

The Laurel Foundation



Empowering At-Promise Youth Since 1993



2025 YEARBOOK

LAUREL-FOUNDATION.ORG

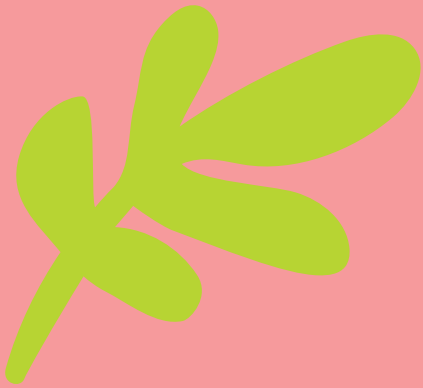


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Message from Maverick



Letter from Maverick, Founder of The Laurel Foundation

What an incredible year it has been! 2025 marked one of The Laurel Foundation's most impactful years yet, filled with growth, community, and the transformative power of compassion. Together, we provided cost-free programs that reached hundreds of youth and families, empowering them to build confidence, develop leadership skills, and discover their authentic selves. From our resident camps, day camps, and leadership programs, each moment reflected the heart of our mission to help every child see their strength, their worth, and their potential.

This year, we expanded our population served to include at-promise youth (young people from marginalized communities) to ensure all vulnerable youth had access to mental health support, outdoor experiences, and a safe space to simply be themselves. Our volunteers, donors, and staff came together to create unforgettable memories, from high ropes to community circles, that truly changed lives.

As we look ahead, I am filled with gratitude and hope. The Laurel Foundation's mission remains steadfast: to create vibrant communities where at-promise youth are empowered and discover their authentic selves. Thank you to every camper, camper family, volunteer, Board member, and supporter who made 2025 extraordinary. You are the reason our community continues to shine so brightly.

Maverick (aka Margot)
(she/her)

Founder & CEO, The Laurel Foundation



CAMP LAUREL TEEN ADVENTURE





TEEN ADVENTURE



The Laurel Foundation's 2025 summer season ended with one of our best programs ever — Camp Laurel Teen Adventure! It was a week filled with fun, learning, and new friendships for youth (13-17) from all across California. Campers worked with It's Bigger Than Us to make over 250 care packages for families affected by the Eaton and Palisades fires, learning that leadership starts with kindness and helping others.

The program focused on future careers and higher education, with campers exploring college life at Cal State Los Angeles and joining hands-on workshops with Would Works, LA Culinary School, and Street Poets. The week ended with a magical Beach Day at the Santa Monica Pier, full of laughter, games, and memories. One camper had so much fun that they wished camp lasted forever!



TEEN ADVENTURE





TEEN ADVENTURE



GOOD TIMES!

ACTIVITIES:

Cooking, Composting,, College Prep, Woodworking, Street Poets, It's Bigger Than Us, Beach day fun and so much more kept our campers movin & grovin all week!



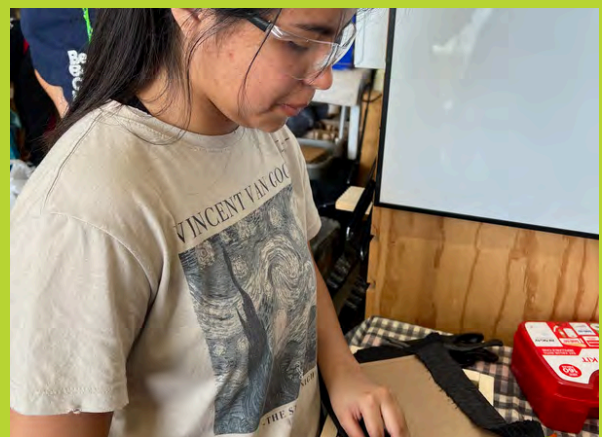
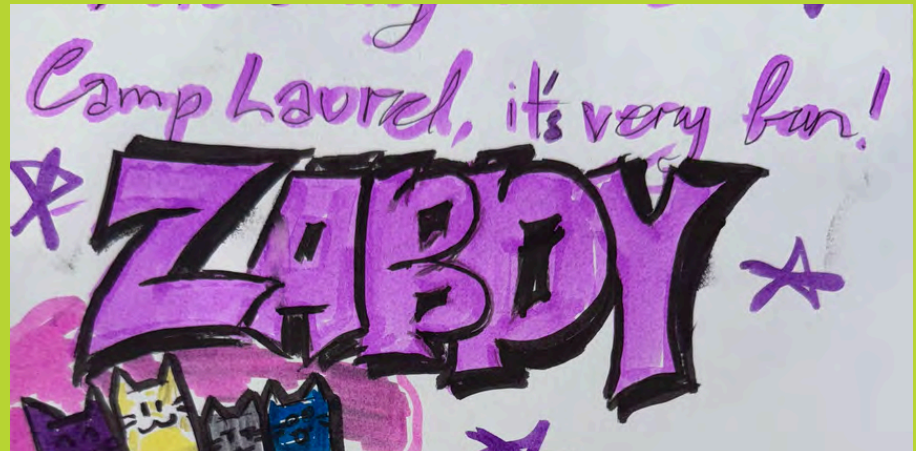
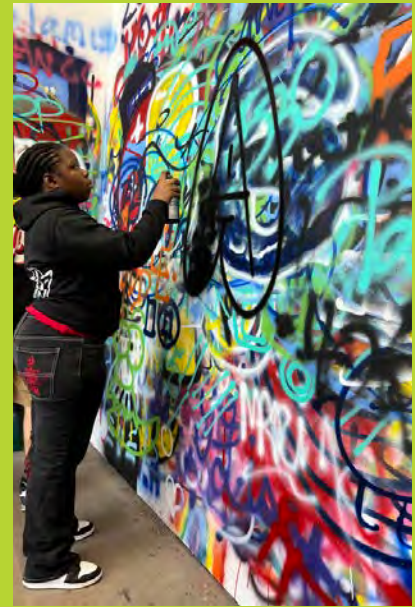


