

UPDATE REPORT TO DONORS – OHS MCJROTC PROGRAM

The Orange High School (OHS) Marine Corps JROTC Association would like to express its gratitude to its donors for their continued support of the OHS Marine Corps JROTC program. The grant funds provided have supported numerous activities in furtherance of the Program's Leadership Development & Civic Engagement curricula and have made a significant difference in the lives of underserved, disadvantaged students living in Orange County.



Thanks to the grant funds received from our philanthropic partners, nearly 100 students have engaged in a variety of Leadership Development trainings and Civic Engagement activities during the 2018-2019 school year. In September, 38 senior and junior cadets had the opportunity to attend a College Tour which included visits to the University of California in both San Diego and Irvine, the University of San Diego and San Diego State University. The students received campus tours and admission briefings at each school.

Our students also went on several field trips during the first half of the school year, starting with a visit in September to Camp Pendleton and the Marine Corps Recruit Depot where they observed military training drills for recruits as well as their drill instructors, and were guests of Alpha Company, 4th Tank Battalion, where they learned about the capabilities and tactical use of the M1A1 Abrams Tank, which included rides in the tank cockpit with the Marine crews. In December, 40 students had the unique opportunity to attend a two-day Basic Leadership Course Training at the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center located in Twentynine Palms (the largest United States Marine Corps base in the country), that included team building, command drills, and physical training.



Later this month (April '19) 10 cadets selected to assume leadership roles within the Program will travel to the Marine Corps Base Kaneohe Bay in Hawaii for Cadet Leadership Training over Spring Break. During that week the cadets will attend a JROTC Leadership Course sponsored by the Marine Corps, participate in a Team Building Challenge Course offered at Camp Erdman, learn outdoor skills at Kualoa Ranch, and receive tours (with history lessons) at the USS Arizona Memorial, Ford Island and the Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum.



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In addition, our cadets have participated in several Drill Meets this year, including the prestigious Southwestern Regional Drill Meet this past January held in Desert Hot Springs. With more than 150 competitors, the Orange High School JROTC Program performed exceptionally well, garnering two 1st Place trophies for both its Unarmed Drill Team and Individual Exhibition; two 2nd Place awards for its Armed Drill Team and Color Guard; and a 3rd Place trophy for its 4-Man Exhibition Team.



Many of our students come from socioeconomically disadvantaged families, and other sources of funding for the JROTC Program do not cover these crucial extracurricular activities and field trips. As a result, the support provided by our philanthropic partners plays a vital role in ensuring that our students are afforded the opportunity to develop their leadership skills, increase their self-discipline explore post-secondary education and programs.

Another key component of the OHS Marine Corps JROTC Program is its emphasis on Civic Engagement and community involvement. Our students have presented the colors at more than 20 events this year, including the monthly meetings of the Orange City Council and the Orange Unified School District; the Orange Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, Congressman Lou Correa's Service

Academy Nomination Ceremony, Chapman University's Veteran's Recognition ceremony, and a Pregame presentation for the Anaheim Angels baseball team. In addition, our cadets have had the privilege of serving as Honor Guards at memorials for Marine Corps veterans, working with active-duty Marine Corps personnel to render final military honors for those who served. Furthermore, students from JROTC again this year took part in Read Across America by volunteering to read to elementary school classes, as well as participated in Red Ribbon drug awareness week at District schools.





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Cadets also dedicated their time to helping those less fortunate members of the community by working in the Second Harvest Food Bank's food distribution center. Our students are also scheduled to participate in an elder assistance program at the Kirkwood Assisted Living facility in Orange, where they will engage in a variety of activities in support of the residents. These will include assisting those with limited mobility, reading to those with limited vision, and handling personal errands for those who are unable to do so for themselves. In addition, cadets

have been asked to listen and record the personal biographies of the residents, particularly the retired veterans, as a means of honoring their past and fostering opportunities to build character and leadership skills through service to others.

The sole mission of the OHS Marine Corps JROTC Association is to support the JROTC Program at Orange High School and provide funding to ensure that cadets are able to participate in these unique Leadership Development and Civic Engagement activities. The support of our donors is vital to this mission, which has the ultimate goal of transforming the lives of the young men and women who participate in the Program by helping them to develop into responsible, honorable and civic minded adults



who take ownership and pride in themselves and their community. Thank you again for your generous support.

