PAVING THE WAY TO HEALTHY COMMUNITIES
MISSION STATEMENT
The Tony Hawk Foundation seeks to foster lasting improvements in society, with an emphasis on supporting and empowering youth. Through special events, grants, and technical assistance, the Foundation supports recreational programs focusing on the creation of public skateboard parks in low-income communities, and other causes in the U.S. and overseas. The Foundation favors programs that clearly demonstrate that funds received will produce tangible, ongoing, positive results.

Number Of Skateparks Receiving THF Technical Assistance:
2,000 IN OVER 50 COUNTRIES

1:22
The Tony Hawk Foundation’s $5-million in donations to 534 community skatepark projects since 2002 has helped leverage over $112-million in capital improvements for low-income communities across the U.S.

1080 Skatepark Square Footage Built Per Day With Contributions From THF
FROM THE FOUNDER

More than ten years after establishing this foundation, and having helped fund over 500 skate parks, it’s clear that we’re in this for the long haul. The work is nowhere near being done. With only about 3,000 skate parks across the U.S. and another 9,000 needed to meet the current need, we’ll be busy for decades to come!

We knew when we started in 2002 that skate parks are a great outlet for youth who need a safe, sanctioned place to skate, and whom we should encourage to get outside, be active, and learn to push themselves. But what we’ve learned in recent years is just how transformative skate parks can be for entire communities.

When I visited the Ride It Sculpture Park in Detroit, Michigan this summer, I looked forward to testing out the park’s terrain. What I didn’t expect was to see an entire neighborhood rising above the challenges the city has become so famous for.

Once the industrial hub of the United States, Detroit’s seen its economy collapse and its population shrink from a high of almost 2 million residents to now just over 700,000. Huge areas of the city are abandoned, and those residents brave enough to stay (or unable to leave) are seeing their neighborhoods literally go up in flames.

But some Detroiters are finding imaginative ways to save their communities and to rebuild what’s fallen down. Nowhere is that more apparent than in the Power House neighborhood in north-central Detroit, where a group of skaters and artists have adopted abandoned homes, given some of them thematic makeovers, and on a couple of empty lots they’ve built a skatepark.

The Ride It Sculpture Park is just part of the Power House neighborhood’s renaissance, but it’s the most vital component. Old-time Detroiters, the artists and skaters who’ve moved in, and immigrant families for whom everything is new all come together at the skatepark. Whether they come by to skate or just watch the local kids mix it up with the visitors, it’s the one part of the neighborhood that they all truly share. And they share it with everyone.

Drop in to the Ride It Sculpture Park on any given day, and you’ll see Bangladeshi kids from the neighborhood, kids from across town, tourists who’ve read about it and have come from all corners of the globe, the Power House crew who helped build it, and occasionally even yours truly.

There’s a magic about skate parks that makes everyone welcome—whether you’re a beginner or pro, from the area or not. It’s like a universal neutral space, where even non-skaters who want to check out the action (and maybe even cheer on the kids in the park) are encouraged to come in and get involved. They’re great places for kids to really test themselves, learn to overcome challenges, get to know one-another, and get some exercise. As I’ve come to learn, they’re also great places to build communities. Or in the case of Detroit, to re-build a community.

I love that after more than ten years of helping bring skate parks to kids all over the U.S., I’m still learning more about the impact they can have. It goes way beyond just the kids. The positive effects of a well planned, robust and lively skatepark impact us all. So, as we work to bring the benefits of skateboarding and skate parks to youth in challenged communities, we continue to learn and integrate our new understanding into what we teach those advocates.

A skatepark can’t return Detroit to what it once was, but it can be one part of its transformation into something new and vibrant. And if it can do that for Detroit, imagine what a skatepark can do in your community.

"I LOVE THAT AFTER MORE THAN TEN YEARS OF HELPING BRING SKATEPARKS TO KIDS ALL OVER THE U.S., I'M STILL LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE IMPACT THEY CAN HAVE."
WHY SKATEPARKS?

In his adolescent years, Tony Hawk considered the local skatepark his home away from home and skateboarding the sport that delivered him into a tight community, shaping his character and teaching him lessons in leadership, perseverance, and taking initiative.

Today, Tony’s two greatest passions are children and skateboarding. In recent years skateboarding has grown to include over 6.3 million participants, yet only about 3,000 skateparks are available for them to ride. Most skaters ride wherever they can—in the streets, in parking lots, and just about anywhere they aren’t chased from. Community groups and civic leaders have identified skateparks as an answer to the lack of suitable places to ride. But most city officials have no idea how to properly develop a skatepark, or even where to start.

