

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Valley Students SOAR at Inaugural 13.1 LA Half Marathon

Fifteen Golden Valley and Academy of the Canyons High School students tackled the inaugural 13.1 LA Half Marathon in Santa Monica last Sunday in preparation for the 26.2 mile Los Angeles Marathon, Sunday March 21st. Sponsored by Students Off And Running (SOAR), a division of the Santa Clarita Track Club, this program dedicates itself to offering Santa Clarita Valley youth the opportunity to participate in a fully supported, 22 week 350 mile marathon training program while challenging themselves to accomplish something truly extraordinary in a non-competitive arena.

Team co-founder and Head Coach Kevin Sarkissian offered some insight into the group's intent: "Less than 1% of Americans ever complete a full marathon. SOAR is not about recruiting seasoned Valley high school athletes, we're looking any kid with heart, kids that are willing to commit to a truly life changing experience."

Now in its third year of operation, the results continue to be impressive. Parents, teachers, and participating students alike report better focus in school, increased positive social interaction, and dramatic improvement in overall physical health.

Donations of new running equipment, gift cards to athletic retailers, and monetary donations are appreciated. Donors should visit www.soar-sc.org or contact Kevin Sarkissian at 661-877-7024 for more information.