

MAY  
2023



MADISON SQUARE  
BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

# MADISON MATTERS



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## YOUTH OF THE YEAR

Our 11th annual Youth of the Year Dinner, held on May 17, celebrated the success, future dreams and aspirations of our members. Raising over \$1.7 million with over 580 guests in attendance, the evening underscores the transformative support of our community.

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# ELBAUM YOUTH AWARDS

## *The Clubhouse celebrates members and welcomes Steve Elbaum*



The Elbaum Family Clubhouse in Brownsville, Brooklyn, hosted the Elbaum Youth of the Year Awards earlier this month. Youth and staff were delighted to welcome special guest Steve Elbaum at this reception organized by teen members.

The youth-led event began with a vibrant praise dance, captivating over 100 attendees. Guided by the vision of empowering all members and giving them ownership of the event, our teenagers were elected to various leadership roles. This inclusive approach allowed each participant to share their input on how they wanted the event to unfold, and the result was a celebration where every voice mattered and everyone had a chance to shine.

Our talented Clubhouse members assumed diverse roles throughout the event. From Clubhouse hosts to dance team leaders, program leaders, food and décor captains, and even a Clubhouse DJ who kept the atmosphere upbeat and inspirational — the event truly showcased the immense talent and potential within our Clubhouse community.

A special highlight of the evening was the awards ceremony, during which we recognized the Elbaum Youth of the Year Ambassadors. These remarkable individuals received well-deserved awards, acknowledging their dedication and hard work in being selected as the 2023 Clubhouse Ambassadors. As a token of appreciation, each Ambassador also received a scholarship and an iPad, enabling them to further pursue their passions and continue their growth.







Kayla L., Madison's Youth of the Year representing the Elbaum Family Clubhouse, presented Steve Elbaum with a plaque, expressing heartfelt gratitude for his unwavering support of the Club and acknowledging the immense impact it has had on her and her fellow Clubhouse members. It was a touching moment that highlighted the profound difference that our partners, like the Elbaums, make in the lives of our youth.

The event showcased the vibrant spirit of the Clubhouse through a captivating slideshow created by members, a step performance, spoken word poetry, music, food and plenty of dancing. Additionally, member photographers captured unforgettable moments throughout the event, while gifts were given to school administrators — Lead Principal Tamika Matheson, Assistant Principal Gail Murray, Principal Dr. Shirley Brown and Assistant Principal Felina Backer — to express the Club's gratitude and support for their invaluable work as educators.

The success of the event was palpable, as it not only brought Clubhouse members together but also left them feeling accomplished, empowered and proud of their Clubhouse.

We extend our deepest gratitude to Steve and Judy Elbaum and the Elbaum Family for their exceptional dedication to serving the youth of New York City. Their strong partnership has played a vital role in creating opportunities for growth, inspiration and success within our Clubhouse communities.





## EXPLORING COLLEGE DREAMS AND FUTURES

This spring our teens embarked on inspirational and informative college tours to Kingsborough Community College and Morgan State University. These campus visits proved to be transformative experiences, opening doors to knowledge, financial aid insights and the vast possibilities of their futures. For many participants, it was their first college campus visit.



Bright and early, our members set off for a tour of Morgan State University in Maryland, guided by Madison alum and 2021 Youth of the Year Ambassador, Nicolette Narine. Now a sophomore at Morgan State, Nicolette radiated enthusiasm as she shared her campus with our Clubhouse members. Nicolette shared tips on navigating the complexities of financial aid and scholarship applications. Moreover, she provided a glimpse into the vibrant world of HBCUs (Historically Black Colleges and Universities), shedding light on the experience they offer. The visit was meticulously planned on "Morgan State Day," giving our members the opportunity to catch exciting student dance and music performances.





For Alliyah G., a current member who has already received her acceptance letter from Morgan State, this visit was a dream come true. Alliyah seized the opportunity to meet with the admissions office and engage in insightful conversations regarding the logistics of financial aid, ensuring she can make informed decisions about her future. The experience proved to be a pivotal moment, as she found inspiration in witnessing Nicolette's thriving college life. The glimpse into her future school and the support provided by the university's staff bolstered her confidence as she prepares to embark on her college journey.

