



OUTSTANDING PARTNER
Bank of America

Al Argüello, Market President, Inland Empire

Back in the 1990s, when RCCD launched the Passport to College early outreach initiative, Bank of America was among the first to step forward with a major gift. That support helped make the dream of college possible for more than 11,500 fifth graders.

Stepping up to support community and learning initiatives isn't anything new for Bank of America. The multinational company and its executives understand that supporting education leads to a stronger workforce. And helping build a strong workforce and economy are among Bank of America's long-held community priorities.

As a result, RCCD colleges and the RCCD Foundation have been grateful beneficiaries of Bank of America's support for more than two decades. In addition to Passport to College support, Bank of America provided a leadership gift when RCC launched the Gateway to College program—an initiative created by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Recognizing the vital role of arts education, Bank of America also has provided a grant to the RCCD Foundation underwriting the busing of students to attend Performance Riverside productions. And the company serves as a sponsor of the Annual Recognition Awards & Arts Gala, the proceeds from which support student enrichment activities.

Last year, Bank of America provided a grant to TriTech Small Business Development Center to help them expand their Business Assistance Program, which provides specialized business training and technical assistance for small businesses in the Inland Empire.

This year, Bank of America served as a presenting sponsor of TriTech's "Funding the Big Idea" event, which connects emerging entrepreneurial business leaders with possible investors. Perhaps most importantly, Bank of America's corporate philosophy encourages volunteerism on the part of its staff. RCCD and the RCCD Foundation are fortunate to benefit from the leadership of Al Argüello, Market President, who serves as a member of the Chancellor's Circle of Innovation, and Raul Aballi, Resident Director of Merrill Lynch and President-elect of the RCCD Foundation.