After receiving thousands of e-mails from parents and children across America who either did not have a safe, legal place to skate or were ostracized from their community and in some cases arrested for skating on public property, Tony decided to establish a foundation whose mission would be to serve this population. He wanted to help them develop quality places to practice the sport that gives them much needed exercise and a sense of self-esteem. So in 2002 he established the Tony Hawk Foundation, financed the organization with a personal gift, and assembled a Board of Directors that represents a diverse range of backgrounds and expertise.

COMMUNITY GROUPS AND CIVIC LEADERS HAVE IDENTIFIED SKATEPARKS AS AN ANSWER TO THE LACK OF SUITABLE PLACES TO RIDE.
Since 2002 the Tony Hawk Foundation has been fulfilling its mission to help young people by issuing grants to low income communities building quality public skateparks, and providing guidance to city officials, parents, and children through the process. In the past twelve years the foundation has awarded over $5 million to 534 public skatepark projects across the United States.

To date, 443 Tony Hawk Foundation grant recipients have opened their skateparks, which receive an estimated 4 million visits annually. With the remaining 91 grant recipients scheduled to open their parks in the next twelve months, there will be an estimated 4.8 million visits annually to skateparks that received financial aid and development guidance from the Tony Hawk Foundation.

The Tony Hawk Foundation supports disadvantaged communities and at risk children. We are the only national grant making organization focused solely on the development and financing of free, quality public skateparks.

The process of developing their local skatepark encourages and teaches young people how to make positive changes within their own communities.

We know that skateparks provide a safe and inspiring avenue for skaters to practice and excel at their sport, and that the process of developing their local skatepark encourages and teaches young people how to make positive changes within their own communities.

The Tony Hawk Foundation works with municipalities and community groups to help them realize their dream of a quality public skatepark in their community. For Tony Hawk, skateboarding was a healthy outlet and a recreational challenge, and it provided a social group of creative, like-minded individuals. It was also a sport that helped him build confidence, taught him to persevere, and through his mentoring of younger skaters helped him develop leadership skills. The Tony Hawk Foundation works every day to be able to bring these same lessons to youth throughout the world.
PROGRAMS

The primary focus of the Tony Hawk Foundation is to help facilitate the development of free, high quality public skateparks in low income areas by providing information and guidance on the skatepark development process, and through financial grants. While not all skatepark projects meet the grant criteria, the Tony Hawk Foundation strives to help communities in other ways to achieve the best possible skateparks that will satisfy the needs of local skaters, provide them a safe, enjoyable place to ride, and promote healthy, active lifestyles.

THF also supports international programs that enhance the lives of youth through skateboarding.

Below are some of the programs and services administered by the Tony Hawk Foundation.

Technical Assistance

Tony Hawk Foundation staff fields an average of 400 e-mails and phone calls each month. The following are some typical issues THF addresses:
- Getting a skatepark project started
- Lobbying local government
- Liability insurance
- Raising community awareness
- Creating a nonprofit organization
- Fundraising
- Applying for a grant
- Choosing a skatepark designer and/or contractor

Foundation staff can be reached by e-mail at contact@tonyhawkfoundation.org or by calling (760) 477 2479.

Grants

The Tony Hawk Foundation Board Of Directors reviews grant applications twice a year and issues grants based on merit and available funds. They give preference to grassroots projects in disadvantaged communities where children have limited recreational opportunities or access to existing skateparks. They also favor projects that demonstrate strong skater involvement.

Tony Hawk Foundation grants typically range from $5,000 to $25,000. In 2013, the THF staff and Board Of Directors reviewed 56 applications and awarded 23 grants, totaling $766,000. More information about the Tony Hawk Foundation Grant Program is available online at www.tonyhawkfoundation.org.

PUBLIC SKATEPARK DEVELOPMENT GUIDE

This collaboration between the Tony Hawk Foundation, the nonprofit Skaters For Public Skateparks, and the International Association of Skateboard Companies (IASC) is the definitive guide for skatepark advocates and city or parks officials pursuing a new public skatepark. Written by THF Programs Director Peter Whitley, the PSDG draws from the collective wisdom of dozens of veteran skatepark advocates. This robust online resource is full of in-depth information and illustrations that cover topics ranging from the skatepark vision, advocacy, fundraising, design, and management.

Previously available only in print form, the entire contents of the Public Skatepark Development Guide, plus volumes of additional materials, can be accessed online at www.publicskateparkguide.org.
**American Falls is a small town of 5,000** in Southeast Idaho that presents an idyllic rural setting. Sitting along the banks of the Snake River, American Falls draws tourists and sightseers alike. Nevertheless, modest tourism hasn’t been a boon for the local economy, and many American Falls residents struggle with limited job opportunities.

In spite of a slow local economy, the town continues to grow by attracting people seeking a quiet place to call home. American Falls is trying to keep up with growing recreational demands while working with a local median household income that’s a mere 82% of the statewide median.

