

VILLAGE TALK

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MISSION VISION & VALUES

Opportunity Village is a not-for-profit organization that serves people throughout our community with intellectual disabilities, to enhance their lives and the lives of the families who love them.

IMAGINE THE OPPORTUNITY

Opportunity Village is hosting a fundraising concert under the stars on May 22 called *Imagine...A Celebration of Opportunity*. This concert highlights the new outdoor amphitheater at the Engelstad Campus on South Buffalo Drive. A wonderful, rock-themed silent auction is being held thanks to Hard Rock Café Las Vegas. They donated Fender guitars that have been designed and decorated by local celebrities and performers such as the cast of Phantom, the Jersey Boys, Blue Man Group, Caesars Palace headliner Matt Goss, Penn Jillette, KLUC's Morning Zoo and member of Opportunity Village's Art Enrichment Program, Stephen Simms.



These guitars are currently on display at the Hard Rock Café on the Las Vegas Strip. There is an online auction happening now through 9:30pm on the evening of *Imagine*, May 22, giving everyone the same opportunity to take home these one-of-a-kind guitars. Bid online now at www.ovauctions.org.

UNLV FOOTBALL TOUR OF OPPORTUNITY VILLAGE

The Opportunity Village Engelstad Campus was a sea of Rebel Red on April 23rd as we welcomed the UNLV Football Team for a visit and tour. The tour included players, coaching staff and Athletic Director Jim Livengood. Our guests spent time in each program and even got some hands-on experience as they painted with the Opportunity Village Art Enrichment group, tried out the drums in the TRAP Program and assembled products in the Employment Training Center.

The tour was organized by Sara Swanson, football program coordinator with UNLV. She is also a member of the Opportunity Village IT Girls, a committee of women dedicated to enriching the lives of people with disabilities. "The people at Opportunity Village are an absolute joy to be around. The players realize now that it is important to look past the disability and see the person on the inside. This was a day we will always remember," she said.

Those sentiments were echoed by new Head Coach, Bobby Hauck. "We enjoy being involved in the community of Las Vegas. Today was a great day. The one thing I want the players to take from today is how fortunate they are to have the gifts they have." For some of the players, the mission of Opportunity Village hits close to home. "I take this very seriously, I have family members who have disabilities and I appreciate everything they go through. It makes me very thankful. I am excited to help out whenever I can," said Isaako Aaitui, defensive lineman.



This is the second visit by a UNLV athletic club in the past month. The women's soccer team recently toured the Opportunity Village Oakey Campus, meeting our clients and even donning hair nets to help assemble business contracts.

ANNUAL AWARDS BREAKFAST

Opportunity Village honored 16 businesses and individuals for their consistent support and dedication to our mission. We want to thank Executive Chef Rick Giffen, Chef Carlos Vargas, Pastry Chef Cindy Werth and the Stratosphere Las Vegas, Southern Wine & Spirits, English Garden Florist, ARC Paper, Nevada Litho Printing, Mirage Plants Event Decorating Services, Jean Hertzman and the UNLV Food and Beverage students, Don Ross and Harrah's Entertainment, Le Cordon Bleu, Brian Janis - Phototechnik



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT—Gabrielle Boyadjian

Gabrielle Boyadjian, the Opportunity Village IT Kids President, recently received the Soroptimist International of Metropolitan Las Vegas - Violet Richardson Award. This award is given to girls who volunteer their time and talents within their community. Gabrielle chose to write her essay on her work with the IT Kids and how she has been touched by her friends with intellectual disabilities, and even more importantly, how she has been able to make a difference in their lives. Because of her outstanding community service Gabrielle has won a \$250 scholarship as well as a \$250 donation to Opportunity Village. Gabrielle is now eligible to win a \$1,000 scholarship and \$1,000 donation to OV! Good luck, Gabrielle!



Visit any Las Vegas Raising Cane's location on **May 14 and 28** and support Opportunity Village. Just download the flyer at www.opportunityvillage.org and 20% of your purchase will directly benefit Opportunity Village's programs and services. We are grateful to Raising Cane's for a wonderful partnership!

SUSTAINABLE ART

On April 28, the Molasky Corporate Center was transformed into a gallery showcasing the works of the Opportunity Village Art Enrichment program. Approximately 200 people came out to see 25 pieces of original artwork, handmade scarves and jewelry. Because of generous donations from the Molasky Corporate Center, Jason's Deli and Bank of Nevada, all of the proceeds from the event benefit the Art Enrichment Program at Opportunity Village! More than half of the artwork was sold, including a highly sought after Dalmatian painting, which was purchased by County Commissioner Steve Sisolak.



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