



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

HOURS:

Monday - Friday

2:30 - 8 p.m.

Saturday

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

*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 41
279 W. Ridge Road
Rochester, NY 14615

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

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

Ribbon Cutting

3-2-1 – Great Futures!

Art Corner

Club Members Exhibit
Talent with Art Show

**Teen Wins Youth of
the Year Honor**



BGCROchester.org/Join-The-Club

SUMMER 2016

ISSUE #1



Rarity Johnson and
Kaysia Jones Perform with
Sweet Dancerz at Ceremony

Ribbon Cutting Event Celebrates Kids' Futures



Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester members William Carter and Camari Smith held a big blue ribbon tightly as fellow Club member, and birthday girl, Taylor Robinson stood in the center of local dignitaries and avid Club supporters anxiously waiting to make their cut at the final countdown. Frank Inero, Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester Board Chair declared “3 – 2 – 1” and everyone yelled “Great Futures” as the ribbon was cut on the newly renovated and expanded facility, symbolizing a new beginning and dream come true. More than 120 guests, including multiple politicians, current and former Club members, Board members, donors, and community partners, filled the beautifully lit and colorful building in celebration of the Club’s future and what it means for Rochester youth.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester is a local affiliate of Boys & Girls Clubs of America, the largest youth development organization in the world. By offering life changing programs in five core areas (Education & Career Development, Character & Leadership, Sports, Fitness &

Recreation, Health & Life Skills and The Arts), Club professionals provide young people with life changing opportunities, fun and enriching experiences, and appropriate relationships with peers and young adults.

“I am excited about this place opening up and seeing the bright future these children have and being in this open space here,” said Mayor Lovely Warren, one of the event’s many speakers and avid supporters of the Club.

The ground was broken for the nearly 10,000 square foot addition in June 2015 and was made possible by a generous \$2 million lead gift by the late Kathy Holt, a former Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester Board member and mentor, whose name now stands tall as part of the building’s exterior. “The building (a former supermarket in the 1970’s) was in need of a major renovation to support current Club members and to attract more youth. Changes to the facility would not be possible without support from the Rochester community, including several large and small donors. Many individuals have positively impacted

the futures of our community’s youth by giving to this building campaign, but none more than the late Kathy Holt, who really envisioned this incredible enhancement to serve our youth, whom she truly loved,” said Dwayne Mahoney, executive director of Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester. “We couldn’t be more grateful for her support and that of so many others.”

The building’s \$3.2 million expansion includes a performing arts section, a new art room, a dance studio, and a modern recording studio. The Club also has a larger room for its highly acclaimed accelerated reader program, where kids are challenged to expand their reading and comprehension skills. The new homework and tutoring room allows kids more space for one-on-one assistance, as well as national Boys & Girls Club educational programs. All technology has been upgraded, and STEM programs will be a focus. The Club has also expanded its gym and weight room, as well as its teen center. A playground and garden will be coming later this year.

A recent partnership with Camp Day Dreams, a summer camp dedicated

to empowering Rochester’s urban youth, also granted Camp staff a space in the new building for planning, programming and greater opportunities for Club members to participate in the camp.

Following the formal ceremony, Club members had an afternoon of fun with bounce houses, cotton candy and snow cones. Guests enjoyed generously donated finger foods from Wegmans and national Boys & Girls Clubs partners Buffalo Wild Wings and Long Horn Steakhouse. Spikes from the Rochester Red Wings and the Moose from the Rochester Americans also stopped by to visit and play with the kids.

“We could not be more excited to celebrate this special occasion and such an impactful place with our Club kids and the community that made it all possible,” said Inero. “It has been a long time coming and completing this new building is the catalyst to the opportunities our Boys & Girls Club can provide for so many more of our area’s youth.”

Make a Difference for the Club – DONATE TODAY!

Visit BGC Rochester.org for more information.

Boys & Girls Clubs

RIBBON CUTTING CELEBRATION

3-2-1 – Great Futures!

