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Mayor Robert Garcia Reflects On His Leadership Long Beach Experience

■ By **SAMANTHA MEHLINGER**
Editor



Mayor Robert Garcia is pictured with rest of the members of the 2003 Institute Class of Leadership Long Beach on their first day outside the Long Beach Museum of Art. Garcia is the last person on the right in the photo.



In 2003, when Robert Garcia went through Leadership Long Beach's Leadership Institute, he had not yet ventured into politics. The future Mayor of Long Beach was nearly fresh out of college, working his first post-graduate position at St. Anthony High School. His boss, the high school's president Gina Rushing, was one of the founders of the nonprofit, and encouraged him to apply to the program.

"I had been student body president at Cal State Long Beach and was involved a little bit in the community. I wanted to continue that, so Leadership Long Beach was a natural choice," Garcia recalled. "I thought that it was a great opportunity to learn a lot about the city and immerse myself in a lot of information about the community. I really appreciated the type of training that Leadership Long Beach put us all through, and I met some wonderful people and made great friends."

The program helped Garcia develop a deeper understanding of the City of Long Beach – "everything from the health care system to the education system to the way city government works," he said. "I didn't know at the time that I would end up as mayor. It was really eye opening for me. I really appreciated all the people who loved the city so much and were involved."

Garcia continued, "The experience gave me a stronger sense of community and love of the city. And that's really strengthened my connection to the city and my desire to be involved." What's most memorable about participating in the Leadership Institute is the people you meet, Garcia said, adding that he remains friends with many of his Institute classmates.

As mayor, Garcia has encouraged several of his staffers to apply to the Leadership Institute. Numerous city employees have also completed the program, he noted. "I have stayed involved and I try to encourage people to go through the program," he said.

Leadership Long Beach has made an enormous impact in the local community, Garcia reflected. "It's the single best leadership institute and training program the city has ever had. It has really strengthened a group of people to be really civically engaged and civic-minded," he said. "We should be very proud of Leadership Long Beach. It's an invaluable partner in the city." ■

Local Executives Say Leadership Long Beach Affords Business Community With Invaluable Connections, Skills

■ By SAMANTHA MEHLINGER
Editor



P2S Inc. encourages its employees to enroll in Leadership Long Beach (LLB) programs. They have become so popular among their employees that President and CEO Kevin Peterson says there is a wait list. Pictured are: Peterson (center), Wes McKean, Executive Leadership Series (ELS) class '19; Charlotte Dean LLB Institute class '19; David Klug, ELS '18; Steven Peterson, LLBI '18; Marco Cabibbo, LLBI '17; and Travis Taylor, ELS '16.

The Community Partners Council of Leadership Long Beach (LLB) consists of local executives who understand and wish to promote the value the nonprofit's programs afford the business community, as well as the city at large. Businesses and executives become members of the council at varying degrees of commitment based on monetary sponsorships.

W. Henry Walker, president of Long Beach-based Farmers & Merchants Bank, was in the first-ever class of the organization's yearlong Institute, and he has supported LLB's efforts ever since. "Leadership Long Beach provides a deep understanding of our City of Long Beach and provides a level of connectivity within a year's time that would otherwise take many years to acquire. It creates deep relationships amongst the classmates," Walker said of the program. On a personal level, Walker said his experience in The Institute helped introduce him to aspects of the city that he would not have gleaned through his work at the bank.

Walker has encouraged many Farmers & Merchants employees to apply for Leader Long Beach's Institute or its Executive Leadership Series. "I want to develop their commitment to our city," he said. "Everybody we have who goes through it comes away with this level of apprecia-

tion and a different perspective. It's like they were on the outside of the city and now they are on the inside."

Walker said that part of his company's philosophy is that life is about relationships, both from a personal and a business perspective, and that Leadership Long Beach is a unique way to cultivate meaningful relationships with existing and future Long Beach leaders. "I think it's a great asset to the city, and businesses need to utilize it and put key people in their companies through Leadership Long Beach," he said.

Lou Anne Bynum, a member of the Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners and former executive vice president of college advancement and economic development for Long Beach City College, was a graduate of the 1993 Institute class. She continues to support the organization as a member of the Community Partners Council. "It has been a great resource for me in my personal and professional life," Bynum said of her LLB experience.

The leadership principles Bynum learned through the program have been valuable in her career, she noted. "I don't care what job you're doing; there are always questions of ethics that come up in the roles that we play. To be able to sift through the issues and the various, sometimes adversarial, constituencies that you

have to deal with and try to get down to what you think is the core purpose of what you're doing, the leadership principles help me with that," she said.

