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SOUTH BAY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD  
**SBWIB**

**PRESS RELEASE**

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South Bay Workforce Investment Board  
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**South Bay Workforce Investment Board Celebrates  
Hawthorne Teen Center's 11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**HAWTHORNE** – The South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) along with partners, youth, civic leaders, elected officials and educators hosted the Hawthorne Teen Center's 11th year anniversary event on Thursday, December 5th, 2019 at the Hawthorne Memorial Center. The Teen Center, along with the Inglewood Teen Center, are operated by the SBWIB.

Opening the celebration was SBWIB's chairman, Wayne Spencer followed by City of Hawthorne Mayor Alex Vargas, who shared a brief history of the teen center and thanked those present for their continued support. Present to honor three teen center youth were: Mayor Alex Vargas, Representing Assemblywoman Autumn Burke's Office, Samahndi Cunningham; Representing Senator Steven Bradford's Office, Nital Patel; Hawthorne Police Department, Chief Michael Ishii; SBWIB Chairmen, Wayne Spencer and Glenn Mitchell; President of the Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce, Patricia Donaldson; SBWIB Board Member, Billy Campbell and other dignitaries.

The Teen Center Ambassador Award went to Nicholas Ford, a member of the teen center since 2016. Nicholas welcomes every student to the center and participates in every program. The Best Attendance Award went to Ronald Robinson for his continuous attendance at the center and his passion for social awareness. The Rising Star Award went to Daisy Garcia, a middle school student known for her volunteering, her courage and suggestions to improve the teen center.

The event followed with student performances from Roland Robinson with a rap piece and a step performance from the first established BSU Step Team from Lawndale High School. Peter Godslaw, recent UC Berkeley graduate was this year's teen center testimonial alumni speaker.

Since inception, the center has served over 10,00 students. "We like investing in our youth, giving them the space they need to grow, learn and obtain careers. We are honored when they come back and share their experiences with their community," stated SBWIB's Executive Director, Jan Vogel.

The SBWIB also operates the Inglewood Teen Center as well as four One-Stop Business & Career Centers within its South Bay service area, providing no cost adult, youth and business services. For further information, please call (310) 970-7700 or visit [www.sbwib.org](http://www.sbwib.org).

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**Photo caption:** South Bay Workforce Investment Board and partners host the Hawthorne Teen Center's 11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at the Hawthorne Memorial Center.

