [www.younghorizons.org](http://www.younghorizons.org)

**Our mission is to provide quality childcare and preschool programs in a caring, loving and learning environment.**

Young Horizons is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization serving children in Long Beach. Donations are tax deductible to the limit allowed by law.

**Board of Directors**

**Founder: Dr. Gerhard Kohn**

- Daysha Austin
- Debra Fixen
- Steven Gratch
- David Haisley
- Danita Humphrey
- Katie Larson
- Luis Santana
- Roger Scott- *Chair*
- Sandy Wedgeworth
- Dina Zapalski

**Advisory Board**

- Dr. Martha Bernadett
- Edward Ludloff
- Michael Mais
- Roland Spongberg
- Ed Sudario
- Ron Whittaker



*Serving 416 children in five Long Beach locations*

**Kohn Center/Main Office**  
 501 Atlantic Ave.

**North Pacific Center**  
 2418 Pacific Ave.

**Grisham Center**  
 11 A W. 49th St.

**Central Pacific Center**  
 1840 Pacific Ave.

**Ludloff Center**  
 2650 Pacific Ave.

License #198000638

Young Horizons is an equal opportunity provider and employer  
 Office: 562 437-8991 Fax: 562 436-8847

**[www.younghorizons.org](http://www.younghorizons.org)**

Proud Member of:

