



Fall 2012

# BOYS REPUBLIC & Report

## Della Robbia® Wreath Program Creates Year-Round Student Jobs

■ Sugar Ray Leonard: **Boxing legend is Honorary 2012 Della Robbia Wreath Campaign Chairman**

Four years after the economy went into its worst tailspin since the Great Depression, our national unemployment level is still an uncomfortably high 7.8 percent. But here at Boys Republic we feel fortunate — our students' unemployment rate is close to 0.0.

This industriousness is due, in large part, to a broad offering of self-help vocational opportunities at the school. Food services, masonry, print shop, agriculture and landscaping, and cabinet-making all help disadvantaged students learn important work-related habits, while also giving them a chance to contribute to their own care — a reinforcement of one of Boys Republic's core values, "Nothing Without Labor." Central to Boys Republic's philosophy is the idea of giving students an opportunity to earn self-esteem and learn the means toward a better life through meaningful work. The Della Robbia wreath work experience program provides a good example.

While most of us are just now

*(Please turn to page 2)*





## Annual Della Robbia Wreath Campaign Provides Work Experience for Disadvantaged Teens

*(Continued from page 1)*

beginning to think about Christmas, students at Boys Republic are nearing the final stages of a year-long preparation for their 89th annual holiday wreath campaign

It starts in January. Weekend work parties of boys and staff go into fields, forests and orchards to collect numerous varieties of seed pods, nuts, cones and other natural, dried materials. Then during the week, each sackful is sorted, cleaned, drilled and wired. The cones and pods are then wired together into decorative arrays and stored in boxes and bins in an old gymnasium transformed into a wreath barn on the agency's Chino Hills campus. Because of the fresh materials they contain, the final hand-assembly, packaging and shipment of the finished wreaths is limited to a period of only a few weeks at the start of the holiday season. Yet each Della Robbia wreath represents a full year of effort by Boys Republic students and the professional wreath staff that works with them.

The annual Della Robbia wreath project is first and foremost a work experience program. Troubled teens learn, perhaps for the first time in their lives, to show up for

**WREATH PRODUCTION:** *For many — if not most — of Boys Republic's students, the annual Della Robbia wreath project is their first experience working in a production environment. On the job, they learn good work habits, such as: showing up for work on-time, working cooperatively with others, taking care of tools and equipment, accepting direction from a supervisor and applying oneself to the task at hand.*



work on-time, to attend to the task at-hand, to cooperate with co-workers, and take direction from a supervisor — all good work habits that prepare teens for the world of responsible and productive adulthood.

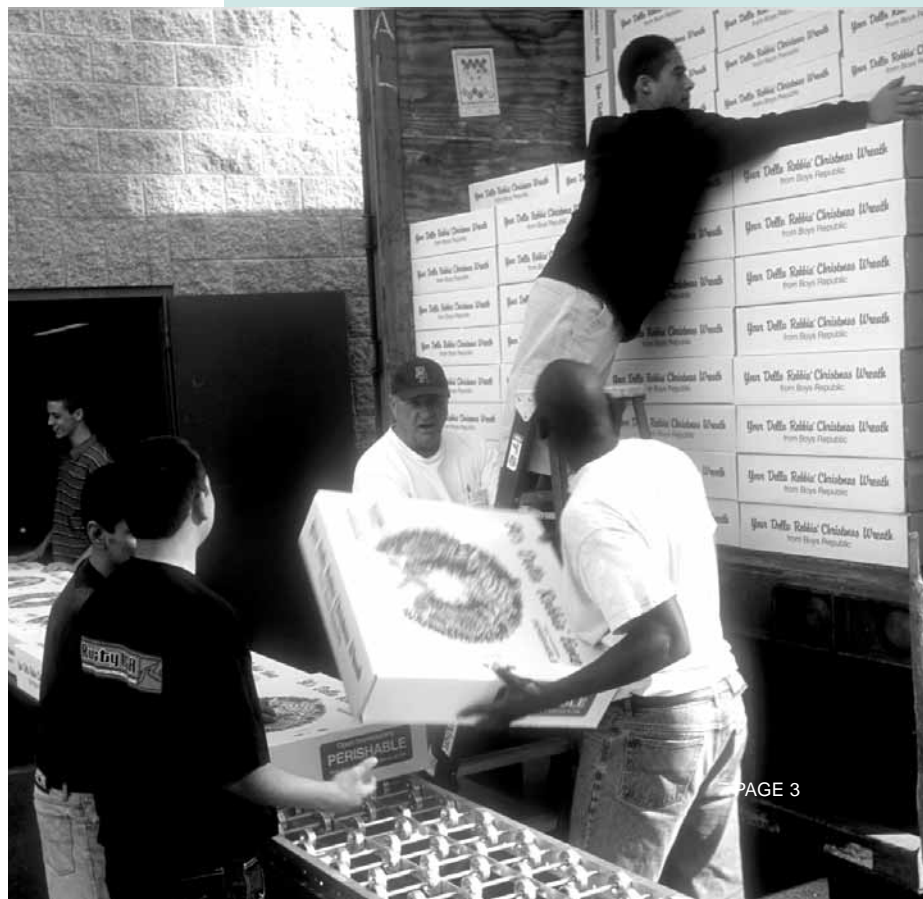
### **Sugar Ray Leonard is Honorary Chairman of the 2012 National Campaign**

