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BASKETBALL COURT DEDICATION

Our new court was dedicated on October 1st and it continues to get a work out. Coach Carl Johnson of the Bridgehampton High School Killer Bees returned weekly through the Fall to offer basketball drills for our After-School kids. Thank you, Coach, for caring and giving back! Watch for the release of the documentary movie about our Bridgehampton School and their championship basketball team entitled KILLER BEES by documentarians Benjamin and Orson Cummings.

HALLOWEEN FOR THE CENTER KIDS

Our After-School kids visited Hank's Pumpkin Town the Friday before Halloween. They went on a hay ride, wandered the corn maze, saw an apple orchard and hunted for pumpkins. On Halloween the school teachers were kind and did not give much homework, so our kids and teachers headed to Main Street in Sag Harbor for the annual Pumpkin Trail Walk. Most stores put a pumpkin in their windows to signal a safe Trick or Treating option. Thank you Sag Harbor!

DIA DEL MUERTES

We celebrated the Day of the Dead November 1st. It is the Mexican holiday that honors the deceased. Parties are held to honor their dead relatives sharing good luck, wisdom and protection. Our kids made muertos masks and sugar skulls.

WATERMILL CENTER YARP

Our Young Artists in Residence Project continues. Our kids go to the Watermill Center once a week. They made the most wonderful sculptures from branches and twigs while learning and exploring nature on the beautiful grounds at WC.

THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION

The Center celebrated Thanksgiving with a wonderful feast prepared by Ms. Gloria and Mr. Doug. It was served by our teens. The kids and their parents shared the delicious food and enjoyed the skits presented by our After-School classes. The room was filled with laughter and gratitude.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER



Bonnie Michelle Cannon

Hope you had a blessed Holiday season with family and friends! We loved our Holiday dinner with Chef Jean-Georges at the Topping Rose House. It was an amazing evening filled with old friends and new acquaintances. Chef Jean-Georges prepared a meal fit for a king. Thank you to everyone at Topping Rose House! Christmas

break was a restorative time for us and our kids. We are looking forward to 2017 and new opportunities for all. Our teens are benefitting from the new, expanded programs for them. Not only do many attend our successful SAT college prep program but we also offer weekly meetings in learning leadership development, life skills, cooking, chess, and scrabble. We are expanding our tutoring program. We now have math assistance every Saturday with a certified teacher for every age group. Richard Brown has joined our team for the teens with one-on-one college counseling. The Center has an architect on board and we are beginning our plans for the renovation and expansion of our main building.

We are feeling so blessed by the support of our community and friends. The children are our future. What a wonderful opportunity it is to help them grow. The best is yet to come.

*Peace and Blessings,
Bonnie*

NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Paul Jeffers, Jr

It is so heart-warming for me to see and feel the positive response from our community for the mission of our beloved Center. I thank God everyday for our board and advisory board being so generous with their time and financial support. Thanks especially for their help making the Topping Rose House dinner such a success!

*Love, peace and harmony,
PJ*



GIVING TUESDAY

We used our Face Book page for the first time to announce our Santa wish list for the Center's needs. We thought it was important to let our supporters know what their dollars can do for our kids.

TOPPING ROSE HOUSE DINNER

There was an excited buzz in the Studio at Topping Rose House in Bridgehampton December 10th as 127 friends and supporters gathered for a gourmet dinner benefitting the Bridgehampton Child Care & Recreational Center. Over seen by the celebrated chef, Jean-Georges, who circulated among the cocktail guests in signature toque and white apron, the food more than lived up to his reputation: tuna tartar with caviar and toasted brioche/a choice of seared black sea bass with tender celeriac and fragrant green curry or roasted beef tenderloin with silky chestnuts and sweet and sour cabbage. The dessert was dark chocolate and passion fruit tart with passion fruit sorbet. So anticipated was the feast that the dinner had to be moved to a larger room, yet still left scores on a waiting list. The star of the evening, though, was our Center, a venerable local institution created in the early 1950s by summer residents after a fire in a migrant work camp killed two children. Bonnie Cannon, the modern Center's executive director, strolled among the tables with a microphone, describing the 21st Century programs offered to the often underserved area population of African-American and Latino children, whose photographs were displayed on the windows. The holiday benefit which raised much needed funds for The Center was a triumph both for the children and for the elegantly fed guests. Thank you Topping Rose House for caring about the community!

