

CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS
Council Chamber
3191 Katella Ave., Los Alamitos CA 90720

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION
AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, April 2, 2025 – 7:00 PM

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC – This Agenda contains a brief general description of each item to be considered. Except as provided by law, action or discussion shall not be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda. Supporting documents, including staff reports, are available for review at the Recreation & Community Services Department or on the City's website at www.cityoflosalamitos.org once the agenda has been publicly posted.

Each matter on the agenda, no matter how described, shall be deemed to include any appropriate motion, whether to adopt a minute motion, resolution, payment of any bill, approval of any matter or action, or any other action. Items listed as "for information" or "for discussion" may also be the subject of an "action" taken by the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission at the same meeting.

Agenda-related documents provided to a majority of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission after distribution of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission agenda packet (GC §54957.5) will be made available for public inspection at the meeting. Such documents will also be available at the Recreation and Community Services Department, 10911 Oak St. Los Alamitos, CA 90720.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Assistive Listening headphones are available and can be checked out from the Recreation and Community Services Department. If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Recreation and Community Services Department at (562) 430-1073, ext. 501. Notification at least 42 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. [28 CFR 35.102.35.104 ADA Title II]. Language translation services are available for this meeting by calling the Recreation and Community Services Department Office least 42 hours in advance

If you are unable to attend this meeting in person, you may submit comments on any agenda item or on any item not on the agenda by email to enoda@cityoflosalamitos.org with the subject line "PR&CA ORAL COMMUNICATIONS". Comments received by 3:00 p.m. the day of the meeting will be compiled, provided to the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission, and made available to the public before the start of the meeting. Staff will not read email comments at the meeting.

If, as an attendee, or a participant at this meeting, you will need special assistance beyond what is normally provided, please contact the Recreation and Community Services Department Office at (562) 430-1073, extension 501, 48 hours prior to the meeting so that reasonable arrangements may be made.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

Commissioner Wright
Commissioner Singer
Commissioner Gallagher
Commissioner Joseph
VACANT
Vice Chair Beck
Chair Bandak

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Bandak will lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

At this time, any individual in the audience may address the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts Commission and speak on any item within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. Please state if you wish to speak on an item on the Agenda. **Remarks are to be limited to not more than three minutes.**

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of Minutes for the Regular Meeting of February 5, 2025

6. STAFF REPORTS

A. Summer Concert Series

This report provides the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Commission information on Summer Concert Series.

B. Senior Programming Next Steps

This report provides the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Commission with an overview of the Senior Programming Next Steps.

C. Youth Sports Program Update

This report provides the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Commission with a review and preview of Youth Sport Programs.

D. LAVP Scholarship Award Nominations

This report allows the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Commission to select up to three award winners for the 2025 Los Alamitos Volunteer Program (L.A.V.P.) Scholarship.

7. ITEMS FROM THE RECREATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

8. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

At this time, Commissioners may report on items not specifically described on the Agenda that are of interest to the community, provided no action or discussion is taken except to provide staff direction to report back or to place the item on a future Agenda.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The Parks Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission will adjourn to Wednesday, June 4, 2025.

I hereby certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California, that the foregoing Agenda was posted at the Los Alamitos City Hall, 3191 Katella Ave. and online at

www.cityoflosalamitos.org not less than 72 hours prior to the meeting. **Dated this 27th day of March.**

Lauren Pavelec

Lauren Pavelec, Department Secretary

MINUTES OF PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS

REGULAR MEETING – WEDNESDAY, February 5, 2025

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission met in a Regular Session at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 5, 2025, in the Los Alamitos Community Center, 10911 Oak St., with Vice Chair Beck presiding.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commission Members: Gallagher, Wright, Beck, Joseph, Singer

Absent: Commission Members: Bandak

Present: Staff: Emeline Noda, Director of Recreation & Community Services/Director of Intergovernmental Affairs
Jennifer Sisoiev Recreation Manager
Jason Bruton Recreation Manager
Steve Kim, Recreation Supervisor
Samantha Kenny, Recreation Supervisor
Lauren Pavelec, Department Secretary

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chair Beck led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Vice Chair Beck opened Oral Communications. At this time, any individual in the audience may come forward to speak on any item within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts Commission. Remarks are limited to not more than five minutes per speaker.

