

# Long Beach Day Nursery News

SINCE 1912 • PUBLISHED FOR THE FRIENDS & STAFF OF LONG BEACH DAY NURSERY

## Tea for Tots a Success!

Long Beach Day Nursery's Tea for Tots – The Hat Walk 2018 annual event and silent auction was held at the Long Beach Yacht Club on Saturday May 19th. Rich Archbold, editor for the Press-Telegram, and longtime supporter of the nursery was this year's honoree.

This year's event was successfully attended and a fun time was had by all! Tea for Tots raised monies for the programs and services provided to Long Beach Day Nursery's young students, ages ranging from 6 weeks to 6 years.

Kicking off the program, a short film created and produced by Duke Enterprises was shown. The film highlighted Long Beach Day Nursery's long and rich history since 1912 and most importantly its unchanged dedication to the nursery's mission, to provide high quality education and care to children of working families. Cameos in the film included current Board Chair-Elect and past LBDN alum Joen Garnica, former Long Beach Mayor Dr. Beverly O'Neill, Rich Archbold, LBDN teacher Richard Panganiban, and last but not least LBDN preschool student Melanie Hughes.

LBDN Executive Director Whitney Leathers and Tea for Tots Chair Robyn Gordon-Peterson introduced Rich Archbold as this year's honoree. Rich took the stage, graciously speaking to the nursery's history and its long standing effect on the Long Beach Community. He also injected humor and personality, speaking to his dear friendship with LBDN alum the Honorable Beverly O'Neill and her hatred of a past LBDN practice Cod Liver Oil. Rich also played to the event's Hatwalk theme changing head wear various times, most notably to his beloved Chicago Cubs cap.



The Honorable Beverly O'Neill (left) & Tea for Tots Honoree Rich Archbold (right).

Rich Archbold's speech entertained attendees with storytelling and humor, and captivated them with his sincere and heartfelt support and passion for the Long Beach Day Nursery.

Closing out the event was the Hatwalk, which gave attendees the chance to 'strut their stuff' across the catwalk stage showing off their creative and elegant hats. Awards were given out to the best hats, with LBDN student Melanie Hughes stealing the show with her flowing pastel pink hat.

Next year's event Swing for Tots, will be held at the historic Queen Mary on Saturday May 18, 2019 featuring a 1930s theme. We look forward to seeing you there!

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## Message from the Executive Director



Whitney Leathers

What one word comes to mind when you think of the Long Beach Day Nursery?

This question was posed to participants in the creation of our newly released 3 Year Strategic Plan (SP). While many struggled to stick to just one word, the words chosen were inspirational. Love, Quality, Magical,

Forward-thinking, Nurturing, Well-being, Return on Investment, and Evolving (to name a few).

The Strategic Plan (available at the front desk and upon request) provides a road map for our future. It is built upon successes of years past and continues the forward thinking legacy of our founder, Florence Bixby, and generations of LBDN Board of Directors and staff. The SP represents feedback and ideas from: parents, honorary and current board members, community leaders, funders, alumni, the LBDN team, and we even hosted a focus group with our little students!

I'd like to thank everyone who participated in the LBDN Strategic Planning process! A special thank you to members of the Strategic Planning Task Force (listed on sidebar)! As we dive into the next school year, you have our commitment that LBDN will continue to be magical, nurturing, and forward-thinking. We look forward to reaching our goals and hope that you will join us on this journey.

Sincerely,

Whitney Leathers, Executive Director

## THANK YOU LBDN Strategic Planning Task Force:

Stacy Bass

Barbara Bixby-Blackwell

Jean Bixby-Smith

Kathleen Costello-Pitts

Michele Dobson

Marcelle Epley

Joen Garnica

Jon Gotz

Nancy Hays

Theresa Landers

Deloris Mayuga

Margaret McMahon

Suzanne Nosworthy

Brian Russell

Mike Soutar

Debbie Thorpe

Donita Van Horik

Melanie Werts



## Message from the Chair



Michele Dobson

It is my great pleasure to serve as the 2018-2019 Board Chair. We have completed our Strategic Planning process under the leadership of Past Board Chair Debbie Thorpe and we are onward and upward

to our goal as a board, to bring infant care to the West Branch and to bring the branches technology into this Century.

