

REACH Foundation



Message from the President

Dear Friends of Reach,

As the incoming Intern President for the 2025–2026 school year and an intern for the past three years, I've witnessed the incredible impact of REACH's enrichment programs and events in our community.

To give you an example, on August 5th, our team experienced the awe-inspiring SoCal Gas Innovation Hydrogen Home, where we witnessed the future of clean energy unfold before our eyes. Watching water power a fan and exploring a microgrid capable of energizing 100 homes left us genuinely amazed and motivated about sustainable innovation.

September brings the exciting buzz of our First Lego League Robotics program kicking into full swing at Travis Ranch and Kraemer Middle School.



WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

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- Get Involved!

Meanwhile, our high school internship team is strategizing new ways to uplift and support PYLUSD students and staff. The REACH High School internship team, consisting of 34 students from six schools have begun planning, innovating, and communicating new ways of supporting PYLUSD students.

Our REACH team is beyond excited for this upcoming year and invites you to keep up with us as we go along with this journey!

- Elizabeth Chan, President Internship Program

Spotlight on Success

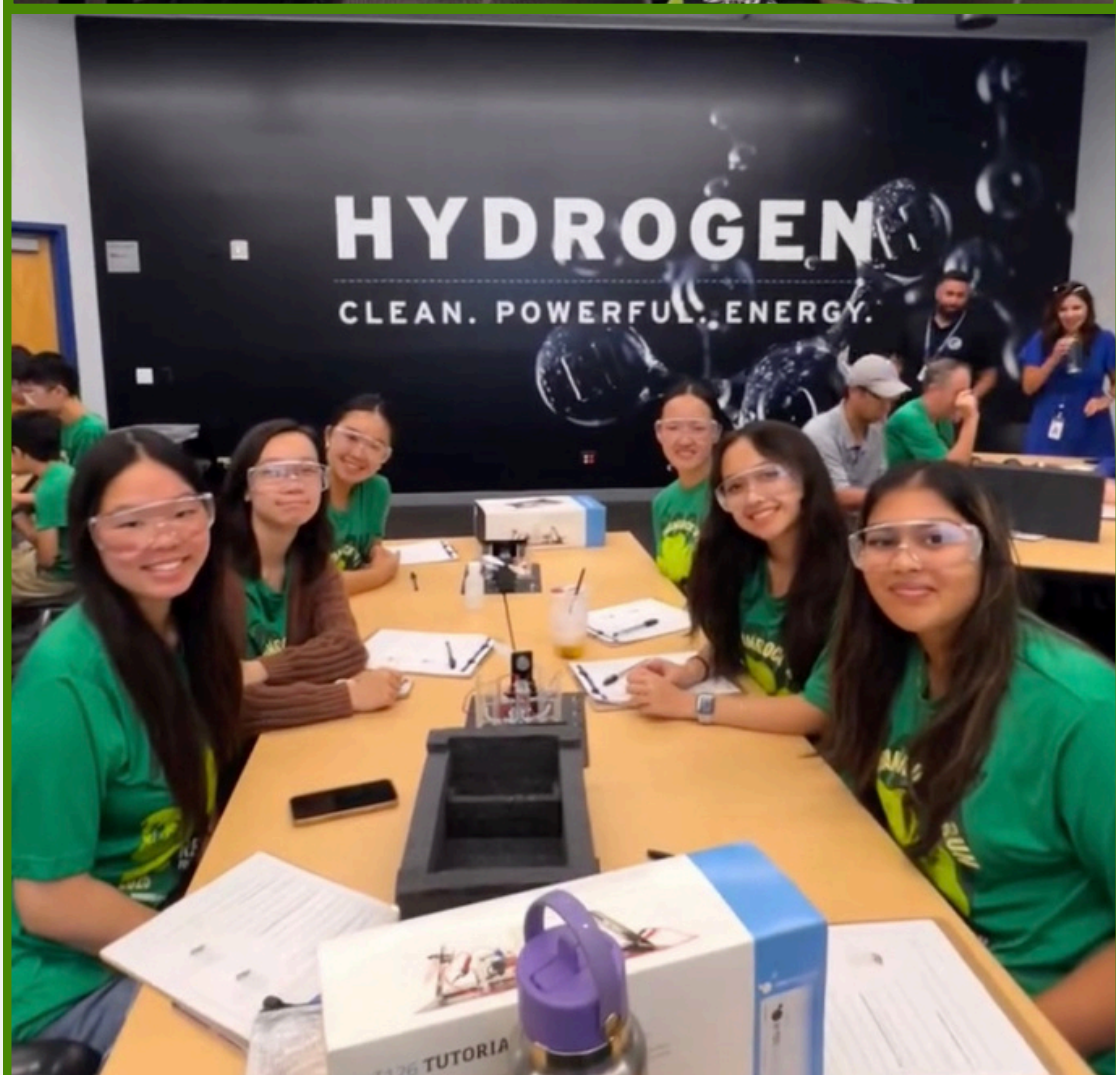
Skylar Snyder, Sr. Dir. Videography

Skylar Snyder, a rising senior at Yorba Linda High School, is a dedicated leader whose work reflects a strong commitment to creativity, advocacy, and equity. Within REACH, she has been an active contributor to programs that emphasize innovation and community building, while also serving as a film producer in Yorba