



POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE, INC.

The best friend a kid can have

PAL News

Fall 2017

The Police Athletic League, along with supporters like you, have dedicated over a century of service to the kids of New York City. Together we have created safe spaces to support the emotional and social development of each child while also promoting their academic success. Over time, PAL's after-school participants have shown increased self-esteem, improved engagement in school and increased physical activities; but with almost 30 percent of NYC children living in poverty, our work is just as crucial now as it was 100 years ago.

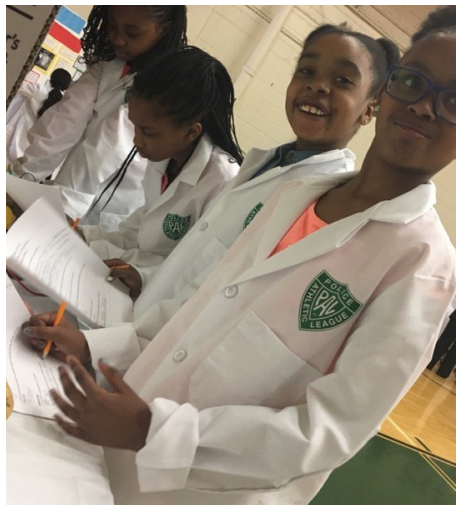


INTRODUCING: JILL MOORE

Jill Moore is a former Banker who found her calling in youth development after retirement. She is currently the Director of PAL's Goldie Maple Community Center in Queens, and has been a resident of that same community for 35 years.

Ms. Moore understands the importance of engaging the youth, especially when neighborhoods fall victim to extreme violence and poverty. When gun violence was prevalent in her neighborhood, her after-school program at Goldie Maple provided a safe space for those children, supported their talents and stimulated them academically. Now, 17 years into her career in youth development, and the betterment of the neighborhood, she has no intention of stopping anytime soon.

The Goldie Maple Center provides our youth with an array of activities. The afterschool program operates daily for students from kindergarten to middle school and Ms. Moore takes pride in her staff, some of which are former students and community residents as well. "It's important that our students' education and development be fostered by the ones who came before them. Most of the educators



at the Goldie Maple Center are from the community and have also overcome extreme hardship. They, in turn, can be an example to the students growing up now."

Aside from academic enrichment and homework help, other activities offered at the Goldie Maple Center include Art, dance, Judo, and various sports/games. For many students who can't afford access to opportunities outside of the normal school day, these activities are provided to teach teamwork, creativity, social skills and mold them into responsible citizens.



Jill recalls the fulfillment of walking through her community to see the growth of former students who are now adults with their own children. "It's a pleasure to have generations of families come through the doors of this Center" Jill explains. "Walking through the neighborhood to hear "Hey Miss Jill!" from adults and kids alike, because of my dedication and involvement, is the most gratifying part of it all."

Thank you for making this possible.

OFFICER LAMONT ANDERSON

“THE BEST FRIEND A KID CAN HAVE”



The Police Athletic League, together with you and the law enforcement community, supports and inspires New York City youth to realize their full individual potential as productive members of society. Our century-old history is founded on the principle that the police and the communities they serve both benefit when they have positive and productive relationships with one another. By providing the opportunity for PAL youth to interact with police officers, 89% of students say their outlook towards the law has changed. And when asked about its importance, Police Officer Lamont Anderson agrees.

P. O. Lamont Anderson is a former PAL Kid who has been with the NYPD for 23 years and volunteering with PAL for 7. When asked about the importance of police and kid interactions, Officer Anderson made it clear that most officers enjoy working with kids. “This work is imperative because kids mainly see a negative perspective when watching the news and other outlets. Working with children in the community humanizes the police in their eyes.”

When Officer Anderson was a child, PAL staff and its NYPD volunteers influenced his educational and social development in a positive way. Today, he receives a sense of accomplishment when he is able to pay it forward. “Working hands on, overtime, with PAL kids allows you to see their growth. It’s a rewarding feeling when you see a timid child walk into your room the first day and watch him grow into an outspoken leader” says Officer Anderson.

By coaching in PAL Sports Leagues, playing on Cops & Kids teams, and volunteering at PAL Centers during after-school hours, police form lasting, meaningful relationships with youth and make our communities safer. This work doesn’t go unnoticed. When Officer Anderson announced his retirement from the NYPD, just 2 years away, students were anxious to know what will happen next. But just like the ones who influenced him, he assured his mentee’s that he will continue to fulfill his commitment to PAL kids long after his retirement. We are glad to have him on our team.

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YOU MAKE EVERY SEASON AT PAL AN EXCITING ONE!

PAL had another great summer with your support, and we are preparing for a wonderful school year. During the summer, almost 3,000 summer campers went on nearly a hundred trips while continuing academic growth with special materials and projects created by our Education Department. We are busy tabulating our evaluations for the summer, and we are confident that kids involved in PAL Educational Summer Camp retained more of the material taught the previous school year than the average kid in the neighborhoods that we serve.

