



Fall 2021

BOYS REPUBLIC & Report

Boys Republic Bakery Introduces New Home Delivery Service with Two Cakes

The Boys Republic Teaching Bakery is launching its new home delivery service with two signature cakes that are just right for the holidays. The Sock It To Me is a moist cream cake to be served for breakfast or dessert. It has swirls of cinnamon and sugar and a chopped walnut topping. The second cake—a decadent Chocolate Thunder bundt—is infused with creamy chocolate chips

Boys Republic Pastry Chef and Bakery Instructor Kevin Brown learned to make the Sock It To Me cake under the guidance of his uncle, a professional baker in New Orleans. “We use simple ingredients,” he says. “It’s what we call scratch baking.”

The Pastry Chef says the cakes “held up well in shipping tests.” They are vacuum sealed and have a shelf life of six months to one year and may be frozen for later enjoyment.

The new enterprise is training Boys Republic students to work in an industrial kitchen where they learn the business side of baking. More items—like brownies and cookies—may be added to the home delivery service in the future.

The cost is \$24.99 per cake and it includes Fed Ex delivery within the United States. Order online at bakery.boysrepublic.org, email: bakery@boysrepublic.org, or call (909) 628-1217 ext. 267.



READY FOR DELIVERY: Girls Republic alumna Alaysia Frank proudly introduces the Sock It To Me cake. This cake is the first of two items available in a new line of home delivered baked goods from the Boys Republic commercial bakery.

Graduate Finds Success Through Hard Work

Former Monrovia Day Treatment student Angela Lara is eager to get back to work making Della Robbia wreaths.

The ambitious nineteen-year-old holds a regular full-time job, but she picks up weekend shifts for the seasonal job at Boys Republic.

Interacting with the employees, eating lunch prepared in Boys Republic's culinary arts kitchen, and receiving a courtesy wreath—given to students and employees who work in wreath production—all feel to Angela like she is “home for the holidays.”

Angela's path to success began here three years ago, while attending Boys Republic Monrovia Day Treatment Program.

She and her younger brother Andrew had both been chronically truant at their former high school when they started the program, which offers year-round instruction from a credentialed teacher.

“At first I had many struggles,” Angela says. “I didn't listen to my parents and would run away from home.” Her life turned around when Boys



WORKING TOGETHER: Boys Republic graduate Angela Lara (left) with staff member Jessica Ruiz in the wreath production warehouse. Della Robbia wreath production provides meaningful work for at-risk teens.

Republic Administrator and Treatment Director Jessica Ruiz provided family counseling sessions.

“Our kids are only with us for a short period time so helping the whole family is crucial,” says Ms. Ruiz. “When each person works hard to make changes like this family has done, it makes a big difference.”

Angela responds, “Without Jessica Ruiz and my family also doing the program with me, I don't know where I would be.”

Angela and her brother not only completed high school, they each earned program honors and college scholarships from Boys Republic.

“I felt like what helped me overcome everything was the group setting and having people truly want to guide me on the right path with the best advice they could,” says Angela.

While at Boys Republic she found her niche as a peer counselor, and set her career path.

The young woman who never expected to attend college is now motivated to earn a degree in sociology. After college, she hopes to work at Boys Republic.

“I'm still focused in school and also on work. I have support from my family and I'm always trying to better myself,” says Angela.



A FINAL TOUCH: Seasonal employees put the finishing touches on Della Robbia wreaths before students place them in boxes for shipping.

Congresswoman Visits Boys Republic's Main Campus

As Aidan removed a piping hot tray of chimichangas from the oven, Salvador and Roberto peered out of their Culinary classroom window. The students had finished the day's work but were restlessly anticipating their guest.

The teenagers made hor d'oeuvres for United States Representative Young Kim on September 3. Their Chino Hills school falls in Representative Kim's district, and the students were anxious to visit with her.

Representative Kim first met with Executive Director Chris Burns and board member Jody Roberto in the bistro, where the congresswoman learned about the agency's educational and treatment programs.

Then, the Culinary students welcomed the United States House member into their classroom for appetizers and a lively discussion.



HOSTING A HOUSE MEMBER: Culinary students meet with U.S. Representative Young Kim during her tour of Boys Republic.



HOLLYWOOD BOWL: Students pose before the concert begins. The outing exposed the teens to classical music and appropriate behavior in the venue. Before the event, the students set behavioral norms for themselves in a group session. After, they evaluated how they met their own expectations.

Electrifying Event Introduces Teens to Classical Music

Students from Graves Cottage spent an exciting evening at the Hollywood Bowl. The teenage residents of the main campus attended the debut performance of Marvel Studios' *Black Panther* in Concert on September 10.

