



California Nevada District Exchange Club's

# DARE TO DREAM INITIATIVE

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INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION

Presented by: Cynthia Strasmann



CA NV District Exchange Club's

# DISTRICT THEME

“DARE TO DREAM”

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Encouraging bold thinking and vision mindset



EXCHANGE CLUB OF NEWPORT HARBOR

# OUR CLUB'S FOCUS

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Providing opportunities for recognition and growth

Aligning *Dare to Dream* with:

A.C.E. Scholarships

Youth of the Year Award

Citizenship Essay Contest





Exchange Club of Newport Harbor

# BRINGING THE THEME TO LIFE VISUALLY

“INSPIRING BY DESIGN - USING THE DARE  
TO DREAM THEME”

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Feature Dare to Dream artwork throughout our Club materials

Incorporated in:

Program brochures

Event Invitations and signage

Email messaging and newsletter articles



DARE TO DREAM



YOUTH SCHOLARSHIPS

AWARDS



Celebrating our honorees who dared to dream big, take courageous steps, and achieve goals!

A.C.E. AWARD

ACCEPTING THE CHALLENGE OF  
EXCELLENCE

The Heart of our Dare to Dream  
mission!



# A.C.E. MATERIALS



Exchange Club of Newport Harbor

## DARE TO DREAM

A.C.E. AWARDS 2026

Accepting the Challenge of Excellence

Bahia Corinthian Yacht Club  
1601 Bayside Drive  
Corona Del Mar, CA

*Celebrating our honorees who dared to dream big, take courageous steps, and achieve goals!*

### 2025 Honorees Continued

- Costa Mesa High School**  
Principal: Dr. Dipali Potnis  
Counselors: Janice Dazey, Kayla Faiga, Jaclyn Gonzalez  
Honoree:
- Early College High School**  
Principal: Dr. David Martinez  
Counselor: Jami Gullini  
Honoree:
- Estancia High School**  
Principal: Michael Holt  
Asst. Principal: Jennifer Chamberlin  
Counselor: Mindy Savage  
Honoree:
- Newport Harbor High School**  
Principal: Dr. Sean Boulton  
Counselor: Jessica Bolding  
Honoree:



Exchange Club of Newport Harbor

DARE TO DREAM



YOUTH OF THE YEAR

AWARDS 2026



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# YOUTH OF THE YEAR

DARE TO DREAM  
A.C.E.  
AWARDS 2026

 Insert Name				
 Insert Name				

**About Us**

Chartered in 1926, the Exchange Club of Newport Harbor is the oldest service club in Newport Beach. Annually, the Exchange Club provides significant grants, as well as volunteer time and effort, to organizations focused on the prevention of child abuse and serving military personnel and their families. In addition, the Club annually awards scholarships to numerous deserving high school seniors who have chosen to pursue further education. To learn more about the Exchange Club of Newport Harbor, please visit the Club's website, [exchangeclubofnewportharbor.com](http://exchangeclubofnewportharbor.com).

**What We Do**

Exchange Club engages in numerous "Areas of Impact" - Americanism, Community Service, Youth Programs, and the national project to prevent child abuse. Americanism activities promote pride in America, respect for our flag, and appreciation of our freedoms, including the Club's annual Field of Honor and its Proudly We Hail, Freedom Shrine, Military Appreciation, and One Nation Under God projects. Community Service focuses on core charities serving the public, crime, fire prevention, and the Club's Book of Good Deeds Awards. Our youth activities benefit, award, and develop our Nation's youth through donations to our community's Junior Lifeguard Program, its annual Spirit Run, the Club's Buddy Bench project in partnership with Patrick's Purpose Foundation, and its yearly scholarships to high school seniors. Historically and ongoing, the Club emphasizes its involvement in numerous child abuse prevention activities.



Exchange Club of Newport Harbor

DARE TO DREAM

YOUTH OF THE YEAR  
AWARDS 2026

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EXCHANGE CLUB OF NEWPORT HARBOR

# Young Citizenship Essay Contest 2025 - 2026

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## VICTORIA ELEMENTARY

### 4TH & 6TH Grade Students

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**"WHAT MAKES A GOOD AMERICAN CITIZEN, AND HOW CAN DARING TO DREAM HELP YOU MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY, SCHOOL, OR NATION?"**

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#### Student Instructions:

Write an essay based on our prompt above. There is no word limit. You may type your entry or handwrite it as long as it is neatly written and double-spaced.