Closer to home, the expedition to Kingsborough Community College filled our members' hearts with excitement and wonder. Kingsborough Community College stands as one of the most diverse colleges in New York City, providing solace to our many members who are first-generation college students and hail from families who have migrated from all corners of the globe. The visit to Kingsborough was not solely focused on academics but also offered an insight into the world of collegiate sports. Our members even got to meet the head women's basketball coach, who shared her wisdom and experiences.

These exploratory journeys are key to our Project Graduate college access program and provide transformative experiences that open the doors to knowledge, inspiration and an understanding of what awaits our members in their pursuit of college education. The Clubhouse members returned home with a renewed sense of purpose and determination, armed with insights into financial aid, college life and the boundless possibilities that await them.





*Continued from p. 1*

### **Youth of the Year**

The spotlight of the evening was on our six remarkable Youth of the Year: Bianca, Kayla, Madiagne, Nazhir, Prince Elijah and Savannah. These young individuals took the stage with courage, sharing their stories and leaving the entire room inspired and motivated. We couldn't be prouder of them and express our gratitude for their willingness to open up and share their journeys. We are excited to witness their bright futures unfold as doctors, musicians and business leaders. They embody the dreams and aspirations of our 4,000 members, and we eagerly anticipate celebrating their future successes.



"I've been a member of the clubhouse since April 2014," said Nazhir W., Youth of the Year representing the John E. Grimm III Clubhouse. "My years of coming have been the best years of my life. I've started to learn many things about myself."

A special shout out to our Champion of Youth Honorees **Kerry Chandler**, Chief People Officer of Bombas and Board Member of Redfin and Lyra Health; **Mandell Crawley**, Chief Human Resources Officer of Morgan Stanley; and **Wayne Hewett**, Member, Board of Directors: Home Depot, Wells Fargo and UPS; and Corporate Champion of Youth Honoree **Deloitte**. Your generous support is helping put more kids on the path to brighter futures.

Our heartfelt gratitude goes to our Presenting Sponsors **Wells Fargo** and **Morgan Stanley**. Their generous support played a significant role in the success of this event. We were honored to be joined by Otis Rolley, president of the Wells Fargo Foundation and head of Philanthropy and Community Impact, to accept an award acknowledging their support.

We would also like to extend our deepest appreciation to event Chair Ken Farrell, the entire 2023 event committee, and our dedicated Board of Directors and Members as well as our amazing Mistress of Ceremonies Sarah Wallace of NBC. Ahead of the event, Sarah met with the Youth of the Year to learn more about their personal stories and share some words of wisdom.

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Thanks to your critical support, we can continue our crucial work with the youth in our city. Through mentorship, safe spaces and access to valuable resources, we empower our young members to explore their interests and thrive. Together, we are making a lasting impact on their lives, helping them shape a brighter future.

***We hope you will join us next year at the 12th annual Youth of the Year Celebration on Wednesday, May 15, 2024!***



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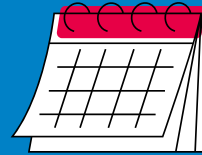
MADISON SQUARE  
BOYS & GIRLS CLUB



**Bronx Great Futures Gala**  
June 14, 2023

**Night at Yankee Stadium**  
July 21, 2023

## UPCOMING EVENTS



*Click invites  
to register!*

PLEASE JOIN MADISON SQUARE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB FOUNDATION FOR A

## NIGHT OUT

**AT YANKEE STADIUM**

FRIDAY  
**JULY 21**  
2023

PRE-GAME RECEPTION

6:00 P.M.

FIRST PITCH

7:05 P.M.

PARTY SUITE 6

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SPECIAL THANKS TO THE NEW YORK YANKEES FOR  
HOSTING THIS EVENT

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Contact Anna Phewa, senior director of  
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Square Boys & Girls Club Foundation, at  
[aphewa@madisonsquarefoundation.org](mailto:aphewa@madisonsquarefoundation.org).