

# Notebook

DCPS participants in this year's DC SCORES Jamboree!

The 15th annual DC SCORES Jamboree! celebration was held June 5 on Trinity University's athletic fields. The event highlights the conclusion of the nonprofit after-school program's spring season. DC SCORES uses soccer, poetry and service-learning to inspire over 700 public elementary and middle school students in the District.

The Jamboree! kicked off with the best of the elementary school Westside and Eastside teams facing off to decide the City Cup Championship. In hard-fought games, the Burrville Elementary School girls, representing the Eastside, and the Westside's Bancroft Elementary School boys



DCPS Students Score at this Year's Jamboree!



prevailed. Meanwhile on the upper fields, middle school teams battled for a spot in the championship games. And the Lincoln Middle School boys and Oyster-Adams Bilingual School girls came out on top.

Each SCORES team competed in at least three soccer matches, all against teams they never saw in the regular season. Throughout the day, nine fields were occupied by SCORES students completing give-and-gos or making diving saves, with parents and friends cheering from the sidelines.

There were also a number of activities for students. Washington Freedom players led soccer drills, a local graffiti artist displayed his talents in creating a "Leadership" piece, volunteers painted students' faces with soccer balls, and the DC Fire Department sent over a few trucks to let the students explore. Kids also enjoyed looking at bones and other artifacts at the Celebra la Ciencia (Celebrate Science) booth, and learning about the importance of maintaining healthy lungs with UDC's 4-H program.

As added entertainment, students got to hang out with the Abraham Lincoln mascot that runs in the presidents race at every Washington Nationals game.

By the early afternoon, as teams filed back onto their buses where gift bags stuffed with books, snacks, and the new DC SCORES wristband awaited them, they didn't hesitate when asked about the experience.

"It was so much fun," said one student as she gathered her belongings. For more information on DC SCORES, visit [www.dcscores.org](http://www.dcscores.org).

## DC SCORES Fundraiser

On June 24 and 25, at the southwest corner of 18th and M streets NW, a woman was juggling a soccer ball — kicking, heading and kneeing it in an effort to keep it in the air. The soccer juggler was Amy Nakamoto, DC SCORES executive director, who came up with the idea to juggle a ball on

a busy street corner for 12 hours each day as part of the Kick, Click, & SCORE Challenge.

The nonprofit after-school program initiated the fundraiser to raise \$130,000 and fill a gap in revenue that it needs to make up by Aug. 31. As of June 28, \$48,462 had been donated. The challenge — minus the juggling — runs until the World Cup's conclusion on July 11.

The challenge began with two full days of soccer-related activity at 18th and M. As Amy juggled a ball, a laptop live-streamed her to the Kick, Click, & SCORE website, and DC SCORES posted videos, pictures and a description of the event to its social media platforms — [dcscores.blogspot.com](http://dcscores.blogspot.com), [Facebook.com/DCSCORES](http://Facebook.com/DCSCORES) and [Twitter.com/DCSCORES](http://Twitter.com/DCSCORES).

Passersby stopped at the corner, intrigued by what they saw, and joined Amy or other DC SCORES staff members for some juggling. Also, Christie Welsh of the Washington Freedom professional team juggled for an hour during the first day, and two semi-pro soccer players stopped by and showed off their talents on the second day.

The event raised awareness about DC SCORES' unique program that focuses on soccer, poetry, and service-learning to serve over 700 District youth. To learn more or donate to the program, visit [kickclickandscore.org](http://kickclickandscore.org).

## DC Youth Orchestra Program Moves East

The DC Youth Orchestra Program (DCYOP) announced that this year, the program's 50th anniversary, it will be moving operations from Coolidge High School in Northwest DC, where DCYOP has operated for the past 50 years, to Eastern Senior High School (1700 East Capitol St. NE). Upon learning of DCYOP's move to Eastern, Ward 6 Councilmember Tommy Wells said, "The Youth Orchestra is a terrific asset for our city's youth, and it is fantastic we are getting the program at Eastern

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High School.”

DCPS Chancellor Michelle Rhee has been working in tandem with the DCYOP to support the move of the area’s largest out-of-school-hours music program. Rhee said, “This is a wonderful opportunity for Eastern Senior High School and contributes to the future success of our students.”

Ava Spece, executive director of DCYOP, said, “We are so excited to be able to provide this new environment for our students, including improved Metro and freeway access and a more central location. The new facility will enable DCYOP’s incredible faculty to better serve the youth of the Washington region.”

Physical relocation will occur sometime in August, and the program will hold its regularly scheduled Open House, Petting Zoo, and Orchestra Day on Sept. 11, in the new location. In celebration of the program’s 50th birthday, the organization will also have a day-long celebration on Aug. 21, which will include bringing together some of the program’s 50,000 alumni from around the country to perform at the Kennedy Center at 6 p.m. followed by a VIP reception. The esteemed Marvin Hamlisch will host the event and conduct one of the pieces in the program. To learn more about DCYOP, call 202-723-1612 or visit [www.dcyop.org](http://www.dcyop.org).

