



Quarterly Newsletter

Sponsored by San Diego Rotary Club and Mission Gorge Rotary Club

A Message from our President ...



Hello everyone, the City Heights Rotaract year is off to a great start. Despite the adversity of 2020, we have found ways to continue making a positive impact in our community and fulfill the mission of our club. We

successfully executed socially distant service projects that will empower our neighbors for years to come. These projects have been supplemented by the generous support of two Rotary Foundation grants to help us match our club's contributions. While the opportunities to gather are limited by health

guidelines, we've managed to find COVID friendly ways to enjoy quality time together such as our very first outdoor movie night at Cafeina Cafe. I want to give a big shoutout to the entire board of directors and advisors who have been working hard to make sure we have a successful year. I believe that thanks to their efforts, we welcome our largest number of members who all have been eager to roll up their sleeves and engage in meaningful fellowship. I look forward to our continued work in creating the next step in the development of leadership in our community.

Rudy Vargas, 2020-21

City Heights Rotaract turns 5!



Rotary Opens Opportunities



We are excited for another Rotaract year!

Meet the 2020-2021 Board of Directors!



Rudy Vargas

President

Rudy Vargas is United States Senator Kamala D. Harris' District Director for the San Diego and Imperial counties. As a proud San Diego State Aztec, he double majored in Political Science and Environmental Studies. Prior to joining Team Harris, Rudy served as a representative for the San Diego City Council. Working alongside City staff, he was able to steer multi-million dollar infrastructure projects including parks, a new fire station, and the first community skate park in City Heights, the neighborhood where he grew up. Rudy has also worked at a number of local non-profits providing resources to some of our most underrepresented communities. Rudy is currently on the Ocean Discovery Institute Board of Directors, served as the director of service and is currently the president of City Heights Rotaract Club.



Genesis Maganda

Vice President

Genesis is native to San Diego and has called City Heights her home for 23 years. She is a proud Hoover High School alumna and attended the University of San Diego where she obtained her Bachelor's Degree in International Relations in 2016. She has been a member of City Heights Rotaract since 2016 and has previously served as Club District Representative and Director of Membership. Genesis currently works in property management at Price Philanthropies and also regularly attends local community meetings. In her free time, Genesis enjoys taking dance lessons, coffee, traveling and spending time with family.



Lizbeth Pastenes

Secretary

Lizbeth is a chartering member and current Secretary of City Heights Rotaract. She has held board positions in the club since its inception and has been recently honored as a Paul Harris Fellow for her contributions as Past President. Lizbeth is a native San Diegan who grew up and currently resides in the community of City Heights. She is a proud Aztec, obtaining her Masters of Public Administration from San Diego State University. Lizbeth is passionate about giving back to City Heights and does so by working with youth in the community with the Price Philanthropies Foundation. In her free time, she enjoys traveling, wine tasting, and is a fitness enthusiast.



Josefina Lopez

Treasurer

Josefina grew up and currently lives in City Heights. She attended San Diego State University where she double majored in Business Management and Spanish. She then got her MBA from Point Loma Nazarene University. She currently works in the Auto insurance industry as an Injury adjuster. Josefina is passionate about giving back to the community that gave so much to her. This is the second time that Josefina has served on the board and is excited for this rotaract year. Josefina enjoys traveling, reading and being outdoors.



Tristen Cain

Director of Service

Tristen is a student at SDSU studying Civil Engineering with a goal of becoming a professionally licenced engineer in the transportation industry. He is an Aaron Price Fellow and a former Price Communities Scholars mentor. He currently holds the Director of Service position for City Heights Rotaract and is ecstatic about making a difference in his community by planning community service events for the club. When he's not studying or planning events you'll find him surfing at the pier in PB, tent camping with friends in southern California, or getting a sandwich from Windmill Farms.



Jesus Herrera

Director of Professional Development

Jesus is a proud San Diego native and claims he never plans on leaving his hometown! Born and raised in the community of City Heights, Jesus attended all the local schools and proudly graduated from Hoover High School in 2016. After high school, Jesus made the decision to pursue a path in residential real estate where he tapped into a passion for luxury homes. Currently for work, he manages his father's business, a residential painting business, where Jesus has the opportunity to run a small business and prepare to be the best business leader he aspires to be. In addition to serving as Director of Professional Development, you will most definitely find Jesus exploring restaurants, hanging out at the La Jolla beaches, visiting exotic car shows, or doing some work at his community garden.

August



Happy Birthday!

Sonya Vargas
August 27th



Rotaractor of the Month

Alfredo Montes-Godinez, Member

Alfredo joined our club in August and immediately jumped into to get his hands dirty at our service events! He has attended all events and we are excited to have him on board.



(above and right) We kicked off the month of August by creating a community space at Cafeina Cafe's back patio, where community events have and will continue to be held. With our matching grant, we were able to paint, garden, and make benches.



For our August fellowship event, we decided to go outdoors to get our steps in! City Heights is surrounded by beautiful canyons and we explored the City Heights Trail Loop with our guide and long-time City Heights resident, Linda Pennington.

Happy Birthday!

September



Bryan Liang
September 6th



Regina Aguilar
September 24th



Rotaractor of the Month

Andrew Benavides, Member

Andrew was recently pinned as a new member and already has done so much. He invited us into his coffee shop, Cafeina Cafe in City Heights, to enjoy an outdoor movie night with our entire membership!

For the month of September, we were lucky to pin four new members during our annual professional headshot photoshoot! While this year's pinning was different, our members are still excited to serve our club to the fullest potential. Welcome to the club: Andrew, Stephanie, Jessie, and Alfredo!



For September's service project, we partnered with the City Heights Community Development Corporation (CHCDC) to help out at the New Roots Garden. With our matching grant, we were able to provide the garden with tools such as wheelbarrels and weedwackers. These were much needed tools for the gardeners!



(below) 2020 is the year to get creative! This month we hosted an outdoor movie night at Cafeina Cafe's patio. We watched 'Mulan' in a big screen provided by the City Heights Business Association.



If you would like to join us at our monthly meetings, take part in our events or would like more information about our club, please email us at chrotaractclub@gmail.com. Like us on Facebook or follow us on Instagram to keep up with City Heights Rotaract! Club!