Linda High's Video Productions. She recently published *Benny the Bunny's Big Race*, a children's book inspired by her younger brother, which promotes awareness and understanding of ADHD and celebrates the creativity and potential of neurodivergent children. Skylar is eager to continue expanding this platform to foster broader conversations about inclusion and support. Looking ahead, she aspires to pursue a career in law, combining her passion for justice with her dedication to amplifying underrepresented voices. Through her leadership, storytelling, and advocacy, Skylar continues to make a meaningful impact on both her peers and the wider community, including REACH.



STEAM Club's Hydrogen Home Tour

REACH, in partnership with SoCalGas, hosted an innovative learning experience through the Hydrogen Innovation Experience (H2IE), the first project of its kind in the nation. Interns and Ambassadors explored the future of clean energy by learning directly from experts about hydrogen, energy grids, and renewable applications. Students participated in hands-on activities, including assembling a solar hydrogen experimentation system, generating hydrogen with solar panels, and observing how electrolyzers and fuel cells operate. The visit also featured a tour of SoCalGas's H2 Smart Grid, capable of powering one hundred homes, and concluded with a look inside a hydrogen-blended home. The experience was made possible through the hospitality and expertise of Ms. Clarissa Serpas, Mr. Joe Leiva, and Ms. Alicia, whose support enriched the day. Special thanks are extended to Intern Leaders Shaurya Nagare, Ella Wong, Megan Trần, and Elizabeth Chan, REACH Intern President, for their preparation and leadership in making this first STEAM Club event a success.



