

STAFF REPORT
City of Lancaster, California

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11/12/08
MVB

Date: November 12, 2008

To: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

From: Bob Greene, Interim Director, Parks, Recreation and Arts Department

Subject: **Appointment of 2008/2009 Lancaster Youth Commission**

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that Mayor Parris nominate and appoint: Alimat Adebisi; Samantha Whittington; Freeman Lyon; Paul Daufen; Brent Chapman; Natasha Castro for the 2008-2009 Lancaster Youth Commission and that the City Council ratify the nominations and appointments.

Fiscal Impact:

None.

Background:

The Lancaster Youth Commission was created by the City Council in January of 1992 to provide a forum for the young people of Lancaster to give input regarding the needs and concerns of the youth of this community. Youth Commissioners are nominated by the different high schools in the Lancaster area. These schools are: Antelope Valley Christian, Antelope Valley, Desert Christian, Desert Winds, Lancaster, Lancaster Baptist, Paraclete and Quartz Hill. The Commission currently meets once a month from the start of the school year until the end of May.

Each year the Commission develops a work plan that identifies projects that the Commission will work on for the year. The incoming commission will participate in several volunteer projects including the MLK Day of Service where they will coordinate their efforts with the City's Safer Stronger Neighborhoods Committee to improve the façade of a local elementary school. The Commission also plays a vital role in the coordination of the Youth in Government program. Commissioners assist with participant recruitment, pre-planning event details and directing fellow students during all the scheduled events.

This year's nominees and their respective high schools are:

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| 1. | Alimat Adebisi | Antelope Valley High School |
| 2. | Samantha Whittington | Desert Christian High School |
| 3. | Freeman Lyon | Lancaster High School |
| 4. | Paul Daufen | Lancaster Baptist High School |
| 5. | Brent Chapman | Paraclete High School |
| 6. | Natasha Castro | Quartz Hill High School |