

# Aaron J. Thomas

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## EDUCATION

- University Of California at Berkeley (1983-1984)
- Los Angeles City College (2000-2004)

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Urban Forestry Manager (1994-present)

North East Trees, Los Angeles, CA

- Coordinate tree planting projects in resource challenged communities
- Develop and implement green job training programs for at risk youth
- Organize environmental stewardship activities for local community groups

## COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE

Area Representative (2002-2004)

Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council

- Advocated local initiatives including the introduction of bicycle lanes, affordable housing, AIDS awareness, and environmental projects

Master Gardener (2006-present)

University of California Cooperative Extension

- Disseminate educational material and assist the public in the creation of community gardens

Volunteer Arborist (2008-2009)

Los Angeles Farm Works, Los Angeles, California

- Oversaw the planting and maintenance of fruit tree orchards for an urban, community garden organization

International Volunteer (2010-present)

IkoPoran/Verdejar, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

- Assist with a native tree reforestation project on the outskirts of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Includes working with volunteers from a local "favela" (slum) and raising funds for the long term sustainability of the project.

## SKILLS

- Certified Arborist
- Master Gardener
- Comfortable in written and spoken French, some Spanish and Portuguese
- Extensive use of Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) and some Photoshop

## MEMBERSHIPS

- Western Chapter International Society of Arboriculture
- Native Plant Society of California

## CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION

- United States Department of Agriculture (April 2013)
- International Society of Arboriculture (April 2013)
- California Assembly member Jimmy Gomez (April 2013)
- Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (March 2013)
- California Assembly member Holly Mitchell (December 2011)
- Los Angeles City Council member Richard Alarcon (August 2011)

## RECENT PROJECTS

- Ascot Hills Park Reforestation (\$100,000 budget)- oversee the planting of hundreds native trees and work with volunteers from local schools (2014)
- Debs Park Reforestation (\$100,000 budget)- oversee the planting of hundreds of native trees and work with volunteers from local schools (2014)
- Soto St. Greenbelt (\$100,000 budget) oversee the planting of hundreds of native trees and work with volunteers from local *schools* (2014)
- Million Trees Los Angeles (\$200,000 budget)-oversee the planting and distribution of thousands of shade and fruit trees for the Cir of Los Angeles (2013-14)
- AQMD Fruit Trees (\$20,000 budget)-oversee the planting of fruit trees in community gardens throughout the City of Los Angeles (2013-14)
- Cal Fire Housing Authority Greening (\$150,000 budget)- oversee the planting of 600 shade trees in low income/ public housing facilities throughout Los Angeles (2013)
- Cal Fire Housing Authority Raingardens (\$150,000 budget)- manage the installation of 12 native plant raingardens at the Ramona Gardens public housing facility (2013)
- » Cal ReLeaf Education (\$10,000 budget)- conduct 3 community workshops for tree care and education (2013)
- EEMP La Brea Greenbelt (\$350,000 budget)- manage the planting and irrigation of 1500 native trees at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (2012)
- Cal ReLeaf/ARRA (\$500,000)- manage a two year at risk youth job training program for over 100 participants as well as the planting of thousands of trees throughout Los Angeles (2010 and 2011)

## PAST PROJECTS

- Los Angeles River Greenbelt
- Arroyo Seco Reforestation Project
- LADWP Cool Schools Program
- San Jose Creek Greenbelt
- e Elysian Park Children's Arboretum
- Elysian Park Buena Vista Restoration
- City of San Gabriel Street Tree Project
- City of Pasadena Street Tree Project
- City of Pasadena Arroyo Seco Restoration
- Environmental Affairs Department Street Trees
- Los Angeles State Historic Park Planting
- e Rio de Los Angeles State Park Wetland Management

- Arroyo Pescadero Urban Forestry Maintenance
- Bergamot Station Native Plant Installation
- Whittler Narrows Restoration Project
- LAUSD School Gardens Projects