## Casey Trees High School Summer Crew Program Kicked Off June 28

Each summer, over 100 students apply for 11 spots on the Casey Trees Summer Crew, which helps care for Casey Trees-planted trees in Bloomingdale, Columbia Heights, Dupont Circle, Eckington Park, Downtown, Embassy Row, Georgetown, Mount Pleasant and other areas as needed. This year’s program began June 28, and as in years past, the crew’s responsibilities will include watering, weeding, mulching, pruning and tracking the condition and mortality of trees. Two teams work out of trucks, and one team makes up a “Water By-Cycle” crew, the nation’s first bicycle-powered tree care program. Summer crew members also engage in professional development opportunities to learn careers in the green industry. For many crew members, this is their very first job. Activities change each year, but students in the past have climbed 100-foot trees at the US National Arboretum, planted trees on Dangerfield Island and built a rain garden with the Anacostia Watershed Society. To learn more about this program, contact Casey Trees at 202-349-1894 or visit [www.caseytrees.org](http://www.caseytrees.org).

## Art Exhibit by Haitian Children after the Earthquake

Soon after the devastating Jan. 12 earthquake in Haiti, first lady of Haiti Elisabeth D.

Préval called on Haitian artist Philippe Dodard and his fellow artists, as well as psychologists, educators and politicians, to create a safe place for children to express their feelings through art. Nearly 100 paintings and drawings created by Haiti’s young people at Plas Timoun (The Children’s Place) are featured in “The Healing Power of Art: Works of Art by Haitian Children after the Earthquake.”

The exhibition will be on view in the concourse of the Smithsonian’s S. Dillon Ripley Center, 1100 Jefferson Drive SW, through Oct. 17. It is sponsored by the National Museum of African Art. The artworks include images relating to death and destruction, and they also include illustrations of houses—both standing and damaged—with local architectural features, planes and helicopters reflecting rescue and recovery efforts, Haitian flags, as well as nature scenes and abstract designs.

In addition to the art, the exhibition includes three videos: “Thirty Five Long Seconds: Haiti’s Deadly Earthquake,” an 18-minute film chronicling the earthquake and its aftermath written and narrated by Mario L. Delatour, and two short video segments, one in which Dodard discusses the concept behind Plas Timoun and the other on a recent visit to Haiti by US first lady Michelle Obama and Jill Biden, wife of Vice President Joe Biden and a professor at Northern Virginia Community College. A free brochure will be available at the exhibition. In addition, young visitors are invited to draw a picture and send a message of hope to the children of Plas Timoun. The exhibition is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call 202-633-1000 or visit [africa.si.edu](http://africa.si.edu).

## Celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Pony Express

The Pony Express is roaring down the trail this summer, and the Postal Museum needs help to get the mail through! This two-day festival, July 9 & 10, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., celebrates the 150th anniversary of the Pony Express and has something for everyone, including a trivia relay race, tall tales and your chance to star in a puppet show. Free. 2 Massachusetts Ave. NE. 202-633-5533, [www.postalmuseum.si.edu](http://www.postalmuseum.si.edu).

## Library Programs

**Watha T. Daniel-Shaw Library.** Preschool story time, July 6, 10 a.m., for children ages 3-5. Wii Wednesdays, July 7, 3:30 p.m., teens can play Wii with their friends. Mother Goose on the loose, July 8, 10 a.m., for infants through age 2. Rock Along with Casey, July 9, 10 a.m., an interactive musical jam session for children

ages 3-5. Family story time, July 10, 10:30 a.m., an interactive story time with songs and activities that are fun for the whole family. “I Made It Myself,” July 10, 11 a.m., a family craft activity. Janice the Griot, July 14, 1:30 p.m., children ages 6 and up can join this popular storyteller to make a splash with stories about the Chesapeake Bay and neighboring waterways. Book waves, July 14, 3:30 p.m., children ages 12 and up can learn various construction techniques to make pop-up, accordion and French fold books using recycled materials with Karen O. Brown. 945 Rhode Island Ave. NW. 202-671-0267, [www.dclibrary.org/watha](http://www.dclibrary.org/watha).

**Northwest One Library.** Washington National Opera, July 6, 10:30 a.m., ages 6 and up can attend an engaging presentation of “The Flying Dutchman,” complete an arts and crafts project and receive a Washington National Opera family activity guide. Splash the Water Dude, July 21, 4 p.m., ages 3 and up participate in songs and activities with Ray Owen. Game night for all ages, every Tuesday, 5 p.m. Story times for children on Wednesday mornings: baby/toddler lap time, 10 a.m.; tales for 2’s and 3’s, 10:30 a.m. 155 L St. NW. 202-939-5946, [www.dclibrary.org/northwest](http://www.dclibrary.org/northwest).

## Children’s Programs at NCM

The National Children’s Museum will host the following activities for children in July at the National Harbor’s Launch Zone:

- Fireworks and Patriotic Fun: July 3, 5, 7, 9 & 10. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Celebrate Independence Day with astonishing firework art. Designs feature images of the Washington Monument, so kids can create art that looks like the firework spectacle you might see in and around the nation’s capital. Free.
- Community Heroes: July 12, 14, 16, 17, 19, 21, 23 & 24. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Explore the role of community heroes and make community hero puppets. Don’t miss out on special community hero visits throughout the week. Free.
- Earth Day Every Day: July 26, 28, 30 & 31. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Discover ways to preserve the planet with eco-friendly, fun family activities. Free.

NCM is located at 112 Waterfront St., National Harbor, Md. 301-686-0225, [www.ncm.museum](http://www.ncm.museum).

*Have a listing for the Kids & Family Notebook? E-mail [kidsnotebook@hillrag.com](mailto:kidsnotebook@hillrag.com) by the 20th of the month prior to publication. Submissions may be edited. Publication is not guaranteed. ♦*