

Cecil B. Moore Community Times



Beech Community Services
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Beech Hosts Annual "Jazz on the Ave" Festival



Beech Community Services proudly partnered with WDAS- FM's D.J. Patti Jackson and Soul Comedy Cafe's own TuRae to host their 6th Annual "Jazz on the Ave." Festival, on Saturday, August 11, 2012 from Noon - 7:30p.m., celebrating the wealth of extraordinary musical talent in Philadelphia. This free, annual, outdoor jazz extravaganza, stretched along five blocks, beginning at Broad Street and Cecil B. Moore Avenue and ending at 19th and Cecil B. Moore Avenue.

"Historically, Columbia Avenue has a rich and vibrant musical history. For over two decades during the 1960's and 1970's, it was known as "Jump Street," because of its array of thriving jazz clubs, which launched the careers of many Philadelphia jazz musicians and singers," said Ken Scott, CEO, Beech Companies.

This year's 2012 Jazz on the Ave. featured six live musical acts performing on the main stage to hundreds of attendees at Broad St. and Cecil B. Moore Ave. were:

- **Richard Jah Ace and Sons of Ace** is the headline act for this year's festival. The group's music was featured in the hit movie, "In Her Shoes;"
- Renowned Latin percussionist **Pablo Batista featuring the Mambo Syndicate**. Batista has been a percussionist for over 31 years;
- Legendary Philadelphia percussionist **Robert Kenyatta and La Tumba featuring Susanne Burgess**. Kenyatta has toured with the artists John Coltrane, Sonny Rollins, Wilson Pickett and The Beach Boys;
- Soul stirring vocalist and violinist, **Charisa Dowe Rowe--The Violin Diva**, takes soul jazz to another level with her impressive vocal and musical talent. Charisa has collaborated with some dynamic artists, including Wynton Marsalis, Savion Glover, and Common;
- **Project Hornz** is a 15-piece Funk/Soul band from Philadelphia has an extraordinary sound and give you a whole new appreciation of funk music;
- **Music Over Matter (M.O.M)** with Marcy Francis and Jan Jeffries. Francis is a seasoned musician and entertainer whose musical spirit enriches people. Jeffries is known as Ms. Rhythm Speaker and is unrivaled as a consummate percussionist and is equally well versed on a variety of hand percussion and kit techniques.

Performing at the second stage at 17th and Cecil B. Moore:

- Musical legend **Alfie Pollitt featuring Daud El-Bakara**. Pollitt toured extensively with the late legendary R&B superstar Teddy Pendergrass, which earned him two platinum recording credits to his impressive list of personal achievements.

"Beech Community Services organized and sponsored this year's Jazz on the Ave. event as a way for Beech to give back to the North Philadelphia community, by uniting together for a day of festive, community fun" said Christine Brown, Director of Beech Community Services (BCS) and organizer of the festival.

In addition to the jazz musical performances, Cecil B. Moore Ave. was brimming with food vendors, giveaways, kids zone activities, line dancing, Zumba demonstrations, and children's face painting by Fabulous Faces. Attendees were also entertained by the Modern Legends Drill Team and musical performances by the Philadelphia Clef Club Student Ensemble.

Beech Community Services Wishes the Community Happy Holidays

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Jazz on the Ave. (continued)

Health and wellness are important to every community, but HIV and AIDS has an even greater impact on minority communities. So, Beech Community Services also partnered with Pennsylvania Faith-Based Resource Information Corporation (PFERIC) to educate our community on the importance of safe sex as an integral part of their health and wellness regime. PFERIC established three HIV-AIDS test sites and a mobile medical van to conduct free testing. A total of 100 people were tested and three tested HIV-AIDS positive and were given medical counseling.

Beech Community Services would like to extend our sincerest appreciation and gratitude to this year's 2012 Jazz on the Ave. participating organizations:

Cecil B. Moore Avenue and Avenue North businesses; Philadelphia Black Public Relations Society (media partner); Food Mobile Association; Bounce TV; Clay Studio; Wagner Free Institute of Science; Smith Memorial Playground and Playhouse; Avenue of the Arts, Inc.; Women's Christian Alliance; Project HOME; Hahnemann University Hospital; United States Army; Tenth Memorial Baptist Church; Tower Investments; Fleisher Arts Memorial; Temple University; Free Library of Philadelphia; the Philadelphia Corporation for Aging; and Philadelphia Police Department's 22nd District. Beech Community Services also partnered with Pennsylvania Faith-Based Resource Information Corporation (PFERIC) to educate our community on the importance of safe sex as an integral part of their health and wellness regime. PFERIC established three HIV-AIDS test sites and a mobile medical van to conduct free testing. A total of 100 people were tested and three tested HIV-AIDS positive and were given medical counseling.

