

HOT AUGUST NIGHTS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH O'BRIEN MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Hot August Nights (HAN) Foundation supports O'Brien Middle School (OMS) as its partner in education. A group of volunteers on the Hot August Nights Foundation Committee are dedicated to lending support throughout the year, allowing these kids to decrease their risk of not getting the proper education they need, along with providing the tools they need to do so.

The Foundation committee has increased the schools attendance and citizenship grades by leaps and bounds over the years, by offering incentives such as perfect attendance parties at the end of each quarter that include ice cream sundaes with all the fixings and drawings for prizes. As a special gift this year, all students with perfect attendance for all four quarters had their names entered in a drawing for a limo ride to John Ascuaga's Nugget for a special luncheon with a friend and a staff member.

The Foundation also puts on Sock Hops for good citizenship grades and an end of the year 8th grade Barbeque at The Sparks Marina. In addition, each year, every O'Brien girl (over 400) is surprised with a scarf party, all receiving a hand-knit scarf of their choice, made by the wonderful HAN volunteers and participants. Not to leave the boys out, there is also an annual Show-n-Shine for all 7th and 8th grade boys (over 400) in the O'Brien Middle School parking lot, where they are taught about the classic cars and nostalgia of the 50's and 60's, all receiving a souvenir to take home.

Every December HAN provides gifts and essentials for 85-100 deserving students. The counseling staff interviews the randomly chosen students to determine their selection. The HAN members and volunteers purchase, wrap, and deliver the gifts to O'Brien, and provide a duffle bag with miscellaneous items such as HAN tee-shirts and hats. To top it all off, the gifts are presented by Santa at an on campus party that includes a luncheon and keepsake photos of the occasion. HAN spends all year collecting additional small gifts and essentials, such as hair brushes, shampoo, cards, colored pencils, toothpaste, hand cream, hacky-saks, yo-yos, etc.

The Hot August Nights Foundation supports the school year-round with contributions to the OMS Thanksgiving and Christmas food drives, a winter coat drive, while also providing binders, back-packs and clothing donations when needed. In addition, the Hot August Nights Foundation provides a monthly stipend to be used as needed. Scholarships are also awarded to middle school students for summer programs at UNR.

The Hot August Nights Foundation and its volunteers believe in helping these students prepare for a successful future and with the support received from our community, there is a difference being made.