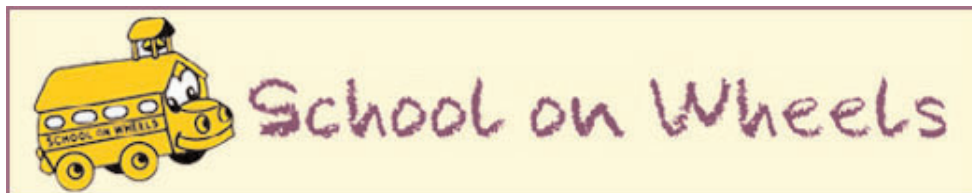


SPREADING THE GOOD NEWS

By Christie Taylor, Diana Maiocco and Pam Hardin

ALLYCE REACHES OUT FOR THE EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF HOMELESS CHILDREN



The mission of *School on Wheels* is the enhancement of educational opportunities for homeless children from kindergarten through twelfth grade. Its goal is to shrink the gaps in the education of these children and provide them with the highest education possible. The program offers a variety of services including:

- One-on-one tutoring
- Backpacks and school supplies
- A toll-free number to keep in touch with us
- Assistance in entering school
- Help in locating lost records
- Parent guidance in educational matters for their children.

School on Wheels began in 1993 in Santa Monica, CA. Today, hundreds of volunteers work one-on-one with children whose homelessness prevents them from getting the academic stability and help they so desperately need. The heart of the School on Wheels' programs are the volunteer tutors who come from all backgrounds and professions, with one agenda only - to reach out to a child, to teach, to mentor, and assist in their educational life. Last year, more than 300 tutors donated about 30,000 hours of their time to distribute over 5,000 backpacks filled with school supplies and helped hun-

dreds of families enroll their children into new schools. While the majority of our volunteers are tutors, there are other volunteer opportunities in our offices, including:

- Administrative assistance
- Bookkeeping
- Computer help

The concept of "Learning Rooms" grew out of an idea that children and tutors would benefit greatly from a dedicated and quiet place in the shelters for learning. Frequently, tutors have to work in areas with televisions blaring, babies crying and many other distractions that are not conducive to learning. The Learning Rooms are built not only to provide a comforting and calm refuge for the children and tutors. They are also equipped with furniture, computers, educational software, books and supplies necessary for learning. The rooms encourage children to read, study, learn and just as important, let them know they are special and worthy of a secure and lovely environment. There are nine shelters with Learning Rooms and two more underway.

The program has been the recipient of several awards in recent years. The prestigious Gleitsman Foundation Citizen's Award is given

to those whose vision and courage have inspired others to join with them in confronting and challenging the inequities that face us daily. Agnes Stevens, School on Wheels Founder and Executive Director, received this award at Harvard University in 2004 for her efforts to improve K-12 Public Education. She was also presented with the distinguished Hero's Award from Athletes & Entertainers for Kids in recognition of "outstanding service, leadership and a genuine love for children". *School on Wheels* also received the Children's Freedom Award from the Children's Museum of Los Angeles. In addition, Oprah's Angel Network provided the organization a \$120,000 grant.

The program works in five major regions in Southern California, including Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and Ventura counties, and also has chapters in Indiana and Massachusetts. To learn more or volunteer, please go to their website www.schoolonwheels.org. Thank you, Allyce, for sharing your commitment to this valuable program with us.



DIANA GETS SMART AND JOINS THE SCREEN SMART SET

I became a full voting member of the Screen Smart Set in November 2004, thanks to its President, Mrs. Marlena K. Willis (yes, you-know-who's mother). But first, let me give you some history on this wonderful organization and how it works with the *Motion Picture and Television Fund* (<http://www.mptv-fund.org>).

The *Screen Smart Set Auxiliary* was founded in 1968 by Betty Lou Oppenheim and Lillian McEdward to support the Motion Picture & Television Fund, the entertainment industry's provider of health care, child care, social services and retirement care. In addition to hosting an annual auction and fashion show, the *Screen Smart Set Auxiliary* operates the *Cinema Glamour Shop*.