As many of you know from your tours and visits to the West Branch on Chestnut, the branch has grown over the last century without the benefit of offering infant care. If you get a moment, chat with Executive Director Whitney Leathers about the care provider to infant ratio and the space required to accommodate infants at the West Branch. We believe that it is imperative that the Washington Neighborhood, where our West Branch is located, have infant care so that parents do not have to drop off their toddlers and go back home with their infant for want of infant care.

The City of Long Beach, through the Department of Health and Human Services, provided a snapshot of the Washington Neighborhood, where the West Branch is located, indicates that it has approximately 9,300 residents, with 80-86% of the population living at, or below, the federal poverty level. Imagine what a gift it will be to this neighborhood and our community when we bring infant care to the West Branch. Please be our ambassadors and bang the drum regarding infant care at the West Branch.

We are also tackling the issue of providing our branches with technology. Right now, they are working with a server that sits on a table with a large house fan blowing on it to keep it cool. This scene is not my attempt at humor, it is actually the state of our Preschool's technology and our staff

and teachers continue to provide cutting edge early childhood education with antiquated servers, computers, telephones and WiFi. In addition to integrated systems so the staff has stable WiFi access and telephone systems, we are seeking to bring technology into our classrooms for our preschoolers and teachers. We are also seeking to self-manage our website to make the website more nimble and to increase its capacity for parents and teachers to be able to communicate through our website, to on board our students through our website and to allow secure access for our board, donors and patrons to communicate through our website.

Certainly, there are lots of moving parts to provide infant care at the West Branch including working with the City of Long Beach Planning and Building to better utilize our space on the corner of 13th and Chestnut. If you have expertise in that area, we welcome you with open arms to chime in and assist us with navigating this process. One of my favorite memories as a Board Member is seeing Whitney visioning on her desk moving paper cut outs of the West Branch Buildings to make room for the possibility of infant care. Further, we are putting together a request for proposal to the Long Beach Community to get an assessment of our technology so we know what we need.

There is great excitement brewing this year and lots of hard work ahead of us. I look forward to chatting with each of you during my time as the Chair of the Board.

Sincerely,

Michele Dobson  
Chair of the Board, 2018-2019

# Back to School

What an exciting time at LBDN! We welcomed children and families for the new school year, and are thrilled to work towards our newly released Strategic Plan Goals! Below are exciting details on the work in process:

## Strategic Plan Goal 1:

Expand high-quality, innovative services for young children & families



Construction begins at West Branch for toddler expansion!

Toddler 1 opened on September 24!

Stop by and check out our remodeled classrooms & new infant yard at East.

## Strategic Plan Goal 2:

Foster an environment that supports wellness & development



Volunteers needed!

Now recruiting for Parent Advisory Council members - focus on teacher appreciation!

Sign up at our front desk.

## Strategic Plan Goal 3:

Amplify LBDN visibility & brand awareness



CPIN in the house!

We are excited to launch a new partnership with California Preschool Instructional Network for coaching & professional development.

Welcome! Coach Amy Lanza started with us at our August In-Service.

## Strategic Plan Goal 4:

Increase community investment in early care & education



Attend a Long Beach Early Childhood Committee event this year & help us advocate for increased investment in early care & education.

Meetings are the first Friday of the month, LBECE.org.



# Interview with Lead Teacher Xochitl Ramirez

For seventeen years, Xochitl Ramirez has been a: mentor, friend, parent educator, nutrition guide, baby whisperer, manager, classroom designer, sleep guru, early intervention collaborator, professional finger painter, curriculum developer, safety coordinator, and master of the playground. How has she managed all of this for 17 years, you ask? Well, she's been an Early Childhood Teacher at LBDN! And as any LBDN team member would say; our teacher's role is so much more than playing all day.

Xochitl joined LBDN in 2001; with a background in preschool she accepted an Infant Teacher position in our Beverly Lewis O'Neill Infant and Toddler Center. She shined as a Teacher and was promoted to Head Teacher within her first year and promoted within the last five years to Lead Teacher taking on a role that she hopes to grow into mentoring and parent education. Xochitl is committed to early childhood best practices and returned to school herself earning her Bachelor's Degree last year! Her recent educational journey was something she always wanted to do for herself and she says the time and effort was definitely worth it.