It wouldn’t seem like skateboarding would be a natural fit for a town like this. American Falls, however, is an outdoor community that values its fresh air and healthy recreation. It’s for these reasons that the local youth were able to deliver a skatepark message that resonated with the community.

Through careful planning, diligent research, and lots of legwork, advocates were soon on the cusp of obtaining their new skatepark. There was just one problem. The city was opting for a few prefabricated ramps that would be installed on an existing slab of concrete.

The skaters understood that, for the rigors of a public skatepark, a wood and steel prop up skatepark simply wouldn’t do. With the help of the Tony Hawk Foundation, American Falls skatepark advocates corrected their town’s skatepark vision and developed a more durable plan. Properly weighing the pros and cons of steel ramps, the community committed to a permanent concrete skatepark.

This decision changed the scope of their project and catalyzed the community. Instead of a “good enough” skatepark, American Falls would have a superior facility. City leaders and local advocates recognized that any capital improvement should be sustainable and aim to meet the needs of future generations, so they increased their budget and stepped up their fundraising. This is the kind of ambition that the Tony Hawk Foundation loves to see from local youth.

The money came in slow at first, but in time they were able to apply for (and earn) a Tony Hawk Foundation grant. The grant brought additional attention to the project, and within a few months it was completely funded. “The skatepark gave the community a reason to join together,” said local advocate Lisa Leyshon.

Today, American Falls has a 5,200 square foot concrete skatepark for its 5,000 residents, making it one of the highest skatepark per resident service levels in the nation. The town and its committed skatepark advocates are living testaments to the power of careful planning, the willingness to reconsider decisions, and unwavering commitment to seek the best solution to a community need.

SUCCESS STORY: AMERICAN FALLS, IDAHO

“THE SKATEPARK GAVE THE COMMUNITY A REASON TO JOIN TOGETHER.”
—LISA LEYSHON
10 WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT SKATEPARKS

No skatepark has ever been built without support, and that support can come in many forms. Every skatepark advocate has met people who “support” the project in philosophical terms and that is appreciated but there are lots of other ways to help. We know that, like us, you’d love to see more skateparks, but how you support them will depend on your time, capabilities, and resources.

A skatepark is usually the result of a multi-year effort, requiring sustained campaigning by its central proponents. A strong show of moral support can raise flagging spirits and inject fresh enthusiasm into a project. No amount of support, great or small/tangible or intangible, should be dismissed as unsubstantial. All of it is important to the advocacy group.

Even an encouraging word can provide the needed strength to get the next task done. Simply recognizing that there’s a skatepark effort in your community is meaningful.

Here are 10 things you can do today to support your local skateboarders and skatepark advocates:

1. Recognize Local Skatepark Efforts
Find out what skatepark projects are happening in your area. While you may not be able to help them directly, knowing that there’s an effort happening nearby may allow you to make a valuable introduction later.

2. Offer Encouragement
When you meet local skaters and advocates who are involved in the project, a kind or encouraging word is a great way to reward them for their volunteerism. They will appreciate it.

3. Like and Share
Most skatepark groups use Facebook to broadcast their activities. You can help amplify their reach by Liking and Sharing their messages via Facebook or any number of social media outlets. Putting your name behind a post from the skatepark group endorses their efforts to your valuable circle of Friends and Followers. Even more valuable is making a donation (in any amount) to the skatepark fund, and sharing the fact that you made a donation on your social media channels.

4. Write a Letter
A letter of support is a terrific way of substantiating your support for the skatepark project. The advocacy group is probably maintaining a folder of these letters, and they will be useful at critical junctures in the process.

5. Help Spread the Word
If you are staying up to date with the skatepark project’s successes and challenges, it’s helpful to share this information with people who may be less informed. When you have the opportunity to help someone relate to the skatepark project, it builds a base of support.

6. Make Introductions
You may not be able to help directly, but you certainly know someone who can. Introducing a potential donor to the skatepark advocates is as valuable to the project as donating money yourself.

7. Lend Your Services
Your professional skills can be invaluable to a skatepark group. Web sites, marketing, photography, correspondence, and social media all take time and energy to maintain. You may have the ability to provide services that don’t fit a direct need, but perhaps there is commercial value in these that can be auctioned during a fundraising event.

8. Seek Funding
Working directly with the skatepark advocacy group, helping them identify potential sources of funding is a huge contribution. Grant writers and individuals with ties to regional industries often become the catalysts for converting the skatepark from an idea into reality.

9. Donate
All donations to a skatepark project, large or small, are appreciated. For every five dollars you donate, it’s five dollars that doesn’t need to come from somewhere else! Don’t have a local skatepark effort to donate to? Then why not donate to the Tony Hawk Foundation and help youth access skateparks and skateboarding programs around the world?