The Della Robbia wreath program is one of the oldest and largest self-help enterprises undertaken by any child-care agency in the nation. Its accomplishments would never have been possible, however, without the help of an involved community of supporters. This year, media personality and former champion boxer Sugar Ray Leonard is the latest in a long line of prominent Americans who for more than 50 years have added luster and prestige to the annual fund-raising effort. In agreeing to fulfill the role of Honorary National Della Robbia Wreath Campaign Chairman, Mr. Leonard has appeared in literature and advertising promoting the wreath sale.

Enormously popular around the world, Sugar Ray Leonard’s sincere, charismatic personality coupled with his ring experience as a world champion — he won world titles in five different weight categories — has led to success in television as a boxing analyst. Last November, Mr. Leonard gave a stirring talk to Boys Republic students encouraging them to make good decisions.



*HUMOR BREAK: Our motto is “Nothing Without Labor,” but it’s not all work. Above, student workers take a break to enjoy lively banter with pop culture humorist Charles Phoenix. Phoenix was on-site, last year, to film an entertaining documentary, “Charles Phoenix and the Legend of the Della Robbia Wreaths.” You can still see it on youtube.com and at Boys Republic’s Facebook page.*





**Ardrea Della Robbia**  
*created this 500-year-old terra cotta shrine depicting the Madonna and child. Its unique fruit and flower border adorning the sculpture's perimeter inspired Margaret Fowler in her creation of Boys Republic's "Della Robbia" wreath in 1923.*

**In Her Own Words:**  
*"The wreaths are like bas-relief in fruits and greenery, and aside from their beauty and worthy use, they are typical of California in her lavish abundance." circa 1928*



**Margaret B. Fowler**

# *Anatomy of a Della Robbia*<sup>®</sup>

## **PINE CONES**

Cones from a variety of pine and fir trees are used in every wreath, some gathered at altitudes of up to 10,000 feet in the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

## **COTTON BURR**

These delicate star-shaped pods are gleaned from the fields of the San Joaquin Valley after the cotton crop has been picked.

## **EVERGREEN BOUGHS**

Supple noble fir evergreens are harvested fresh in the forests Northern California and Oregon. No trees are harmed in the pruning process.

## **LIQUIDAMBAR**

A member of the witch hazel family, liquidambar trees grow in great profusion throughout Southern California. These spiny seed casings are gathered early in the year.

## **PLUMOSUM**

Named for their feather-like plumes, these novel cones are native to Israel and South Africa.

