



# the BELLFLOWER & CITIZEN

Volume 16 Issue 11

ONLINE EDITION

November 2016

## Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony Brings Crowds to Downtown Bellflower

Join the City of Bellflower staff, local students, Downtown restaurants and area residents to celebrate the holiday season at the Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Friday, December 2nd, at 6:30 p.m. in Friendship Square (Downtown Bellflower).

Santa Claus will serve as guest of honor at the event and meet with children one-on-one to take their holiday wishes! The Mayfair High School Vocal Ensemble will entertain attendees with a special performance of favorite holiday songs.

There will also be a rink for scooters and skates (children are encouraged to wear a helmet to enter the rink), along with the Bellflower



Recreation In Motion (BRIM) program, and holiday crafts. Refreshments will be served, including complimentary peach cobbler donated by Johnny Rebs' Restaurant, and coffee and hot

cocoa provided by Starbucks.

For more info on all City's holiday programs call the Parks & Recreation Dept. at (562) 804-1424 ext. 2261 or visit [www.bellflower.org](http://www.bellflower.org).

### Mark Your Calendar

#### Sunday, November 6

Daylight Saving Time Ends  
Move clocks back at 2:00 a.m

#### City Hall Closed

#### Friday, November 11

Veterans Day

#### Thursday, November 24

#### & Friday, November 25

Thanksgiving Holiday

## *Nomination Period Opens for Bellflower's March 7, 2017 General Municipal Election*

Bellflower's next general municipal election to elect two City Council Members will be held March 7, 2017.

The nomination period opens November 14, 2016, and closes December 9, 2016. During the nomination period, prospective candidates will receive a comprehensive packet of information that outlines the nomination and election process, as well as forms and critical deadlines; nomination documents must be obtained ("pulled") and submitted ("filed") before the end of the nomination period.

While not required, it is recommended that prospective candidates contact

the City Clerk's Office in early November to set up an appointment during the nomination period to pull papers; this process generally takes about two hours. Regular office hours are: 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday; closed alternating Fridays and holidays.

For more information about becoming a City Council candidate, contact the City Clerk's Office at (562) 804-1424, ext. 2271. Please visit the City's website at [www.bellflower.org](http://www.bellflower.org) for updated information as the election draws nearer.

# Grow Your Business, Apply for California Competes Tax Credit

The California Competes Tax Credit is an income tax credit available to businesses that want to come to California or stay and grow in California. The purpose of this credit is to attract and retain high-value employers in California in industries with high economic multipliers and that provide their employees good wages and benefits.

Small businesses are encouraged to apply and 25 percent of the total credits available each year are reserved for small businesses (less than \$2 million in the business's prior tax year).

Any California business can apply for free and the process takes approximately 90 days to award. Tax credit agreements are negotiated by GO-Biz and approved by a statutorily created

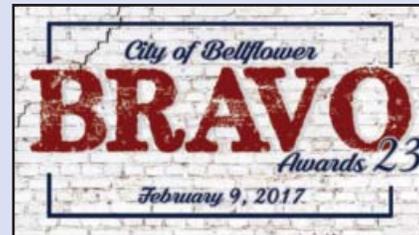


"California Competes Tax Credit Committee," consisting of the State Treasurer, the Director of the Department of Finance, the Director of GO-Biz, one appointee each by the Speaker of the Assembly and Senate Committee on Rules.

Some factors Go-Biz considers when selecting an applicant are the number of jobs the business creates/retains, the employee compensation plan, the amount invested in the State by the business, strategic importance of the business in the State / locality, etc.

Applications will be accepted from January 2, 2017 through January 23, 2017. For more information visit [www.business.ca.gov/Programs/CaliforniaCompetesTaxCredit.aspx](http://www.business.ca.gov/Programs/CaliforniaCompetesTaxCredit.aspx).

## Nominations Open for BRAVO Awards



The City of Bellflower is now accepting nominations for the 23rd Annual BRAVO Awards. The BRAVO Awards, which stands for Bellflower Recognizes Acts of Valor and Outstanding Service, honors residents who acted in support of public safety. If you know of a resident, relative, friend or co-worker who improved the City of Bellflower's safety or courageously participated in a Bellflower incident, be sure to nominate them for this award. Nominations are currently being accepted through Thursday, November 10th. Nomination forms can be printed out from the City's website at [www.bellflower.org](http://www.bellflower.org) or picked up at City Hall.