Leadership Long Beach helps local businesses make stronger connections in the community. "Businesses locate in Long Beach because it is a good place to live and work, and it is accessible to major economic drivers such as our port and international trade, transportation [and] health care [industries]," Bynum said. "Having employees who are aware of the local ecosystem and are able to make critical relationships in their professional and personal lives is a huge benefit to employers because it makes for a stronger and more innovative workforce."

Bynum said she hopes to introduce more businesses to Leadership Long Beach and what it has to offer. "Leadership Long Beach has helped bind people and communities together for 30 years," she noted.

Kevin Peterson, president and CEO of Long Beach-based engineering firm P2S Inc., said that his company puts one or two employees through the Institute and the Executive Leadership Series each year. Based on positive reviews from past participants, there is a waiting list of P2S employees each year who wish to enroll in the programs, he noted.

"Some of the things they mention coming out of the program, especially the longer program, is the great curriculum that really brings out their individual leadership abilities," Peterson said. "Both programs increase their connections with the entire city and give them an awareness of both nonprofits and public sector areas that we don't [necessarily] interact with in our day-to-day activities. So [the programs provide] a broader perspective on what's going on in the city."

P2S employees who have completed the programs tell Peterson that they have developed lasting relationships with other LLB alumni. Often, these relationships are made with people they otherwise wouldn't have met, and they can be useful to the business itself, he said. For example, a connection might be made with a key city employee who could assist the business in some way. "I can't think of any other way that somebody can go about doing that except just through 10 or 20 years of working here and meeting people," Peterson said.

Michael Bohn, principal of Long Beach architecture and design firm Studio One Eleven, became connected to Leadership Long Beach through his neighbor, Tom Farrand, a former executive director of the nonprofit. "It always intrigued me because it was really about learning how



The Boeing Co. is part of the Community Partners Council for Leadership Long Beach, and has sent multiple employees through the nonprofit's program. Pictured in the back row are Martin Landa (LLBI '18), John Bryant Jr. (LLBI '19), Boeing Director of Commercial Airplanes Tim Sele (LLBI '12), Frank Croes (LLBI '15), Dan O'Leary (LLBI '16) and Jaclyn Klein (LLBI '14). Pictured in the front row are: Kim Armstrong (LLBI '05), Mitra Rogers (LLBI '07) and Maria Passaseo (LLBI '11).



John Bishop, CEO of MemorialCare Long Beach Medical Center and Miller Children's & Women's Hospital, is joined by members of his staff who participated in Leadership Long Beach Programs: Cathy Gies (LLBI '08), CJ Harmatz (LLBI '01), Angie West (LLBI '10), Katy Hyman (LLBI '12), Martha Gonzales (LLBI '18), Sandy King (LLBI '08), Stephanie Stembridge (LLBI '19), Rita Goshert (LLBI '11), Cathy Wieder (LLBI '19) and Terri Nikoletich (LLBI '15).

the City of Long Beach works and how to help the community," Bohn said. "With our office, our mission is about revitalizing cities and . . . creating vibrant, sustainable and equitable communities. So our missions are just so well aligned, except they are a non-profit and we are a business."

Bohn said that Studio One Eleven currently has an employee going through the Executive Leadership Series, noting that it helps connect executives with key deci-

sion makers and influencers in the city.

Studio One Eleven is helping LLB plan its 30th anniversary celebration. "When [LLB Executive Director] Jeff Williams came to us last year, he mentioned wanting to be downtown and having an event not in a stuffy hotel but somewhere within the city to celebrate our urban core. So we talked about well, maybe we should do it on the Promenade north of 3rd Street," Bohn said.

Studio One Eleven's offices are located at this intersection, which marks the entrance to The Streets – an outdoor shopping center that the firm is redesigning block by block. Studio One Eleven and Southern California Edison partnered for the anniversary event to create spherical lights to hang across The Promenade North at 3rd Street as an entryway to The Streets, where a permanent reminder of Leadership

Long Beach will be installed. "There is a passage to one of the parking garages that will have graphics on the wall that will describe Leadership Long Beach and their mission and the community projects they have done over time, including this one, which is really marking their presence in the city," Bohn said. The anniversary celebration for alumni and community partners takes place June 8. ■

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Leadership Long Beach: Working With Businesses To Build A Stronger Community

■ By **PIERCE NAHIGYAN**
Staff Writer



Ryan Rayburn, senior advisor at Centennial Advisers and president of the Leadership Long Beach (LLB) board of directors, said that LLB co-founders like Peter Ridder helped to establish a legacy organization that continues to serve the community today. “They had the vision and the idea and the courage to develop this. And there was a risk of failure, yet they still continued to do it because they saw the need,” he said. From left: Rayburn and Ridder. (Photograph by Brandon Richardson.)