With their eyes glued to *Black Panther* on the screens, a couple bopped their heads to the live score performed by the Los Angeles Philharmonic. One student was surprised when he realized a live orchestra was performing the thrilling score.

"It was a cool experience," Richard reflected afterward. "I've never done anything like that in person." In fact, only one student in Graves cottage had attended a single live performance before. "It was also the first time I saw that movie," Jacob added. "It was awesome!"

The opportunity was made possible by the Magistro Family Foundation. The Magistro Family started the Cultural Enrichment Fund to expose disadvantaged students to performance art, particularly classical music.

Annual Car Show Returns— Funds Apprenticeships

The main campus was bustling with activity leading up to the 14th annual Friends of Steve McQueen Car and Motorcycle Show, held the first weekend in October.

Proceeds from the Car Show were applied this year to Boys Republic's Apprenticeship Fund, which offers paid work positions to deserving graduates. The Apprenticeship Program provides young adults with meaningful work training experiences and mentorship on the Chino Hills campus.

The all-volunteer car show committee pulled out all the stops for the weekend event, which marked its return after being canceled last year.

Car show attendance was close to 10,000 with 430 display vehicles registered. An inaugural Welcome Party kicked off the weekend, and the following evening the Commemorative Dinner and Auction was attended by 516 guests.

This year, for the first time, the auction included classic automobiles that had been gifted by donors to Boys Republic. The car show committee helped with the restoration of a 1962 Chevrolet Impala, 1964 Plymouth Sport Fury and 1959 Chevrolet El Camino. The three cars were sold for a total of \$147,000.

Boys Republic Administrator Chris Burns noted, "This year's event was fantastic in so many ways, but it seemed a little sad for us this year with the absence of the students."

Although COVID-19 restrictions prevented students from attending the events, as in previous years, the students participated behind the scenes.

Students taking industrial arts classes crafted trophies and displays for the car show and culinary students helped prepare the appetizers and gourmet dinner.

Mr. Burns attributes this year's success to a team effort. He praised staff, volunteers and alumni who filled in positions normally held by the students, including serving at the dinner.

"It takes a village to put on this caliber of event, and it grows and improves every year which allows us to improve services that benefit our students," Mr. Burns said.



STUDENT PARTICIPATION: With adult guidance, students made the prize trophies (top), built a display race car pit (middle), and prepared appetizers (bottom) for the Friends of Steve McQueen Car and Motorcycle Show.

Boys Republic Moved By Loss of Long-Tenured Employee

Over a span of 24 years, Boys Republic Food Services Manager Frank Frobisher changed the trajectory of thousands of young lives. With his creativity and drive, Frank transformed the modest main campus cafeteria into a highly popular vocational training hub. As at-risk students graduated from the school prepared for work in the food services, Frank attracted professionals, salespeople, and charitable friends to the campus to help enrich the lives of the students. We were distressed and saddened when Frank passed away last month after an illness. His friends and colleagues provide us with fond memories:

“Decades ago, under the leadership of Max Scott, Frank was responsible for modernizing all aspects of the Food Services operation at Boys Republic; but that was just the beginning. Frank saw the food industry as a viable career path for our students and worked to show them every aspect of it. From culinary classes to field trips to food shows, Frank opened the eyes of young men and women to the possibilities that existed for them. On a parallel track, he enticed friends from the food industry to come to Boys Republic to help in that endeavor. His passion for our youth and his vision for what Boys Republic’s culinary program could become has undoubtedly done just that. Lives have been forever changed, and Boys Republic has been blessed for the time Frank dedicated here.”

Chris Burns

“I met Frank at Pechanga where I was a line cook and Frank was a buser. Frank would always say, ‘you should come see the place that I manage.’ Little did I know what a genius he was. Frank played chess when it came to food service; he didn’t play checkers. He was a thinker and he started at a but he could see b, c, d, and e where others couldn’t.

Frank loved food. He loved Del Taco and Carl’s Junior; he wasn’t into the high-class stuff. For him, it was more about the business and the people and the relationship building. He loved that. Chess.

Frank made me into what I am today. I thought I was on my way working at a casino for the rest of my career. One time early on when we were talking about the job opportunities he said ‘look, would you rather



Frank Frobisher

cook for a bunch of strangers or change lives through food?’ And that was it. What do you do what that?”

Joe Underwood

“Frank’s vision was to create as many avenues for students to learn and succeed after they left Boys Republic, so he was always thinking and creating the next opportunity for the kids.

