



City of Arts & Innovation

Park and Recreation Commission

TO: HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS **DATE: MARCH 20, 2023**
FROM: PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
SUBJECT: BOURNS FAMILY YOUTH INNOVATION CENTER UPDATE

ISSUE:

Provide an update on the Bourns Family Youth Innovation Center.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Park and Recreation Commission provide feedback and receive the report for file.

BACKGROUND:

On December 16, 2014, City Council directed staff to re-design existing plans for a childcare center to serve as a Youth Innovation Center (YIC) and allocate funding for the design phase. Staff held off bidding on the project until January 29, 2018, so funds would be available to operate the facility once constructed.

On July 30, 2018, Act 1 Construction issued a notice to proceed with constructing the approximately 9,000 square foot Youth Innovation Center at Arlington Park. The Youth Innovation Center would extend services to provide new opportunities for future generations in workforce development, STEM-related fields, and more.

On July 21, 2020, the Youth Innovation Center at Arlington Park's Notice of Completion was filed with the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department (PRCSD). The facility's furnishing and fixtures were moved in, and staff began to complete the installation of technology components of the facility.

On August 18, 2020, the Bourns Family donated \$1,000,000, and City Council approved to name the Youth Innovation Center at Arlington Park the Bourns Family Youth Innovation Center (BFYIC).

On June 7, 2021, the Bourns Family Youth Innovation Center began its STEM Summer Camp with over 20 participants; in August, families were able to participate in a variety of in-person classes, including Girls that Code Club, Intro to Python, Garageband, Chemistry 101, etc.

On September 25, 2021, the Bourns Family Youth Innovation Center hosted the official grand opening event where over 300 families enjoyed a day of STEM programs, introduction to

equipment, and visits with instructors.

DISCUSSION:

Programming

Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department (PRCSD) staff continue to accept proposals for contract classes and low to no cost course proposals. Course proposals include topics in coding, tutoring, STEM clubs, sound recording, maker space activities, film and photography, and computer courses. Recently secured classes include Minecraft Mondays, Experiment Tuesdays, Video Game building, STEM-based Afterschool program, Youth Web Design, Girls That Code, and Photography Club.

Since the doors opened in September 2021, more than 2,000+ participants have visited the center. Membership increased to 400+ and the community programs and outreach events such as summer and fall camps, afterschool program, weekend workshops, and member nights provide the facility with increased visibility. Below is a list of special engagement events that took place in 2022.

On October 6, 2022, BFYIC participated in the Bourns College of Engineering STEP CON, a STEM conference showcasing various STEM programs throughout Southern California. Over 1,600 students participated in the BFYIC activities which included 3d printing, electronic engineering, microscopic discovery, simulated dissection, and music production.

On October 9, 2022, the BFYIC hosted its 2nd annual C3 Robotics Expo. C3 Initiative, a BFYIC partner, provided a free expo for the community that encompassed introduction to robotics and aeronautics with a Marvel theme. Participants learned beginning software coding which allowed participants to code and design rockets that they launched.

On October 28, 2022, the BFYIC hosted its first Member Night – Creepy Carnival. Members enjoyed a free-Halloween themed event that included Trick or Treat custom bag making, spooky science experiments, a haunted house featuring the 360 BROOMX projector, carnival games, and movies and popcorn. Attendance exceeded projections with a 133% family attendance and a 220% participant attendance. Over 80 experiments were conducted with the students and 32 memberships were sold prior to the event; community members sought out memberships to attend the event. 100 surveys were released to assist with data tracking.

On November 12, 2022, the BFYIC sent its' First Lego League Robotics Team, Team Kirby, to University of California Riverside to participate in the First Lego League Challenge Competition. Team Kirby received medals for game resetting and competition assistance.

On November 21-23, 2022, the BFYIC hosted its 2nd Fall STEAM Camp, the camp hit max enrollment of 30 children. The camp included activities such as: LEGO Engineering, Robotics, Crafting with Tech, Chemistry, Photography, 3d Building, and Virtual Reality experiences utilizing the 360 BROOMX Projector.

On December 16, 2022, the BFYIC hosted the first Winter Member Night-STEM in Santa's Workshop. Santa's Workshop included custom beanie & stocking making, Santa Science Experiments, Santa's Workshop Wonderland utilizing the 360 BROOMX Projector, cookie decorating, games, movies, stargazing while searching for Santa & snacks. The BFYIC sold 21 memberships in the 2 weeks leading up to the event. Attendance exceeded projections with approximately 125 participants and over 100% family attendance and 125% participant

attendance.

