

# MEDIA ALERT

RIALTO RACER JOINS STUDENTS IN 2016 NATIONAL  
HOT ROD ASSOCIATION CAREER DAY PROGRAM  
PRESENTED BY THE U.S. ARMY

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### WHO:

Rialto drag racer, Adrienne Markham, is set participate with a group of students in the 2016 National Hot Rod Association Youth and Education Services Career Day program presented by the U.S. Army at the NHRA Mello Yello Drag Racing Series Auto Club Finals in Pomona, California, Thursday, November 10, 2016.

As guests for the day of the Steve Johnson Racing Team, the students will also be treated to Racers Who Care Quick Tips on Winning in Life life skills presentations made by pro-racers, based on their personal career experiences, and will enjoy racer-guided Pit Tours to see the Quick Tips being enacted in real life by race teams as they prepare to compete in the NHRA season finale.

This race day program is made possible by a grant from The William T. and Eileen L. Norris Foundation and by Steve Johnson Racing.

Included in RWC's field trip group will be middle school students from Glendora, California's Sandburg Middle School, and young people from Boys Republic.

### ADRIENNE MARKHAM:

Adrienne Markham is presently taking time off from racing to pursue studies in marketing at California State Polytechnic University-Pomona. For several years, she was a leading Southern California NHRA Junior Dragster competitor.

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### **RACERS:**

Other racers to be involved in inspiring kids to believe in themselves and in their dreams at this event will be: Sandy, Utah's Scott Horner, a land speed competitor on unfaired motorcycles, which he also builds; and Nostalgia Drag Racer, Donald Galaz, who is also a spokesperson for The Brotherhood of Street Racers, an organization dedicated to keeping teen racers off city streets and on supervised race tracks.

### **The U.S. ARMY/NHRA Y.E.S. PROGRAM:**

NHRA Youth & Education Services (Y.E.S.) program presented by the U.S. Army is motorsports' first and only full-time event dedicated to educational programming. The program is presented on track grounds during select NHRA events and provides high school and college-aged students with real world lessons about career options and positive goal-setting.

Students participate in a compelling and informational session led by NHRA drivers, including U.S. Army Top Fuel driver Tony Schumacher, other NHRA Representatives, and U.S. Army Soldiers. Participants can also visit the U.S. Army's Strength in Action Zone, an experience that explores the elements that give U.S. Army Soldiers a strength like no other with a variety of fully-interactive fitness, educational, and other technical components.

In 2016, the NHRA's Y.E.S. program is continuing its 28th year of empowering young people with information about career choices and reaching their goals. With the help of the U.S. Army, the program continues to reach over 25,000 students a year nationwide.

### **STEVE JOHNSON RACING:**

Steve Johnson, who will be hosting the RWC group of students and making a Quick Tips on Winning in Life Presentation to them on race day at the NHRA Finals event, competes on an NHRA Pro Stock Motorcycle in the NHRA Mello Yello Drag Racing Series. Johnson was instrumental in the start up of Racers Who Care, Inc. and has worked with children and teens through RWC since its 1993 inception. Johnson currently hails from Irondale, Alabama, near Birmingham. In 1993, Johnson was one of the first to make a Quick Tips on Winning in Life Presentation, and is RWC's most experienced presenter.

Johnson owns and competes on a Suzuki motorcycle for the Steve Johnson Racing Team in the NHRA's Pro Stock Motorcycle Class. He has competed on other Series and types of motorcycle racing, as well, from time to time winning championships. In 1987 and 1989, he was Drag Bike USA's Pro Stock Motorcycle Champion, and in 1989, he won the American Motorcyclist Association's Rebel Nationals. In 2007, Johnson finished among the top 10 in the NHRA Pro Stock Motorcycle Class. In 2008, he posted back to back wins in Indianapolis and Charlotte, earning him a brief second in point standings position. He has secured the U.S. Nationals Championship twice, and finished fifth in the Pro Stock Motorcycle Class in 2014. His best speed to date is 197.08 m.p.h.

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## **PARTICIPATING WITH RACERS WHO CARE IN THE Y.E.S. PROGRAM:**

### **BOYS REPUBLIC:**

Students from Boys Republic will be participating with RWC in the U.S. Army/NHRA Y.E.S. Program. Boys Republic is a private, nonprofit, nonsectarian school and treatment community for troubled youngsters. Since its founding in 1907, it has guided more than 30,000 at-risk teenage boys and girls toward productive, fulfilling lives.

On its central school and farm in Chino Hills, California, and in residential and day treatment centers in other communities, Boys Republic and its companion program, Girls Republic, help children in desperate need find within themselves the resources and skills to begin meaningful lives on their own.

Boys Republic seeks to give adolescent youth with behavioral, educational, and emotional difficulties an opportunity to achieve their maximum potential for responsible, self-directed life within the community.

Every attempt is made to involve family members in the rehabilitation process and to bring about the reunification of the family. We consider the development of academic, vocational and social skills essential in assisting the youth we serve to return to the community as useful, productive citizens.

### **SANDBURG MIDDLE SCHOOL, GLENDORA, CALIFORNIA:**

Sandburg Middle School is named after one of the best known poets in American literature, Carl Sandburg. Born in 1878, he fought his way from obscurity to international fame in the best tradition of our country. He was at various times a soldier, dishwasher, harvest hand, and newspaper writer. Mr. Sandburg is perhaps best known for having written the famous Abraham Lincoln: The Prairie Years, and Abraham Lincoln: The War Years, for which he won the Pulitzer Prize in 1940.

In partnership with home and community, Sandburg Middle School is committed to providing a safe and supportive learning environment designed to empower students to: become critical thinkers, effective communicators, and problem solvers, achieve success and growth within a challenging, standards-based curriculum that promotes the desire for lifelong learning, demonstrate a respect for others and themselves in the school, their community, and the world successfully transition to high school and beyond.

Sandburg's faculty strives to promote a learning environment in which students can thrive academically while developing as ethical and responsible members of society by emphasizing the following character traits as students are prepared to face the opportunities and obstacles that await them: responsibility, respect, integrity, compassion, initiative, perseverance, adaptability, creativity and conscientiousness.

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