



GET INVOLVED

Tom Barrett
Mayor

Tony Perez
Secretary-Executive Director at
Housing Authority of the City of
Milwaukee

The Home Must Be the Cornerstone for High Expectations, High Achievement and High Standards

A Quarterly Newsletter for Residents of the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee

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A COMMITMENT TO EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE



91% GRADUATION RATE (2006-2014)



On June 25, 2014, over one hundred residents gather at the Community Services Building to recognize and honor student academic achievement and high school graduates during the Education Initiative Student Recognition Awards. Students were recognized for maintaining a grade point average from 2.500 to 4.000. This year's keynote speaker was Captain Joshua Parish, from the Milwaukee Fire Department.

HACM Secretary-Executive Director Tony Perez (middle) celebrates youth success

Captain Parish played a significant role in the success of the evening with his warm words of encouragement and inspiration that resonated with the families. The Student of the Year was Jada McMillian, a high school graduate of Milwaukee High School of the Arts. Jada, who is also an accomplished pianist, entertained us by performing on her piano. The family of the year was Theresa and Bennette Washington from Highland Homes. The family of ten had four of their children graduate from high school while enrolled in the Education Initiative. Darrell Finch, Education Specialist states, "We are very proud of our parents, their involvement and students' academic achievement. In fact the Education Initiative continues to maintain a high school graduation rate of 91%, well above national rates".



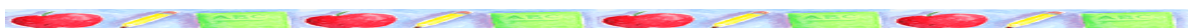
MFD Captain Joshua Parish



Jada McMillian



Theresa and Bennette Washington





HACM'S 2014 Summer Super Reader Challenge



**Read! Move!
Learn!**



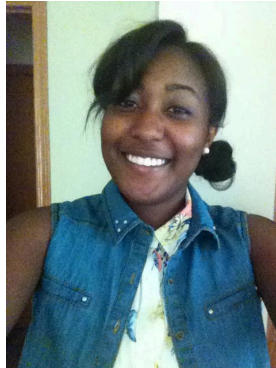
The Summer Super Reading Challenge partnered again this year with the Milwaukee Public Library Super Reader Program. Starting on June 30, 2014, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday, elementary through high school students logged in minutes of reading this summer at the Highland Gardens Neighborhood Network Computer Lab. Tracy Revels, Education Specialist Assistant spearheaded the summer program along with summer youth worker Deja Jones. A total of 23 students altogether garnered a total of **105 hours** of reading. Students also enjoyed outings to the Milwaukee Public Library and the Chicago's Museum of Science & Industry. Students enjoyed nutritional lunches provided by the Social Development Commission (SDC) along with daily breaks at Dr. Martin Luther King Park provided relief to stretch and unwind after keeping their brains sharp during the summer break. Milwaukee Succeeds also provided a workshop, "Building on Books", for parents facilitated by Cheryl Ward that provided information on how to improve reading development and comprehension for young children. The Summer Reading Challenge was implemented to strengthen reading proficiency and to help encourage children to improve their reading throughout the summer in a fun and rewarding way. At the conclusion of the reading challenge, all participants were rewarded with Super Reader book bags, T-shirts, McDonald's gift certificates, Cousins Subs Coupons and a certificate of their accomplishments.



HACM students "Getting Involved" in the summer

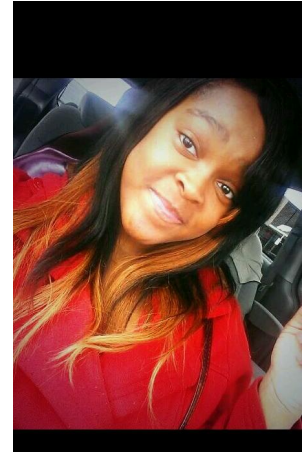


-Maxwell Dodd, now a senior at Audubon High School attended the UW-Oshkosh Summer Pre-College Program for Multimedia Art Program. "Day one going to UW-Oshkosh felt like home because I have visited there more than a couple times. Stepping on campus, I didn't realize who I was going to meet. I bet you are wondering if I nervous? Not even close, because I soon figured out that the new people I met turned out to be best friends or family. Waking up every day was pretty intense. My main focus about waking up early was preparation for the college life. We had routine shower, breakfast, and class. I really loved that routine because now my body has adapted to waking up early and preparing for my day. The camp really didn't help me with my career it just helped out on how to enhance my versatility skills on different paths I may go into such as studying film and studying broadcasting. Don't get me wrong, I talked to many professors about my career which is becoming a police officer. Talking to my counselors while I was in Oshkosh was the best move I made in life. I was informed that UW-Oshkosh has the best Criminal Justice program in the state of Wisconsin. Nevertheless, the camp just made me feel more comfortable in going to college in 2015".



