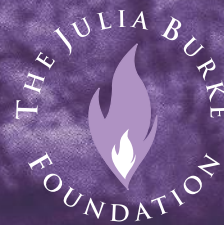




The Julia Burke Foundation Annual Newsletter 2012

www.JuliaBurkeFoundation.org



Featured NEWS:

Mindfulness Education

Academic Scholarships

Troops Direct

HALO TRUST

Ecological Issues

Debate

Music Education

Memorial Walk

A POWERFUL IMPACT ON CHILDREN MINDFUL SCHOOLS

By Randima Fernando, Executive Director of Operations, Mindful Schools

Thirty years of research and, more recently, brain science, offer compelling evidence to support the use of mindfulness in education. The application of mindfulness by students has the potential to improve academic achievement, mental health, and both interpersonal and intrapersonal relationships. This year, in addition to expanding our school program to serve over 6,400 children, we trained over 1,500 adults via our school program, courses, workshops, and other presentations.

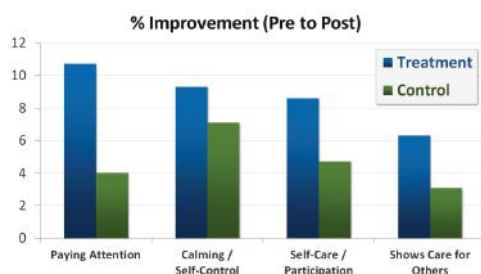
We partnered this year with UC Davis and conducted the largest study ever involving mindfulness and children, a randomized controlled trial involving

829 children and 47 teachers in three Oakland public elementary schools in high-risk, high-crime areas. This study showed that our program has a powerful impact on children, with considerable and statistically significant improvements in paying attention, self-care, and showing care for others, as compared to the control group (which did not receive our program). These results came after less than 4 hours of instruction over 6

weeks. Our data repeatedly indicates that at-risk children often benefit most from learning mindfulness due to the constant turmoil they face daily.

We are profoundly grateful to those at The Julia Burke Foundation who have put their belief and financial resources behind us and our mission. For more information, visit www.mindfulschools.org

Students gather for a mindfulness exercise



THE SCHOLARSHIP OF A LIFETIME STUDENTS RISING ABOVE

By Lynne Martin, Executive Director, Students Rising Above

Students Rising Above (SRA) is pleased to announce the creation of The Julia Burke Named Scholarship to help low-income, first-generation students achieve their dreams of a college education. Four students will be selected and will receive ongoing, annual financial support while attending college.

"We are grateful to Marilyn and Jerry Burke for their continued leadership in creating scholarship opportunities for hard-working students who need a helping hand. 90% of SRA students graduate from college, which changes everything for our students and their future families. This scholarship has generational impact," said SRA Executive Director Lynne Martin.

SRA students will be selected for qualities that honor Julia's memory and her

interests. Recipients will demonstrate integrity through actions, an ability to give of themselves, and a sense of modesty and humor. Additionally, students will possess strength of character to "chart their own course and walk their own mile," and like Julia, will show a love of life, a curiosity for learning, and a wisdom beyond their years.

This year's recipients will have an opportunity to share a small portion of their award by donating it to the charity of their choice. "Our students learn from the Burke's generosity and will continue their tradition of philanthropy," stated Martin. For more information, visit www.studentsrisingabove.org



Jonathan Cowperwait, JBF Board Member, stands with Wendy Tokuda, Founder of SRA, and Jerry and Marilyn Burke, at this year's Students Rising Above gala.

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which The Foundation bases its award grants were never difficult to develop. Julia used her gifts on many stages, small and large, and her interests have guided the grant-making decisions of The Foundation since its inception. Once again, we celebrate and support the organizations that continue her legacy.

Marilyn Burke

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WHAT'S NEW?

We have MOVED!! Our new office is located in Kailua Kona, Hawaii!! We have a lovely office space in downtown Kona, complete with a peek-a-boo view of the ocean and swaying palm trees.