- Dan Gallagher announced his re-election as president of the Los Alamitos Senior Club and spoke about his mission for the next year is to get more memberships and invited the commission to attend.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motioned: Singer\Seconded Gallagher

Motioned Carried: The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission approved the minutes for the Special Meeting of January 8, 2025.

6. STAFF REPORTS

A. 2024 Accomplishments

This report provided the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Commission with a summary of the 2024 Recreation & Community Services Department accomplishments.

Director of Recreation/Director of Intergovernmental Affairs Emeline Noda summarized the staff report.

B. Senior Services Master Plan Update

This report provided the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Commission with an overview of the Senior Services Master Plan.

Recreation Manager Jennifer Sisoiev summarized the report and GeroFusion consultants Dr. Melanie Mallers and Dr. Laura Zettel-Watson gave a presentation regarding the results of the survey and presented the final draft of the Senior Services Master Plan.

Commissioner Wright motioned to approve the final draft of the Senior Services Master Plan, which was seconded by Commissioner Joseph, for submission to the City Council.

ROLL CALL VOTE	
Commissioner Wright	Aye
Commissioner Gallagher	Aye
Commissioner Joseph	Aye
Commissioner Beck	Aye
Commissioner Bandak	N/A
Commissioner Singer	Nay

C. L.A.V.P Scholarships

This report provided the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Commission to consider the new 2025 Los Alamitos Volunteer Program (L.A.V.P) Scholarship criteria.

Recreation Coordinator Samantha Kenny summarized the staff report.

D. 2025 Race on the Base

This report provided the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Commission an overview of the UWS Race on the Base.

Recreation Manager Jason Bruton summarized the staff report.

7. ITEMS FROM THE RECREATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Lauren Pavelec, Department Secretary

- Reminded the commissioners of the Commission Dinner on Monday, February 10, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.
- Reminded the commissioners of the CPRS District 10 Banquet on Thursday, April 10, 2025.

Steve Kim, Recreation Supervisor

- Announced he is in the planning stages for the Summer Concert Series and will present the Commission with the final bands at the April Commission meeting.
- Announced that Sterns Park Ribbon Cutting event on February 18, 2025, at 4:00p p.m.

8. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Wright

- Commissioner Wright attended the Good Evening, Los Al event and expressed that it was a successful and well-received event.

Commissioner Singer

Nothing to report.

Commissioner Gallagher

Nothing to report.

Commissioner Joseph

- Commissioner Joseph inquired whether the city was organizing any donation drives for the Los Angeles fires.

Vice Commissioner Beck

- Vice Chair Beck acknowledged the Recreation Department for their continued hard work and dedication

Chair Bandak.

- N/A

9. ADJOURNMENT

The Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts Commission adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Attest:

William Bandak, Chair

Emeline Noda
Director of Recreation & Community Services/
Director of Intergovernmental Affairs

City of Los Alamitos

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS

COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: April 2, 2025

ITEM NUMBER: 6A

To: Chair Bandak & Members of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission

Presented By: Tin Villaluna, Recreation Supervisor

Subject: Summer Concert Series

SUMMARY

This report provides the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Commission information on Summer Concert Series.

RECOMMENDATION

Commission review and file.

BACKGROUND

The Summer Concert Series was first held in the summer of 2022 as a replacement for the Music & Movies event series. The City of Los Alamitos Recreation and Community Services Department annually held eight (8) Summer Concert Series events during the summer months. This series of free events provided the community with an evening of live music and food on select dates.

DISCUSSION

The Summer Concert Series received a warm reception from the public last year, with an average attendance of over 120 patrons at each event. The concert series featured a diverse range of musical genres and included a beer garden operated by the Los Alamitos Community Foundation. This year, there will be a few changes to the concerts. The Los Alamitos Recreation and Community Services Department is collaborating with Development Services to promote local food businesses. Additionally, the Recreation Mobile Rec will offer more activities for families to enjoy.

Each date will feature a live band with concert beginning at 6:30 p.m. and conclude at 8:00 p.m. while guests can also enjoy vendors and food vendors and activities provided by the Los Alamitos Recreation and Community Services Mobile Rec.

