

PLEASE GET TO KNOW US. DON'T JUST DRIVE BY. STOP BY.



TEEN PROGRAM

The Center's first ever Open House for teens took place on January 28th. It was full of fun while the teens simultaneously developed culture awareness and learned about our new expanding college prep program, our diversified activities, teen support and mentoring. Teen Director, Tammy Coffey reports that as a result of the Open House, four teens were recruited to join the Teen Program. Our second college tour trip took 8 of our teens to Virginia and Maryland to visit 3 colleges in March. All 8 of our teens fell in love with Norfolk University. The dream of a college education is getting real for many of our youth. We are so grateful to AT&T, BNB, LICF and the Leo Rosner Foundation for their support and believing in the futures of our teens.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

February was Black History Month. Each day The Center shared a fact about iconic contributions made to this world by African- Americans on our Facebook page. If you missed them, please take a look at our FB page. Alumnus, Tiffany Stewart did an amazing job. Our Annual Black History Celebration took place on March 29th. Our teens and After-School kids worked together to create the special evening with presentations, videos, poems, posters and lots of fun facts. Parents, teachers and friends filled the Studio. Good food and fellowship followed for all.

OLA

Our kids enjoyed the art workshop that OLA organized with artist, Aurelio Torres. http://www.aurelio-torres.com/. OLA and The Center collaborated to bring the workshop directly to the children. It was a terrific afternoon. The children loved the activity and were very concentrated on creating their own unique ship.







EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER



Bonnie Michelle Cannon

Have you ever had a wake-up call? Well 2016 was definitely a wake-up call for me. As the saying goes, I am glad to be alive. With that, it has really opened my eyes to what really is important. Spending time with your loved ones is a must! Family is important and here at The Center we have a

wonderful family which encompasses children, teens, parents, and staff. We are a community of loving people, here to promote good character and integrity in our kids. We want our children to be equipped with all of the essential tools that will aid them in being successful in their adulthood. I am so pleased to say that I can see the fruit of our labors. For the first time, our young children are participating in a National Scrabble Competition and we were able to take our teens on a College Tour of many of the Historically Black Universities and Colleges. These are just a few highlights. This place truly is magical and I am truly thankful to be a part of it. So I say to you, don't forget the important stuff - family first!

Be Blessed , Bonnie

NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Paul Jeffers, Jr

Thank you so much to the caring generosity of our contributors and supporters to our beloved Center! We have come such a long way in the past few years. Without all your loving support- we could not exist. Our children have been so blessed by the field trips, college visits, special clubs and tournaments that they have been

able to attend. A very special congratulations to Samantha and Mikhail for their 1st place trophies in the New England Regional Scrabble Tournament! We are feeling blessed!

Love, peace and harmony,

NUTRITION WORKSHOPS

Our nutrition workshops began once a week in January with our bilingual nutritionist, Marta Blanca. She is part of the Cornell Cooperative Extension for Suffolk County for Nutrition, Health and Obesity Prevention. March was a special month devoted to Being Healthy.

SCRABBLE CLUB

The Center began a Scrabble Club this Fall. Eight of our 4th and 5th graders travelled to Ridgefild CT for the New England Regional Tournament in March. We were so excited that Samantha and Mikhail came home with trophies! Six of our After-School kids will be attending the National Scrabble Championship in Foxboro Massachusetts in April. It will be a wonderful experience for all. We need more support to cover our travel expenses. Thanks to those board members who have already helped!

IN KIND DINING

Our In-Kind Dining program resumed this winter at the new restaurant in Sag Harbor, Dopo la Spiaggia. Once a week four of our kids and their teacher experience the fine dining experience-learning manners and etiquette, while enjoying a delicious meal! Gracias- Dopo la Spiaggia for your generous caring!

ANNUAL TICK POSTER CONTEST

County Legislator Bridget Fleming presented the 2nd place prize to our very own after-schooler, Samuel Victoria. His poster for Tick Awareness was creative and colorful. We are proud so of his achievement.

SONGWRITER'S CONCERT

Once again, The Center was selected by Caroline Doctorow to be the beneficiary of her annual Songwriter's Concert. We feel blessed to have such a good friend! The concert was well attended and the music lively. Thank you Caroline!

CMEE COLLABORATION

We are lucky to have our neighbor and friends at the Children's Museum of the East End. We love when Ms. Leah comes to The Center as part of our science connection. Our kids learn about astronomy and our solar system. We have had lessons on Galileo and have even made our own telescopes!

MUSIC PROGRAM

Our new music teacher Mr. Joe comes to us via the East End Arts Council. He is a huge hit with our kids. Dan Gasby and B Smith donated a baby grand piano to The Center to enhance our music program. What a wonderful addition to our keyboards. Thank you Dan and B for caring about our kids!

ICE SKATING

Doug DeGroot opened the doors to his indoor ice skating rink for our kids throughout the Winter. We are so grateful for the sessions he so generously donated. Lots of fun and good exercise kept us in our theme of healthy living.

TRIP TO BROADWAY

Our kids, teens, some parents and staff took their annual trip to New York City. This year they were treated to the magic of Cirque de Soleil's show Paramour. A good time was had by all!









UPCOMING EVENTS

THINKING FORWARD LECTURE SERIES	Ken Miller will speak at The Center Saturday April 29th at 3PM, as part of our STRAIGHT TALK REAL PEOPLE segment. Long time advisory board member at The Center, he is president & CEO of Ken Miller Capital. He will speak about his involvement in the Civil Rights movement, his many years on Wall Street and the ways in which he believes teens can propel themselves toward professional success and civic engagement.
IMMIGRATION FORUM	Immigration attorney Carmelia Taylor will be at The Center Saturday May 6th at 4PM to discuss immigration challenges and possible solutions. (Se habla espanol ,si es necessito.)
CHESS CLUB FOR ALL AGES	Hosted by Ullysses Tapley FREE every Wednesday from 6-7PM for kids under 15, Adults and older teens 6-8 PM. Learn to Play or Improve your Game. Refreshments served.
COLLEGE PREP SAT DATES	2 Sessions for upcoming 2017 Spring tests on May 6th and June 3rd. 1st - April 16, 23, 30 4:30-7:30 and May 5th 6-9. 2nd- May 7, 14, 21 4:30-7:30 and June 2nd 6-9.
JAZZ FOR JENNINGS	June 25th will be our third annual Jazz for Jennings Brunch and Concert at The Watermill Center. Please contact Debra McEneaney for sponsorships and tables mcsanzo@hopeworksltd.com 917-741-6257. Tickets can also be purchased through our web-site. www.bhccrc.org
ANNUAL GOLF OUTING	Calling all golfers and local business supporters. Our Seventh Annual Golf outing will be held at the beautiful Atlantic Golf Club in Bridgehampton, Monday October 2nd. See our web-site for details or contact Bonnie Michelle Cannon 613-537-0616 michelle@bhccrc.org

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Bonnie Michelle Cannon

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