The ceremony will be held on February 9, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. in the William and Jane Bristol Civic Auditorium (16600 Civic Center Dr., Bellflower) and is free and open to the public.

## Art Walk & Shop Bellflower Event

The Art Walk Community Committee and the Bellflower Chamber of Commerce will display artwork made by local artists and celebrate creativity in Downtown Bellflower on Saturday, November 19th from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Downtown businesses will offer specials to Art Walk attendees in support of growing the arts and

revitalizing Bellflower retail stores and restaurants. For more information call (562) 867-1744.



# FREE COMPOST GIVEAWAY

COURTESY OF THE CITY OF BELLFLOWER AND CR&R ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



**Saturday, November 19th, 2016**

**Simms Park • 16614 Clark Ave**

hosted by City of Bellflower and CR&R Environmental Services

*Be on the lookout for your postcard in the mail!*

*Present the original mailer for 2 FREE BAGS of compost while supplies last.*



**Keynote Speaker:**  
**Richard Dreyfuss**

The City of Bellflower is pleased to announce that Academy Award winning actor Richard Dreyfuss will serve as the keynote speaker for the 23rd annual BRAVO Awards. Dreyfuss's impressive roster of iconic film appearances includes American Graffiti, Mr. Holland's Opus, Stakeout, and Jaws.



# Dispose of Hazardous Waste Properly at Simms Park Collection

The City of Bellflower will team up with the Sanitation Districts and the Department of Public Works to host the annual Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection on Saturday, November 5th from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Simms Park (16614 Clark Ave., Bellflower, CA 90706). HHW is any product labeled: toxic, poison, combustible, corrosive, flammable or irritant that is disposed of. This program gives Los Angeles County residents a legal and cost free way to dispose of unwanted household chemicals that cannot be disposed of in the regular trash.

### Items accepted include:

Motor oil, antifreeze, paint, paint thinner, turpentine, cleaners with acids or lye, pesticides and herbicides, household and car batteries, old computers, TVs, sharps and used needles, expired pharmaceuticals and mercury thermometers.

### Items not accepted:

Explosives, ammunition or radioactive materials, waste from businesses will NOT be accepted, regular trash or old tires, white goods such as washers, stoves, refrigerators or air conditioners.

### How to prepare:

- In general, there is a limit of 15 gallons or 125 lbs. per vehicle.
- Bring items in a sturdy box, preferably in their original labeled containers.
- Be prepared to leave your containers.
- Do not mix products together.

For more info visit <http://dpw.la-county.gov/epd/hhw/index.cfm> or call (800) 238-0172.

## WORK AROUND TOWN

### City of Bellflower

16600 Civic Center Dr. Bellflower

View full job description at:

[www.bellflower.org](http://www.bellflower.org)

### Temporary Maintenance Asst.

(P/T, approx. 29 hrs per week)

\$10.00 / Hr

*Continuous Recruitment*

The Public Works Department is seeking Temporary Maintenance Assistants to perform a variety of basic maintenance tasks including streets, parks, landscape, and facility maintenance. May not work over 700 hours in 12 months. This position requires the availability to work a flexible schedule that may require irregular hours, various shifts, weekends and holiday work assignments. High School Diploma or equivalent is required. Basic landscape / facility maintenance experience desired.

## FALL CONCERT

Presented by  
Bellflower Symphony Orchestra



Saturday, Nov. 19th, 2016  
7:00 p.m.

Bristol Civic Auditorium  
16600 Civic Center Dr., Bellflower, CA

Free admission for members  
or Bellflower residents

Donation: \$12 Adult - \$10 Student/Senior

For info call (562) 867-4871

## Trash Collection & Street Sweeping Holiday Schedule



### Trash:

There will be no trash collection on Thursday, November 24th. Collection will be delayed one day for the remainder of the week (e.g. Thursday's route will be collected Friday and Friday's route on Saturday).

### Street Sweeping:

There will be no street sweeping on Thursday, November 24th or on Friday, November 25th.