10. Start a New Skatepark Effort!
Starting something new is a big, bold step in involvement!
Contact us at contact@tonyhawkfoundation.org or visit www.publicskateparkguide.org to plot your course.
Most people imagine Southern California as the essence of skateboarding lifestyle. The weather is always cooperative, there is ample concrete, and decades of exposure has created a social acceptance of this “daredevil” activity. Unfortunately, only two of these things are true. Skateboarders in Southern California are exposed to the same stereotyping and harassment as their peers in every other state.

As a coastal community with about 175,000 residents, Oceanside is a quintessential skateboarding town. Tourists flock to the local skate shops to complete their vacation experience with a skateboard for the beach path, or to enjoy one of three local public skateparks. Oceanside is a good place to skate, but it wasn’t always so.

Not long ago, skaters recognized their need for somewhere to practice their sport. Local leaders also knew that the skateparks would help draw kids off the streets, away from the heavily trafficked tourist areas, and into sanctioned park spaces where they could safely skate to their hearts’ content. It was the start of something big.

As in most communities across the country, the skateparks weren’t achieved without a long and persistent effort by local skaters and their supporters. What was different in Oceanside, however, is that once the need was understood and accepted by local leadership, the plan quickly evolved from one local skatepark to a network of up to seven municipal skateparks.

Beginning in 2008, Oceanside has so far built three skateparks, geographically well distributed throughout the sprawling city. The latest is the celebrated Alex Road Skatepark, funded in part by a $25,000 grant from the Tony Hawk Foundation. “The Tony Hawk Foundation helped create validity for our projects,” said Oceanside Parks Development Manager Nathan Mertz. “Having the support of the Tony Hawk Foundation, the community perception was that we were not operating in a vacuum.”

Alex Road is a 22,000 square foot wonderland, offering terrain to suit every skateboarding taste, and connected to the bustling downtown by an easily accessible bike path. Since its opening in early 2013, the only serious complaint is that the skatepark is too popular. Those who like to have more space to skate tend to arrive early because shortly after school lets out, the park is a bustling hive of activity.

While Alex Road and the city’s other skateparks may not have gotten every Oceanside skateboarder off the streets, they’re the city’s most popular recreational facilities, and represent a significant step in the right direction. “The skateparks are a great asset for the community,” said Mertz. “They’re something for people to be proud of, something that provides a consistent, dependable outlet for physical activity, and places to meet up with friends and meet new people.”

Oceanside addressed a serious issue in a serious way, and found a solution that will benefit residents, tourists, and the local business community for years to come.

SUCCESS STORY: OCEANSIDE, CALIFORNIA

“THE SKATEPARKS ARE A GREAT ASSET FOR THE COMMUNITY. THEY’RE SOMETHING FOR PEOPLE TO BE PROUD OF, SOMETHING THAT PROVIDES A CONSISTENT, DEPENDABLE OUTLET FOR PHYSICAL ACTIVITY, AND PLACES TO MEET UP WITH FRIENDS AND MEET NEW PEOPLE.”

—NATHAN MERTZ
2002–2013 GRANT RECIPIENTS

As public skateparks grow in popularity, so does the need for funding. In 2013, the Tony Hawk Foundation awarded 23 grants to skatepark projects in 16 states, totaling $766,000.

To-date (2002–2013), THF has awarded over $5-million to 534 skatepark projects in all 50 states, plus the District of Columbia. THF staff have also provided Technical Assistance to more than 2,000 skatepark projects in over 50 countries.
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**DONORS AND SPONSORS**

**$500,000+**
- Ken & Carol Schultz Foundation

**$100,000+**
- California Endowment
- Anonymous

**$50,000 to $99,999**
- Gumball 3000
- Starkey Hearing Foundation

**$25,000 to $49,999**
- Cantor Fitzgerald Relief Fund
- Exhibit IQ, Inc.
- Kohl’s Department Stores
- The Stanley E. Hanson Foundation
- Activation
- Dynacraft BSC, Inc.
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- Steve Van Doren
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- Gerard Cappello
- Bell Family Foundation
- Bell Sports, Inc.
- Brotman Foundation Of California
- Chris Saca
- Court Coursey
- Housing Authority, City of LA

**TRIBUTE**

- Barbara Krick
- Tribute to Michael Krick
- Benjamin Frazier
- Tribute to Aaron Ruark
- Michele Smith
- Tribute to Ben Harper
- Andrea Bibelheimer
- Tribute to Tim and Miles Bibelheimer
- Krista Tetreault
- Tribute to Tim and Miles Bibelheimer
- Jill Siegel
- Tribute to Michael Siskind
- Gregory Ware
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- Kim Goodman
- Tribute to Daniel Shriver
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- Kent Bruntz
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- Tribute to Lee Kobrick
- Michael Clanton
- Tribute to William Clanton

