

Valley Non-Profit, Youth Speak Collective, Announces Incoming Executive Director

Pacoima (June 9, 2015) -- Youth Speak Collective (YSC), a nonprofit organization located in the Northeast San Fernando Valley, announces its hiring of their next Executive Director, Pablo Garcia-Hernandez. Earlier this year the Board of Directors announced the transition of their Founder and Executive Director David Kietzman. The selection was made after a regional search and selection process. Mr. Garcia-Hernandez was chosen because of his nonprofit leadership experience, inspirational vision and approach to community development and youth leadership.

"We are very pleased to announce this appointment," reported Adriana Gomez, Executive Search Committee member and YSC Board Chair. "Pablo will bring leadership and creativity to the Youth Speak programs and a deep sense of commitment to our community's needs. He has served nonprofits at a program, fundraising, executive and management levels, and has a breadth of perspective and experience."

Pablo's experience ranges from nonprofit management, program development, community advocacy and fundraising. He holds a Bachelors of Arts in Psychology from Occidental College and Masters of Education from Phoenix University. Pablo has served in leadership positions at Woodcraft Rangers in Los Angeles, where he worked for more than 10 years. In addition he has held various management positions at Youth Policy Institute, CINCO and Occidental College. He has had proven success on many city wide projects that have helped collaboratives and communities across Los Angeles.

"I have searched for the opportunity to work with an organization that is closely connected to and driven by community needs. I've found this in Youth Speak Collective. I really look forward to working with the passionate and talented team there!"
– Pablo Garcia-Hernandez, incoming Executive Director

In 2015 Youth Speak Collective reached their nine year mark as a premier youth-driven nonprofit organization in Los Angeles. YSC operates programs throughout the Northeast San Fernando Valley and recently expanded to the Northeast Los Angeles community. Programming is based out of schools, parks and partner sites at 15 different locations serving approximately 300 participants a week, and over 5,000 youth and their families in a year. Youth Speak has a passionate and dedicated team of 20 staff who work alongside 10 youth interns and additional volunteers. Governed by a nine member Board of Directors, YSC operates with a \$1 million budget, with plans to expand and maintain their budget to meet new community needs. Currently YSC operates three locations, their Headquarters in San Fernando and the Organizing Office and Creative Tech Center in Pacoima.

For more details on the transition process and leadership team please visit youthspeakcollective.org

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