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Time for
Some Good News...



Reflections 2009



July 30, 2009

Congratulations from the Jane Goodall Institute

Dear Beholdance,

Congratulations! Because of your hard work, your Roots & Shoots group has qualified you to receive the Roots and Shoots 2008-2009 Certificate of Recognition. This recognition is awarded to only the most active groups and we commend your group's dedication to making positive change happen for people, animals and the environment.

This year Roots & Shoots groups submitted almost 1000 service projects that were designed and implemented by almost 40,000 members and impacted the lives of almost 100,000 people around the world! Your group's projects for environmental, humanitarian and animal focused - form part of this growing global network that together is improving our world. Dr. Jane and Roots & Shoots are very proud that your group has chosen to participate in this powerful youth movement.

Congratulations again and the world is definitely a better place with all of the amazing contributions your group has made this year. We hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,
Barbara Wolf
Senior Vice President, Youth Programs
the Jane Goodall Institute

To qualify for the Roots & Shoots 2008-2009 Certificate of Recognition, Beholdance entered the following service projects:

- **Animal:** K9 Krunchies & Feline Munchies
- **Environmental:** Beholdance Litter Sweep
- **Humanitarian:** Recycling for the Smile Train



Three More Chances To Smile

Sunday, September 14, 2008 at the Beholdance Appreciation Luncheon, a Beholdance check for the amount of \$250 was presented to the Smile Train for the sponsorship of a child's surgery to repair cleft lip and palate.

Beholdance youth worked with community businesses and others to gather aluminum cans to be recycled. The funds presented for this surgery all came from recycling.

Marie From Liberia



After sponsoring this surgery, the group quickly went to work on their second surgery through recycling. However, due to the economic downturn they realized they had to put an additional plan into place to raise the needed funds. Several Beholdance members jumped to the aid:

Tori Cantales worked with her mother, Nadine Bucek to create a beautiful Turtle Quilt that would reflect the Beholdance mission of conservation and they donated it to the Smile Train cause. The Junior Board turned it into a raffle in the local area and the Beholdance youth sold dollar raffle tickets and together raised \$266.

Turtle Quilt Winner: Miss. Hanna Hopkins of Concord, NC



Thursday, May 14th, Dakota received a notice from the Smile Train stating any funds turned in by June 30th would be matched.

Smile Train Match Challenge

DeAnna Butcher from the Winston Beholdance Chapter heard the news and she organized an Aluminum Can Competition between the 7th and 8th grades at Hill Magnet School. Together they raised over 30 pounds of aluminum.

Dakota Palacio also decided more aluminum was needed to help make this happen so she started a Neighborhood Recycling Service Project. She went door to door in the neighborhood and handed out information on the project. The first week, she was able to collect over a hundred pounds of aluminum and got to know a lot of people in the neighborhood in the process.

With the standard Beholdance Recycling Campaign and Tori, DeAnna and Dakota's added efforts, Beholdance youth were able to raise the needed funds to sponsor three surgeries.

A check for \$375 was presented to The Smile Train on June 12, 2009 along with the match grant voucher to pay for three surgeries. The balance of the remaining funds will go toward the next surgery as the recycling campaign continues.

Smile Train Sponsorship Summary

Turtle Quilt Raffle Tally - \$266.00

Devon Scott	\$15.00
Michael Church	\$15.00
Zac Swartz	\$15.00
Jaclyn Swartz	\$15.00
Katie Waldroup	\$15.00
Hannah Love	\$15.00
Michael Church	\$15.00
Earth Day / All Saints	\$15.00
Tori Cantales	\$17.00
Michael Hoyes	\$29.00
Amanda Surles	\$30.00
Dakota Palacio	\$70.00

Aluminum Can Recycling Contributions – \$133.55

\$19.20	Group Collections
\$23.25	Group Collections & Michael Hoyes (Cistech)
\$17.01	Dakota & Jimmy Palacio (WRC and Neighbors)
\$18.00	Dakota & Jimmy Palacio (WRC and Neighbors)
\$ 9.49	DeAnna Butcher (Can Competition)
\$34.16	Dakota Palacio (Neighborhood Collection)
\$12.44	Dakota Palacio (Neighborhood Collection)

\$399.55

Cont ... p3 – Neighborhood Pitches In

Neighborhood Pitches In

For the Smile Train



"Grandma's carport becomes a recycling center"

