



Assistance League® of Southern California
1370 North St. Andrews Place • Hollywood, CA 90028
Tel: (323) 469-1973 • Fax: (323) 469-3533 • www.assistanceleague.net

Nearly two-thirds of ALSC's members belong to one or more of Assistance League's auxiliaries, which raise funds and provide volunteer support to all facets of the League.



ANNE BANNING

Operation School Bell (OSB), one of ALSC's eight services, is operated by volunteer members of Anne Banning Auxiliary who are dedicated to keeping at-risk children in school by providing school clothing, uniforms, new clothes, athletic shoes and personal grooming products free-of-charge to children from impoverished circumstances referred by LAUSD personnel.



Anne Banning Auxiliary volunteers contribute hands-on service by offering fashionable, appropriate and well-fitting school attire; purchasing clothing that is distributed to the children; stocking and maintaining the OSB facility and OSB on Wheels; and raising critically needed funding for OSB. www.operationschoolbell.org



BOOKWORMS

Each year, the Bookworms Auxiliary members sell holiday cards from a large selection of card collections from August through November in ALSC's Community House foyer. Sale proceeds benefit Children's Services and other ALSC services.

COLLEGE ALUMNAE

College Alumnae Auxiliary conducts their annual Champagne Luncheon and Fashion Show at the Fountain Court Restaurant to benefit the Hollywood Senior Multipurpose Center and Children's Services.

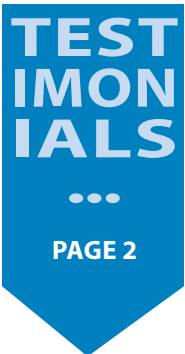
FOUNDER ASSISTEENS OF GREATER LOS ANGELES

Founder Assisteens Auxiliary members are teens in grades 9 through 12 who participate in volunteer service and social activities throughout their school year. Participation in the group introduces them to philanthropic activities and community service. On an annual basis, the Assisteens volunteer 15 hours, 10 of which are for ALSC.

One of their annual activities is to organize a holiday shopping day at Children's Club. Other activities include charity concerts and fundraising events. After their four years of service, seniors receive Medallions in recognition of their volunteering.

HILLTOPPERS

Hilltoppers Auxiliary members operate and support Foster Children's Resource Center (FCRC), one of eight services of ALSC. FCRC furnishes immediate and basic necessities to children up to the age of 18 who have been referred by the Department of Children and Family Services. School uniforms, new clothes, grooming items and basic necessities, including layette items for babies, are some of the items that are available to these children. Hilltoppers members purchase clothing, raise funds and work directly with families and children.





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MANNEQUINS

The Mannequins Auxiliary is a group of women who combined their experiences and resources from the world of fashion. The Mannequins assist ALSC auxiliaries and other charitable and private organizations with fundraising efforts by providing and producing fashion shows at their events.

At their Afternoon with Eve benefit, the Mannequins present Eve and Golden Eve awards to recognize individuals for their philanthropic and civic contributions, and there is a couture fashion show and luncheon. Mannequins fundraising efforts benefit Children's Club, Family Service Agency, Hollywood Senior Multipurpose Center, Learning Center for Young Children, Theatre for Children and Operation School Bell.

NINE O'CLOCK PLAYERS

Nine O'clock Players (NOP) operate and support Theatre for Children, one of the eight League services, by handling all aspects of the productions—designing sets, making costumes, running sound and lights and acting in the productions. The NOP perform two classic children's plays in the fall and spring of each year, bringing enriching cultural experiences to youngsters from low-income families and to those who have disabilities. Transportation is also provided. On weekends, the plays are open to the general public. www.nineoclockplayers.com

PRE-SCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN AUXILIARY

In 1993, the Day Nursery Auxiliary was renamed Preschool & Kindergarten Auxiliary and continues to support Learning Center for Young Children (originally Day Nursery), one of eight services of ALSC. The Pre-School & Kindergarten Auxiliary's annual Golden Mallet Invitational Polo Tournament benefits Learning Center for Young Children.



From our volunteers ...

Andrea Saccone • Nine O'Clock Players Auxiliary Member

I'm a former Broadway actress and now mom of three, and when my friend told me about the Assistance League's Nine O'Clock Players Theatre for Children, I knew this was right up my alley.

We put on two stage shows a year based on classic children's literature, and we provide the transportation and tickets to physically and economically challenged children who would never have the opportunity to see live theatre. To see their faces light up, to hear their laughter and to hear them singing along and clapping is a very heartwarming experience for all of us volunteers knowing that we've given these children a real experience that hopefully they'll remember for a long time. I also feel that in helping others we also help ourselves. Getting out and volunteering keeps us young and vital. We have a saying, "When you join Nine O'Clock Players – you get at least 35 instant best friends. And since we work on every aspect of the shows from backstage to ushering to selling tickets, this keeps us involved and active. And let's face it – where else can a 55-year-old mom play Cinderella!



