



Providing services and resources to foster children in Los Angeles



Ensuring the Future of Our Community

Youth Opportunities United, Inc. (YOU), is a non-profit public benefit corporation dedicated to improving the lives of abused and neglected children under the purview of the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services by providing educational support, financial resources, and special programs in the arts.

Founded in 1988, Youth Opportunities United, Inc. (YOU) is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to assisting the Los Angeles Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to improve the lives of abused and neglected children in Los Angeles County.

YOU brings together professionals from the corporate and private sectors to collaborate with DCFS to provide programs and financial resources in areas that will help each young person develop the skills to deal confidently with future challenges. Historically, YOU has covered the cost of many of the youth programs and services DCFS has been unable to fund.

By meeting special needs on an educational and emotional level, YOU provides opportunities for children to build self-confidence, inspiring them to achieve their dreams and become responsible adults. Many of the activities sponsored by YOU help prepare youth under the care of DCFS for life after they leave the foster care system. With each success, the pattern of abuse and neglect is broken.

Successful YOU programs and events illustrate how the public and private sectors work together to meet the unique needs of DCFS youth. YOU has a history of providing funding for programs not covered by local, state and federal funds. Although funding varies from year to year, YOU continues to reach out to meet the new needs of the children it serves.

Some of the innovative programs started by YOU included camperships that help thousands of DCFS youth experience the thrill, excitement and self-discovery of camping in the great outdoors; educational scholarships to fund graduation expenses; college scholarships for emancipating youth; and pro-bono orthodontia services to improve a child's self esteem.

We hope you will consider helping YOU with the funding and support needed to continue to build valuable programs and events. We invite you to become a community partner and join us in providing a brighter future for the estimated 50,000 children under the jurisdiction of DCFS.



Animagination Festival



The Animagination Festival is held annually for young people with an aptitude in art or interest in animation. With the generosity of 20th Century Fox Studios and other support, gifted animators and graphic artists from major studios draw and talk with the children, emphasizing positive career choices that will utilize their artistic skills. Previous

guest speakers have included Matt Groening, the creator of The Simpsons, and animators from Sony Imageworks, Universal Cartoon Studios, Film Roman and Warner Brothers Animation. Talented youth are awarded scholarships to special art camps, internships and jobs as part of the Animagination experience.

“I’ve attended Art Camp for the last three years. It has always been a great experience. I’ve learned new techniques and different styles of art. I have also met lots of new people, produced two short animated films and completed my first presentation of an advertisement.”

— Douglass, 16

“Art Camp definitely helped me prepare for college. I had a project due using a lunch box (animation tool) just like we did at Art Camp. I was way ahead of the other students.”

— Cherish, 18
Currently attending
Brooks College in
Long Beach
studying Animation.

Animagination Art Camp

Since the summer of 2000, YOU has hosted an intensive three-day hands-on Art Camp designed to inspire and improve art skills for teenaged foster youth. Students learn drawing, story and character creation, teamwork and responsibility as they work together to create art projects, ranging from wall-sized murals to individual animated films. Staffed with professionals from the animation and graphic arts industries, the teens also participate in camping activities such as boating, hiking and singing around the campfire.

The goal of Art Camp is to provide youth with the skills, knowledge and self-esteem to ultimately obtain careers in animation and the graphic arts.



Animagination Supporters:

“I like Art Camp because I am surrounded by art and artists ... This year I learned how to do an ad campaign and what it takes to prepare and present it to a company.”

— Jaime, 16

20th Century Fox
29 Creation Productions
Abe Friedman
Occupational Center
Avery Dennison
Cal Arts
Danamation Studios
Digital Domain
Disney VoluntEars
DreamWorks Animation

Everybody Loves Raymond –
Cast and Crew
Film Roman
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Klasky-Csupo Inc.
Marc Hartman
National Association of
Recording Artists
Otis College of Art and Design
Santa Monica City College
Sony Pictures Image Works

Spumco Films
The Walt Disney Company
Universal Cartoon Studios
Universal Consumer Products
UCLA
USC School of Cinema &
Television Division of
Animation & Digital Arts
Vivendi Universal Games
Warner Bros. Animation

The YOU Celebrity Golf Classic

We are proud to present the Annual YOU Celebrity Golf Classic, which has become a favorite event of golfers throughout California. Hosting the tournament in 2003 was Byron Scott, the three time NBA champion and ex-LA Laker. A broad spectrum of celebrity athletes and entertainers also attend. This annual tournament, the primary fundraising event for YOU, is a day of fun and camaraderie for golfers. It has helped widen the doorway of educational opportunity and provide needed scholarship funds for foster youth dedicated to improving their station in life. As the sole source of funding for YOU College Scholarships, the event aids deserving and needy foster youth in pursuing educational opportunities they otherwise would not have. In addition, the event allows YOU to continue the operation of many other programs and services that are instrumental in contributing to the personal growth and development of foster youth.