Leadership Long Beach (LLB), the local nonprofit organization that serves as a catalyst to cultivate and connect community leaders, turns 30 years old in 2019. Dedicated to serving the Long Beach community through civic-minded projects and events, LLB has created a number of programs to introduce participants to local leaders and teach them how to become better decision makers.

On the occasion of the nonprofit’s anniversary, the Business Journal sat down with Ryan Rayburn, senior advisor at Centennial Advisers and president of the LLB board of directors, and LLB co-founder Peter Ridder to discuss the organization’s 30-year journey and how it has helped shape the City of Long Beach today.

The seed that would become Leadership Long Beach was planted during a conversation between Ridder, then publisher of the Long Beach Press-Telegram, and Dr. Curtis McCray, former

president of California State University, Long Beach. “We saw in Long Beach a need to get more people involved in the community,” Ridder said. “We were just trying to have it last one year. We had no preconceived notions that it would . . . be as successful as it is.”

Ridder noted that it was the business community that originally invested in the organization, while today LLB is supported through grants and donations. The nonprofit’s founders went directly to local businesses to pitch them on creating a program to boost civic engagement. “We never even thought about writing grants or anything like that,” Ridder said. Each business that gave \$5,000 to the organization was able to enroll an employee in the first Institute class. “We would interview [them], because we didn’t want just anybody,” Ridder said. “And we got very good people.”

Enough businesses donated in 1989 that the program was not only funded

for its first year – it was also able to offer scholarships to individuals who otherwise would not have been able to apply. “It actually was not a difficult sell,” Ridder said of the initial pitch. “I think they saw the value to the community. A healthy community is going to provide an environment for businesses to grow.”

Though LLB has since graduated several city council members from its programs, Ridder said the scope of the founders’ mission was not limited to politics. The leadership qualities and skills taught by LLB are intended to serve alumni in a broad range of endeavors across the public, private and nonprofit sectors.

The organization’s longest running program, the Leadership Long Beach Institute, is a 10-month course culminating in class projects designed to improve or serve the community. Such projects have included the creation of a midnight basketball league, a commemorative walk-

way at the Aquarium of the Pacific, and summits and festivals to inform residents about a wide range of topics.

Each year’s class includes a diverse group of about 30 people that builds on the established network of LLB alumni, Ridder said. In recent years, the makeup of Institute classes has included equal participation from public, private and nonprofit sectors, according to Rayburn. Looking forward, he would like to see increased participation among the business community.

For the business owner wondering about the value of joining an LLB program, Rayburn said participation can yield an enduring return on investment. He has received positive feedback from businesses that send employees through the Institute or the Executive Leadership program. “Through conversations I’ve had with the leaders of those businesses, they can see drastic changes in these people’s leadership in the office,” he said, adding that relationships developed in LLB help participants understand better how each sector of the community works.

To date, LLB has graduated over 1,500 individuals from its leadership programs. Alumni include the likes of Mayor Robert Garcia (2003), Lou Anne Bynum (1993), member of the Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners and former executive vice president of Long Beach City College, Marcelle Epley (2005), executive director of the Long Beach Community Foundation, Debra Fixen (2016), general manager of Shoreline Village, and many others.

Ridder is proud that LLB has endured for three decades. Rayburn commended Ridder and his fellow founders for their vision and said that, today, the leaders of the organization are considering how its programs may evolve over the next 30 years.

“Right now leadership is a very big topic in our society. I think it’s very needed,” Rayburn said. “We understand what we do well, and part of that is bringing people together and helping them be more effective employees and community citizens.”

To commemorate its 30th anniversary, LLB is throwing a special event on June 8. Held at the Promenade North in Downtown Long Beach and sponsored by The Streets, the anniversary celebration will debut an art installation created in partnership with local businesses and Southern California Edison, which will become a permanent part of downtown. “It’s really going to give Leadership Long Beach a home, where we want our alumni to come back each year and come visit,” Rayburn said. ■

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The Executive Leadership Series

■ By **OSCAR COSBY**
Leadership Long Beach

The Executive Quick Start Series was the second leadership program established by Leadership Long Beach (LLB) in 1995. The four-week program was initially meant to familiarize executives who were new to Long Beach with the area. For senior executives who wished to participate in Leadership Long Beach but because of their demanding work responsibilities could not devote time away from their company or organization, this condensed executive program presented an ideal opportunity.

