



Education Uncomplicated.

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TLCFairplex.org

Millard Sheets
Center for the Arts

Fairtime Education

Career and Technical
Education Center (CTEC)

Junior Fair Board

Child Development
Center (CDC)

Summer shines brighter, thanks to you!



FUN Decanted = Fun for All

A picture-perfect summer evening was the backdrop for June's FUN Decanted, a celebration of wine, beers, spirits and gourmet food trucks benefitting The Learning Centers. The event offered guests their first opportunity to taste the award-winning wines, beers, spirits and extra virgin olive oils of the Los Angeles International Wine & Spirits Competition. Introducing a new spin with food trucks and a DJ, the event raised \$60,000 for The Learning Centers.

CTEC's Auto Arts on Track

The new Alex Xydias Center for Automotive Arts provides instruction and certification in vehicle diagnosis, service, auto body metal and fabrication, mechanics and restoration through a two-year hands-on program, at no cost to the students. The small class size and the variety of skills taught will ensure that students are employable within the automotive field, as well as other industries where this knowledge and experience are applicable. The center's namesake was an influential figure in the early days of the sport of auto racing involving hot rods. Mr. Xydias opened the first So-Cal Speed Shop in Burbank in 1946. As the holder of several class speed records, he is the recipient of accolades and honors from numerous automotive organizations. The energetic 89-year-old spoke at the VIP reception on June 18, which was hosted by the AXC volunteer advisory committee and attended by 100 auto enthusiasts.

To learn more visit fairplex.org/ctec/axc.



AXC Advisory
Committee
Members



Hot rod legend and
AXC namesake
Alex Xydias and
AXC Advisory
Committee Chair
Jon Blickenstaff

How Does Your



The Learning Centers at Fairplex knows how our garden grows. Through your generous support, the roots and learners of all ages bloom through educational programming. Thank you!

CDC Garden: Growing Wonder and Excitement in the Littlest Gardeners

Five-year-old Matthew pulls on his blue gardening gloves and grabs one of several hand rakes. "Water makes the seeds grow," he says matter-of-factly. And he should know. Matthew is preparing to enter kindergarten next year while tending the Fairplex Child Development Center's garden.

While little minds and hearts grow in the adjacent classrooms, the CDC garden flourishes. Thanks to a grant from Southern California Edison, the children have been growing their own vegetables, not only learning about agriculture and basic plant biology but nutrition, too.

"They've had the opportunity to eat foods they normally wouldn't, like bok choy," explained teacher Michelle Mitchell. It is the students' responsibility to plant, water and weed, which they did with the help of Fairplex horticulturist Don DeLano.

The CDC garden teaches other lessons, including math and science. "We practice our counting when we drop in the seeds," said Michelle. The enjoyment the children find in caring for their beets and cabbage is evident as they clamor for the door. The process is second nature, as 5-year-old Angelina explains. "We get our dirty shoes on and go outside. We use shovels and dirt and get the water can. And then we pour water!"



Junior Fair Board: Nurturing and Growing Future Leaders



Leadership, as with plants, can be cultivated -- and the more carefully you tend your sprouts, the better your results. Nowhere can that be more clearly seen than in how the Junior Fair Board members are stepping up to help their community. Students completed community service projects that they researched, organized and implemented themselves:

- **Food Drive** – More than 700 lbs. of non-perishable food was collected for the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank.
- **Aye Chihuahua Dog Walk** – The dog walk raised money for the Inland Valley Humane Society.
- **Shoes That Fit sock drive** – Socks were collected for the Shoes That Fit organization, which collects new shoes and socks for underprivileged children.
- **Run for Ramos** – The 5K run at Fairplex raised funds for La Verne student Noah Ramos, who is battling aplastic anemia, and the Aplastic Anemia and MDS International Foundation Inc.
- **For the Love of Sports** – New and used sports equipment was collected for the Boys & Girls Club of Pomona.
- **Language Barriers** – Members of this group reached out to English as a Second Language (ESL) elementary school students to teach them reading comprehension.

Garden Grow?

... contributions, children flourish, young leaders of tomorrow are nurtured, art takes
... thank you for your continued support to cultivate the bright minds of tomorrow.



Teaching Our Fair Share

Each year, more than 100,000 schoolchildren from preschool through junior high visit the L.A. County Fair as part of the free FairKids Field Trips. Many of those children are bused in from local schools where the idea of an orange grove or a garden bursting with vegetables is just a notion in a picture book. That is what makes their wide-eyed expressions all the more memorable when they walk into FairView Farms. Teeming with fruit, vegetables, animals and information, FairView Farms is an educational exploration through nutrition and agriculture. While older students learn about the food pyramid, youngsters get to be Farmers for a Day, harvesting corn and apples and selling them at the pretend Farmer's Market.



Gallery Grows Collections

Just like one person's weeds are someone else's flowers, one person's cast-offs can be another's treasures. When Fairguests walk through the Millard Sheets Center for the Arts, they will see some amazing treasures. This year's exhibit, "ELECTIONS" The Art of Collections, will transform the gallery into a passage through time and place, with different eras characterized by distinct collections. As guests travel through the exhibit, they will journey through the historical, creative, artistic and practical applications of each collection. Among the collections are nostalgic neon signs; tools from long ago; arts and crafts; model railroad engines and railway cars; and antique buttons. There will also be hands-on interactive artist demonstrations.



CTEC: Building Skills in Horticulture

It is Saturday morning and a group of teens are digging their hands into the soil of flower beds surrounding Fairplex. Had their parents asked them to do the same at home, there may have been some grumbling. But here, as part of their Landscape Design Horticulture class at the Career and Technical Education Center, well, it's a treat. Students have been getting their hands dirty and learning about soil, plant propagation, water management, fertilizers, weeds, insects, plant diseases, turf management and landscape design – all in an effort to plan for careers in parks and landscape maintenance. Along with in-class work, each class session offers two hours of hands-on instruction utilizing the Fairplex grounds. And with 543 acres, the students get to work in an array of landscaping scenarios.



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TLCfairplex.org



Send Some TLC this Summer!

\$25 allows one Junior Fair Board student to participate in a leadership seminar provided by the Kravis Leadership Institute

\$50 sends 10 local students to the Fair for an educational field trip

\$100 supplies a CDC preschooler with instructional materials for one year

\$500 provides materials and supplies for the hands-on arts workshop during the Millard Sheets Fine Arts exhibit

\$1,000 underwrites the cost for one CTEC student to attend 90 hours of classes and job skills training



Save the Date

Tickets and patron packages on sale now. Visit TLCfairplex.org/events or call (909) 865-4207 for more information.

L.A. County Fair Premiere Party
Friday, September 2

20th Annual CDC Dinner & Auction
Thursday, September 29