-Sylvia Washington, 2nd year student at UW-Whitewater

Hi Mr. Finch, "I wanted to update you on my academic experiences during this summer. This summer I had the opportunity to study and form my own research as a McNair scholar. My research topic is called, "The Race to the Top of the Pop Chart; Race, Genre, and Musical Artists. I am studying why Hip Hop and R&B artists make a transition to mainstream Pop by conducting a content analysis of their musical artists. It has been challenging, but I have finally completed my first summer. I had the chance to learn and grow. I have presented my research at UW-Whitewater and UW-Milwaukee. It has been challenging, but so much fun. I wanted to say thank you for your constant involvement with my academic career. Thank you for all you do because it is simply amazing!"



Timberlyn Horton, now a freshman at Morse Marshall attended the ESTEEM Precollege Program at UW-Oshkosh. It was from July 13th-July 25th. "I wanted to go to the ESTEEM program because I wanted to gain knowledge instead of losing knowledge. The first week I was pretty homesick, but as the final days approached I didn't want to leave. The experience was amazing and if I could do it all over again, I would with no doubt. Living on campus, eating in the college cafeteria, and having real classes on a real schedule gave me a better feel for college. I had so much fun, and I met some very cool friends. We became a family and it was hard to leave. I actually got a lot out of this Pre-College Program. This experience got me to think about college more often and it also prepared me so I am 100% ready when I graduate from high school".



-Braxton Dodd, now a senior at Bradley Tech attended the UW-Oshkosh Summer Pre-College Program for Multimedia Art classes. "A few weeks ago in UW-Oshkosh during parent orientation, I looked around the room and all I could think about that this was that going to be an interesting week. I was right. From hydroponic generators on deserted islands to singing Disney songs to bath salt zombie stumbling around campus tackling people, to an accident while texting and driving; I honestly can say that was the best week of my summer. Being on UW-Oshkosh campus really opened my eyes and gave me the feel of being a real college student. We had our own dorms with a roommate from a different city that we never met before. We dined in the Blackhawk Commons for breakfast, lunch, dinner and we had four classes a day preparing us for the multimedia art class where we learned how to produce movies and commercial. We also learned how to work with the cameras on green screens and outside productions. We learned how to cut and edit films, edit mistakes, and append audio. Going to Oshkosh really got me prepared to start college in 2015. I want to thank HACM for this experience. My main goal is to enroll into UW-Oshkosh and prosper. I've met some amazing people this summer and I hope we stay in touch for a long time".



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
WHITEWATER



College Tour

WHAT: HACM Education Initiative College Tour

WHO: 6TH through 12th grade students

WHY: To acclimate and expose students to an academic surrounding that will enhance and assist them in life skills, career planning and college preparation.

WHERE: University of Wisconsin-Whitewater

WHEN: Monday, September 29, 2014 (MPS is closed), from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

- Bus will depart from Highland Gardens located at 1818 W. Juneau Avenue, precisely at 9:00 a.m. and return around 3:00 p.m.
- Parental permission form must be filled out completely
- Parents must **RSVP by Monday, September 15, 2014**
- Breakfast sponsored by McDonald's
- Lunch sponsored by HACM



Thema Ponton, Anchor/Reporter at WISN 12 will be this year's BEE pronouncer.

BEE Part of Something Extraordinary



The Housing Authority of the
City of Milwaukee

14th ANNUAL SPELLING BEE CONTEST

Invites all 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th
graders to participate in the BEE

Wednesday, October 29, 2014

5:30p.m. –7:30 p.m.

Hillside Resource Center

1452 N. 7th Street

Milwaukee, WI 53205

**1st place \$100.00, 2nd place \$50.00, 3rd
place \$25.00 (for each grade)**



Poster Contest

This event is being sponsored by the Housing Authority Insurance Group (HAIG) to promote fire safety within the community. The Fire Prevention Poster Contest goal is to promote the importance of families developing and implementing a home fire escape plan. "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives", is the theme of Fire Prevention Week, October 5-11, 2014. Judging will take place on October 8, 2014.

Youth from the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee and participating partners are encouraged to participate in the Fire Prevention 2014 Poster Contest. Participants must create a poster displaying fire prevention and safety around fire prevention. There are three age categories: 6-9, 10-14 and 15-18. A first, second, and third place winner will be selected from each age group. The first place winner will receive a check in the amount of \$50, second place winners receive \$30, and the third place winner will receive \$20.

It's not enough to have a home escape fire plan. To escape safely, you must make sure that everyone in the home has practiced the plan. For the month of October 2014, the Housing Authority advocates that when it comes to escape plans, practice is the key. With this in mind, the HAIG wants to make children aware of these potential hazards and teach them ways to prevent fires.

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the HACM Education Initiative is to provide parents with support, resources, and assistance to enhance the educational development of their children so that they obtain a quality education and graduate from high school. This will be accomplished by exposing, enriching, and immersing children in an environment that is conducive to learning.