



The talent show contestants gather on stage.

Talents on Parade

■ **Public Works hosts a talent show as part of the national Public Works Week, detailed in last month's *Alive!***

Story by Michelle Vargas, Public Affairs Office, Public Works; Photos by Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager



The audience is excited to see the performances.



From left: Councilmember Jan Perry, Club Member, first-place winner Jeffrey Williams, and Board of Public Works President Cynthia M. Ruiz.

City Councilmember Jan Perry, Club Member, announced the winners. Personnel Department General Manager and Club Member Maggie Whelan, and Board of Public Works commissioners Valerie Lynne Shaw and Paula A. Daniels judged. Public Works bureau directors were also present at the employee appreciation activity.

More than 60 Public Works employees were recognized during the event for their significant contributions to the operations of the third largest City department. Certificates were presented to employees from the Offices of the Board of Public Works and the Bureaus of Contact Administration, Engineering, Sanitation, Street Lighting and Street Services, for their work on various department programs.

"Public Works Week is the best time to highlight the work that the 5,800 employees of the Department of Public Works do," said Cynthia M. Ruiz, president of the Board of Public Works. "It is also the perfect chance to give them a big pat on a back, encourage them to share their hidden talents, and engage them in activities that boost their morale. Public Works LIVE! allowed us to do all that."

National Public Works Week is celebrated every third week of May and is designated by the American Public Works Association. It is a public service campaign that aims to increase awareness and appreciation for public works professionals across America.



The "Uncivil Servants" band from the Bureau of Street Services includes Ed Suquett, Art Swetman, Ivan Cortina, Don Fogg and Dave Zepeda.

PUBLIC WORKS — Public Works held its first-ever employee talent show as part of its National Public Works Week celebrations. The event, billed Public Works LIVE! A Parade of Talents, was held at the AT&T Center Auditorium, across from the Public Works Building in downtown Los Angeles. The show involved six Public Works employees who sang and played instruments during the lunch-hour activity.

All six talented participants were selected from a group of Public Works employees who auditioned in April to participate in the show. Each received awards and were recognized as follows:

- First place: Jeffrey Williams, Heavy Duty Truck Operator, Bureau of Sanitation, sang, "If Loving You is Wrong"
- Second place: Diana Williams, Executive Assistant, Board of Public Works, sang, "I Am Changing"
- Third place: Anthony Ferrara, Management Assistant, Bureau of Contract Administration, played his electric guitar to the tune, "Are You Gonna Go My Way"

Runners up:

- Aura Cajuiat, Senior Clerk Typist, Bureau of Street Lighting, sang, "The Phantom of the Opera"
- Mary Orcutt, Senior Personnel Analyst, Bureau of Engineering, sang, "Fifty Percent"
- The "Uncivil Servants" band from the Bureau of Street Services, included Ed Suquett, Art Swetman, Ivan Cortina, Don Fogg, and Dave Zepeda, and played "Man in the Box"



Jeffrey Williams, Heavy Duty Truck Operator, Bureau of Sanitation, sang, "If Loving You is Wrong."



Diana Williams, Executive Assistant, Board of Public Works, sang, "I Am Changing."



Aura Cajuiat, Sr. Clerk Typist, Bureau of Street Lighting, sang "The Phantom of the Opera."



Anthony Ferrara, Management Assistant, Bureau of Contract Administration, played his electric guitar.

QUESTION of the Month

Our Club Counselors are all over the City, every day, serving our Club Members. While we're out, we'll be asking City employees a fun question. Keep your eyes open... you never know when we'll be asking you what you think!

When you think about the Fourth of July, what comes to mind?

"Celebrating and party time!"
- Joaquin Zamacona, Heavy Duty Truck Operator, DWP, 8 years of service



"Fireworks, cherry bombs ...the usual fun."
- Frank Loreto, Heavy Duty Truck Operator, DWP, one year of service

"It's all about the three Bs: beer, barbecue and blasting fireworks!"
- Brian Cosner, Power Shovel Operator, DWP, 26 years of service



"A day of rest and holiday."
- Efrain Guerra, Power Shovel Operator, DWP, 33 years of service

"Spending time with family and children."
- Robert Saunders, Heavy Equipment Operator, DWP, 21 years of service



"Freedom and the red, white and blue."
- Brian Reed, Heavy Duty Truck Operator, DWP, 3 years of service

"Potato salad and fireworks."
- Jennifer Patrick, friend of new Club member Shana Bostin, Planning Department, 5.5 years of service



"Family and fun!"
- Sergio Amaro, Heavy Duty Truck Operator, DWP, one year of service

"It's a day off, lots of barbecue, fireworks and drinking lemonade."
- Hamlet Hamladjian, Heavy Duty Truck Operator, DWP, 4 years of service



"It's Independence Day - the birth of our great nation!"
- Andrew Castillo, Heavy Duty Truck Operator, DWP, 4 years of service