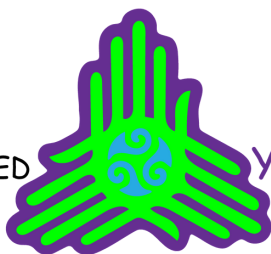


DYNASTY'S UNITED YOUTH ASSOCIATION



2021 PRESS KIT

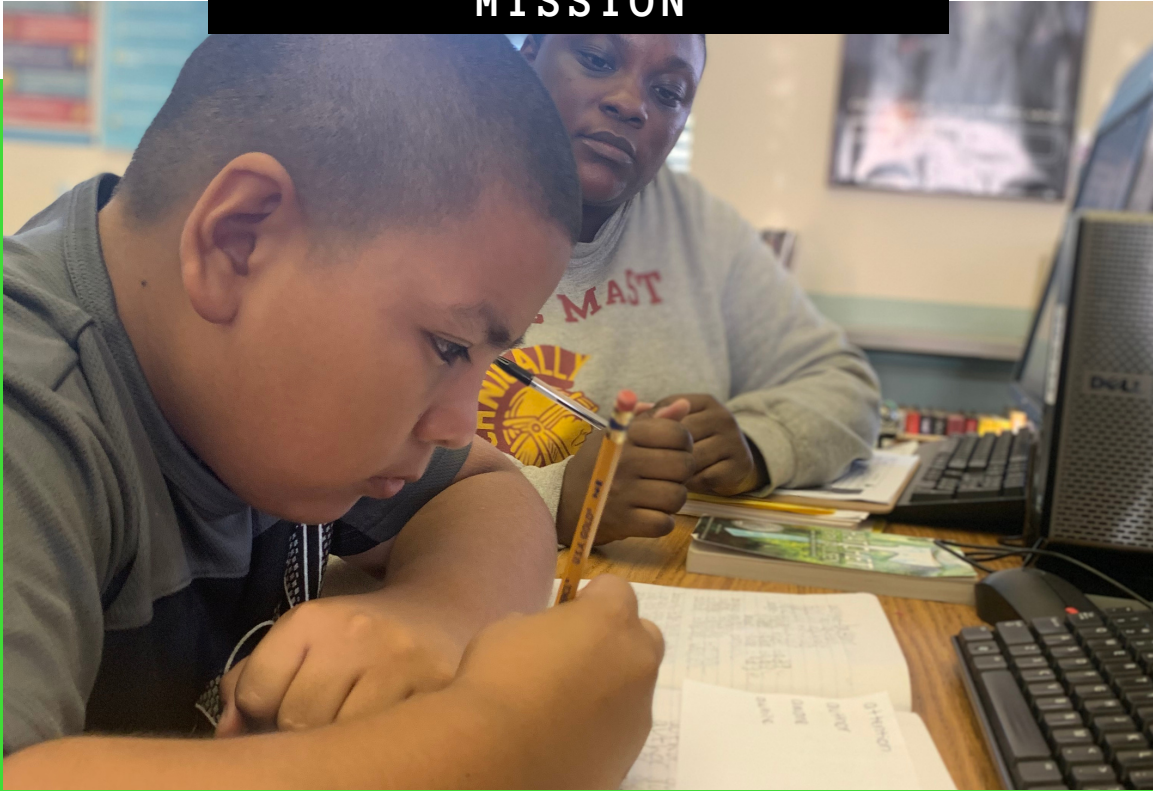
"We are true to our creed when a little girl born into the bleakest poverty knows that she has the same chance to succeed as anybody else."

-- Barack Obama

WWW.DYNASTYSYOUTH.ORG

(323) 306-2928

MISSION



Dynasty's United Youth Association's mission is to ensure that all children and youth have access to quality programs that promote character and cultural competence. Our sole purpose is to support the most vulnerable students from neglected neighborhoods where our youth's academic, economic, and social needs are not being met. We build a bridge of equitable resources specifically tailored to the populations of minorities and special needs.

OUR CORE VALUES

Every student
has something to
contribute

Put the needs
of our students
before our own

Have a vision
that inspires and
motivates others

Provide a wide
range of services
to help our youth
succeed

Parent engagement
is critical
to student's success

Empower the
lives of our
community youth

OUR FOUNDER



Dynasty Taylor is a service-focused Social Worker and Program Director with a strong commitment to serving the needs of disadvantaged youth and adults, including homeless, emancipated youth, and special needs populations. Dynasty was born and raised in South Los Angeles in a notorious neighborhood called the “Jungles.”

She had two teenage parents and was raised by her grandparents, who were all affected by social issues including domestic violence, gang activity, substance abuse, gun violence, and the criminal justice system. Dynasty later graduated from Dorsey Miller High School, Cal State Northridge with a Bachelors in Sociology, and the University of Southern California with a Masters in Social Work.