When asked what it takes to be an exceptional early childhood teacher, Xochitl tells us, "Patience and love. Know your purpose and always go back to why you want to be here, doing that will make it more rewarding for the children." Xochitl's "why" goes back to her own childhood where she met Myra, a neighbor with special needs. When Xochitl noticed none of the other children played with Myra, she befriended her and their favorite past time became playing school on their front stoop. It was at that early age that Xochitl's love for teaching began and continues to inspire her to create an inclusive and loving classroom where everyone feels they belong and have a friend.



LBDN Lead Teacher Xochitl Ramirez

The skill for creating a warm and welcoming environment shines through Xochitl's work. When asked about her most rewarding experiences, she tells us about supporting parents when they are experiencing challenges; stories of providing a listening ear for a parent who just needed to cry it out; and providing educational resources for ways to nurture your parent child relationship. Consistent with her caring and tranquil demeanor her favorite part of the day is bottle time, which allows for one on one nurturing, bonding, and breathing with the children to create calm.

If you've ever had the good fortune of working with Xochitl you have most certainly learned something, whether through her passion for sharing best practices or simply by watching her work her magic in the baby room. We are so grateful to have her as a leader on our LBDN team! Thank you Xochitl for all you do!

# Summer Fun Activities



Pump and Splash Day gave the children a unique way to get some much needed relief from the heat! Students worked together and cranked the levers of large interactive water pumps to splash and spray each other.



After a hugely successful Popcornopolis Fundraiser, funds were used to treat the students to a Reptile Party! An array of reptiles, amphibians, and spiders were brought to the nursery by Kids Reptile Parties for the children to pet and hold.



The Annual Picnic, generously hosted by the LBDN Board of Directors, provided a fun summer afternoon for LBDN families complete with food, activities, music, and entertainment.

## Thank you Tea for Tots Donors!

### Sponsors

- \*Bud & Theresa Landers
- \*Coldwell Banker Coastal Alliance, Debbie Thorpe
- \*Great Beginnings Preschool, Marian Stocking
- \*J & L Jewelry, Janis Krantz
- \*McCarty's Jewelry, Page Henley

- Cal State Long Beach Baseball
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- Diego Lopez & Joen Garnica
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- Golf N' Stuff
- Gondola Getaway
- Henry & Julia Taboada
- Hisaye 'JoAnn' Kuroda
- Hotel Maya
- Incredible Journey Travel, Pat Ellington

- International City Theatre
- James & Deborah Russell
- James & Kathy Lingle
- Jeffrey Williams
- Joan Van Hooten
- Joe Jost's
- John & Sandra Wells
- John Garey Fitness & Pilates
- Judith Kaho
- Kate Mueller
- Kathleen Costello-Pitts
- Lakeshore
- Legends Restaurant & Sports Bar
- Lillian Villaneda
- Linda Silver
- Lisa Tyra
- Long Beach Symphony
- Los Alamitos Race Course
- Los Angeles Clippers
- Luna Belmont Shore
- Lynn Danielson
- Marion Hinze
- Michele Dobson
- Milton & Meri Anne Bartlett
- Musical Theatre West
- Nancy Hays & Cary Lewis
- Naples Rib Company
- Norma Fast
- Norma Grady
- Pam Spoo
- Parker's Lighthouse Restaurant & Queensview Steakhouse
- Paul & Lorie Merrill
- Pioneer Hotel & Gambling Hall

- Polly's Pies
- PRP Wine International
- Pussy & Pooch
- Rich & Pat Archbold
- Richard & Janet Johnson
- Richard & Susan Bell
- Rob & Marta Griffin
- Robert & Mary Alice Braly
- Roe Seafood Restaurant
- Sandor & Deloris Mayuga
- Sandy VandenBerge
- Santa Anita Park
- Schooner or Later
- Scott & Traci Glasscock
- Scott Donnelly
- Share & Do Good
- Sharon Civaleri
- Sharon Westafer
- Sherry Cheak
- Spirit Cruises
- Temple Family Charitable Foundation
- Terry Marte-Greco
- The Auld Dubliner Irish Pub & Restaurant
- The Clubhouse at Anaheim Hills Golf Course
- The Comedy & Magic Club
- The Crooked Duck
- The Ice House
- The Orleans Hotel & Casino Las Vegas
- The Wine Country
- The Works Consulting
- The World Famous Laugh Factory
- Tom & Joan Alderson
- Tracey Wilson

## LBDN Welcomes New Board Members!

This July - September 2018, Long Beach Day Nursery welcomed five new board members. Each board member brings a unique skill set and a wealth of knowledge and expertise that will help LBDN effectively accomplish it's Strategic Plan goals & become a more dynamic organization as a whole.