THE CENTER RENOVATION & EXPANSION FUND

We are excited to announce the next phase of improvements at The Center. Margo's Cottage was renovated in 2015. The basement of the McCall Building was transformed into our studio, our grounds were enriched with a new junior tennis court and our basketball court refurbished in 2016.

It is now time for us to tackle the renovation and expansion of our main building. This will provide much needed classroom spaces for one on one tutoring, a computer lab and offices. The main building is the original farmhouse donated to create The Center in the early 50's. It has never been renovated. The septic, electrical and plumbing systems need upgrading. The Center has been blessed with its first anonymous Leadership Gift of \$100,000. Siamak Samii Architects of Southampton have joined our team to help us with the planning. Leadership Gifts are needed and naming rights will be available. We are feeling blessed and excited!

CHARITY BUZZ AUCTION

We were part of the Charity Buzz Holiday auction on line. What a special Holiday Gift for The Center when the Breakfast for 6 with Ina Garten at 1770 House and a tour of her garden went for over \$30,000! Grateful to all who donated! Grateful to all who bid!

HOLIDAY PARTY AT THE CENTER

Our holiday tradition continued. Ms. Gloria and Mr. Doug prepared a meal for our kids and families. Parents brought an abundance of sweet treats and beverages. Our teachers prepared our kids for their presentations and crafts made in their classes to give as gifts to their families. Once again Bridgehampton National Bank requested wish lists from our children and many of their dreams came true. Thanks BNB! All were invited to shop at The Cool Kids Thrift Shop. This is the third year that our children have shown their entrepreneurial spirit and created a shop open to the community for some bargain gift purchases for 3 weeks before Christmas.

ALUMNI - WHERE ARE THEY NOW

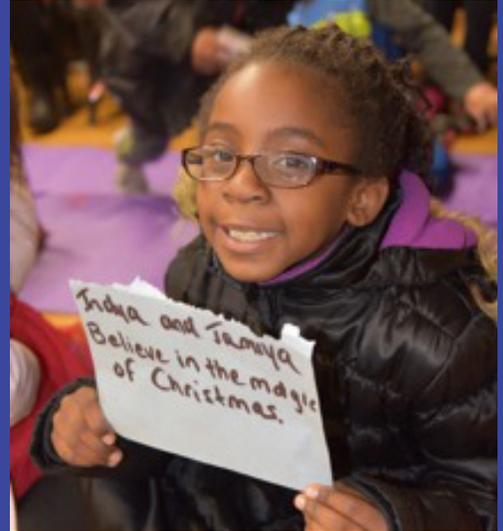
Please follow the "Where are They Now" stories about our alumni created by Center alum Tiffany Stewart. The stories are on Facebook and on our website www.bhccrc.org. Learn more about how The Center enriched their lives. This Fall has included profiles about real estate broker Ron White, Basketball Coach Carl Johnson, school principal Sandy McFarland Ward and Brisha Hemby, who shared stories about the parties on the Basketball Court.

MATH ASSISTANCE

New this year- math assistance is offered every Saturday to our kids and the community. We have 2 groups every week- divided by the youngest meeting first at 9:30am - followed by the older group late morning.

CHESS CLUB

Every Wednesday at 6pm is Chess Club in Margo's Cottage. All ages are welcome. Learn the game or hone your skills with Ulysses.



UPCOMING EVENTS

COLLEGE PREP AND SAT CLASS SIGN-UP has begun for the next semester. Contact Bonnie Michelle Cannon michelle@bhccrc.org

ANNUAL TRIP TO BROADWAY in March for our kids.

THINKING FORWARD LECTURE SERIES resumes in May. There will be a lecture every month through October. The line-up is beginning to take shape: Ken Miller, philanthropist and financier will discuss his activism during the Civil Rights movement, Susan Taylor, former editor at Essence Magazine and Misty Copeland will present her book titled *Life In Motion: An Unlikely Ballerina*.

JAZZ FOR JENNINGS will happen again. Sunday June 25th - 12:30. Brunch and Jazz concert at the Watermill Center. It will be an afternoon of music, good food, friendship and beauty.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Bonnie Michelle Cannon

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