Our new PAL PLAYSTREETS model was a success because of the support of our individual donors, and partners including the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice; the New York Yankees, the New York Liberty, and the American Dairy Association. With additional support from the MetLife Foundation and The Rudin Foundation, we were able to enhance PLAYSTREETS's programming. Of course, no PAL program would be a success without the help of the NYPD.

Our PAL Centers serve thousands of youth each day. We have centers in all five boroughs, and they are staffed by dedicated youth development professionals. In this issue, we are profiling Jill Moore who is the Center Director at Goldie Maple Beacon Academy in Queens. Jill's dedication to providing outstanding programs is just one example of the commitment our Center Directors, and their staffs have to PAL kids.

To enhance our management of the different PAL Centers, we added two new senior staff members to oversee the 20 Centers: Miguel Balbuena and Quincy Dunlop. Together they bring many years of experience in youth development and education to PAL. Mr. Balbuena oversees the PAL Centers that are co-located in schools and serve as the after-school program for those schools. Mr. Dunlop is responsible for PAL's stand-alone and community-based centers. You help support all of these sites with your contributions.

Last month, we held our 45th Annual Superstar Dinner, and I want to thank everyone who attended and supported this very important fundraising event. We are most grateful to Honoree David Boies, event chair Maurice R. Greenberg, and the event committee for their dedication to PAL.

It is only with the support of people, foundations, and corporations that we are able to serve so many children and teens. We are confident that with your continued support the 2017-2018 school year will be another successful one for thousands of PAL kids.

Sincerely,



Frederick J. Watts
Executive Director

PAL NEWS STAFF

Editor: H. Aldervan Daly
Design: ELEVENODESIGN

*Photos provided
by PAL Staff*

Contributors:
Domingo Justin Beltran
Renee Jamerson
Jami Landi
Evan Laura Ressegger
Pinky Vincent

MIGUEL BALBUENA, DIRECTOR OF SCHOOL BASED CENTERS QUINCY DUNLAP, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY CENTERS

“An investment into PAL is an investment into a participant’s potential success!”

– Quincy Dunlap

As a century old organization, The Police Athletic League works hard at maintaining old relationships and cultivating new ones. Along with friends like you, a very important part of our youths’ development is the relationships we have with the schools they attend during the day and community centers that house many of our programs.

Quincy Dunlap, our new Director of Community Centers, along with Miguel Balbuena, Director of School Based Centers, are working hard to leverage relationships with school partners while simultaneously improving the quality of programming that will set a greater foundation of success for our participants.

Q: In your new role as Director, what do you hope to change or implement at PAL?

A: Quincy – “As Director of Community Centers my desire is not to change anything at PAL. The Police Athletic League is an amazing organization with an even greater foundation. With that being said, my main focus is to help advance all systems of operating and add structures to enforce what is already in place.”

Q: How important is afterschool programming for the students at PAL?

A: Miguel – “PAL’s after-school programs are important because they create a point of reference for supportive and safe environments. Afterschool is just one resource that not only provides homework help and sports, but it provides a safe space that allows our children to grow into transformative leaders. Adding to PAL’s foundation, engaging parents will increase our ability to build on the socio-emotional development of our students.”

Q: What is the overall aim of your department?

A: Quincy – “Overall, my department’s objective is to align resources for students and staff. Providing development and support for staff will enhance their abilities to impact our students in effective ways, turning challenges into strength and advancing the impact we already have within their lives.”

Q: What do you hope our kids will take with them when they leave PAL?

A: Miguel – “My hope is that PAL kids are able to cultivate a voice and feel empowered while doing so. This voice will help them navigate the systems in which they will have to participate in while growing as productive individuals in their adult lives.”



“I became a PAL donor to contribute what I can to help children do positive things and stay on the right track while growing up.”

– Matthew C. of Brooklyn, NY

PAL knows that the majority our supporters have hearts that echo Matthew’s sentiments. That’s why we hope that you will consider becoming a PAL Partner and join a special group of New Yorkers that have found it in their hearts to give a monthly gift to the Police Athletic League. Their generosity helps to guarantee a constant source of finances that PAL can count on to help provide a safe place for kids to go when school is out. We could never accomplish our mission of being The Best Friend a Kid Can Have without the members of our PAL family and we thank you all for your unwavering commitment to the children of New York City.

If you would like to learn more about becoming a PAL Partner please contact Renee Jamerson at (212) 477-9450 x. 353 or email her at rjamerson@palnyc.org.



“The police respected us, and we respected them. They took time out of their busy schedules to work with us” “Thank you, PAL, for keeping me safe when gang violence was rampant.”