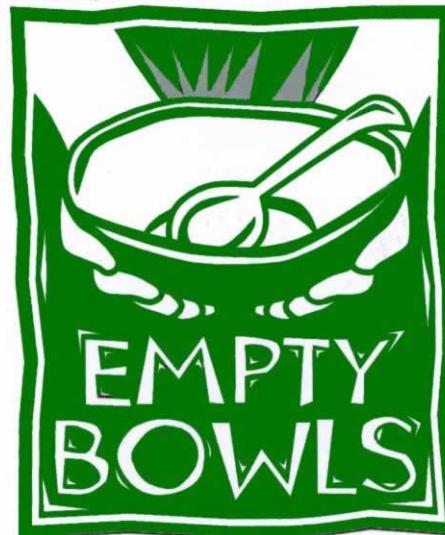
Recycle It!

Collection

First Week= over 100 pounds of Aluminum Cans
Second Week = Truck Load of Aluminum Guttering and Cans

Empty Bowls Fight Hunger

Winston Chapter



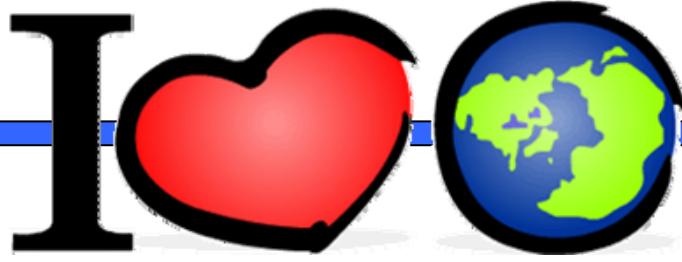
The Beholdance Winston Salem Chapter joined forces with Hill Arts Magnet Middle School's Art Teacher, Janis Henderson to participate in the Empty Bowls project which benefits the Second Harvest Food Bank.

"The Empty Bowls project is an annual event that benefits the Second Harvest Food Bank. Each school in the Winston Salem Forsyth County system is asked to donate five, hand crafted clay bowls for the event. We were very fortunate to have the Beholdance group make the bowls representing Hill Arts Magnet this year. The students made the bowls and Deanna Butcher glazed them all," stated Mrs. Henderson.



Beholdance members, DeAnna Butcher, Lizabeth Arellanes, Juan Campos, Iris Sandoval, Ashonti Carpenter, Devonna Grooms, Brittney Epps and Gwendolyn Wright assisted by Mr. Rick Goodman and Mrs. Janis Henderson. Together, they put in over 20 hours on the project.

Empty Bowls is Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest NC's Annual Signature event and is presented by Texas Pete Sauces. This year the event will be held on April 22 at the Millennium Center in downtown Winston Salem, 101 West Fifth Street from 11am to 2pm. All proceeds go to Second Harvest for their food distribution program.



CELEBRATING EARTH DAY

April was packed with Earth Day Events and Celebrations.

April 18th, Kannapolis youth participated in the Concord-Cabarrus Earth Day Celebration at Frank Liske Park in Concord, NC. Special thanks to Tori Cantales who offered her creative talents and face painted for the event. Amanda Surles, Cory Hoyes and Dakota Palacio encouraged youth visiting to recycle by playing Recycle Relay. Devon Scott and Zac Swartz spoke with youth and assisted youngsters in creating seed cups and planting tomatoes and flowers at the Beholdance Seed Station. Caterpillar Crafts were a big hit where youth visiting were able to paint and create their own caterpillar while Hannah Love and Megan Hoyes spoke to them about our pollinators and how they help things grow.

April 19th, Kannapolis and Asheboro chapters joined forces, totaling over 24 volunteers, and helped out at Earth Day at the NC Zoo. The group managed stations in Kid's Zone, the North American Plaza as well as the African Plaza Entrance.

April 25th, Kannapolis and a few members from our Winston Chapter came out to engage youth at the Kannapolis Environmental Stewardship Commission (ESC) and Piedmont Farmers Market Earth Day Extravaganza. Amanda Surles, Katie Waldroup, Hannah Love, Tori Cantales, Michael Church, Dakota Palacio, DeAnna Butcher, Lizabeth Arellanes and Jasmine Enriquez managed stations including Recycle Relay, Face Painting and helped children plant seeds. The group enjoyed promoting earth and environmental education with visitors.