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Cheryl Van Tassel • Mannequins Auxiliary Member

I was very active in the Junior League of Los Angeles for many years doing fundraising and training programs and really felt the need to do something with children rather than from afar. Earlier in my career, I'd been a school teacher and missed working directly with children ... A group of friends from the Junior League decided to get involved with Operation School Bell because it was truly the type of thing we were all longing for – to work 'one on one' with needy children and to bring a smile to their face (even when the experience was overwhelming to them!) As mentally and physically exhausting as working at OSB can be – it was what we were all looking for! That was "the hook".

Starting with the Anne Banning Auxiliary all those years ago led me to The Mannequins Auxiliary which was a perfect fit since I was a professional model [and knew how to put on fashion shows] – then onto serve on the Board of ALSC starting in 2000. I am currently the "New Members Chairman" for The Mannequins – a position I LOVE because I enjoy training, connecting people and mentoring. I have held practically ALL of the board positions in The Mannequins Auxiliary over the years and have served as The Mannequins Chairman – twice.

My commitment to ALSC doesn't stop with me – my husband, Harvey, got involved as well in several aspects. He is a member of the ALSC President's Advisory Council/Board since 2000 and serves as [Pro Bono] legal counsel to the League. We have also been active together for a number of years with our fabulous Concours d'Elegance Committee and have both attended several National Assistance League Conventions around the country together! We're truly a package deal!

Working with the Assistance League over all these years comes naturally – it's become part of our lives and we take our commitment seriously. It's also a nice feeling "giving back" – all while making life-long friendships and having FUN! It's especially rewarding after having been presented the "Volunteer of the Year" award for ALSC this year! An honor I will always cherish.

Two things come to mind right away ... Prep for our Mannequin fashion shows means DIETING once we've had our fittings with the show Designers [NO bread or pasta!] – not to mention practicing our runway walk in 6 inch stilettos! 'Dieting for Charity' – now that's commitment!

Lastly, I have a cute story to share ... my husband has served as the "Official" Mannequins photographer for our fashion shows and events since 1996. Unbeknownst to me, The Mannequins had gotten Harvey an OSCAR Trophy the last year I served as Chairman of the group. Of course he was at the Installation meeting to take pictures and someone asked to make a "special award" ... they named Harvey "Most Supportive Husband" – that was a memorable day for both of us, and he keeps his "Oscar" on a shelf in his office for all to see!



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Sally Hinckley • ALSC Board Member and Past ALSC President

When a close friend suggested I might enjoy the Nine O’Clock Players (NOP) Auxiliary, I immediately thought of the fun I had had years before doing children’s theatre and I decided to join. Forty-two years later, I know I made the right decision – not just because of my membership in this wonderful theatre group, but also as a result of my involvement with ALSC as a whole. From playing the piano for several NOP productions to a brief stint on the stage to serving as Chairman of the NOP Auxiliary and later as Assistance League President, I have found joy in so many ways. My volunteering has been fun, rewarding, challenging and, above all, meaningful. Meaningful because at every turn I have seen the way it has made a difference.

As I mentioned earlier, my involvement with ALSC started with Nine O’Clock Players. Interestingly, I thought it would lead to acting in their productions, but instead it took other turns and ultimately had me spending more time on the administrative side of things and less on the stage. And, when I finally moved to League activities, they included such positions as fundraising, long range planning and other executive committees. In all of these activities, I was surrounded by wonderful women who have come to be some of my closest friends. Volunteering by definition means “giving freely of one’s time in the service of others.” What the definition doesn’t explain is the abundant return of unexpected riches one receives in return.

I am very proud of ALSC and of my association with this outstanding organization. We are often told that the League is the “best kept secret in town.” It may be a secret to the general public, but I’m sure it is not a secret to the thousands of individuals who have been helped over the years through our services and outreach. Assistance League makes me feel valued, productive, grateful, happy and proud. Over the years, my involvement has always felt like something I wanted to do – rather than something I should do. Although my League activities are more limited today – a member of the Board of Directors, Endowment Committee and recent participant on the search committee for our new Chief Executive Director – they continue to be gratifying. I will always treasure the opportunities I have had to volunteer for Nine O’Clock Players and Assistance League of Southern California.

As I think about “true” examples of volunteering, I can’t help remembering two outstanding members who have passed away -- unsung, quiet, heroines – who stayed in the background, but made a tremendous difference in the work of Assistance League. Sylvie Mast, a former Noontimer and Day Nursery Auxiliary member, spent hours coordinating the League’s mailings. If there was more to be done on a particular project that couldn’t be completed before closing time, Sylvie would take the work home. Then there was Pat Lynds who moved the League into the 21st century by computerizing our membership files and creating our first League-wide roster. The hours she spent in this task are countless, but her commitment was unwavering. Both women represent volunteering at its finest. How fortunate for ALSC to have benefited from their efforts.