This year the first set of four concerts will take place on Pine Street and be called "Concerts on Pine Street" on the following dates with the bands below:

- Thursday, June 12, 2025
- Thursday, June 19, 2025
- Thursday, June 26, 2025

- Thursday, July 10, 2025

The second set of four concerts will take place alternating at Little Cottonwood Park and Orville R. Lewis Park on the following dates with the bands below:

- Thursday, July 17, 2025 at Little Cottonwood
- Thursday, July 24, 2025 at Orville R. Lewis Park
- Thursday, July 31, 2025 at Little Cottonwood Park
- Thursday, August 7, 2025 at Orville R. Lewis Park

FISCAL IMPACT

Funding for the event is provided by the Recreation and Community Services Department budget in the Special Events budget. We are currently seeking a sponsor to assist with offsetting the costs for the event. Funding from food trucks, vendors, and sponsors will further assist with offsetting the budget.

Attachment: None

City of Los Alamitos

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS

COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: April 2, 2025

ITEM NUMBER: 6B

To: Chair Bandak & Members of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission

Presented By: Gilberto Arteaga-Ceja, Recreation Coordinator

Subject: Senior Programming Next Steps

SUMMARY

This report provides the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Commission with an overview of the Senior Programming Next Steps.

RECOMMENDATION

Commission receive, discuss, approve and file.

BACKGROUND

The City of Los Alamitos Recreation and Community Services Department has concluded the Senior Services Master Plan, which serves as a guiding framework for enhancing the City's older adult programs, services, and infrastructure over the next 10 to 20 years. The plan was developed using extensive community feedback, including surveys, focus groups, and data analysis to address the evolving needs of the City's aging population.

Supporting the Master Plan's findings, the City Council unanimously approved the plan at the February 18, 2025 City Council Meeting and has approved \$50,000 in funding for instructor fees to expand free hobby-based, life-long learning programming. Additionally, the Recreation and Community Services Department has recently formalized a partnership with California State University Long Beach's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) for the City to serve as a satellite location for a few of their classes. Further, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) has approved funding with a 50% match for an alternative transportation program to assist residents, with a special focus on free transportation for the older adult community, in accessing City resources, businesses, medical appointments, and activities.

To ensure strong community engagement and accessibility to services, the City has approved the addition of a Community Resource Supervisor. This part-time position will be instrumental in visiting community members and providing direct assistance out in the field.

DISCUSSION

The following action plan serves as the initial next steps following the Senior Services Master Plan.

1. Expanding Older Adult Programming – With the recently approved \$50,000 in funding, the Recreation Staff will prioritize the expansion of programs focused on health, wellness, lifelong learning, and social engagement. The next steps include:
 - Conducting research on successful senior programming in neighboring communities.
 - Identifying and contracting instructors for new Fall 2025 classes.
 - Expanding offerings to include veteran-focused and caregiver support programs.
2. Integration of Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) Classes – The City has formalized an agreement with OLLI to host select lifelong learning courses at the Los Alamitos Community Center, increasing educational opportunities while improving the visibility of existing programs offered. The OLLI center is located within California State University Long Beach in the College of Health and Human Services. OLLI is a non-profit organization that offers non-credit courses of interest to people 50 years of age or older. There is no academic prerequisite for membership or to participate in the classes, just a desire to learn. The next steps in this partnership include:
 - A soft launch with one class in Spring 2025.
 - Launching a marketing campaign during Summer 2025.
 - Finalizing the Fall 2025 class schedule and coordinating logistics to integrate OLLI classes with the Department's programs.
3. Launch New Mobility Program – To address transportation barriers for seniors, the City is in the early stages of launching an alternate transportation program through approved grant funding from OCTA. The service will:
 - Offer on demand curb-to-curb ridesharing services within Los Alamitos.
 - Be free for older adults aged 50 and over while remaining low-cost for all other age groups.

The next steps include:

- Finalizing vendor selection, contract agreements, and operation logistics.
 - Establishing an educational campaign to assist residents in understanding how the program will function and ensure a smooth launch.
 - Identify high-priority pick-up locations and destinations to maximize efficiency and accessibility.
 - Projected to launch by 2026.
4. Community Resource Supervisor – A new part-time position will be added this year to help bridge service gaps for older residents by:
 - Providing direct counseling, advocacy, referrals, and case management.
 - Conduct home visits as needed to assess needs and provide recommendations.
 - Organizing and facilitating support groups and educational workshops.
 - Maintains relationships with community organizations and non-profits representing the interests of the community.
 5. Community Engagement and Outreach – To ensure all residents are aware of new services and programming, the City will:
 - Continue expanding marketing efforts.

