

One hundred and twenty volunteers to receive letters from the President for their dedication and commitment to School on Wheels and the homeless children it serves throughout Southern California.

LOS ANGELES – April 14, 2015 - National Volunteer Month is about inspiring, recognizing and encouraging people to seek out imaginative ways to engage in their communities. It's about demonstrating to the nation that by working together, we have the fortitude to meet our challenges and accomplish our goals.

School on Wheels, a nonprofit that provides tutoring and educational opportunities for homeless children from kindergarten to 12th grade, will be appreciating and thanking its volunteers throughout the month of April. Every year, School on Wheels nominates volunteers to receive the President's Volunteer Service Award. In 2015, 124 of our volunteer tutors will receive the prestigious award for volunteering more than 100 hours in a year.

Recipients include: Alexandra Victor, Amy Ezhaya, Andrea Aguinaldo, Ben McGarry, Bruce Ward, Catherine Meek (Executive Director), Denice Gonzalez-Kim, Diana Martinon, Ian Chan, Isabel Carrillo-Dono, Jimmy Dhanapanth, and Karen Castaneda will receive the Gold Medal for over 500 hours of volunteer service. Andy Wang, Bryant Rivera, Conway Gilbreth, Gladys Herrera, Ian Tindel, Jim Edmisten, Khodayar Goshtasbi, Liat Smener, Luis Gallardo, Shea Chuey, and Winifred Strohmeier will receive the Silver Medal for over 200 hours of service (or over 75 hours for those under 15 years old). And 98 tutors will receive the Bronze Medal for over 100 hours of service. All our wonderful recipients and their tutoring locations are listed below.

National Volunteer Month is about taking action and encouraging individuals and their respective communities to be at the center of social change – discovering and actively demonstrating their collective power to make a difference.

Congratulations to our Presidential Award Winners for 2015

East LA

Amarilis Bolanos, Douglas Gee, Evan Panas, Jacqueline Romo, Luis Gallardo, Prapti Gautam, Sarah Gonzalez, Wilton Mui

Skid Row Learning Center

Alex Goodman, Allison Maldonado, Arianne Neumark, Audrey Limon, Benito Polanco, Bruce Ward, Bryant Rivera, Damion Wagner, David Kagen, Denice Gonzalez-Kim, Diana Martinon, Emerson Puerto, Gladys Herrera, Ian Chan, Isabel Carrillo-Dono, Jessica Pacheco, Jim Edmisten, Kate McNeil, Kiran Goraya, Kelsey Ritzel, Kristina Kulkovit, Lionel Ong, Michelle Bennett, Milvia Ramires, Natalie Platon, Robert Finucane, Shea Chuey, Stacey Yakimowich, Victoria Johnson, Wayne Espinoza, Westview Services

South LA

Allen Vernik, Ann Dawidziak, Carlita Dorsey, Colleen Scribner, Daerique Jamison, Eileen McAndrews, Gaby Cardoza, Johnna Hotchkiss, Joseph Portillo, Lisa Guillemin, Lynn Deegan, Nancy Thomason, Rebecca Jones

Westside

Alexandra Victor, Alicia Markoe, Blue McDonnell, Brendan O' Donnell, Caroline Sexton, Ellie Lederman, Jeremy Blum, Joseph Lardner, Julie Clark-Hansen, Khodayar Goshtasbi, Kimberly Pemberton, Kristen Schulle-Griffin, Leigha Kemmett, Linda Arvanites, Lucas White, Nannette Callo, Ruth Blanco, Spenser May, Pepperdine Volunteer Center

Long Beach and South Bay

Abigail Shipley, Alan Su, Carolyn Shipley, Christopher Ehling, Ed Babtakis, Jeffrey Jacobs, Jessica Prosper Seymour, Jezz Quibal, Justin Foust, Keith Weber, Kiara Knox, Peggy Sanders, Sonia Contreras

Hollywood and Mid-City

David Nguyen, Gillian Smith, Joseph Soulsby, Karen O'Keefe, Peter Lin

Inland Empire

Amber Christon, Kayli Brunelle, Michelle Wells, Willie Riley

San Fernando Valley

Charles Tsouvalas, Evan Green, Ian Tindel, Mackenzie Trujillo, Margaret MacCurdy, Theresa Fiddler, Wendy Trujillo, Zoe Cole

Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties

Al Earle, Amy Ezhaya, Andrea Aguinaldo, Andy Wang, Ben McGarry, Catherine Meek, Claudia Gack, Conway Gilbreth, Janice Smets, Karen Castaneda, Katherine Green, Katie Chilton, Ladan Sheikholeslam, Liat Smener, Marcia Rothman, Naomi Sanchez, Winifred Strohmeyer, Xinyu Wang

Orange County

Franklin Rutherford, Jimmy Dhanapanth, Linda Gottlieb, Margie Johnson, Maria De Souza, Mark Vanderpool

To learn more about School on Wheels, call 213 905-2777 or visit www.schoolonwheels.org.

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