

Governor and First Lady's Medals for Service

The Governor and First Lady's Medals for Service recognizes individual volunteers, business volunteer programs and nonprofit leaders whose innovation in the field of volunteerism has had a tangible impact on their community, region and the state of California. The high-profile, statewide recognition program serves as an opportunity to inspire all Californians to serve their communities.

California's Volunteer of the Year

Honoring an outstanding Californian whose volunteer service is exemplary and inspirational

Kathryn Vaughn



Kathryn Vaughn transformed a heartbreaking experience into a thriving, volunteer-driven nonprofit that fills the gap of "extended" family for youth as they transition from foster care to independence. After meeting a small group of caring individuals who were providing essential basic needs and home furnishings to emancipating foster youth, she recognized the value of the critical services being offered and made it her personal mission to ensure that foster youth leaving the system are not derailed by the unexpected emergencies and lack of resources that challenge their opportunity for self-sufficiency. Vaughn, a successful attorney, made the huge commitment to take time away from her law firm for over five years to become the unpaid president, executive director and volunteer for the group called Just in Time for Foster Youth. In 2009 alone, Just in Time made more than 1,200 assists to foster youth under her leadership, and has given more than \$1 million in aid since its creation. For more information, please visit: www.jitfosteryouth.org

California's Nonprofit of the Year

Honoring a California nonprofit who has shown an extraordinary ability to leverage volunteers in service to their organization

WriteGirl



Recognizing that creative writing can lead to self-expression and self-empowerment, WriteGirl has helped more than 3,600 at-risk teen girls find their inner voice through writing, and has helped 100 percent of their participants gain access to higher education. Recruiting trained writing volunteers from some of the highest profile organizations, such as the *Los Angeles Times*, Disney, and the *Writers Guild of America*, WriteGirl helps young girls become published authors, polished public speakers, critical thinkers, effective communicators and future community leaders by the time they graduate high school. For more information, please visit: www.writegirl.org

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California's AmeriCorps Member of the Year

Honoring a California AmeriCorps member who has demonstrated the values of an AmeriCorps member and made a significant contribution to their community

Megan Mastache



Megan Mastache has served two years as an AmeriCorps member, helping establish the framework for a thriving volunteer program at the San Luis Obispo Children's Museum and providing a voice for sexual assault victims through her work at the Sexual Assault Recovery & Prevention Center. From single handedly coordinating more than 50 volunteers to assist with the grand opening of the Children's Museum to raising awareness of sexual assault prevention by organizing a "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes" rally, Mastache has made a robust commitment to addressing community needs through her AmeriCorps service. In addition to her AmeriCorps work, Mastache has made it a lifelong commitment to tackling hunger and homelessness by participating in the SLO Food Share initiative, a program connecting restaurants and their extra food with local homeless shelters, for the past five years. Mastache has admirably demonstrated the values of an AmeriCorps member and has made a significant contribution to her community.

California's Business Volunteer Program of the Year

Honoring an outstanding California business with an innovative, high-impact employee volunteer program

Cisco Systems



Being engaged in the community is a core value that is part of the Cisco fabric. Cisco connects its people, culture and core competencies to community needs and opportunities with a specific focus on education, critical human needs and community leadership. Since 2009, Cisco employees in California have provided pro bono technical support, coupled with more than \$2.2 million in IT product grants, to nonprofits and charities throughout the state. Cisco volunteers review organizations' IT infrastructures, design technology systems and lead their implementation. California employees with experience in non-technical areas such as marketing or finance also give their time/expertise as volunteers and board members. Additionally, Cisco has provided \$3.5 million in matching gifts for employee donations of \$2.7 million. As remarked by California's Secretary of Service and Volunteering, Cisco's business volunteer program represents "volunteering on steroids." For more information, please visit: www.cisco.com

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California's Small Business Volunteer Program of the Year

Honoring an outstanding California small business with an innovative, high-impact employee volunteer program

Bay Federal Credit Union



Bay Federal Credit Union has enjoyed 100 percent employee participation in multiple volunteer activities for seven consecutive years. Their volunteer efforts have helped more than 49 charities and nonprofits through a variety of initiatives, including: pro-bono, skills-based assistance with marketing, education and outreach, employee head shaving extravaganzas to raise money for the Children's Miracle Network, orchestrating winter coat drives for youth, and conducting a cell phone drives for soldiers. For more information, please visit: www.bayfed.com

California's Service Group of the Year

Honoring a California service group who has demonstrated an unwavering service commitment to the local community

Rocklin Police Department Volunteer Program



The City of Rocklin Police Department Volunteer Program is comprised of 114 law enforcement volunteers who have donated more than 55,000 volunteer hours over the last five years, saving the City of Rocklin an estimated \$1.2 million by performing an exhaustive list of 58 critical functions. These volunteers help the Rocklin Police Department allocate resources to other priorities that keep the community safe. For more information, please visit: www.rocklin.ca.us

California Volunteers' Spotlight Award

Taproot Foundation



Taproot Foundation strengthens nonprofits by engaging marketing, human resources, design, and strategy professionals in pro bono service. Their work bridges a crucial resource gap and helps business professionals apply their talent in service to their communities. In less than a decade, more than 5,300 business professionals have served on their projects providing services valued at more than \$60 million to an estimated 1,000 nonprofits across the nation, which totals 750,000 hours of pro bono service. Their partnership with universities, companies, and government organizations creating the pro bono movement has positioned the nonprofit sector for long-term improvements by building a vital workforce of professionals committed to service. For more information, please visit: www.taprootfoundation.org

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