- Provide educational training to assist seniors in accessing online resources.
- Strengthen partnerships with local organizations to improve program participation.

The City seeks feedback from the Commission on:

- Additional program suggestions to align with community interests.
- Hobby-based, lifelong learning topic recommendations.
- Transportation considerations to ensure accessibility meets senior needs.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funding for the expansion of low-cost or free programming has been approved by the City Council in February 2025, with \$50,000 allocated for new instructors. The partnership with OLLI will provide additional instructors at no cost to the City. Grant funding has been secured from OCTA to implement the alternative transportation program at a 50% match. The part-time Community Resources Supervisor has been budgeted through the Recreation and Community Services Department's annual budget.

Attachment: None

City of Los Alamitos

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS

COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: April 2, 2025

ITEM NUMBER: 6C

To: Chair Bandak & Members of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission

Presented By: Angel Hernandez, Recreation Coordinator

Subject: Youth Sports Program Update

SUMMARY

This report provides the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Commission with a review and preview of Youth Sport Programs.

RECOMMENDATION

Commission receive and file.

BACKGROUND

The City of Los Alamitos Recreation and Community Services Department offers a wide variety of Youth Sport programs year-round for children ranging from the ages 2-14 years old. Youth Sport program offerings vary from season to season and are strategically placed to meet demand. Through these youth sports programs, participants can improve their health through physical activity, develop their athleticism, and refine their social, teamwork, and leadership skills.

DISCUSSION

Youth Volleyball League – The Los Alamitos Recreation and Community Services Department offers a Co-ed Youth Volleyball League on a yearly basis for participants in fourth through eighth grade. Teams are coached by Recreation staff in which participants are taught the skills and techniques to help prepare them for success on gamedays. Practices this past season were at the Los Alamitos Joint Forces Training Base Gym with games being held on Fridays at the Oak Middle School Gym. The Fall 2024 Youth Volleyball League had a total of 70 participants across the Set and Spike Divisions.

The Co-ed Youth Volleyball League has gained great popularity within the Los Alamitos community with parents consistently inquiring about volleyball programs throughout the year. Due to the growth of the program, the Youth Volleyball League will be offered in the Fall of 2024 and as well as the Spring of 2025.

In addition to the Youth Volleyball League, a Bump Clinic is offered for grades first through third. This program is six weeks long and is designed as a feeder program to introduce younger participants to the sport of volleyball in efforts to build them up for the Youth Volleyball

League.

Youth Basketball League – The Los Alamitos Co-ed Youth Basketball League in partnership with the Jr. Clippers is catered to grades kindergarten through eighth grade and had a total of 85 participants in the 2025 Winter Season. The Los Alamitos Youth Basketball League saw a bump in the road following covid with only 31 registrations in 2021. Since then, the program has slowly begun to build back up with 75 registrations in 2023 and now 85 registrations in the most recent season.

As an improvement to the program this past season, Recreation Coordinator, Angel Hernandez, sent out weekly recap emails to all participants. These weekly recaps highlighted the scores from the previous gameday, included gameday photos, and the league standings. These emails were created with the intention to keep participants informed and excited about the program on a week-to-week basis.

With increased marketing efforts such as school banners, email blasts, a press release, utilizing the City newsletter, and connections with the Los Alamitos Unified School District, the Los Alamitos Recreation and Community Services Department is hopeful to see the program increase for the 2026 Winter Season.

Youth Track and Field – The Co-ed Youth Track and Field program is offered in the Spring annually for grades first through eighth. Participants are coached by Recreation Staff and are exposed to different events in track and field, and basic cross-country techniques. Events include sprinting events, distance events, the softball throw and long jump. On the last day of the program, participants are given the opportunity to compete in a special track meet.

The Los Alamitos Youth Track and Field program has been increasing in popularity since it's return in 2022. The 2022 program had 37 registrations, and the current 2025 season has a total of 132 registrations. Similar to the Youth Basketball League, weekly recaps will be sent out to the participants highlighting moments from each session.

