



BOULEVARD PARK'S *PARK BEAT*

Celebrating the Season at BPNA's Annual Holiday Party

A cheerful group of BPNA members gathered at the historic Cranston-Geary house for a pot-luck feast on Saturday, December 14. The moon was full, the clouds were few, and the weather was clear and cold; colorful holiday lights were glowing at all four corners of the intersection of G and 21st Streets. It was a perfect evening, and a wonderful setting, for a holiday party. Adults and children alike enjoyed the Christmas tree, the living room fireplace with its decorated mantelpiece and glowing fire, and the generous array of food on the dining room table. There were all kinds of fancy entrees and Christmas-themed desserts. The party went smoothly from beginning to end. We are very grateful to our hosts, Alison and Eric, for sharing their beautiful home with the neighborhood.



Photos courtesy of Emily Herbert and Rebecca McDaniel.

2025 BPNA General Membership Meeting (January 14)

The first meeting of the newly formed Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association was held in 1990. Since then, BPNA has held a General Membership Meeting at the start of every year. This is when members cast their ballots for the new year's Board of Directors, when city employees and elected representatives (or their staff) discuss city and neighborhood issues, and when everyone present has a chance to talk about a variety of topics of interest to neighborhood residents.

Even though part of the General Meeting is dedicated to BPNA business (only association members may vote in the Board election), residents who are not members also are encouraged to attend. They even can join the BPNA at that time, if they like! This year's meeting is being held on **Tuesday, January 14 (6:30-8:30 p.m.)** at the **Washington Elementary School library** (520 18th Street; see the article on page 5). In addition to guest presentations, there also will be an open forum for audience discussion about topics of neighborhood concern. Before the end of the meeting, the names of the newly elected members of the 2025 Board of Directors will be announced.

Reminder to BPNA members: even if you are unable to attend the meeting, you can still vote in the Board election. See the ballot on **page 4** of this newsletter or go to the BPNA website. The candidates' personal statements are on **page 3**.



January 2025: Places to Go, People to See

TIP: For more information about public events this month, go to: sacramento365.com.

Most weekend mornings, 9 to Noon: Join volunteers in beautification tasks at Sutter's Landing Park. Contact FOSL's volunteer coordinator, Betsy Weiland (flweiland@yahoo.com; or 279-202-4677).

Every Saturday: Midtown Farmers' Market (8 a.m. to 1 p.m., 20th St. between J and L Sts.; K St. between 19th and 21st Sts.). Website: exploremidtown.org/midtown-markets

Every Sunday: Downtown Sacramento Farmers' Market: under the freeway at 8th and W Streets (8 a.m. to noon; free parking).

Jan. 1-20: Last three weeks of skating at the Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink, 7th and K Sts. Website: downtownsac.org/downtown-sac-experiences/downtown-sacramento-ice-rink

Jan. 3 and 4: The Cathedral Choir, Capella Antiqua, and Sacramento Baroque Soloists perform Handel's *Messiah* and Ramirez's *Navidad Nuestra* at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, 1017 11th St. (7:30 p.m. each day; performance of *Messiah* will be in English on Jan. 3, in Spanish on Jan. 4; admission charged). Optional pre-conference reception at 6 p.m. each evening, for an additional charge. Website: sacramentobaroque.org/23rd-concert-season

Jan. 8-19: Broadway Sacramento presents *Hamilton* at SAFE Credit Union Performing Arts Center, 1301 L St. (admission charged). Website: broadwaysacramento.com/production/hamilton-2

Sun., Jan. 12: Sacramento Antique Faire, 2nd Sunday of every month (6:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. \$3 admission): Sleep Train Arena lot, East Entrance only (address is 4441 Truxel Rd., if using a navigation device). Website: sacantiquefaire.com

Mon., Jan. 13: Deadline for BPNA's receipt of mail-in ballots for the 2025 Board (see form on p. 4).

Tue., Jan. 14: BPNA Membership Meeting, Washington Elementary School, 520 18th St. (6:30-8:30 p.m.). See article on p. 1.

Mon., Jan. 20: Martin Luther King Day: 43rd Annual March for the Dream. Four-mile march starting and ending at Sacramento City College. Website: mlk365.org

Fri., Jan. 24: Deadline for applications to Sacramento's 2025 Planning Academy. See article on p. 6.

