BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF GREATER ST. LOUIS

GREAT FUTURES MOMENTS
4th Q News 2018
Academic Success | Good Character & Citizenship | Healthy Lifestyles

Great Futures Gala to Feature Club Youth

Each year, one exceptional Club member is selected to be the BGCSTL Youth of the Year, serving as an ambassador as well as a voice for Club youth. Over the years, these individuals have exemplified the Boys & Girls Club mission and are proof to the impact Clubs make in transforming and saving kids’ lives. The Great Futures Gala, our largest fundraiser, is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate St. Louis’ most inspiring teens and their incredible journeys. Stories of outstanding leadership, service, academic excellence and dedication to living a healthy lifestyle will be shared throughout the evening.

Becoming Youth of the Year is an exciting and inspiring journey, one that we hope you will take with us the evening of the Gala! Enjoy a reception, sit down dinner and an after party with dancing and a performance from Dirty Muggs! To hear last year’s memorable moments from the Gala, click here. To sponsor or purchase your tickets, click here. With questions, click here or contact Darcy Callahan at 314-335-8011.
Special thanks to the following sponsors for their support:

Friends Mentoring Youth of the Year Candidates

The Friends of the Club, the BGCSTL young professionals, saw so much success in impacting the lives of our Club members and, the growth of their group that they’ve once again partnered with us to serve as mentors for the Youth of the Year participants! They passionately meet weekly with our teen candidates sharing life lessons and sessions on essay writing, personal branding, presentation and interview skills and so much more. The youth share how having this steady opportunity each week has given them inspiration to improve their lives.

"The Club was part of the reason I wanted to go to college. I'm presently attending Alabama State. Later in life I plan to be successful as I dreamed, and be able to do everything for the people who helped me get to where I am today. Being able to help others even the ones who did me wrong is a big part of who I am. And, I thank the Club for helping me."

Joe S.
Ferguson Club Graduate
Great Future: College

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

Be Great Graduate - Normandy High School
become responsible and productive citizens of our community!

Back-to-School Party with a Purpose
Special thanks to Board Member Peggy Guest and former board member/Club supporter Sue Schlichter for their ongoing support of our Club youth! Both wanting to do more for kids and teens, Sue and Peggy host an annual "Back-to-School" party which has grown from raising $2,000 to $10,000 and from collecting donated books for youth to sponsoring kids to attend Robotics Camp and purchasing computers. The more recent parties have focused on supporting STEM programming for girls. This year’s event featured Club member Jermisha sharing her experience and raised more than $6,100.
A Place to Become Campaign

The breaking of ground for the new Teen Center in Ferguson also signified the launching of the public phase of a fundraising campaign to complete the building project. The campaign, known as “A Place to Become”, encourages donors and supporters to put their stake in the ground as a means to declare, “I’m In!” to support Ferguson and North County youth!
“A Place to Become” campaign will enable the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater St. Louis to operate three new school-based Clubs and build a state-of-the-art Teen Center on West Florissant that will promote and deliver positive outcomes for teens. The three-pronged campaign plan ensures that we can make an immediate impact while establishing a long-term presence for generations of kids and teens in North County. The new clubs and dedicated Teen Center will be located in areas that provide the greatest access to those who need the Boys & Girls Club most.

Breakdown of Initiatives:
Build - TEEN CENTER $12.4 M
Build a new 25,000 square foot teen center to serve teens from across the St. Louis region.
Sustain - CONTINUED SERVICES $6.9 M
Sustain three new school-based Club sites for elementary and middle-schoolers.
Fund - SUSTAINABILITY FUND $5.7 M
Fund endowment growth, facility improvements and campaign expenses.

To support the campaign, click here. With questions, click here or call Ruth Lederman at 314-335-8008.

NBA Vet Brings Skills to Club Youth
The Larry Hughes Basketball Academy led by thirteen-year NBA Vet Larry Hughes and his team of skill developers hosted a two hour clinic for nearly fifty members of the BGCSTL Herbert Hoover Club. During the session youth learned all aspects of the game of basketball while learning important life lessons and leadership skills. To view the photo album from the event, click here. To see the video highlights, click here.
Mentor Moment - Bob Stein

Mentor Bob Stein has been committed to mentoring youth at the Herbert Hoover Club for over three years. He was looking for an opportunity to serve the community when past board chair, Joan Silber, invited him to a BGCSTL event and the rest is history! On a weekly basis you can find him spending his afternoons tutoring, playing board games or making himself available to his two teen Club mentees, Akil and Jibril. Bob says his objective is for them to understand that there is a big world out there and he wants to instill in them the importance of being kind. He invites individuals to talk to the youth about their lives, focusing on people who have come to America from other parts of the world: China, Vietnam, India, etc. Bob feels the hands on experiences gives the young men the opportunity to learn directly, and not just from second hand sources. “What they’re finding out is that despite our origins, a lot of us have the same hopes, dreams and ideals. We talk about racism, prejudice and other social ills; we certainly have different experiences, and I am as amazed at what I’m learning from my mentees as well”, Bob says. To share and impact a Club member’s life through mentoring, click here.
**Member Moment - Jibril**

Meet Jibril, who is mentored by Bob Stein (mentioned above). Most recently Bob secured an opportunity for Jibril to volunteer as a day camp counselor at the International Institute and it turned out to be one of the most rewarding and memorable experiences for the teen! Jibril shared with our board his experience over the summer and noted the knowledge he gained about refugees really had an impact as he met kids from all over the world who had been in America for less than three months. He showed up every day, engaged the kids in the various programs and used his gregarious and empathetic personality to reach out to the kids and make them happy. The experience offered from Bob to Jibril has made him a more empathetic and compassionate young man. And, he hopes to return as a volunteer in the future. To hear/view more about Jibril’s experience this summer, click [here](#).

**Grants Recognition**

We appreciate the following grant partners for their gifts that strengthen our programs, click [here](#) for a full list.

*The mission of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater St. Louis (BGCSTL) is to inspire and enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens. For over 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 ten locations (Adams Park Club, Ferguson Middle School Club, Grannemann Elementary School Club, Herbert Hoover Club, Lee Hamilton Elementary School Club, O’Fallon Park Club, Riverview Gardens Club and Hazelwood Southeast Middle School Club), within two High Schools (Normandy and Roosevelt High School) and five additional*
elementary schools through our Mentor St. Louis Program.

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