Welcome back to our final newsletter of the year. It has been an adventurous and rewarding year for CASSA. We wouldn’t have been able to achieve so much without our remarkable members, advisors, and CAS faculty. Thank you all for your support. We would also like to congratulate the graduating class of 2013! We wish you all an amazing summer and look forward to seeing the rest of you next year! 😊

Members of the Month

MARCH

Congratulations to Alejandra Navarro for being member of the month. Alejandra has earned over 14 hours alone in the month of March through her box tops and guest speaker food donations, attending Orangewood Children and Family Center twice, general meetings, guest speakers, OC food bank, and working at our spring bake sale!

APRIL

Congratulations to Kelsey Hoskins for being member of the month. Kelsey has contributed over 15 hours of service through her box tops, pull tabs, and Orangewood food donations, attending our Chelsea Lately TV taping fundraiser, Walk for Kids, and bonfire social.

In order to show our appreciation, both members were rewarded with an extra hour of leadership for their extensive time and efforts!

Thank you to Alejandra Navarro & Kelsey Hoskins!
Spring Bake Sale by Patricia Liang

On March 20th & 21st, we had our spring bake sale. During the event, members had the chance to bond with other one another, promote the club, and be silly. We were able to raise a total of $523.10! Although it was less compared to our fall bake sales, everyone had a great time enjoying each other’s company and raising money for the club.

Fristers by Dee Isen

Fristers is an organization that offers information, support, and resources to teen mothers. On March 25th, CASSA helped at one of their events by watching and playing with the children of the young mothers. There were two separate rooms for volunteers. One room held children age 2 years and up and the other held small infants. While there, we created Easter bunny arts and crafts to give to the children’s parents. It was a rewarding experience because a small act like providing childcare allowed the mothers to learn about job searching techniques that night.
On March 23rd, CASSA volunteered at Orangewood and had numerous activities planned for the children. We had a drawing, Easter crafts, board games, and beads table. We also had balloons scattered throughout the gym which the children kept popping and snacks provided by other members. We played basketball and hide and seek as well as other games. We were also fortunate to spend quality time with a visually-impaired girl who is one of the funniest and sweetest girl I have had the pleasure to meet. Although our visit was cut short, everyone had an incredible time enjoying each other’s company.

By Maria Tran

Every other Friday, CASSA members have had the opportunity to spend time with children at Orangewood. During this visit on April 12th, members engaged in numerous fun and stimulating activities. The fun started off with an activity called “Ojo de Dios” which incorporated sticks and yarn. The children seemed to really enjoy this colorful activity. We also were able to play a game that is a CASSA favorite called “Never Have I Ever,” which allowed the members and children to bond really well as they all ran around a great, big circle. Members also really worked up a sweat while trying to catch up with the children by shooting hoops at the gym in Orangewood. Lastly, everyone was able to enjoy some granola bars, goldfishes, and juice that were thoughtfully donated by the rest of the CASSA club.

Part 2 by Seka Metran

CASSA had the opportunity to attend Orangewood Children and Family Center on April 26th. All CASSA volunteers were able to interact with children ages 6-10 by playing cards and board games as well as making bead bracelets. The children were very warm and welcoming towards all of us. They were not hesitant about starting a conversation with us or enjoying our company. I was amazed by how mature and wise the children presented themselves during our interactions. Overall, I was honored to be a part of this event knowing that the children have been through so much during their short lives. My heart was touched by their strength and I was glad to see smiles and heart laughter during my visit at Orangewood.

Part 3 by Beatriz Grimaldo
On March 23rd, CASSA had the amazing opportunity to change the lives of hundreds of teenage girls. Girls Inc., a non-profit organization that focuses on giving girls self confidence, invited the CASSA to assist them in helping underprivileged girls get free prom dresses, shoes, accessories, and inspirational self-esteem workshops for their big day. There were approximately five hundred girls participating so the organization separated them up into four group rotations to accommodate them: 1) selecting a dress, shoes, and accessories, 2) hair and makeup, 3) self-esteem workshop, and 4) empowerment workshop. The girls were able to choose from about three thousand dresses that range in size, color, and a multitude of styles. The hair and makeup station had every single girl leaving glamorous! The two workshops had presentations that blew us away! At the end of the day, the girls were given a delicious lunch and a goody bag full of amazing beauty items that were donated by some of the most popular cosmetic companies. Overall, every single girl that participated in this event was exceptionally grateful for this opportunity which was seen on their faces. Volunteers were also grateful for being a part of the humbling experience.
Guest Speaker: Jeremy Rose by Ashley Garin

