



THE DOWNEY KIWANIAN

Serving the Children of the World

What's Inside



[A Message from the Board Member - Adam Dygard](#)



[Rose Float Luncheon & Parade](#)



[Holiday Party to TLC](#)



[Christmas Party](#)



[Welcoming Kelly Roberts & Daniela Sanchez](#)



[Holiday Shopping Spree](#)



[Monthly Food Distribution](#)



[Downey Kiwanis Christmas Program](#)



[Save the Date! Roaring '20s Casino Night Returns!](#)



[Officers & Board Members](#)



[Upcoming Events](#)



[Sponsors](#)

Happy New Year, Downey Kiwanians!



President's Message

As we begin a new year, I want to thank each of you for your continued dedication to service and fellowship. Your commitment makes a real difference in the lives of children and families in our community.

The year ahead brings new opportunities to grow, serve, and further strengthen our impact here in Downey. I encourage everyone to attend our meetings, stay involved, invite others to join us, and continue sharing the Kiwanis spirit through all that we do.

Thank you for being the heart of this club. I look forward to another great year of service together.

In service,

Phil Requejo

Kiwanis Club of Downey



2026

Happy New Year! 2026 has arrived and with it a year of opportunity. The opportunity to grow and give back are what I am most grateful for this year and every year. The Kiwanis calendar is packed with opportunities to give back and help others grow.

To begin the year, we have our meeting on January 8th. During this meeting we will learn about Youth Protection Training in conjunction with the SLP Parents Night. This is a great way to kick off the year as it highlights our efforts to help kids achieve more than they could without Kiwanis. We follow up that meeting with informational meetings with The Dad Project on 1/22/2026 and Mobility Service Dogs on 1/29/2026. These programs showcase our commitment to improving our relationships with the young people in our lives and the services that help those in need.

We are also gearing up for our Big Fundraiser in March which is our CASINO NIGHT!!!! This is an incredible event that helps fund a good portion of our philanthropic projects throughout the year. We need your help in selling tickets, donating silent auction items, sponsorship or setting up the event. Whichever way you can give back it is appreciated more than words can express. The appreciation will not just come from the club but from the individuals who benefit from the programs we sponsor.

We all joined Kiwanis for a reason. Mine was to give back and step out of my comfort zone. I do not like to speak in public, but I do it because it helps me grow and give back to an organization that does so much. I do not like the spotlight but getting my and all our faces out there for the world to see is paramount for our recruitment and growth. If you've never participated in one of our fundraisers, SLP programs, or charitable events then 2026 is your year. It is your year to give back. It is your year to grow. It is our year to help Kiwanis grow.

Each month presents opportunities to participate, give back and grow. Keep an eye out for our schedule which is posted in each newsletter.

Hail Kiwanis,

Adam Dygard

President-Elect and Program Chair



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**SLP PARENT'S NIGHT
&
COMPLIMENTARY DINNER**



**Thursday, January 8, 2026
6:00 P.M.**

**Rio Hondo Golf Club
10627 Old River School Road
Downey, CA**



The program will include:

- How Key Club and KIWIN'S are structured.
- Briefings on the District Conventions for both Key Club and KIWIN'S.
- How to sign up for Kiwanis Advisor.

Rose Float Luncheon 🌹 ✨



Downey Kiwanis Club members had a wonderful time attending the Rose Float Luncheon, proudly sponsored by the

Kiwanis Rose Float of Pasadena. It was an inspiring afternoon honoring the dedication, teamwork, and volunteer spirit that bring the iconic Tournament of Roses Parade to life. Grateful to be part of a Kiwanis family that continues to serve and uplift our communities—one float, one project, and one smile at a time.

Rose Parade 🌹 ✨



For the 44th time, Kiwanis proudly had a Rose Float in the Tournament of Roses Parade! But Kiwanis does more than take part in the parade! Kiwanis is one of the leading organizations providing volunteers, not only to support the Kiwanis Float, but to assist with the construction and preparation of many other floats as well.