The new board member inductees include:

**Denise Dahlhausen:** Development Director & Grant Writer

**Steve Hockett:** General Manager, Private Golf Clubs

**Kevin Kelly:** Principal, Seaward Road Properties

**Jillian Koehring:** Development Event Manager, Aquarium of the Pacific

**Nelinia Varenas:** CEO, Breakthrough SEO Marketing



Denise Dahlhausen



Steve Hockett



Kevin Kelly



Jillian Koehring



Nelinia Varenas

## Thank You Jerry & Jan Maize

The Long Beach Day Nursery would like to thank Jerry and Jan Maize for their unwavering support of Long Beach Non Profits. Jerry and Jan opened their home to Long Beach Day Nursery for a donor event, as they have for many other Non Profit Organizations and we want to say, "thank you" for opening your hearts and your home to philanthropic causes. You are treasured by this community and we are grateful for your support.



## LBDN Classifieds

### JOIN TODAY: FUTURE BOARD MEMBERS

Iconic Long Beach nonprofit seeking compassionate professionals with a love for children to join our collaborative action oriented Board of Directors. Big ideas and big hearts welcome! Call or email today to join us in supporting young children and families in Long Beach.  
562-591-0509 [wleathers@lbdn.org](mailto:wleathers@lbdn.org)

### ATTENTION: LONG BEACH FAMILIES

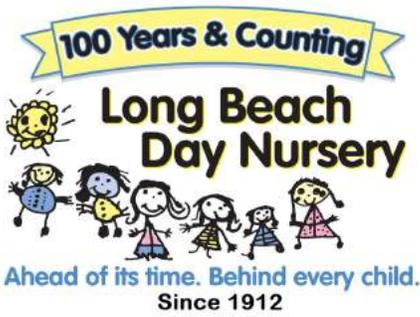
Long Beach Day Nursery with two conveniently located NAEYC Accredited schools seeking children for magical learning experience. Parents, please call today for enrollment availability. Immediate space available for two year olds with birth dates between September 2016 - December 2016. Call Angie at 562-421-1488 for more information.

### NOW HIRING: TEACHERS

Nationally Accredited early childhood program seeks passionate teachers committed to providing the highest quality early care and education for our community's youngest learners. Must love providing positive interactions, getting messy, sing-a-longs, story time, and installing a love for learning in our next generation of leaders! Full time hours, excellent employee benefits, professional development opportunities, and a supportive work place provided. Contact Margaret McMahon today for consideration. [Mcmahon@lbdn.org](mailto:Mcmahon@lbdn.org).

### SEEKING DONATIONS: SWING FOR TOTS

Swing for Tots, LBDN's Spring Event raising much needed funds for programs and services provided to students of Long Beach Day Nursery is looking for silent auction donation items. Please call or email today to make an item or monetary donation towards our annual fundraiser goals.  
562-591-0509 [rcarrell@lbdn.org](mailto:rcarrell@lbdn.org)



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Long Beach, CA 90813  
[www.lbdn.org](http://www.lbdn.org)  
Address Service Requested



Accredited by the  
National Association  
for the Education of  
Young Children

The mission of the Long Beach Day Nursery is to provide high quality early care and education for young children of working parents.

## SAVE THE DATE



**The Queen Mary**  
Brunch & Bubbles  
10 am - 2 pm  
For more information:  
562.591.0509, rcarrell@lbdn.org

### West Branch/Administrative Offices

1548 Chestnut Avenue  
Long Beach, CA 90813  
562.591.0509

### East Branch

3965 Bellflower Boulevard  
Long Beach, CA 90808  
562.421.1488

## 2018-19 Board of Directors

Michele Dobson, *Chair*  
Joen Garnica, *Chair-Elect*  
Robyn Gordon-Peterson, *1st Vice Chair*  
Debra Kahookele, *2nd Vice Chair*  
Brett Bradbury, *Treasurer*  
Nancy Hays, *Recording Secretary*

Gina Ballard	Theresa Landers, <i>Past Chair</i>
Denise Dahlhausen	Ann Mantel
Pat Ellington	Daniel Tapia
Steve Hockett	Debbie Thorpe, <i>Past Chair</i>
Kevin Kelly	Nelinia Varenas
Jillian Koehring	

### Long Beach Day Nursery News

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Natalie Ugalde

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