## **WINESAP APPLES & FRESH LEMONS**

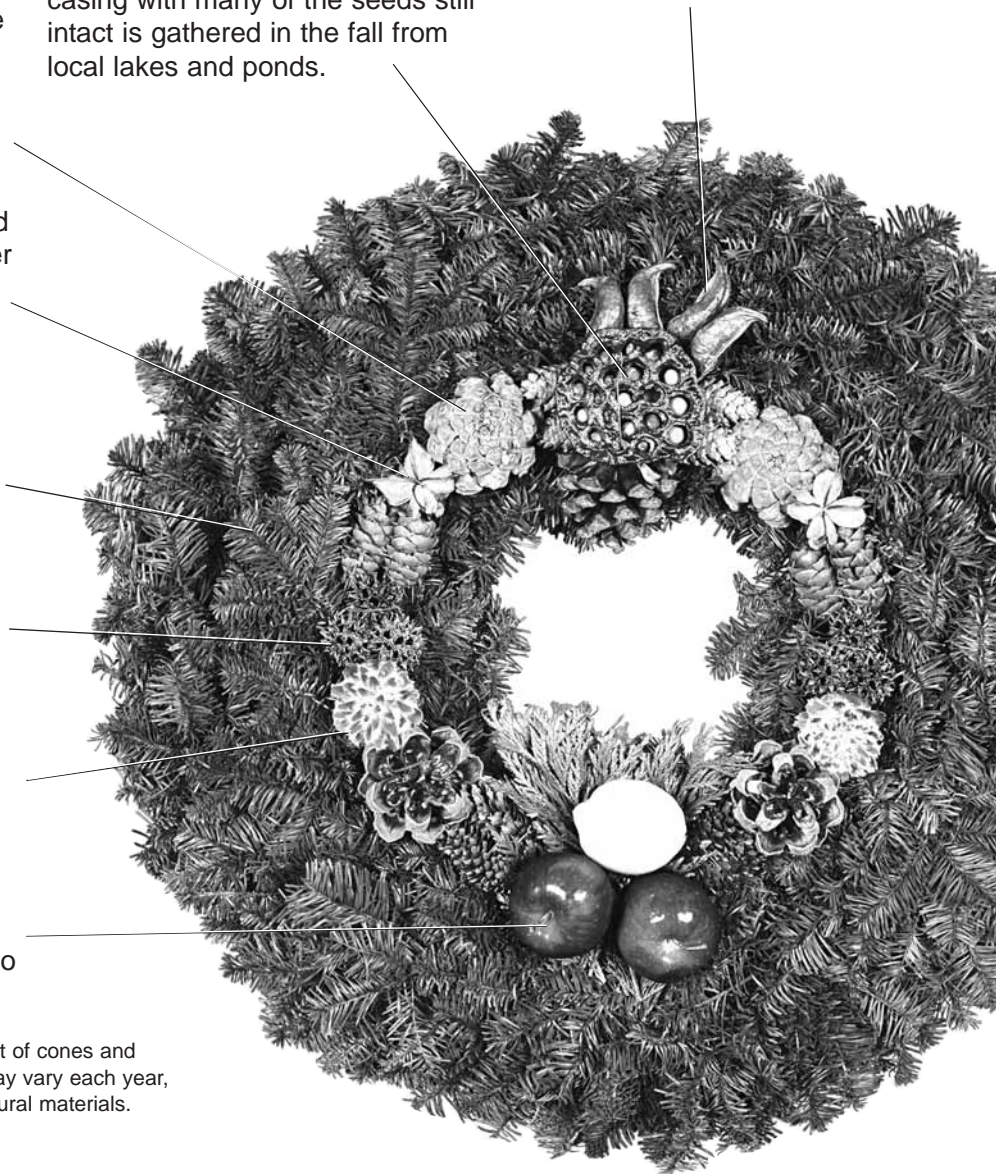
Hand-rubbed in alcohol and then lacquered to keep them colorful and plump.

## **LOTUS POD**

This distinctive water lily seed casing with many of the seeds still intact is gathered in the fall from local lakes and ponds.

## **BOTTLE TREE POD**

This pod is from a tree native to Australia and now grows in San Fernando Valley, California.



Note: The number, selection and placement of cones and seedpods upon the Della Robbia Wreath may vary each year, depending upon the availability of these natural materials.

Phone, Fax, Modem or Mail In Your  
***Last-Minute Wreath Orders***

**Phone:** (800) 833-7769

**Fax:** (909) 628-9688

**Internet:** <http://www.boysrepublic.org>

**Mail:** Boys Republic, 1907 Boys Republic Dr., Chino Hills, CA 91709

**WREATH ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY**

1. PLEASE FILL OUT FORM COMPLETELY, INCLUDE FULL ADDRESSES WITH ZIP CODES.
2. WREATH ORDERS ARE PROCESSED AND SHIPPED IN THE ORDER RECEIVED..
3. AVOID DUPLICATION. IF YOU TELEPHONE OR FAX YOUR ORDER, PLEASE DO NOT ALSO MAIL IT.
4. ONLY 22-INCH WREATHS WILL BE SHIPPED TO ADDRESSES OUTSIDE CONTINENTAL U.S. AND THEY GO UPS OR AIR PARCEL POST AT ADDITIONAL CUSTOMER EXPENSE.
5. NOTE: DELLA ROBBIA WREATHS CANNOT BE SHIPPED TO P.O. BOXES.

TO SEND BY MAIL OR FAX, CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE

WREATH SIZE	SHIP TO: (PRINT NAMES AND FULL ADDRESSES INCLUDING ZIP CODES)

**CREDIT CARD PURCHASES**

VISA  M/C  DISCOVER  AMX Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Cardholder: \_\_\_\_\_

**PERSONAL & BUSINESS CHECK PURCHASES**

Please make checks payable to *Boys Republic*

**SENDER INFORMATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

**WREATHS PRICES\***

\_\_\_\_\_ 22" WREATHS @ \$46.95, COMPLETE \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 32" WREATHS @ \$69.95, COMPLETE \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ORDER** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\* PRICES INCLUDE APPLICABLE TAXES, SHIPPING, AND HANDLING.