The *Cinema Glamour Shop* was originally founded as the *Screen Star Thrift Shop* by Mary Pickford in 1930 with two objectives in mind: to provide revenue for the Motion Picture & Television Fund and to help struggling extras and bit players to secure expensive and glamorous clothing at reasonable prices. The shop was renamed with the founding of the *Screen Smart Set Auxiliary* nearly forty years later. Today, the *Cinema Glamour Shop* is a unique boutique, featuring vintage and current designer clothing for men and women, donated by members of the entertainment industry. Clothing comes from such celebrities as Julie Andrews, Rhonda Fleming, Anne Jeffreys, Florence Henderson, and the late Janet Leigh, among others. All volunteers are associated with the entertainment industry, theater and the arts. For more

information on the shop, you can log onto their website at <http://www.cinmaglamourshop.com>.

Annually, the *Screen Smart Set* hosts its biggest luncheon and Celebrity Fashion Show and Auction at the Regent Beverly Wilshire Hotel. I attended the 36th Annual Celebrity Auction which was held on Thursday, September 30, 2004, as a guest of Mrs. Willis. Celebrities such as Betty White, Tippi Hedren (Melanie Griffith's mother), Anne Jeffreys, Constance Towers and Beverly Garland modeled exquisite designer fashions from the *Cinema Glamour Shop*. It was a very glamorous affair that featured clothing from designers St. John, Bob Mackie, Carolina Herrera, Giorgio Armani, Adolfo, Halston, Max Mara, Burberry and more. The highlight of the auction was the opportunity to bid on the gorgeous fashions donated by the late, great actress/dancer Ann Miller. All of the guests were invited to participate in the auction, and many left the event with arms full of bargains and steals! The auction was hosted by Budd Friedman, founder of the renowned comedy club *The Improv*. His wife Alix is the co-first vice president of the *Screen Smart Set*.

The Screen Smart Set Celebrity Fashion Show and Auction also featured a beautiful display of over 400 fabulous boutique treasures such as jewelry, collectibles, artwork, clothing, purses, scarves and other distinctive accessories...all available for purchase. I bought a few pieces of jewelry that I am



Actress Tippi Hedren modeling at the Celebrity Fashion Show and Auction.

thrilled to own and I'm happy to know that I am doing my part in supporting a great cause.

At the event, the *Screen Smart Set* presents the prestigious Mary Pickford Achievement Award to deserving individuals who have made significant contributions to the entertainment industry. At the *36th Annual Celebrity Auction*, actor/comedian Bob Newhart was honored. Past recipients for this award include Jimmy Stewart, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., Lucille Ball, Janet Leigh, Burt Reynolds, Delores Hope, Tom Selleck, Angela Lansbury, Rhonda Fleming, Donald O'Connor, Betty White, Bruce Willis and Merv Griffin, just to name a few. Our next annual auction will be held on October 12, 2005, at the Regent Beverly Wilshire.



Every two months, the *Screen Smart Set* holds a luncheon as a way to raise money for the *Motion Picture and Television Fund*. I was fortunate enough to attend our first luncheon of the year which was held at Maggiano's Little Italy in Los Angeles on Wednesday, February 9, 2005. There I met Greta Peck (the first Mrs. Gregory Peck) and actress Jane Withers. Another actress I met, who will be a member by the time you read this, was Nadia Bjorlin. Nadia is currently starring in *Days of Our Lives* as Chloe Lane and she is a very popular character on the show. I am not surprised as she is very beautiful and she carries herself with such grace. She shared with me that she shot a comedy pilot for Fox (*Barenaked Ladies Variety Show*) and that she guest-starred in

an episode of the new John Stamos comedy *Jake in Progress* on ABC. I wish her much luck and I will be keeping an eye on her career as I'm sure she will go far.

The guest speaker at the event was Michael Klausman, President of the CBS Studio Center and Senior Vice President of West Coast Operations and Engineering for the CBS Television Center. He spoke about his support for the *Motion Picture and Television Fund* and how he planned to help the *Screen Smart Set* with their fundraising goals.

The next luncheon was held on Wednesday, April 13, 2005 at the Wilshire Country Club. The guest speaker was producer A.C. Lyles, who was also a longtime executive at Paramount Pictures. During the Reagan and Bush administrations, he also functioned as a Hollywood liaison, recruiting celebrities

to entertain at the White House and other presidential functions. Mr. Lyles was honored with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 1988, located in front of the El Capitan Theatre. He shared many great stories of his life and years in the motion picture industry and we thank him for that and for his support.

As we are now preparing for our annual auction on October 12, 2005, the *Cinema Glamour Shop* is always looking for great donations. If you are cleaning out your closet and you have clothing, jewelry, accessories, art work, etc., please consider making your tax-deductible donation to *Cinema Glamour Shop*. You can contact the office at **323-936-9060** for more information on how to do so.



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