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- sbe Entertainment Group
- Kohl’s Department Stores
- Sweetwater Video Productions
- off the cuff
- Clif Bar & Co.
- SIGG Water Bottles
- HEXBUG
- Nican
- AQHa, Hydrate
- Diagun Chateau and Estate Wines
- Gary Arnold
- FlipPizzi
- Skates One
- Stone Brewery
GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

The Tony Hawk Foundation invites individuals, corporations, and other foundations to take advantage of a variety of ways to support its work. In addition to cash donations, individuals may make contributions through one or more of the following giving opportunities. As a public charity, contributions to the Tony Hawk Foundation are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

To make a donation to the Tony Hawk Foundation, visit www.tonyhawkfoundation.org/donate

Employer-Matching Contributions And Employee Giving Programs
Through your workplace, you may be eligible to make a gift to the Tony Hawk Foundation and have your employer match that amount at the same time! Double your contribution and your impact, inquire about matching gifts at your workplace. Ask your Human Resources Manager if your company offers a Matching Gifts Program or an Employee Giving Program. Your inquiry will help to spread the word about the important work of the Tony Hawk Foundation and may lead to your company’s support as well.

Tributes And Memorials
Make a meaningful gift to honor someone’s memory, recognize a friend’s accomplishment, or celebrate a relative’s birthday with a tribute or memorial donation to the Tony Hawk Foundation. Acknowledgement letters for tribute and memorial gifts are sent directly to the recipient, and you receive a letter for tax purposes for your donation.

In-Kind Donations
The Tony Hawk Foundation welcomes in-kind donations of goods and pro-bono services that will contribute to our overall fundraising efforts and mission. The Live and Silent Auctions at our annual Stand Up For Skateparks benefits are popular among our celebrity guests and donors, and we welcome your donation of unique items and experiences.

PayPal Giving Fund
The Tony Hawk Foundation is registered with the PayPal Giving Fund, eBay’s charity service that allows eBay Sellers to give proceeds from their sales to a favorite nonprofit organization. For more information, visit www.paypalgivingfund.org.

Stand Up For Skateparks
Join us at our annual Stand Up For Skateparks benefit in Beverly Hills! This exclusive, fun-filled, family-centric event features great food, games, activities, live music, and a Vert Demo with Tony and a host of top Skate and BMX pros, and all proceeds benefit the Tony Hawk Foundation. Visit www.standupforskateparks.org for more details and ticket info.

For Stand Up For Skateparks Sponsorship Opportunities, to make a donation to the Tony Hawk Foundation, or to find out other ways you can support our work, contact Lily Schwimmer: (760) 477-2479, lily@tonyhawkfoundation.org

Donations should be made payable to Tony Hawk Foundation and sent to the following address:

Tony Hawk Foundation
1611-A S. Melrose Dr. #360
Vista, CA 92081

Your tax-deductible donation will be acknowledged by e-mail.
For more information, visit our Web site at www.tonyhawkfoundation.org
SKATEPARKS ACTIVATE YOUTH

Skateboarding is a healthy alternative.

The evidence is clear—kids today are less active than they were a few years ago, and it’s affecting their health. They spend more time indoors and less time participating in physical activities that provide much needed exercise. Today, 17% of children and adolescents in the U.S. are obese, a number that has tripled since 1980.

While the general trend is alarming enough, children in low income families are particularly at risk. They have less access to costly organized sports leagues and equipment, and less opportunity to travel to parks or fields to exercise. Obesity has become a critical national priority, with long term health risks, including but not limited to heart disease, high cholesterol, depression, and even cancer.

Skateboarding is a low cost solution to this national health epidemic. It’s healthy, it’s athletic, and most importantly, it’s fun. If kids enjoy exercising, chances are they’ll do it more. And if they exercise more, they’ll be in better health—with more energy, greater self-esteem, and even improved academic performance.

In addition to the direct health benefits, research even suggests that skateboarding can help keep teens out of trouble. A 2006 study found that skateboarders are less likely to smoke cigarettes, have sex, and skip school.

Today, 6.3 million youth participate in skateboarding. Recognizing this trend, many high schools across the U.S. are contributing to skateboarding’s population explosion, incorporating skateboarding into their physical education programs, clubs, and after-school curricula.

With 443 of the 534 skate parks the Tony Hawk Foundation has awarded grants to since 2002 now open, children are currently making an estimated 4 million visits annually and enjoying creative exercise at these facilities, and city and recreation officials routinely report that their new skatepark is by far the most popular facility they operate.