The Bellflower Volunteer Center is asking residents to reach out to those less fortunate and donate a new, unwrapped toy, canned goods or non-perishable packaged food this holiday season. Donations can be dropped off at Simms Park or the Volunteer Center at 16610 S. Clark Avenue, no later than Tuesday, December 6th. If you are unable to deliver your items, volunteers will be happy to assist with pick-up. For a list of suggested items or for more information, call (562) 925-9003 or visit [www.bellflower.org](http://www.bellflower.org)

## Reach Your Fitness Goals at Simms Park



The City of Bellflower will soon be opening a new fitness center and exercise trail at Simms Park. It will have 30 units of exercise equipment, half a mile of connected walking paths and an open area at the heart of the fitness center for community exercise classes. The new fitness center and trail will be free and open to the public. Completion of this project is expected before the end of 2016. Keep an eye out for more updates on the city's website ([www.bellflower.org](http://www.bellflower.org)) and social media feeds.

## Brakensiek Hosts Free Flu Clinic

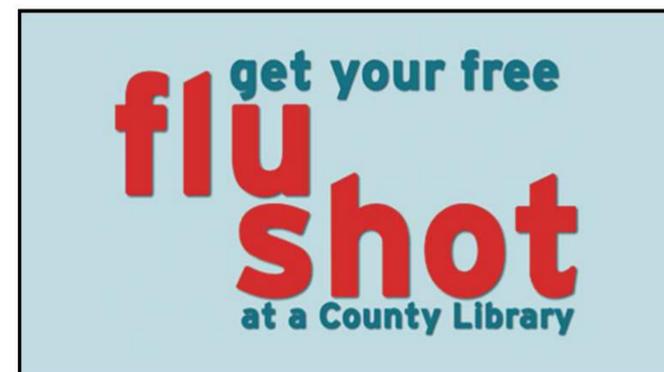
The LA County Department of Public Health has partnered with the County of LA Public Library to provide flu vaccines at no charge to people who don't have health insurance or whose healthcare provider doesn't offer flu vaccines.

Flu vaccines are recommended for everyone six months of age and older, including healthy adults. It's important to get a flu vaccine if you are: 6 months through 18 years old, 50 years or older, pregnant or just had a baby, morbidly obese, a healthcare provider, living in a nursing or other long-term care home, living with a weakened immune system or a chronic medical condition (like diabetes, heart disease or lung disease), living with or caring for someone under 5 years old or 50 years of age or older with a chronic medical condition.

If you have a severe egg allergy or are sick the day of the clinic, check with your doctor before getting vaccinated. Call your regular health care provider to see what other shots you may need.

If you don't have a regular provider, call 2-1-1 (LA County Information Line) or visit [www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip](http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip) for a list of no cost or low-cost vaccine providers in your area.

Clinic dates and times are subject to change. Please call to confirm before you go.



**Saturday, November 5th, 2016**  
**12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m**

Brakensiek Library  
9945 E. Flower Street  
Bellflower, CA 90706  
(562) 925-5543

## YCAF Talent Show 2016 Winners

The Youth Cultural Arts Foundation (YCAF) held their 17th annual Talent Show at the Bristol Civic Auditorium on Saturday, September 24th. Contestants between the ages of 6 to 18, shared their talents as singers, dancers, ventriloquists, pianists, guitar players and more. While YCAF firmly believes that all 31 contestants in the talent show were winners, there were a couple who took home awards: Jackie Choi, Anton Phan, Shane Selloria, Lily Hightower, Joleen Mejia, Allison Gomez, Maddison Gomez, Lisanne Burns, Jordan Hobbs, Amairany Holguin, and Collin Villaescusa. The Producer and Director awards went to Gavin Gagna and Isabelle Rosales.



YCAF Talent Show photography by Emma Mason.



SCORE is now available to help you turn your business dreams into reality!

### One-On-One Mentoring

SCORE offers entrepreneurs, which are either launching a start-up or growing an existing business, free face-to-face mentoring by men and women who have had successful careers as executives or business owners. Mentors meet with you personally, confidentially and as frequently as necessary to define and analyze your opportunities; then help you find the solutions.

Sessions will be held at Bellflower City Hall  
(2nd Floor Economic Development Dept.)  
16600 Civic Center Dr. Bellflower, CA 90706

Schedule a 1-hr session **TODAY!** Call: (714) 550-7369  
Appointments are available from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 8th, December 13th, and January 10th.