Jan. 29-Mar. 2: *English*, Pulitzer Prize winning play presented by Capital Stage, 2215 J St. (matinee and evening performances; admission charged). Website: capstage.org/2024-25-season

And looking ahead to early February ...

Mon., Feb. 3: End of Leaf Season! After this date, piles of yard waste cannot be left along the curb (green waste containers must be used instead). Website: cityofsacramento.gov/public-works/recycling-solid-waste/CollectionServices/Leaf_Season

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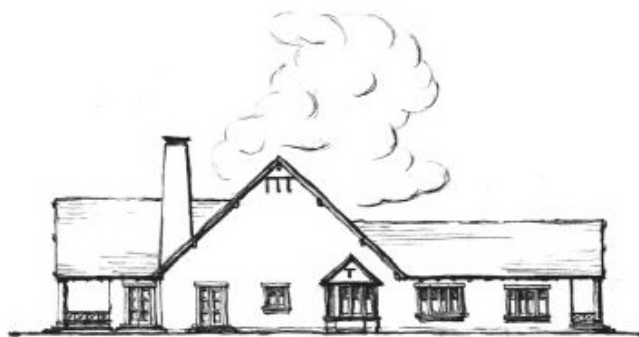
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2025 BPNA Board of Directors Candidate Statements

Liz Edmonds: I would consider it a privilege to continue to serve on the BPNA board. BPNA has contributed significantly to the fact that today we are one of the most desirable neighborhoods in Sacramento, a fine place to raise a family. As a 45-year resident of Boulevard Park, I have enjoyed volunteering over the years at many BPNA events, including National Night Out and the Spaghetti Dinner, and I currently serve as BPNA treasurer. I would appreciate your vote so that I may continue to serve our neighborhood.

David Herbert: A long-time Midtown Sacramento resident, I have lived at the same house on F Street for over forty years. My wife Emily and I have three children and four grandchildren. I have often been involved in efforts to maintain our wonderful Midtown/Downtown. I have communicated with City Council members to dispute proposed demolitions of historic buildings and questionable tree removal programs. I was a member of the Sacramento Street Task Force. My determined involvement in the Central City's so-called "reforestation" program during the 1980s did much to help guide the City toward a greater appreciation of our wonderful street tree heritage. I have served on the BPNA Board of Directors for the past nine years and would love to continue in this position in 2025.

Myranda Love: I am excited for the opportunity to serve on the BPNA Board and advocate for our community! As an everyday bicycle enthusiast, environmentalist, a renter, and a state government worker, I believe I can bring added value and perspective to the Board. I moved here after graduating from UC Davis in 2018 and I have really grown to love our neighborhood. I try to bike or walk every day, enjoying the trees, green spaces, little libraries, and local businesses nearby that make our community so special. I'm passionate about the environment and sustainability, especially California Native Plants. As a renter, I'm unable to have my own native yard, but I'd love to advocate for and contribute to local efforts such as native plant restoration as well as expanding and safeguarding our beautiful tree canopy. I see many opportunities to help, from organizing neighborhood events to improving Sutter's Landing Park. Increased connection, equity, and accessibility for all community members are what drive me to run for the 2025 Board. Thank you for your support.

Madeline Mabry: Hello neighbors! I am a returning resident of Boulevard Park but have spent most of my life in Tahoe Park. I am an employee of the California State Assembly and a graduate student in political science at Sacramento State. I have a passion for cultivating relationships and being involved in my community. I have worked for the Farmer's Market and small businesses or local education-based nonprofits, always reaffirming that a community and its members have the best sense of direction and thrive when they are self-directed and supportive of one another. I am grateful to be part of this neighborhood. I also have

been pleasantly surprised by what has been created here. It exemplifies what I want to partake in and enhance. When I attended the 2024 holiday party, I was so blown away by the willingness of neighbors to collaborate, to exchange conversation, to host, and to help clean up. As a prospective Board member, I am excited to help uplift, collaborate and problem solve, bringing my background of community work and a developing education and experience in politics, both local and statewide.

