

email: yakimarotary@yakimarotary.org

website: www.yakimarotary.org



THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2024

YAKIMA CONVENTION & EVENT CENTER

Create Hope
in the World

YAKIMA ROTARY ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Scholarships open doors for those that may not otherwise have the funds to attend school, minimize student debt, allow students to focus on their studies, and encourage philanthropy. Yakima Rotary has a long tradition of supporting students in our community through the award of both academic and vocational scholarships.

The process for this year’s Academic Scholarships began in January and was much more challenging due to the changes in the FAFSA. With hard work by the Scholarship Committee that included phone calls, texts, and emails, we ended with 63 applications. Committee members scored each applicant on academic performance, school and community leadership, a personal essay, two letters of recommendation, and financial need. Thirty-three students were selected to go through an in-person interview. From that group the following nineteen were chosen to receive the 2024 Yakima Rotary Academic Scholarship:

Davis High School
Mia Toscano Heredia

LaSalle High School
Justus Barker

East Valley High School
Jacob Russell

Naches Valley High School
Landon Benetti
Garric Shirrod
Peyton Yates

Eisenhower High School
Michelle Acevedo Haro
Mariah Cornejo
Evangeline Knerr
Jared Rodriguez

Selah High School
Hannah Christianson
Indiana Hilmes
Hannah Rees
Maggy Ruark
Byanca Villegas

Highland High School
Rhiannon James
Yacir Perez

West Valley High School
Hudson Deyette

Homeschooled
Jonathan Carvajal

Please join us this week as we recognize their achievements, hear from each on individually, and celebrate with their family and friends.

FOR THURSDAY’S MEETING

- Greeters – Dave Bolm, Matt Shuel

Invocation – Lila Mowatt

Program – Mary McFadden

Attendance – Connie Falon

FUTURE PROGRAMS

- May 30th – Jay Alexander, Comedian

June 6th – Amber Strunk, LIGO Hanford Observatory

June 13th – Laura & Tood Crooks, Chad’s Legacy Project

June 20 – Ester Huey & Wally Webster, Juneteenth

SAVE THE DATES!

WACKY WEDNESDAY SECOND CHANCE SOCIAL

Wednesday, May 29th
5pm – 6pm
Location will be randomly assigned
Hors d'oeuvres on us
Drinks will be on you

YAKIMA ROTARY TRUST MOLLIE DAVIS GOLF TOURNAMENT

Monday, July 22nd
Yakima Country Club
10:30am Registration
11am BBQ Lunch
Noon Shotgun start

YAKIMA ROTARY TRUST ALL-ROTARY CELEBRATION

Tuesday, July 23rd
Masonic Temple in
The Great Western Building

PREPARE TO BE AWED, AMAZED AND ENTERTAINED

Mark your calendar for May 30th for a one-of-a-kind Rotary meeting at the 4th Street Theatre from 4pm to 6pm where you will be treated to a unique, memorable, and fun program featuring Magician, Comedian and Mentalist Jay Alexander. Find out why Ron Wood of the Rolling Stones said, "Jay is the Best magician I have ever seen." There will be hors d'oeuvres and beverages provided. Invite your friends and family to join you!



REVIEW

It was a real treat to have the La Salle High School Band perform for us. The amazing part was that they started the year with four musicians and had built the program to the eighteen students who came to share their talents. They did a great job! Sharon Miracle followed with quotes from one of her favorite authors that were important enough to share in their entirety. "There is no form of government enlightened enough, no legislation powerful enough, no army or police force strong enough to contain the forces of darkness unleashed by global hatred. Hatred is a cancer, and the only medicine is love. Without love there is no peace. With every prayer, with every thought or action of love we release life that will cast out the darkness."

President Erin welcomed our guests; reminded everyone to sign-up for the Wacky Wednesday Second Chance Social coming up on May 29th; announced that our meeting on May 30th at the 4th Street Theatre featuring comedian, magician, and mentalist Jay Alexander – the time will be 4pm to 6pm; and introduced Jennifer Boukather, the new chef for Sodexo at the Convention & Event Center. After a new member introduction John Cooper raised funds for Rotary Charities with a tourism-themed sergeant-at-arm.

