



News from: Oakland Parks and Recreation

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Oakland Announces 2014 Mother of the Year *61st Annual Award Ceremony Honors Lisa Klein*

Oakland, CA – Oakland Parks and Recreation is pleased to announce that **Lisa Klein** has been selected as **Oakland’s 2014 Mother of the Year**. Oakland mother of two and founder of the nonprofit Loved Twice, Lisa has been responsible for providing baby clothes to thousands of newborns living in Oakland.

The idea began in 2005 when Lisa saw the devastation of Hurricane Katrina and began calling friends, asking for gently used baby clothing to donate to the New Orleans relief effort. Amy Dunnigan, Chairman of the Loved Twice Board said that “Lisa’s leadership, determination and passion led her to take the effort a step further to form Loved Twice, which works through licensed social workers to provide underprivileged newborns with a “wardrobe-in-a-box”; a year’s worth of gender-appropriate, gently used baby clothing.”

“The arrival of a new baby is perhaps the most joyful – and often the most stressful – event that there is for any family. For families living in poverty, the stress of a new baby can be overwhelming” stated Detra Paige who provided a letter of support from the Oakland Athletics. The average household income for the mother receiving a Loved Twice box is less than \$16,000 and all of Loved Twice’s clients live below 200% of the national poverty level. Loved Twice has provided 9,809 newborns a full year’s worth of baby clothes, helping vulnerable families meet their basic needs while keeping over 98,000 pounds of clothing out of landfills. That’s 735,635 essential garments recycled into underserved communities with an estimate retail value of \$2.2 million.

The honoree will be recognized during the **Oakland Mother of the Year Award Ceremony, 10:30 a.m., on Saturday, May 10, 2014** at the Morcom Rose Garden, 700 Jean Street, Oakland, CA.

Oakland’s Mother of the Year Award is a project of Oakland Parks and Recreation and was initiated in 1954 to publicly honor an Oakland citizen whose contributions to the community symbolize the finest traditions of motherhood, although being a parent is not a requirement to be nominated for the Mother of the Year Award. Past honorees have included hard-working, dedicated community servants whose volunteerism has been exemplary.



Photo Credit: Diana Koenigsberg

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