



'SPARKS' OFF THE ROTARY WHEEL

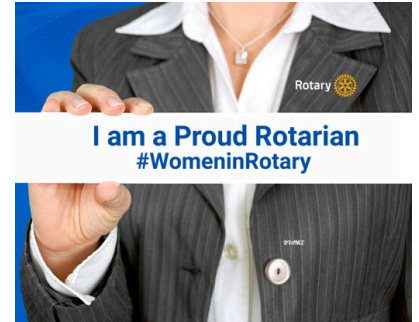
An Award-Winning Newsletter

**The Rotary Club of Altadena meets Thursdays at noon
at the Altadena Town and Country Club**

Rotary Club of Altadena - #772

Chartered: February 14, 1949, P.O. Box 414, Altadena, CA 91003

RI Pres: Gordon R. McNally, Dist. 5300 Gov: Michael L. Soden



D.Vance Graphics
March 21, 2024

**MARCH IS WATER, HYGIENE AND
SANITATION MONTH**

THIS WEEK: Farah Quyyumi, M.D., City of Hope

Altadena Town and Country Club, Thursday at noon



For medical oncologist **Farah Quyyumi, M.D.**, the daughter of two physicians, a career in medicine was always her greatest desire. She specialized in oncology/hematology for the chance to develop long lasting relationships with her patients and help guide them through some of the hardest times of their lives.

Dr. Quyyumi knows how much it means for people facing cancer to offer her their trust, and she puts a priority on both honesty and comfort, with an emphasis on her patients' overall well-being. She keeps up to date with state-of-the-art cancer treatments to ensure that the people who turn to her for care have access to the latest targeted therapies. Her own research has focused on breast cancer. Before joining City of Hope in 2023, she worked with the Oncology Institute of Hope and Innovation in Burbank, California.

Outside of work, Dr. Quyyumi likes to travel, ski and spend time with family and friends.



Officers

President: Dr Dawn Digrius Smith
Vice President: Doug Colliflower
President Elect: Maricela Viramontes

Treasurer: Mike Noll
Bus: 626-657-2287
Secretary: James Gorton
Bus: 626-793-6215

Directors

Craig Cox
Maria Perez-Arton
Mark Mariscal
Sarah O'Brien
Maricela Viramontes
Doug Colliflower
Dawn Digrius Smith

Chairs

Club Executive Secretary: Mark Mariscal
Membership: Maria Perez-Arton
& Brad Roeber
Foundation: Steve Kerekes
Projects: Mike Zoeller

Subcommittees

Community Service: Craig Cox
Vocational Service: Steve Kerekes
Youth Contests, Scholarships, Awards: Mike Zoeller
Youth Activities: Tony Hill
International Service: Sarah O'Brien

LAST WEEK: DAN STOVER MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST

Program Chair & Review: Sarah O'Brien



<https://www.ecsforseniors.org/montecedro/>



Judges: Delia Park Camp and Peter Jacobsen

Last week, five high school instrumentalists competed for the chance to advance to the regional and final rounds of the Dan Stover Music Scholarship contest. A prize of \$5000 will be presented to the winner at the District Conference in May. This first round is known as the 'Club Round' and was judged by professional musicians: Delia Park Camp and Peter Jacobsen. Some performers attended with a parent, and Carina Jacob accompanied three students from John Muir High School. This year's standard was especially high and each student gave a terrific performance! The judges praised the musicianship, musicality and preparedness of the contestants. All students were presented with Certificates and Target gift cards. Clayton Fong will advance to the next round (regional) on April 11, and Ewan Lamond will advance as runner up, should Clayton be unable to make the date.