We have a new Board Member, Michelle Campion. Michelle is one of Julia's cousins. Ms. Campion holds a Master of Science degree in Industrial-Organizational Psychology, and currently works as the Learning and Organizational Development Program Specialist in San Jose, California. I am sure she will keep me organized. We now have ten Board Members! Welcome Michelle.

The Foundation continues in partnership with each of our previous grantees, and we are excited to introduce new developments within HALO USA, the Bay Area Urban Debate League, and Students Rising Above. Please enjoy reading!

I want to thank several behind-the-scenes, VERY important folks. I could not do my job without the magic that William Bennington, our technology guru, performs on the computer system here. He literally keeps me running. Without Karen Stockton, our gifted editor, this newsletter would never have been written! Also, I want to acknowledge Nicole Imperial, our very talented Art Director/Designer. I am always in awe when I receive the final proofs for our annual newsletter and flyer.

Once again I want to express my gratitude to The Julia Burke Foundation for making a difference in the world!

Lastly, I would like to invite everyone to join us at the Annual Reunion and Walk, which will be held Sunday, December 23, 2012 at the San Pablo Visitor Center. For additional information, please check our website.



My warmest aloha,

Joy Johnson

I'M A JULIA PERSON

Coach Kahinu Lee, of the 2012 Konawaena High School Boys Volleyball Team, wanted to share his skill in the sport with the local students. Though he does not teach for KHS, he was a graduate of the school, and understands that the important lessons in teamwork he provides serve his boys both on the court and off. A personal connection brought The Julia Burke Foundation in contact with this team, and The Foundation was proud to show its support for the local community through a grant to provide uniform shirts and shorts for the boys. GO WILDCATS!



The 2012 Konawaena High School Boys' Volleyball Team: [back: Gabe Trevino, Kalama Freitas, Allan Fukushima, Trevor Tanaka, Kai Dunston, Kaimi Wilson, Landon Deniz, Coach Kahinu Lee (wearing a gray Julia Burke shirt) and Nalu Loando; front: Ka'ua Pulotu and Randall Berdon]



Stephanie drives Shadow, with Scott Monroe and Leslie Berndt.

DRIVING THE HUMAN SPIRIT

From an early age, Stefanie Putman connected with horses, from pony riding, to polo playing, to the show ring. Stefanie was a student in Joy Johnson's second grade class at Springhill Elementary in Lafayette, and she attended Stanley Middle School with Julia. Everything seemed to change sharply for Stefanie on August 23, 2009, when a terrible spinal cord injury left her a C5 quadriplegic. But then, following a year of intense therapy, Stefanie found herself drawn into the world of Combined Driving, an equestrian sport involving carriage driving. Using carriages designed to accommodate disability, as well as specially designed leather wrist-cuffs, Stefanie began an intensive training program and entered into competition. With support from The Julia Burke Foundation, Stefanie now drives her horse, Shadow, three to four times a week, and hopes to one day represent the United States at the Paraequestrian Games.

Marcia Putnam, Stefanie's mother, says: "Thank you again for your incredible support!! I can't tell you how much this means to Stefanie on a daily basis! It is impossible to describe or convey the depth of gratitude. Every day is a new challenge for her, and your kindness and support touches us all deeply and lifts our hearts."



Brendan Dreaper (Randy's assistant), Dean Benson, Susan Strong, Pete Coffee, Randy Strong

CHANGING EXPECTATIONS BAUDL

By Dmitri Seals, Executive Director,
Bay Area Urban Debate League



BAUDL participants research debate topics and gather for debate exercises.

Support from The Julia Burke Foundation helped make this an amazing year for the Bay Area Urban Debate League. Our work—expanding opportunities for high school students in the San Francisco Bay Area to join in rigorous academic competition and become articulate, informed leaders in their schools and communities—made the front page of the SF Chronicle, front page of the Oakland Tribune Metro, and KQED, sparking dramatic growth in our programs as we came into the new school year.

