



AL WOOTEN JR.  
YOUTH CENTER

EST. 1990 **CATCH THE VISION!**

25TH ANNUAL

# CATCH THE VISION

AWARDS DINNER & AUCTION

CELEBRATING OUR *28th* ANNIVERSARY!

*"BUILDING SUCCESS.2"*



HONORING

**RICK SHLEMMER**

PRINCIPAL, SAA INTERIORS + ARCHITECTURE



THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2018 | 6-9PM

HOTEL CASA DEL MAR, SANTA MONICA

In Appreciation for  
Rick Shlemmer

For your outstanding  
service, concern and  
support for the  
Wooten Center

**John & Eveyln Lapham**

A decorative graphic at the bottom of the page consisting of two parallel, wavy red lines that curve across the width of the page.

# SPONSORS & FUNDERS

Thank you to our sponsors and to everyone who contributed to the success of our 25th annual Catch the Vision Awards Dinner. We appreciate you and the foundations that awarded grants in or for 2017-18. Your support helps us provide free afterschool and low-cost summer programs for more than 350 students per year in grades 3-12. Thank you!



## SAPPHIRE

The World Famous KROQ

## PLATINUM-PLUS

John and Evelyn Lapham

Christopher and Karen Jennings

## PLATINUM

Paul and Melinda Wetmore

## GOLD

Bank of America

McCarthy Cook & Co.

Tom and Laurie McCarthy

Debra and Steven Oh

Gary and Karen Wagner

## SILVER

SAA interiors + architecture

Merrill Lynch

David and Elizabeth McFadzean

Brian Condon and Kara Rossi

## BRONZE

Interior Office Solutions

Drs. Constance and Bernard James

Kinecta Federal Credit Union

Tom McKissick

OAE – Workshare Solutions

Keith and Paulette Parker

Steve Vielhaber and Alice Short

John and Kathy Talley-Jones

## DID YOU KNOW?

*The Wooten Center accepts stock donations! For more information, contact Brian O'Connor at Merrill Lynch at (213) 236-2049, or [brian.f.oconnor@ml.com](mailto:brian.f.oconnor@ml.com).*

## GRANTS & OTHER MAJOR GIFTS

Ahmanson Foundation, \$100,000

All Ways Up Foundation, \$2,500

Bank of America Charitable Foundation, \$10,000

California Community Foundation, \$25,000

Crail-Johnson Foundation, \$12,500

Dwight Stuart Youth Fund, \$10,000

Kaiser Permanente-West Los Angeles, \$10,000

Ron Glass (bequest), \$150,000

The World Famous KROQ, \$100,000

UCLA Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Equity, \$5,000

Weingart Foundation, \$25,000

## CONTENTS

Sponsors & Funders	3
Board of Directors & Staff	5
Honoree...Rick Shlemmer	7
Parents	8
Students	9
History	11
Programs	13
Dinner Program	15
Summer Flyer	12
Afterschool Flyer	17

Presented to  
Rick Shlemmer

## 2018 VISION AWARD

To express our deep appreciation for the outstanding support you have afforded the Al Wooten Jr. Youth Center in our efforts to serve our youth in South Los Angeles.

**Paul & Melinda Wetmore**

# BOARD & STAFF

Thank you to our very caring and dedicated board of directors and staff for your commitment to good citizenship and academic excellence for our students!

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Myrtle Faye Rumph  
*Founder, Honorary Board (dec.)*

