



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

Boys & Girls Club As Kids See It

By California, age 9
Downtown Clubhouse Club
Member

An average day at Boys & Girls Club goes like this:

- *Free time*
- *Power hour*
- *Free choice rotations*
- *Pick up*



Free time is when we have snack. It also is when we walk around the Club and play games. The games we have include carpet ball, pool, bumper pool, and Foosball. We also have different rooms such as the art room, computer lab, learning center, gym, multi purpose room, cafeteria, and games room (that is where the games we were talking about are).

Free choice rotations are when we choose which room we want to be in for 45-60 minutes. Different rooms mean different activities. For example, in the art room we do craft projects like painting, coloring, origami, and building things out of cardboard, Popsicle sticks, and paper. In the games room, we do games. In the learning center, we do homework. And in the cafeteria, we eat.

Power hour is when we do our homework. If we do 12 good power hours in a row we get a party. Power hour is great because we get to do our homework with our friends. Also, we get help with our homework. Power hour is actually pretty fun for homework time.

Here are some things Club members say about Boys & Girls Club:

*"I like Boys & Girls Club because the staff are nice and my friends go there,"
says Misha age 9.*

*"I really like it here, and there is plenty of time to get my homework done,"
says Kimbra age 12.*

*"I am excited to draw and paint in the art room,"
says my little sister and future Club member Juni age 5.*

All in all, Boys & Girls Club is pretty great. I would not change a single thing. We all love Boys & Girls Club, not just me, but everybody here.

What's Happening at the Club



Education Room at Downtown Clubhouse

This summer the Downtown Clubhouse was introduced to their new Education Director Hayley Rizzi, a recent University of California Santa Cruz graduate with a degree in Psychology. Hayley aims to provide Club members with a concrete foundation to succeed and reach



Teen Room at Live Oak Clubhouse

The teens at the Live Oak Clubhouse had a summer filled with adventure! From strolling to the Capitola Cinelux on Tuesdays to building sand castles at Moe's beach on Wednesdays to visiting the Roller Palladium and Boardwalk, the teens were always busy.

their full potential.

She began her time at the Club as a Teaching Aid overseeing Power Hour and helping Club members achieve academic success by providing guidance, tutoring, and homework support. By encouraging members to develop a daily habit of completing homework and studying, Power Hour helps members make a commitment to school and learning.

Hayley communicates with schools like Bay View and Westlake Elementary and works with teachers in order to offer extra support to members.

Our Downtown Club celebrated a strong start to the school year with a Power Hour party that celebrated kids who have been putting in full effort and taking school seriously.



This summer, Teen Director Michael Herzog aimed to integrate Club members entering sixth grade, and new to the Teen Center, by including transitioning members in activities with continuing Teens. This helped the school year transition for incoming members and helped deliver a sense of familiarity and comfort to our afterschool program. Michael and Alfredo, Teen Program Specialist, focused on creating an environment to better meet the needs of the Teens. This has tremendously increased the overall morale of the center.

This school year was kicked off with a mini concert by a few of our Live Oak staff members. “The Staff” (Stefan Frazier, Jason Chew, Casey Sustaita-Paz, and Michael Herzog pictured below) jammed out to three songs for The Club and are planning on playing at other Clubs in the near future.

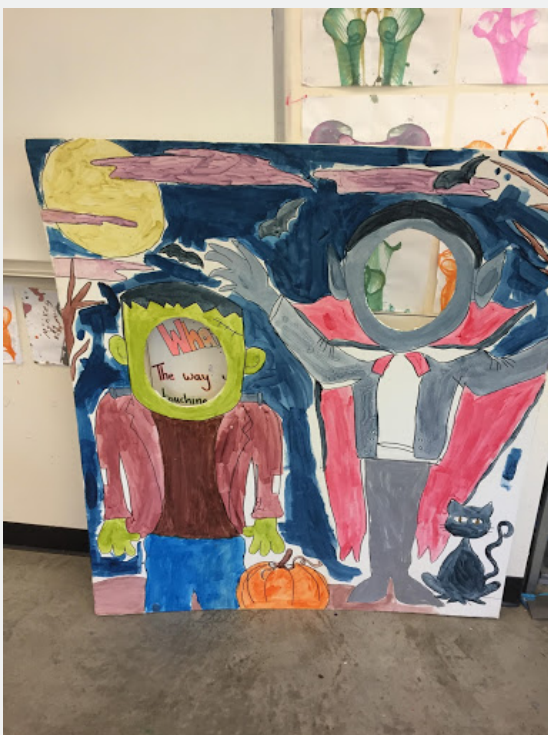


The Art Room at Live Oak Clubhouse

During the long summer days, Art Director Irene Valencia enhanced creativity and engagement by listening and adapting to our Club member's interests. Our members loved working outside and the most sought after activities included 3D projects and sculptures.