Upcoming Events and Programs

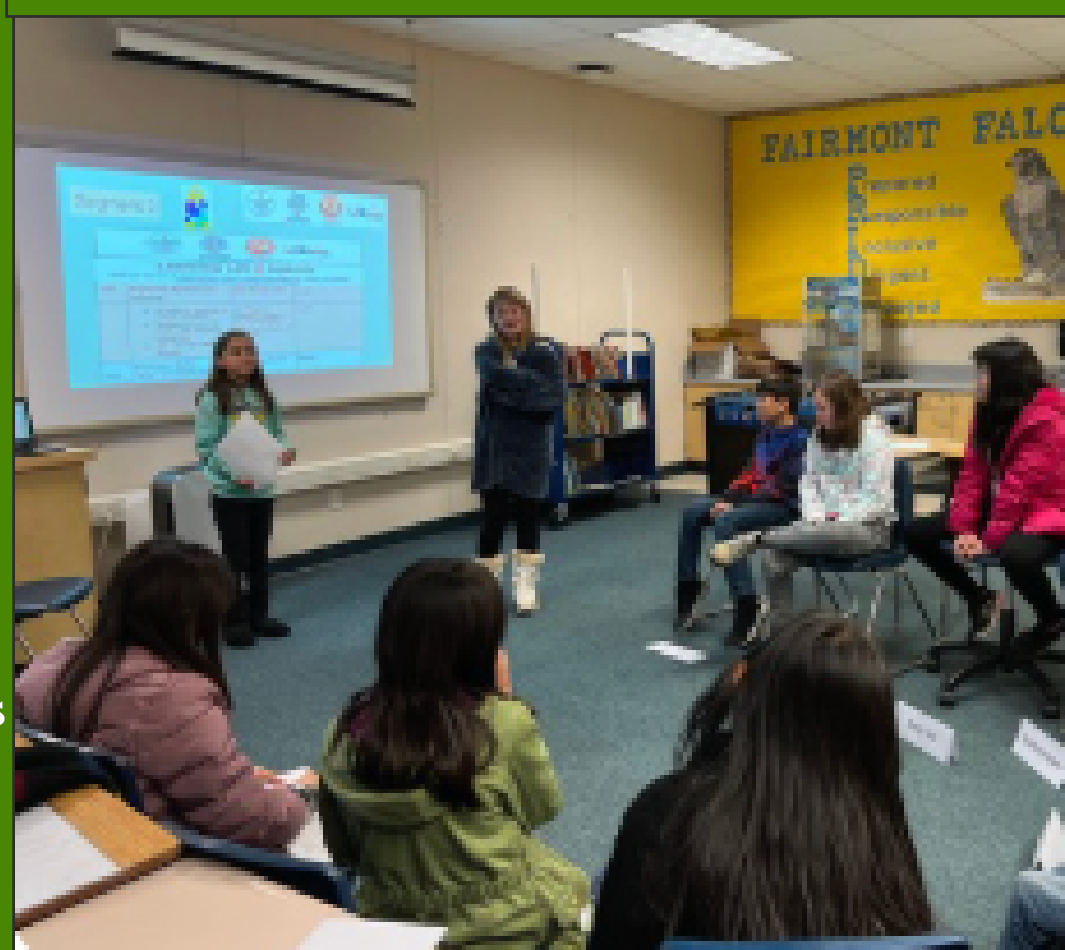


REACH's First LEGO League Kick Off

The Reach Foundation's Robotics Program proudly participates in the FIRST Lego League, an international competition that inspires students to think like scientists and engineers. Open to 1st–8th grade students, this program blends creativity, teamwork, and problem solving as students design, build, and program robots. Along the way, participants explore real world challenges and discover innovative solutions with hands-on learning. Adding onto this, students were able to further their love for discovery at the La Brea Tar Pits where students were able to explore fossilized sites, observe scientists in action, and learn how prehistoric animals were unearthed. With the chance to ask their own questions, participants connected their own curiosity with history and discovery.

COMMUNICATING WITH CONFIDENCE LEARNING LAB

The Communicating with Confidence Learning Labs is an engaging afterschool STEAM Club Program designed for 4th-6th grade students at Fairmont Elementary. Through interactive, hands-on activities, students step into the roles of innovators and leaders, strengthening their communication, collaboration, and critical thinking skills. Guided by the Engineering Design Process, participants create dynamic presentations and videos on topics that inspire them, building both confidence and creativity. Research shows that strong communication skills not only support higher academic achievement and resilience but also foster long-term success. The program begins September 9 and runs through October 9, meeting twice weekly for a total of 15 hours of empowering, skill-building experiences.



2025 Costal Cleanup Day

On Saturday, September 20, 2025, the REACH Foundation invites the community to gather at Upper Newport Bay for its California Coastal Cleanup Day. From 9:00 am to noon, volunteers will roll up their sleeves to restore one of California's last coastal wetlands, a reare home for endangered species and countless migratory birds. The morning promises muddy shoes, full buckets, and the satisfication of making a visible difference. Families and students are espicially encouraged to join, turning a few hours of service into lasting memories and enviornmental impact. Supplies will be ready on-site and participants just need to bring energy, water, and a good pair of closed-toe shoes.

COASTAL CLEANUP DAY at Upper Newport BAY

Saturday, September 20, 2025
9:00 am - 12:00 pm
2050 Constellation Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660
(street parking available)

Join us in making a difference! Working with Inside the Outdoors' staff, volunteers will assist with cleanup activities that will benefit Upper Newport Bay. This event is perfect for students and families who want to contribute to the preservation of our natural environment.

Upper Newport Bay is one of California's last remaining coastal wetlands. This estuary is home to several endangered species and many migratory and year-round resident birds. Your involvement in this restoration effort will help protect and sustain this vital ecosystem.

- Please bring water and wear closed-toe shoes
- Gloves, buckets, and bags will be provided
- Expect to get muddy!