On December 19-30, 2022, the BFYIC hosted its 2nd Winter STEAM Camp, the camp hit max enrollment of 30 children with 16 of those participants coming to the BFYIC from the partnership formed with Riverside Unified School District Expanded Learning program. The camp included activities such as: Chemistry of Cooking, Music Production, Robotics, Crafting with Tech, Chemistry, Photography, 3d Building, and Virtual Reality experiences utilizing the 360 BROOMX Projector.

Interviews for new Instructors were held and new Instructors will join the team in upcoming months. These new hires will be experts in various subjects to provide instruction for classes, workshops, and seminars. Topics will range from film and photography, music production, computers, maker space craft/equipment, and STEM-related fields.

In 2022, new partnership developments include:

- LAUNCH Apprenticeship Network
- NAACP
- Empower You Edutainment
- La Sierra Film
- IE Musicians Hall of Fame
- San Bernardino Office of Education
- San Bernardino Museum
- Come Back Kids Charter
- UCR School of Medicine
- UCR Genome Department
- UCR Botany Department
- Society of Women Engineers
- RCC Sustainability & Development Department
- Juju Entertainment/Bakers
- Alvord Unified School District

Sponsorship

With the support of the Riverside Community Services Foundation (RCSF), the campaign goal is to raise \$2 million or more for the endowment and scholarship funds administered by RCSF. The endowment fund consists of naming right contributions to support future equipment upgrades and maintenance needs for the facility, whereas the sponsorship funds will provide low-income families the opportunity to participate in STEM-related programs and classes. Naming rights opportunities range from the entire facility to individual rooms such as the sound and film studios, classrooms, lounge, courtyard, etc. All sponsorship opportunities were introduced at the inaugural Innovators Gala, held on October 30, 2019.

Since the gala, RCSF has received a commitment of \$1,125,000 in naming rights contributions and \$17,000 in sponsorships funds.

Commitments have come in the form of naming rights for three of the center's spaces and the facility itself, sponsorship tiers, and donations. The naming sponsors include the following:

Donor	Monetary Donation	Facility/Name
Bourns Foundation	\$1,000,000	Name of Building
Mac Arthur Family	\$50,000	Classroom
Enoch and Windy Hwang	\$25,000	Computer Innovation Lab
SmartRiverside	\$50,000	Informal Classroom

PRCSD staff is in the planning stages of hosting an annual sponsor opportunity gala in the Fall 2023. Current and future donors will be invited in addition to partnering schools, businesses, and non-profit organizations.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

The work contributes to the **Strategic Priority 1 – Arts, Culture and Recreation** and **Goal 1.1.** – Strengthen Riverside’s portfolio of arts, culture, recreation, senior, and lifelong learning programs and amenities through expanded community partnerships, shared use opportunities, and fund development; and **Goal 1.2.** – Enhance equitable access to arts, culture and recreational service offerings and facilities.

This item aligns with each of the five Cross-Cutting Threads as follows:

1. **Community Trust** – Riverside is transparent and makes programming decisions based on sound policy, inclusive community engagement, involvement of City Boards & Commissions, and timely and reliable information. Activities and actions offered at the Bourns Family Youth Innovation Center through city staff and partners serve the public interest, benefit the City’s diverse populations, and result in the greater public good.
2. **Equity** – The goal of the BFYIC is to enable everyone to become innovative thinkers and prepare them for a future in STEM-based careers. The center’s offerings of a maker’s space, sound and film studio, computer lab, formal and informal classrooms will be used for school field trips, college courses, career technical education training, public open hours, and much more.
3. **Fiscal Responsibility** – The BFYIC created the Naming Rights opportunities to ensure the long-term financial needs of the facility (maintenance, equipment repair, etc.). Naming Rights funding will be deposited into an endowment fund to incur interest and be used in the years to come. In addition, the BFYIC has also secured donors to provide scholarship opportunities for the underserved population.
4. **Innovation** – The BFYIC is inventive and timely in meeting the community’s changing needs and prepares for the future through collaborative partnerships and adaptive processes. Currently, the BFYIC has secured over ten partners that will provide an array of free and subsidized programming to Riverside residents.
5. **Sustainability & Resiliency** – The BFYIC is used as a training hub where individuals will be provided the training to develop skillsets that current and future technology will require. This will ensure that Riverside continues to be a leader in the sustainability industry, and a place where large companies recruit local talent.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report. Funding for operations of the community center and programming was included in the Department's budget.

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