Shaila Jones is the 2016 Youth of the Year

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater St. Louis is pleased to announce the winner of our 2016 Youth of the Year competition, Shaila Jones. She was selected among six other member contestants who shared their story of perseverance and dedication to their family, Club and community at the Great Futures Gala held Saturday, November 14, 2015. As the new Youth of the Year and ambassador for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater St. Louis, 14 year old Shaila is a true example of an extraordinary young woman and is being recognized for her sound character, leadership skills and willingness to give back to the community. Now that she’s won the Youth of the Year title, Shaila says, “I want to change the way youth view life. I
want to make sure they know their lives matter and that we can change the world." She is a freshman at Metro High School and plans to attend college and major in Psychology. Read more here.

that I could finally be myself...It was okay to start being myself.”

Jyra Robinson
Club Member

Great Futures Gala Recap

The “Great Futures Gala”, the largest fundraiser benefiting the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater St. Louis, raised nearly $360,000 at this year’s affair. That is significantly higher than last year’s total of $288,000. This year’s celebration focused on the 2016 Youth of the Year candidates who embody the ideals of the Club’s mission to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens. Each candidate did a wonderful job delivering their speeches and participating in the evening’s festivities. Thanks to the support of the sponsors and attendees, funds from the event will support programs such as Diplomas to Degrees, Mentor St. Louis, Keystone Clinics, Money Matters, and Career Launch. Special thanks to co-chairs Paul and Laura Miller and Rich and Stacey Liekweg. To view the Great Futures Gala video featuring our Youth of the Year candidates and alumni, click here. Or, to see photos from the evening, click here.

LOCATIONS

Adams Park Club
314.633.7900
4317 Vista Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63110

Ferguson Middle School Club
314.335.8330
701 January Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63135

Hebert Hoover Club
314.335.8000
2901 N. Grand Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63107

O’Fallon Park Club
314.932.1371
4343 West Florissant
St. Louis, MO 63115

Southeast Middle School Club
314.953.7795
918 Pringle Road
St. Louis, MO 63138

Twllman Elem. School Club
314.335.8350
11831 Bellefontaine Road
St. Louis, MO 63138

Macy’s Donates Coats

Clothes4Souls & Macy’s “Share the Warmth” distributed over 800 winter coats to club members this week at an event with Macy’s volunteers. Macy’s, through its 2015 “Buy 1 & We’ll
Give 1” campaign, donated 50,000 coats nationwide to Clothes4Souls, a division of Soles4Souls Inc. The retailer donated one new, never worn coat for every coat purchased in-store or online from October 27 to November 2. Working in partnership with local charities and service organizations in a number of cities across the U.S., Clothes4Souls chose the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater St. Louis as one of the donation locations. This is the third year of the partnership between Macy’s and Clothes4Souls resulting in 130,000 coats distributed nationwide. To view pictures from the event, click here.

**Dental Clinic Open for Business**

Every child deserves a great smile and all BGCSTL Club members have access to free dental care as part of their membership! Services include everything from teeth cleanings to orthodontic care. To make an appointment for your child, call Najma Nasiruddin at 314.335.8122. Or, to register your child for membership, click here.

**Blue Spirit Award**

Congratulations to BGCSTL President, Dr. Flint Fowler for receiving the Blue Spirit Award from the Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) earlier this month! Dr. Fowler was surprised during the BGCA Midwest Conference with the award in recognition of his demonstration of all the principles of Boys & Girls Clubs - illustrating daily his passion to serve others, having a clear vision for the future of our Club, believing in the BGC code, and living the “Blue Culture”. 

Be Great Graduate
Normandy & Roosevelt High Schools
314.335.8140

__Newsletter Contact__
For more information or with questions, contact Shuntae Shields Ryan, VP, Marketing & Communications via phone 314.335.8009 or email.
Great Futures Speakers Needed

With hopes to keep our Club youth motivated and inspired to be their best and keep their GREAT FUTURE in front of them, BGCSTL is looking for those interested in being a part of our “Great Futures Speakers Series”. Speakers include community leaders, Club Alumni, local and national celebrities, and individuals working in various fields. Speakers are being sought to share messages of encouragement at all six Club locations. If you are interested in being a Great Futures speaker, send your bio to Indigo Sams via email, here.

