



Summer 2022

BOYS REPUBLIC & Report

Pro Golfer Michelle Wie West is 2022 Della Robbia Wreath Chair

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Former professional golfer Michelle Wie West serves as this year's Honorary Chairwoman of the Della Robbia wreath campaign. In this role, Mrs. Wie West will generously appear in literature promoting Boys Republic's handmade holiday wreaths.

At the age of ten, Mrs. Wie West became the youngest player to qualify for a USGA amateur championship. She also smashed the records for youngest winner of the U.S. Amateur Public Links and the youngest golfer to qualify for a Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) event. Just before her sixteenth birthday, she turned professional. Among her illustrious accomplishments as an athlete, Mrs. Wie West won five times on the LPGA and claimed a major at the 2014 Women's Open.

After competing on the LPGA Tour for 13 years, Mrs. Wie West retired from professional golf. She currently lives in Los Angeles with her husband Jonnie West, Director of Basketball Operations for the NBA champion Golden State Warriors. The couple has one young daughter, Makenna.



Culinary Center Architects Learn from Students

The designers of Boys Republic's Max Scott Center for the Culinary Arts Center returned for a retreat. On July 22, Architects for Education (A4E) staff met in the modern vocational training center for a day of team building and training.

After morning meetings, A4E staff joined Boys Republic students in the vocational classrooms the architects had designed.

Students taught the first group of professionals in the expanded Teaching Bakery. Juan, Matthew, and Nathan instructed two A4E staff each in small-batch cookie baking, showing their individual teaching styles. Matthew gave his students a tour of the bakery, then demonstrated each step of the process before helping the architects measure, mix, and scoop their own cookie dough. Nathan had a more hands-off approach, quietly working alongside the adults. Meanwhile, Juan led a structured lesson, firmly but politely keeping his students on task and ensuring that they used the equipment correctly.

The remaining A4E staff accompanied



MIX IT JUST SO: Bakery student Juan checks Senior Project Architect Vanessa Peltier's progress with mixing cookie dough. Rachel Adams, Managing Principal and A4E partner, looks on. Ms. Adams helped design the Culinary Arts Center, including the expansion of the popular Teaching Bakery.



REALISTIC CLASSROOM: A4E architects join BR students in the Culinary Classroom learning on commercial-grade equipment.

teenagers in the Culinary Arts Classroom for a lively lesson. Culinary Arts instructor Kelly Roth taught students and architects how to prepare grilled chicken, parmesan risotto, and steamed green beans from scratch. On the prep table, they chopped up fresh green beans, then sanitized their worktable and changed gloves in order to cut the chicken. Then, the teens and adults mixed the rich risotto and grilled chicken breast on the commercial-grade cooking suite.

Once the bell rang, the A4E team enjoyed their freshly made lunch and dessert in the bistro. Olivia Graff Doyle, Design Principal and Partner, and Joe Underwood, BR's Culinary Operations Manager, presented the collaborative process to expand and upgrade the Culinary Arts Center. The completed Culinary Arts Center tied the building into the traditional styling of the historical campus while offering a modern, professional learning environment for disadvantaged teens.

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Thrilling Beach Trip Introduces Teens to Water Safety

Boys Republic and Girls Republic students spent an exhilarating morning at the beach. Select students met at Playa del Rey to participate in Los Angeles County's water safety program on May 26.

Lifeguards instructed the teenagers in first aid basics, then students had the opportunity to kayak and surf. While a couple teens chose to row out from shore in kayaks, others opted to spend more time receiving one-on-one surfing lessons. Charles even stood on his surfboard his first attempt. After a couple more successful waves, he smiled and "hung ten" for a picture.

In August, every student on the main campus had the chance to attend. "I love swimming in the water," Isaiah says. "But that was the first time I ever tried any water sports." In fact, the trip marked the first time some students had ever visited the beach. Elijah, who surfed and kayaked during his first beach trip, loved the experience. "That was a fun outing!," he exclaims. "I hope we can go again."



SURF'S UP!: Boys Republic students surf for the first time. The surfing lessons were part of Los Angeles County's water safety program at Playa del Rey, CA.



EXERCISING CHARACTER: Brewer Cottage and Hunt Cottage teams play softball. Before each intramural game, students set behavioral norms and expectations for themselves. After, they evaluate how they met their own expectations.

Intramurals Train Good Habits

"Come on Fernando! You got this," students in the dugout cheer. Fernando steps up to the plate, steadying the bat over his shoulder. *Swing!* Fernando misses the ball and shakes his head. "Keep going!" his teammates call out, and Fernando readies himself for the next pitch.

Many teenagers have never played organized sports before Boys Republic, but every student participates in intramurals on campus. Year-round, residential cottage teams play different sports, including softball, volleyball, and kickball.

The after-school competitions introduce students to working together to accomplish a common goal and practicing good sportsmanship, no matter the game's outcome.

Each team of teenagers works towards these goals in group discussions before and after each game, guiding one another towards cooperation, honest effort, and positive attitudes on the field.