On March 28th, CASSA members had the opportunity to have Jeremy Rose speak about an organization called College Nannies and Tutors. He discussed the different job opportunities that the organization had to offer. For the nanny positions, there were a few different employee options that he discussed such as: an on-call nanny, summer nanny, after-school nanny, and even nannies who can work with children with special disabilities. For those interested, you can check out www.collegenanniesandtutors.com for more information. After the speaker, CASSA members also had the chance to learn more about each board member’s position to see if they wanted to be a candidate at our CASSA elections the following week. Overall, this was a very relaxing and informational meeting.

Guest Speaker: Kay Devine by Naomi Sunshine

On May 2nd, CASSA had reelectons for the last executive board position, Inter-club Council Representative, as well as Professor Kay Devine as guest speaker. During reelectons, Stephanie Nguyen gave an outstanding speech; she announced qualifications that would assist her in becoming a wonderful advocate for CASSA during the Inter-club Council meetings. In addition, she stated why she felt the position was right for her, and why she wanted to be a part of the executive board. At the end of the day, Stephanie was announced the new ICC Representative! After the election, we were thrilled to welcome Kay Devine, a professional lecturer with the Department of Visual Arts here at CSUF. Devine teaches multiple art classes, such as Art 380 (Art and Child Development), which is a popular course to take for Child and Adolescent Studies students. Previously in Fall 2011, Devine came to do an interactive art project with the members at one of the general meetings. At this particular meeting, we were fortunate to hear about her personal experiences and her advice to members who are interested in the educational career. CASSA was grateful to have CSUF’s own staff attend and speak at our meetings!
TV Taping Fundraiser by Rebecca Graubner

On April 4th, 54 CASSA members and friends attended a television taping of Chelsea Lately with Chelsea Handler in Los Angeles as a fundraiser for the club. Unfortunately, Chelsea Handler was not present, but fellow comedian, Ross Mathews, hosted the hilarious episode in her place. During the show, Mathews and other comedians cracked jokes on the round table about current national news and eccentric celebrities. The finale featured a special guest segment with professional chef, Alex Guarnaschelli, whipping up some delicious-looking comfort food. After the taping ended, the fun continued with a handful of CASSA members sticking around for a meet-and-greet with Chelsea Handler’s assistant, Chuy. Overall, the television experience was filled with excitement and entertainment, and as I watched the episode air that same night, I spotted a quick glance of our own CASSA vice president, Sabrina Mercer in the crowd! As for the fundraising, CASSA raised over $1,800 through the taping! Way to go CASSA!

Walk for Kids by Sabrina Mercer

The early morning sunrise did not stop our passionate members from making a significant difference at yet another charitable walk. On April 7th, dozens of CASSA members, friends, and families came together to participate in the 2013 Walk for Kids located at the Honda Center in Anaheim. Equipped with blue and orange face paint, CASSA signs, and cups of coffee, members attacked the 3 mile walk with enthusiasm and school spirit. After the walk, CASSA members took pictures with a frightening Ronal McDonald look-alike and indulged in the free goodies provided by sponsors. Though there was not a mandatory participation fee for this event, team CASSA raised over $1,500! All proceeds went directly to the Orange County Ronald McDonald House, benefiting children with severe medical conditions and their families. Words cannot describe how rewarding it is to see so many truly passionate CSUF students coming together to make a difference in the lives of families within our community.
Walk for Kids Continued...

General Meeting: Elections by Molly Behrens

On April 11th, we had our annual CASSA board elections. All members interested in running for a position had to declare their candidacy by April 9th. The candidates were required to dress professionally and come prepared with a brief one minute speech about why they should be elected for a specific position. We had a great turnout of candidates at our meeting. All the speeches were well thought out and all candidates were enthusiastic about possibly becoming a board member for the 2013-2014 school year. In the end, all members who ran were voted into a position.

Congratulations to the new CASSA executive board members! ☺
Bonfire Social by Chelsea Krueger

On April 13th, CASSA members gathered outside of school grounds for a social event at Huntington Beach. Although the weather was gloomy, everyone still showed up and had a great time. Some of us played beach volleyball while others challenged each other at UNO, a card game. Some also enjoyed warm blankets, hot dogs, and s'mores. I was thoroughly impressed that members came out on a Saturday night to support CASSA. It proved a strong bond between CASSA members as well as board members. The bonfire social was definitely a success!

