



# LONG BEACH CORAL YOUTH INSTITUTE



525 East 7th Street  
Long Beach CA 90813  
Phone: (562)624-5474  
Fax: (624-2379)  
Website:  
www.lbcoral.org  
E-mail Address  
bob.cabeza@lbymca.org  
les.peters@lbymca.org  
julia.martin@lbymca.org  
daniel.haworth@lbymca.org

Newsletter created by  
Phyras Men, Class of 2003

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JANUARY 2004

## Big News!

**HipHopology Dance Performance is March 13, 2004, Saturday  
at 7:00pm at CORAL in St. Luke's Main Hall. Don't Miss It!**

See article inside for more information on this talented group of teens



CORAL is a project of the YMCA of Greater Long Beach.  
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By: Leonard Salcido

Happy New Year! The year 2004 is finally here, but it's also time to get back to school and hit those books. Finals are coming up so it's time to leave all that partying behind back in 2003, but did every teen ring in the new year getting wild, causing a big comotion and disturbing the neighboring elders? When it comes to new years, most adults jump to the conclusion that all teens are out to party and get drunk. However, this is

wrong. It's a big misconception because not all of us are out to cause problems. So is this another discrimination against teens?

Believe it or not, many of us take advantage of the new year to spend it with friends and family, while the rest of us sit on our rooms and celebrate the new year with MTV. I asked some local teens on what they did this past New Years Eve and they were contrary to popular belief



"I stayed at home and baby-sat my little brother. I was also watching MTV!"  
- Fonia Tith '03



"I spent the lovely evening with my beautiful girlfriend Carolyn at Skyline!"  
- John Sanders '03



"I set off fireworks and topped the night off with refreshing Martinelli's Apple Cider!"  
- Christa Kromrey '03



"I went out with my cousins from Washington and my date to Downtown Disney."  
- Sophy Nuth '03

Well it seems like many teens this year just spent a lot of time at home. Some teens had dinner with family while others sat on the couch with their eyes glued to the television. All in all, their New Years was safe and relaxing.



Congratulations to Annie Ung for being chosen to sit on the Mayor's Commission on Youth.

She will be representing the 7th district.

"CONGRATS ANNIE!"

# QUICKSILVER

By Veronica Vega, Class of 2003



On December 16, 2003, about 30 of our CORAL Youth Institute members got the opportunity to visit the Roxy Quiksilver Company in Orange County. Everyone who participated in this trip got to experience the life of a clothing company and the employees, who made their occupation seem extremely fun. Another great quality to Quiksilver is that their clothes target any age, from toddlers to teens as

well as adults and seniors.

Their clothing and apparel designs are some of the most creative work of arts ever seen. At Quiksilver we got to see the same technology that we use in the institute, but in a more artistic and fashionable form. As we walked through the company building, there were countless boxes of clothing that was this year's new fashions or alterations of last year. We got to see the new designs that will be going into the market for spring, summer, and winter of 2004. There are going to be many shades of blue for this year.

As for Roxy, the girl version of Quiksilver, we learned how they have their palates of colors in which to choose from to make the clothing they design. Many of those colors were fun colors that will be in style for this year. We really had fun visiting a company that uses technology and art to create fashion. At the end of the trip we thanked the people at Roxy and Quiksilver who made it possible for our CORAL Youth Institute to visit the company. We also got a box of goodies that made the trip extra special at the end.

## CORAL Holiday Party



By Jonathan Sanchez, Class of 2003

This was the week before Christmas,  
and the CORAL kids were still up partying around.  
The CORAL Christmas party was the talk of the town.  
Here at the institute is where happiness was found.  
People old and young, tall and short  
were having a blast.  
Dancing to beats both slow and fast.  
Listening to old Christmas carols played from a guitar.  
Taking us away to another land afar.  
This all had to end by the end of the night.  
But one thing was missing  
And without it this celebration wouldn't be right.  
It wasn't the gifts; it wasn't the joy,  
and definitely not the spirit.  
Even though we were from different backgrounds  
We all got along.  
After decorating the tree what was missing was found.



The CORAL Holiday party was a total success in my opinion. We danced, sang, and most of all we had fun. It didn't matter that it was a week away from Christmas. The Holiday spirit was still in the air. We decorated the Christmas tree with handmade ornaments and Christmas lights. The party went on 'til 6:30. It was a little short, but it was the thought of the staff to throw a party for us that counted. All in all, I loved the party and most of all spending time with friends and having a good time.