Summer Sports Camps (New!) – The Los Alamitos Recreation and Community Services Department offers a variety of youth sports camps throughout the summer for ages 5 – 12 years old. New this year, summer camps will take place at the Oak Middle School fields and the Oak Middle School gym as opposed to at Little Cottonwood Park. Summer sports camps are being offered to the public and as well as to Summer Day Camp participants. Summer Day Camp Participants may join the Summer Sports Camps as an add-on to their Summer Day Camp registration. This was implemented this year to assist in the expansion of youth sports in the summer. The Youth Sports Summer Camps that will be offered include soccer, football, track and field, basketball, and volleyball. All summer camps are Monday through Friday, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Youth Sports Programs (Five Weeks) – The Los Alamitos Recreation and Community Services Department offers a variety of sports programs throughout the year that are five weeks long each. These five-week sports programs change seasonally and include Parent & Me (Ages 2-3 years old), Jr. Pee Wee (4-6 years old), and Pee Wee (7-9 years old) programs.

Sports that are offered include football, baseball, T-ball, soccer, and basketball. Mini Superstars, a program that covers soccer, football, and basketball, and that is specifically for ages two to three years old is also offered. Each session is 45 minutes long and provides participants with an opportunity to refine their skills in a clinic-style format.

FISCAL IMPACT

Expenditures allocated for Youth Sports are funded through the City's General Fund from the Recreation and Community Services Department.

Attachment: 1. photo 1
 2. photo 2
 3. photo 3
 4. photo 4
 5. photo 5



1/6 - 3/29

Los Alamitos

Recreation & Community Services

Creating Quality of Life

BASKETBALL LEAGUE

GRADES K-8

RES. \$160/NON-RES. \$165

***Practices once a week w/games on Saturdays**

Location: Oak Middle School

**For more info, scan the QR code or
visit losalrecreation.myrec.com**



SUMMER SPORT CAMPS

Los Alamitos
Recreation & Community Services
Creating Quality of Life



SOCCER CAMP

Pass the ball and score some goals! This week-long camp will teach future stars the fundamentals of soccer and help players to improve their skill level. Taught by staff with high school soccer experience, players will focus on ball control, shooting, and player movement. *Location: Oak Middle School Field (10821 Oak St., Los Alamitos, CA)*

Code: SU25337 / Mon - Fri. / June 9 - June 13 / 9:30 - 11:30a / 5-12 yrs. / Res. \$110 / Non. Res \$115



TRACK & FIELD CAMP



It's time to hit the track running! Led by staff with college and high school track experience, join us for a week-long camp where participants will be introduced to a variety of distance events, sprinting events, long jump, and the softball throw. *Location: Oak Middle School Field (10821 Oak St., Los Alamitos, CA)*

Code: SU25338 / Mon - Fri. / June 16 - June 20 / 9:30 - 11:30a / 5-12 yrs. / Res. \$110 / Non. Res \$115



FOOTBALL CAMP

Football season is right around the corner! At this camp, staff with college and high school football experience will teach the fundamental skills of flag football, which will include passing, catching, throwing, and defense. Sessions will utilize clinic-style drills and fun skill based games.

Location: Oak Middle School Field (10821 Oak St., Los Alamitos, CA)

Code: SU25339 / Mon - Fri. / June 23 - June 27 / 9:30 - 11:30a / 5-12 yrs. / Res. \$110 / Non. Res \$115



BASKETBALL CAMP



Make the ball go swish! This week-long camp is designed to teach basic basketball skills in a fun clinic style environment. Coaches from our youth basketball league will go over dribbling, shooting, passing, defense, and other skills necessary for the game. *Location: Oak Middle School Gym (10821 Oak St., Los Alamitos, CA)*

Code: SU25340 / Mon - Fri. / July 14 - July 18 / 9:30 - 11:30a / 5-12 yrs. / Res. \$110 / Non. Res \$115



VOLLEYBALL CAMP

Bump, Set, Spike! Come learn the skills and techniques of volleyball or come sharpen your skills at the Youth Volleyball Camp. Participants will engage in various drills and activities led by coaches from our youth volleyball league to help them develop the skills needed to excel in the sport. *Location: Oak Middle School Gym (10821 Oak St., Los Alamitos, CA)*

