

HEALTHY ACTIVE KIDS DAY

Angel Blanco, Class of 2006

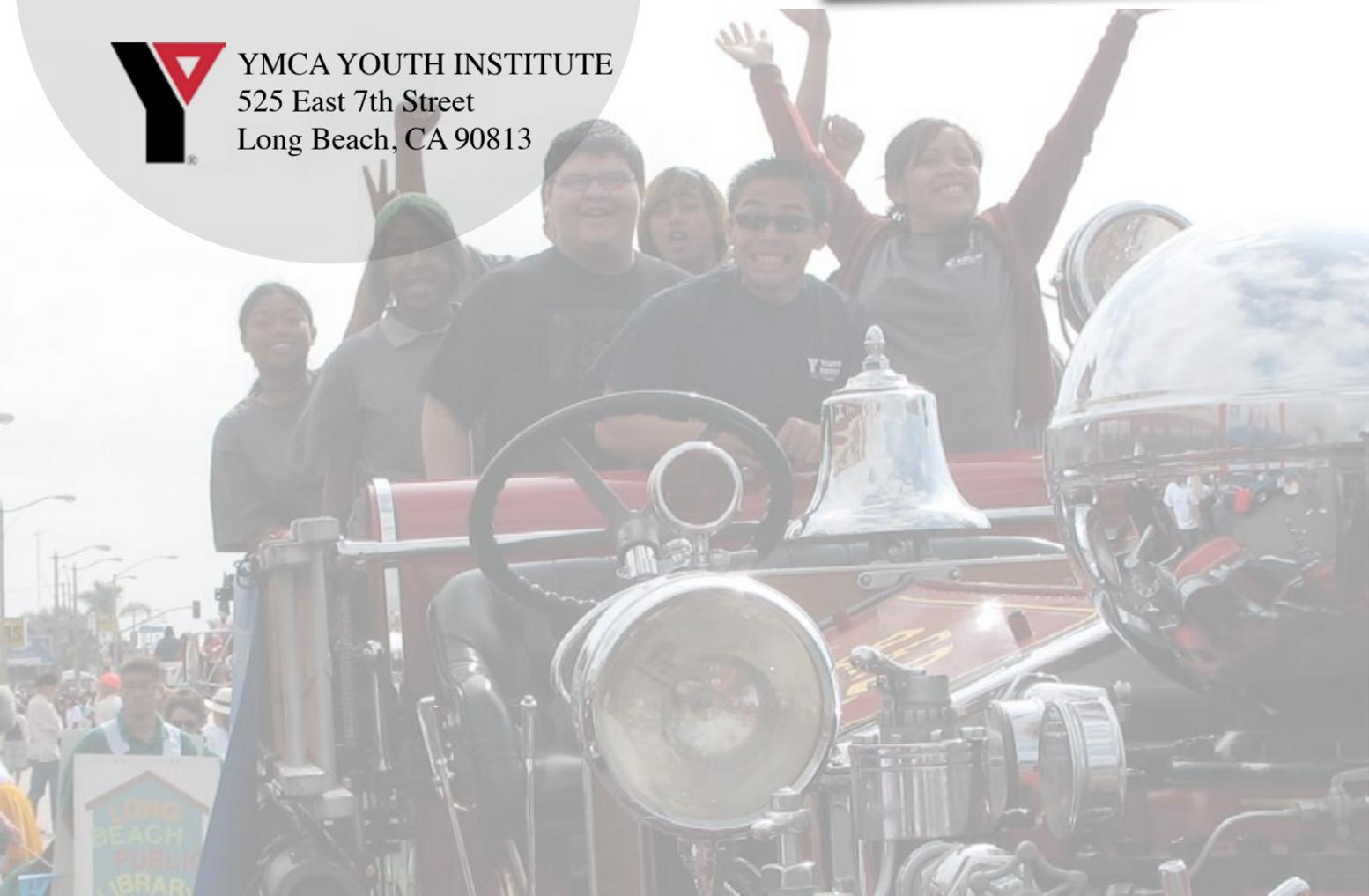
Healthy Active Kids Day is a time where children and their families gather to become more active in many ways. It gives parents time to spend with their kids through various activities ranging from martial arts to dance and aerobics. This year, demonstrations included karate, zumba, and Aztec dance and music. Free, healthy snacks were handed out as well.