TEEN ADVENTURE



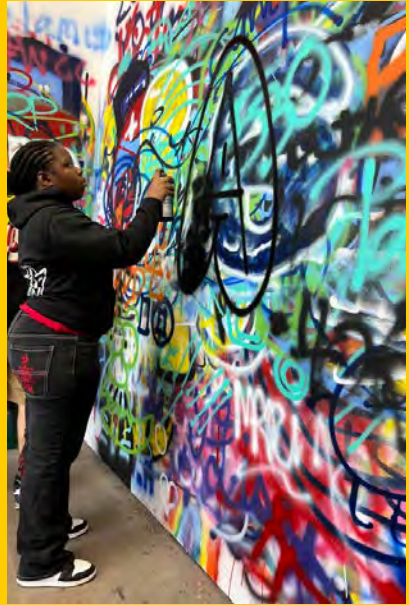


TEEN ADVENTURE





TEEN ADVENTURE



CAMP MULBERRY SUMMER SESSION





CAMP MULBERRY

This summer was pure magic at Camp Mulberry! For one unforgettable week, 70 campers ages 6–17 came together to laugh, play, and just be themselves. Camp Mulberry is a special place made just for transgender and gender-diverse youth — a place where everyone belongs, feels safe, and can be their true self. With the help of our awesome volunteers and caring mental-health team, campers hiked, swam, created art, and shared stories around the campfire, building confidence and friendships that will last a lifetime.

We are so proud of what our campers accomplished this year! Together, they practiced leadership by planning evening programs, learned teamwork through outdoor challenges, and showed compassion by supporting one another during tough moments. Some campers even spoke in front of the whole camp for the first time — a huge step in courage and self-confidence! Every moment reminded us that when youth are encouraged to be authentic and brave, they grow stronger in ways that last far beyond camp.

Camp Mulberry is completely free for all campers, thanks to our amazing donors and volunteers who make it possible. From our doctors and mental-health specialists to our 30 incredible counselors, everyone worked together to create a space full of joy, kindness, and care. Camp Mulberry isn't just a summer program — it's a family, a community, and a reminder that when we lead with compassion and confidence, we can do anything!



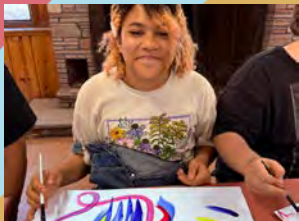
THANK YOU

AMAZING VOLUNTEERS!



CAMP MULBERRY







CAMP MULBERRY



GOOD TIMES!

ACTIVITIES:

High Ropes, Climbing Wall, Arts
& Crafts, Hiking, Drama,
Archery, Evening Programs,
and so much more!





PARAMOUNT HIV EVENT



THE LAUREL FOUNDATION WAS PROUD TO PARTNER WITH PARAMOUNT STUDIOS FOR NATIONAL YOUTH HIV & AIDS AWARENESS DAY (NYHAAD) – A DAY DEDICATED TO EDUCATING AND EMPOWERING YOUNG PEOPLE TO TAKE ACTION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST HIV AND AIDS. TOGETHER, WE HELPED RAISE AWARENESS BY CREATING SHORT EDUCATIONAL VIDEOS TO INFORM COMMUNITIES.



INSPIRE:
BUILDING TOMORROW'S LEADERS



The Laurel Foundation launched its new **INSPIRE: Youth Speaker Series**—designed to empower and motivate young people through the voices of real-world changemakers—with **Team USA's Nick Itkin**. Nick introduced the youth to fencing while sharing valuable lessons on leadership, focus, and the mindset needed to succeed.





