



JAZZ UP YOUR JULY WITH THE RED CROSS!

JULY 2022

2022 Navin Narayan College Scholarship Recipients



*Navin Narayan College Scholarship Recipients:
Natasha Banga (left) and Hamid Torabzadeh (right)*

The American Red Cross would like to share and honor our recently chosen Navin Narayan College Scholarship Recipients! Read more about both of these amazing and dedicated Red Cross volunteers.

Young Adult Volunteer Spotlight: Mira Loma High School RC Club



Mira Loma High School from the California Gold Country Region developed a fundraiser which raised \$234 for Red Cross disaster relief efforts in Ukraine.

Natasha Banga:

Natasha is a graduating senior in the North Texas Region where she is an outstanding member of her high school debate team. Natasha serves as the Line of Service Officer and Community Outreach Chair for the North Texas Youth Executive Board, where she has had the opportunity to participate and connect across all activities within the Red Cross. She completed a project for the International Humanitarian Law Youth Action Campaign and served the region as a Missing Maps Remote Training Volunteer, as well. One MAPathon focused on mapping communities in Haiti, and this is when Natasha truly felt connected to the mission. She described it by saying, "Missing Maps, and ultimately volunteering with the Red Cross, became a way of intimately connecting with the communities I advocate for. My compass felt pointed in the right direction."

Hamid Torabzadeh:

Hamid is a graduating senior from the Los Angeles Region. He is described by regional leadership as "one of the most determined, innovative and vision-driven Red Cross youth leaders." In 2019, Hamid was involved with the READYTeens program, where he learned emergency preparedness, response and recovery. Just weeks after California was mandated to shelter in place, he was selected to be a section leader and helped to convert in-person workshops and activities to an online platform. He facilitated presentations on the disaster cycle virtually, while providing information on COVID-19 to 105 participants. He provided an outlet for his peers to stay connected and learn about disaster services. His incredible organization and management style has allowed the program to succeed into its fourth year and help train over 400 people. In addition, the stellar work of the READYTeens program earned the region a \$5,000 grant to continue their education programs.

Upon discovering [the International Red Cross and Red Crescent's Ukraine fundraiser](#), members of the Mira Loma Red Cross Club were inspired to help those in need as a result of the existing Ukraine and Russia conflict. For the fundraiser, they reached out to a local boba shop weeks in advance to discuss possible options for partnership. After consultation, an agreement was reached where a portion of every drink would support Red Cross efforts. In order to gauge how much boba the club would need to buy, they created a Google Form for preorders and sent it out beforehand in order to have people fill it out. The club then sold their drinks and garnered attention to their initiative at their school's International Exposition Night, maximizing their audience to include parents, family, friends and students. As a result of their hard work and planning, the night turned out to be a success, with them selling over 200 cups of boba in one day.

Thank you so much for your work, Mira Loma Red Cross Club! We are excited to see what amazing things you'll continue to accomplish!

**International Humanitarian Law
Youth Action Campaign
The Environment & Armed Conflict**



National Anti-Boredom Month and Resource Spotlight

July is National Anti-Boredom Month! Stay busy this summer by participating and spreading the word on the following initiatives.

During holiday weeks, the Red Cross sees around a 21% decline in blood and platelet donations. When blood donations drop, so does the blood supply, making it challenging to ensure that blood is available when hospitals need it. In select locations, those who donate blood between June 30 and July 10 will be given an exclusive recycled Red Cross tote bag. Visit [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.redcrossblood.org) to donate today!

The American Red Cross has partnered with Discovery in promotion of Shark Week! By donating blood, platelets, or plasma between July 21 and 24, donors will receive an official Shark Week T-Shirt. In addition, any donors during the month of July will be entered for a chance to win an exclusive Shark Week merchandise package, which includes a beach cruiser bike, a smokeless