Additionally on April 25th, the Asheboro Chapter was busy hosting a Talent Show to benefit Habitat for Humanity and the Winston Chapter kicked off their Aluminum Can Competition.



* CELEBRATING * CELEBRATING * CELEBRATING *



EARTH DAY 2009

Unity Garden

Winston Chapter



Going, Going, GREEN!

The Winston Beholdance Chapter got together and decided they had a green space that wasn't being highly utilized so they approached their administrators with the request to create a Unity Garden.

After their April meeting, the Beholdance youth reached out to other students and teachers at their school. Together, over 40, volunteers spent almost 100 hours creating this exciting, shared green space.



The group marked off their garden areas, learned to plow and till to prepare the ground for planting. They made the garden box framing and brought in the picnic tables. Last but not least, they planted the space with flowers and vegetables.



Hill Magnet School's Unity Garden



Supporting the Deaf

Winston Chapter

Amirah Dobson Teaque, Siani Sutton, Gwendolyn Wright, Lizabeth Arellanes, Devonna Grooms, DeAnna Butcher, Brittany Epps, Iris Sandoval, Jacqueline Salinas and Mr. Rick Goodman met with Mrs. Janis Henderson, the art teacher of Hill Magnet Middle School, on Tuesday May 12, 2009. The purpose of the event was to make camp craft activities for the deaf camp in which Mrs. Henderson serves as an arts and crafts advisor and an interpreter for the deaf and hard of hearing.

Beholdance made small and large ceramic pins for the children that will be attending the camp. The pins are in the shape of hands saying "I Love You" or "ILY" as it is signed in sign language.

Camp Sertoma is located in Westville, NC which is close to Hanging Rock State Park. The camp will be celebrating its 26th anniversary. To find out more visit:
<http://www.campsertoma.org/camp/deaf.shtml>

Lending a Hand

Beholdance found out about a local small animal rescue start up that was in need of assistance with a website and a way to get news out to the local community about their mission. Dakota Palacio brought this to the attention of the Beholdance Junior Board and the group agreed to share the Beholdance hosting space to lend a helping hand. Leslie Palacio and Michael Hoyes donated the website design and created custom editors which will allow C2C&D to manage their own content to reduce future cost.

In early July, *Catering to Cats and Dogs* website was launched and they are already getting great results and expanding their outreach from this new communication tool.

Congratulations to Donna Weaver and Blake Polett for their passion and dedication in assisting animals in need. They are doing a wonderful job of finding great homes for homeless cats and dogs.

~ If you are looking to adopt or foster, please visit www.C2CND.org ~

2008 - 2009 Presidential Volunteer Service Award Winners



The President's Volunteer Service Award (PVSA) is issued by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation on behalf of the President of the United States to recognize the best in the American spirit, and to encourage all Americans to improve their communities through volunteer service, and civic participation.

Beholdance is please to be a Certifying Organization for the PVSA and proud to announce the following Beholdance Members as recipients for the 2008-2009 Beholdance, Second Year, service awards.

The **Presidential Bronze** Award is given to youth under 14 years of age that contribute 50 to 74 hours or youth ages 15 to 25 that contribute over 100 hours of community service within 12 months. This year's winners of the Bronze PVSA go to:

Under 14:

- **Ms. Jaclyn Swartz (50.5 Hours)**
- **Mr. Zac Swartz (56 Hours)**

Age 15 - 25:

- **Ms. Dakota Palacio (115.25 Hours)**

The **Presidential Silver** Award is given to youth under 14 years of age that contribute 75 to 99 hours of community service within 12 months. This year's winners of the Silver PVSA go to:

Under 14:

- **Ms. DeAnna Butcher (77 Hours)**

The **Presidential Bronze Group** Award is given to groups that contribute over 200 hours of community service within 12 months. This year's Bronze PVSA goes to:

- **Beholdance: Winston Salem, NC Chapter – Bronze (343.80 Hours)**
- **Beholdance: Asheboro, NC Chapter – Bronze (424.5 Hours)**

The **Presidential Gold Group** Award is given to groups that contribute over 1,000 hours of community service within 12 months. This year's winner of the Gold PVSA goes to:

