

Kiwanis Honors Oak Avenue Intermediate School Students

Ethan Ma, Christiana Teets, Kianna Li, and Ethan Fung

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The Kiwanis Club of Temple City recognized four outstanding students from Oak Avenue Intermediate School. Accompanying the students were Oak teachers Mrs. Marta Bourjeili and Mr. Andrew Villegas.

Ethan is 13 years old and in Mrs. Bourjeili's class. He has an older sister and enjoys art, illustration and animation, and learning new things. Ethan said, "The best things about Oak Avenue are all the wonderful teachers, the embracement of people of different racial backgrounds, and the comfortable environment that always makes you feel at home." The best thing that ever happened is having a sister that reminds him that he is not alone. If he could change one thing, it would be to improve gun control. If he could build one thing, it would be a homeless shelter to give people a second chance in life. Personal goals are to have an extensive education including college and grad school, emerge as a successful person, and pursue his interest in the arts and creativity.

Christiana is 13 years old and in Mr. Yu's class. She has a younger sister and enjoys playing soccer, reading books, and writing poetry. Christiana said, "The best things about Oak Avenue are helpful teacher's, clean campus, and the bully-free environment." The best thing that ever happened was when her sister was born. If she could change one thing, it would be to end world hunger. If she could build one thing, it would be giant sprinkler to help people with no water. Personal goals are to get into a good college, to live life to the fullest, and become the best person she can be.

Kianna is 12 years old and in Mr. Villegas' class. She has a younger brother and enjoys reading, swimming, biking, running, skiing, violin, and karate. Kianna said, "The best things about Oak Avenue are great interactive teachers and staff, the welcoming students, and the interesting electives." The best thing that ever happened was when her brother was born because it made her more motherly, kind and caring. If she could change one thing, it would be to help global child hunger. If she could build one thing, it would be a portal to transport food, education, and health to the less fortunate. Personal goals are to be more active in society by volunteering, change people's lives for the better with inspiration, and to help those that cannot help themselves.

Ethan is 13 years old and in Mr. Villegas' class. He has a younger brother and enjoys basketball, math, violin, reading, track and field, long jump, and snowboarding. Ethan said, "The best things about Oak Avenue are the good teachers, nice students, and the big campus." The best thing that ever happened was being introduced to basketball. If he could change one thing, it would be the way people judge others. If he could build one thing, it would be a highly efficient, but cheap, solar cell. Personal goals are to get into a good college, play Division One basketball, and make the track team in college.

Each week the Temple City Kiwanis Club is pleased to recognize outstanding students and their teachers from Cloverly, Emperor, Longden, Oak Avenue, Temple City High School, and the Dr. Doug Sears Learning Center. Kiwanis treats students and their teacher to lunch. Students receive a certificate, a letter for their parents, a bumper sticker, a gift certificate from The Hat Restaurant and North Woods Inn, and a photograph of them receiving their award. Their photo and story will be posted on the Temple City Unified School District website and on their Facebook page.

Temple City Kiwanis has been serving our community since 1939. Members are dedicated men and women who desire to make a difference in the quality of life for the youth of Temple City. Kiwanis meets at 12:00 noon each Tuesday at North Wood's Inn Restaurant. To find out more about Kiwanis, please contact Jerry Jambazian at (626) 643-9460. You can also visit their website at www.templecitykiwanis.org.