Most importantly, we continue to reach hundreds of students that traditional classrooms fail to engage, helping them to graduate high school and enter the college of their choice. Two of our students—twin sisters—became the first students from their high school to be accepted to Yale in more than 20 years!

Support from The Julia Burke Foundation helps us to extend the impact of our programs beyond the after school arena and into the classroom, allowing hundreds of disengaged youth to find strong voices for themselves through debate. We are working with Bay Area school districts to use debate as a model for education reform, channeling the power of student voice and the thrill of competition, and moving participants toward rigorous, self-directed learning.

We have added four new schools to our core network this year, and more than 50 teachers will implement BAUDL curriculum in the coming school year. At this year's Summer Institute, more students than ever trained to research, write, and speak on some of the most important issues of the day. Our team of eloquent, charismatic young people is growing to critical mass, helping us to make smart cool and to change expectations for what urban students – and urban schools – are capable of doing.

For more information, visit www.baudl.org

KEEPING OUR TROOPS HEALTHY, MOTIVATED AND ALIVE!

TROOPSDIRECT

By Aaron Negherbon, President and Founder, Troops Direct

At TroopsDirect we are in daily communication with the commanders of our service members around the globe. While the United States maintains a presence in nearly 140 countries, operations such as those in Afghanistan and Africa still take center stage. Since beginning our mission in 2010, invaluable support from The Julia Burke Foundation has helped TroopsDirect provide over 25,000 service members with on-demand supplies and resources, keeping them healthy, motivated, and alive. We are proud to have shipped over 27,000 lbs of requested support since June 2010. TroopsDirect remains the only nonprofit organization supplying active-duty service members, from the traditional infantry unit to the most elite SEAL Teams, with crucially needed items that simply cannot be procured through internal—and red tape laden—supply chains.

With the majority of combat casualties, amputations, and deaths stemming from the proliferation of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)—also known as landmines—TroopsDirect constantly receives and fulfills requests for items, ranging from ballistic eye protection to chalk powder, used to mark these IEDs while units are on foot patrol. As evidenced by the following letter, TroopsDirect and the Americans that we are committed to support, say thank you to The Julia Burke Foundation:

Dear Mr. Negherbon and all at TroopsDirect,

On behalf of all of my Marines deployed here in Afghanistan, I want to personally thank you for your unwavering support. I cannot begin to express how valuable and life saving last month's shipment of chalk powder has been. Last night's event prompted me to send you a message to let you know.

My men were out on foot patrol in a relatively uncharted area in our district. On a narrow footpath, the Lance Corporal who was taking the lead stepped on an IED and suffered traumatic injuries. At this point I'm not sure how bad he is but I do know that he lost his legs. He's only 19 or 20.

The Corpsman immediately provided first aid while we called in an emergency helicopter medevac. [...] We were essentially caught in the middle of a minefield. In the following 20 minutes as we waited, we 'deployed' your chalk as we discovered three more IEDs. [...] Once we had established a safe path from our position to the landing zone we came across a fourth IED that would have essentially been right under the helicopter when it landed. [...] We were able to mark it so that the inbound pilots could see it on final approach. [...] probably saved everyone aboard. They touched down a safe distance away [...] and we were able to get our guy onboard, into the hands of the flight medics and ultimately to a frontline trauma hospital.

I am certain that if we were without your chalk we would have lost more Marines than we did and maybe a full flight crew, and for that we and our families are forever in your debt. It may sound cliché but it's the God honest truth when I state that you are saving lives and limbs over here every day [...]

Again, sir, thank you for all that you are doing for us.

*Respectfully,
Sgt. Jeffrey M.*



Army troops pose with a delivery of chalk.



TELL YOUR FAMILY YOUR WISHES!



Take pride in your decision to become an organ donor and communicate this choice to your loved ones. Your decision can save the lives of eight people and enhance the lives of 50 more. With those kinds of odds, Julia said, "This is a no-brainer!"

Sign up online:

www.donatelifecalifornia.org

To become an organ donor today.