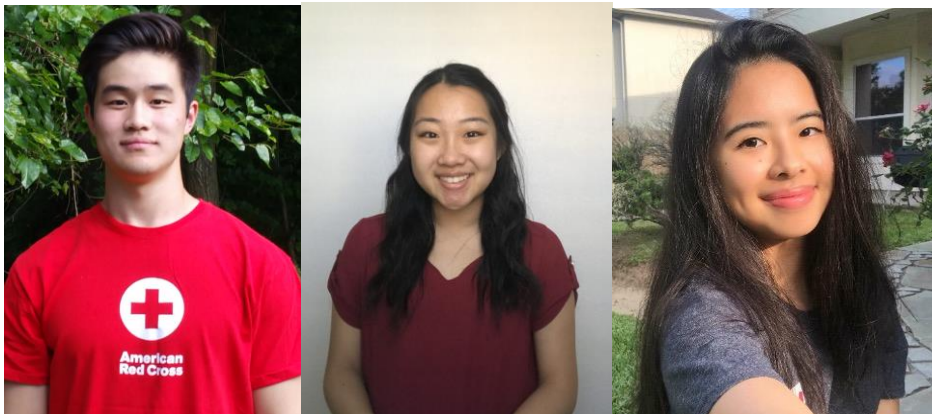
Attention all prospective [International Humanitarian Law Youth Action Campaign](#) (IHL YAC) advocates! We are pleased to share the annual theme for the 2022-2023 academic year, [The Environment and Armed Conflict](#), which focuses on climate change, environmental justice, internationally displaced persons & refugees and wildlife protection. To learn more, join the International Humanitarian Law (IHL) team as they kick off their Summit Series this month! While the National Summit features select advocates and their dedication to the IHL Youth Action Campaign, the following events are open to all youth volunteers as opportunities to learn more about IHL in the context of everything from pop culture to this upcoming year's theme, climate change. See below for registration links on a variety of events and get pumped for a great series!

- July 12, 2pm ET: [Creating a Climate to Talk about Climate Change](#)
- July 14 and July 15 both at 2pm ET: [2-day Leadership Bootcamp: Road Map to your Future](#)
- July 18, 2pm ET: [Protection the Environment with International Law](#)
- July 19, 2pm ET: [Restoring Family Links Stimulation: A walk in their shoes](#)
- July 26, 2pm ET: [National Symposium](#)
 - If youth want to apply to present, email IHLyouth@redcross.org

portable fire pit, a paddle board, a kayak, and a \$500 gift card to put towards accessories for any outdoor adventure. [Make an appointment now!](#)

There is an existing shortage of trained lifeguards as a result of the existing COVID-19 pandemic. This shortage has resulted in the closing of some aquatic facilities and increased competition for the aquatic industry to hire and retain staff. People 15 years and older can prevent this by getting trained and receiving a 2-year certification in lifeguarding that includes First Aid and CPR/AED training for the rescuer. Learn more or sign up for a water safety and lifeguarding class by visiting [the following link](#).

Thank You to Our National Youth Council Members!



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- July 27, 2pm ET: [Charting your Future: Career Panel](#)
 - July 29, 12pm ET: [Harry Potter and the Deathly Violations of IHL Part II](#)
 - July 30, 11am ET: [YAC National Showcase](#)
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Upcoming Events

- July 12, 3PM ET: [MapSwipe Training & Office Hours](#)
 - July 13, 2pm ET: [Exploring Geneva: A Youth Delegate Perspective](#)
 - Opportunity to join a nationwide team: *Developing preparedness learning activities for teens by teens:* [Teen Preparedness Toolkit: For Teens By Teens.](#)
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July Fundraising Highlights



(In order of left to right and top to bottom) Will Chai, Ariana Deng, Audrey Nguyen, Himashi Liyanarachchi, Rodrigo Estrada, Elizabeth Low

The following NYC members have served the last 2-3 years providing their leadership and guidance to youth and young adults nationally. It was such an honor to have them on the Council as they championed many initiatives that paved the way for youth and young adult volunteers. Thank you all for your time and dedication!

Get Social and Share!

Share this newsletter with your peers and friends or have them email YouthInvolvement@redcross.org to [subscribe to our newsletter](#).



Red Cross has recently partnered with Spartan to bring donors the opportunity to compete in a Spartan Race for free! By raising \$400, participants will earn a free race code, in addition to other Red Cross Merchandise. Please visit [the following link](#) to learn more.

What is YouthWire?

Created by your National Youth Council, YouthWire is a monthly e-newsletter containing important Red Cross youth volunteer opportunities, stories, and resources for youth, young adults and youth champions! We are always looking to highlight fantastic stories and want to hear what awesome things are happening in your region!

Let us know what's new for you!

Log Your Hours on Volunteer Connection!

The time you spend volunteering is critical to the American Red Cross. It is important that volunteer hours are submitted through Volunteer Connection so that they can be tracked as part of the overall mission.

Help us tell the story of the incredible impact youth & young adults have by logging your hours today. Use this helpful [tip sheet](#) to walk through how to submit your volunteer hours on [Volunteer Connection](#). We also have this great new video to aid you in the process of logging your hours on the [desktop version](#) and [mobile app version](#) of Volunteer Connection.



Unsubscribe from YouthWire

Questions about youth volunteering with the American Red Cross? Email [**YouthInvolvement@redcross.org**](mailto:YouthInvolvement@redcross.org)