James McDaniel: As a native Californian, I came to love Sacramento's old homes while living in my grandfather's house on 35th and J. My family's connection to Boulevard Park began in 1907, when my great-grandfather, architect Alden W. Campbell, designed the Hart house on 22nd and H. My wife Rebecca and I have been a part of the Boulevard Park community for over ten years. I am a 3rd grade teacher at Washington Elementary School. We have three daughters and continue to restore our beautiful house. We love the location, close to shops, restaurants, and historical landmarks. However, what we love most is the rich, diverse, and wonderful neighborhood that exists under Boulevard Park's trees. We are civic minded people that believe in strong community. I would be honored to serve on the BPNA Board.

Noah Mebane: Joining the 2024 BPNA Board turned out to be more than I could have ever imagined. Despite having moved to Boulevard Park just months before becoming a Board member, I was welcomed with open arms by an association and neighborhood that embody Sacramento's spirit of community. Through the BPNA I have made more connections than in any other place I've lived and have learned so much about this amazing historical treasure that we are privileged to call home. I would love to have the opportunity to spend this year helping emphasize what makes our part of Sacramento special, fostering an environment for neighbors to interact and grow, and continuing to ensure that the BPNA serves the needs of every Boulevard Park resident.

Alison Southard: I am originally from Sonora, a Gold Rush town about two hours south of Sacramento. I came to the area in 2010 to attend UC Davis, where I studied History and Spanish. I moved to midtown in 2016, and to Boulevard Park in April 2017, shortly before starting law school at McGeorge. I have lived here ever since. My first love is history, and I have enjoyed learning about the history of the neighborhood and the different homes. I recently helped with the Preservation Sacramento Historic Home Tour, and loved reading the brief history of the house where I volunteered. I currently work for a private law firm defending various public entities through the state in civil lawsuits. I became interested in public entity defense in law school when I interned for the Sacramento City Attorney's Office. My work with public entities has made me interested in local law and governing boards. It would be an honor to serve on the neighborhood board in Boulevard Park, since it has been my home for nearly eight years.

2025 BPNA Membership Form and Ballot

BPNA members may pay their 2025 dues and vote in the 2025 Board Election at the General Membership Meeting on Tuesday, January 14 (see article on **page 1**), or they may do both tasks by USPS mail, using the forms below.

The list of seven candidates includes four 2024 Board members who would like to continue serving for another year. The three new candidates are interested in replacing three 2024 Board members who have decided to step down. We are very grateful to the departing Board members—Geoff Emblar, Morris Lum, and Colleen Schwartz—for their service and support this past year.

Join a BPNA Event Committee for 2025!

This year we want to give neighbors the opportunity to help with the important task of organizing neighborhood events. Each event will have a planning committee chaired by a Board member and made up of neighborhood volunteers. The committees we plan to establish this year are:

- Community Yard Sale (late Spring)
- National Night Out (first Tuesday in August)
- Spaghetti Dinner (mid-September)
- Halloween (late October)
- Holidays (early to mid-December)

The expected time commitment is 10–20 hours over the course of the year. Interested volunteers can hear more at the January general membership meeting (see article on **page 1**) or email BoulevardParkNA@gmail.com.

2025 BPNA Membership Form

(Must be received by BPNA by Jan. 13, if you plan to vote in the 2025 Board election)

Please send this form with your dues payment (recommended: \$5-15 per adult member, per year) to:
BPNA, P. O. Box 160811, Sacramento CA 95816-0811

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Amount paid: _____

Please mark as appropriate:

New Member Renewing Member

Interested in Volunteering

Would like to receive the Park Beat newsletter by email (paper copies are delivered only to residents living in the greater Boulevard Park neighborhood)



Access the Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association membership form online at boulevardpark.org/membership-form or scan this QR code with your smart phone camera.

2025 BPNA Board of Directors: MAIL-IN BALLOT

(Must be received by BPNA by Jan. 13) Households with more than one adult BPNA member may make extra copies of this ballot, as needed.

You may mail this ballot with your membership payment or send it separately. It goes to the same postal address:
BPNA, P. O. Box 160811, Sacramento CA 95816-0811

Important: For a ballot to be valid, the 2025 membership dues must be paid. If you have opted to send in your dues payment separately, please write your name here:

There are 7 candidates for the 7 positions (see statements on page 3). There also is a write-in option, below.

Reminder: Only active, paid-up BPNA members are eligible to serve on the Board of Directors.

Liz Edmonds James McDaniel

David Herbert Noah Mebane

Myranda Love Alison Southard

Madeline Mabry

Other/Write-In (please provide the full name here):



La Lotería del Barrio mural at Washington Elementary School.