Barbara Clark  
*Honorary Board*

Ron Glass  
*Board Chair Emeritus (dec.)*

Paul F. Wetmore (chair)  
*Merrill Lynch*

Leighton A. Carter  
*Lombardia Capital Partner*

Robert Clark  
*FBI (ret.)*

Brian Condon  
*Arnold & Porter LLP*

Frank Denkins  
*Office Furniture LA (ret.)*

Laurie Inman, Ed.D.  
*CSU Dominguez*

Connie James, Ph.D.  
*Pepperdine University*

Christopher "Kit" Jennings  
*Liquid Venture Partners*

John G. Lapham III  
*Pinebridge Investments*

Kenneth McRay  
*Crescent Capital*

Scott Miller, Ph.D.  
*University of Tampa.*



*Our staff and board at their annual planning retreats*

Dashan Nettles  
*U.S. Department of  
Veterans Affairs*

Keith S. Parker  
*UCLA Government &  
Community Relations*

Camille Richardson  
*Kinecta Federal Credit Union*

Brett Roberts  
*Metro LA*

Mary Spellerberg  
*London West Hollywood*

Kathy Talley-Jones  
*Independent Writer and Planner*

Gary Wagner  
*Ameron International (ret.)*

## STAFF

Juana Alvarado  
*Program Coordinator*

Rebecca Arce  
*Communications Assistant*

Victor Casey  
*Education Specialist*

Naomi McSwain  
*Executive Director*

Jesse Morales  
*Program Director*

Rosie Nyenke  
*Office Manager*

Lamar Porter  
*Program Specialist*

Christelle Telesford  
*Associate Director*

# OUR HONOREE

## RICK SHLEMMER



The Al Wooten Jr. Youth Center is pleased to present our 25th annual Vision Award to Rick Shlemmer, principal of SAA interiors + architecture. Our Vision Award is presented to friends who make significant impacts at our center through financial, in-kind and/or volunteer contributions. Rick has provided all of this and more in just the one short year we have known him.

We met Rick last year through an introduction from our long-time friend Tom McCarthy of McCarthy Cook & Associates. Rick quickly became a great friend as well, providing pro bono services consulting and developing plans for our renovation project. He volunteered to teach a weekly architecture class in our summer camp and will join us again this year leading a team of Wooten students in creating our drawings.

Rick is a very special person with a big heart. He has reached out expressing concern and offering solutions for challenges including stray bullets hitting our buildings. He designed a plan to reduce the number of exterior windows and doors on our six buildings and to install bullet-resistant walls. He has attended several meetings with the city and at the center. He gave us a contract with a zero balance due.



*Rick teaching a weekly architecture class in Summer Fun Camp 2017.  
Fun and educational!*

# OUR HONOREE



*Our executive director Naomi (right), associate director Christelle and Rick at his downtown LA office reviewing our plans*

Rick said he wants to help because he sees the needs and feels he can contribute. We agree and are grateful he is with us at this critical time when the city is requiring fire, life and safety improvements for our old storefronts in South Los Angeles. It has been a great relief for our board and staff to have his expertise and encouragement. He is an inspiration for students who now want to be architects and designers like Mr. Rick. We thank him for his dedication and investments building success for our youth and center.

A Southern California native who once worked as a college intern in an afterschool program, Rick has more than 20 years experience as an architectural business owner. He has a bachelor's degree in environmental design from San Diego State University. As an interior architectural designer, he oversees and creates world-class projects for corporate offices, retail stores, hotels and other high-end residences.

Rick and SAA business partner and CEO Nelson Algaze have offices in six locations—Los Angeles, Culver City, Irvine, New York, San Francisco and Iselin, NJ. We are grateful to them both for their support.

For more information on their work, visit [www.saaia.com](http://www.saaia.com)

# OUR PARENTS

It is a pleasure partnering with parents at the Wooten Center. Seeking academic enrichment and quality and affordable afterschool care for their children, they are dedicated to helping make these services happen.

Parents participate at the center in a variety of ways. They bring snacks, attend parent and FUNraising Committee meetings, donate toys for the Wooten Dollar Store, cook and serve dinner for Thanksgiving and Christmas, chaperone field trips, speak at events, supervise students on the playground, help staff in the office, clean up and paint on volunteer days, and donate funds for special projects.

We appreciate and love our parents and thank them for helping achieve our mission for a safe and nurturing environment committed to good citizenship and academic excellence.



