

Meeting Date: 02/07/19

Report Type: Discussion



**Youth, Parks, &
Community Enrichment
Report**

915 I Street, 3rd Floor
www.CityofSacramento.org

Title: Selection of Volunteer Recognition Awards – Youth

Location: Citywide

Recommendation: Pass a motion selecting award recipient(s) for the youth category

Contact: Sonja Jarvis, Support Services Manager, (916) 808-8824, Department of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment

Presenter: Sonja Jarvis, Support Services Manager, (916) 808-8824, Department of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment

Department: Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment

Division: Administrative

Dept ID: 19001011

Attachments:

- 01 Description/Analysis
- 02 Youth Nomination Submissions

Submitted By:	Sonja Jarvis, Support Services Manager
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Approved By:	Shannon Brown, Interim Director
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Signature:	
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Attachment 01 – Description/Analysis

Issue: On August 2, 2018, the Parks and Recreation Commission passed a motion to establish a “Volunteer Recognition Awards Program.” The awards are intended to acknowledge the outstanding achievements of individuals, groups, organizations, and businesses that have made efforts to benefit the community by assisting the City of Sacramento in providing exceptional parks and recreational facilities and programs.

The Commission established the following review schedule:

Category Nomination	Quarter	Nomination Period	Review Period	Commission Meeting	Award
Youth	1	10/1 – 12/31	February	February	March
Parks	2	1/1 – 3/31	May	May	June
Community Enrichment	3	4/1 – 6/30	August	August	September
YPCE	4	7/1 – 9/30	October	October	November

A total of seven nominations were received for the “Youth” category (nomination forms attached).

Policy Considerations: Not Applicable

Economic Impacts: Not Applicable

Environmental Considerations: Not Applicable

Sustainability: Not Applicable

Commission/Committee Action: Not Applicable

Rationale for Recommendation: The Parks and Recreation Commission is to review nominations submitted and selected award recipients to be honored at the March Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

Financial Considerations: Not Applicable

Local Business Enterprise (LBE): Not Applicable

Parks & Recreation Commission Volunteer Recognition Nomination Form

Submitted On:
December 24th, 2018 @ 3:28pm

City of Sacramento

Recognition Category	Youth
Please identify nominee from categories below (Select all that apply)	Community Group
Community Group	Green Team
Non-Profit	No
Organization	American Lakes Elementary School
Business	No
Email	[REDACTED]
Phone Number	[REDACTED]
Council District	District 3
Please include a description of the nominee's background and achievements.	<p>Contact Person: Cynthia Westbrook (teacher at American Lakes Elementary)</p> <p>American Lakes Green team started in 2011, when kids were asked what they could do to help their community. Kids agreed it would be recycling at school and keeping things going into the proper waste streams. They were really appalled about the plastic in the ocean gyres of the Pacific. The green team moves about 8 tons of paper out of classrooms into recycling that had previously been going to landfills. That is at least eight tons each year. We also became the first school to start the district's food waste diversion program. So kids made posters, did a school wide presentation with the local Waste Management business and made a food waste stream with the cafeteria. This food waste is used to fuel the waste trucks in the city. Green Team is currently working to get our garden up and running with an American Lakes' beautification day in the works. Last year we participated in the Opening Day Parade and plan to participate again this year. We also helped with the tree planting and park cleanup at Northgate Park. We continue to recycle paper out of our classrooms and food out of the cafeteria and we try to change paradigms about waste. Most classrooms have changed their large classroom trash bins into recycling bins and use the small bins for the landfill. It is a pleasure to see how kids have taken this whole thing over. We started with about 25 very dedicated kids and now have about 55-60 kids this year. Green Team is made up of 1st through 7th graders. They are really proud of what they do and they feel they are changing their community and the world.</p>

Nominator's Information

Name	David Guerrero
Are you affiliated with any organization, business or group?	Yes
Name of Affiliated Group	Park and Recreation Commissioner
Email	[REDACTED]

Phone Number

[REDACTED]

Council District

District 3

Parks & Recreation Commission Volunteer Recognition Nomination Form

City of Sacramento

Submitted On:
December 30th, 2018 @ 12:43pm

Recognition Category

Youth

Please identify nominee from categories below (Select all that apply)

Individual

Individual Name

Djuan Stevenson

Community Group

Black child legacy

Non-Profit

Urban league

Organization

Greater Sacramento Urban League

Business

Gsul

Email

[REDACTED]

Phone Number

[REDACTED]

Council District

District 3

Please include a description of the nominee's background and achievements.