PAL ALUMNI

At PAL we value our kids, both past, and present. Recently, to reconnect with former PAL kids, we mailed surveys to our alumni to gather memories of the past. What we received from the surveys was heartwarming. Spanning from 1940-1980, our alumni shared memories from their PAL experience, all with the same thread that their time at PAL positively influenced their childhood.

One PAL alumnus remarked “I remember busloads of PAL kids like myself leaving my neighborhood going to New York Yankee’s doubleheader. For the next few years, my

friends and I looked forward to the summer and those trips to Yankee stadium with PAL”.

Originating from our Playstreets, we have always aimed to give children safe spaces where they can experience the city they live in and are free to explore their talents. Currently, in our afterschool program for children, we encourage the children to play sports, work on homework, and also take part in the arts.

Another former PAL kid wrote that she discovered her passion for singing in a PAL after-school program, “PAL is where I first

sang publicly. Later on, in life, I went into a group and did a cappella harmony up until my 60’s. Thanks to PAL, I lost my shyness”.

We enjoy hearing from PAL alumni and hope that if you have a story, you would like to share that you send it to us at 34 ½ East 12th Street, New York, NY 10003, email us at advancement@palnyc.org or call us at 1-800-PAL-4Kids. We look forward to hearing from you and learning your story.

A WONDERFUL YEAR FOR PAL’S SPECIAL EVENTS

PAL recently held our premier gala, the **45th annual Superstar Dinner**, on September 27 at the Pierre. Honoring David Boies, of Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, the event raised over \$1million to benefit 30,000 PAL Kids. The delightful evening was chaired by Maurice Greenberg and featured entertainment from host Tony Danza and several youth members of PAL’s Acting Program.

On October 17th at the Plaza, PAL held its **12th Annual Real Estate and Construction Luncheon**. This year’s event honored Scott H. Rechler, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of RXR Realty with an award presented by the Honorable Robert M. Morgenthau and Police Commissioner James P. O’Neill.

On December 14, we will hold our **29th Annual Women of the Year Luncheon** at the Pierre. The honorees will be announced very soon.



These signature events are enhanced by PAL’s **monthly Business Luncheons**, hosted by John A. Catsimatidis, Robert M. Morgenthau and Mark Simone. Nine events have to date raised \$224,901 with guest speakers Gary Bettman, Ambassador John Bolton, Robert L. Capers, Congressman Barney Frank, Carl E. Heastie, Errol Louis, William F. Sweeney, Jr., and Cyrus R.

Vance, Jr. Additional business luncheons will be scheduled through the rest of the year.

We are also holding our third annual **5K Walk/Run on November 12**. Information on all these events can be found on our website or call PAL’s Development Department at 212-477-9450 ext 307 or 309.

SUMMER CAMP/PAL PLAYSTREETS: ROUND-UP

Each summer, PAL successfully provides NYC kids with Summer Day Camps, free of charge. Summer 2017 was no exception, thanks to supporters like you.

With a perfect balance of arts, athletics and academics, campers were provided with positive experiences, relationships and environments which productively prepared them for a brand new school year. In combination with all your support, PAL staff worked tirelessly to combat summer learning loss with summer enrichment and learning experiences that propel the academic success and development of our young people. Our theme for the summer season was "Music from Around the World." Each center learned about a different global music genre and displayed their learning at our annual Cultural Day celebration on August 11th, and the Middle School Pennant Quest event which took place on July 27th.

Other events and games/activities included an all-girls basketball camp, the Great Fitness Challenge, career workshops, Sports Day, a homerun derby, the Wynn Center kayaking trip, and Mini Carnival. The city wide special events were planned to give participants the opportunity to learn and practice team work, self-control, center spirit, and friendly competition among representatives from all centers; and each one was a success.

Alongside traditional PAL events, Academic Workouts supplied our campers with enrichment programming to build computation, problem solving, vocabulary and writing skills. These workouts focused on building 2 specific skills, math and literacy.

Because of your support our kids experienced a safe summer of academic enrichment and fun. You really are the best friend a kid can have.



CORPORATE VOLUNTEERS

Our after-school programs in 20 neighborhoods throughout New York City is off to a great start. Thanks to you and our corporate partners, we can give our kids a quality learning experience.

For example, many of our 2,800 after-school kids come from low-income families. We give them a head start through PAL Packs – a volunteer initiative by our corporate partners to donate and pack book-bags with school

supplies for PAL kids. This year, thanks to the generosity of New York Post, Indeed, and Foot Locker, we were able to offer 600 PAL kids much-needed school supplies.

During after-school hours, PAL is also inspiring young people to think about and pursue careers in STEM fields. We do this by offering engaging STEM activities leading up to the competitive annual PAL Science Fair, where

young people from all PAL centers demonstrate what they have learned during after-school activities. This amazing showcase of our kids' talent is made possible because of critical contributions and volunteer support from you and our partners such as Con Edison, New York Post, Nordstrom, Northfield Bank Foundation, and Investors Foundation.

We thank you for making PAL a best friend a kid can have.