In September, members participated in the Bird Fun Fest at the Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History (MAH), learning about the diverse paths of migration and submitted their own bird themed work to the festival. September is also Spanish Heritage Month and members produced different forms of art to highlight their Spanish culture, including decorated guitars and paintings.

The Live Oak Art Room has been prepping for the spooky season by creating Halloween themed cut outs on large pieces of donated board and paying tribute to Dia De Los Muertos, emphasizing the cultural difference between the two holidays.



Past Fall Events



Dodge For a Cause: Dodgeball Tournament

We had a blast at our first ever Dodge for a Cause: Dodgeball Tournament presented by Bay Federal. On September 16th, eight teams played a rousing game of Dodgeball culminating in an awesome Championship game! The tournament included play, lunch, t-shirts, and activities for entire families. 100% of funds raised went towards improvements to our Live Oak Clubhouse outdoor area and basketball courts. We are looking forward to next year!



Live Oak 10k/5k & Family Fun Run

On September 22nd, Live Oak community members and their families joined us at the first ever Live Oak Community Run. Co-hosted by Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Cruz County and Santa Cruz County Parks & Recreation, the Live Oak 10k/5k Family Fun Run invited runners and families of all ages and fitness levels to support Boys & Girls Clubs and Santa Cruz County Parks athletic programs, activities, and facilities. We are looking forward to next year's event in October 2019!



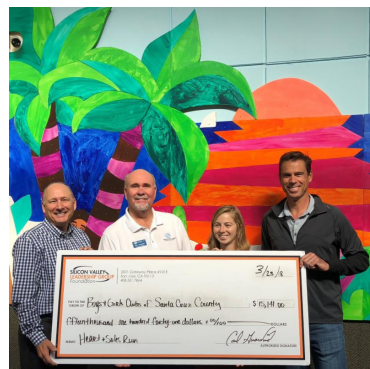
Congratulations to Carole Murray for winning the Quilt Raffle hosted by the Silver Dolphins with proceeds benefiting BGCSCC's Aquatics & athletics program! Thank you to everyone who bought raffle tickets and big thanks to Ann Rauen for making this beautiful quilt.

Pictured: Anne Rauen (Silver Dolphin 1st Vice President and Quilt Maker Extraordinaire) and Gloria Nieto (Silver Dolphins President)



Pleasure Point Surf Club Coach extraordinaire Michael Allen was honored at this year's Volunteer Center of Santa Cruz County's Be the Difference Awards. We are so proud of you Michael and are so happy that you're being honored for the amazing work that you do! [Learn more about our Pleasure Point Surf Club here.](#) You can donate directly to Pleasure Point Surf Club using the "Donate" button below.

Pictured: Michael Allen (Pleasure Point Surf Coach) and Bob Langseth (Executive Director, BGCSCC)



Thank you to the Silicon Valley Leadership Group for donating \$15,141 to help us renovate our Downtown Clubhouse kitchen. We are honored to be a 2018 Heart & Soles Run beneficiary.

Pictured: Chuck Ryder (Board Member of BGCSCC), Bob Langseth (Executive Director of BGCSCC), Ashley Williams (Assistant Race & Event Manager for Silicon Valley Leadership Group), and Chris Weiler (Race Manager for the Silicon Valley Leadership Group)

Boys & Girls Club of the Valleys named Organization of the Year by the Scotts Valley Chamber.

Our Joe & Linda Aliberti Clubhouse was named Organization of the Year by the Scotts Valley Chamber.

Pictured: Maia Yates (center, Joe & Linda Aliberti Clubhouse Director) and Boys & Girls Club of the Valleys Board of Directors.



Upcoming Events

5th Annual Community Breakfast

Thursday, November 15th
8:15 am - 9:15 am
Downtown Clubhouse, 543 Center Street
This event, open to the public, includes a full, complimentary breakfast, as well as highlights, historic photos, stories, and community partners & supporters. We will also hear from inspirational youth speakers.
[RSVP HERE](#)

Annual Children's Craft and Food Fair

December 1, 2018
11:00am - 2:00pm
Downtown Clubhouse, 543 Center Street
Right after the Downtown Parade, creative children (age 6-18) turn out to sell homemade baked goods, crafts, artwork, jewelry, clothing, bath items, plants, ornaments, clothing, and much more. This popular event has tons of repeat customers because of the impressive quality, great selection, reasonable prices, and the opportunity to support young entrepreneurs while doing holiday shopping. Admission is free for customers. There are always plenty of great food, snack, coffee, and light lunch options too!

If you know a crafty kid interested in renting a table for only \$15,
[they can still register online here.](#)

Dancing Through the Decades: 50th Anniversary Gala

Saturday, March 23, 2019
6:00pm - 10:00pm
Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History
Please join us at this very special Boys & Girls Club Gala celebrating the years by Dancing through the Decades with three floors of incredible foods, spirits and entertainment.

Tickets will be available at early bird pricing at our Community Breakfast on 11/15/18 and on our website. [For more information, visit our website here.](#)

Donate Today

Support our efforts to enable Club member to become responsible caring, citizens.



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