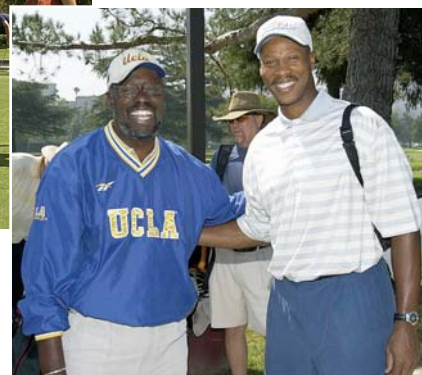
Scratch golfers and duffers alike join us with equal enthusiasm for a very enjoyable day and an evening's festivities. The evening culminates in the emotional presentation of the scholarships awarded to foster youth aspiring to higher education. Enrollment in the tournament includes door prizes, hole-in-one, putting, longest drive, and closest to the pin contests, team awards, and concludes with the Spirit of Youth dinner which includes a fantastic auction and raffle.

"I was thrilled when I received word that I was accepted for the Byron Scott Scholarship and invited to the awards dinner. It gave me a chance to see how hard the people at YOU work to support foster kids."

— Andrea Hollingsworth, 19
2003 Byron Scott
Scholarship winner



Coach Byron Scott with Dr. Joseph Parent, author of Zen Golf.



YOU board member Ron Johnson with coach Byron Scott.

We welcome sponsors at every level. This includes everything from a Title Sponsor to Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze and Tee Sponsors (including in-kind and auction merchandise donations). There is a spot ideal for everyone. Visit our website at www.youla.org to learn more.

Tournament Sponsors have included:

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Coach Byron Scott
Collegiate Funding Services
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Riviera Hotel
Roger Dunn Donation
Roger Dunn Golf Shops
Ronald and Barbara Johnson
See's Candy
Shell Oil Company
Sunset Hills Country Club
The Ice House
Tierra Rejada Golf Club
UCLA Athletic Dept.
Ventura Golf Center
Vons
Warrior Custom Golf
Yamaguchi Hair Salon & Spa



“Receiving a scholarship at the board of supervisors meeting made me feel so proud of my accomplishments. I really felt important.”

— Patrick, 17
Award recipient

Recognizing the importance of education, and interested in inspiring students to improve their educational standing, YOU offers incentive awards to nine students each quarter. The students are given the awards for high achievement or for exceptional improvement. The recognition and awards are presented at a meeting of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and include encouraging words by the Director of the Department of Children and Family Services. In recognition of their accomplishments, YOU also gives each recipient a gift certificate to a book store to enhance their personal library.



Supervisor Michael Antonovich presents YOU educational incentive award.

YOU is always looking at creating new programs that will offer youth practical knowledge to nurture their innate skills and prepare them for independence. Funding is needed to create a job mentoring program called “Job Pledge” and a financial education program called “Saving Sense.”

Job Pledge

This program will connect youth with a professional in the corporate sector who will provide on-the-job training, nurture talents and introduce youth to potential career and job opportunities.

Saving Sense

Working in conjunction with banks, YOU will help youth establish a savings account and learn about the value of money, budgets, checking accounts and interest.

Get Involved

YOU needs your help to do its work. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation and join our community partnership. If you would like more information about Youth Opportunities United Inc., please log on to www.youla.org.

The Board of Directors of Youth Opportunities United, Inc. (YOU) is made up of diverse individuals from the business community, community-at-large and key organizations. The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) provides a liaison and minimal staff support, but does not have representation on the Board or a vote on YOU matters. The full Board meets monthly. The Executive Committee, made up of the elected officers, meets as needed. In addition, there are committee meetings for each of the major program areas.

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YOU is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization.

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Visit our website at www.youla.org

