

## WOUNDED IN AMERICA



Gilbert - gun violence survivor

"I remember thinking my life was over, I kept losing consciousness. The pain in my back was really strong. I remember telling my friend, 'Just tell my mom I love her and I'm sorry.'"

Those are the words of Gilbert, as he remembered the gunshot wound that left him paralyzed and in a wheelchair. His narrative is one of dozens included in "Wounded in America: Stories of Gun Violence Survivors," an exhibit of photos and essays by photographer Robert Drea and writer Stephanie Arena that is being hosted by The Pat Brown Institute and the University Library at Cal State LA through Dec. 6, 2008.

"It is fitting that we bring this exhibit to the JFK Memorial Library shortly after we launch our Safe and Healthy Communities Initiative," said Jaime A. Regalado, Ph.D., executive director of the PBI. "These photos and essays speak volumes about the devastating effects of gun violence on individuals and communities."

The goal of the *Safe and Healthy Communities Initiative* is to enable communities to identify problems and solutions through collaborative approaches, to enable at-risk and high-risk youth and their parents to be safe from dangerous lifestyles and aware of positive options for growth and success, and to empower communities to speak and act with both singular and collective voices, Regalado said.

"'Wounded in America' is a perfect example of a community-based effort to stop violence," he added. "The artists have given gun violence victims a collective voice through these highly personal photographs and essays," he added. "With our focus on safe and healthy communities, the Pat Brown Institute is honored to co-host this exhibit with the University Library."

At the Sept. 17 opening reception for "Wounded in America," Jeff Carr, Los Angeles Deputy Mayor for Gang Reduction and Youth Development, thanked PBI, the University Library, Southern California Edison and The California Wellness Foundation for sponsoring the exhibit at Cal State LA.

"It is vital that everyone - especially young people - sees the effects of gun violence and hears from victims in their own words," said Julio Marcial, program director at The California Wellness Foundation. "To accomplish this, the exhibit links powerful photographs with the stories of survivors of gun violence. It will have a profound effect on everyone who views it."

Drea and Arena, a husband and wife team, began "Wounded in America" as a response to shootings in their Chicago neighborhood.

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### MISSION STATEMENT

The Pat Brown Institute of Public Affairs, a presidentially chartered institute at California State University, Los Angeles is dedicated to the quest for social justice and equality of opportunity, enlightened civic engagement, and enhancing the quality of life for all Californians.

The Pat Brown Institute is a non-partisan public policy center dedicated to sustaining the vision and legacy of former California Governor Edmund G. "Pat" Brown through convening public policy forums, engaging multi sector stakeholders and diverse communities, and conducting timely policy research and community-driven initiatives.



## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jaime A. Regalado, Ph.D.



Dear Friends and Colleagues:

In this major election year, the role of a public affairs institute like ours is vital. Not only do we provide an important vehicle for public policy debate, but in this era of the “24-hour news cycle” we help engage stakeholders and community members in real issues, not just headlines.

The issues most important to the Pat Brown Institute center on the quest for social justice and equality of opportunity. To this end, we established Safe and Healthy Communities Initiative to align all of our programs that focus on the health and well being of our communities. Already, we are energized by the success of this decision as we bring together experts on healthcare, gang violence prevention and intervention and policymaking to address related concerns in our communities.

In keeping with the theme of Safe and Healthy Communities, we are honored to join the JFK Memorial Library at Cal State LA to host the exhibit, “Wounded in America: Stories of Gun Violence Survivors.” This work of photographer Robert Drea and writer Stephanie Arena is a moving portrayal of the effects of gun violence in communities across the country. PBI and the University Library are pleased to bring the exhibit to our campus as part of an ongoing commitment to creating safe communities for everyone. We thank Southern California Edison for hosting the kickoff reception and exhibit on September 17th and The California Wellness Foundation for serving as statewide exhibit sponsor.

As you read this newsletter, we will be busy analyzing the results of Election Day. Regardless of your partisan or political convictions, we appreciate your commitment to vibrant public policy debate in California. As we begin to determine the major implications of the 2008 elections for California, its regions, cities, towns and communities, we encourage you to remain engaged in the issues of the day. By supporting the work of the Pat Brown Institute you’ve already indicated your passion for civic engagement. We welcome your participation in our California Agenda forums, our conferences and other events.

Sincerely,

Jaime A. Regalado, Ph.D.  
Executive Director

## WOUNDED IN AMERICA

*Continued from front cover*

More than a decade later, their work has been shown nationwide. According to Chicago's *Third Coast Press*, "As one walks through the choreographed exhibit, the words of the victims beg you to listen and the photos beg you to look and learn."