Up until 1999, the Executive Quick Start (EQS) Series was offered twice a year. The program was then held once annually until 2009, when it was put on hiatus until 2015. The newly named Executive Leadership Series (ELS) incorporated focus group and feedback from the 2015 class participants in order to increase relevancy to today's executives. The series now features an increased number of sessions and an added emphasis on strengthening the enrollees' leadership roles within their organizations, their own lives and the Long Beach community.

Led by 2015 EQS class member and LLB Boardmember Kandice Taylor-Sherwood, ELS introduced strength-based awareness to the curriculum in order for participants to identify their leadership attributes, strengths and style. Such self-awareness can better help them manage their staff, projects and executive acumen. The Executive Leadership Series aims to shape today's executives to be more effective managers and increase their value to Long Beach.

The Executive Leadership Series is formulated with instructional, experiential, group learning and reflection activities. It is designed to take an executive's leadership to the next level and build upon their ability to connect with the city. Travis Taylor, a principal at P2S, Inc. and a graduate of the 2016 ELS program stated, "The ELS program afforded me the opportunity to look at Long Beach through a different lens and further my appreciation of the city's rich history. It is a fantastic program for those interested in connecting and building relationships with leaders of our community."

The program utilizes a small cohort size (between 15-20 participants) to maximize interactions and create greater learning opportunities. The ELS sessions are entrenched in Long Beach, using local resources such as CampFire - Angeles Council, Long Beach Playhouse and the Long Beach Conventions & Visitors Bureau. Sessions also include guest speakers, facilitators and leaders who are invested in making Long Beach better. ■



The Executive Leadership Series has a networking dinner after each session to enable participants to continue to bond with each other and interact with featured speakers and guests.



The 2019 ELS Class has 20 executive participants ranging from the corporate, nonprofit and public sectors; the ELS program has been growing steadily since 2015.



The ELS program secures key community leaders (such as Dr. Mike Walter picture above with the 2017 ELS class) and each session is held at different locations around the city to have the executive leaders experience more in the city.



The new Executive Leadership Series program begins anew with the Class of 2015 as senior executives are able to be a part of Leadership Long Beach through the intensive program.

Leadership Foundations

■ By **OSCAR COSBY**
Leadership Long Beach

The Leadership Foundations program is a one- or two-day leadership retreat that creates a strategic bond for a cohort, group or team in order to facilitate better communication. Leadership Long Beach makes this program available to companies, organizations and groups looking to build bridges of communication, create leadership awareness and facilitate team-building opportunities within their networks. The Foundations program applies an organization's values and philosophy as the building blocks around a flexible curriculum, and incorporates the key messages and culture of participating organizations.

The Foundations program came about in 2016 as a result of a grant partnership with Pacific Gateway. Over an 18-month period, Leadership Long Beach held 26 two-day foundational retreats attended by 18- to 25-year-olds recruited by Pacific Gateway to build upon their potential. The program brought young people together who didn't know each other, but by the end of the weekend were a bonded group. During the partnership, more than 350 young adults went through the Foundations program. Many gained more confidence in themselves, expanded their network of friends and furthered their motivation to focus on their future.

Since 2018, Leadership Long Beach (LLB) has offered the Foundations program to companies and organizations, and the program has flourished in meeting their leadership needs. "We are extremely grateful to have partnered with Leadership Long Beach's Foundations Program for EPIC's Leaders Institute retreat," Alyssa Gutierrez, executive director of the Economic & Policy Impact Center (EPIC), said. "Through interactive and experiential learning, LLB instilled in our participants the fundamental principles required of all leaders, giving them a strong foundation as they began their six month program."

The Foundations program utilizes a retreat experience to create a more dynamic learning environment than the usual classroom setting. LLB is able to keep the program local in Long Beach by using CampFire USA – Long Beach facilities in East Long Beach, contributing to the spirit of using local resources. ■



Small and large group activities are integral components of the Leadership Foundations program. They are used to improve group dynamics and team communication.



Challenging activities, both physical and mental, engage Foundation participants to work together throughout the program sessions.



The Foundations programs creates multiple opportunities for group learning and sharing; opening up the lines of communications from the beginning of the program to its end.



With all activities, accomplishments made by the group and individuals are highlighted toward the overall success.