Brad Hansen introduced Zeb Ruff as our newest member. Zeb was born in Yakima and started his life with a bang as Mt. Saint Helens erupted 3 months later. His parents named him Zebulyn from an old Western series, *How the West Was Won*. He was one of 4 boys. His mom ran a daycare in the Valley for 40 years until she passed away in 2011. His dad worked for the West Valley School District for over 30 years. He grew up playing sports with his brothers. He attended Nob Hill Elementary, graduated from Eisenhower, and went on to YVC for three years. Zeb began working for Pacific Power in 2004 where he worked for 10 years before working for Crystal Springs as a route sales representative for over 5 years. Today he is employed at Pacific Steel & Recycling as a Territory Manager, where he has been for nearly 6 years. When not working he coaches his daughters for Central Washington Sounders – it is his passion. He also likes to play golf, Texas hold'em, shooting pool, watching sports, and playing video games with his girls. He is married to his wife, Lynn, a teacher at Wide Hollow Elementary School. He loves living in Yakima and is ready to give back to his community. He is going to make an amazing Rotarian.

Charlie Eglin had the honor of introducing Br. Mark Murphy as our featured speaker. Br. Mark is a member of the Brothers of the Christian Schools also known at the Lasallian Brothers named after their founder St. John the Baptist de La Salle. The year was 1680; they have been around for 344 years. With a mission of education, their focus was work for the poor and working class. A short time after they began their schools, they were so successful that wealthy people wanted their students to be with them as well. Because St. La Salle said they should be inclusive; they accepted them with one condition, they could not pay. All students needed to be treated the same. They did accept donations. Who are the Lasallian Brothers? They are a group of lay persons within the Catholic Christian tradition that come

together to make vows. Most people know about sisters; they are the male counterpart. They have the same vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience with an additional vow of association and service to the poor through education. They live in a community of 6 to 7 brothers, much like a family, doing their own cooking and shopping.

The words *Vine to Wine* are an indication of how the Brothers started on the west coast and came to have a place in Napa, California. They were fortunate enough to have brothers that knew about viticulture. In the beginning the wine they produced was used as sacramental wines which they continued to do during the prohibition and depression. Mont La Salle became available during that time because the previous owner was a commercial wine maker. When prohibition ended, the Brothers expanded into commercial wine and brandy. That was 1935. From the beginning it was part of their commitment to have a business that could help them with their educational work to keep the cost of education as low as possible. Br. Timothy served as their cellar master for over 50 years. He was famous in Napa for being one of the first to experiment with blending. In 1989, they decided to sell the vineyards to Heublein. Today they are in the investment business. They own two businesses called Christian Brothers Services and Christian Brothers Investment Services.

La Salle High School in Yakima is a small part of a much bigger picture. The district they reside in is made up of 22 schools. 19 of them are secondary schools; the other three are middle schools. Three of the schools located in Portland, Tucson, and Oakland follow the Cristo Rey Model. It is an innovative approach dedicated to low-income families only where every student who is 14 years old has a job that they go to one day a week. The school goes to the business community and asks for a job where one day the student coming will be a freshman, the next day a sophomore, the next day a junior, and the next a senior, with the last day rotating between the classes. The businesses pay \$40,000 which goes to the school. Common to all schools are 5 core principles: quality education, concern for the poor and social justice, faith in the presence of God, respect for all persons, and inclusive community. Quality education is all about a fully rounded education; the other four speak to their commitment about relationships.

The Lasallian Brothers belong to an international congregation that has its headquarters in Rome. Located in 80 countries with 1,000 schools, they all follow the same 5 core principles. Fr. Mark has served in India and Pakistan, two countries that did not like each other. With two passports for Ireland and U.S. he was able to travel back and forth freely. He witnessed through the students an acceptance of each other both Christian and Muslim. It was an amazing experience.

Another great presentation, it ended with an invitation to visit the historic Mont La Salle Retreat and Conference Center the next time you find yourself in the Napa Valley.



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