

# **April Newsletter**

# Special message from our CEO, Denise Watters



As we slide into Spring, there is so much excitement buzzing through our clubhouses! This month, we were thrilled to shine a spotlight on our incredible youth, starting with our much-anticipated Youth of the Year Celebration. It's an event where we come together to honor the achievements of our young stars and celebrate their perseverance.

Their stories are the reason we continue our work. Thank you for partnering with us in helping youth thrive!. Stay tuned for more updates, and we look forward to seeing you at our next event.

Derie Watters

### Youth of the Year 2025!



On Saturday, April 26th, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tucson hosted its biggest youth celebration of the year at the JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort. The event was filled with inspiration, pride, and community spirit as we honored outstanding youth who are shaping the future of Tucson.

The powerful highlight was the recognition of Mya S. as the 2025 Mark Irvin Youth of the Year. Mya delivered a powerful and inspiring speech, expressing her gratitude to

the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tucson for "opening blue doors to brighter futures" for the youth of our community.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all of our sponsors and our Board Leadership for their continued support. Your generosity makes events like this possible and ensures that Tucson's youth continue to have access to life-changing opportunities.

Check out the amazing moments from our Youth of the Year celebration by clicking the link below!

#### **Photo Gallery**

We're already looking forward to next year—see you at the 2026 Youth of the Year Celebration!

### Sip & Shop



On April 9th, we enjoyed an amazing day of shopping and community spirit at J. McLaughlin! Shoppers not only found fabulous fashion but also helped support a meaningful cause—10% of all sales from the day were generously donated to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tucson.

We extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone in the community who came out to shop, socialize, and support this wonderful fundraising event. Your participation helps make a lasting difference in the lives of local youth.

**World Art Day** 

#### **Easter Fun at the Clubhouses**



Our Club members had an egg-cellent time celebrating Easter at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tucson! The festivities were filled with joy as kids participated in egg hunts, exciting games, sweet treats, and plenty of laughter.

It was a heartwarming day of fun and togetherness, creating memories our members won't soon forget.

Thank you to our staff and volunteers who helped make the celebration so special!

**Every Kid Healthy** 



On April 15th, as the tax deadline loomed, we took a moment to recognize World Art Day. We're especially proud of Anastasia, Roy Drachman's Youth of the Year, who was selected as a finalist for the Cox Mobile phone case contest. Out of hundreds of entries, Anastasia was one of only 25 youths across the nation to be chosen.

"My submission is of two hands reaching to two open blue doors with a world in the middle. At Boys & Girls Club, we are taught that their blue doors lead to new opportunities within our community. So, these are my hands reaching for the blue doors that lead to the world of endless opportunity," said finalist Anastacia V.



From April 21st to April 25th, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tucson proudly celebrated Every Kid Healthy Week, a nationwide initiative focused on promoting the health and well-being of children through fun, engaging, and educational activities.

Throughout the week, each of our Clubhouses hosted a variety of programs designed to encourage physical activity and healthy eating habits. From fitness challenges to interactive nutrition lessons, our members had a blast while learning the importance of making healthy lifestyle choices.

Two of our standout programs that support these efforts are SMART Girls and Passport to Manhood—both of which provide age-appropriate guidance on making positive decisions for a healthy body and mind.

## Shakespeare Day

On April 23rd, in honor of Shakespeare Day, were excited to feature the poetry of Jimena, age 10, whose work has already captivated us with its depth and beauty. With a bright future ahead in literature, we know you'll be as inspired by her words as we are.

The Sun sinks low
The Sky turns red
Colors spread like a blanket in bed
The Desert whispers, soft and deep
As the World prepares for night's sweet sleep.

#### **Upcoming Events**

Summer is almost here, and we're ready for the fun! Starting June 2nd, all six of our clubhouses will be open for an exciting summer camp filled with activities like arts and crafts, games, STEM projects, time in the Computer Lab, and even field trips! All this fun is available for just \$70 for the entire summer. Don't miss out - Register Here!









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