



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
OF ROCHESTER INC.**



## HOURS

**Monday - Friday**

**2:30 - 8 PM\***

**Saturday**

**10 AM - 4 PM\***

\*Hours vary during holidays

### MAIN FACILITY

500 Genesee Street  
Rochester, NY 14611

### SATELLITE LOCATIONS

Rochester City School 29  
88 Kirkland Road  
Rochester, NY 14611

Rochester City School 45  
1445 Clifford Ave.  
Rochester, NY 14621

Industry Residential Center  
375 Rush-Scottsville Road  
Rush, NY 14543



## HIT THE JACKPOT

for Kids

## HOLIDAY CHEER

Breakfast with Santa

## DR. KING

Celebrating Legacy

## SPOTLIGHT

Kaliyah

## NEW PROGRAM

Mentors Inspiring  
Boys & Girls (MIB&G)



[BGCRochester.org/Join-The-Club](http://BGCRochester.org/Join-The-Club)

## Supporters “HIT THE JACKPOT” for Kids at Casino Night Fundraiser

What happens in Vegas was happening in downtown Rochester at The Wintergarden at Legacy Tower, and all for Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester. Close to 220 Club supporters tested their luck, and skill, at the organization’s Casino Night Fundraiser. **The first-time event raised \$63,294 (gross)! (see inside for full story)**



**WINTER 2017**  
ISSUE #4

# Breakfast with Santa Spreads Holiday Cheer



Club members and their families celebrated the holidays a little early with Santa on December 17 at Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester's 500 Genesee St. location. Close to 400 people filled the gymnasium to listen to a small program before enjoying a pancake breakfast, live music, and receiving a special gift from Santa Claus.

With a total of 80 volunteers from area businesses and supporting organizations, the holiday spirit was felt long before the event officially kicked off. Members of Rochester Institute of Technology's (RIT) Phi Kappa Psi fraternity and employees of Sutherland Global Services acted as Santa's helpers the evening before the Breakfast by wrapping the donated gifts in festive and themed paper.

The 16th annual Breakfast with Santa event, sponsored by ADT Cares, wouldn't have been

possible without the support of our many volunteers and toy drive sponsors. Five Star Bank, ADT, Calvary Automation, the Monroe County District Attorney Office, Power Management, Sutherland Global Services, AT&T, Rizzo DiGiacco Hern & Baniewicz, Sidney Hillman Health Center, Excellus BlueCross BlueShield, Insero & Co. CPAs, the office of Steven Damelio, DMD, Staples Business Advantage and more gathered new toys from employees and customers, making the event a great success.

Volunteers helped set up tables, decorate, distribute gifts according to age, prepare and serve breakfast and clean up. Representatives from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester Board, ADT, Five Star Bank, Buffalo Wild Wings, Twelve Corners Middle School, RIT's Phi Kappa Psi fraternity, Sutherland Global Services, AT&T and Harris Beach PLLC were ready

for whatever job needed to be done.

During the program, members of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester read monologues and performed holiday songs, and a very generous donation to fund our new playground was presented by Glover-Crask Charitable Trust. Joy filled the room.

Throughout breakfast, Club members sang and danced to music from The Abominable Snowband and then it was time for Santa!

Thanks again to all who participated in Breakfast with Santa in 2016! Your continuous support is greatly appreciated by staff and our Club member families.

*A special thank you to volunteer photographer Carissa Winters.*

## HIT THE JACKPOT CONTINUED



Presented by AT&T, the evening kicked off with a cocktail hour from 6 to 7 p.m., followed by a strolling supper, gaming, live entertainment, silent auction, a cash call, raffles and more. The Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester's Sweet Dancerz' hip hop performance kicked off gaming at 7 p.m. Blackjack, Craps, Roulette and other popular gaming tables covered The Wintergarden floor. Finely-dressed guests also had the opportunity to partake in a special scotch and bourbon tasting, provided by Empire Merchants North.

Club members interacted with guests while selling 50/50 tickets and extra raffle tickets and gaming chips. Prior to the cash call, a special Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester video was shown and Club alumna Sasha Okolo shared her experience growing up at the 500

Genesee St. facility. Event attendees loved spinning a prize wheel for a chance to win artwork created by Boys & Girls Clubs members.

Gaming chips were exchanged for tickets that guests put toward raffle items of their choosing. Raffle items included golf foursomes, spring cleaning packages, personal training sessions, sports memorabilia and more. The silent auction allowed guests to bid on prizes such as a week-long stay at Daytona Beach, FL., jewelry from Mann's Jewelers, an overnight package at The Strathallan Spa, and others.

A portion of the proceeds of a special "Great Futures Lemonade" drink also benefited the Club.

