



## MADISON MATTERS





## CELEBRATING GRADUATES

Madison celebrated the achievements of current and former members from all of its Clubhouses with a graduation ceremony for the Class of 2023. The event was a time of reunion, recognition and inspiration, as teens, alumni and staff gathered, to cheer on scholarship recipients, hear alumni

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GREAT FUTURES GALA





## **SOCCER FOR SUCCESS**

#### Learning healthy habits on and off the field

At the Clubs, soccer is taking hold as Madison's Soccer for Success program kicks off. Soccer for Success, designed by the U.S. Soccer Foundation, teaches youth how to play soccer while teaching them healthy habits around eating, exercise and teamwork. Our Soccer for Success program is made possible by the generous support of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation. Since its launch, this initiative has brought the joys of soccer and valuable life lessons to our members.

The Soccer for Success program kicked off at our John E. Grimm III Clubhouse in the Bronx last fall, and was introduced to our Thomas S. Murphy Clubhouse in Brooklyn and Pinkerton Clubhouse in Harlem this spring. The program encourages Explorers and Juniors to learn new skills, providing consistent engagement and opportunities for social-emotional development.



So far, we have seen a lot of interest in the program, with over 160 members participating. Many more are gearing up for summer practices, ready to try out soccer, practice teamwork skills with their friends and learn healthy habits. While working on dribbling and passing, our members are also learning nutritional information and how different foods affect their body. The program utilizes socialemotional learning techniques that focus on incorporating respect, teamwork and friendship into every lesson.



At the start, few members knew how to play soccer and many were nervous about trying a new sport. A key to success was the incredible enthusiasm of our trainers and the relationships our staff have with members that they could build upon, that made each participant enjoy soccer, wanting to continue playing soccer and share their love for it with friends and family. It has been incredibly rewarding to witness the growth and excitement among our young members. We have witnessed their knowledge of the game's rules and field positions expand, as they now confidently explain them to others. The program's success can be attributed to our well-trained and passionate staff, who have fostered an environment of trust and support, nurturing the social-emotional development of our youth through teamwork and self-reflection.

Throughout the program, our dedicated coaches have undergone comprehensive training, equipping them with the necessary tools to address the social, emotional and health needs of our members. We continue to learn and refine our approach, with future training sessions planned for new staff members.

Looking ahead, our vision for the Soccer for Success program includes expanding partnerships to provide more opportunities for our members' futures, including college soccer preparation. We aim to connect with college soccer teams and professional leagues, organizing field trips to matches and facilitating soccer clinics with experienced players. By strengthening our program and collaboration with sports partners, we can offer our members a pathway to develop their interests and talents.

The Soccer for Success program has undoubtedly made a positive impact on the lives of our Clubhouse members, instilling a love for soccer and imparting invaluable life skills. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the coaches, staff and participants who have contributed to the program's success and to the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, whose amazing partnership continues to support our members on and off the field.





## **WHAT WE LEARNED IN 2022**

#### The 2022 Annual Report is out!

We are thrilled to share Madison's 2022 Annual Report! Last year, Madison served over 4,000 members in after-school and summer programming across Brooklyn, the Bronx and Harlem.

Emerging from the pandemic, we recognized that our communities and youth needed us now more than ever, and we continue to ask our members how we can best serve them in this fluctuating time. In 2022, that meant investing in the communities we serve by hosting food pantries and community events, which distributed 158,065 pounds of groceries to 775 families. We are continuing to grow our membership to



pre-pandemic levels and to follow our Formula for Success, focusing on three priority outcome areas of Academic Success, Good Character & Citizenship and Healthy Lifestyles.

As you'll read in the report, Madison spent time in a strategic-planning process to determine how to remain resilient in our ever-changing world. From this, we outlined three key priorities: empowering and equipping youth, investing in our staff and strengthening partnerships. And in the coming year, we look forward to implementing our learnings and continuing to improve our offerings. Every year, we take what we learned and incorporate it into our operations and plans for the year ahead, and while the past year was incredibly challenging, we stand strong, knowing we are giving our members unwavering support and new opportunities. And all of that is thanks to you, our amazing community of dedicated and faithful supporters.

