

# KIB Newsletter



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One of the many North Lake College students who learned more about KIB at the Service Learning Fair, held on February 11 and 12.



Irving Family YMCA Executive Director Doug Fox accepts the KAB Distinguished Service Citation from KIB Board Members Margie Stipes and Rachel Moon.



The Phi Theta Kappa team had a great time painting at the Fritz Park Petting Farm on Valentine's Day.

## Keep Irving Beautiful Going for Gold in 2014

Keep Irving Beautiful has kicked off 2014 with a variety of activities, including those that involve education, networking, gardening, beautification and planning for even more events in the future. Our annual trip to the Keep America Beautiful National Conference did not disappoint, and we came back to Irving with lots of ideas from not only the educational sessions but also from networking with our fellow affiliates from all across the country.

Closer to home, we are excited about starting the first leg of what will be an ongoing project at Fritz Park. On Valentine's Day, we partnered with the North Lake Phi Theta Kappa students to paint fences at the Petting Farm, which several remembered visiting as children! KIB has several groups lined up for service projects at the Petting Farm in the coming months, so we hope to have the whole area completely refurbished by the time it opens in June.

In other North Lake news, KIB attended the Service Learning Fair on February 11-12 at the Central Campus to talk to students about joining the KIB team for the spring semester. KIB has been partnering with NLC in this program since 2008, and hundreds of students have worked with us to complete their hours.

We have renewed our commitment to maintaining our raised bed plot at the Gerald Taylor Memorial Community Garden, and can't wait for the weather to cooperate so we can get out there and plant again.



Keep America Beautiful's new President and CEO, Jennifer Jehn (center) presented KIB staff Julie Schmitt and Rick Hose with the 2nd Place National Affiliate Award at the Annual KAB National Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina. KIB also was honored with the "President's Circle" award and accepted Distinguished Service Citations on behalf of our partners VHA, Inc. and the Irving Family YMCA.

## Coming Soon to KIB:

It's not too early to nominate an individual or group in one of the ten categories for the 2014 "Mayor and KIB Proud Partner Awards." If you know of an environmental star who deserves recognition, please go to [www.rockthegreen.org](http://www.rockthegreen.org) and submit an online nomination. Deadline is June 18, and the awards reception will be held on Monday, August 11 at the First Baptist Church of Irving.

Along with many other Texas affiliates, KIB will be hosting a "Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off" event on Saturday, April 5 as part of the nationwide Great American Cleanup program. Our event will be held from 9:00 a.m. to noon at Trinity View Park, with lunch provided after the cleanup. Register at [www.rockthegreen.org](http://www.rockthegreen.org), then join us and other volunteers at Trinity View on April 5.

Keep Irving Beautiful is always on the lookout for new ways to improve our community's appearance, along with new partners to add to the KIB family of volunteers. If you want to become a part of our award-winning and decidedly FUN organization, go to [www.keepirvingbeautiful.org](http://www.keepirvingbeautiful.org) and check out our calendar to see if we have an event that interests you. Or give us a call here at 972-721-2175.