\* Shipments outside of U.S. Continental limits must go Air Parcel Post or UPS at customer's expense.

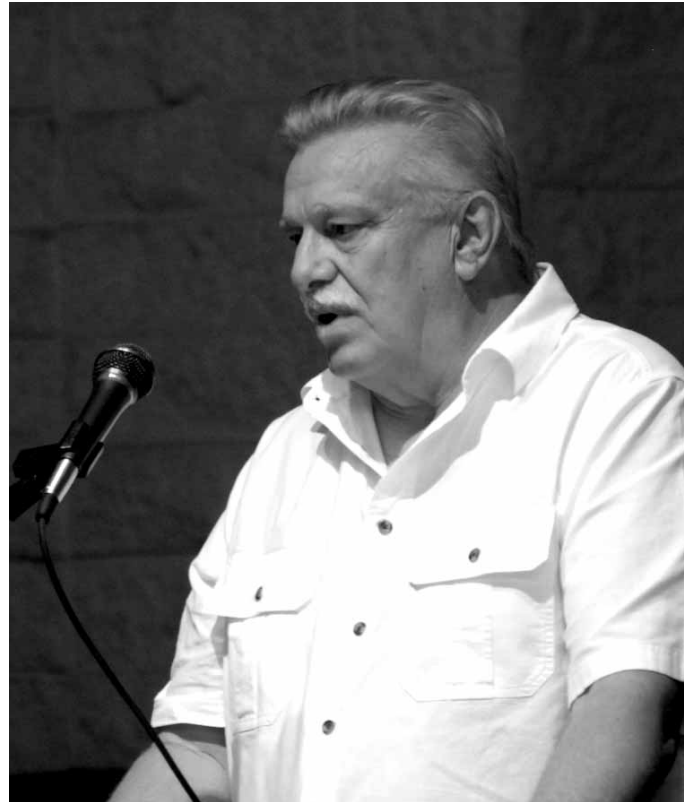
# Students Earn Recognition at 2012 Annual Awards Ceremony

Boys Republic held its 105th Annual Awards Ceremony on September 13. Nearly 300 of the agency's teens and staff, local officials and proud parents gathered to honor selected students. Financial recognition at the awards ceremony ranged from \$100 to \$2,500 scholarships for outstanding scholastic or leadership achievement or overall program success.

Unlike traditional schools which offer educational scholarships, almost exclusively, Boys Republic presents awards that can be utilized in a variety of ways to help deserving students meet immediate or longer-term personal goals. Scholarship funds may be used to help further a student's education, but just as often, it may become a deposit on an apartment for a graduate with no family to return to, or it can buy food, tools, training or appropriate clothing to help a graduate qualify for a job.

Among the awards presented at the ceremony were:

- Frank & Marianne Graves Scholarship of \$1,000 each to Daniel Ramirez, Victor Sarmiento, Carl Teal, Andrew Torres, Steven Villalba, Victor Villalobos and Shaquille Walton, and \$500 each to Andre Buchanan, Miguel Gallegos, Chad Hegeler, Mohammed Khaled, Michael Lopez, Hector Lucero, Richardo Maldonado, Cain Martinez, William Mayen, Nicholas Montalvo, Javier Ortiz, Chris Otey, Daitaevian Stinson, and Leticia Vargas;
- Delight Groves Scholarship of \$500 to Chris Otey;
- Charles & Rae Leavitt Scholarship of \$500 to Alberto Morales;
- Joan C. Toomey Scholarship of \$500 to Kevin Eam;
- Joan C. Toomey Scholarship in honor of her dear friendship with Renee Villa of \$500 to Alberto Torres;



BRUCE BAUMGARDNER (BR grad '62) received the 2012 *Alumnus-of-the-Year* award for success in his business, *Creative Printing and Packaging*, and for lifelong qualities of initiative and persistence. Mr. Baumgardner provides packaging primarily to the medical industry, but has also contracted with Boys Republic helping the Della Robbia wreath program reduce packaging costs.