Alumni Testimonial
Te’Ara Barnum

“Being a member of Herbert Hoover saved my life. I was able to stay off the streets and never give up on my dreams. The staff always believed in me and pushed me to my potential and beyond. I learned so much including perseverance, strong work ethic, how to believe in myself, and to reach out when I need help. I also learned how to fight for the dreams I wanted for myself and what family was truly about.”
Volunteer of the Month

The volunteer of the month is Kent Tran. Kent has worked with Boys & Girls Clubs across the United States and made it a point to connect with BGCSTL once he moved to the area. Kent has been a tremendous help at the Herbert Hoover Club in the Homework Room and during Triple Play time in the gym. He motivates the youth to succeed and have confidence in themselves. It’s a joy to have him around!

Mentor Moment

Mentor Wanda Starr-Ferguson was recognized as Mentor of the Month for September. She organized the largest corporate group of current and prospective mentors in the
history of Mentor St. Louis (MSL), and our in-school mentoring program. Due to her hard work and belief in the MSL program, forty-six Edward Jones employees participated in an orientation and training at the company’s headquarters. Great job Wanda! Thanks for your leadership.

**Member Highlight**

Moeshia L. had a rocky start to her academic year at Normandy High School. Her attendance was irregular and grades suffering. She was disrespectful to teachers, adults and peers and found that her unpleasant attitude and inappropriate language led her to being involved in disagreements and confrontations. But then Moeshia discovered and joined the BGCSTL “BE GREAT:Graduate program! She is now dedicating her time to improving her grades, attending classes daily, and completing her class and homework assignments on time. She is taking a leadership role in her classes by displaying appropriate behavior. After learning about conflict resolution and positive peer pressure through our Smart Girls program this school year, Moeshia has forged relationships with a different set of classmates who encourage each other to go to class and respect their teachers. As a result of her 90% attendance rate, she was invited by BGCSTL staff to the Be-Great Graduate Leadership Academy Pizza Lunch. Moeshia shared with staff that she was very excited to be included in the lunch and will continue to work hard to stay focused on making good choices.

**Grants Supporting Programs!!**
BGCSTL is the recipient of multiple grants that will support our efforts to inspire and enable youth to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens. The financial support helps drive results in our three priority outcome areas: Academic Success, Good Character & Citizenship, and Healthy Lifestyles. The following recently made contributions:

- Boys & Girls Clubs of America and the True Value Foundation: Up to 20 gallons of paint for the Adams Park and Herbert Hoover Clubs teen centers
- St. Louis County Children’s Service Fund: $54,275 toward SMART Prevention Programs at the Southeast Middle School, Twillman Elementary School and Ferguson Middle School Clubs
- Boys & Girls Clubs of America and Jo-Ann Fabrics: $367.35 toward general operating support
- Boys & Girls Clubs of America: $1,000 toward increasing teen membership and average daily attendance at the Ferguson Middle School Club
- Boys & Girls Clubs of America and the Anthem Foundation and its affiliated Anthem BlueCross BlueShield Foundation: $1,000 toward the Triple Play Catch Healthy Habits program with the assistance of Oasis at the Adams Park, Ferguson Middle School, Herbert Hoover and Twillman Elementary School Clubs
- Boys & Girls Clubs of America: $40,000 toward the BE GREAT: Graduate dropout prevention program at Roosevelt High School for the 9th and 10th grade cohorts
- Maritz: $10,000 toward Project Learn at all Club sites
- Good Sports: $2,500 toward sports equipment for the Ferguson Middle School, Southeast Middle School and Twillman Elementary School Clubs
- Dollar General Literacy Foundation: $3,000 toward the Mentor St. Louis program

Thanks to our 3rd Quarter Donors for their generous support!

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BJC HealthCare
Boys & Girls Clubs of America
Mr. John G. Brunner
Missouri Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs
Drs. Joan and Sherman Silber
Mrs. Suzanne Spence and Mr. Dave Spence

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T. Auer
Mr. Hal C. Ball
Jeffrey D. Bertel
St. Louis County Government
St. Louis Economic Development Partnership
Stifel Nicolaus
Washington University Medical Center

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Mr. Brian Youngberg

The mission of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater St. Louis (BGCSTL) is to inspire and enable youth ages 6 to 18 to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens. For nearly 50 years, BGCSTL has been providing after-school, teen, sports and summer programs to youth in the St. Louis area while also providing a safe place for them to learn and grow. The Clubs now serve St. Louis youth at six locations (Adams Park Club, Ferguson Middle School Club, Herbert Hoover Club, O’Fallon Park Club, Hazelwood Southeast Middle School Club and Twillman Elementary School Club) and within several other schools (including Normandy High School and Roosevelt High School) and through our Mentor St. Louis Program.

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