# FINALS

## STRESS TO SUCCESS?



By Prumsodun Ok, Class of 2003

Winter break ends and students try to re-familiarize themselves with the clamor of school bells. With the end of every school day grows anxiety and stress. No more time for sleeping in or parties now because midterm finals appear right around the corner. The word "Finals" has many connotations among the student body.

There are those that treat it as a pivotal moment of life. They form study groups and eat up study guides and books. After all, that .7% does make a difference between an A and B. As if the letter grading system is the most accurate form of student evaluation and that people with B's don't get into college. You wouldn't want to dread flipping burgers at the local hamburger stand for the rest of your life because of that B.

Sound like you? Chill out! Finals are just like any other tests. They are not accurate measures of your intelligence and yes, despite popular legend, you can still get into college with that B. So take a break from that cramming and go make dirt angels or play PS2. Studying is good, but make sure to take little breaks here and there.

Not everyone is crazy about their grades. A portion of the student body knows their priorities. They moderately study their weak subjects. They know when their eyes get heavy it's time for a break. This group of students accepts the reality of being human. And no, humans do not run on Energizer batteries (even though appearances can be deceiving at times). Deprivation of sleep is unhealthy and health is most important

in the prime years of growth. Students of this category tend to see bigger pictures in life and know there is more to life than a couple of letters on a piece of paper.

On the other hand, there are those that don't care enough. They are oblivious to test dates and sometimes do not even care at all. That's scary. Sure, the system has its glitches here and there, but remember that you're living in it. So if you're expecting a comfortable life in the future, decent grades won't hurt. A little bit of study time would help too. After all, study sessions don't have to last four hours; just make sure you are comfortable with the material.

So how are you going to study for finals? Study groups? Four hours a day or thirty minutes? Breaks or no breaks? Well, whatever it is, good luck.

# W O C G H I P H O P O L O G Y H I M E R C

## to Showcase Performance Saturday, March 13th, 2004 at 7:00pm



MARYANN DAVIS PHYRAS MEN JOHN SANDERS CINDY TRAN  
VANNARY SAN SHERLYN HILARIO ATALAE CLAY RYAN THORNE

By Phyras Men, Class of 2003

Here we go again! Only this time, with a hip hop style. Sherlyn Hilario and Phyras Men have been given the opportunity to create a show filled with slick, chaotic moves dancing to outrageous beats. Auditions were held last October in search for the most talented and energetic teens to create a hip hop dance team who will showcase their performance mid-March. It was finalized to ten performers to represent their peers and give it their all during their performance. Those that were chosen will be given new outfits for the team to perform in and it will be theirs to keep!

For the past three months, Sherlyn Hilario, Charithy Math, Cindy Nguyen, Phyras Men, Vannary San, John Sanders, Maryann Davis, and Ryan Thorne have been through countless hours of hardcore rehearsals to finish about seven different routines. Not only will the team perform their routines on stage opening night, but special guest dancers will also debut their talents and collaborate with members from the team. This night will be filled with a lot of crazy steps inspired by swing dance, the lindy hop, Irish tap dancing, pop and lock, and of course, straight hip hop! This is a show you don't want to miss because the audience will be part of the show and prizes will be distributed to the winner of a contest that will take place during part two of the show.

**HipHopology** will be dancing at the CORAL school sites and local events to show off for the community and talk to elementary-aged youth about high school, dance, and life as a teenager. If you are interested in booking them for your local event please call their agent Julia Martin at 562-624-5466 to schedule a time.

# CORAL CALENDER

**ATTENTION: CLASS OF '04 APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILIABLE IN BOB S OFFICE AS OF FEBURARY 2, 2004. LIMIT FIVE APPLICATIONS PER ALUMNI!**

Y.I. Applications available in Bob's office	02/02/04	Y.I. Alumni may take five
ALL applications due to Bob	03/02/04	
Y.I. New Class Meeting #1 (Parents are required to Attend)	03/31/04	Alumni Welcome
Y.I. New Class Meeting #2	04/22/04	Alumni Welcome
Y.I. New Class Meeting #3	05/25/04	Discuss Wilderness Retreat
Wilderness Retreat	06/14/04-06/18/04	5 days, 4 Nights
First Day of Summer Y.I. 2004	06/22/04	At CORAL
Y.I. Graduation Class of 2004	08/06/04	Alumni REQUIRED to attend



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