- Claude A. Gammel Scholarship of \$1,000 to Timmy Teopaco;
- Don & Carol Bremer Endowed Aftercare Assistance Award of \$1,000 to Jose Parada;
- Barbara McQueen Brunsvold Scholarship of \$1,500 each to Ruben Rivera and Yamonte Cross Fears;
- Evertt & Jane Houser Scholarship of \$1,500 to Jeffrey Winner and \$1,000 to Ruben Herrera;
- Elizabeth Winkler Scholarship of \$1,000 to Ayanna Rasheed;
- Steve McQueen Scholarship of \$1,000 to Richard De La Cruz;
- Neile McQueen Scholarship of \$1,000 to Andrew Fair;
- Terry McQueen Scholarship of \$1,000 to Joseph Herrera

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## Memorials Honor Special People, Events, Through the Lives of Children

A memorial contribution to Boys Republic and Girls Republic is a meaningful way to honor a special person, a special event or the memory of a friend or loved one. Your gift will reap a second benefit as well by contributing directly to the programs of Boys and Girls Republic. In this way, the honor paid the designee will live on perpetually in the lives of the deserving young people you have helped.

The following are memorial and commemorative contributions made from April 1, 2012 through September 15, 2012.

### Donor / In Memory of:

Lewis Allen/Mr. & Mrs. Richard Williams

Carl Boyd, Sr./  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Williams  
Ray Baker/  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Williams  
Neil Fine/  
Ms. Rachel Rodriguez  
Neil Fine/  
Mrs. Geraldine Plater  
Neil Fine/  
Mr. Carl M. Kahalewai  
Neil Fine/  
Mr. & Mrs. Max L. Scott  
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Mr. & Mrs. Chris Burns  
Neil Fine/  
Paul & Donna Christen  
Jay Davis/Jay Davis, Jr.  
Martha Rogers/Jay Davis, Jr.  
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Ms. Christine L. Howard  
Phyliss McDonnell/  
Mrs. Virginia J. Howard  
Thomas Kampion/  
Mr. Bill Lindquist  
Michael Lara/  
Ms. Dorothy R. Woodward  
Michael Lara/Mr. Chris Burns  
Michael Lara/  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Williams

Eleanor Martin/  
Pasadena Auxiliary of Boys Republic  
Pat Miller/Friends of Boys Republic Auxiliary  
Steve McQueen/  
Mr. Lee Thielker  
Dan Pocapalia/  
Mr. John Spalenka  
Bob Rose/Pat Hanna  
Theresa Webb/  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Williams  
Ralph James Weber/  
Pasadena Auxiliary of Boys Republic  
Ralph James Weber/  
Mrs. Louise Laub

### Donor / In Honor of:

James Laub/Ms. Cecilia Y. Hsu  
Anonymous Donor/  
John Watkins  
Jeff Seymour  
Dennis Slattery  
Vilma Palette  
MaryLou Boone  
Nadine Bosen  
Doug La Belle

## Boys Republic Report

Boys Republic Report is published three times yearly by Boys Republic, 1907 Boys Republic Drive, Chino Hills, CA 91709. (909) 628-1217.

Boys Republic and Girls Republic are private, non-profit, non-sectarian agencies helping troubled children aged 13 to 18. Rules for acceptance and participation in these programs are the same for everyone without regard for race, color, national origin, age, sex or handicap.

## Our Mission

Boys Republic is a nonprofit organization which seeks to give adolescent youth with behavioral, educational, and emotional difficulties an opportunity to achieve their maximum potential for responsible, self-directed life within the community.

Every attempt is made to involve family members in the rehabilitation process and to bring about the reunification of the family. We consider the development of academic, vocational, and social skills essential in assisting youth we serve to return to the community as useful productive citizens.



1907 Boys Republic Drive  
Chino Hills, California 91709  
Phone (909)628-1217 Fax (909)627-9222

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## ***Student Reap Rich Harvest at 2012 Annual Awards Ceremony***

*(Continued from page 6)*

- Michael Madsen Scholarship of \$1,000 to Abraham Magallon;
- Carmen Combs Scholarship of \$1,500 each to Robert Davis and Davante Young;
- Klein Family Scholarship of \$1,500 to Francisco Galarza;
- Ed Korbel Scholarship of \$1,000 to Jose Lopez;
- Eldon Woods and Roger Fletcher Scholarship of \$1,000 to Carlos Ramos and \$500 to Ryan Hall;
- Paul & Mary Ganobcik “Nothing Without Labor” Scholarship of \$1,000 to Sodel Wissar;
- Pasadena Auxiliary Past Presidents Scholarship of \$1,000 to Eddie Saravia;
- Fowler Merle-Smith Family Scholarship of \$1,500 to Monica Reyes;
- Pasadena Auxiliary Bridge Club Scholarship of \$750 to Jenna Going;
- Boys Republic Staff Scholarship of \$2,200 to Moses Torres;
- Virginia Pease Hunt Scholarship of \$2,500 to Michael Numez;
- Alumnus of the Year Award to Bruce Baumgardner; and
- This year, the Rams Head Award was presented to employee Jayson Moore.