

# Giovanni's Journal

A publication of Texas State Representative Giovanni Capriglione

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## Dear friends,

Though the first day of spring is March 20, it feels like it's already here. Spring can be a busy time, and the next few weeks will definitely be full of activity as I meet with constituents in both Keller and Austin. I'll be in Austin a few times this month, the first to meet with Leadership classes for Colleyville, HEB, Northeast Tarrant County, and Southlake, and the second for the Investments & Financial Services committee's first interim hearing.

I can be of assistance to you in any way, please do not hesitate to reach out. I am always happy to help in whatever way I can. As always, thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving you in the Texas House.

*Rep. Giovanni Capriglione*

## Miracle League of Southlake

The Miracle League of Southlake is currently mapping out plans for its second season, to begin on March 26 at the Texas Rangers Miracle League Field in Southlake's Bicentennial Park. The Miracle League was founded in 1998 when an Atlanta father was seeking a way for his special needs child to participate in organized baseball. There are now more than 200 chapters of Miracle League, most of which are in the US. Planning for the Miracle League of Southlake began more than five years ago, with the first season played in the Fall of 2015. The league represents a partnership between the City of Southlake, the Texas Rangers Baseball Foundation, and the Miracle League.

The first season in Southlake saw more than 150 children and young adults with disabilities competing on one of ten teams; participants came from more than 20 cities in the Metroplex. Miracle League of Southlake's efforts are focused on several school districts in the area, including: Carroll, Grapevine-Colleyville, Keller, Northwest, and HEB. Games are held each Saturday for nine weeks, except for April 9; games are held 9 a.m.-10 a.m.

The format of the league and games is as follows:

- Teams are defined based on age; in our first season, the Minors was comprised of ages 11 and under and the Majors 12 and over. There is also



a competitive division.

- Each game lasts one hour.
- Each game lasts two innings.
- All players have an opportunity to bat in each inning.
- The last batter in an inning hits a "grand slam" home run.

One other aspect that makes the Miracle League games so special is the level of support from volunteers. Many of the young athletes require assistance with batting, running the bases, and fielding; for those individuals, a "buddy" is assigned who works closely with the athlete to ensure both enjoyment and safety of the individual. Volunteers also serve as coaches, announcers, and team parents.

The Miracle League of Southlake has had tremendous support from sponsors, whose support enables the League to keep registration free for players.

For additional information and schedules, please visit [www.miracleleagueofsouthlake.com](http://www.miracleleagueofsouthlake.com).

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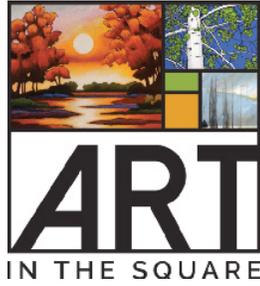
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# Youth Art in the Square Applications Due March 27

Youth Art in the Square provides aspiring high school artists with an opportunity to participate in and learn the mechanics of a world-class art festival, Southlake's Art in the Square. Candidates submit their art for juried consideration by completing an online application. Accepted artists will have their work exhibited April 22-24, 2016 at Art in the Square in a sponsored Youth Art tent, and some artists will receive awards-including cash prizes-for their achievements.

Youth Art also offers high school students the opportunity to enter their artwork in competition for the Lone Star Artist Award. The Lone Star Artist Award winner will have their work on display in the rotunda of the Capitol of Texas. The winner and their family will receive two nights of hotel accom-



modations in Austin courtesy of Kids Matter International and a VIP tour of the Capitol courtesy of Rep. Capriglione.

The Youth Art contest is open to any student of high school age in Northeast Tarrant County. Judges will select 100 pieces of art to be showcased during the festival. In addition to the Lone Star Artist Award, the judges select winners in various categories from the 100 pieces of artwork. Awards are provided by Roxann Taylor with Engel & Volkers Real Estate.

Students who volunteer their time in this charitable event may count those volunteer hours toward their high school community service requirement needed for graduation. Student artists will also have the opportunity to sell their work.

The 2016 application is open. **Interested candidates can apply through midnight of March 27, 2016. Submit artwork at [www.artinthesquare.com](http://www.artinthesquare.com).** For the application, including FAQs, please visit [www.artinthesquare.com/student-artists-1-1/](http://www.artinthesquare.com/student-artists-1-1/). Please read all rules and regulations carefully before submitting an application.

## March Events in District 98

- **March 5: Southlake's Fire Department Open House** 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at 600 State Street. All Southlake residents and businesses are invited to celebrate the fire department's 50th anniversary. The celebration held at DPS Headquarters will have activities including: a bounce house, face painting, station tours, extrication demonstration, and vehicle displays.
- **March 7: Westlake's Coffee & Conversation with the Mayor** 8 a.m.-9:30 a.m. at the Solana Great Room (newly renovated space inside the Marriott Solana hotel).
- **March 12: Keller Recycling Day** 9 a.m.-12 p.m. in the parking lot of the Keller Municipal Service Center at 151 Big Bear Creek Parkway. Hazardous and electronic waste will be accepted 9 a.m.-11 a.m. or until the truck is full, whichever comes first. A current Keller water bill or driver's license must be presented as proof of residency. Shredding will also take place onsite. For more information, contact the City Manager's Office at 817-743-4000 or [townhall@cityofkeller.com](mailto:townhall@cityofkeller.com). Further information on the specific types of waste accepted is available on the City of Keller's website.
- **March 19: Grapevine's 41st Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Nash Farm** 9 a.m.-12 p.m. The Easter Bunny will be hiding thousands of eggs (and some special prize eggs) around the farm for five different age groups. Bring your camera for great photo opportunities.
- **March 19: Southlake's Easter in the Park** 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at North Park, located at 200 E Dove Road. This year's annual egg hunt will have egg hunts by age, bounce houses, and other children's activities. The Easter Bunny is coming to take pictures with the whole family as well.
- **March 19: Colleyville's Bunny Brunch** 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Colleyville Center located at 5301 Riverwalk Drive. Brunch is \$5 per child and \$7 per adult. Tickets can be purchased online at [colleyville.com](http://colleyville.com) until March 11. Come for a morning of spring activities, including: brunch, photos with the bunny, petting zoo, and an egg hunt.
- **March 26: Southlake's Crud Cruiser-Spring Cleaning Event** 9 a.m.-11 a.m. at the Dragon Stadium located at 1085 South Kimball Avenue. In addition to collecting household hazardous waste, there will also be electronics recycling and document shredding. The "Crud Cruiser" is free to Southlake residents and will operate on a "first come, first serve" basis. Please visit the City of Southlake's website for further information on the types of items accepted.
- **March 25: Good Friday**
- **March 27: Easter**



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