*Parents, students and staff after a FUNraising committee meeting.*



*Wooten parents serve homemade deliciousness at our Wooten Family Christmas Dinner.*



*Parent Sherri Washington shed happy tears after accepting our Parent Helper of the Year award.*



*Parents wrapping Christmas candy for Santa's bag.*



*Parents at our annual Summer Showcase.*



# STUDENT ACHIEVERS

Wooten staff selected the following 2018 Student Achievers for their exemplary performance in good citizenship and academic excellence, our mission. The students will speak and receive medals during tonight's dinner program. All are enrolled in our CollegeTrek Afterschool Program.

We congratulate them for their great work. Looking forward to greater and greater success!



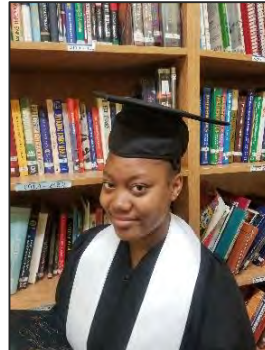
Serenity Goffney  
*Good Citizenship*



Israel Wagner  
*Good Sportsmanship*



Emily Garay  
*Academic Excellence*  
*Reading*



Seania Johnson  
*Academic Excellence*  
*Writing*



Elyssia Fagan  
*Academic Excellence*  
*Math*



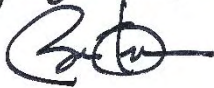
Frank Maximo  
*Academic Excellence*  
*Science*

Thank you! Your support has been significant in allowing the center to continue offering assistance to the youth and families of South Los Angeles.

**Christopher & Karen  
Jennings**

# OUR HISTORY



*To Myrtle - Congratulations on your great work!*  


*Mrs. Rumph with President Barack Obama at the White House on August 4, 2010 receiving one of 13 Presidential Citizens Medals, our nation's second highest civilian honor, for her work at the Wooten Center*

The Wooten Center is celebrating 28 years of service. We are continuing the work of Myrtle Faye Rumph, who founded our youth center in 1990 to help other people avoid her son's fate. Mrs. Rumph passed away on January 7, 2015. She was 83 and suffered heart failure.

According to police, 35-year-old Alton Wooten Jr. was the innocent victim of a gang initiation. Within weeks of her son's murder in 1989, Mrs. Rumph began holding meetings in her home with family and friends wanting to find solutions to the gang crisis in their community. They developed a plan to open a youth center to provide alternatives to gang activity in South Los Angeles.

After three months of meetings and a year venturing out taking kids at a local church community center on field trips, Mrs. Rumph rented a storefront at 91<sup>st</sup> and Western next door to the moving and storage company she owned with her husband Harris. With the help from family and friends, she opened a youth center for boys and girls ages 8-18.

The first participants were four pre-teen boys who used to hang out on the corner in front of Mrs. Rumph's business. Today, the Wooten Center is still on Western Ave., although in five buildings the center owns across the street from the original site. We are providing more than 350 students with the opportunity to nurture their dreams, participate in academic enrichment and recreational programs, learn important social skills and graduate from high school and college.



*Faye with her children (l to r) Arthur, Alton and Barbara at their apartment in Los Angeles, c. 1963*



*Faye Family Room dedication on Feb 27, 2015*

## OUR MISSION

"The Al Wooten Jr. Heritage Center is a neighborhood approach to the revitalization and empowerment of a community in crisis. We provide a safe and nurturing environment committed to good citizenship and academic excellence."

AL WOOTEN JR. YOUTH CENTER

# SUMMER FUN CAMP 2018



FOR GRADES

**3-9**

**JUNE 18-JULY 27 (6 WEEKS)**

**MONDAY-FRIDAY, 8AM-6PM**

**NEW: 7-8AM BEFORE CARE AVAILABLE!**

**LOCATION: UCLA MANN COMMUNITY SCHOOL\*\*  
7001 S. SAINT ANDREWS PL., LOS ANGELES, CA**



**REGISTRATION**

**\$30**

*Free before June 1 with  
online application and first  
week payment by June 1*

**TUITION**

**\$60/WK**

**PER STUDENT**

**\$55/WK**

**PER STUDENT**

*for families with 3 or  
more children enrolled  
from the same  
household*

**ADDITIONAL**

**\$15/WK**

*per student for  
before care, 7-8am*

## ZOOLOGY:

**ANIMALS IN THE SKY, ON THE GROUND, UNDER THE SEA!**

*Explore the world of animals from near and far. Touch and see  
what animal lovers like veterinarians, zoo keepers, horse trainers  
and more do for a living!*

**ALSO:** World Languages and Culture, Reading, Writing, Math and Science  
Labs, Piano, Percussions, Dance, Cooking, Art, Music & Video Production,  
Basketball, Soccer, Swimming, Golf, Field Trips and more!

