FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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KENNER MAYOR’S YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL SELECTS
13 NEW MEMBERS FOR 2014-2015 TERM

Kenner, LA. – Thirteen new members have been selected to be a part of the Mayor’s Youth Advisory Council (MYAC) in Kenner and are set to join the group in its second year offering a youthful perspective on important issues to Kenner officials.

Mayor Michael Yenni created the Youth Council last year as a way include the opinions of the future leaders of Kenner and to introduce the teens to the ins and outs of local government.

“The first year was a great learning experience – both for the kids on the council and for myself and City Council members,” Yenni said. “These young people are smart and committed, and considering that they are our future leaders, it only makes sense to get their feedback and input on some of the important decisions we make.”

The 13 incoming members join eight existing members from last year’s inaugural Youth Council. Returning group members have already indicated that raising money to improve the Veterans Park Playground will continue to be a focus for the council, said Deputy Chief Administrative Office Natalie Newton, the Kenner administration advisor to the group.

Newton said neither she nor Yenni have any set agenda for the Youth Council. “From meeting to meeting, the members decide what they want to do as a group and how they want to do it,” she said. “I think that’s the best way for them to utilize their time on the council and to learn about local government. I’m simply here to guide them toward the resources they need.”

Last year, the MYAC held a number of fundraisers to raise money for Veterans Playground, attended council meetings and offered a valuable perspective from Kenner’s youth to elected officials.

The new members, all between 14 and 19 years old, live in Kenner and agree to attend monthly meetings and other functions organized by the youth council.

Kenner’s newest ambassadors, who will be inducted on October 16th at 4:30 p.m. in the Kenner Council Chambers at 1801 Williams Blvd. prior to the City Council Meeting, are:
• Alexis Aviles, Mount Carmel Academy
• Vanessa Barrios, Mount Carmel Academy
• Katherine Blackburn, Mount Carmel Academy
• Gabriella DiMaria, Bonnabel High School
• Andres Fuentes, Archbishop Rummel High School
• Cade Fuxan, Jesuit High School
• Brett Hildreth, Brother Martin High School
• Oswaldo Infante, Archbishop Rummel High School
• Catherine Pellerin, Mount Carmel Academy
• Evan Slattery, Jesuit High School
• Nicholas Tanner, Brother Martin High School
• Queen Tervalon, St. Martin’s Episcopal
• Emma Vincent, St. Mary’s Dominican

The returning members are:
• Deborah Alvarenga, Cabrini High School
• Cameron Armand, Jesuit High School
• Younes Boulares, Haynes Academy
• Ashley Johnson, Mount Carmel Academy
• Mayank Mardia, Jesuit High School
• Justin Sandoval, Holy Cross High School/NOCCA
• Brandon Sprague, Jesuit High School
• Arjun Verma, Jesuit High School

For more information on the Mayor’s Youth Advisory Council, please visit www.kenner.la.us (see the MYAC subpage) or call Deputy Chief Administrative Officer Natalie Newton at 504-468-7240.

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