Dynasty is currently employed as a high school counselor at Da Vinci Rise High School providing mental health services and academic counseling while studying for her state board exam to become a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. Additionally, she is on the board of the Empowerment Congress South East Neighborhood Council as a Young Adult and Committee Chair and the Youth Board Representative for District 8 region.

WHO WE ARE



DUYA is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization providing free educational and career programs to minority students K-12th grade from 30 zip codes across South Los Angeles. The organization offers tutoring, peer mentorship workshops, college and career guidance, counseling support, and job preparedness. Our students come from areas where the population includes 99% of low-income families marginalized by society earning less than \$25,000 a year to support their households. These underserved families reside in Service Planning Area 6-8, which covers Baldwin Hills, West Athens, Compton, Crenshaw, Florence, Hyde Park, Lynwood, Paramount, Inglewood, Watts, etc.

THE NUMBERS

800

STUDENTS
SERVED SINCE
2014

380

STUDENTS
SERVED IN
2020

89

STUDENTS ON
THE WAITING
LIST

50%

HISPANIC/
LATINX

40%

AFRICAN
AMERICAN

\$25K

AVERAGE
HOUSEHOLD
INCOME

FEATURED MEDIA

[VOYAGE LA](#)

[LOS ANGELES WAVE](#)

[LOS ANGELES SENTINEL](#)

[GIVE BLCK](#)

[WATCH OUR PROMO VIDEO HERE](#)

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HISTORY



Since 2014, DUYA has helped over 800 students become successful, self-sufficient, and socially-responsible citizens by offering programs that directly target barriers that prevent students from continuing to grow and learn. The organization, which started with in-person tutoring and homework help, has since grown to include other life-supporting programs such as job preparedness and mental health counseling. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, DUYA's services were located at five public libraries in Los Angeles throughout the school year and one recreation center for Summer Camp programming.

In March of 2020, DUYA converted its entire curriculum and programming to a virtual platform within one week to continue delivering its services for free. To successfully fund and execute a virtual program, DUYA launched its Virtual Learning Program with Councilmember Herb Wesson from District 10 and the Los Angeles Public Library to prevent students from falling behind grade levels.

DUYA continues to succeed because of the strong community relationships it has built and its thriving partnerships with community members committed to the achievement of students and their families.

Q&A WITH DYNASTY

Why did you decide to create DUYA?

It developed from the frustration with the education system. I felt like the things that we were learning in school really didn't apply to real life. What we needed is financial literacy, and this was nowhere to be found in public schools. There was no educational literacy, and I just jumped into college because I felt like I'm a girl from the hood. I felt like nobody educated me about different majors, about other things that I can do with my life, different pathways that I can have. I feel like the education system failed me in high school. Even though I graduated with straight A's, when I got to college and took my first placement test, I failed the English and Math exam on my first attempt, and I thought, how did I have straight A's and can't even pass the placement exam.

What challenges have you faced?

My main challenge is the system. The system isn't built to help it's built to enable us. I want to help kids understand that there is a problem that needs to be continually worked on. This work is very hard, being a woman and a woman of color doing business is very hard. Being young and people underestimating me continually means I have to prove what I am capable of doing.

What makes DUYA different from other programs?

What makes this organization successful and sets us apart from others is our "delivery of service". We meet students where they are, in their neighborhoods, by partnering with other local like-minded organizations to strengthen the services and resources in our community. The services are free, accessible, and flexible for children and families independent learning style. The staff members who serve our students are recruited and hired from the communities in which we serve, which provides relatability and inspiration for the future generations to come. Majority of youth organizations that operate during after school hours mainly provide recreation and supervision, we teach and build character.

How did you decide what services you were going to provide?

In college, I learned that everyone needed tutoring. I don't care how old you are or what subject it is; people always need help. I had many Hispanic friends growing up who told me that their parents couldn't help them because they didn't speak English or other parents who didn't know how to help their kids because they didn't understand the homework. I also wanted to teach kids about financial literacy and how to make informed decisions regarding their choices or career paths, no matter what they want to do. The most significant component of the program is working with the kids on their self-esteem and self-confidence. Teaching kids how to articulate what they need and teaching social skills would help boost them. For example, some kids go to an interview and never look up at the person they are talking to because no one told them to make eye contact. We are helping these kids develop morals and values so that they can hold themselves accountable.

OUR PROGRAMMING

Virtual Learning Program/General Library Programing - Our in-person services pivoted to virtual programming within one week of the COVID-19 pandemic. We look forward to returning to in-person services when the timing is right.

TUTORING/HOMEWORK ASSISTANCE

We offer tutoring in all subjects including English, Math, Science and History. Other subjects include, but not limited to reading comprehension, language arts, Algebra 1&2, and Chemistry. We also offer more individual one-on-one support where fees do apply.

JOB PREPAREDNESS

We offer job preparation services for students between the ages of 15-18 which include resume building, cover letters, and mock interviews. DUYA partners with other local organizations to provide appropriate work attire for job interviews.

