

Bethune Carver Scholars Monthly Newsletter

THE BELOVED COMMUNITY

February 2009

Volume 2, Issue 5

Special points of interest:

- Hands Without Guns starts on Tuesday, February 10th
- Summer Information Packets go home February 12th!
- Chicago Urban League session for 9th graders— Feb. 21st
- MI State College Trip 9th grade— March 2nd @ 5:00am

News & Events

Middle School BCS

In February, 7th & 8th graders will be having a special series on Sewing Basics. This Life skills series will introduce kids to different fabrics, basic stitches, patterns, and project planning & completion. Please take time to discuss with your child what they are learning and encourage them to implement their new knowledge.

The 7th & 8th graders will be participating in a new program starting **February 10th** through the end of the year. On Tuesdays we will have representatives from UCAN coming to work with our students in a program called "Hands Without Guns" which promotes anti-violence and healthy self-esteem in our youth. Over the coming months please talk with your child regarding the activities they are participating in during session, what they are learning, and how they are applying it to their everyday lives.

High School BCS

We will be cancelling the Student Workshop for 9th graders scheduled **Sunday February 8, 2009**. We are in need of several students to make an announcement during the beginning of both St. Sabina Sunday services at 8:30am and 11:15am on **Sunday, February 8**. Please contact



Ms. April immediately if you are available to participate. We will make announcements to the congregants regarding fundraising for the college tour in April.

In lieu of our normal student workshop in February we have an opportunity for our 9th grade students to participate in a special session offered by Chicago Urban League on **Saturday, February 21, 2009**. We will be leaving from TBC at 9:00am and returning at 3:30pm. Please call the office by February 16th to indicate if you will be able to attend.

On **Monday, March 2, 2009** between **5:00am** and **5:30pm**, the 9th graders will be visiting Michigan State University. We will travel to East Lansing, MI for a tour and special activities. We expect to return to TBC at 5:30pm. Any parents interested in attending this trip, please contact April or Thérèse at the TBC office by February 27th. Thank you!

A letter was mailed regarding the college tour information packets.

Packets are available to be picked up from the TBC office or during program. Please ensure you receive a packet and complete all the necessary information before the mandatory meeting on **Thursday, March 19th** at 6:30pm.

Testing is Important!

The Beloved Community wants to take the time to extend our sincere encouragement to all 7th Graders taking ISAT & Terra Nova tests in March. Remember to pay attention in classes, review reading & math



skills and important test skills before the tests! These tests are **extremely** important to students' academic career.

Scores from the 7th grade ISAT & Terra Nova tests determine if students are eligible to take the Selective Enrollment high school exams and ultimately where students can apply to high school in 8th grade. We encourage students to take advantage of all test preparation opportunities in the next month.

We are continuing our theme of Reaching for the Stars in preparing BCS students for High School. BCS will be providing some test preparation during program time.

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THE BELOVED COMMUNITY

A PARTNER OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY OF ST. SABINA

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The purpose of this newsletter is to provide specialized information to our Bethune Carver Students and Parents. We hope it will be valuable to you, and you will share your opinions on the newsletter.

African American Speaking Series

St. Sabina Church will be hosting the following speakers in the next few months:

Sun, Feb 8, 11:15 AM: Dr. Cornell West—Church Sanctuary



Fri, Feb 20, at 7:30 PM: Patti LaBelle— Tickets on Sale after Jan 23rd for \$15



Fri, Mar 6, at 7:30 PM: Forrest Whitaker - after Feb 20th for \$15

- Tickets on Sale

Fri, Mar 27, at 7:30 PM: May Angelou— Tickets on Sale after Mar 6th for \$15



Tickets for each speaking event in the series typically go on sale at the conclusion of the previous event in the series.

Contact Church Rectory at (773) 483-4300 for details and to purchase tickets.

What's the Buzz?

Pretty as a Picture

Recently Westcott School students participated in an event celebrating the inauguration of the 44th President of the United States, Barak Obama!

The school held an Inaugural Ball. The students dressed up and heard speeches from their class President Desmond Piphus and Vice-President Majaniece Johnson on what it means to them for Barak Obama to be President. We thought we would share some pictures of the event to celebrate what our young people are doing. Enjoy!



Congratulations

The Beloved Community wishes to extend our sincere congratulations to the following 8th graders who have been accepted into High Schools:

Haja Mondisa—Culver Academy

Parents: please remember to give TBC Staff or send to TBC office a copy of all High School acceptance letters for student files.

Grades

Just a reminder to parents, please have your child bring in a copy of their progress reports and report cards for the most recent marking period. If necessary, TBC staff can make a copy of the original and return it to your child. This will greatly help us in collecting the information needed to track the academic success of your child. Thank you to those parents and students who have been diligent in providing records, it is very appreciated!