

Meeting Date: 5-9-06

AGENDA REPORT

Agenda Item # 4A

Santa Clara

City of Santa Clara, California



DATE: March 29, 2006

TO: City Manager for Council Action

FROM: Chief of Police

SUBJECT: Special Order of Business to Present the "Those Who Inspire" Recognition Award to David Ladd Anderson

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In December 2005, the City Council established the "Those Who Inspire" Recognition Award to honor community members who have distinguished themselves for activity significantly above and beyond the norm of community activism, and/or for exceptional performance and leadership under the ideals of the City's Code of Ethics and Values.

As you can see from the description of his inspiring actions, initiative and dedication to benefit the community of Santa Clara, David Ladd Anderson is an exceptionally worthy nominee for this Award (see attached).

ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF ISSUE:

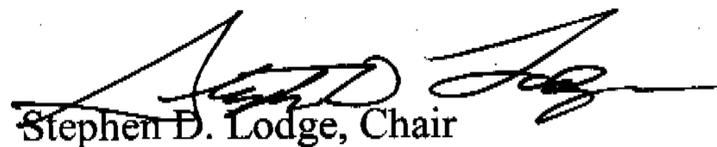
A well-deserving member of the Santa Clara community will receive special recognition for his outstanding service to the members of our community for many years.

ECONOMIC/FISCAL IMPACT:

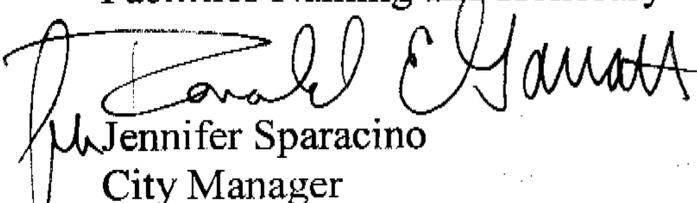
The economic impact is limited to the costs of the individual and perpetual plaques.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Council present David Ladd Anderson with this year's "Those Who Inspire" Recognition Award plaque for his outstanding service to the youth of our community.


Stephen D. Lodge, Chair

Facilities Naming and Honorary Recognition Ad Hoc Committee


Jennifer Sparacino
City Manager

Documents Related to this Report:

1) Summary of David Ladd Anderson's Community Accomplishments

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'Those Who Inspire' Recognition Award
David Ladd Anderson

Santa Clara resident Kristi Wright has submitted an application and petition of support (signed by more than 100 students, parents and other residents of Santa Clara) nominating Mr. David Ladd Anderson as the recipient of Santa Clara's 'Those Who Inspire' Recognition Award. Highlights of Ms. Wright's nomination are summarized below.

For the past 15 years, David Ladd has been one of the South Bay's premiere music educators. Under his inspirational leadership, the music department at Buchser Middle School in Santa Clara has grown into one of the premiere programs in the Bay Area and, in 2004, won the Hoffman Award for the best music department in California.

Seven years ago, David formed **Déjà vu**, a Jazz Big Band made up of former Buchser Middle School students as well as the best and brightest 7th and 8th grade musicians under his tutelage. This band excels at competitions and has built an excellent reputation for nurturing talented youth towards promising musical careers.

Buchser bands are well-known for excellence and regularly perform both inside and outside of Silicon Valley. They are featured at numerous City of Santa Clara events every year, and were the only band to perform for thousands of Santa Clara residents during the July 4th Extravaganza, just before the City-sponsored Fireworks display. David's Symphonic and Jazz bands have played at Disneyland's "Magic Music Days" and his Jazz bands have toured in Monterey and participated in the Sacramento Jubilee, the largest traditional jazz festival in the United States. In 2004, six youth jazz bands from the United States were invited to perform at the French Quarter Festival in New Orleans - and Buchser Music earned three of those coveted six spots!

In 2005, "Mr. A" was voted Jazz Educator of the Year by his peer educators in the San Jose Jazz Society, and has been nominated for the 2006 Disneyland Teacher Award, which celebrates creativity in teaching and the ability to inspire. For the past two years, Buchser's Déjà vu and Advanced jazz bands have received the highest possible scores at all Youth Competitions they have participated in (including the California Music Education Association Competitions). Mr. A's youth jazz bands also record a CD each year.

David inspires his students daily to be the best that they can be. He is the founder and conductor of the Avant Flute Choir, a student ensemble of advanced flute players affiliated with the San Jose Youth Symphony. Additionally, a music class initiated and conducted by David for developmentally challenged individuals is now in its seventh year, and these "Rhythm Makers" give an inspirational performance annually at Villa Montalvo.

Enthusiastic testimonials received from numerous past and present David Ladd Anderson music students extol his many great qualities and affirm the "lasting and positive impact" this "all around cool guy" has had on hundreds of youth in our City!

The City of Santa Clara is proud to present you with its "Those Who Inspire" Recognition Award -
Congratulations, David!