Inspiring Young Leaders

■ By **ALICIA CASEY**
Youth Leadership Long Beach Class of 2018
Millikan High School Class of 2019

Youth Leadership Long Beach (YLLB) is a program inspiring high schoolers to be the change they want to see in the world. LLB offers the program free to students and their families, as the organization desires to connect students from all walks of life. The curriculum focuses on tasks challenging students to be their best selves. This includes being good listeners, accepting change and overcoming adversity. Unsurprisingly, the initiative to mold Long Beach youth into productive and bold individuals is its selling point.

YLLB was started in 1996 and has been continuous since 2001. It is modeled after the adult program as interactive, fun and eye-opening for incoming students. Typically, the program hosts 30-plus students from Long Beach high schools. The program takes place once a month on a weekend, leaving students ample time for extracurricular activities and schoolwork. Since its inception, over 600

youth have gone through the program. Over the years, the program has remained relevant as it challenges youth to aspire to be better and puts together topic spotlights that are career-oriented and educational. In 2019, the YLLB class is focused on the environment, specifically in Long Beach. The classes were designed with a sustainability emphasis encouraging youth to think outside the box about resource conservation. A highlight of the year was an immersive trip to Catalina Island, diving deep into the marine culture and the island habitat. Other learning opportunities have encompassed class sessions at the Port of Long Beach, the Aquarium of the Pacific and City Hall.

These various lessons have given students insight into an assortment of career pathways. The events of the program are versatile and touch upon the fields of law, engineering, political science, journalism, environmentalism and human re-



Touring the Port of Long Beach provides great exposure and education to the YLLB students as they get an up close and personal view of the nation's second busiest port and learn and see the direct impact it can have on Southern California and the nation.

source management. The focus on adaptability in the workforce teaches students to dream big about their futures and plan ahead to achieve their goals.

The cohesive learning environment allows participants the freedom to speak up without judgment and be heard for their ideas. Fostering an atmosphere of acceptance, the group evolves into a collection of passionate and diverse leaders unafraid to advocate for themselves and

others in their community. Overwhelmingly, YLLB receives support from local community foundations, companies, nonprofit organizations, LLB alumni and other community leaders who know their investment continues to create an impressive generation of leaders. The students are well rounded and understand the values of compassion, accountability and morality and are able to contribute to the community for years to come. ■



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History of Leadership Long Beach

By LENA ST. MICHEL



1989

Over 100 people submitted applications to be a part of the inaugural Leadership Long Beach Institute (LLBI) class. After long interviews and much debate, 30 were chosen for the first class that began October 1989. Patti Mitchell is selected as Executive Director, Peter Ridder is Board Chair, Vance Caesar and Regina Rushing Maguire are curriculum chairs.



1992

Norm Reed, LLBI '91, is named Executive Director of LLB. Reed served from 1992 to 1995 and served Long Beach in different levels and capacities before and after his time as ED. Reed was tragically killed in a car accident in February 2001.

1995

Putt Putt on Pine invades downtown Long Beach for the first time. Lisa Lick (Cochrane) and Carol Therrien (both LLBI '94) heard of a similar event and proposed the idea to LLB to promote downtown Long Beach and help raise funds for the organization.



LLBI Class of 1995 creates a pilot program for Youth Leadership Long Beach. This project is the forerunner to the YLLB program that had 2 program year classes beginning in 1996 and then was revitalized in 2001.



The first Executive Quick Start (EQS) class started in Spring 1995. This program would prove a one-month condensed overview of the dynamics of the city. Over the first three years, programs were offered in the Spring and Fall and then annually until 2009.

(Please Continue to Page L-14)

1990

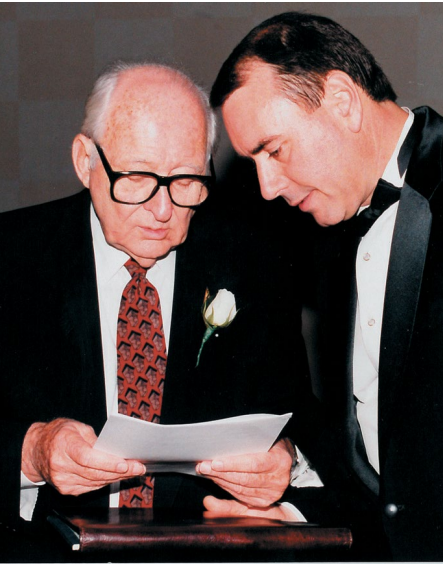
Notice to the community that Leadership Long Beach has arrived. Photos with titles and companies for the 30 graduates reflect the diverse class with a mix of business and community professionals ready to contribute their leadership skills to the city.