CAMP MULBERRY REUNION





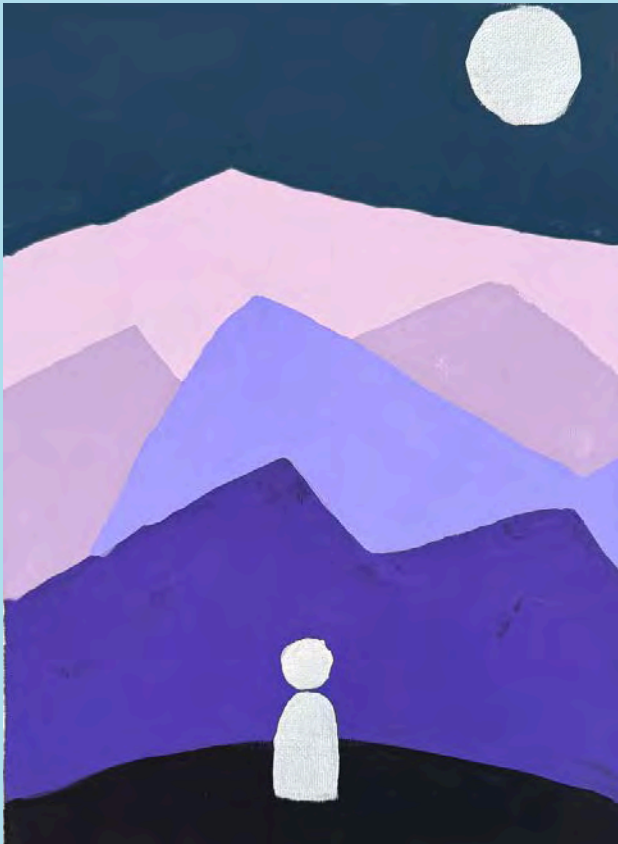
ART EXHIBIT
PALM SPRINGS ART MUSEUM

This year, campers were invited to submit artwork for a show and sale at Palm Springs Art Museum to help raise funds to send youth to camp. "Self-Portrait - was the title of the show.



Palm Springs
Art Museum

SELF- PORTRAIT

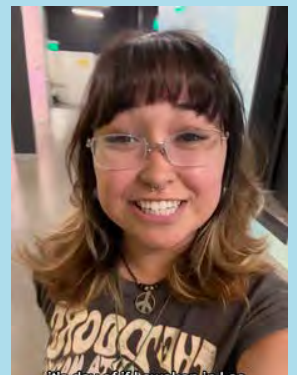


DREAM IT. DO IT.
CAREER SUMMIT



In November, The Laurel Foundation hosted its first **Dream It. Do It. Career Workshop** bringing together incredible keynote and panel speakers who are breaking barriers, building careers, and inspiring youth (13-17) to lead with purpose.

Thank you to Mischa Haramia of Henderson Engineers, Ines Nasri of WebPower USA LLP, Shindale Seale of SEADE Coaching and Consulting, Lilliana Perez of L.A. Chargers, Rose Montoya, Ari Ruiz, Los Angeles Youth Poet Laureate, Samantha Ru, and City National Bank, who helped to make this event such a success.





The Laurel
Foundation

ANNUAL EVENTS



SPRING INTO CAMP





LIFE SKILLS RETREAT

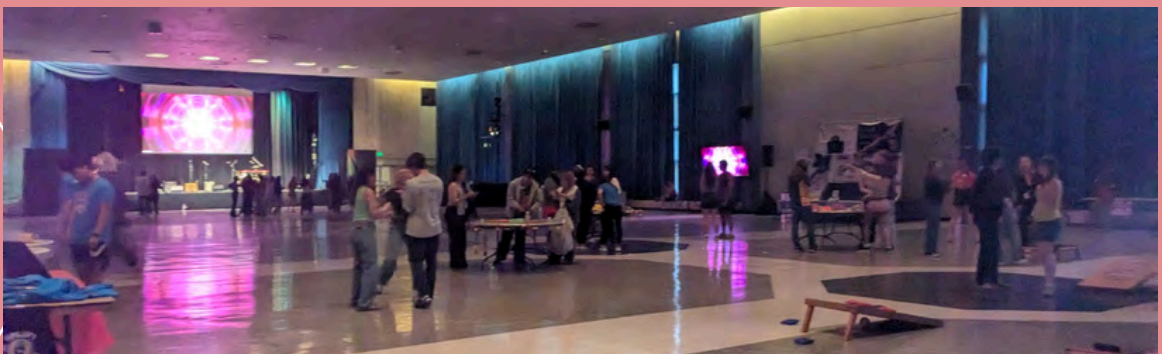




DANCE MARATHON - PAC



DANCE TO END AIDS





HALLOWEEN PARTY



HOLIDAY PARTY



REMEMBER...



