

## Fall 2009 Issue The River Volunteers

Volunteers are truly the heart of our fine arts enrichment program for children with special needs. Volunteers have guided our development, put smiles on our children's faces, kept our classrooms clean, and made our program successful. Thank you to all of those who have been a part of our program. You have all made a lasting impression on the lives of our students.

### Cathy Binstock Receives Special Honor!



On October 16, 2009 President Barack Obama, President George H. W. Bush and Points of Light Institute commemorated the 20th anniversary of the vision of a thousand "Points of Light". The event, held at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas, honored the growth of the service movement which was started 20 years ago by George H. W. Bush and has been sustained through his predecessors Presidents William Clinton and George W. Bush, and now our current President Obama. The event also honored all of its past Daily Point of Light winners. One of which is our founder Cathy Binstock.

Cathy has dedicated countless hours of the past 13 years to The River Performing and Visual Arts Center. She started the program for her daughter Samantha, then three years old, who wanted to take ballet, but cerebral palsy affected her walking, talking, balance and eyesight. No programs would accept her. Cathy vowed that no child should be denied the opportunity to participate in the richness of an arts education. She rolled up her dedicated sleeves, contacted arts instructors and friends, and The River was born. Cathy now serves as a dedicated member of the Board of Directors. In 2007 Cathy was named a Daily Point of Light because of her efforts with The River. She was recognized as a vital part of our community.

We thank you Cathy for all of your hard work and congratulations on being a part of this amazing group of people!

For more information on the Points of Light Institute please visit their website at [www.pointsoflight.org](http://www.pointsoflight.org).

### Volunteer Spotlight

We would like to spotlight a very special volunteer. Tiffany Yu volunteered more than 50 hours with The River 2009 Summer camp. Tiffany has shown her dedication again by partnering with her father to create holiday cards which include the art work of River Students.

Tiffany plans to print and sell these cards and donate the proceeds to The River Performing and Visual Arts Center.

The generosity of the Yu family has been inspirational. Thank you Tiffany for your dedication to The River kids!



### Musical Theatre Workshop!



The River and Theatre Under The Stars are conducting yet another Musical Theatre Workshop on Saturday, December 5th, 2009 from 10am - 2pm. Students with disabilities have the unique opportunity to rehearse and perform an adaptation of The Sound of Music. Students pair up one on one with volunteers from the Humphreys School of Musical Theatre. Registrations are available at [www.TheRiver.org](http://www.TheRiver.org).



For information on Theatre Under The Stars 2009-2010 season performances please visit [www.TUTS.com](http://www.TUTS.com).

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