CLEARING MINES SO CHILDREN CAN PLAY IN SAFETY HALO

By Amy Currin, Project Officer, HALO USA

"Every day in a child's life is a day of new advantages and discoveries. Any child might fall down and scratch their hand or foot, but this is common in life and, as we say, it will heal before they are married. But such dangers as cluster bombs and other munitions pose can result in the loss of a hand or a foot or even a life, which will change the child's life forever. Before the clearance we were scared to let our children play beyond the playground. Thanks to HALO and The Julia Burke Foundation we now can be sure that our children's lives are safe and nothing serious poses a danger to them. Their happy



Marilyn Burke receiving letters of thanks from the President and Prime Minister of Nagorno Karabakh.

and smiling faces are the warmest thank you, which we would like to pass to HALO and The Julia Burke Foundation." These are words of Marine Gevorkyan, a mother and teacher in Jabrail Village in Nagorno Karabakh.

The HALO Trust, the staff of HALO Nagorno Karabakh, and



HALO Zimbabwe staff during demining training in Mozambique, shown here calibrating his metal detector.

the people of Nagorno Karabakh are profoundly grateful to The Julia Burke Foundation for its generous support. The benefit in terms of lives and limbs saved is incalculable. HALO was pleased to present letters of thanks from the President and Prime Minister of Nagorno Karabakh to Marilyn and Jerry Burke.

Continued

EDUCATION & ACTION ON SHARED ECOLOGICAL ISSUES INTERFAITH CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

By Rabbi Yonatan Neril, Founder and Executive Director, The Interfaith Center for Sustainable Development

I had the privilege of being Julia's debate partner. We began as debate partners in 1997, at the University of Maryland's debate camp, on the topic of renewable energy. Our 'case' or advocated course of action focused on issues of environmental sustainability, and we invested hundreds of hours that year researching this topic. I would listen excitedly as Julia would outwit the competition by arguing our case for a more sustainable path of human living. She not only spoke faster than the other debaters but also had a greater mastery of the issues. In debate after debate, I witnessed her passion and erudition in arguing our case. My experience as Julia's debate partner was quite meaningful, and it impacted the subsequent direction I chose in life.



Several years ago, Marilyn Burke and I had a conversation in which the idea of an Interfaith Center for Sustainable Development (ICSD) was born. Today ICSD accesses the collective wisdom of the world's religions to promote coexistence, peace, and sustainability through education and action. In promoting the cooperation and training of religious leaders, teachers, and communities on shared ecological issues, ICSD's work brings diverse groups of people together. I am very grateful for the support of The Julia Burke Foundation, which has enabled the success of several projects in 2012.

First, The Interfaith Climate and Energy Conference, held in Jerusalem in March, 2012, featured leading Holy Land religious leaders speaking at—and faith members participating in—a forum on interfaith perspectives on sustainable development. Second, The Interfaith Seminary Students Sustainability Project, which in the spring of 2012 brought together Christian, Jewish, and Muslim seminary students for a series of interactive workshops on human coexistence and environmental sustainability. Third, ICSD produced the One Home Video, a unique interfaith "eco video" featuring world religious leaders speaking about environmental sustainability. Faith leaders including the Dalai Lama, Patriarch Bartholomew, and Chief Rabbi Sacks delivered a message of hope and inspiration on the importance of protecting the earth, our common home. The short video and more information about our work can be found at www.interfaithsustain.com.

My hope is that our work helps perpetuate Julia's memory and legacy. We offer our appreciation to The Julia Burke Foundation for their generous support of our work!

For more information, visit www.interfaithsustain.com

This year, The Foundation is supporting HALO's important new program in Zimbabwe. Similar to the citizens of Nagorno Karabakh, Zimbabweans live with explosive remnants of war, which threaten injury and death, and block access to valuable land for farming. The urgency of the issue was highlighted by a recent accident when a 16-year old boy lost his leg to a landmine. The Julia Burke Foundation has provided critical start-up support to assist HALO with the survey of this land and to lay the strong foundation upon which HALO will train and deploy hundreds of local deminers in 2012 and 2013.