"It was a great evening of fun in support of the Club," said Frank Insero, Boys & Girls Clubs of

Rochester Board Chair. "Events like Casino Night make it possible to expand Club programming and opportunities for our members. Their success wouldn't be possible without the incredible support of the event guests, sponsors and planning committee."

Other Casino Night event sponsors included Bond, Schoeneck & King, Harris Beach PLLC, Sutherland Global Services, Premium Mortgage Corporation, Burke Group, Insero Wealth Strategies, IVY Academia Group, The Wintergarden by Monroe's, Insero & Co. CPAs, LLP, The Steve Wroble Team at Nothnagle Realtors, Fairport Savings Bank, Raymour & Flannigan, The Harley School and Buckingham Properties LLC.

# Celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr. Legacy



Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester members and their families gathered together to honor the lessons of Martin Luther King, Jr. on his birthday with a special pasta dinner. Prior to enjoying pasta, meatballs, salad, rolls and birthday cake, guests listened to three inspiring presentations by Mentors Inspiring Boys & Girls (see back page).

Club members recited memorized monologues "For My People" by

Margaret Walker and "Wake Up" by Robert Ricks. They also sang a piece called "When We Were Kings & Queens" by MIB&G vocal coach Cinnamon Jones.

It was a great celebration commemorating Dr. King's legacy and a powerful way to challenge our members and community to recognize his teachings and the changes they wish to see in their neighborhoods.

*"Darkness cannot drive out darkness: Only light can do that.  
Hate cannot drive out hate: Only love can do that."*

*— Martin Luther King, Jr.*



Help pave the way for more great Club kids by supporting the Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester with a donation. You can make a difference in creating great futures for Rochester's youth TODAY!

*Thank You!*

[BGRochester.org](http://BGRochester.org)



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## Kaliyah Looks Forward to Long Future with Boys & Girls Clubs

Kaliyah has only been a member of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester for just over a year, but knowing her siblings' positive experience before her she guarantees she's not leaving anytime soon.

"My 13-year-old step-brother was a member at the Club and he told me all about the building renovations and the fun he had there, so I had to check it out for myself," said Kaliyah. "After visiting and seeing all of the different programs I knew it would be a great place for me."

When she's not helping younger members in the Tutoring Center or reading in the Accelerated Reading Program, Kaliyah can be found doing experiments in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math), acting out improv skits in Mentors Inspiring Boys & Girls or crafting in the Art Program. Her favorite part of STEM is the projects and science. She has hopes of one day being an anesthesiologist because she "likes helping people" – that's tied with her dreams of being a teacher and a counselor, too.

Performing with Mentors Inspiring Boys & Girls is special to Kaliyah because it gives her the opportunity to make her family proud. "My favorite part is performing in front of my mom," said Kaliyah. "It's nice to have her there to watch me."

When asked why she thinks Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester is important Kaliyah provided two reasons:

1. It builds character. As a kid, you should have opportunities to be social and the Club provides many of those.
2. The area we live in is bad, so when you're a part of the Boys & Girls Clubs you can stay out of trouble and not be home alone if your parents are working.

Before graduating from college and fulfilling her dreams of being an anesthesiologist, teacher or counselor, Kaliyah hopes to one day work at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester as a staff member.



New Program Provides Different Creative Outlet for Our Kids

A new collaboration between Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester and Mentors Inspiring Boys & Girls (MIB&G) gives Club members a new outlet in artistic, social and cultural development.

Mr. Robert Ricks, accelerated reading program coordinator and founder of MIB&G, brought the creative program to the Club in October and it has helped kids flourish ever since. MIB&G features both youth and adult workshops and socials. They meet every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday. Participants learn creative writing, drama, and voice lessons and take part in a host of other artistic, social and cultural classes and workshops. Although Mr. Ricks and his program have been a part of the Boys & Girls Clubs only a few months they performed twice for the organization over the holiday season, and have received invitations to perform for several other venues.

"The skills students learn in MIB&G are all transferable life skills," said Ricks. "A piece of every class focuses on group dynamics, self-esteem, self-worth, advocating for one's self and their peers, and learning how to use one's voice in a positive and effective way."

The activities help kids both express themselves and decompress. "A lot of times pent up emotion can come out negatively," said Ricks. "MIB&G gives kids the opportunity to learn about self and community while expressing themselves in a positive way."

Currently, MIB&G has 22 registered participants. With an extra cost of \$40 a month, Club kids interested in MIB&G could use your support! *If interested in supporting the Mentors Inspiring Boys & Girls program, please call (585) 328-3077 x116 and ask for Mr. Ricks. Learn more at [ddppmedia.com](http://ddppmedia.com).*



[BGRochester.org/Join-The-Club](http://BGRochester.org/Join-The-Club)



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