

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

KEEPING YOU IN THE LOOP



SUMMER IN THE CITY SUCCESS

This year's DJ Project sponsored summer event passed with flying colors, as over 500 attendees came through to eat & educate themselves @ Precita Park on August 2nd. Thanks to The DJ Project's MYEEP group for their promotional efforts and event production, all executed to perfection. The sunshine brought joy to children and adults alike, as you can see in the photo above.

Below and to the left attendees and volunteers smile for the camera.



THE GREAT OUTDOORS



With the therapeutic quality of nature in mind, CALMECAC counselors and youth were fortunate enough to enjoy 48 hours of beachside bliss this past August.

4 counselors and 9 youth embarked on a camping trip to Lawson's Landing, a peaceful campground located 1 1/2 hours north at the mouth of Tomales Bay. Youth displayed beautiful teamwork skills in setting up tents and preparing homestyle fajitas. There was no shortage of laughter during the day nor fright during the night- card games, soccer, and ghost stories made for a memorable trip.

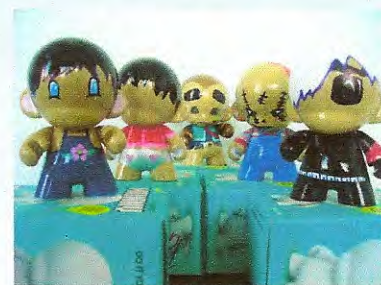


Urban Art Spotlight

Horizons's Outpatient Program has developed a following for the alternative artist. With a foundation of art therapy at its core, OP Urban Art has offered two separate classes over the past three months. The first class belongs to OP CALMECAC and will continue through the fall, the second was part of OP Bilingual *Skool of Thought* and came to a close this past August.

Substance Abuse Counselor Fernando Serrato is the creator and leader of this Street Art course, motivating students through an array of powerpoint presentations & hands-on projects.

The header of this month's Newsletter features a collection of living letters. The assignment: chose a letter from the word HORIZONS and give it an identity. The picture below captures blank 3D dolls similarly given their own unique identity.



August Progress & September Updates

Labor Day:

A U.S. federal holiday observed on the first Monday in September. Originated in 1882 by the Central Labor Union, and nationally recognized by Congress 12 years later, this holiday is a day off for the working citizens. Traditionally, Labor Day is celebrated by most Americans as the symbolic end of summer.

NEW DIRECTIONS EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (NDEP)

September 2nd marked the beginning of NDEP's new fall cycle. 10 new youth joined the program alongside 10 veteran youth, making a total of 20 participants. Workshops will take place every Tuesday from 4-6 pm in the upstairs recreational room.

Coordinator JoAnna Van Brusselen will dedicate every month of the cycle to a different employment-related theme. September's theme is Professionalism & Time Management, teaching youth how to tailor their speech and mannerism skills to the working world.

MYEEP

The application process has come and gone for the new fall MYEEP cycle which will officially begin on October 9th. 40 youth have been selected based on potential and timeliness, that is, a first-come first-serve basis. If summer cycle is any indicator of future success, hopes are high for Fall 2008.

ADMINISTRATION

After weeks of on-again off-again temporary workers, the Reception Desk and the Management Assistant position welcomes the support of Dorine Roby.

DJ PROJECT

Inhalant Prevention welcomes back Carlos Gonzales & Marco Diaz as interns in the ongoing effort to prevent

ATOD (Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug) use. An extra big thanks to Marco who assisted Maybelle with her transition to The DJ Project's Program Manager.

OUTPATIENT PROGRAM (OP)

In the blink of an eye, CALMECAC has shifted from Summer schedule to the new Fall Program. Youth will now be coming in two hours later, from 4:00-6:00 p.m., and will be congregating most days in the upstairs recreational room.

To commemorate the end of Summer Program, 4 bright youth leaders organized a Parent Presentation to exhibit their masterpieces. Works included Plaster-of-Paris masks made in gender-specific groups, as well as Munny Dolls and painted canvases from Urban Art. Youth put on a short Salsa dance routine for entertainment while families feasted on chicken & potatoes cooked by our very own Cooking & Nutrition-Class.

August 25th was the first day of program, ushering in 17 avid back-to-schoolers. On Mondays we see gender specific counseling groups; Tuesdays we continue with Xicana Art; Wednesdays is reserved for Kultura Shotz; Thursdays is for our highly acclaimed Urban Art; and Fridays is a low-key movie & recreational day.

YOUNG WOMEN ARISE PROJECT (YWAP)

Program Director Korina Bayardo, along with the support of newly appointed Program Coordinator Jackie Balingit, will lead YWAP in a counseling-oriented direction this fiscal year. In realizing the shortage of female counselors of color, we are planning to begin a training program to teach young women the skills of counseling. This counseling program will be modeled after Females Against Violence- recruiting through application, offering an intensive bi-level cycle system, and rewarding by stipend. Jackie Balingit officially begins coordination Monday September 8th, and can be contacted @ (415) 487-6721.

Upcoming Activities

Mark Your Calendars

September 4

- All-Staff Meeting

September 18

- CBHS Orientation @ Ba'Hai Center, 170 Valencia St., from 9 am-12:30 pm

September 26-28

- Horizons Retreat



BIRTHDAYS

- September 2: Jackie
- September 6: Fernando