Special thanks to Megan Mills, Cavanaugh Tom, Charysse Crowner and Vincent Thompson of Thompson Mediaman Communications for their assistance in making "Jazz on the Ave." a success.

Beech Community Services Host Book Bag Giveaway

Beech Community Services proudly partnered with Citizens Bank & the 22nd Police District to host a free book bag giveaway, along with a one-stop community awareness event on Thursday, August 30, 2012 at the Beech/NBC 10 Studio, corner of 15th & Cecil B. Moore Avenue.

Many of our families lack the financial resources required to properly prepare their children for the new school year. Children are not only socially ostracized when this happens, but more importantly, ill prepared to meet their academic duties. No one wants our children to fall behind before the school year begins.

"Communities usually unite when their children are in need, so Beech wanted to served as catalyst to address school preparedness," said Christine Brown, Director of Beech Community Services.

Citizens Bank graciously donated book bags filled with school supplies to 500 area children within targeted zip codes 19121, 19122, and 19132. Our special thanks to Cavanaugh Tom, Kevin Cannon, Jimmie Mayrant, Donnie Wiggs, Evelyn Gray, Charles Wells, Noreen Pettaway, Chris Waters, Leslie Donnell, Bill Smith, and everyone at Citizens Bank for their generous donation and community service and also to Captain Lee and Officer Moore for extending your civic services within our community.

Beech Community Services also partnered with Organizing for America to host a voter registration drive to increase voter participation for the 2012 presidential election. Over 50 members of our community registered to vote. "Beech Companies strongly believes that active citizenship is a vital imperative, especially within minority communities, said Ken Scott, CEO, Beech Companies. Educating our community on the holistic importance of voting and encouraging them to exercise their voting rights as U.S. citizens, which is a privilege not extended in many countries is key."

To encourage literacy, ongoing learning, and reading among families, Beech also partnered with The Philadelphia Free Library's Cecil B. Moore Branch to host a library card registration drive. Over 300 area residents registered to receive a free library card. Our special thanks to everyone at The Cecil B. Moore Branch of The Philadelphia Free Library and to Robert Nottingham for assisting people with completing their library application's.

All in all, the event was a resounding success!

Avenue of Treats

Beech Community Services hosted their 6th Annual Avenue of Treats event, a community celebration along Cecil B. Moore Avenue and Avenue North on Wednesday, October 31, 2012, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

“This annual event accomplishes three important community objectives by providing a safe venue for our children to enjoy a fun American tradition, while strengthening positive community relations, and increasing revenues for our local businesses,” said Christine Brown, Director of Beech Community Services.

Over 500 area children, accompanied their families, participated in the community trick or treat festivities. Children paraded along Cecil B. Moore Avenue and Avenue North dressed in costumes and were greeted with candy by 28 area participating businesses, Dora the Explorer and Diego. Children also received toys, coloring books and crayons, while adults were treated to apple cider and their own bag of treats. Attendees were also treated to face painting by Fabulous Faces.

Beech Community Services would like to express their appreciation to all 28 area businesses, community residents, Temple University, Alliance for Progress Charter School, Jumpstart, and the Temple Black Student Union for volunteering their time to this worthy event.

Beech would like to extend special acknowledgements to the Cecil B. Moore and Avenue North businesses, Gina Frederico, Enoch Okodiko, Jane Lasher and Charlotte of Fabulous Faces, Officer Moore, Tina Lloyd, captain Bradley, Andrea Swann, Lisa Gass, Robert Nottingham, Mary Galloway, Voncelia Jamison, Reggie Hawk, Meghan Hall, Donnie Wiggs, Kevin Cannion, 22nd Police District, Temple Police, and a host of volunteers.

Beech Scholarship Fund Honors 2012 Scholarship Recipients

The Beech Scholarship Fund hosted their 2nd annual scholarship awards luncheon on Friday, August 31, 2012 at Beech Studios to honor the academic excellence of four outstanding Philadelphia students attending Temple University. This year's 2012 Beech Scholarship Fund Award recipients are: Cree Moore Recipient of the Engineering Award; April Brown Recipient of the Education Award; Camille Griggs Recipient of the Business Award, and Chante Jennings Recipient of the Arts Award.

Each award recipient was presented with a \$1,000 academic scholarship to attend Temple University. This year's scholarship luncheon was highlighted by Former Beech Companies visionary, founder, and CEO, the late Floyd W. Alston who was also in attendance. Award recipients were given an opportunity to meet personally with Mr. Alston, on this auspicious occasion. The catered affair was attended by Beech Companies executives, scholarship award recipients and their proud families.