1 team all league for sac high
Volunteered at tot drive at oak park community center. Been a mentor in seavey circle to 5 youth ykunger then him. Doing gang prevention in the neighborhood.

Nominator's Information

Name

Djuan Stevenson

Are you affiliated with any organization, business or group?

Yes

Name of Affiliated Group

Greater sacramento Urban League

Email

[REDACTED]

Phone Number

[REDACTED]

Council District

District 3

Parks & Recreation Commission Volunteer Recognition Nomination Form

City of Sacramento

Submitted On:
December 18th, 2018 @ 7:02pm

Recognition Category	Youth
Please identify nominee from categories below (Select all that apply)	Individual
Individual Name	Hamza Abdul-Wali
Community Group	TUFFA/DPHGA
Non-Profit	Green Technical Education and Employment
Organization	Green Tech
Business	Green Tech
Email	[REDACTED]
Phone Number	[REDACTED]
Council District	District 2
Please include a description of the nominee's background and achievements.	Hamza joined Green Tech in September 2017 and since then he has flourished in his participation and commitment to promoting social justice, equity, and urban greening efforts in North Sacramento. He is a rising star with a charming personality and serving his community while improving his leadership skills. Some of his recent accomplishments include helping to establish the Suga' Cane Community Garden, monitor and maintain trees at Robertson Park and Nuevo Park, and maintain Del Paso Heights Community Garden. He is gaining skills in tool usage, plant identification, and civic service.

Nominator's Information

Name	Fatima Malik
Are you affiliated with any organization, business or group?	Yes
Name of Affiliated Group	City of Sac Parks and Rec D2
Email	[REDACTED]
Phone Number	[REDACTED]
Council District	District 2

Parks & Recreation Commission Volunteer Recognition Nomination Form

City of Sacramento

Submitted On:

January 9th, 2019 @ 2:32pm

Recognition Category	Community Enrichment
Please identify nominee from categories below (Select all that apply)	Individual
Individual Name	Jesse Reese
Community Group	Meadowview Neighborhood Association
Non-Profit	n/a
Organization	n/a
Business	n/a
Email	[REDACTED]
Phone Number	[REDACTED]
Council District	District 8
Please include a description of the nominee's background and achievements.	<p>Jesse has participated in the Crocker Block by Block arts engagement initiative from its inception in 2016. He was part of our community focus groups, volunteered with our block party events, participated during the community input and evaluation of Block by Block phase one, served on the panel during the community art summit panel discussion, was part of the group who developed ideas for community engagement events and continues to support by attending events that we co-create or participate in.</p> <p>Jesse is an active community member. We see him out supporting numerous events and he is always up to help out when asked. From when we first encountered him at one of the community meetings in District 8, he seemed committed, and genuinely interested in helping his community to thrive. We are proud of the connection we have made with him, and he continues to be a supporter of Crocker Block by Block.</p>

Nominator's Information

Name	Daphne Burgess
Are you affiliated with any organization, business or group?	Yes
Name of Affiliated Group	Crocker Art Museum
Email	[REDACTED]
Phone Number	[REDACTED]
Council District	District 4

Parks & Recreation Commission Volunteer Recognition Nomination Form

City of Sacramento

Submitted On:

January 3rd, 2019 @ 2:15pm

Recognition Category	Youth
Please identify nominee from categories below (Select all that apply)	Individual Non-Profit Organization
Individual Name	Tatiana Payton
Community Group	Street Soccer USA
Non-Profit	Street Soccer USA
Organization	Street Soccer USA
Business	Street Soccer USA
Email	[REDACTED]
Phone Number	[REDACTED]
Council District	Unknown
Please include a description of the nominee's background and achievements.	Tatiana has been a part of Street Soccer USA Lady Salamander Team and as of last year began helping us as a youth coach for our free after school programs and community clubs. She has become a leader on our women's team, a leader for the youth and most recently an ambassador for SSUSA and USA by playing in the Homeless World Cup this past November in Mexico City. She is currently a youth coach for us under the Americorp Up2us coaching program providing SSUSA the youth in our community a great service and empowering them through soccer.