On December 20th, Division 13 Kiwanis provided lunch to over 350 volunteers at PHXdecoco! For another successful year, Kiwanis managed and coordinated the meal, led by past club president Ken Cook. Their well-known setup ensured a smooth, efficient service paired with delicious burgers!

Thank you to all of our volunteers on site!

Downey Kiwanis Club Roundtable Lunch 🍴👏



There's nothing better than sharing a meal, good conversation, and community with friends and fellow members. We'd love to have you as our guest at an upcoming meeting, come learn more about our club and the work we do in the community! 💙🌟

Kiwanis Club Delivers Toys to TLC

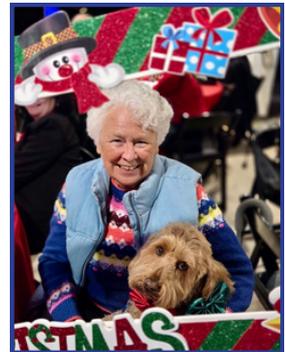


Downey Kiwanians delivered the toys collected at our holiday party to TLC— thanks to everyone who donated and

helped make this season brighter for local families. 💙🎁



2025 Kiwanis Holiday Party



Our Christmas party was filled with laughter, holiday cheer, and some truly next-level ugly sweaters 🤔🧶🎅. From blinking lights to bold dance moves, the competition was fierce, and the dance-off was unmatched!

Huge thanks to everyone who came out, showed their holiday spirit, and made the night so memorable.

Congratulations to Phil, Sam Jr. and Sara for the win!!!

Events like this remind us how special our Kiwanis family is—community, joy, and a little bit of friendly (and ugly 😊) competition!

🎁❤️ Here's to spreading cheer and making a difference this season!



Welcoming Kelly Roberts



We had the honor of welcoming Kelly Roberts from the Downey Rose Float Association to our noon meeting this week at Rio Hondo Golf Club 🌹

Kelly gave us an inside look at the Downey float featured in this year's Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, from its rich history to the incredible creativity and teamwork behind the float-building process. It was inspiring to hear how strong local

community support keeps this cherished tradition alive year after year.

Thank you, Kelly, for sharing such a fascinating story and representing Downey with pride!

Welcome Daniela Sanchez



We're excited to welcome Daniela Sanchez as our newest Downey Kiwanis Club Day Member! 🎉

Daniela comes to us from the Downey Unified School District with a true heart for service and a deep commitment to our community. Her passion for giving back and supporting others perfectly reflects the values of Kiwanis, and we're honored to have her join our family.

Welcome to Downey Kiwanis, Daniela, we're so glad you're here and ready to serve together! 🍷 ✨

Holiday Shopping Spree



What a morning! The Morning and Noon Downey Kiwanis clubs teamed up to bring a holiday shopping spree to 120 amazing Downey Unified kids. Huge thank you to the Downey Kiwanis Foundation for helping make this special treat happen for those in need! 📺



Monthly Food Distribution



The Downey Kiwanis Club proudly continued its long-standing tradition of service at this month's Food Drive for patients and families of Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center in Downey, California. The spirit of service was unmistakable as Kiwanians joined in a morning of giving and gratitude, working side by side to bag and distribute food to those in need. The event was filled with camaraderie, purpose, and a shared commitment to uplifting others - truly reflecting the heart of Kiwanis and the community.



Downey Kiwanis Christmas Program



What a night to remember! 🎵

The Downey Kiwanis Christmas Program was extra magical thanks to a special performance by the award-winning Downey High School Jazz Ensemble and Epic

Choir. A true treat to see our kids performing at the very top of their game. Their holiday voices filled the room with joy and hometown pride.

