



The Alhambra Rotary Adopt a Family Project fulfilled the wish lists of 131 children in the Alhambra School District. From left are President Elect Edgar Garcia-Mora, Cesar Franco, George Cheung, Santa, Megan Moloughney, Linda Wong, Janet Lees, and Denise Jaramillo.



Volunteers from Alhambra Rotary, the Alhambra School District, and the L.A. County District Attorney's office shopped for Alhambra School District students, using the children's wish lists.

Holiday wishes come true for 50 families

The Rotary Club of Alhambra partnered with The Ratkovich Company/The Alhambra, the Alhambra Unified School District, and the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office to make holiday wishes come true for 50 families.

About 131 children in the Alhambra Unified School District put together their wish lists for Santa. Volunteers from the Alhambra Rotary Club, Alhambra Unified School District, and the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office used the wish lists to shop for these children at the Alhambra Target store.

Thanks go to The Ratkovich Company/The Alhambra for its donation of \$10,000, which sponsored the Alhambra Rotary Adopt a Family Project. On December 12, Santa distributed gifts to the 50 families with the help of Rotarians.

One of the many letters that was given to Santa read:



This quote from the book *Wonder* is at the core of the Rotary Holiday Adopt a Family Project: "When given the choice between being right and being kind, choose kind."



Cal State LA students provide exercise therapy to clients from the community while conducting research on biomedical rehabilitation. (Photo: J. Emilio Flores/Cal State LA.)

Cal State LA receives NIH grant to boost research in biomedical, behavioral sciences

Cal State LA has been awarded a five-year, \$500,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to provide biomedical and behavioral sciences research opportunities to undergraduates.

The grant, from the NIH's Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, will establish the Summer Program of Research Opportunities for Undergraduate Training (SPROUT) at Cal State LA to offer first-hand research experience to students, along with a paid stipend for the summer.

"We are super excited to receive this funding because it will allow promising students the opportunity to focus their efforts on research," said Ray de Leon, who is one of the grant's principal investigators and director of the School of Kinesiology and Nutritional Science at Cal State LA. "We know our students want to do research, but a lot of them can't because they have jobs or other commitments."

Coordinated by Mr. de Leon and co-principal investigator Kimberly Morland, SPROUT will be housed in the uni-

versity's Rongxiang Xu College of Health and Human Services.

Through a 15-week summer intensive training program, undergraduate students will gain expertise and develop research skills in behavioral and biomedical sciences, including the areas of rehabilitation and child development.

Participants will learn about graduate programs and careers in research. They will also attend workshops on scientific writing, analytical techniques, data management, and data presentation. SPROUT scholars will work with professors engaged in a wide range of research.

"One SPROUT scholar may be doing research focused on helping toddlers with language disorders, while another may be researching health disparities in immigrant populations," Mr. de Leon said. "Others may be using biological assays to study exercise in humans or animal models of spinal cord injury."

For more information on the summer program or its application process, please go to the Cal State LA SPROUT's webpage.

Alhambra Rotary to award teacher Mini-Grants

Applications for the Rotary Club of Alhambra and Rotary Club's Mini-Grant Program have been distributed to teachers at every school in the Alhambra School District.

The Mini-Grant Program, started in 1991, awards a limited number of grants to teachers in the Alhambra School District up to \$200 for the purpose of implementing a project that is not paid for by the school district.

The funds are allocated to teachers' projects at a meeting of the committee through member and business donations.

"This program is in its 28th year," said Chairman Dr. David Snyder. "The Rotary Club of Alhambra has donated more than \$200,000 to this project."

Grants will be presented to the individual teachers at a school board meeting Tuesday, Feb. 19.

Other sponsors of the Mini-Grant Program are The Alhambra; Transtech Engineering; Republic Services; Kerechuk Motors Service; Spark - Linda Wong; and Beggix H. Lieberg, D.D.S.

For more information, phone Dr. Snyder at 626-282-8493.

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alhambrachamber.org