Washington Elementary School and Its Murals

BPNA's January 2025 Membership Meeting will be held at the Washington Elementary School, an important neighborhood hub that has undergone three transformations. The first school on this site, a massive three-story, steel-and-concrete structure in the Mission Revival style, was built in 1919. Many Sacramento residents remember it well, having attended classes there in the forties, fifties, or sixties. Classroom instruction ceased at the school in 1969, due to concerns about the building's vulnerability to earthquakes. The entire structure was razed and replaced by a cluster of one-story buildings six years later. Due to declining enrollments, that version of Washington Elementary was closed in 2013. Its students were relocated to other city schools. Before they left, the children helped produce portable murals for installation at their new schools. The project, directed by Bay Area artist Milton Bowers, was intended to help the children make the transition from Washington Elementary to the William Land Park and Theodore Judah schools.

Little did those children know that mural painting would be an important feature at the next version of Washington Elementary, a modern STEAM school dedicated to the teaching of science, technology, engineering, art, and math. Rebuilt to facilitate project-based learning and to provide a more welcoming environment, today's school was inaugurated in Fall 2016. One of its most outstanding features now is the array of murals that have been added to its outer walls since the school's reopening. Designed and executed with the collaboration of students, faculty, and professional artists, the new murals further enhance the school's appearance, encouraging passersby to take notice of the campus and even to visit it. The largest mural in the neighborhood (in fact, the largest one in the entire city) is *A Journey into Curiosity*, on the Eleanor Apartments at 16th and E Streets (2020). The apartment building's east wall overlooks the park behind the school, and Washington

students contributed ideas for the murals. Additional murals have been painted on several school buildings. They include *Rise, Heal, and Overcome*; *The Leader in Me*; *La Lotería del Barrio*; and *Students and Their Spirit Animals*.

For a video about the *La Lotería del Barrio* mural, go to: youtube.com/watch?v=KcV-QAafkPM (The project director was artist Prof. Luis-Genaro Garcia, from Sacramento State.)

2024 BPNA Board of Directors

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James McDaniel, Secretary	specterzero@sbcglobal.net
Liz Edmonds, Treasurer	liz@lizedmonds.com
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Connect with us by visiting BoulevardPark.org or by emailing us at BoulevardParkNA@gmail.com.



Join the Boulevard Park Facebook group at facebook.com/groups/blvdparksac/ or scan this QR code to connect with your neighbors and get the latest updates from the BPNA.

Follow the Boulevard Park Instagram at instagram.com/blvdparksac/ or scan this QR code to connect with your neighbors and get the latest updates from the BPNA.



2025 City Planning Academy (application deadline: Jan. 24)

If you are a city resident and would like to be more informed about, and engaged in, current city planning issues in Sacramento, this free course could be for you. Current and past BPNA Board members have enjoyed being part of the Planning Academy and recommend the experience highly. Designed to educate Sacramento residents, business owners, and community leaders about how planning shapes our community, the Planning Academy follows a hybrid format, with a combination of discussion, presentations (in-person and via video, Zoom, or podcasts), and interactive group exercises. Presenters at the Academy in past years have included City staff, elected officials, local architects and planning professionals, and building industry leaders. The program lasts eleven weeks. Classes will be held on Monday evenings (starting at 5:30 p.m.) from **March 3 until May 11**. Two Saturday walking tours also will be scheduled. The deadline for submitting applications for the 2025 City Planning Academy is **Friday, January 24 (5 p.m.)**. For more information and to apply for the program, go to the website (cityofsacramento.gov/community-development/planning/long-range/planning-academy). If you have questions, send an email (Planningacademy@cityofsacramento.org).

Health Message from a BPNA Neighbor

By Dr. Jessica Nunez de Ybarra

Feeling supported by friends, family, and the community can help prevent someone from committing suicide. Launched in 2024, the **Never a Bother** campaign is a youth suicide prevention awareness campaign for young people and their parents, caregivers, and allies. "Never a Bother" aims to connect more youth with thoughts of suicide to help by letting them know they deserve support and are *never a bother* when reaching out to friends, trusted adults, counselors, and other types of support such as the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline (988lifeline.org). At the same time, those friends and allies are encouraged to make sure the young people know they can reach out to them for help anytime. Learn more at NeveraBother.org.

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