Peter Jacobson is a cellist, producer, songwriter-singer, chamber musician, teacher, and father. In 2013 he won a Grammy for Best Latin Rock Alternative or Urban Album as a member of the group Quetzal. Pete has been a soloist with Kamasi Washington and the West Coast Get Down, and has toured the world with Rhye. His solo cello can be heard in film and television, including The Walking Dead, Motherland, The Twilight Zone. Peter studied cello with Eleonore Schoenfeld at USC as well as at Cal Arts and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. He performs regularly with his groups Talking Strings, Aux Cerna, Sangam, and his solo cello project Hellacello. www.peteplayscello.com



First to perform was Shelby Sartor on violin, playing Ave Maria by Bach-Gounod. Shelby is in 11th grade at FSHA. She studies violin at Pasadena Conservatory of Music with Erika Walczak. Shelby was praised for her beautiful, warm tone and smooth bow control.



Special thanks to Carina Jacob (L), for raising awareness of the contest at John Muir High School, and to Karen Klages for her support also.

The second contestant was Matthew Hart, playing Minuet by Mozart on alto-saxophone. Matthew is in the 11th grade at John Muir High School and studies with Karen Klages. Judges complimented Matthew on his precision and technical accuracy, in addition to his expressive playing. Mozart is challenging on any instrument!



Altadena Rotary Events

May 9 - PCC Vocational Scholarships

May 16 - PUSD Scholarships

June 27 - President Dawn's Demotion Party



READING DAYS AT FAMILIES FORWARD!



Patricio Castro performed an original composition on accordion, which impressed the judges. Patricio has his own ensemble playing traditional music from Latin and South America. He is in 12th grade at John Muir High School and studies with Karen Klages. Everyone enjoyed his masterful and energetic performance and we hope to hear Patricio's group perform for us one day!



Craig Cox reading to kids aged 3 and 4, at Families Forward Learning Center last week.

Clayton Fong, our winner, played 5 Bagatelles by Carl Vine, on piano. A dynamic interpretation of a complex, contemporary piece. Clayton is in the 9th grade at LACHSA and studies with Carl Matthes. Clayton will advance to the regional round on April 11th. Best of luck Clayton!



Craig and Mark with Elva Sandoval. Club member and Executive Director of Families Forward Learning Center



Ewan Lamond (awarded runner-up) performed a solo from Take Five by Dave Brubeck on alto-saxophone. Ewan is in the 11th grade at John Muir High School. The judges complimented Ewan on his jazz improvising skills and large tone, that filled the room!

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!



<https://www.familiesforwardlc.org/>

Los Angeles Times

Shared by René Amy



It's easy to create a California native wildflower garden. Here's how!

Creating habitats for pollinators is "easier than falling off of a log!"

BY MICAH FLUELLEN ART DIRECTOR
MARCH 11, 2024 6:07 PM PT

<https://www.latimes.com/travel/the-easiest-way-to-plant-california-native-wildflowers-123>

Anyone in Los Angeles can create a beautiful wildflower meadow and you can start just in time for a spring bloom. That's the mission of Altadena Maid, a one-person crusade for restoring pollinators and wildflowers, one seed mixture at a time. "I like to talk about the plant anxiety," says Altadena Maid founder René Amy. "The idea that somehow or another you've got to do all this work. No, it isn't anything like that. Native plants are nature's, if you will, 'weeds.'"



Altadena Maid makes it easy for anyone to grow low-maintenance wildflower gardens. You simply crumble the seed bark sold by Amy, toss it and water.

René creates a variety of seed barks, including native wildflower, coastal and pollinator-focused blends, each for a different region of California. He takes into account factors such as elevation, heat, sunlight and exposure. Most importantly, each bark aims help provide habitat for pollinators and to support native pollinator populations.

MEMBERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

An application has been received by prospective new member: Wendy Silva Villa, profession: mortgage broker. Notification will be sent via email to active members of the Rotary Club of Altadena, in accordance with our bylaws and membership process.

LA Times article (cont'd)



"I tell people it's easier than falling off a log," Amy says. He adds that though L.A. develops its land for housing and commerce, there's still a way to restore native plant habitats. "The biggest challenge, as we look at what's going on around L.A., for example, we're losing more and more of the native open spaces and developing more and more housing and commercial developments and all the rest," he says. "We need to try to buck that trend as much as possible and make it possible to sustain those pollinators that keep us alive."

<https://altadenamaid.com/>