- **Beholdance: Kannapolis, NC Founding Chapter – Gold (1249.50 Hours)**



To join the Eastern Box Turtle Education Project, contact us at info@beholdance.org

Chapter Awards

7.1.2008-6.30.2009

GOLD
KANNAPOLIS
1249.50 HOURS

BRONZE
ASHEBORO
424.50 HOURS

BRONZE
WINSTON
343.80 HOURS

Help Eastern Box Turtles

Eastern Box Turtles are in need of assistance with human encroachment. Education and awareness is needed so they can survive. Their numbers have been declining and several local organizations have started programs to assist. The NC Zoo and Schindler Rehab Center as well as Davidson College and NC State University are currently hosting programs including tracking, rehabilitation and other research. Beholdance would like to join the efforts by doing what we can through educating others in our area. Beholdance youth will be taking on an awareness and education initiative as many do not realize the challenges faced by this local species. Beholdance youth will be discussing how they can assist in the upcoming months.

Turtle Tip: If you see a box turtle in the road, use caution and move them off the road to the side of the road in the direction they were headed; otherwise, they will try to cross again. Remember to watch traffic as the roadside is not safe for man or beast. They are territorial so don't move them from the area where you found them.

Members Over 40 ~ Volunteer Service Hours for 2008-2009

Beholdance Volunteer Hours	Beholdance Member
115.25	Dakota Palacio
77	DeAnna Butcher
73	Amanda Surles
68.75	Tori Cantales
63	Hannah Love
56.75	Megan Hoyes
56	Zac Swartz
55.25	Cory Hoyes
55	Devon Scott
50.5	Jaclyn Swartz
50.25	Kiara Martin
47	Joey Cantales
45.75	Luis Martinez
40.75	Kylar Martin

Stats include Beholdance Chapter Members Only.
 Adults and other event volunteers earning below 40
 Volunteer hours are not listed on this chart.



'On the Air'

Junior Advisory Board



Brother Tee Show

Recently Brother Tarryl Rosier, the host of a unique and wonderful youth forum that shares news from all over the world that touches youth contacted Beholdance for an interview. He heard Beholdance topped 2000 hours in under two years through an article in the Independent Tribune. Brother Tee, as he likes to be called, spent some time with Dakota Palacio the Beholdance Founder as well as Katie Waldroup and Hannah Love from the Beholdance Junior Advisory Board. They had a wonderful time sharing with Brother Tee the mission and desires for Beholdance and hope that youth will hear about the great things going on with Beholdance and decide to get involved.

The interview will air on the Brother Tee Show on Saturday, March 28th from [The Praise House](#) and the interview will also be available from the [Tee Archives](#).

We hope you'll listen in and enjoy.



Right to Left: Joey Cantales, Megan Hoyes, DeAnna Butcher, Devon Scott, Amanda Surles, Dakota Palacio, Tori Cantales, Hannah Love, Zac Swartz, Jaclyn Swartz, Cory Hoyes, Luis Martinez, Kaitlyn Mason, Cory Mason, Kyler Martin and Kiara Martin

Beholdance Senior Spotlights



Josh Self

"I am about to graduate from South Rowan High School in N.C. The activities I have enjoyed over the years have been varied- Helping my Uncle, Bob work on the bike trail up at Duke Power Park at Lake Norman. My brother, cousins and I had fun in middle school and elementary on a couple weekends cleaning the trails he designed. During my High School years, working with 'Beholdance' transporting cans to fund the Smile Train and doing varied activities at the NC Zoo for Boo at the Zoo- painting faces, playing games with the little kids is always fun. Other activities were working on a daycare center playground project and working with my youth group, C.H.O.A.S. at shut-ins homes doing things they couldn't do. We also worked several times at the Main St. Mission in China Grove, NC, to help those folks with no home. My Brother and I volunteered several times to work at the Red Cross Blood Drives at our Church. Life can be more fun doing things for others."

Josh Self graduated from South Rowan High School in June and will be attending RCCC to earn a degree in Heating and Air Conditioning and then entering the Air Force.



David Lackey

"Jesse C. Carson High School in China Grove, N.C., is where I will graduate on June 11, 2009. It is a pleasure to collect re-cycled materials for reuse in the projects of 'Beholdance'. My Mammaw has taught us a saying that is very old. Her Grandfather taught it to her: "Waste not, Want not." It works!" Thru the years, I have worked on helping my Uncle, as an Elementary Student, to clear a bike trail at the Duke Power Park and working on various projects with my cousins in the town of China Grove. We worked and played at the same time. It was fun times. All kids should have the experience of doing something for others just because it is right."