Carnival of Change by Joseph Requejo

On April 18th, I attended the Carnival of Change located on the lawn behind the education building, which promoted the various clubs associated with the College of Health and Human Development. Each club had a station with fun and unique games for guests. My favorite was from the Human Services Student Association because I had to walk through a maze with goggles that distorted vision and simulated what being drunk was like. The game showed that one’s depth perception and vision decreases when drinking which promoted the prevention of dangerous activities such as drinking and driving. I was lucky enough to join my fellow CASSA members and perform our very first flash mob led by CASSA President, Dee Isen. The dance was easy to learn and everyone had loads of fun! Afterwards, a Zumba course was held to promote exercise in fun and unique ways. After ten minutes, I was getting a good workout and even sweating while learning some new dance moves! It was a great day to be outside and with fellow members as well as getting to know other clubs related to our own!
Carnival of Change Continued...

OC Food Bank by Sabrina Chi

On April 20th, CASSA volunteered at Orange County Food Bank. We packed food boxes that are distributed to hungry people in Orange County and the surrounding areas. Volunteers worked side-by-side in a chain line with pop music playing in the background in a bright, clean warehouse. During the process, I continuously questioned how this would help anyone. Within two hours of easy work, we were actually able to feed over 200 hungry people with various nutrients from rice, juice, dry milk, and beef can. Volunteering is definitely different from donating. I believe that what we did in two hours was worth greater than donating because I was there packing each boxes individually.

Check out our flash mob at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=21X7bxuQVlw
Celebration of Achievements by Lisa Nelson

On the evening of May 1st, CASSA dressed in their nicest outfits to attend the Celebration of Achievement hosted by the Child and Adolescent Development Department. Board members and club members alike spent the day decorating the TSU Pavilion to transform it into a beautiful garden with the theme of keys to success. The evening was spent with CAS faculty awarding CAS students for their dedication and hard work towards their academic achievements. Students were awarded with various scholarships and were given framed certificates along with their scholarship prizes. Students were also awarded for making the Dean’s List, receiving honors, and for being peer mentors. CASSA members were also called to the stage to be presented with their cords for completing their 30 hours of service. The evening ended with applause for the honored students, silly pictures being taken under the decorated arch, and CAS students and faculty enjoying each other’s company, and celebrating all of our achievements. Congratulations everyone!

Check out our COA video at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jVoiBYUJVVE
CASSA Executive Board

Goodbye 2012 – 2013

Executive President – Dee Isen
Vice President – Sabrina Mercer
Finance Manager – Patricia Liang
Information Manager – Maria Tran
Membership Manager – Monica Sanchez
Community Project Managers – Molly Behrens & Seka Metran
Departmental Awards & Activities Manager – Lisa Nelson
Professional & Career Development Manager – Ashley Garin
ICC Representative – Naomi Sunshine
Faculty Advisors – Dr. Ioakim Boutakidis & Dr. James Rodriguez

Hello 2013 – 2014

Executive President – Chelsea Krueger
Vice President – Ashley Garin
Finance Manager – Bich-Lien Nguyen
Information Manager – Alejandra Navarro
Membership Manager – Joseph Requejo
Community Project Managers – Cassandra Vota & Rebecca Graubner
Departmental Awards & Activities Manager – Sheila Castillo
Professional & Career Development Manager – Megan Houng
ICC Representative – Stephanie Nguyen
Faculty Advisors – Dr. James Rodriguez & Dr. Kari Knutson-Miller

Congratulations on all your success!
General Meeting – May 9th

Color Run – May 10th
MISSION STATEMENT

CASSA is the Child and Adolescent Studies Student Association. Our mission is to provide students with opportunities to develop leadership and professional skills. CASSA also provides opportunities to interact with fellow students and faculty in an atmosphere that fosters social networking by hosting weekly meetings, socials, and community events.

Cord Policy:
Minimum of 30 hours as a paid member for 2 semesters

- At least 2 hours of leadership service
- At least 6 hours of community service
- At least 5 hours of event attendance

For more information, feel free to email us at: csuf.cassa@gmail.com

Or stop by our office in EC 542

Final Message:
Thank you everyone for your continuous and generous support and love towards CASSA. Words can truly never express how much we appreciate you all. CASSA is a huge part of us as it is to you so we hope that you can cherish the beautiful memories we have made and shared throughout the year. Congratulations to the class of 2013 and best wishes on your future endeavors. We love you! 😊