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## **Nominations Now Open for the 2013 Governor's Volunteering and Service Awards**

*Honoring Outstanding California Volunteers, Organizations and Companies  
That Make a Positive Impact in Local Communities Across the Golden State*

**SACRAMENTO** – CaliforniaVolunteers announced today that nominations are now open for the 2013 Governor's Volunteering and Service Awards. This annual CaliforniaVolunteers event serves to inspire Californians by honoring amazing individuals, organizations, and companies who are making an impact in their local communities through volunteering and service.

"Volunteers continue to make California stronger through the generous giving of their time and talents. Their spirit of service provides California with a much needed resource to tackle our toughest issues and strengthen local communities," said Karen Baker, Secretary of Service and Volunteering. "The Governor's Volunteering and Service Awards celebrates those among us who are doing creative, dynamic and impactful volunteer work here in California."

"It was an incredible honor to be awarded with a Governor's Volunteering and Service Award," said Scott Budnick, California's 2012 Volunteer of the Year and movie producer for Green Hat Films. "Most people don't pay attention to our young men and woman forgotten behind the prison walls, a population that some find easily disposable, but in truth can rehabilitate, redeem themselves and become an integral part of the fabric of this great state. I am grateful that Governor Brown, through this award, shined a light not just on my volunteer work but on this important issue."

Nominations will be accepted in the following categories:

- **California's Business Volunteer Program of the Year**  
Honors an outstanding California business with an innovative, high-impact volunteer program.
- **California's Small Business Volunteer Program of the Year**  
Honors an outstanding California small business with an innovative, high-impact volunteer program.
- **California's Foundation of the Year**  
Honors an outstanding California foundation that has made a successful investment in service and volunteer models in addressing community needs.
- **California's Nonprofit of the Year**  
Honors an outstanding California nonprofit that has shown an extraordinary ability to leverage volunteers in service to their organization.

- **California's Faith-Based Organization of the Year**  
Honors an outstanding California faith-based organization that actively engages volunteers in addressing community, regional and/or state needs.
- **California's Disaster Volunteer Program of the Year**  
Honors an outstanding California disaster volunteer program that has demonstrated an unwavering service commitment to the local community.
- **California's AmeriCorps Member of the Year**  
Honors an outstanding California AmeriCorps member who has made a substantial impact to their community.
- **California's Volunteer of the Year**  
Honors an outstanding Californian whose volunteer service is exemplary and inspirational.

The deadline to submit a nomination for a Governor's Volunteering and Service Award is April 15, 2013. To make your nomination, please visit [www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org/gvsa](http://www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org/gvsa).

The Governor's Volunteering and Service Awards will be presented at an awards ceremony in Sacramento on Wednesday, May 22, 2013.

**The 2012 Governor's Volunteering and Service Awards winners:**

- California's Business Volunteer Program of the Year – **Gap Inc.**
- California's Small Business Volunteer Program of the Year – **Mendo Lake Credit Union**
- California's Foundation of the Year – **The California Endowment**
- California's Nonprofit of the Year – **MEND: Meet Each Need with Dignity**
- California's Faith-Based Organization of the Year – **Peninsula Clergy Network**
- California's Disaster Volunteer Program of the Year – **Santa Barbara County CERT Committee**
- California's AmeriCorps Member of the Year – **Luciano Mondolo, Playworks**
- California's Volunteer of the Year – **Scott Budnick, Green Hat Films**

For more information on the 2012 Governor's Volunteering and Service Award winners visit [www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org/gvsa](http://www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org/gvsa).

**About CaliforniaVolunteers**

CaliforniaVolunteers is the state office that manages programs and initiatives to increase the number of Californians involved with service and volunteering, including the state AmeriCorps program and the California Disaster Corps. Through the innovative website, [CaliforniaVolunteers.org](http://CaliforniaVolunteers.org), individuals and families can find more than 50,000 volunteer opportunities throughout the state, involving education, the environment, youth, and disaster preparedness. For more information, please visit [www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org](http://www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org).

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