

ActionCivics★LA

An initiative of Mikva Challenge

October 17, 2017

Dear Councilwoman Kim Nguyen,

The purpose of this letter is to request the city of Garden Grove's partnership in hosting Action Civics LA's third annual Orange County-wide Project Soapbox competition on Sunday, December 3, 2017 at the Garden Grove Community Center. On this day, youth from Garden Grove and neighboring cities will get on their "soapbox" and in two-minutes or less present a researched, call-to-action speech on a issue most pressing in their community today.

The Orange County-wide Project Soapbox competition is the culminating celebration of a semester-long, in classroom and after school club project. Over 400 Orange County middle and high school students are currently participating in Project Soapbox to examine community, identify community-based issues, conduct research, and address these issues in front of their peers and community leaders. Winners from school-based Project Soapbox competitions are invited to perform on the December 3rd county-wide competition.

The annual event provides an opportunity for youth, community and civic leaders, family and friends to engage in an afternoon of civil discourse and problem-solving discussion. The three hour program will run from 1:00pm-4:00pm and will include youth speeches, community-building exercises, issue-based breakout sessions, a keynote speaker, and award presentations.

Participating schools from Garden Grove Unified School District include Pacifica High, Doig Intermediate, and Los Amigos High School. Anaheim, Santa Ana, and Irvine schools will also participate.

We expect an audience of around 150, which includes 60-75 youth with 20-25 performers plus their teachers, Soapbox judges, and audience supporters. These events are always free and open to the public, so we invite parents, adult allies, program supporters, friends, and media to attend.

We respectfully request a fee waiver for use of the Community Center and would like to reserve Butterfield AB, the Founders Room, and the Constitution Room AB.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at Sheila@mikvachallenge.org or (949) 636-3486.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sheila McMullin
Action Civics LA Program Director