David Lackey graduated from Jesse C. Carson High School in June and will be attending The Art Institute in Charlotte, NC, in mid July to earn a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Media Design.



Cory Hoyes

"Beholdance has been a lot of fun and I've enjoyed meeting everyone and seeing youth make a difference. I hope it grows and I look forward to helping out when I can because I believe in the mission of Beholdance."

Cory Hoyes graduated from Avery High School on June 12, 2009. He graduated with honors including the North Carolina Scholar Gold Seal.

Cory plans to continue the Upward Bound Bridge Program and will be attending the Science Academy that will span his education from the Upward Bound and High School to his College Career. He will be attending Appalachian State University in the Fall where he will be pursuing a career in Nuclear Physics. Cory was the 2009 winner of Coats America Scholarship.

Cory hopes to one day join the team at NASA.



Madison Goodman

"My name is Madison Goodman. I graduated from Jesse C. Carson High School in June. I became involved with Beholdance in October of 2008. I attended Boo at the Zoo where I volunteered my time to help with earth and environmental education for kids visiting the zoo. I enjoyed seeing all the smiles that day as the kids played games, got their faces painted and made jungle crafts. I believe that this was a wonderful project for the group because it was not only enjoyable for the kids but it also gave us the opportunity to teach kids about animals and how to keep them and their environment healthy."

I enjoy playing with my two year old son, Hunter as well as cheerleading and tumbling. I also enjoy spending time with my church youth group and family. I find it rewarding helping others."

Madison Goodman graduated from Jesse C. Carson Senior High School in June after a very successful academic senior year. Madison represented her school as Home Coming Queen and participated as a Carson Cheerleader. Madison plans to pursue a degree in anesthesia as a Nurse Anesthetist.



**Joey
Cantales**

"I love being a member of Beholdance. As a senior member I am sad to be going off to college but I hope to continue with as many Beholdance events as possible."

Joey Cantales graduated from A. L. Brown Senior High School in June. Joey plans to pursue a career in computer programming and game design.



Yours!

Add Your Voice

Speak up for the Spirit Bear

Dear Premier Gordon Campbell,

I don't know if you remember me, I wrote you a few years ago about the Spirit Bear and protecting it and its habitat. I have just learned that trophy hunting of bears, including the Black Spirit Bear is allowed in the Great Bear Rainforest, even after you announced that it was protected. Why? The Great Bear Rainforest is known for its bears and if we allow trophy hunting then the Spirit Bear and all bears futures are endangered in this area of the world. For the Spirit Bear that could mean extinction. There are only 400 Spirit Bears (white and black - Kermode) left on the planet and they all live on your Princess Royal Island. Mr. Campbell, how are we going to explain to our children why we don't have any Spirit Bears left? Is allowing trophy hunting really the legacy we want to leave our children? Then there may be only legends of the Spirit Bear.

After studying genetics, in my Honors Biology class, I have learned that the Spirit Bear wouldn't exist if it was not for those 'regular' black bears that carry a recessive gene. This gene creates the unique white Spirit Bear so without the black parents we would never see another white Spirit Bear. Color shouldn't matter. Throughout history, humanity has always judged differences and it usually leads to war, heartbreak, and death. This has been proven in cases such as the Holocaust, Wounded Knee, and many others that all fall into the category of Discrimination. It always leads to heartbreak. It's awful when humanity experiences this but it's just as bad when any living creature must face it and ultimately we are responsible. The interpretation of the law only protecting the White Spirit Bears and not the Black Bear parents (1 out of 10 turn white) has to be a mistake. You can't have one without the other and you can't protect one without the other, so are they protected by law or not?