When planned carefully, with the help of skatepark professionals and local skaters, a public skatepark does so much more than give the kids some place to play. It gives them somewhere to grow and develop healthy life styles. But as far as they’re concerned, it’s just a place to enjoy themselves.

17% OF CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS IN THE U.S. ARE OBSESE, A NUMBER THAT HAS TRIPLED SINCE 1980.

4. “Physical Activity and Sedentary Behavior Patterns are Associated with Selected Adolescent Health Risk Behaviors,” PEDIATRICS, Vol 117 No. 4, April 2006.
5. National Sporting Goods Association (nsga.org)
If you live in a small town in Oklahoma and enjoy skateboarding, your only options are likely to be a parking lot or your own garage. With fewer than 4,000 residents and being nearly 50 miles from the nearest city, Heavener could easily be considered a lousy place to be a skateboarder. That is, until the new skatepark was built.

Despite its remote location and small size, Heavener has a booming skate community. Its local white, Latino, and Choctaw youth find they have at least one thing in common at the skatepark. Since its opening in May 2013, this small 7,000 square foot park has enjoyed constant use. The number of skaters at the park seems improbable for this small town, yet it has become a landmark for local youth seeking recreational opportunities, and a place to meet people with similar interests.

The skatepark’s impact goes far deeper than simply a place to hang out. For some individuals struggling in school and facing problems at home, the skatepark provides refuge, and the community of skaters there offers a culture of camaraderie. For these youth, the skatepark is literally a life saver.

Lisa Fabian is the Heavener resident who led the skatepark effort. As Director of the Nashoba Youth Foundation, she worked tirelessly to raise awareness, support, and funds for not just the Heavener skatepark, but for a second skatepark in Poteau, just a few miles away! “The skatepark is improving quality of life for these kids and empowering them to live life to its fullest,” said Lisa Fabian. “It’s a positive, safe place where they have a sense of self worth and belonging.”

SUCCESS STORY: HEAVENER, OKLAHOMA

“THE SKATEPARK IS IMPROVING QUALITY OF LIFE FOR THESE KIDS AND EMPOWERING THEM TO LIVE LIFE TO ITS FULLEST.” —LISA FABIAN
TONY HAWK AND FRIENDS CELEBRATE THE 10TH ANNUAL STAND UP FOR SKATEPARKS

Saturday, 5 October 2013

It was just over 90 degrees in Los Angeles, but that didn’t stop the throngs from coming out to celebrate the 10th Annual Tony Hawk’s Stand Up For Skateparks Benefit Presented by SLS Hotel & Casino Las Vegas at the Green Acres Estate in Beverly Hills. Heating up the day was the Vert Demo, where a crowd of 1,000 watched in awe as action-sports luminaries Tony Hawk, Andy Macdonald, Tom Schara, Elliot Sloan, Kevin Staab, Mitchie Brusco, Lizzie Armanto, and BMXer Coco Zurita performed an X Games-style demo on Tony’s personal ramp! The excitement of the Vert Demo was followed by a sizzling live musical performance by Grammy nominee Modest Mouse.

Tony Hawk’s Stand Up For Skateparks is a family-friendly event, which began in 2004 with a mission to raise funds to help empower at-risk youth through the creation of free, quality public skateparks in low-income communities across the U.S. This year’s action-packed, star-studded spectacle was attended by some of the most recognized names in entertainment and action sports: Tony Alva, Chris Cole, Maximillion Cooper, Fred Durst, Rob Dyrdek, Jason Ellis, Mike “Rooftop” Escamilla, Perry and Etty Farrell, Colin Ford, Willie Garson, Brian Austin Green, Ben Harper, Corbin Harris, Mat Hoffman, Olivia Holt, Nyjah Huston, Eve Jihan, Jason Lee, Chuck Liddell, Chris and Kyle Massey, Modest Mouse, Rodney Mullen, Lauren Potter, Dylan...
Riley Snyder, Mike Vallely, Bill Walton, Stevie Williams, and others.

With a decade of successful events under its belt, this year’s Tony Hawk’s Stand Up For Skateparks raised $860,000, including $20,000 to help complete a skate-park in Detroit, Michigan.

“Ten years ago, we started Stand Up For Skateparks in a bowling alley for an event that was attended by a few hundred people and was mostly met with curiosity,” said Tony Hawk. “Today, I am honored and humbled to see how the event has grown. It has become a staple for top-notch sponsors, celebrities, and athletes who support the Foundation’s mission to provide free, quality skateparks in low-income communities. Their support brings awareness to the need for positive outlets for kids in these communities, and it truly makes a difference. I am beyond grateful.”