1994

Alumnus of the Year: Darrick Simpson, LLBI '92, is named the first Alumnus of the Year. Darick is now the Executive Director of the Long Beach Community Action Partnership.

The class of 1994 formed a local chapter of the National Association of Midnight Basketball Leagues, Inc. (MBL). Providing alternatives for young adult males to avoid drugs, crime and other non-productive activities, this program was adopted by the Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine Department.



1997

James Ackerman given the first Excellence in Leadership Award

LLBI Class project, Bricks by the Sea, created a commemorative brick project to provide the community with the opportunity to be a permanent part of the Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific. Raised over \$150,000 for educational programs at the aquarium.

(Continued from Page L-13)



1998

Janey Roeder (LLBI '96) is named Executive Director. She serves until 2005 overseeing growth and expansion of LLB programs and activities.



2000

LLB Class of 2000 project, the Long Beach Diversity Mural, permanently displayed in the grand foyer of city hall, celebrating the unique and vibrant cultural diversity of Long Beach.

2003

LLB Class of 2003 project, City Slogan Contest, invited city residents and friends to come up with ideas for a new slogan for our city. “Gateway to the Pacific” was the favorite slogan.



2006

Leadership Long Beach adopts a new logo.

1999

Class of 1999 project, Queensway Bridge “Pacific Lights,” designed to create a visually dynamic focal point within the Queensway Bay area by lighting the bridge in an aesthetically pleasing way. The lighting ceremony was held on February 24, 2004.



2001

LLB Class of 2001 project, Celebrate Diversity, partnered with the City of Long Beach Human Dignity program to sponsor an essay and logo contest within the Long Beach Unified School District. The theme of both contests was “Diversity is our Strength.”

2005

LLBI Class of 2005 project, Enough is Enough, was a 41-hour television programming marathon designed to educate and engage Long Beach on the topic of youth and gang violence. The programming marathon was sponsored by Leadership Long Beach, Charter Communications, the Long Beach Press Telegram, and the City of Long Beach Youth and Gang Violence Prevention Taskforce, and was televised May 12-14 simultaneously on seven local Charter cable television channels reaching the communities of Long Beach and Signal Hill.



2007

The Connected Corridor project was granted by the Long Beach Community Foundation through funding from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation to transform neighborhoods by creating connectivity and empowering stakeholders from North Long Beach to Downtown along Atlantic Avenue.

2011

At the 2011 Welcome Reception, Sara Pillet (Myers) LLBI '12, is the recipient of the Mark Bixby (LLBI '96) Scholarship. The LLBI '96 class donated money for the scholarship to honor the life of classmate Mark Bixby.

Karissa Selvester (YLLB '98 & LLBI '11) is selected to represent the 1000th Graduate of LLB programs. Karissa was a student at Wilson HS when she went through the youth program and she now works for Long Beach Transit and is active in the community through Junior League and other organizations.

2014

LLB celebrates its 25th Anniversary at a celebratory event at Westerly School recognizing an outstanding alumnus from each year and the graduation of the 25th Class.



2015

The Executive Leadership Series (formerly Executive Quick Start) is reinstituted by LLB and senior executives are able to learn, grow and strengthen their leadership abilities through the updated program curriculum.

2016

LLB celebrates its 25th Anniversary at a celebratory event at Westerly School recognizing an outstanding alumnus from each year and the graduation of the 25th Class.

2009

Leadership Long Beach celebrates its 20th Anniversary.



2013

Leadership Long Beach kicked off its 25th year and welcomed its 25th Institute Class, its 15th Youth program and hosted its 25th year celebration in June 2014.

2012

The Class of 2010 wins the inaugural "Best Class Ever" award for the Leadership Long Beach Annual Campaign.

2019

Leadership Long Beach celebrates its 30th Anniversary at "The Streets" in Downtown Long Beach with a "Night of a Thousand Lights" celebrating its 30 years of alumni through an art piece showcasing the LLB alumni and their classes.

2018

The Key to the City honor is bestowed to Leadership Long Beach, the first nonprofit organization to receive the honor from Mayor Robert Garcia during a ceremony at City Hall.



Working for Tomorrow

The Port of Long Beach works to ensure our community's continued prosperity by helping develop our future leaders. We are proud supporters of Leadership Long Beach, with many alumni on our staff. Congratulations on 30 years!



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