Aside from this, there were a variety of booths representing many different companies around the city. The most fun, however, were the booths that the YMCA Youth Institute students were in charge of. We set up an arts and crafts booth where children (and adults) made masks and bracelets, a fishing booth where children got neat prizes, a reading booth, along with a face painting booth.

The event came to its peak when we raffled off an iPod Nano. It was so nice to see all of the smiling faces on that day.



YMCA YOUTH INSTITUTE
525 East 7th Street
Long Beach, CA 90813



DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BRANCH

LONG BEACH YMCA YOUTH INSTITUTE NEWSLETTER

ONE MORE TIME!

Leslie Barnes, Class of 2008

The **YMCA Youth Institute Class** of 2008 breaks history at the start: it is the largest class, with a total of eighty students accepted. Although the newcomers seem to be open for the experience headed their way, there is still a certain shyness that can be seen in the room. I compared them to my class, Class of 2006, and decided that we were much more comfortable with each other than the new class. However, it won't be long before they give in to the crazy and wonderful world of the YMCA Youth Institute!

stay in the moment, complete assigned tasks – stay productive! If this is done, the summer should be filled with accomplishments and fun. I know the summer will be a pivotal moment in the lives of the new class; it has changed my life and personality for a fact. I do not procrastinate, do not complain, and understand that things are what I make of them.

There is one new class meeting left before the start of the summer. Afterwards, they can look forward to the life-changing wilderness retreat and hours upon hours before a computer. They will learn how to navigate through our new computers, digital media software, and HTML codes as well as through their lives and dreams. My advice is to

WANT SOME MORE?

- TECHNO-LOGIC
- Only in San Francisco!
- Healthy Active Kids Day
- Upcoming Events



ADDRESS

525 East 7th Street
Long Beach, CA 90813
Phone: (562) 624-5474
Fax: (562) 624-2379

WEBSITE

www.lbymcayi.org

CONTACTS

bob.cabeza@lbymca.org
les.peters@lbymca.org
brian.mendez@lbymca.org
leonard.salcido@lbymca.org

phyras.men@lbymca.org
leonel.gonzalez@lbymca.org
jonathan.gray@lbymca.org

TECHNO-LOGIC

Zoila Fabian, Class of 2007

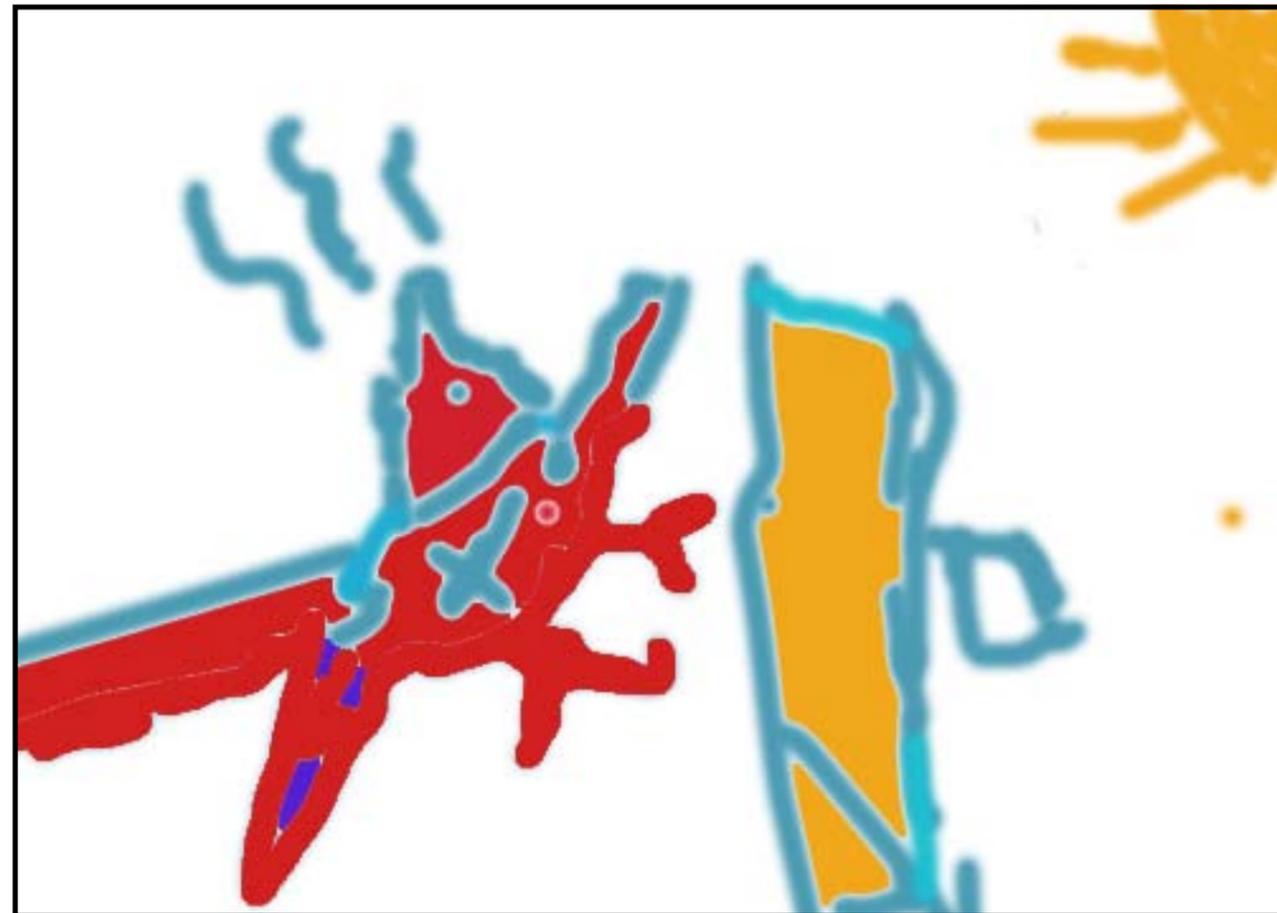
Cesar Chavez Elementary School sits in the heart of downtown Long Beach. It is surrounded by the city's largest buildings and boasts one of the newest campuses. During the month of May, I had the chance to practice and improve my technology skills with kindergarten students from its YMCA/WRAP program.