Camp was
great I am
so coming
back!
-R

Camp gave me a space to be myself
and support kids like me. I hope other
campers and counselors can experience the
camp mulberry joy.

Everyone is so
amazing here!!
all the staff
are great &
super supportive
I love this
camp!!
😊

★ I Love being here at ★
Camp Laurel, it's very fun!
★ ZABBY ★
★

DOODLE...

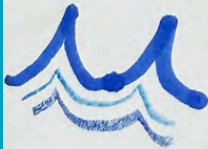


GREATEST Phantom
SUMMER Hunters
EVA! 4LYF!
-J



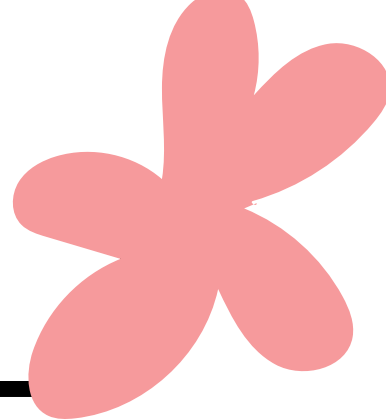
Camp Mulberry truly is my
happy place. The counselors,
staff and campers are all
AMAZING! Thanks for another
great year! -Infinnity ★≡

CAMP mulberry is such
a great way to connect and
have fun! ☺ -Elliott
Joy of Summer





EXPRESS YOURSELF



THANK YOU TO OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF!



WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU

Adrian Belmes
Amy Duong
Andrew Kramarsky
Anna Marta Myran
Anny Lima
Arianna Avina
Asha Khanna
Ayden Dorsett-Sobel
Aydin Olson-Kennedy
Brandon Greenleaf
Britney Keller
Bryan Thornton
Cameron Mackey
Charles Danso
Chelsea Alvarez
Christian Huang
Citlalli Mendoza
Cody Ellis
Daniel Funk
Daniel Tadeo
Darely Rodriguez
Dee Hampton
Dr. Jo Olson-Kennedy
Ev Cullen
Fer Villalbaz Bravo
Fin Sawyer
Finney Brownstein
Gabriel Diaz
Georgette Washington
Giovany Estrada
Hanna Masri
JamieDee Lyons
Janelle Vos
Jasper Alloway
Jax Van Horn

Jayden Tan
Jazmyne Johnson
Jen Tefft
Jolie Theall
Jordan Held
Justice Smith
Kamara Lindsey
Katie Dudley
Kaylie Murphey
Lauren Gideon
Lex Clearwater
Linda Cervantes
Lisa Stangl
Lorenzo Diaz
Lorraine Gonzalez
Lucille Lacuna
Maezi Yang
Malani Cox
Malcolm-Aimé Musoni
Maliha Khan
Marcus Bode
Mariana Esparza
Mario Villar
Mason Tsang
Mataes Ledezma
Mayvis McCobb
Michael Wilkins
Michelle Gonzales
Nadelyn Hul
Natalia Paulik
Natalie Nicole Dressel
Nathan Durham

Nicky Cutler
Nico Jimenez
Nomi Culverwell
Pages Matam
Samuel Herbst
Scarlett Alt
SFD Foster-Dimino
Sophie Castro
Tiffany Baker
Violet Eiland
Xitlalic Guijosa
Xotchitl Villanueva
Yazmenne Archer
Zoe venna

Board of Directors

THANK YOU TO OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mark Moralez (he/him) - Chair

Mischa Haramia (she/her) - Secretary

Margot Anderson (she/her)

Jordan Held (he/him)

Ines Nasri (she/her)

Dr. Shindale Seale (she/her)

Natalie Sofer (she/her)

Lisa Stangl (she/her)

THANK YOU TO OUR PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chad G. - Chair

Alexsis G.

Melissa B

Natalia C

It was a year
full of sun, fun,
and smiles all
around!



THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS, DONORS AND PARTNERS!

MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE!

CORPORATE/FOUNDATIONS

A3 Visual
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Born This Way Foundation
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Jill & Tom Barad
Joanie & Leigh's Cakes
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Joseph Cristina AIDS Fund
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Social Change
Stretto
Tegan and Sara Foundation
Titos
Tom Ballou & Joe Antonio Orozco
UCLA Pediatric AIDS Coalition
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Z Butcher Shop

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Bradley Atkinson
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Jun Yang

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Kimberly Adamis Fongheiser
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Krovblit
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CAMP FAMILY SIGNATURES



THANK YOU FOR PRINTING OUR YEARBOOK