“Investing in a child's education is always a sound investment, with a high rate of return for continued and sustainable growth of our community,” said Ken Scott, CEO, Beech Companies.”

The Beech Scholarship Fund was established by Beech Companies in honor of Beech Companies four founding fathers: Dr. Bernard C. Watson, John Haas, F. Otto Haas, and Floyd W. Alston. The purpose of the Beech Scholarship Fund is to promote home-grown, academic excellence and achievement within Philadelphia minority communities.



Community Church Reopens

The **Temple of Praise Baptist Church** (formerly New Life in Christ Missionary Baptist Church), located at 1905 Cecil B. Moore Ave., reopened its doors to the public on Sunday December 2, 2012. Parishioners were greeted by Reverend Gregory Lingham, Pastor and Reverend Loretta Lingham, Co-Pastor. Worship services are held Sunday's at 11 a.m. All are welcome. For more information, please call [\(215\) 763-2200](tel:215-763-2200)



Alston Beech Foundation Honors 2012 Grant Award Recipients

Beech Interplex, Inc hosted their Annual Consortium of Cecil B. Moore Organizations Luncheon on December 13, 2012 at the Beech/NBC 10 Studio. Where they honored this years Alston Beech Foundation 2012 grant award recipients. "Today we pay homage to our city's most distinguished and deserving non-profit and charitable organizations which are truly the embodiment and fusion of community service." said Ken Scott President/CEO, Beech Companies.

Each award recipient was presented with a grant up to \$2,000. The grants provided will complement and foster other revitalization efforts that will ultimately improve the North Central Philadelphia Community.

This years 2012 Alston-Beech Foundation award recipients were:

Art Sanctuary: Founded in North Philadelphia by best selling author and scholar Lorene Cary ("Black Ice", "The Price of a Child", "If Sons Then Heirs") The art sanctuary uses the power of black art to transform individuals, unite groups of people, and enrich and draw inspiration from the inner city. Established and aspiring artists unite to help create excellent lectures, performances, and educational programs.

The Clay Studio: The Clay studio was originally created as a venue for burgeoning artist, but quickly expanded its mission as a 501c non profit organization which promotes access to the ceramic arts, at all levels of interest and proficiency, from practicing professionals to disenfranchised children of the inner city to art enthusiast, students and collectors. Its diverse program and the variety of communities it serves distinguish the organization as both a community oriented art center and as a national and international focal point for ceramic art.

Institute for the Development of African -American Youth Inc. (IDAAAY):

IDAAAY believes communities are strengthened when youth and families are made our primary priority. IDAAAY mission is to serve and empower youth at risk. IDAAAY implements a set of holistic, evidence base programs that focus on three core areas: intervention and parent support. IDAAAY initiatives focus on teaching youth strategies which cultivating positive life skills, expand their educations, set and achieve career goals, build and support families. Since 1991 IDAAAY has helped nearly 20,000 youth avoid the pitfalls of crime and violence; enhance their economic opportunities.

Menzfit: Menzfit is a 501c 3 educational non-profit organization whose mission is ensuring long term gainful employment and financial fitness to low-income men who are largely minority with little formal education. This is achieved by providing professional interview clothing. Career development and financial literacy services. Menzfit has helped more than 3000 men complete for jobs (60 percent remain employed) since its inception in March 2001.

North Central Victim Services: North Central Victim Services is a non-profit, community based comprehensive program that supports and provide services to those that have been victims or witness of crime in the 22nd Police District. NCVS is committed to educating the community on the services available to victims or witnesses through the many outreach programs. NCVS take special pride in outreach to our elders, which includes a program to educate them on crime prevention.

Philadelphia Club of Frontiers International: The traditions of strengthening the African American Community through education and medical support have broadened with each President and the current and most pressing needs of people served. The Philadelphia Club 69' year history is characterized by uninterrupted service to the community, charity and stability. National Organization Frontiers International, Inc. a national non profit nonsectarian service organization, is among the oldest African American national service organizations in the United States. Floyd W. Alston served as a former President.

Smith Memorial Playground: Smiths mission is to provide children 10 and under for diverse background with free and assessable on-of-a-kind play experiences that meet their physical, behavioral and developmental needs. Smith Memorial Playhouse opened its doors in 1899 Funded by Richard and Sarah Smith the site was dedicated to the memory of their adult son Stanfield. Smiths beautiful 24,000 square foot Playhouse was designed solely as a play space for children by one of Philadelphia prominent late 19th century architect James H. Windrim.

The Alston-Beech Foundation (ABF) was created to provide small program grants to local nonprofit organization whose mission is complete to that of the ABF. For more information about the Alston-Beech Foundation or to obtain a grant application, please visit the website at www.beechinterplex.com.