HALO would like to thank The Julia Burke Foundation for its long-standing commitment to a mine-free world. Where The Julia Burke Foundation has cleared minefields and battlefields, farmers are now planting their crops, homes and roads are being rebuilt, and children play, secure in the knowledge that their next step will be a safe one. For more information, visit www.halotrust.org

Zimbabwe staff during demining training in Mozambique, shown here investigating a metal signal to see if it is a mine.



Debaters Andrew Wang, Joe Smith, and Leah Monteiro

ON THE ROAD TO SUCCESS CAPITOL DEBATE

By Ron Bratt, CEO and Founder, Capitol Debate

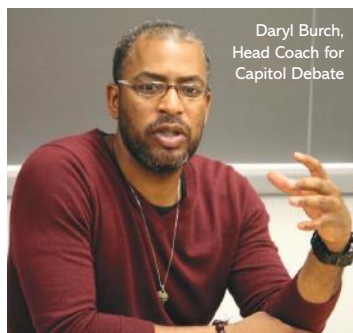
Debate! Debate! Debate! The Julia Burke Foundation has transformed an entire community in Howard County, Maryland, forever. Through their generosity, The Foundation has fostered an environment that allows debate to become a household fixture in Howard County. Back in 2007, there was only one school with a debate team in the community. Now, we have debate teams in all 13 high schools and all 19 middle schools. We went from 12 debaters then, to over 100 debaters as we head into the 2012-13 academic year.

How did we do it? We used grant money from The Julia Burke Foundation to fund out-of-state travel for our initial group of 12 debaters. This group travelled to Wake Forest University, Bronx School of Science, and the Glenbrooks, Pennsbury and Lakeland tournaments. This helped plant the seeds for future success. The

pioneer debaters returned back to Howard County and the following year, taught the new novices and also served as role models. Moreover, other young students started to learn about the opportunities to travel and compete against the best and brightest in the nation.

Our success snowballed. With students starting to get involved as early as 6th grade, Capitol Debate won the Middle School Debate National Championship 3 years in a row, won the Freshman Nationals, had the top speaker at the Junior Varsity Nationals, top 3 at NCFL Nationals, qualified for the Tournament of Champions, and has been invited to prestigious Round Robins such as Greenhill.

We are so excited to see the next generation of debaters succeed way into the future with our partnership with The Julia Burke Foundation! For more information, visit www.capitol-debate.com



Daryl Burch,
Head Coach for
Capitol Debate

THE JULIA BURKE AWARDS FOR DEBATE

The Julia Burke debate awards recognize debaters at both the local and national level, who best exhibit excellence in debate combined with the love for and commitment to the activity.



THE COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL Oakland, California

Julia Burke Debater of the Year Award

Recipient: Jordan Trafton

School: Jordan will attend the

University of Pennsylvania as a freshman.



TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS Lexington, Kentucky

Recipient: Miriam Sergent-Leventhal

School: University of

California at Berkeley

Designated Charity: Friends

For A Nonviolent World

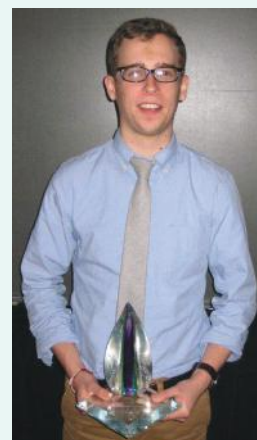
AMERICAN DEBATE ASSOCIATION NATIONALS

Harrisonburg, Virginia

Recipient: Brendan Benedict

School: Boston College

Designated Charity: The Boston Debate Center



A CONTAGIOUS BEAT GENERATIONS IN JAZZ

By Tina Tankka, Board Member, Generations in Jazz

Once again, it was a week to remember! This August, students, teachers and musicians gathered for their annual vortex of shared energy, ideas, and jazz at the Lafayette Summer Music Jazz Workshop in Lafayette, California. You could not help but be sucked into the foot-tapping, head-bobbing contagious beat of the “sooooo” cool scene. It seemed the motion never ceased, and onlookers shook their heads in disbelief to see a kid—12 years old—cranking out a tune on the piano next to Mic Gillette of Tower of Power fame, or alongside five-time Grammy nominee John Santos of Afro-Latin fame.