I believe that we're responsible for the Earth and the decisions we make that affect it. This misinterpretation in the law needs to be fixed as soon as possible to protect the bears. Trophy hunting with the numbers we discussed will only last a very short time and is not a solution to anything but extinction for the bears. Eco-tourism could bring British Columbia a great deal of income and it is sustainable. Canada is the only place in the world that has been entrusted with the Spirit Bear and I hope and pray you will honor that responsibility. Additionally, the Grizzly and other bears are beginning to struggle just with normal human encroachment. The polar bears are at risk and we can fix the Spirit Bear issues faster than we can solve global warming. Trophy hunting will only make things worse and no one benefits. The Spirit Bear is one of the slowest reproducing animals in North America and it has been elected to represent British Columbia in the 2010 Olympics. How is it going to feel when the world spotlight is on this issue. China was on the hot seat over the Tiger Trade for the last one. Please, stand on the side of Conservation. Mr. Campbell, 'extinction is forever'. I want my children and grandchildren to see a Spirit Bear and I want you and Mr. Penner to correct this misinterpretation of the law that compromises the Spirit Bear's existence. I am planning a future in Conservation and I want to understand how this can happen with the law. As leaders and individuals in the seat of power, please, help me understand. I believe in our planet and natural resources and I believe if we put that first the planet will heal itself and we will all have a legacy we can be proud of for our children and grandchildren. I believe, like the Native Americans in our country, we are the keepers for the Seventh Generation and that we have to do what is right for those that are coming. They are our future.

Please support the majority of British Columbians and this young American and stop trophy hunting. Please protect our Spirit Bear.

I look forward to your response.

Respectfully,
Dakota Palacio



BLOOPERS!



Add your voice. Send a letter to Premier Campbell. Go to the Beholdance website and click on the link to get their email address.

Habitat for Humanity

Asheboro Chapter



April 25th, the Asheboro Beholdance Chapter held their 2nd annual Talent Show at South West High School in Asheboro, NC. The beneficiary this year was Habitat for Humanity. The show highlighted 20 acts, with talent including a step team, instrumentalist on the piano, guitar and trumpet, a demonstration of Ju Jitsu, a variety of singers and dancers as well as several bands performed. Mrs. Moore was the MC for the event and our very own Ms. Kiara Martin lead and organized the event. The Asheboro Chapter also works on building sites to help out with Habitat for Humanity.



Why Habitat For Humanity is Needed

In the United States alone, 95 million people, one third of the nation, have housing problems including payments too large a percentage of their income, overcrowding, poor quality shelter and homelessness. Throughout the world, people live in inadequate housing, and Habitat for Humanity is dedicated to providing decent, affordable homes for those in need.

Asheboro Adopt-a-highway

by: Morgan Gaines

"Folks, it looks good- thank you!!" How many times has a driver slowed and said that to you as you walked along the side of the road? As a Beholdance member and Adopt-A-Highway volunteer, it is a reality. Volunteers are appreciated. Whether it is building a home for someone in need, or getting up early to pick up trash on our city's streets, it is beneficial and people notice. The realization that the small stuff matters was created in our hearts. *"This is fun, in a weird kind of way."* Victoria Luther stated as we walked down the road and picked up the carelessly thrown trash. Working with each other as friends and helping our environment was well worth getting up early on a Saturday morning.

"Interestingly enough, I didn't know that people used that many straws. Almost everything I picked up was straw paper!" Natalie Caviness reminisced. Although she continuously picked up straw wrapper after straw wrapper, she concluded that her experience was interesting.

The hill was steep, but that didn't stop Cory Mason from climbing down and picking the thrown bottles and cans that had filled with ice and stuck on the side of the hill. Playing catch with these bottles was even more fun. It didn't matter if we were there to work we all had an enjoyable time getting together to clean up our adopted highway. It was unforgettable and enjoyable.

It is shocking to see the amount of fun a person can have when he/she is working to make the world a better place for the future generations that will be living in our place as the future continues to move toward us.

"It was appalling to see the amount of garbage merely lying upon the side of the road. Hopefully Beholdance will make a difference in the city of Asheboro by cleaning our insignificant road to symbolize cleaning the world!" said Jacob Beeson with high hopes and expectations.

Invitation to Beholdance

"How often do you tell yourself that you SHOULD be doing this or that? Now is your chance to take the gritty, gray SHOULDs and transform them into smooth, glowing realities. Behold – Beholdance. Beholdance is the name of a community service group and a golden opportunity. Whether Beholdance members are organizing roadside trash pickups and benefit talent shows or face painting at car shows, they are always up to something. Beholdance has benefited organizations such as Habitat for Humanity and Adopt-a-highway, and its horizon is always growing. Come and immerse yourself in noteworthy community service as well as fellowship with other teens in your community."