Code: SU25341 / Mon - Fri. / July 21 - July 25 / 9:30 - 11:30a / 5-12 yrs. / Res. \$110 / Non. Res \$115





WEEK 8 RECAP

PEE WEE SCORES

GOLD LEOPARDS (28) V. SPEED TIGERS (21)

LIONS(24) V. LIGHTNING (21)

ALL STAR SCORES

HAWKS (34) V. PUPPIES (29)

PUPPIES (27) V. DRAGONS (12)

DREAM TEAM SCORES

COBRAS (36) V. FLAMING LEGENDS (28)

ALPHAS (28) V. JAGUARS (13)





City of Los Alamitos

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: April 2, 2025

ITEM NUMBER: 6D

To: Chair Bandak & Members of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission

Presented By: Samantha Kenny

Subject: LAVP Scholarship Award Nominations

SUMMARY

This report allows the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Commission to select up to three award winners for the 2025 Los Alamitos Volunteer Program (L.A.V.P.) Scholarship.

RECOMMENDATION

The commission receives, considers, selects nominee(s), and files.

BACKGROUND

The Los Alamitos Volunteer Program (L.A.V.P.) provides \$1,500 annually for up to three enrolled volunteers. The award is designed to recognize volunteers in excellent standing with the program and give them the opportunity for financial assistance to further their education and extracurricular activities. Three scholarships worth \$500 will be awarded.

The City of Los Alamitos Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts Commissioners receive, consider and select the three recipients each year. The recipients are then awarded their scholarship checks at a Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts Commission meeting.

Previously, the L.A.V.P. scholarship was available only to Juniors and Seniors in high school. Applicants were required to meet additional criteria, including a minimum of 100 hours of service, two years in the program, a 3.0 minimum grade point average, and a letter of recommendation. Most volunteers in the program are middle school students, and these qualifications significantly limit the number of applicants. With the approval of the Los Alamitos Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts Commissioners, the scholarship has been expanded and modernized. It now includes applicants aged 11-17, allowing a broader range of participants to apply. Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts Commissioners select all award winners. Presenting the 2025 L.A.V.P. scholarship below.

DISCUSSION

2025 LAVP Scholarship:

Awards: (3) \$500

Submission Type: Google Forms

Opening Date: February 16

Closing Date: March 30

Award Selection: April 2, 2025, Commission Meeting
Award Presentation: June 4, 2025, Commission Meeting

The scholarship is open to all Los Alamitos Volunteer Program participants. A minimum of 40 volunteer hours completed, and a 3.0 minimum grade point average is required. Applicants must create a 3-minute short-form video or a three-page, double-spaced essay on one of the following themes:

1. Self-Discovery through Creativity

- Completing a creative project, such as a painting, a song, or written work, provides a sense of achievement. This builds self-efficacy—the belief in one’s ability to succeed. As students develop their creative skills, they also begin to recognize their potential. It serves as a process of personal exploration and a tool for building self-confidence.
- *Question:* How has your involvement in a creative project contributed to your self-confidence?

2. Environmental Conservation

- Student involvement can promote a culture of sustainability within schools and communities. Initiatives such as recycling, tree planting, or energy-saving can spread a collective purpose and demonstrate how everyday actions can contribute to environmental conservation.
- *Question:* What environmental initiatives have you implemented to contribute to sustainability and environmental conservation?

3. Leadership

- Taking on a leadership role in school clubs, sports teams, or community service allows students to learn to manage responsibilities, foster a sense of belonging for themselves and others, solve problems under pressure, and more. As students practice these skills, they develop a mindset that supports ongoing personal development, which builds overall confidence.
- *Question:* What leadership roles have you undertaken, and what skills or experience have you gained? How did you cultivate a sense of belonging and inclusion within the group you led?

The recipients will be selected by the commissioners at the April 2, 2025, commission meeting. Individual commissioners will submit nominations, and then, after the discussion, the final votes will be cast.

The recipients will be notified on April 7, 2025, and invited to the June 4, 2025, meeting of the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts Commission to receive their checks.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds will be acquired by the Recreation and Community Services Department Scholarship

Fund, sponsored by Memorial Care Miller Children's and Women's Hospital Long Beach.

Attachment: None