"On behalf of Madison, I send my sincerest thanks to our entire community for being a part of our legacy of service and allowing us to continue our mission to serve the kids and teens of New York City," Tim McChristian, Executive Director of Madison Square Boys & Girls Club.

We cannot wait for all that lies ahead in 2023 and beyond, and we hope you will continue to join us on our journey to provide the youth of NYC with opportunities and resources to reach for the stars. **Read the full 2022 Annual Report here**.



## **BRONX GREAT FUTURES GALA**

#### An evening of celebration and fun in The Bronx

We are excited to share the success of Madison Square Boys & Girls Club's Bronx Great Futures Gala. The event showcased the talents of Bronx youth, from the John E. Grimm III Dance Team to our 2023 Bronx Youth of the Year. The evening kicked off with a tricky tray auction, followed by a reception featuring dinner, a live auction and dancing. We extend a special thank you to our Bronx Champion of Youth Honorees, April Horton, Director of External Affairs & Government Affairs Professional at Verizon, and Gustavo Rivera, New York State Senator representing the 33rd Senate District, for their commitment to serving the youth of our city.

The gala celebrated the hard work of Madison's members, featuring two performances by the John E. Grimm III Dance Team. Their dedication and passion for dance caused a standing ovation and set the tone for a festive and unforgettable night.





We also had the privilege of recognizing the 2023 Bronx Youth of the Year, Madiagne Niang and Nazhir Williams, shining examples of leadership, resilience and determination. Their success embodies the impact of the Madison Square Boys & Girls Club in shaping young lives.

Finally, we want to say a special thank you to our sponsors, donors, the Bronx Advisory Board — President Frank Cappacio, Jr., and Committee Chairs Armand Paganelli, Derrick A. Lovett and Philip Maltaghati — and our community partners whose generous support made the Bronx Great Futures Gala possible. Your belief in the potential of our youth is invaluable and helps pave the way for their success.





#### THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

























The Paganelli Family Daniel Kluger

Denise & Frank Capaccio, Jr.

John & Cassondra Emrick



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#### **Celebrating Graduates**

advice and be recognized for their hard work and determination.

A highlight of the event, twelve Club members were awarded \$1,000 scholarships from AmEx, to help pursue their dreams and post-secondary education We are so proud of all of our members who applied and shared their stories, goals, and aspirations.



Madison alumni and brother and sister Isaac Z. (left) and Naomi Z. (right) stand with Madison COO Steve Melton.

We are excited to share the recipients are: Abou F., aspiring software engineer; Bianca C. entering Babson College as business major; Dequan S., aspiring physical education teacher; Madiagne N., entering State University of New York – Oswego to study computer science; Savannah K., aspiring medical doctor, Borough of Manhattan Community College; Kelvin K., aspiring sports marketer, College of Staten Island; Trinity B., aspiring nurse, Clarke Atlanta University; Millania P., aspiring art therapist, Hunter College; Alliyah G., entering Wheaton College; Kayla L., entering SUNY Plattsburg as a biology major; Shawn B., entering SUNY Morrisville as a psychology major; and Nazhir W., SUNY Morrisville, aspiring actor and choreographer.

The event was part of Madison's Project Graduate program, an initiative that provides academic resources and mentoring to members to empower them to pursue higher education and overcome challenges.

Congratulations to the Class of 2023 and Madison's alumni who continue to amaze us with their hard work and determination! We are so proud of you all and cannot wait to see all that you accomplish. As recent high school graduates embark on their journeys to college and into the workforce, we stand ready to continue providing mentorship, opportunities and help in navigating the world around them.







Night at Yankee Stadium July 21, 2023

# UPCOMING EVENTS

Click invites to register!



Fore the Kids Golf Tournament July 24, 2023



Click <u>here</u> to learn more!

### INVEST IN THE FUTURE OF NYC



There are so many ways to support the youth of New York City at Madison! From giving through your IRA to including Madison in your will to donating stocks.

Contact Anna Phewa, senior director of individual donor partnerships of Madison Square Boys & Girls Club Foundation, at <a href="mailto:aphewa@madisonsquarefoundation.org">aphewa@madisonsquarefoundation.org</a>.