**Shawn Patterson Memorial Basketball Camp**

**June 18-22, 10am-noon**



**REGISTER NOW AT**  
[www.wootencenter.org/summer](http://www.wootencenter.org/summer)  
**Info (323) 756-7203, x23**

*Tuition includes t-shirt, daily lunch and snack, and all field trips except final amusement park.*

**\*\*Thank you to UCLA Mann for providing a temporary location while our youth center undergoes building improvements.**

The Wooten Center is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization. Our programs are funded in part by Ahmanson Foundation, KROQ Radio, California Community Foundation, Weingart Foundation, Crail-Johnson Foundation, Dwight Stuart Youth Fund, Bank of America Charitable Foundation, Kaiser Permanente, UCLA Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Equity, All Ways Up Foundation, Wooten board members and other friends.

# OUR PROGRAMS

College preparation should not wait for high school. The Wooten Center starts at grade 3 to prepare students to adopt skills needed to complete their journey to higher education. We provide free afterschool and low-cost summer programs for more than 350 students in grades 3-12 at the center and other sites.

Thank you to all who have supported our work helping our youth improve and excel in school and life. For more information, visit [www.wootencenter.org](http://www.wootencenter.org). For updates on our activities, go to Contacts to join our mailing list and/or “Like” us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/wootencenter](http://www.facebook.com/wootencenter).



Science Lab



Free SAT-prep workshop



Piano

## THE FOLLOWING ARE OUR THREE PROGRAMS:

### CollegeTrek Afterschool Program

Activities: Homework assistance, assessments and tutoring in reading and math, science lab, cooking, percussions, piano, music and video production, gardening, arts and crafts, basketball, field trips, College and Career Day and other college readiness activities.

### Summer Fun Camp

Activities: All of the above afterschool activities plus project-based labs in reading, writing, math and science. STEM classes have included coding, computer animation, aerospace engineering and robotics for 21<sup>st</sup> century learning. This summer, students will explore the world of zoology as a career option.

### MyCollegeTrek

Activities for teens only: SAT-prep workshops, college tours and scholarships, internships and discussion groups, Juvenile Justice Jeopardy digital game teaching teens about juvenile law and how to properly exercise their rights.

## SHAWN PATTERSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Our silent auction features an opportunity to send students to our Summer Fun Camp, “Zoology: Animals in the Sky, on the Ground, Under the Sea.” The Natural History Museum and other guest mentors will help expose our students to college and career options for people who want to work with animals. All bids for the auction item are a winner!

The cost is \$360 per student for the full six weeks. Wooten board member Dr. Scott Miller started the scholarship fund in memory of his friend, killed in gun violence like Al Wooten. Send a kid to summer camp! Donate tonight or online at [www.wootencenter.org/donate](http://www.wootencenter.org/donate). Thank you on behalf of Shawn, Scott and the kids.



SAA interiors + architecture is proud to contribute to the Wooten Center in their mission to provide support for academic excellence in our youth!

# PROGRAM

## 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CATCH THE VISION AWARDS DINNER

THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2018, 6-9 P.M.

