



**REACH Foundation**  
*Supporting PYLUSD Students*



## **–News Release–**

May 10, 2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### ***REACH FOUNDATION CHOSEN AS A 2025 CALIFORNIA NONPROFIT OF THE YEAR BY SENATOR STEVEN CHOI, DISTRICT 37***

**(Yorba Linda, CA)** – The REACH Foundation is honored to announce it has been selected as a **2025 California Nonprofit of the Year** by Senator **Steven Choi**, representing **District 37**.

The REACH Foundation is one of more than 100 exceptional nonprofit organizations across California to be recognized by state senators and assembly members for their unwavering commitment to community service, innovation, and impact.

The REACH Foundation serves 23,000 students across 34 schools in the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District (PYLUSD) with a mission to *enrich, inspire, and engage* students through programs in **academics, arts, and athletics**.

In partnership with over 50 community organizations and businesses, REACH creates learning experiences that ignite student enthusiasm for STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math), inspiring innovation, imagination, and entrepreneurial thinking through programs including:

- **FIRST LEGO League Robotics:** Introduces students to coding and challenges them to use science, technology and FIRST Core Values to solve real-world problems.
- **High School Internships & Middle School Ambassadors:** Provides immersive work experiences that develop leadership, teamwork, and project management skills, enabling students to lead programs in our community while building their resumes.
- **Communicating with Confidence Learning Labs:** Hands-on public speaking workshops offering a supportive environment where students present STEAM topics while developing skills in financial literacy, leadership, empathy, and self-knowledge.
- **Artworks Exhibit:** An annual event, now in its 28th year, showcasing art from pre-K to high school students. Works include watercolor, pastels, ink art, photography, wood, metals, and fabric, displayed at the Richard Nixon Library and coordinated by Art Educators.



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– **Middle School Track Meet and Cross-Country Meets:** Three annual events attracting thousands of student athletes for friendly competitions that celebrate perseverance, teamwork, and dedication. REACH provides shoes to participants in need.

**“This recognition is not just for REACH—it belongs to every student who dared to dream bigger, every educator who sparked curiosity, and every volunteer who chose action over inaction,”** said **Gisele Nguyen, President of the REACH Foundation**. **“We are deeply grateful to Senator Steven Choi for honoring our work, and to our entire community of learners, doers, and believers. Together, we are not just enriching education—we are fostering creativity, self-knowledge, and excellence that transcends the classroom and transforms lives.”**

“We are grateful for the work of the REACH Foundation and want to extend our congratulations for this well-deserved recognition,” said **Geoff Green**, CEO of the **California Association of Nonprofits (CalNonprofits)**, the sponsor of the California Nonprofit of the Year initiative. Nonprofits provide critical services, advocate for our most vulnerable neighbors, and enrich the lives of all Californians. From the childcare program to the soccer team, from the art class to the health clinic, and from the community organizer to the animal shelter, nonprofits make our communities stronger.”

Nonprofits are more than helpers—they are builders of possibility and prosperity. As the fourth-largest industry in California, the nonprofit sector employs **more than 1.2 million people**, generates **\$273 billion in annual revenue**, and brings in **\$40 billion** from outside the state. The contribution of **volunteers**, equivalent to **330,000 full-time jobs**, is a testament to the passion that drives this vital work.

Now in its **tenth year**, the California Nonprofit of the Year program allows state legislators to shine a spotlight on local organizations creating lasting impact in their districts. This year’s honorees will be celebrated during a special luncheon at the Capitol on **California Nonprofits Day, May 21**.

The program is made possible through a partnership between **CalNonprofits**, the **State Senate and Assembly Select Committees on the Nonprofit Sector**, amplifying the voices of California’s nonprofit community and recognizing the heart work that shapes our future.

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