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Saturday Academy Updates



On Saturday, March 25th, local author and this year's featured Build-A-Book author Lesley Young surprised our Horizons students by stopping by a Saturday Academy session for a meet-and-greet and to drop off signed copies of her latest book *A-Train Allen*.

Following Lesley's visit, students in grades 1-4 rotated through reading aloud in small groups, writing, and STEAM work in which they learned about chemical reactions by using the scientific process and running trials on an experiment called fizzy hands. Students also built their own paper airplanes and competed to see who could fly the farthest. In the afternoon, students participated in one of their chosen electives, including soccer, basketball, or art which has been focused on aquatic themed projects in anticipation of the culminating field trip to the Baltimore Aquarium on Saturday, April 8.

Alumni have been actively involved in the Spring Saturday Academy sessions as well. They have been assisting as classroom aides in the morning and have spent the afternoons participating in their own programming which has been focused on preparing them for interviews. Sessions have included resume building and learning about proper interview attire. This Saturday, alumni will participate in mock interviews to further prepare them for intern or work opportunities.

Announcing Horizons' Partnership with Bishop Walker School for Boys



Over the past two summers, we have seen enormous demand for our program, including a waitlist of eligible students. We know we need to do more to meet the demand for our program and bring greater equity and opportunities to more students in this region. This summer, we will welcome our largest enrollment yet with 430 students enrolled across our three sites (an increase of 11% over the prior summer) to meet the overwhelming demand and need of the community.

In addition to increasing the number of students we are serving, we are also introducing new feeder school partners to open up access to Horizons for more students who live and go to school East of the River through an innovative partnership with the [Bishop Walker School for Boys](#), a tuition-free independent school serving 81 scholars in K-5th grade.

As Mike Molina, Head of School for Bishop Walker School for Boys, describes.



"Partnering with Horizons is an opportunity to serve our scholars and to set the stage for greater service to the community around us. Southeast DC needs more academically-grounded summer opportunities like Horizons for its young people, and the long-term commitment Horizons makes is both culturally responsive and needed in this community. We want our scholars to be trailblazers with Horizons."

To read more about this newly established partnership, please [click here](#).

Build-A-Book In Review



On Saturday, March 11, we welcomed over 100 Horizons and Maret students for our 16th Annual Build-A-Book; an annual tradition that brings together

We were thrilled to have Lesley Younge, a Maret faculty member, as our featured author this year. At the event, Horizons and Maret students were offered a sneak preview and reading of Lesley's new children's book, *A-Train Allen*, and the opportunity to build-a-book of their own, create a bookmark, explore under the sea, learn about the speed of sound, and create their own setting for A-Train Allen to explore.

We would like to thank Lesley Younge, Carolyn Bottelier, Maret School, and our Horizons Maret Parent Council and wonderful volunteers for making this year's Build-A-Book such a memorable event.

St. Patrick's Annual Cake Raffle



On Friday, March 17th, Grades 1 thru 8 came together at St. Patrick's to support Horizons Greater Washington by participating in their annual Cake Raffle. The event was organized by Grade 6 students, parent volunteers, and faculty and staff. Thanks to the St. Patrick's community over \$15,000 was raised to support Horizons summer programming. We are so grateful to the St. Patrick's community for their overwhelming support.

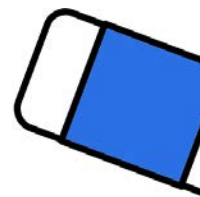


For the second year in a row, a Horizons Greater Washington teacher has been selected as one of the Horizons National Lyn McNaught Teacher Award recipients. This year's recipient from Horizons Greater Washington is Matt Azzaro.

Matt currently serves as a 6th grade teacher at our Norwood site and drives over an hour each way to get to Horizons because he is rejuvenated by the impact he makes on Horizons students.

As Matt describes it, "I started teaching in 2017 and Horizons was my first experience having a classroom of my own. One time there was a student having a rough day. A couple days later, I got a tap on the shoulder and she handed me the assignment she had completed. That assignment was about how you have overcome an obstacle and she wrote about swimming and diving at Horizons. I still keep that assignment from her on my desk."

Please join us in congratulating Matt on this well-deserved honor.



SUPPLY DRIVE

APRIL 2023



At Horizons, we respond to the widening education gap in the DC area by offering a joyful summer full of intensive academics, engaging art projects, and robust swimming activities. We work to ensure our five-week program is safe and meaningful for our students, families, and staff. Now, more than ever, our project based curriculum will be critical to ensuring our 430+ students feel ready to take on the new school year. And, we need your help to make this possible!

To learn more about Horizons' Summer Program Supply Drive and to take part please [click here](#).

Volunteer Opportunities

Calling all volunteers! Horizons is looking for individuals 15 and older who are interested in serving as a summer program or swim program volunteer this summer. Volunteers are absolutely crucial to the success of our program. Horizons relies on our volunteers to help ensure the program runs smoothly from start to finish. Volunteers help set the tone for the program, we want students to feel seen, cared for, and included. This involves bringing enthusiasm and joy throughout the program. Our summer program will run from June 30 - August 4, 2023. All volunteers are asked to commit to volunteering for at least two weeks during the program. To sign up as a volunteer please click on the links provided below.

[Summer Volunteer Opportunities](#)

[Swim Volunteer Opportunities](#)



Staffing Opportunities

HGW is hiring! Each summer, our amazing teachers and staff create safe, supportive, interactive, and engaging learning environments with our students.

Interested or know someone who might want to join our incredible teaching and support staff?

Visit our [job board](#) to see current opportunities!



Save the Date for Horizons Reach for the Stars Gala 2023!

Friday, September 22, 2023
6:30 PM Cocktail Reception
7:30 PM Program and Awards Ceremony

The Four Seasons Hotel
Ballroom
2800 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC

We are looking forward to gathering together in person for an unforgettable evening to share our program's successes, our students' achievements, and the work ahead. Throughout the night you will hear about the tremendous impact Horizons has in the lives of our students, alumni, and their families.

For information on tickets and sponsorships, please click on the button below.

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