Consider Gilbert's words: "They had to show me how to live the rest of my life in a wheelchair. After I went home I couldn't stay away from my homeboys. I became even more vicious because I figured I was half dead anyway. I ended up getting involved in a shooting and I went to prison, which is the best thing that ever happened to me. I was in the cell by myself for years. All those hours forced me to start dealing with the one person I hated. Was I really that monster on the streets? I began discovering myself. I knew I didn't want to be risking my life for things that had no merit. I'm Godfather to a bunch of my friends' first-born sons, a lot of their fathers are in prison, and they might never get out. I enrolled at Cerritos College. I just didn't have time to hang out on the streets anymore."

Today, Gilbert is a violence prevention advocate in Los Angeles.

"Gilbert's story and the rest of the stories included in 'Wounded in America' demonstrates the devastating effect of gun violence on families and communities," said Frank J. Quevedo, vice president of Equal Opportunity at Southern California Edison and a member of PBI's Board of Advisors. "The Institute is honored to present 'Wounded in America' as part of our ongoing Safe and Healthy Communities Initiative."

The Wounded in America exhibit is free and open to members of the public during library hours at the JFK Memorial Library on the campus of Cal State LA, 5150 State University Drive, through Dec. 6. For library hours, visit [www.calstatela.edu/library](http://www.calstatela.edu/library).

For more about the artists or the exhibit, visit [www.woundedinamerica.org](http://www.woundedinamerica.org).

## SAFE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE

The recently launched **Safe and Healthy Communities Initiative** is the Pat Brown Institute's umbrella for four community, training and outreach programs:

**Youth Enrichment Project**—Prevents youth and gang violence and activity by providing after-school programs for high-risk and at-risk youth and their families in a feeder school triad in the Boyle Heights area of Los Angeles.

**Community Policing and Governance Training Program**—Trains a multitude of law enforcement agencies and officers in Los Angeles County to engage in collaborative community problem solving.

**Gang & Youth Violence Interventionist Training**—Assists gang and youth violence intervention workers by providing common curriculum, as well as interactive learning and communication opportunities.

**Health Policy Outreach Center**—Examines issues influencing the health and well-being of the largely Asian Pacific Islander and Latino residents of East Los Angeles and the West San Gabriel Valley communities.



(L to R) The California Wellness Foundation Program Director Julio Marcial, PBI Board Member Frank Quevedo, photographer Robert Drea, writer Stephanie Arena, and PBI Board Member Alice Kawakami

## THE YOUTH ENRICHMENT PROJECT

Since its launch in 2005, the Youth Enrichment Project (YEP) continues to develop and mature into a program that provides comprehensive services to youth and their families in the Boyle Heights Educational Triad. Offering after-school services such as tutoring, mentoring, enrichment workshops, and modified case management to at-risk and high-risk youth, YEP is no longer simply a guest but rather established itself as a true family member at the Boyle Heights Educational Triad schools (Roosevelt High, Hollenbeck Middle, and First Street Elementary).



Spearheaded by its commitment to mitigating youth and gang violence in underrepresented communities, YEP empowers young people with academic, social, and life skills to achieve a self-determinant future. YEP works to ensure that all youth have a safe and healthy community with equal access to a college-ready education.

In our effort to stay current to the growing research on methods and practices that successfully address youth and gang violence, YEP is constantly seeking ways to improve the content, quality, and delivery of its program. Within the past year, YEP has successfully enhanced the services offered to its participants by adding and implementing a newly revised life skills curriculum; incorporating California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) and California Standards Test (CST) tutoring and preparation; integration and exposure to the YEP Arts, YEP Media, and YEP Sports, YEP College and University Tours, and the continuous efforts to strengthen our collaborations with other community agencies.



YEP welcomes and looks forward to the upcoming 2008-2009 academic year! With the support of our current and potential funders we hope to continue our work and collaboration with youth, parents, schools, and organizations within the Boyle Heights Educational Triad, aiming for yet another strong and successful year!

### YEP RECENT GUEST SPEAKERS

**Christine Posadas**, RHS Student, Participant - *Girls Today Women Tomorrow*

**Maria Gomez**, RHS Student, Participant - *Girls Today Women Tomorrow*

**Louie Romero**, Counselor, *Behavior Health Services*

**Steve Teixeira**, Director, *Student Support Program, CSULA*

**Obed Silva**, Graduate Student, *CSULA*



The *California Agenda* series consists of eight public policy lectures and panel discussions that focus on issues of significance to California.

