



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**South Bay Workforce Investment Board Honors 40 Cadet Graduates
During 16th Annual Fit For Gold Tutoring & Fitness Academy Award Ceremony**

HAWTHORNE – Forty high school students were honored May 30th during the 16th Annual Fit For Gold Tutoring & Fitness Academy Graduation Ceremony held at Rogers Park in Inglewood. The program is presented by the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB).

Family members, training partners, educators and local elected officials attended the ceremony including: Inglewood Mayor James T. Butts Jr and Councilman Alex Padilla; Gardena Mayor Tasha Cerda and Councilman Dan Medina; Hawthorne Councilmembers Olivia Valentine and Alex Monteiro; Lawndale Mayor Robert Pullen Miles and Councilman Pat Kearney. Dr. Nicole Robertson represented Congresswoman Maxine Waters. Centinela Valley Union High School District Superintendent Dr. Greg O’Brien also participated in the awards presentations, as well as Linal Harada who represented the El Segundo School District, and Dr. Michael Romero from the Los Angeles Unified School District.

SBWIB Executive Director Jan Vogel opened the ceremony and thanked the training and business partners who annually provide financial support and tutoring. “The effectiveness of this program is shown in the fact that of the 98 percent of the students who complete the program, 90 percent of them go onto post - secondary education,” he said.

Mayor Butts joined with Mr. Vogel in presenting two \$500 scholarships provided by West Basin Water District and the SBWIB to Cadets Ledeya Tesfaye, from the Hawthorne Math and Science Academy, and Jayla Williams of Inglewood.

The Fit For Gold Tutoring & Fitness Academy is an after-school program that trains high school seniors to provide homework assistance, nutrition information and physical fitness activities to students, grades 3 - 8, while participating in 36 hours of enrichment and mentoring training and college – readiness activities.

Fit For Gold was established in 2003 as an intervention program to help raise declining student test scores and reduce the rate of cardio vascular disease among elementary and high school age students living in the SBWIB’s service area that includes the cities of Carson, Gardena, El Segundo, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, Inglewood, Lawndale, Lomita, Manhattan Beach, Redondo Beach and Torrance.

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SBWIB Fit For Gold Photo Caption



Fit For Gold Cadets were honored by educators and civic leaders May 30th during graduation ceremony conducted by the South Bay Workforce Investment Board at Rogers Park in Inglewood.

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