PEER MENTORING

We offer peer mentoring as a form of support to help motivate and encourage our students to challenge adversity. DUYA partners with USC who provides MSW interns to assist social and emotional needs.

COLLEGE/CAREER PREP

We offer college and career services for students between the ages of 14-18 which include college and career counseling, applying and admissions, financial aid assistance and support and education for parents/guardians.

SAT/ACT PREP

We offer study halls, practice tests, strategy building workshops and on-on-one/group tutoring for students ages 14-18.

VOLUNTEER HOURS

We offer community service completion hours to high school/college students and community members.

VIRTUAL SUMMER CAMP

Summer Camp programming will consist of Zumba, fitness, art, virtual reality, and STEM.

Students will have access to a 1-hour private tutoring session per week, along with the option of attending any other scheduled essential instructional activities assigned for the day. To better support students with learning disabilities, students can attend up to 2-hour private tutoring sessions per week that aligns with the appropriate accommodations under the CA Special Education requirements. Services will be hosted for 9 consecutive weeks.

PARTNERS

We are so thankful to have great partners in the community that support us.



**LOS ANGELES
PUBLIC LIBRARY**



**EMPOWERMENT CONGRESS
SOUTHEAST AREA NEIGHBORHOOD
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**



A WORD FROM OUR PARTNERS

Dynasty is helping to eradicate barriers amongst at-risk children and families in our communities and achieving educational equity.

- Los Angeles Public Libraries

The Southeast Neighborhood Council looks forward to our continued partnership with DUYA in working to eliminate learning disparities in our community and achieving educational equity.

- The Southeast Neighborhood Council

The founder of DUYA, Dynasty Taylor, was easy to work with and is exceptional working with urban youth. Also, Ms. Taylor communicates concisely and responded to any request quickly. I highly recommend that you financially support DUYA as they have proven their value to the community.

- Ethan Polk, United Neighborhoods Neighborhood Council

Dynasty's professionalism and commitment to her work sets a strong precedent for how we operate at RISE High School. Her calm demeanor, expertise and attention to detail lay a strong foundation for her to succeed in any setting.

- Erin Whalen, Assistant Vice Principal, Da Vinci RISE High School

STATISTICS

42%

Only 42% of socioeconomically disadvantaged students in Los Angeles are meeting grade-level standard in English Language Arts in 2019.

38%

According to one recently published study, funding for California schools falls 38% short of where it should be to meet needs defined by the state itself. Poorer students benefit from additional state and federal grant money, but their needs are also higher and the shortfall reaches as high as 47% at the bottom end of the socio-economic pile.

**LOW
SCORES**

Year after year, Latino and African American students consistently have lower average state standardized test scores than white and Asian students. Latino and African American students also tend to have worse outcomes on other academic performance measures, such as attendance and suspension rates.

45%

While one might expect schools in low-income communities to receive extra resources, the reverse is often true; a Department of Education study found that 45 percent of high-poverty schools received less state and local funding than was typical for other schools in their district.

**LOW
GRADES**

Grades of D and F have increased in the Los Angeles Unified School District among middle and high school students in a troubling sign of the toll that distance learning — and the coronavirus crisis — is taking on children, especially those who are members of low-income families.

TESTIMONIALS

PAITYN

Paityn has been with the organization for the past 3 1/2 years. She was in need of assistance to improve her reading and writing skills in first grade. She practiced on a daily basis at home and at school in order to stay on grade level in her classes. Paityn is now able to read with fluency at the appropriate grade level in elementary school. She currently attends DUYA programming one time a week for private tutoring to practice her reading comprehension and mathematics skills to stay on grade level in her courses.

MARKEL

Markel has been with the organization for the past 3 1/2 years. He was in need of assistance with Pre-Algebra & Algebra 1. We discovered Markel learned better in small groups or with one-on-one instruction, so his parents enrolled him in our program. Markel was very shy at first but in time he opened up and started to attend private tutoring to improve his skills. Markel currently attends DUYA programming 2-3 times a week while receiving private tutoring to stay on grade level in his courses.

CHERISH

Cherish has been with the organization for the past 5 years. She was in need of assistance with reading and writing skills when she was in the 2nd grade. Cherish was told by teachers at her school that if she did not improve her reading by a specific deadline she will be held behind. She took her reading seriously and was motivated to improve her skills by attending programming 2-3 times a week. Through dedication and discipline Cherish gained confidence due to her small wins and she never gave up on herself. Cherish is currently attending services one time a week for reading comprehension and mathematics to stay on grade level in her courses.





**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SCHEDULE
AN INTERVIEW PLEASE CONTACT US**

PHONE: (323) 306-2928

EMAIL: DTAYLOR@DYNASTYSYOUTH.ORG



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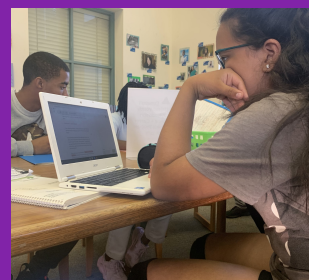
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