*HOTEL CASA DEL MAR, SANTA MONICA*

*Music by Steel Rollin' Jazz Band*

6-7PM, Reception & Auction

7-8PM, Dinner

8-9PM, Program

### INTRODUCTION OF EMCEE

Jesse Morales, Program Director

### OUR PROGRAMS

Naomi McSwain, Executive Director

### MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Paul Wetmore, Board Chairperson

### STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Christelle Telesford, Associate Director

### WELCOME

Dr. Laurie Inman, Wooten Board  
Programs Committee Member

### COMMENTS

Wooten parent, board member, guest

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Kathy Talley-Jones, Wooten Board  
Development Committee Chair

### INTRODUCTION OF HONOREE

### VISION AWARD PRESENTATION

Wooten Board of Directors

### THANK YOU

Student Achievers

Presented to Rick Shlemmer  
Principal

SAA interiors + architecture

### OUR HISTORY

Rebecca Arce, Communications  
Assistant

### CLOSING REMARKS

Paul Wetmore

---

### *HELP BUILD OUR NEW YOUTH CENTER!*

*Check out our display of the plan created by Rick for renovating our youth center to improve safety and expand space.*

*If you'd like to help, please contact Naomi at (323) 756-7203, x28, or nmcswain@wootencenter.org. Thank you.*

# RICK SHLEMMER! VISIONARY DESIGNER, CIVIC MINDED LEADER & FRIEND.

THANK YOU FOR SHARING  
YOUR TIME, YOUR TALENTS  
AND YOUR GENEROUS HEART  
WITH THE AL WOOTEN JR.  
HERITAGE CENTER!

**McCARTHY • COOK**  
RELATIONSHIP DRIVEN EXPERIENCE





**That's right!**

# A free afterschool program

for boys and girls in grades 3-12

## CollegeTrek Afterschool Program

- Homework assistance
- Assessments and Tutoring
- Game design, science lab, world languages & culture
- Percussions, drum line, piano, art, music production
- SAT-prep and college advisement
- College & Career Day with guest mentors
- Basketball, gardening, field trips and more
- OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY, 2-6PM

The Al Wooten Jr. Heritage Center is a nonprofit youth center named after our founder's son, killed in a drive-by shooting. Founded in 1990, the Wooten Center works in partnership with parents and other friends to help prepare our students for college, careers and life.

*"Making a difference for life. Catch the vision!"*



**Al Wooten Jr. Heritage Center**  
9106 S. Western Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90047

The Wooten Center is a nonprofit youth center funded in part by CBS/KROQ, Ahmanson Foundation, California Endowment, Wind Dancer Films, Clara Elizabeth Jackson Carter Foundation, Crail-Johnson Foundation, John & Evelyn Latham, Paul & Melinda Wetmore, Kit & Karen Jennings, Gary & Karen Wagner, Steven & Debra Oh, Tom McKissick, Merrill Lynch, Bank of America Charitable Foundation, Kinecta Federal Credit Union, BET Foundation, Staples Center Foundation, Wells Fargo Foundation and other friends.

Transportation available from  
some schools in Los Angeles  
and Inglewood.

Hablamos Español

**(323) 756-7203, x23 > [www.wootencenter.org](http://www.wootencenter.org)**

## HOLMAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

salutes the



**AL WOOTEN JR, HERITAGE CENTER**  
on the occasion of its  
**2018 CATCH THE VISION AWARDS**

***WE ARE PROUD TO BE YOUR PARTNER!***

3320 W. Adams Blvd. • Los Angeles • California • 90018

323.731.0140 • [holmancdc@holmanumc.com](mailto:holmancdc@holmanumc.com) •

[www.holman-cdc.org](http://www.holman-cdc.org)

Visit us on—

Facebook: [HolmanCDCLA](https://www.facebook.com/HolmanCDCLA)

Twitter: [@Holmancdc](https://twitter.com/Holmancdc)

Instagram: [Holmancdc](https://www.instagram.com/Holmancdc)

*Our mission is to provide resources for the development of human potential, spiritual, social and economic growth; thereby expanding employment, housing, and educational opportunities*

Celebrating 28 years  
of good citizenship &  
academic excellence  
at the  
Al Wooten Jr.  
Youth Center!

**Debra & Steve Oh**

Your contribution toward  
the betterment of the  
Al Wooten Jr.  
Youth Center  
is greatly appreciated.