Prizes  
1st - 3rd

Turn In By: **Friday, March 6, 2026**

Turn In To: Front Office Staff

Questions? Contact the Front Office Staff | (949) 515-6985

# CITIZENSHIP ESSAY CONTEST

Encourages students to reflect on what it means to be an engaged American citizen  
Students "dream aloud" about a better nation  
Strengthens patriotism and civic awareness  
Reminds youth that their voices matter



# FIELD OF HONOR ESSAY READER



EXCHANGE CLUB OF NEWPORT HARBOR  
Proudly Presents

*15th Annual*  
**FIELD OF HONOR**

★ In honor of all military servicemembers, firefighters, lifeguards, police and medical personnel. ★

Friday, May 17 - Monday, May 27, 2024

**Castaways Park**  
Dover Drive & 16th Street  
Newport Beach, CA

Flag dedications and donations can be made at the Exchange Club booth at Castaways Park or online at [exchangeclubofnewportharbor.com](http://exchangeclubofnewportharbor.com).

 **Thursday, May 23, 2024**   
**Student Program**

**9:30 am - 10:00 am | Patriotic Music**

- **Paularino Elementary School Band** | Suzanne Rivera, Director | "Yankee Doodle," "America" ("My Country 'Tis of Thee"), "The Army Song," and "American Spirit March"
- **Kaiser and Sonora Elementary School Choirs** | "God Bless America," Carolyn Hanson, Kaiser Choir Director; "We Are One Nation," Sarah Flores, Sonora Choir Director

**10:00 am - 11:00 am | Ceremony**; Cynthia Strasmann, Master of Ceremonies

- **Welcome Comments** | Cynthia Strasmann, Exchange Club Director of Youth Programs
- **Invocation** | Pastor Dan Erlenbusch, Newport Harbor Lutheran Church
- **Color Guard, Presentation of Colors** | Sons of the American Revolution
- **Pledge of Allegiance** | led by Jasmin Andres and Valery Romero, Paularino Elementary
- **National Anthem** | "Star Spangled Banner," Sarah Flores, Director, performed by Kaiser and Sonora Choirs; "Arlington," directed by Carolyn Hanson and performed by Kaiser
- **Presentation of Military Flags** | Girl Scout Troop #5388 - Cadettes Minkyung Choi, Avery Cooper, Rose Creed, Rosie Noel, Gabi Sobotka, Journey Ly
- **"Tribute to the Armed Services and Into the Blue"** (Space Force Hymn), Sarah Flores, Director, and Carolyn Hanson, Director, performed by Sonora and Kaiser Choirs
- **Keynote Speaker** | **Lisa Moncur, Gold and Blue Star Mother**
- **Flag Folding Demonstration** |
- **Young Citizenship Essay** | Victoria Elementary, Lila Cash, 6th Grade
- **Patriotic Art Awards**  
1st Place: Yeva Kapustina - Killybrooke Elementary  
2nd Place: Daisy Dong - Lincoln Elementary  
3rd Place: Celine Antal - Sonora Elementary  
Honorable Mention: Jaxon Steinfeld - Sonora Elementary
- **Closing Remarks** | Cynthia Strasmann, Exchange Club Director of Youth Programs
- **Newport Beach Bearcat and K-9 Display** | SWAT - Officer Cornelius, Officer Rivas and Detective Rains; K-9 Officer Erik Rosenberg and K-9 Ryder.

# CITIZENSHIP ESSAY WINNER 2024 - 2025



# How We Bring “Dare to Dream” to Life

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Inspire: Recognizing youth potential

Support: Providing mentorship and encouragement

Empower: Awarding scholarships and celebrating service

Connect: Linking community values to youth action

# Impact Beyond Awards

Many students become first - generation college attendees

Renewed confidence and community involvement

Club members are energized by their stories

“Dare to Dream” becomes a shared journey



# Looking Ahead

Continue expanding youth outreach  
Strengthen collaboration with local schools and counselors  
Encourage other clubs to share their Dare to Dream stories

Thank You!