### **January 30, 2008 - “Civic Engagement across California Communities”**

This panel explored degrees of political engagement and how issues, such as healthcare, immigration, tolerance, the economy, the workforce, the war in Iraq and others, drive political interest and action in California communities. Panelists: Kathay Feng, Executive Director of Common Cause California; Erin Aubrey Kaplan, writer and columnist; Dr. Max Neiman, Associate Director Senior Fellow of Public Policy Institute of California; and John Trasvina, President and General Counsel of MALDEF. Moderator: Shirley Jahad, KPCC, 89.3 FM/NPR.

### **February 20, 2008 - “State of Education in Los Angeles III: Race & Gender in Education”**

This event examined the roles race and gender play in our education system and the degree to which our investment patterns are equitable. The panel examined more successful policies and educational models in order to overcome these issues. Panelists: Honorable Monica Garcia, Board President, Los Angeles Unified School District; Maria Brenes, Inner City Struggle; and Santiago Jackson, Assistant Superintendent, Division of Adult and Career Education, Los Angeles Unified School District. Moderator: Adolfo Guzman-Lopez, KPCC.

### **March 19, 2008 - “Cultivating Livable Communities: Environment, Economy and Equity”**

Under the umbrella of the PBI’s new Safe and Healthy Communities Initiative, this panel assessed the idea of livable communities and offered roadmaps to achieve them. Panelists: California State Assemblymember Warren Furutani; Michael Alexander, Executive and Artistic Director of Grand Performances; and Dr. Daniel Flaming, President of Economic Roundtable. Moderator: Toni Guinyard, freelance reporter.

### **April 30, 2008 - “Healthcare and Health Policy in California and Beyond”**

This panel looked at the ongoing health policy debate among advocates, community members, policy analysts and elected officials, while also identifying steps we can take to overcome our healthcare troubles. Panelists: Ellen Wu, Executive Director of California Pan-Ethnic Health Network; Dr. Susan Wu, Keck School of Medicine of University of Southern California; and Lark Galloway-Gilliam, Executive Director of Community Health Councils. Moderator: Susan Abram, Los Angeles Daily News.

### **May 21, 2008 - “Youth Violence and Prevention Methods”**

This event examined the issue of youth violence and effective prevention/intervention methods, specifically in urban communities. The panel addressed how to define and measure successful prevention/intervention methods. Panelists: Los Angeles City Councilmember Tony Cardenas; Aquil Basheer, CEO of Maximum Force Enterprises and Brotherhood Unified for Independent Leadership through Discipline; Officer Larry Covington, Los Angeles Police Department Juvenile Intervention and Prevention Program; and Belinda Smith Walker, Director of Girls and Gangs. Moderator: Toni Guinyard, freelance reporter.

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### June 18, 2008 - "Financing the Future of the Golden State"

This lecture examined the state's current financial condition, the budget crisis, California's seemingly archaic financial structures, and the debate among policy makers and critical observers on finding acceptable solutions to the current crisis. Lecturer: Judy Chu, Chair, California State Board of Equalization.

### September 24, 2008 - "Technology and the Future of Civic Engagement"

This event examined the issue of technology and its role in shaping the future of civic engagement. The panel addressed the promise of technology and how it enables us to acquire and disseminate information, paying close attention to the degree to which the digital divide may hinder any aspect of these expectations. Panelists: Kim Alexander, Founder and President of California Voter Foundation; Sunne McPeak, President and CEO of California Emerging Technology Fund; and Tracy Westen, Vice Chairman and CEO of Center for Government Studies. Moderator: Peter Manzo, Director of Strategic Initiatives of Advancement Project Los Angeles.

### October 22, 2008 - "Immigration, Race Relations and the 2008 Elections"

Less than two weeks away from the national elections, this lecture focused on the importance of immigration. The role immigration and immigrant communities play in the larger arenas of race and ethnic relations in the U.S and how it affects local, regional, and national politics/political processes were the main topics of discussion. Panelists: Reverend Eric P. Lee, President and CEO of Southern Christian Leadership Conference of Los Angeles; Stewart Kwoh, President and Executive Director of Asian Pacific American Legal Center; and Angela Sanbrano, President of National Alliance of Latin American and Caribbean Communities.

Supported by a generous grant from the James Irvine Foundation, the Public Policy Education Program serves as the umbrella for PBI's public policy events and publications. The California Agenda is hosted by Southern California Edison.