For example, he wanted to showcase Boys Republic students at the car show. When he brought up the idea to have the kids serve the dinner, some people thought he was out of his mind. But Frank stood strong and convinced everyone that if the bar was set high, the boys and girls would work to meet it.

Frank was also concerned for the spiritual needs of the students. He offered voluntary bible study on Mondays and Friday night movie screenings intended to motivate and help the students with their struggles. Frank was looking forward to volunteering as a chaplain in Boys Republic’s chapel in his retirement.

Frank will truly be missed, but the vision that he brought to life will continue to impact many students to come.”

Isabel “Izzy” Donner

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Students Earn \$48,175 in Awards at 114th Annual Ceremony

“You are braver than you believe and smarter than you think. All of us have it in us to bounce back,” Los Angeles Probation Bureau Chief Paul Vinetz encouraged students. “A scholarship is a key to open doors to discover who you are and what you want to do.” Chief Vinetz’s encouraging address set the tone for the Annual Awards Ceremony on September 16.

Students, staff, parents, and community members celebrated the accomplishments of recent graduates in Boys Republic’s chapel. Graduates receive scholarship awards for their scholastic success, leadership, or overall program achievement at Boys Republic and Girls Republic.

Unlike other schools, Boys Republic awards scholarships to help meet the unique needs of disadvantaged young men and women. Award monies may be applied toward school tuition or an apartment deposit, or graduates may use scholarship awards to purchase food, work tools, or professional clothing to help qualify for a job.

Among the awards presented were:

- Fowler Merle-Smith Family Scholarship of \$1,500 to Diana Barrales;
- Delight Groves Scholarship of \$750 to John Soriano;
- Max L. Scott Scholarship of \$1,500 to Rafael Hernandez, \$1,250 each to Johan Guzman and Angel Mateos, \$1,000 to Davian Petitt, and \$375 to Eric Arcaina-Volz;
- Everett and Jane Houser Scholarship of \$1,250 to Romy Guimary;
- Steve McQueen Scholarship Award of \$1,500 to Noah Cervantes;
- Neile McQueen Scholarship of \$1,500 to Sergio Montejano;
- Terry McQueen Scholarship of \$1,500 to Yonatan Chavez;
- Don and Carol Bremer Endowed Aftercare Assistance Award of \$1,500 each to Raudel Lamas and Rodney Williams;
- Bremer Family Endowed Aftercare Assistance Award of \$1,500 to Eric Arcaina-Volz;
- Ed Korbel Scholarship of \$1,500 to Nazir Woodley;
- Klein Family Scholarship of \$1,500 to Donnell Sims;
- Jon Snyder Memorial Scholarship of \$1,500 to Matthew Chavez;
- Frank and Marianne Graves Scholarship of \$1,500 to Anthony Diaz, \$1,250 to Jacob Lopez, \$1,000 each to Fredd Deleon, Jeremiah Hopson, and Rodney Williams, \$500 to John Soriano, and \$375 each to Raudel Lamas and Rodney Williams;
- Elizabeth Winkler Memorial Scholarship of \$1,000 to Cayel Villegas;
- Paul and Mary Ganobcik “Nothing Without Labor” Scholarship of \$1,000 to Deshaun Carter;



KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Los Angeles Probation Bureau Chief Paul Vinetz delivered a lively speech at the Annual Awards Ceremony that encouraged students to take advantage of the scholarship opportunities at Boys Republic.

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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 to the designee will live on perpetually in the lives of the deserving young people you have helped.

The following are memorial contributions made from August 1, 2021 through October 10, 2021.

Donor / In Memory of:

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Akahori /
Bob and Jean Akahori

Mr. Charles G. Bakaly, Jr. /
Doris C. Bakaly
The Barger Family /
Richard and Ann Barger
Mr. Howard Bland / Leo Hanna
Mrs. Nadine Bosen / Leo Hanna
Mr. J.H. Brewer/
Elaine Brewer
Mrs. Patricia Hanna / Leo
Hanna
Mrs. Patricia Hanna/
Bert Tarayao
Mom / Curtis Husband
Mrs. Doris J. Pregenzer /
Martin Joseph Pregenzer
Ms. Yvonne Quackenbush /
Joe Florida
Mr. and Mrs. Mashi Takemoto /
Mary Dahl
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ziegler /
George N. Hutchings

In Memory of Frank Frobisher:

Howard and Nikki Applebaum
Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Arthur
Mr. and Mrs. Chris Burns
Mrs. Ashley Graham
Mr. David Ogata
Ms. Mollie Stephen

Donor / In Honor of:

Ms. Lori Alexander /
Ron Harris
Mr. James P. Gray /
Ron Harris
Mrs. Patricia Hanna /
Bert Tarayao
Mr. and Mrs. Doug La Belle /
Ed Graham's 70th birthday
Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell J. Milias
/ Dennis Slattery

BR Mourns Loss of Friend and Colleague

(Continued from page 5)

"When Frank told me about the whole concept of this place and what he does here, it caught my attention. Boys Republic's beautiful campus reminded me a lot of where I grew up, back in New Orleans. He made me want to help the students make changes in their lives and not make the same mistakes I made or saw my cousins or friends make.