I was a bit unsure about working with such young people at first since I was used to being around people my age and older. However, I was reassured before our first encounter by Prumsodun Ok, the new Youth Institute Coordinator, that it was going to be a blast. "Alright, I know they're young but they're people too. Give them the respect and care that you would want. Make sure you communicate effectively, share passionately, and be friendly. Smile, smile, smile! I hear they're super cute!" he said. And they are!

We worked with about twenty students that were easily excited by computers. They learned the basic operations – where the power button was located, how to find an application on the dock and open it, double-clicking, quitting out of programs, shutting down – through fun activities such as self-portraiture on PhotoBooth, painting and illustration using Adobe Photoshop Elements, and playing games on PBSKids. I could tell that they really enjoyed their time. My favorite part was watching them help each other. Also, every time we got ready to go they ran up to hug us, asking for high-fives.

There were many joyful moments during this technology training and I am happy to see them learn with

great speed and confidence. I know that this experience has benefited me just as much as it has for them. I was sad to see their disappointed faces when they found out we would not meet again but I am happy and sure they will be sharing their new knowledge with others.



SINGING SONGBIRD BY MAXIMO



TIGER BY ANDREW



UPCOMING EVENTS

- MAY 8 ANNUAL SENIOR DINNER**
- MAY 28 NEW CLASS MEETING**
- JUN 6 2ND ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL AFTERSCHOOL FILM FESTIVAL**
- JUN 16 - 20 WILDERNESS RETREAT**

ONLY IN SAN FRANCISCO!

Alexis Walker, Class of 2006

freely around Fisherman's Wharf and were later split into groups for a city-wide scavenger hunt. Given one disposal camera, we had to make our way by foot and public transportation to the major landmarks of San Francisco. A requirement was that everyone in the group must be in the picture so we had to ask strangers for help.

I learned how to keep my eyes and ears open during this trip, learned to use wise judgment to keep safe in an unknown city. But lastly, I learned that to have fun all I need is the company of my friends.



During our trip to the Bay Area, we visited many companies such as Apple Computers, EA Games, and How Toons as well as with Ludon Lee of Grapple Entertainment and Susan Walters of the California Emerging Technology Fund. This gave us the chance to see their innovative work and ask questions that otherwise would not have been answered. It inspired, opened up many career paths for all of the Youth Institute students present.

My favorite part was having the chance to be an adult in the city. We had the opportunity to walk