Nominator's Information

Name	Lisa Wrightsman
Are you affiliated with any organization, business or group?	Yes
Name of Affiliated Group	Street Soccer USA
Email	[REDACTED]
Phone Number	[REDACTED]
Council District	District 3

Parks & Recreation Commission Volunteer Recognition Nomination Form

City of Sacramento

Submitted On:

December 31st, 2018 @ 6:01pm

Recognition Category	Youth
Please identify nominee from categories below (Select all that apply)	Individual
Individual Name	Page Yang
Community Group	Monsterz Inc
Non-Profit	n/a
Organization	n/a
Business	n/a
Email	[REDACTED]
Phone Number	[REDACTED]
Council District	District 8
Please include a description of the nominee's background and achievements.	<p>Page is a talented dancer and youth mentor. Currently she is principal instructor for the Monsterz Inc, hip-hop student dance group at Luther Burbank High School and has been leading the group for about 5 years now. She is a positive force when she shares her creative gifts and is a humble servant leader for hundreds of students that she has impacted. Her reach was most evident when she organized the 10 year anniversary for Monsterz Inc, which included the founders who are now members of the Jabbawockeez, who won America's Best Dance Crew in 2008, and members of each graduating class of her students since the inception of the program. The cafeteria was packed with current students, staff, families and community members from all over South Sacramento. Page's leadership cannot be understated. She honors the elders and the young while providing opportunities to bridge the generational gap.</p>

Nominator's Information

Name	Paul Willis
Are you affiliated with any organization, business or group?	No
Email	[REDACTED]
Phone Number	[REDACTED]
Council District	District 1

Parks & Recreation Commission Volunteer Recognition Nomination Form

City of Sacramento

Submitted On:
January 7th, 2019 @ 7:34am

Recognition Category	Youth
Please identify nominee from categories below (Select all that apply)	Individual
Individual Name	River Swanson
Community Group	Land Park Volunteer Corps
Non-Profit	Not applicable
Organization	Not applicable
Business	Not applicable
Email	[REDACTED]
Phone Number	[REDACTED]
Council District	District 4

Please include a description of the nominee's background and achievements.

The Land Park Volunteer Corps Board of Directors nominate River Swanson, now a high school junior. Not only does River have the highest participation rate of any young person in the history of the Corps by far - having volunteered at an astonishing 43 of our monthly park workdays - River is one of the Corps' most effective and senior Team Captains.

Team Captains play a crucial role with the Corps. They are assigned to lead teams of volunteers each month that tackle specific projects throughout William Land Park. River's teams have ranged in size from as few as five Corps volunteers to over 50 volunteers. He is by far our youngest Team Captain and he regularly and ably supervises the work of volunteers who are often three, four or even five times his chronological age. He is also regularly assigned to head up our largest project teams, many of which include high school classmates of his who are older than he is.

He is widely respected by his youth peers and is uniformly admired by his fellow Team Captains. He never turns down an assignment and he always completes his team's goals. He never complains. He finds innovative solutions to challenges that crop up. He is rock solid dependable, never overwhelmed or flummoxed and always patient with, and supportive of, his often brand new volunteers. He is mature and responsible beyond his years. As a Team Captain, he has to instruct new volunteers on how to properly trim park bushes, care for flower beds, mulch park trees, etc. He not only has all of the skills necessary to maintain park landscaping, he has the much rarer ability to instruct, supervise, motivate and inspire others working under him.

He is in every sense of the word an extraordinary leader who sets an outstanding example for those who serve on his teams. We didn't hesitate for a second to assign such responsibility to someone of such tender years. River has contributed tremendously to the restoration and preservation of William Land Park.

One final note. River has dealt with some very serious personal health challenges during his time as a Corps volunteer and Team Captain, challenges that would have discouraged others with less fortitude, patience and dedication. River has rallied to overcome his health challenges and has come back stronger than before. Frankly, he's a pretty heroic young man who serves as in inspiration to those fortunate enough to work alongside him in caring for William Land Park.

Without reservation, we wholeheartedly suggest that River Swanson be nominated to receive the City of Sacramento's Volunteer Recognition Award in the "Youth" category.

Nominator's Information

Name	Craig Powell
Are you affiliated with any organization, business or group?	Yes
Name of Affiliated Group	Land Park Volunteer Corps
Email	[REDACTED]
Phone Number	[REDACTED]
Council District	District 4