PHOTOS COURTESY OF RODNEY ALLEN YOUNG



Mayor Lovely Warren



Larry "Chip" King



Regional Vice President of Northeast Boys & Girls Clubs Ron Hadom



Sweet Dancerz Perform



Spikes of Rochester Red Wings Poses with Club Parent LaKiesha Jones, Her Son Jarron, Senator Joseph Robach



Mayor Lovely Warren and Boys & Girls Clubs Fitness Coordinator Reggie Smith



Monroe County Executive Cheryl Dinolfo, Senator Joseph Robach and Senator Rich Funke



John Rizzo, Board member Mike Petix and Board Chair Frank Insero



Assembly Majority Leader Joseph Morelle Wishes Club Member Taylor Robinson a Happy Birthday on the Extra Special Day

Club Photos Courtesy of Rebecca _____



Accelerated Reading Room, Donated by Frank and Sharon Insero



Dance Studio



Tutoring Center, Donated by ESL Foundation



Atrium, Donated by Harris Beach PLLC



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2016 Youth of the Year **WANYA BRUCE**

TEEN WINS WESTERN NEW YORK YOUTH OF THE YEAR HONOR

Selected among several local outstanding youth, Wanya Bruce has not only been recognized as the Youth of the Year for Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester, but for all of Western New York as well.

The Youth of the Year program honors our nation's most awe-inspiring young people on their path to great futures and encourages all kids to lead, succeed and inspire. As the new Youth of the Year for Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester and the region, 17-year old Wanya Bruce is a true example of an extraordinary young man recognized by BGCA for his leadership, service, academic excellence and dedication to live a healthy lifestyle.

"Wanya is a great role model for our Club members," said Dwayne Mahoney, executive director of Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester. "His passion, motivation and commitment to creating his own great future are just a few reasons why he was selected as this year's Youth of the Year from our Club."

A basketball player at Fairport High School, Bruce will focus his responsibilities as Youth of the Year on promoting the benefits of maintaining a healthy and fit lifestyle. Bruce plans to create a 30-day workout book with fitness tips based on his own regimen to share with Club members.

Wanya Bruce has been a member of Boys & Girls Clubs since he was 6 years old. His older brother, Dwayne, was already a member when he started. Throughout his time at the Club, Wanya has participated in many programs. The Accelerated Reading and Bidy Basketball Programs were some of his favorites.

Bruce is proud to be recognized as Youth of the Year and to represent the Club that did so much for him growing up.

After graduating from high school, Bruce hopes to play basketball at Niagara University and major in business administration. He dreams of opening his own business one day.



CLUB MEMBERS EXHIBIT TALENT WITH ART SHOW

In March about 10 Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester members shared their artistic talents with the community by displaying their own work in a studio at The Hungerford Building. Club members worked diligently on their projects over several weeks during their time in the art program, putting finishing touches on paintings of flowers, sunsets and animals, portrait drawings and more. Seeing their work displayed in frames for fellow artists to see filled members with a very deserved sense of pride.

Special thanks to our artist friends at The Main Street Artists Gallery & Studio and The Rochester Art Club for donating the

studio space and art supplies for our kids to showcase and explore their passion! We would also like to thank Rochester Picture Framing, Inc. for donating the matting and framing for each of the pieces. The success of the art show wouldn't have been possible without your support!

"Rochester's art community is incredible," said Sarah Hwang, art program coordinator for Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester. "The kids felt very welcomed by the experience and now have a greater sense of what they are capable of accomplishing. After participating in the exhibit, and receiving such positive feedback, many of our artists are even looking into becoming young entrepreneurs with their art."

Rochester Mayor Lovely Warren recognized each of the participants with a special certificate and three of the artists' work made it to regionals in the Boys & Girls Clubs National Fine Arts Competition.

Congratulations to everyone on such a great show!



Club Member Dezmir Phelps and Mayor Lovely Warren

Join **THE CLUB** BGRochester.org/Join-The-Club

