







August Newsletter

Hello!

School is back in session! Students are finally back in the classroom, connecting with their school community and learning in person. With the start of the new academic year, we are reflecting on why SRLA matters this school year and planning for a season that will keep our students, leaders, and supporters healthy, active, and connected.

To kick off the season, 200+ leaders from 170 groups attended our **Annual Leader Conference**. We were thrilled to be able to host the conference in-person at the Glendale Hilton and see our leaders face-to-face for the first time in over a year. The conference included



<u>presentations from the Orthopeadic Institute for Children, The Civics Center, and an LAUSD Mental Health Specialist.</u> Though we were all fully masked, we had lots of fun catching up with each other and even gave away a few raffle prizes, too.



During the conference, some Leaders
Shared Their Perspectives on the upcoming school year. Many were excited to begin running again in person, others we anxious to help their students face-to-face, but all were excited to be together again and begin building those lifelong bonds that make SRLA so special.

You can join us in building our community for students who need it most. Support SRLA students with a donation during our **Back to**

School Match!

Thanks to your contributions, we have reached our \$5,000 match from <u>WAVE Children's</u> <u>Foundation!</u> Inspired by your generosity the <u>Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation</u> has stepped up and will be doubling the next \$5,000 in donations.

As we prepared to start the semester, our students also reflected on what **Returning**To The Classroom means to them. When asked for one word to describe how they were feeling about going back to school, most students said excited or nervous. A combination that we are all familiar with as the world once again cautiously "opens up."

The importance of keeping SRLA running has never been more apparent. That's why we've been hard at work this summer making adjustments and planning ahead for an ever-changing world. We are eagerly awaiting our return to in-person events at the Homeboy 5K on October 2nd. If you are interested in running alongside students at this event, you can register here and use the code SRLA2021 for 15% off.

As we move through these strange times, I continue to be amazed by the tireless dedication of our leaders, staff, and volunteers. It's incredible to see how it all comes together as we work to support each other as one team, one family. Looking forward to a great season ahead!



Best Regards, Marsha Charney Executive Director Students Run LA

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