Friends of Steve McQueen Car Show Drives Support for Troubled Youth

The 15th annual Friends of Steve McQueen Car and Motorcycle Show went off without a hitch, despite a quick turn around after last year's show.

Executive Director Chris Burns quips that the car show committee members “pulled another hat trick” by returning the car show to its normal June time frame, just eight months after COVID delayed the 2021 show.

“It took an incredible effort from the volunteer organizers as well as hundreds of staff and students. The results of those efforts yielded a Welcome Party, Commemorative Dinner, and Sunday Car Show that put the growth and constant improvement of the show on full display,” he says.

The weekend events, combined with a spring Car Show Rally, raised \$559,612 in gross income, with proceeds directed to the Apprenticeship Program and to upgrading vocational classroom equipment.



WITH SPACE TO GROW: Attendance topped 10,000 at the Friends of Steve McQueen Car and Motorcycle Show held June 5th on the expansive 200-acre campus in Chino Hills. Photo: Chris Ortenburger



IN THE BR PRINT SHOP: Instructor Jerid Pacheco shows student Cesar a printer that was recently purchased for the classroom. Mr. Pacheco is explaining how the machine works to print directly onto cardboard, plastic and other thick materials. Proceeds of \$60,000 from the car show were dedicated this year to upgrading technology in the print shop.

The car show committee took inspiration from this year's movie theme, the 1971 motorcycle documentary *On Any Sunday*, and commissioned a temporary direct motocross track for a riding demonstration at the car show. Professional motocross riders soared across the track and performed thrilling jumps, worthy of alumnus and bike racer Steve McQueen's approval.

Leading up to Sunday's car show was the Commemorative Car Show Dinner which drew 500 attendees this year. Culinary Operations Manager Joe Underwood says this massive undertaking requires a team effort, applied skills and patience.

The culinary team and students worked side by side to produce six different hors d'oeuvres, which equates to about 3,000 individual pieces.

“Their goal is to complete the hors d'oeuvres as close to service time as possible, and with a hint of perfection,” Chef Underwood says. “The main course requires hundreds of pounds of product

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Remembering BR Friend and Supporter, Vin Scully

Vin Scully, the beloved “Voice of the Dodgers,” served as Boys Republic’s Honorary Wreath Chairman twice—once in 1983 and again in 2016. As Honorary Wreath Chairman, Mr. Scully generously promoted the Della Robbia wreath campaign, which provides at-risk students with significant work experience.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Mr. Scully. He died on August 2, 2022 at home in Los Angeles.

Below, Executive Director Chris Burns recalls Mr. Scully’s participation in promoting the Della Robbia wreath campaign in 2016.

“When pondering the life of Vin Scully, it’s easy to think of the magnitude of his achievements — the most amazing perhaps being his 67 years of calling games for the Dodgers. However, it is the small, often unnoticed moments that really define one’s legacy.

When I called the Scully household a few years ago to thank them for their support of our

program through their purchase of Della Robbia wreaths, his wife Sandra answered the phone. She expressed how much she and her husband valued Boys Republic’s work and Della Robbia wreaths. Sandra also spoke so glowingly of Vin’s pride in serving as Wreath Chair in 1983 that I asked if she thought he’d be interested in doing so again.

When she put him on the phone to discuss it, Vin was gracious, modest, and complimentary of Boys Republic. He accepted the request, and we began to work out the details of the photo shoot to take his photograph with a student and the wreath.

To my disbelief, he initially scheduled us to come to Dodger Stadium on opening day in 2016, and I was eager to oblige. He called me back about 15 minutes later, apologizing that he would need to move the photo shoot to the following day since ‘they had a few things planned for him on opening day’.

The apology and self-effacing description of the very large ceremony planned to begin his final season with the Dodgers was typical of Mr. Scully, who never sought attention for himself and always thought of others.”



The late legendary sports broadcaster Vin Scully and Girls Republic student Lauryn Turner are pictured at Dodgers Stadium in 2016. This marked the second time Mr. Scully lent his prestige and support to the Della Robbia Wreath Campaign, which provides important after-school work to disadvantaged teenagers and raises funds for their programs in guidance and education at the school.

Memorials Honor Special People 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 and commemorative contributions made from through January 12, 2022 through August 10, 2022.

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Friends of Steve McQueen Car Show

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A JOB WELL DONE: Girls Republic students, pictured with their direct care staff, served guests at the Commemorative Car Show Dinner.

which translates to many hours of preparation,” he adds.

At Boys Republic, work experiences play an important role in teaching students patience, perseverance, and how to work through uncomfortable feelings.

In his field, Chef Underwood wisely notes that by grappling through the repetitive nature of preparing food for the large dinner, students gain an opportunity to learn an important life lesson: “Obtaining greatness in your craft funnels through repeating processes over and over again until the learning curve has neared the apex.”

A measure of the car show’s success is the level of students’ participation. This year, students from Boys Republic and Girls Republic, dressed in black and white attire, returned to their customary roles as servers at the gourmet dinner event.

Upon entering the tented dining hall, the youth were greeted with an appreciative round of applause and smiles from the dinner guests.

Some students who were initially nervous about participating, said afterward that they had enjoyed the social interaction.