The 10th Annual Tony Hawk’s Stand Up For Skateparks benefit was made successful through the generosity and support of SLS Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, Kohl’s, Starkey Hearing Foundation, Activision, Bravo Sports, Clif Kid, Dynacraft, HEXbug, Lexus, Nixon, ololoclip, SIGG, Sweetwater, The Yucaipa Companies, and RIDE Channel.

The event was Co-Chaired by Tony Hawk and award-winning actor, director and screenwriter, Jon Favreau. Other Benefit Committee members include Ron Burkle, Chantal and Stephen J. Cloobeck, Patrick Dempsey, Fred Durst, Leeza Gibbons, Bobby Kotick, Jason Lee, Tommy Lee, Chuck Liddell, Howie Mandel, Rodney Mullen, Sam Nazarian, Lyn-Z and Travis Pastrana, Christian Slater, Steve Van Doren, Mark Wahlberg, Lori and Bill Walton, Shaun White, and DJ-Z-Trip.

The 2014 Tony Hawk’s Stand Up For Skateparks benefit is set for Sunday, September 21. Don’t miss it! Info and tickets are available at www.standupforskatepark.org.
Tony Hawk, Founder and President
His long history and success as a professional skateboarder helped Tony pursue a career with worldwide reach. In 1982 he founded the renowned Birdhouse Skateboards brand, which he still owns and operates today. The most recognized action-sports figure in the world, Tony is also President of Tony Hawk Inc., a worldwide leader in action-sports video games, merchandise, events, endorsements, and film and digital media. He regularly appears on television and in films, hosts a weekly show on XMCD Radio and SiriusXM, and his YouTube channel takes his talent on the road with the Birdhouse Skateboards team. Tony’s success and good fortune have inspired him to do what he can to help young people, so in 2002 he launched the Tony Hawk Foundation to help achieve that goal.

Pat Hawk, Vice President
Tony’s sister, Pat has been CEO of Tony Hawk, Inc. for over fifteen years and has played a crucial role in the growth of the company and its affiliates. She has a strong background in entertainment, sports marketing, endorsements, licensing, and management.

Lenore Hawk Dale, Treasurer
Tony’s sister, Lenore spent fifteen years as a classroom teacher and another ten years as the Director of Bilingual Education for a school district in Southern California. In her years in education, she worked with families in several low-income school districts. For ten years, Lenore was the Director of the Tony Hawk Fan Club. She responded to requests from fans, parents, and teachers, and coordinated meetings for special-needs fans.

Steve Hawk, Secretary
Tony’s brother, Steve was THF’s founding Executive Director. He has been a journalist for more than 30 years and is the former editor of Surfer magazine. More recently, he was a staff writer on the HBO television series John From Cincinnati, and is currently executive editor of Sierra magazine.

Gary Arnold
As an experienced leader in the Retail and Entertainment industries, Gary founded Gary L. Arnold Consulting LLC to continue to guide clients to innovate, and to help artists reach their fans in today’s demanding marketplace. For nearly eighteen years, Gary previously served as the Senior Entertainment Officer and SVP Marketing for Best Buy. Gary was the President of Redline Entertainment, a wholly owned subsidiary of Best Buy Co., Inc., which was an independent record label focusing on new and historic releases by superstar artists, including Pete Townshend, Prince, and the Black Crowes. His staff worked with Chris Robinson, to name a few. In addition to music, Redline Entertainment focused on the action-sports industry, and was instrumental in bringing action-sports content from Tony Hawk, Dave Mirra, Fox Racing, and many others to the mass market and on DVD for the first time. Gary’s 40 plus years in the music-and-entertainment industry also lends greatly to his role on the THF Board of Directors.

Gerard Cappello
Gerard is the co-founder and a managing director of Cappello Capital Corp., a boutique investment banking firm located in Santa Monica, California (member FINRA-SIPC) and Cappello Italia, a special division serving companies based in Italy. He was the founder of Greenside, LLC. He is a LEED-AP, a member of the USGBC, and a Certified Sustainable Building Advisor (NaSBAZ). He has been active in real estate development and corporate finance since 1982. Gerard also serves on several nonprofit boards. He lives in Malibu, California with this wife and two skateboarding children.

Chantal Cloobek
Chantal is a mother of four and enjoys surfing and skateboarding. After years of experience in front of the camera as a model, Chantal now has the unique experience of being both the camera as a sports photographer. Chantal’s company, SurfVibe.com, captures the moments, the vibe, and the passion of surfing and skateboarding. Chantal is a founding member of the Nevada Cancer Institute, founding member of the Bremt Shapiro Foundation for Drug Awareness, and a founder of the CineVegas Film Festival.

Sandy Ousavish
CFO of Tony Hawk, Inc., Sandy is a long-time contributor and advisor to THF. As the foundation continues to grow, Sandy’s financial acumen has proven to be a critical resource in a complex fundraising environment.