~Victoria Luther, Beholdance Asheboro Member

Storm Drain Marking to Protect the Local Watershed

Kannapolis Chapter



On Saturday, May 30, 2009, Beholdance youth volunteers started a storm drain marking initiative in conjunction with Amanda Smith-Thompson, Environmental Educator Specialist for the City of Concord to promote awareness as well as to protect the Coddle Creek Watershed. The group met in the parking lot of S&D Coffee and proceeded to break up into two teams. Together they marked Asheford Green, Fairway Ridge and Rosewood Subdivisions in Concord, NC. The drains tallied to a grand total of 79 drains cleaned and marked. The group contributed 30 hours. *"It was a fun way to make a difference,"* stated Devon Scott.

While walking in the neighborhoods, the youth got to meet a number of local residents. One gentleman was working on his '68 all original Corvette and invited the group in to take a look. Others asked about the marking program and watershed. The favorite for the day was two young ladies, age 5 and 6 that were selling lemonade at their mother's yard sale. The Beholdance youth stopped to support their efforts and purchased several glasses of lemonade and took a well earned break.

This event was the kickoff and Beholdance plans to do more storm drain marking this year to extend the education and awareness of protecting our watersheds. Special thanks to Devon Scott, Jaclyn Swartz, Zac Swartz, Mary Swartz, Tori Cantales, Dakota Palacio, Leslie Palacio and Saundra Spry.



Awareness = Protection = Conservation

Anyone interested in helping out with Marking Storm Drains, please contact info@beholdance.org.

Junior Board Hard at Work

The Beholdance Junior Board has been hard at work on several new projects to engage other youth in conservation. At a meeting in March, Beholdance Junior Board Members, Amanda Surles, Jaclyn Swartz, Megan Hoyes, Hannah Love, Tory Cantales and Dakota Palacio launched a growth initiative for Beholdance with the goal being to share the Beholdance Mission and to create new programs that will engage youth locally and globally.

Currently, the group is working on a new conservation and character building series of books. Their first story is well under way and they hope to wrap it up over the summer months and work on publishing it toward early fall.

The group is also working on a large, service-learning program. They are in the initial stages and working on concept and funding with the hope to launch it in the August time frame. This would help bring earth / environmental education to kids everywhere while rewarding them for their positive action and community service.

Outreach in the community is a top focus and goal for the Junior Board so they are creating a new Beholdance Outreach Service Award Program which is scheduled to launch in July. The challenge coins have been designed, so keep your eye on the Beholdance News. Great opportunities are coming and we're growing.

Beholdance Outreach Service Awards

Challenge Coins



COMING SOON!

International Young Eco Hero

Dakota Palacio has been named as a second place winner of the 2009 International Young Eco-Hero awards in the 13 to 16 years age category for her enthusiasm and advocacy work for wildlife and conservation. Dakota has personally put in over 670 hours in the past two years towards Beholdance, the NC Zoo and Valerie H. Schiendler Wildlife Rehab Center.



Dakota believes youth can make a difference so she will be donating her \$350 award to the new Beholdance Outreach and Ambassador Programs, which she hopes will get more youth involved in Wildlife Conservation, Environmental Protection and bettering the world we share.

Ramona's Closet

Message From Dakota Palacio

After recent news from friends and family in Mexico, I discovered a great need so I have spent part of my summer getting an international service project off the ground. I contacted my cousin Leslie Malania to set up a clothes closet for those in need in Mexico. The project has been named, Ramona's Closet in memory of my grandmother, Ramona Palacio.

Currently, we are accepting donations of gently used or new clothes, all sizes that will be shipped to Mexico for distribution from Ramona's Closet. Volunteer service hours are available for those interested in getting involved. Several activities to support this project are planned, including collecting-sorting and wash-dry-fold and packing.

I hope youth here will share hand-me-downs to help get the program started and Leslie and I will help youth there organize and set up an ongoing, give/receive program to help people in need throughout their local community.

Translations assistance will be handled by Jimmy Palacio and Trish Vinocur. We will also be learning and using Babelfish, Skype and E-mail for communications.

If you are interested in joining us for this project, please contact me at dpalacio@beholdance.org.

