

September 2020 Newsletter

Students Run LA Program Update

Hello!

How are you adjusting to an Autumn in isolation? Are you finding ways to wrap up the socially distanced summer and dive into another season safely?

SRLA students and leaders across LA are getting into the swing of a new normal in their virtual classrooms. As SRLA students prepare to kick off the 2020 - 2021 season with their first virtual event, I wanted to share some exciting updates to the SRLA program. We're turning lemons into lemonade and couldn't be more inspired!

[New Partnership with The Civics Center](#)

This season, [SRLA Cares](#) has joined forces with [The Civics Center \(TCC\)](#) to create *student-led virtual voter registration drives* at SRLA high schools in majority Latinx and other diverse communities. High school voter registration week (Sept. 21 - 25) is just before our first virtual race of the season, so the timing couldn't be more perfect. Just like our marathon-training program, we're empowering students to take action and teaching them how to effectuate change one step at a time, one vote at a time.



[Moving Forward - COVID-19 Protocols](#)

Moving into the new season, SRLA is prioritizing the health and safety of all SRLA participants, including SRLA Leaders, students, volunteers, and their families above all else. These pandemic times are difficult for all of us, but we, at SRLA, are in it for the long run!

Our goal is to ensure that SRLA participants will keep on running long after COVID-19 is in the history books. With that in mind, the SRLA Board has approved [COVID-19 protocols](#) for this upcoming season based on federal, state and local guidelines.

Under these protocols, SRLA is encouraging SRLA groups to help prepare SRLA students for the goal of completing the Los Angeles Marathon. The [full protocol statement](#) is available on srla.org.

Training for the Marathon in a Virtual World

With the announcement that schools in Los Angeles and Orange Counties would be implementing distance learning this Fall, SRLA developed training, technology support, and an event series for a virtual world.

Instead of SRLA Leaders physically training alongside their students, they will be meeting up virtually at least once per week to help keep each other on track in their training. Following the safety measures detailed in the [Protocols](#), SRLA students will be encouraged to meet the distance goals in their training.

Just like in our prior season SRLA students will be participating in **6 training races prior to the marathon**. For the remainder of 2020, these events will be completely virtual. Instead of gathering 4,000 runners in the same location, SRLA participants will run their races *on their own, together*. To create the sense of community, **SRLA will be encouraging everyone to start the monthly races at the same time and share photos, results, and encouragement on social media.**

Using the Nike Run Club app on their phone, SRLA student runners will be able to report their distance and time to their SRLA Leaders who will then be able to upload their results to SRLA for official verification. Just like an in-person road race, **SRLA students will be rewarded for their accomplishment with certificates, medals, and buffs.**

We're excited for our students' journey and hope you'll [join us](#) for this groundbreaking season. I can't wait to share our students progress with you in the months to come.

Happy Running!
Marsha Charney
Executive Director
Students Run LA





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