#### IN THE "AGE OF ENGAGE," PBI GOES 2.0

The PBI is proud to announce that pre-event notification and post-event recaps have gone "2.0." In addition to creating a Facebook group and fan page for the late Governor, the Pat Brown Institute now has a My Pat Brown Institute site for its events and issues as well as a group on LinkedIn, a MySpace page, a PBI blog, and a presence on Twitter.

##### Facebook

Search Group Name: The Pat Brown Institute of Public Affairs

##### Myspace

<http://www.myspace.com/patbrowninstitute>

##### PBI Blog

<http://mypatbrowninstitute.blogspot.com/>

##### LinkedIn

Search Group Name: The Pat Brown Institute of Public Affairs

##### Twitter

<http://twitter.com/PBI>

#### BY THE NUMBERS

**3,145:** Number of people who have participated in The California Agenda since its inception in 2005

**1,580,000:** Number of hits to the PBI website ([www.patbrowninstitute.org](http://www.patbrowninstitute.org)) between January 1, 2007 and September 1, 2008.

**21:** Number of years PBI has been at Cal State LA

**1959-1967:** Years Edmund G. "Pat" Brown served as Governor of California

**15,468,551:** Number of registered voters in California (source: <http://www.sos.ca.gov>)

**100 million:** Number of people on Facebook. Find PBI and Fans of Pat Brown on [Facebook.com](http://Facebook.com)

**One in 10:** Number of high school seniors in 2008 who did not pass the exit exam in California by graduation (source: Dept of Education)

**307:** Number of times PBI executive director Dr. Jaime Regalado was quoted by the media in 2006-2008

## PBI'S 27<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

Celebrating those who dedicate their lives to public service in the Golden State and strengthening PBI's presence across the public, private and nonprofit sectors, the Institute's 27th Annual Awards Dinner was held April 17, 2008 at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles.

At the dinner, California Attorney General Jerry Brown received the Pat Brown Legacy Award—marking the first time one of Gov. Pat Brown's children has been honored by the public affairs institute named for their father. The honorees included:

**California Attorney General Jerry Brown**—  
*Pat Brown Legacy Award*

**California Assemblymember Hector De La Torre**—  
*Public Servant of the Year Award*

**Wells Fargo**—*Corporate Leadership & Responsibility Award*  
(Accepting the award was Jonathan Weedman, regional vice president, Wells Fargo Foundation)

**Philanthropist Robert H. Ahmanson**—Posthumous tribute to the late president of the Ahmanson Foundation, an organization synonymous with the arts and humanities in Los Angeles.

J. William Ichord, vice president of governmental relations for Sempra Energy served as Dinner Chair, with Sempra serving as Corporate Host for the event. Popular KABC-TV news anchor Marc Brown emceed the event.

More than 500 guests, including elected officials, business leaders and members of the academic community attended, enjoying the evening's theme, "The Living Legacy" (The theme was fitting considering the Brown family's multi-generational impact on California politics and policy, and the role of Wells Fargo Bank in developing the west. Even Weedman, of Wells Fargo, shared the "Living Legacy" theme: He is the grandson of former California Governor Goodwin Knight, who held that office from 1953-1959.



Sempra Energy Vice President of Government Relations J. William Ichord served as Dinner Chair of the 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Awards Dinner



2008 PBI Dinner honoree California State Attorney General Jerry Brown with PBI Board Member Marie Moretti (L) and PBI Board Member Dr. Scott Bowman

### EYE ON ALI

Associate Director Dr. Ali Modarres brings international prestige to the Pat Brown Institute as an invited lecturer. Listed below are his presentations and lectures this year.

"Social and Economic Impacts of Urban Renewal Programs in the U.S." Beijing Normal University, China. (May 2008)

"Role of Non-Profit Organizations in Immigrant Integration in Los Angeles County." A Conference on Immigrant Integration and the American Future: Lessons From and For California. University of Southern California, Los Angeles. (April 2008)

"Community-Based Organizations and the Integration of Immigrants in the United States and Sweden." Annual Conference of the Urban Affairs Association. Baltimore, Maryland. Co-Presenter: Göran Cars. (April 2008)

"Notes Towards the Construction of a New Suburbanism." A Suburban World?: Global Decentralization and the New Metropolis. Reston, Virginia. Co-Author and Co-Presenter: Andrew Kirby. (April 2008)

"Health and Access to Healthcare in East Los Angeles and West San Gabriel Valley." A workshop presentation for non-profit organizations and members of the Health Policy Outreach Center (HPOC). Los Angeles, California. (March 2008)



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