

# Pasadena Independent School Foundation Announces Grants for Local Charities

The Pasadena Independent Schools Foundation (PISF) has announced the 16 local charities that will receive grants this school year. During the 2011-12 program year, the PISF student participants will meet with and review the charities. The students will select eight to receive a \$10,000 grant from PISF; the remaining eight will receive \$2,000 each. The majority of the \$96,000 being awarded is raised directly by the participating students.

"Those organizations that are selected to receive \$10,000 will be visited a second time during Year 2 of the program to see how the funds were expended and to see how their decisions affected the community," said Jonathan Jaffrey, PISF's board chair. "The goal of the program is to give the students a comprehensive and thorough understanding of philanthropy and nonprofit operation, learn skills in critical thinking and decision-making, and develop and build leadership skills and learn the benefits of volunteerism. PISF's ultimate goal is to have these students develop a lifelong passion for giving."

For more information about PISF, visit [www.pisf.org](http://www.pisf.org).

The 16 charities under consideration for 2011-12 grants include:

- Caltech Y — The Caltech Y's mission is to enrich Caltech student life and to challenge students to grow into responsible citizens of the world. The Caltech Y seeks to develop students' skills, ingenuity and leadership to make a positive impact through the process of planning and coordinating events. The program includes community service and volunteer opportunities, cultural and educational programs, and outdoor adventure.

- Club 21 Learning and Resource Center — The nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization has a mission to support individuals with Down Syndrome, their families, and communities so that those individuals may reach their true potential and become fully included members of society. Club 21 seeks to educate families whose children have Down Syndrome from the first diagnosis until high school graduation through educational partnerships and progressive programs, workshops, conferences and community partnerships.

- Foothill Vocational Opportunities — The organization maximizes the personal and economic potential of disabled individuals by creating meaningful employment opportunities. It provides their clients and families with the tools they need to live fuller, richer lives, bringing a sense of inclusion and dignity to a chronically marginalized and underserved group of people. Services include vocational assessment and counseling, case management, job training, job placement and job coaching.

- Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association (GLAZA) — The organization supports the Los Angeles Zoo's mission of creating an environment for recreation and discovery, inspiring an appreciation of wildlife through exhibits and education, ensuring the highest level of animal welfare, and supporting programs that preserve biodiversity and conserve natural habitat.

- La Vie Counseling — Since 1980, it has offered affordable counseling to those in need, regardless of faith, ethnic and socioeconomic background; provided quality training for future professional therapists; and supplied the community with preventive mental health education. La Vie offers individual, couples, children and fami-

ly counseling as well as play therapy and group therapy.

- Light Bringer Project — The organization provides arts education programs dedicated to supporting the success of young people in public schools. The programs are delivered to communities served by the Pasadena Unified School District, mainly the Pasadena and Altadena areas, with some programs and partnerships in effect in Los Angeles County.

- Lineage Dance Company — Based in Pasadena since 1999, Lineage Dance is a professional contemporary dance company dedicated to making a difference through the arts. The company's central mission is to provide arts programming as a social service to people of all ages and backgrounds. Lineage produces the annual Pasadena Dance Festival, A Day of Dance at Kidspace and performs in and around the community, raising support and awareness for other nonprofit organizations.

- Outward Bound Adventures — OBA provides meaningful, nature-based education that promotes positive self-development, environmental responsibility, and outdoor career exposure for urban youth. It is a youth environmental education and personal development organization in which youth learn about themselves and experience the natural world.

- Pasadena Child Development Associates — Its mission is to provide quality, family-centered, multi-disciplinary services for children with special needs using the DIR/Floortime approach, and to provide training and consultation to staff, parents and professionals about best child development practices.

- Pasadena Education Network — PEN is a nonprofit, grassroots organization designed to educate and promote parent involvement in the Pasadena Unified School District. PEN has, in the five years since its

inception, provided more than 5,000 families with the resources to become effective advocates in the educational lives of their children.

- Pasadena Meals on Wheels — The nonprofit community-based organization delivers a hot midday lunch and cold-sack supper to home-bound residents of Pasadena. Operating continuously for 44 years from the kitchen of the Pasadena Presbyterian Church, the service is available to anyone regardless of age or income; the only requirement is that participants should live in Pasadena and be incapable of purchasing and preparing their own meals.

- Pasadena Symphony & Pops — The Pasadena Youth Symphony Orchestra (PYSO) has been training tomorrow's classical musicians since 1972. The PYSO is comprised of middle school students from grades 6-9. They receive advanced instruction and challenging music opportunities through a rigorous program that emphasizes ensemble playing.

- Peace Over Violence — Founded in 1971, the organization (formerly known as the Los Angeles Commission on Assaults Against Women) is the longest standing domestic and sexual violence crisis agency in Southern California. The agency's mission is to build healthy relationships, families and communities free from sexual, domestic and interpersonal violence. Programs focus on intervention and prevention.


- Planned Parenthood — Its mission is to provide broad public access to family planning and reproductive health care through medical services, education and advocacy servicing 24 cities and a diverse population of nearly two million. In addition to their health care services, their education and outreach programs help improve health outcomes for the community and increase access to Planned Parenthood centers.

- Rose Bowl Aquatics — In its 21st year of operation, RBAC is a nonprofit

organization that provides aquatic health and recreational programs to all members of the community, regardless of their ability to pay. It specializes in lessons and competitive programs in swimming, diving and water polo; warm water exercise and therapy for those with special needs; and water aerobics, family recreation, lifeguard training, weight training and summer

youth camps.

- San Gabriel Valley Habitat for Humanity — The local chapter of the international organization builds, renovates and repairs affordable housing for low-income families in the San Gabriel Valley. SGV Habitat for Humanity partners with people from all walks of life to create decent housing for those in need.



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