



**PRESS RELEASE**

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South Bay Workforce Investment Board  
11539 Hawthorne Blvd., Suite 500  
Hawthorne, CA 90250  
Contact Jan Vogel: 310-970-7700

**Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce and South Bay Workforce Investment Board  
Recognize Award Winning Mothers with  
Twenty-Five Gift Certificates for Mother's Day**

**HAWTHORNE, CA** – The Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce and South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) recognize award winning mothers at the Hawthorne Teen Center on Thursday, May 10, 2018. Students nominated their mothers for being the best moms in the world, twenty-five selected mothers were then invited to the Hawthorne Teen Center to receive one of the twenty-five donated gift certificates from the Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce.

Earlier in the month, Hawthorne Teen Center students took it upon themselves to set activities to recognize the moms of the teen center. Students were encouraged to submit a poem or speech to celebrate their mother and nominate them for one of the donated gift certificates, winners were selected by youth commissioners. Kaira, Hawthorne Teen Center participant, opened this year's event by sharing a poem about her mother. "I believe my mother's the best because she has taught me be strong and how to be caring. She showed me there are more shades of life than merely black and white. She has made mistakes so I can learn, she is always there when I least expect, she showed me to be human and not perfect" expressed Kaira.

Patricia Donaldson, President of the Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce stated to the mothers present, "it's our duty as human beings and as women to make sure you're taken care of, our board and committee all donated twenty-five-dollar gift certificates." She added, "it always feels good and we are so involved in making sure you do because God blessed us to bless others." Also present to award certificates were; Olivia Valentine, Councilmember, City of Hawthorne; Jan Vogel, Executive Director, SBWIB and Beatrice Williams and Sheryl Singh, both Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce board members.

All mothers who were nominated were from low income background, hard working mothers and some single parents. Mother Gladys Rivera, stated, "When I got the call I was surprised to get the invite and happy to be present. I am very proud of my daughter, she is dedicated, a hard worker, she is involved in programs at school and puts in a lot of work."

This year's Mother's Day event was of important significance because it was also Mother's Day in Latin America and with a large Hispanic community in Hawthorne, mothers related closer to the special day. Attendees were welcomed with refreshments and mothers had the opportunity to have their photos taken with their children.



www.sbwib.org

SOUTH BAY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD  
**SBWIB**

The SBWIB operates four One Stop Business & Career Centers within its South Bay service area plus two Teen Centers in Inglewood and Hawthorne providing no cost adult, youth and business services. For further information, please call (310) 970-7700 or visit sbwib.org.

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**Photo caption:** Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce and South Bay Workforce Investment Board recognize twenty-five award winning mothers with twenty-five-dollar gift certificates donated by the Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce for Mother’s Day, Thursday, May 10, 2018 at the Hawthorne Teen Center. Pictured from left to right; Patricia Donaldson, President of the Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce; Shaunda Ford, gift certificate recipient; Jan Vogel, SBWIB Executive Director; Olivia Valentine, City of Hawthorne Councilmember; Sheryl Singh and Beatrice Williams, both Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce board members.