Frank had a vision with the culinary program of really enhancing and letting the kids understand what we deal with as chefs at Pechanga, hotels, and bakeries. A lot of these kids don't think they can make money making food. Frank helped open their minds to what food could do for them in their lives.

One thing I loved about Frank was that his heart always stood out in whatever he was doing. He always wanted to help and make things right for other people.

We wouldn't be here if it wasn't for Frank. He brought us all together as a family and as a unit to teach the students the skills and craft we've learned. We're just passing it on."

Kevin Brown

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.

www.boysrepublic.org

Scholarships Honor Student Achievements

(Continued from page 6)

- H.B. Bell Scholarship of \$2,000 to Jerson Salazar;
- Virginia Pease Hunt Scholarship of \$3,000 to Nayati Hendrix;
- Pasadena Auxiliary Past Presidents Scholarship of \$1,250 to Skylar Delaney;
- Orange County Auxiliary/ Garry Hodge Scholarship of \$1,250 to Richard Rice;
- Carmen Combs Scholarship of \$2,500 to Gerardo Colunga-Cabrera;
- Friends of Steve McQueen Scholarship/ Bruce Oliver Memorial of \$1,250 to Manuel Plascencia;
- Boys Republic Staff Scholarship of \$2,700 to David Alcalá;
- Citizen of the Year Scholarship Award of \$400 each to Jacob Lopez, Nayati Hendrix, David Alcalá, and Rafael Hernandez;
- Frances Kurilich and Dick Reichelderfer Scholarship of \$1,250 to Adrian Hernandez;

- Rams Head Award was presented to employee Isabel “Izzy” Donner.



ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR: Kevin Romero received the 2021 award. Mr. Romero, a firefighter, was unable to attend the ceremony due to fires in Northern California. He filmed an acceptance speech in which he credited Boys Republic for helping him succeed.

Della Robbia News

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE BOYS REPUBLIC DELLA ROBBIA WREATH PROGRAM

FALL 2021

Historic Wreath Program Will Again Help BR Teens Earn their Own Way

When the first Della Robbia Christmas wreath of 2021 travels by conveyor from the hand-assembly area to the shipping dock in the Boys Republic wreath barn late this November, it will signal the beginning of the 98th season of one of the oldest and largest self-help enterprises undertaken by any child-care program in the nation. It is an enterprise as rich in history and tradition as it is essential to the school's work with hundreds of troubled teens every year.

As they have every year since 1923, the students of Boys Republic will greet the holidays with the crackle of dried pine cones and seed pods, the scent of fresh Pacific Northwest evergreen foliage and the sight of piles of greenery, boxes of fresh apples and lemons and stacks of shipping cartons.

Della Robbias come in two sizes. A 22-inch diameter wreath sells for \$58.95 complete with applicable taxes, shipping and handling. A 28-inch diameter wreath is priced at \$79.95, taxes, shipping and handling included. Wreaths can be bought by check, money order, Master Card, Visa, Discover, or American Express Card.

Last-minute orders can be placed by telephone at (800) 833-7769.

Wreaths can also be ordered using the enclosed form. The completed form can be faxed to (909) 628-9688 or mailed to Boys Republic at 1907 Boys Republic Drive, Chino Hills, CA 91709.



Della Robbia wreaths can also be ordered by computer, using the Internet. Orders can be placed via Boys Republic's home page at: www.boysrepublic.org.

Early ordering is encouraged. If past years' experience again holds true this season, every wreath the students and their adult helpers can assemble from the stores of pine cones and pods will be purchased by mid-December and late orders will have to be returned unfilled.

Originally created as a work-experience vehicle for students in residence, over the years the Boys Republic Della Robbia wreath campaign became as well a supplemental source of funds for the agency's non-profit programs of counseling and education. It continues to serve that dual purpose today, providing meaningful

(Continued on last page of "Della Robbia News")



Distinctive Della Robbia Wreaths Called “The Very Image of Holiday Celebrating”

They have been called “the very image of holiday celebrating” and “Christmas cheer in a box.” They are Boys Republic’s world-famous Della Robbia Christmas wreaths—distinctive, all-natural decorations that have been an important part of Christmas to families throughout the nation and elsewhere for 98 years.

