

Honorable Mayor and Members
of the City Council
Torrance City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the City Council:

SUBJECT: Torrance Youth Council and Community Services – Approve and Appropriate funds for the 2011 “Beat the Odds” scholarship recipients.

Expenditure: \$6,000.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of the Torrance Youth Council and the Community Services Director that City Council approve and appropriate \$6,000 from the Youth Council Donation Account for warrants to be issued to six 2011 “*Beat the Odds*” scholarship honorees.

FUNDING

Funding is available in the Youth Council Donation Account.

BACKGROUND

Over the past 30 years, the Torrance Youth Council has sponsored arts and crafts boutiques to raise funds to promote youth activities and programs within the city of Torrance.

In 1996, while determining ways to honor and celebrate Torrance youth and their achievements, several members thought the NBC News “Beat the Odds/Achievement Council” program was a good way to fulfill this objective. With approval of the City Council, in 1997 the Youth Council developed their version of a “*Beat the Odds*” scholarship program. Scholarships would be awarded annually to Torrance Unified School District graduating seniors who have overcome obstacles and maintained good grades while volunteering in the community. The Youth Council presented five scholarships that first year and have continued offering this program and scholarships to deserving youth ever since.

ANALYSIS

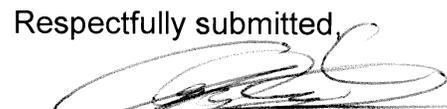
After evaluating applications and interviewing applicants, the Torrance Youth Council voted unanimously at their meeting on April 20, 2011 to provide \$1,000 grants to six 2011 “Beat the Odds” applicants. The Youth Council would now like to provide the honorees their scholarships using funds from the Youth Council Donation Account.

Respectfully submitted,

CONCUR:



John Jones
Community Services Director



Andy Tsou, Chairperson
Torrance Youth Council



Richard Brunette
Recreation Manager

NOTED:



LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager

Attachment: A) Excerpt from April 20, 2011 Youth Council meeting minutes.

ATTACHMENT A

Excerpt from the Torrance Youth Council Minutes dated April 20, 2011, Item 14

EXCERPT OF MINUTES

- Minutes Approved
 Minutes Subject to Approval

April 20, 2011

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TORRANCE YOUTH COUNCIL

2. ROLL CALL/MOTIONS FOR EXCUSED ABSENCE

PRESENT: Lea Atienza, Jacqueline Bornino, Nicole Cristy, Diana Im, Tony Joo, Minji Kim, Adrian Kimmok, Phoebe Lu , Frank Masi, Tiffany Tran, Serena Tsay, Andy Tsou, Brendon Villalobos, Peter Vo, Candace Wu, Anthony Xian, Matthew Yu

ABSENT: Jason Kim

STAFF: Debbie Reed, Sr. Recreation Supervisor; Youth Council Liaison
 Portia Rivera, Recreation Specialist I, Staff Assistant
 Toni Sexton, Recreation Specialist; Staff Assistant

14. APPROVAL OF FUNDS

Motioned: Serena Tsay; that Torrance Youth Council approve to allocate \$6,000.00 in funds from the Youth Council donation account for the Beat the Odds scholarship recipients; Nicole Cristy seconded. Peter Vo and Adrian Kimmok abstained; the Motion carried 15-3.