Thanks,
Dakota



TEAMWORK



Packaging K9 Krunchies & Feline Munchies for CMOW

Beholdance's K9 Krunchies & Feline Munchies program is going strong. The group has packaged over 1500 pounds before the holidays and around 700 pounds since the first of the year.

This has become a favorite project for many of the youth and they have started getting others involved. Pictured left, Benjamin Bucek, age 5, packaging Feline Munchies for the second time. This is a wonderful group event and we love being able to help out CMOW in this way.

SAVE THE DATE

EVENT: CMOW Sunday Soup Sampling

DATE: Sunday, November 8, 2009 | **TIME:** 12:00 - 2:30

LOCATION: All Saints' Episcopal Church

Beholdance has been invited to participate. Anyone interested in helping out at the Soup Sampling, please contact info@beholdance.org

**Over 3,000 hours
in under two years**

Beholdance March Litter Sweep

Clean and Green! Beholdance youth participated in the annual spring litter sweep on the Kannapolis Parkway in late March. This year's litter sweep event helped us meet one of the initial goals of over 2,000 hours in two years. This was a wonderful accomplishment for Beholdance.

To reward the accomplishment, we had the pleasure of speaking with local reporters about the Beholdance Mission and were highlighted in the Independent Tribune. [[learn more](#)]

Since the Spring Sweep, Beholdance has topped 3,000 hours collectively. Please join us in congratulating the Beholdance Youth on their accomplishments over the past two years.

SAVE THE DATE

EVENT: Beholdance Litter Sweep

DATE: Saturday, September 19, 2009 | **TIME:** 7:45 - 12:00

LOCATION: Kannapolis Parkway – Starting @ Caremoor

Anyone interested in helping out, please contact info@beholdance.org

ABOUT BEHOLDANCE - WHO WE ARE

Beholdance Mission:

To come together and take a look at issues effecting the health and well being of our planet and to stand up and give our youth a voice to our future, while instilling values, character and education regarding conservation and community service to better the world in which we live. To bring focus to our future because we are the generation that will inherit the earth and it is our voice and actions that will ensure it will be loved, protected and healthy for the coming generations.

Meaning of Beholdance:

The meaning of Beholdance has been defined by our founder, Dakota Palacio.

"Beholdance is an energy-heart word. It is kinda like a placeholder in your heart where the love and compassion exist. To be in beholdance of something means to hold a place in your heart and to give it love, joy and compassion and to know it will manifest from that love and support. For example, I might be in beholdance of my grandfather's full health because he just had major back surgery or I might be in beholdance of a person, event, relationship, etc. I picked it from a combination of words:

- **Behold**, which means to have in sight; to see clearly, to hold focus, to support.
- **Beholden**, which means to have or hold gratitude, to be indebted with respect.
- **Dance**, which is a symbol of love, joy and happiness in motion

These words I felt help best describe our mission and this is why I chose the name Beholdance. Personally, Beholdance is about holding a space in my heart for the planet and all who call it home so that we may all come together in peace, health and love. I hope it will help teach the new youth how to love, honor and protect our Mother Earth and her plants, animals and its people. It's about taking responsibility for our home, our planet Earth. We were born on this planet with all that we need and we have developed in our intelligence yet we get so involved in upgrading society that we too often forget about basic care. Therefore we've endangered our planet as well as ourselves. It is now time to give back what we can and to look at how our actions both good and bad effect how we live.

To pledge Beholdance, means to take responsibility; to claim the vision and outcome of the health and well being of our future and to remind all who call Earth home that each and every one of us is indebted to its continued health and protection.

This is what it means to be '**In Beholdance**'."

Goals and Objectives:

Beholdance hopes to engender love and protection for our animals, people and planet in the minds and hearts of our youth and to grow that voice and vision globally. To take responsibility for our actions and choices that effect our environment and the inhabitants of our shared home and to set the vision and voice for our future by upholding the full health and well being of all concerned. We'd like to become the leading youth conservation and community service organization on the planet because ultimately the planet belongs to those who are coming and we are simply responsible for its care on their behalf.

Beholdance Pledge:

"I promise to love, honor and protect our home, Earth.

I want a world where poverty is history compassion comes first and where all life is equal.

I will watch out for all living things and work to make it a better place.

I promise to take care of our animals, plants and environment as well as all who cross my path.

I am '**In Beholdance**'."