Upcoming Events and Programs



Backpack of Hope School Supply Drive

This summer, the REACH Foundation, the Placentia Yorba Unified School District (PYLUSD) and community came together to ensure every student can begin their school year prepared with the tools to learn. Through the generosity of our incredible donors and supporters, the school supply drive raised \$9,000 and filled 500 backpacks with essential supplies for the McKinney Vento students. Beyond meeting the goal for materials, this campaign strengthened our PYL community, as educators, families, and neighbors came together towards the shared belief that every child deserves to start school with confidence, dignity, and hope.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

On August 6, the REACH Foundation participated in Yorba Linda Police Services' National Night Out, an event dedicated to building community and promoting safety. The evening featured exciting demonstrations such as a live K9 performance, a helicopter landing, and interactive public safety displays that drew families from across the city. REACH hosted a booth where community members had the opportunity to learn more about the Foundation's programs, upcoming initiatives, and ways to get involved. The event allowed REACH to strengthen its presence in Yorba Linda, connect with families and local organizations, and share its mission of empowering students across the PYLYSD.



Volunteering & Scholarships



“GET INSPIRED” TIKTOK SCHOLARSHIP

The Scholarships360 “Get Inspired” Scholarship awards one \$500 scholarship to a student of any grade level who shares what inspires them to create, connect, and share with others. To apply, students must follow Scholarships360 on TikTok, like the pinned scholarship post, and leave a thoughtful comment, tagging friends for extra consideration, then submit their TikTok username in the application. The scholarship opens July 29, 2025, and closes September 30, 2025, and the winner will be announced October 31, 2025.



“PEN TO PAPER” SCHOLARSHIP FOR STORYTELLERS

The Pen to Paper Scholarship for Storytellers awards one \$1,000 scholarship to students who showcase their passion for creative writing through a 250-word original piece. Open to all grade levels -- high school, undergraduate, and graduate students--who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents, the scholarship values poetry, short stories, novels, or screenplays as powerful forms of expression. Applications open July 1, 2025, close on October 31, 2025 (11:59 PM EST), and the winner will be announced November 30, 2025.

Did You Know:

- The REACH Foundation has disbursed over \$500,000 to student programs, budgeted \$20,000 annually for educator grants, and \$6,000 for PTA Jogathons
- R.E.A.C.H stands for Resources for the, Enrichment of, Academics, Arts, and Athletics for our, Children to reach their ultimate, Heights
- REACH encompasses 20 Award-winning Academic, Arts, and Athletic Programs

Stay connected and informed by following us on social media and visiting our website regularly. Here's how you can stay engaged:

- Instagram: @REACH4pylud.org
- Facebook: REACH4pylud.org
- Website: www.reach4pylud.org

Interested in becoming an intern?

- Applications for the annual program opens from January 15th to Feb. 15th for the next academic year.
- Check out www.reach4pylud.org for more insight

We are excited to see what this school year holds and look forward to working together to create meaningful and impactful experiences for our students. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to the REACH Foundation.

Warm regards,

The REACH Foundation Team

P.S. Don't forget to mark your calendars for our upcoming events and volunteer opportunities. Together, we can make this year extraordinary!

REACH Interns 2024-2025

Communications VP & Publisher: Megan Wang

Contributors: Rustin Limoochi, Evelyn Yao, Elizabeth Chan and
Ms. Gisele Nguyen

Intern President: Elizabeth Chan

REACH TEAM 2025-2026: Elizabeth Chan, Carolyn Suh, Evelyn Yao, Megan Wang, Vince Kim, Brendon Nguyen, Kaley Carpenter, Zoia Patel, Shaurya Nangare, Julia Wong, Collin Shum, Nathan Tang, Maiah Sharma, Angela Yao, Skylar Snyder, Megan Tran, Lauren Gei, Bella Huang, Zoe Anh, Rustin Limoochi, Theo Tran, Ella Wong, Megan Tran, Anish Khant, Makhayla Gill, Sajni Shah, Aly Baranick, Lance Low, Allyson Tam, Aarav Patel, Jyllian Panya, Emily Chi, Samihan Shaligram, Charolotte Mar, Ava Liang



Our Intern program is a transformative opportunity designed to empower students with real-world experience and leadership skills. The Foundation supports selected highly engaged Interns to foster "innovation, imagination and intrapreneurship."