

Promotion of Outdoor Activities and Programs to Improve Student Mental Health Monday, December 6, 2021

#### Benefits of Outdoor Activities

- Access to outdoor activities promote a healthy lifestyle and as a result students who have access to outdoor activities experience...
  - Improved positive mood and emotions
  - Enhanced mental health and resiliency
  - Learn better
  - Live happier lives
  - Have increased social interactions
  - Are more connected to their community
  - Have lower risk of injury
  - Less chronic disease
  - Reduced risk of obesity
  - Have higher graduation rates / promotion rates
  - Access to a retreat from daily hassles
  - Reduced risk of psychological and physiological stress



## Programs Offered During COVID

- Followed all LA County Department of Public Health Guidelines
  - Choose to find ways to continue to provide access to recreation programs
- Virtual Classes
  - Comfy Camping At Home
  - 12 Days of Recreation
  - Cheerleading Classes
  - Fitness Camp
  - Create your own Chalk Maze
- Recess in the Park
- Winter Walk N Rock at the Park
- Movies in the Park
- Spring Fitness Challenge
- Hippity Hoppity Spring Photo Op
- Santa's Workshop Family Photos







# Access to Open Space and Park Amenities

- Populate the Park program
  - Support for local organizations to utilize Parks for events and program at no cost
  - Centre Stage Productions
  - Monrovia Youth Baseball League Conditioning / Training
- Developed Reservation system and One-Way Loops within Canyon Park
- Opened Canyon Park one year after the Bobcat Fire
- Maintained ongoing access to Hillside Wilderness Preserve
  - Partnership with Mountain Bike Team
- Boys and Girls Club Partnership Offering Summer Camp Programs







## Youth Social Service Programs

- Junior Research Academy
- Arbor Day Celebration
- Youth Workshops at the Monrovia Community Garden
- Summer Teen Scene



#### Canyon Park Programs

- Long standing partnership with MUSD for the Outdoor Education Program for every youth in kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade
  - Interpretive program and tour in Canyon Park
- Kids Crafts in the Canyon
- Family Hike and Camp Out
- Collaboration with Scout Leaders
  - Eagle Scout Projects
  - Merit Badge Activities
- K-Rail Painting Project Partnership
  - Girl Scout Troop 2851
  - Monrovia High School Mountain Bike Team
- Partnership with MHS Mountain Bike Team
- Earth Day Celebration
- Sunshine Company Park Tours







# Youth Leadership Programs

- Youth Commission
- Teen Advisory Board
- YES Intern Program







# Youth Sports Programs

- Quarterly Co-Ed Sports
  - Basketball
  - Volleyball
  - Football
  - Cheerleading
- Contract Classes
  - Youth Soccer
  - Youth Golf
  - Dog Obedience
  - Tennis Lessons







## **Outdoor Community Events**

- Noon Years Eve Celebration
- Spring Egg Hunt and Healthy Kids Day
- Monrovia Days Celebration
- Fountain to the Falls Walk / Run
- Movies in the Park
- Halloween Spooktacular
- Thankful and Grateful Holiday Gathering
- Holiday Parade







# Library Services

- Monrovia Reads Literacy Van
- Story Times in the Park
- Curb Side service
- Book locker coming to Recreation Park