Hefty rings of fresh Pacific Northwest evergreen

boughs encrusted with pine cones, seed pods and burrs and then highlighted with fresh apples and lemons, Della Robbia wreaths look and smell like Christmas itself.

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

(Continued on last page of “Della Robbia News”)

Anatomy of a Della Robbia

FLOWERING EUCALYPTUS

These “fat thimbles” come from blooming eucalyptus trees in Ventura and Whittier, California.

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.

EVERGREEN BOUGHS

Supple noble fir evergreens are harvested in the forests of Oregon and Washington. No trees are harmed in the pruning process.

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.

TO SEND BY MAIL OR FAX, CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE

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

1. PLEASE FILL OUT FORM COMPLETELY. INCLUDE FULL ADDRESSES WITH ZIP CODES.
2. WREATH ORDERS ARE PROCESSED AND SHIPPED IN THE ORDER RECEIVED.
3. WREATHS SHIPPED TO ARIZONA CONTAIN NO FRUIT; HOWEVER, THEY INCLUDE ADDITIONAL PODS AND A RED BOW.
4. ONLY 22-INCH WREATHS WILL BE SHIPPED TO ADDRESSES OUTSIDE CONTINENTAL U.S. AND THEY GO FED EX AIR PARCEL POST AT ADDITIONAL CUSTOMER EXPENSE.
5. NOTE: DELLA ROBBIA WREATHS CANNOT BE SHIPPED TO P.O. BOXES.
6. AVOID DUPLICATION. IF YOU TELEPHONE OR FAX YOUR ORDER, PLEASE DO NOT ALSO MAIL IT.

Wreath Size	SHIP TO: (PRINT NAMES AND FULL ADDRESSES, INCLUDING ZIP CODES)

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Cardholder: _____

Phone No: _____

Email: _____

Della Robbias Evoke Holiday Charm and Joy

(Continued from page 2 of "Della Robbia News")

weeks at the start of the holiday season. Yet each Della Robbia wreath represents a full year of effort by Boys Republic and Girls Republic students and the professional wreath staff that works with them.

Beginning each January, sacks full of seed pods and pine cones used to adorn the Della Robbias are sorted, cleaned, drilled and wired. The cones and pods are then fastened together into decorative arrays and then stored in boxes and bins in an old gymnasium transformed into a wreath barn on the agency's Chino Hills campus.

Altogether, more than three million individual pods and cones from as many as a dozen varieties of trees and plants are collected, prepared and stored each year to await the holiday season.

The distinctive design of the cone, pod and fruit-studded Della Robbia wreath was inspired by the ceramic wreath sculptures of the Della Robbia family of artisans in 16th century Florence, Italy. Margaret Fowler, a founder of Boys Republic, happened to see an original Della Robbia ceramic while vacationing in Europe in the early 1920's, just at a time when she was searching for a craft project that would teach the children in her care the value of honest labor. She brought the idea home with her and, in 1923, the first few dozen Della Robbia wreaths were made and sold door-to-door for \$2.50 each.

So successful was the project that the following year wreath production was increased to 107. It was increased again for the third year and again for the fourth. Wreath sales quickly grew to 500 per season, then 1,000, then 1,500.

In the early 1950's, Boys Republic's Board of

Directors formalized the Della Robbia program, expanding it to serve as a key component in students' work experience activities and as a primary source of supplemental funding for the agency's non-

profit operations. They converted an old, red brick gymnasium on the main campus into a permanent wreath barn and installed an automated conveyer system to speed the wreaths from each hand-assembly stage to the next. By 1955, production had swelled to 30,000 wreaths per season.

Today, nearly 40,000 Della Robbias are

produced in a 13-day period between Thanksgiving and mid-December each year. But despite that large volume, the wreaths are made as they have always been made, carefully hand-tied, one at a time.

Each wreath is packaged and ready to ship within minutes of being completed. Most wreaths are shipped within 24 hours of manufacture. Those having to wait an extra day are stored in a cooler to keep them florist-fresh.

Historic Campaign Enters 98th Season

(Continued from front page of "Della Robbia News")

after-school and weekend work for hundreds of students a year and helping Boys Republic contribute significantly to its own annual operating budget. Proceeds from wreath sales and other self-help activities and donations represent a savings to taxpayers of nearly \$4 million a year.



COLLABORATIVE WORK: *Boys Republic students work together to load boxes of fresh Della Robbia wreaths onto Fed Ex trucks.*