

Summer 2014 Newsletter

COMMUNITY NEWS



Summer Learning

By Adenike Akintilo

During the month of June, Clay Pots moved into its Summer schedule offering an 8-week Pre-GED program, Fast Track GED classes, one-on-one literacy and GED tutoring, as well as its Computer Lab that runs on Thursday from 7 pm—9 pm.

Seventeen students enrolled in this year's 8-week GED program— 10 with great to perfect attendance! Students have begun taking their practice tests in Math, Science, Social Studies, and Language Arts in the new computerized GED format.



Clay Pots' Director, Dwayne Hess, who also teaches the Summer GED class commented, "*This year's*

summer class is doing exceedingly well with the material and grasping the computer skills needed for the revamped exam."

Each student was asked to complete a short survey on their goals and experience in the Clay Pots GED Summer program. All respondents said that they would not change anything about the program; it is clearly taught in an environment conducive to

learning and asking questions. A majority noted that they love coming to Clay Pots and always leave with new knowledge and understanding of the subjects they covered. All respondents would recommend the program to others and feel that the program will help them achieve their career and education goals.

When asked what they plan to do upon obtaining their GED, 57% plan to go on to community college or university, and 29% to trade school!

Their responses assure us that we are on the right track with the partnerships that are in place and the new ones we are forming, to raise the funds needed to grow and maintain not only the GED programs here at Clay Pots, but the full spectrum of programs that foster spiritual and personal growth for those in the community of Southwest Baltimore.



Clay Pots... A Place to Grow

Has a mission to create a safe space for personal and spiritual growth in the community of southwest Baltimore.

This includes offering GED classes and other workforce initiatives, art and wellness classes, plus a coffee house. All programs are made possible through supporters like you. Thank you!

Share the story of impact. <u>Donate</u>. <u>Learn more</u>. <u>Join us on Facebook</u>.



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Funder & Volunteer Updates

Thanks to a recent Dollar General Grant for \$10,000, Clay Pots is closer to reaching the \$40,000 goal needed to complete the Computer Lab renovations, part of the Education Improvement Plan. Clay Pots thanks Dollar General for their support and Clay Pots' volunteer Monique Cox for writing and submitting the grant!

Clay Pots also thanks Whole Foods, Mt. Washington for their in-kind donation that provides ongoing support of tea and coffee to Clay Pots weekly community Coffeehouse.

The support of funders like Dollar General and Whole Foods are extremely important to the current and future programs at Clay Pots, but so are our volunteers.

Clay Pots volunteers dedicate their time and energies



tutoring, teaching computer skills, managing Coffeehouse, helping with building maintenance, and so much more.

Help us welcome our new volunteers: *T'Lee Cooper*,

David Hess, and Gary Pearson.

The work of Clay Pots is only made possible through volunteers, funders, and supporters like you — thank you!

If you know of others that are interested in making a difference in the lives and futures of others, please connect them to Clay Pots and help build our community. For information on how you can connect your network to the Clay Pots community, please contact us at 410-233-1133 or claypotsad@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

LOVE ON TOP: HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

August 19, 2014 7 p.m.—8:30 p.m. Join the community of Southwest Baltimore, the Mayor's Office, House of Ruth and Turn Around as we discuss healthy relationships and keeping yourself safe from unhealthy ones.

Learn more and register today.

WHITE NAPKIN EDIBLE FEAST

September 27, 2014 6 p.m.—8:30 p.m.

Hosted by Clay Pots' Top Chefs, Bill and Diana are once again throwing down in the kitchen and creating culinary masterpieces all for a great cause that supports the community of Southwest Baltimore--making this the most anticipated and tastiest fundraiser in the City!

Registration to open soon...

Other upcoming events...

Mandatory Fun Day	8/17
Spoken Word with Free	9/18
Conflict Training with	
Tarek Abuata	11/14

For a full listing of events and more details, visit <u>claypotsbaltimore.com</u>.