We were also honored to announce the generous support of the Downey Kiwanis Foundation for our community partners, The Arc of Los Angeles and The Arc of Orange County, funding for a new computer lab and a special shopping event for their client, along with the donation to support the shopping spree for the school kids with disabilities organized by the Downey Los Amigos Kiwanis Club. Huge thanks to everyone who helps make moments like this possible.

More to come, we'll be posting some of the DHS Jazz Choir's Christmas songs soon. Stay tuned! ✨❤



Save the Date! Roaring '20s Casino Night Returns!



Get ready to step back in time for a glamorous evening of fun, friendship, and fundraising! The Downey Kiwanis Club invites you to mark your calendars for **Friday, March 20, 2026**, as we host our spectacular Roaring '20s Casino Night at the beautiful Azar Event Center in Santa Fe Springs

This much-anticipated celebration promises to be a night to remember — with casino-style gaming, music, great food, and a festive 1920s flair! Whether you're rolling the dice for a good cause or just there to enjoy the music and company, every moment will help support Kiwanis' ongoing mission to serve children and strengthen our Downey community.

A Night of Purpose and Celebration

All proceeds from the Roaring '20s Casino Night will benefit Downey Kiwanis Club projects, helping fund our sponsored student programs and support many initiatives that change lives every day. By joining us, you're not just having fun — you're investing in the future of our community's children.

How You Can Get Involved

- Save the Date and Spread the Word! Tell friends, family, and colleagues.
- Sponsorships and Tickets will be available soon — stay tuned for details.
- Dress the Part! Don your best 1920s attire and join the fun in style.

Event Details

Date: Friday, March 20, 2026
 Location: Azar Event Center
 Santa Fe Springs, CA
 Theme: Roaring '20s Casino Night

This is more than an event — it's a celebration of service, friendship, and possibility. Together, we'll make a difference while having an unforgettable night of glitz and giving. Let's make it a roaring success — one spin, one laugh, and one good deed at a time!



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Stephanie Reynoso



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2025-2026 Officers and Directors



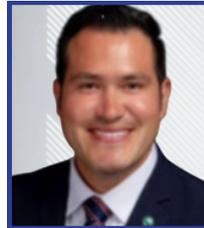
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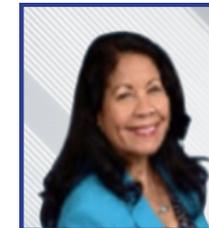
Adam Dygard



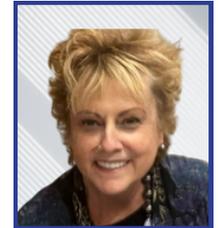
Jesse Padilla



Art Montoya



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Leslie Jones



Erica Vasquez



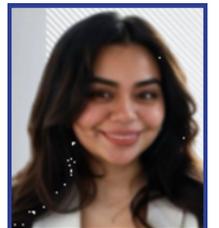
Gary Nesbit



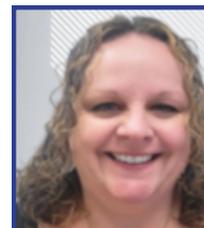
Stephen Chu



Jason Cierpiszewski



Stephanie Reynoso



Amy Scott



Brian Tello



January Events



SLP Parent's Night & Complimentary Dinner - January 8, 2026 | 6:00 PM
Rio Hondo Golf Club

Kiwanis Anniversaries



Stephen Chu - 14 yrs



Jennifer DeKay - 11 yrs



Henry Qiu - 2 yrs



Cheryl Chu - 14 yrs



Diana Padilla - 7 yrs



Brian Tello - 2 yrs



Efferem Sanchez - 11 yrs



Tony Aguilar - 4 yrs



Daisy Vargas - 1 yr



Rich Velasquez - 11 yrs



Jennifer Stanley - 4 yrs

Happy Birthday



January 6 - Joe Curd



January 21 - Art Montoya



January 11 - Vicky Santos



January 24 - Brian Tello



January 28 - Tony Aguilar



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