**Gary & Karen Wagner**

2018 VISION AWARD

Presented to

Rick Shlemmer  
Congratulations!



**Merrill Lynch**

Congratulations to

RICK  
SHLEMMER

2018 VISION AWARD



Congratulations to the  
Al Wooten Jr.  
Youth Center  
for another successful  
year of serving youth in  
South Los Angeles.

**Brian Condon &  
Kara Rossi**



**Kinecta Federal Credit Union believes that education is the key to children's future.**

We are proud to support the  
Al Wooten Jr. Heritage Center.

Not a member? Not a problem! Visit us today!  
**800.854.9846 • [www.kinecta.org](http://www.kinecta.org)**

Minimum \$5 share savings account deposit required to join Kinecta Federal Credit Union. If necessary, \$10 Consumers' Cooperative Society of Santa Monica, Inc. fee will be covered by Kinecta Federal Credit Union (equivalent to free membership). Continued membership in the Santa Monica Co-Op will be subject to an annual membership renewal fee of \$10. However, no annual fee is required to maintain membership in Kinecta.



17245/5\_2017

Making a difference  
for life...

Catch the Vision!

**Drs. Constance &  
Bernard James**

Congratulations, Rick Shlemmer  
Thank you for your service for  
our youth and center.

**Keith & Paulette Parker**

---

Honoring Rick Shlemmer!  
Thank you for your support  
providing a safe and nurturing  
environment for Wooten students.

**John and Kathy  
Talley-Jones**



Supporting the Al Wooten Jr.  
Youth Center and honoring  
Rick Shlemmer for his service.

**Steve Vielhaber &  
Alice Short**

---

Congratulations to the  
Wooten Center on your  
28<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

**Tom McKissick**



**Congratulations to  
2018 Vision Award Recipient  
RICK SHLEMMER**

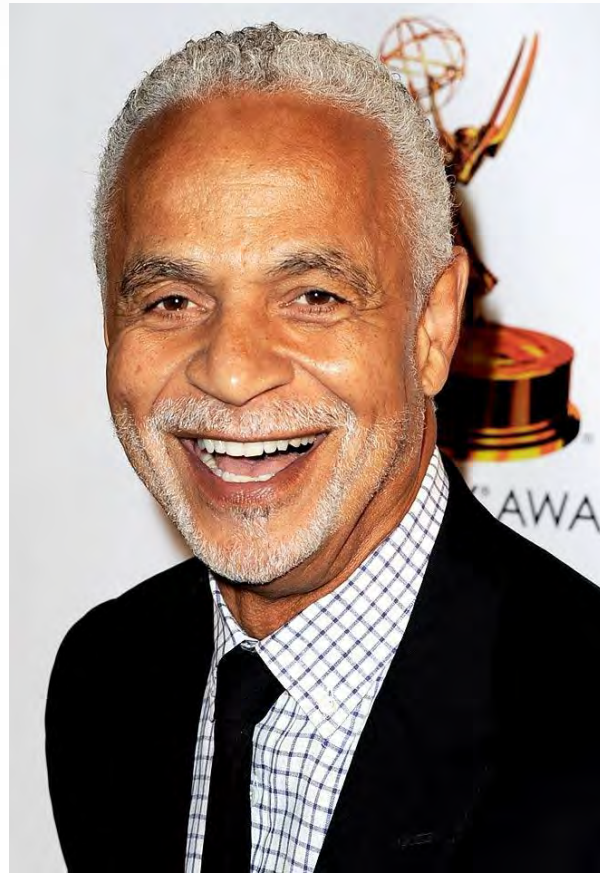
**OAE is proud to support the Al Wooten Jr. Heritage Center  
In loving memory of GAUTAM LALBHAI SHAH**



Congratulations to  
our good friend Rick Shlemmer  
SAA interiors + architecture  
Our best wishes to the  
Wooten Center



In loving memory  
of our dear friend  
Ron Glass



**Elizabeth & David  
McFadzean**



AL WOOTEN JR.  
YOUTH CENTER  
EST. 1990 **CATCH THE VISION!**