A working musician and scholarship recipient from New Jersey, Munir Griffin said:

“I have learned a lot, made connections for the future and have embraced the people at the camp and in this town, as my family in the West. I plan to come back and help myself become a better musician and to also help others as well. ... I want to let you know, your donation went to a great program here in Lafayette.”

Many of our returning students, who have received generous scholarship donations from The Julia Burke Foundation, take home their experiences and mentor fellow band members at schools both near to and far from Lafayette. These students could not have attended the workshop without financial support, and the camp was a better place because of their presence.

Martin Legano, a scholarship attendee said: “These 5 days have changed my playing so dramatically and I cannot thank you enough for your generosity. This camp really has meant a lot to me and the knowledge I have gained from this camp is something I will take with me for as long as I play the horn. Because of people like you, I am blessed to have life changing experiences like the Lafayette Summer Music Workshop.”

For more information, visit www.generationsinjazz.org



Participants at the Lafayette Summer Music Workshop



OUR NEW OFFICE IN KONA!

If you are ever on the big island of Hawaii, please come by and visit our new office!



**At Julia's service, Ryan Mills,
her debate coach, said it well:**

“It suddenly became so obvious to me that she was the one who had it right all along. The importance of people, not things; your integrity, not your successes; your contribution, not your awards.”

WE LOVE TO STAY IN TOUCH

Please take a moment to update us with your address when you move.
Contact: Joy Johnson at Joy_Johnson@JuliaBurkeFoundation.org

MEMORIAL WALK & REUNION

In Honor of Julia Burke's Birthday

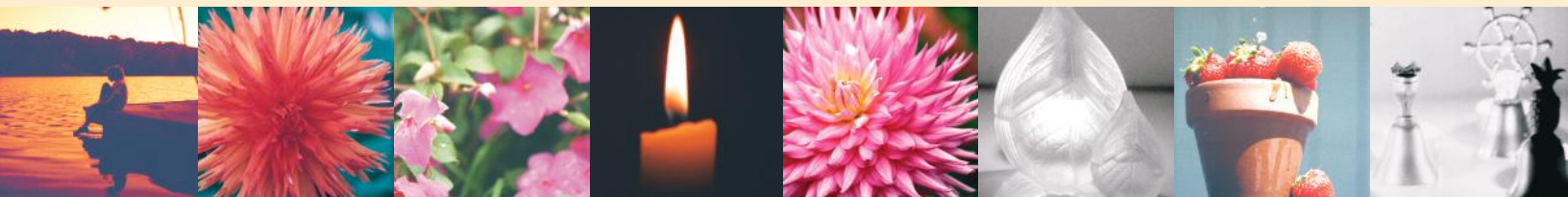


The meeting place for our Memorial Walk and Reunion will be indoors at San Pablo Reservoir Recreation Area Visitor Center. We will have the talented student musicians from Stanley Middle School, refreshments, heat, and sweeping views of the reservoir from the venue. There will be an easy walk, less than one mile, and a great opportunity to visit in a heated facility. There is plenty of complimentary parking. We look forward to seeing you there! For more information, visit www.JuliaBurkeFoundation.org.

San Pablo Reservoir Recreation Area Visitor Center
7301 San Pablo Dam Road
El Sobrante, CA 94803

This is not a fundraiser, but a chance for everyone to catch up and visit.

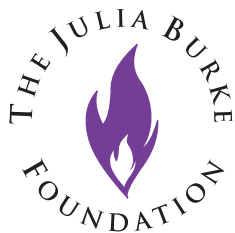
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2012 SAN PABLO RESERVOIR VISITOR CENTER 9:00 AM–10:30 AM



Photography by Julia Burke

"Life is no 'brief candle' to me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for a moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations."

George Bernard Shaw From Julia's book of favorite quotations.



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