Sarah Hall
Sarah is President of Sarah Hall Productions, Inc. and has 20 years of experience representing high profile clients in the entertainment and lifestyle categories. Clients include athletes, authors, chefs, designers, doctors, fitness experts, and television personalities, including Tony Hawk. Prior to founding SHP, Sarah worked in the Contemporary Music Department of the New York offices of the William Morris Agency.

Ben Harper
Skate-musician Ben Harper plays an eclectic mix of blues, folk, reggae and rock music, and is renowned for his live performances and social activism. His worldwide fan base keeps the two-time Grammy Award winner busy touring and recording. But having grown up skateboarding, Ben still finds time to ride—wherever he happens to be.

David Practor
David is a Principal of Jane Street, a proprietary quantitative trading firm with a unique focus on technology and collaborative problem solving. He’s also been active in fundraising for THF and for skateparks in the New York City area. David and his family live in Westchester, New York, where—among other things—he enjoys skateboarding with his son.

Kevin Rose
Kevin is a serial entrepreneur and General Partner at Google Ventures. Previously Kevin founded Digg (acquired by Betaworks), Revision3 (acquired by Discovery Channel), and Milk Inc. (acquired by Google).

Chris Sacca
Venture investor, private equity principal, company advisor, entrepreneur, and public speaker, Chris also manages a portfolio of various technology start-ups and other enterprises through his holding company, Lowercase Capital. He was also among the first investors at Twitter Inc., where Chris serves as a strategic advisor. Previously, he served as Head of Special Initiatives at Google Inc.

Jim Thiebaud
Jim is a skateboarder—always has, always will be. He spent several years as a pro, touring the world and skateboarding everything he could, before co-founding and helping build San Francisco’s Deluxe Distribution, purveyors of some of skateboarding’s top brands. As the company’s Vice President, Jim splits his time between work, his family in the East Bay, or doing whatever he’s always done—skateboarding. He’s been a driving force behind several goodwill and charitable causes, most recently Actions REALized, and he brings decades of experience and dedication to skateboarding to his role on the THF Board of Directors.

Jamie Thomas
Jamie is a skateboarding icon and industry leader. He has been a professional skateboarder for over 20 years and is the president and founder of Zero Skateboards and Fallen Footwear. Jamie has been recognized in the business community for the success of these brands and the positive support they’ve shown to the skateboarding community. His experience and broad perspective helps bridge the gap between skateboarding and the boardroom, which makes Jamie an invaluable member of the THF team.

David Ulevitch
David is the Founder and CEO of OpenDNS. In 2005, he launched OpenDNS with the goal of delivering a safer and faster Internet experience. Today the service protects a global audience of more than 50 million people, including those at many of the largest companies in the world. A noted and often cited Internet and security expert, David has a degree in Anthropology from Washington University in St. Louis, which turned out to be much more useful than he expected. He grew up in the sunny beach community of Del Mar, California, which didn’t make him nearly as good of a surfer or skater as it should have.
TOTAL SKATEPARK GRANTS AWARDED: 534
TOTAL SKATEPARKS COMPLETED: 443 (83%)
TOTAL ANNUAL VISITS TO THF-SUPPORTED SKATEPARKS: 4-MILLION
TOTAL THF DOLLARS AWARDED: $5-MILLION

50 NUMBER OF STATES RECEIVING THF GRANTS
The Tony Hawk Foundation seeks to foster lasting improvements in society, with an emphasis on supporting and empowering youth. Through special events, grants, and technical assistance, the Foundation supports recreational programs focusing on the creation of public skateboard parks in low income communities, and other causes in the US and overseas. The Foundation favors programs that clearly demonstrate that funds received will produce tangible, ongoing, positive results.

Cover: Skateparks can help revitalize neighborhoods, but can they help rebuild our inner cities? The Ride It Sculpture Park in Detroit, Michigan (2013 THF Grant Recipient) is the cornerstone of a community revitalization project whose success is reverberating throughout the city, and is inspiring similar projects across the country. Tony Hawk visited the Ride It Sculpture Park and flew this inspired frontside air out of the bowl (Photo by Miki Vuckovich). Inset: Tony and community members from Long Beach, California cut the ribbon at the Ernest McBride Skatepark (2012 THF Grant Recipient), the crown jewel of the city’s nine-skatepark system and a key component of Long Beach’s youth anti-gang initiative (Photo by Anthony Acosta). Back: Alex Road Skatepark is the third for Oceanside, California (2008 THF Grant Recipient). Opening day (8/31/13) drew a capacity crowd, and the park continues to draw guests from throughout the state, and beyond (Photo by Miki Vuckovich).

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