



THE LEARNING ACADEMY POST (*LAP*)

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF DONCARES OF PHILADELPHIA

NOV/DEC 2016

A RECENT SUCCESS

Congratulations to Janae Rockemore for graduating from Temple University last semester! Janae earned a dual Bachelor of Arts in Theater and Spanish linguistics on December 23, 2016. Janae's next step is to go to graduate school where she can gain an advance degree in education. Her major goal is to take her expertise as an innovator, analyst, and her gregarious nature to make education models and curriculums that can accommodate the needs of children of various socioeconomic statuses. Congratulations on becoming a DonCARES of Philadelphia Alumna.



Janae Rockemore,
Temple University (Class of 2016)

ADVOCATING FOR *YOUTH*



(Board member John Perry learning a new dance from a youth member at The Strawberry Mansion Learning Center)

DonCARES of Philadelphia is a non-profit organization founded

by Temple University education major Donovan Forrest. The organization aims to bridge the gap between youth in the North Philadelphia community and Temple University. The organization started as a vision in September 2015, and since has grown into a dedicated team of ten college students who tutor and mentor youth at the Strawberry Mansion Learning Center and the U School in North Philadelphia.

The organization's mission is to provide youth with positive role models who counter traditional stereotypes. DonCARES of Philadelphia's vision for Philadelphia is for students citywide to each have a college student mentor and to grant scholarships to inner-city youth prior to their matriculation to college. The organization is currently filing for 501c3 tax-exempt status.

Starting in January, 2017 DonCARES of Philadelphia will partner with the School District of Philadelphia and the U School at 7th and Norris Streets and tutor students at the relatively new project based learning high school led by principal Neil Geyette.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

–Nelson Mandela

PROMOTING EDUCATION



David Ford is currently a Junior studying history at Temple University. Ford is originally from West Philadelphia and knows all too well the struggles youth face in his city. He believes strongly in the power of education and coaches Boy’s Basketball at his Alma Mater Girard Academic Music Program (GAMP).

David became involved with DonCARES of Philadelphia after meeting founder Donovan Forrest in an education course in their Spring semester of the 2015-16 school year. He was immediately inspired by Forrest’s vision and passion for community involvement through the promotion of education.

In a conversation with Forrest, Ford said that he never believed he would tutor a student in Spanish. With a chuckle, Forrest responded: “this is only the beginning.”

After graduation, David aspires to join Teach for America and use his gifts and talents to impact youth daily. As a student leader for Temple University’s Gospel Ministries, David is currently hosting a water drive for citizens of Flint, Michigan who are struggling with obtaining clean drinking water.

(Above: Temple University Junior David Ford helping a student with Spanish homework at The Strawberry Mansion Learning Center).

BRIDGING THE GAP

In September, 2016 freshman business major Dominique Beckham and her friend Kaya Jones joined DonCARES of





Philadelphia as volunteer mentors. Dominique is originally from Pittsburgh and is very involved on campus.

As a consistent and passionate mentor for inner-city youth, Dominique uses her knowledge of dance from her high school experience to give advice to younger students.

After graduation Dominique hopes to start her own non-profit to help underprivileged girls find mentors. In November, 2016 Dominique and Kaya participated in the Lambda Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi's annual Shimmy Like A Nupe. We are lucky to have you both!

(Above: Board member Dominique talking with a youth member at the Strawberry Mansion Learning Center)

Our first annual Winter Hat and Glove Drive with Temple University's Chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers was a great success. All proceeds went to children in need at Bethune Elementary School.

(Above: A teacher at Bethune Elementary School holding a box of donations.)

CONTACT US

DonCARES of Philadelphia

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Your Own Bag" Free Flea Market.

UPCOMING EVENTS

JAN 16TH /MLK DAY OF SERVICE

Strawberry Mansion Learning Center, ENG (Non-Profit) in conjunction with DonCARES of Philadelphia presents Martin Luther King Jr. Community Service Initiative. ENG Non-Profit is sponsoring a day of Free Shopping! BYOB "Bring

ABOUT US:

DonCARES of Philadelphia is a community organization of college students of color from the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania area who strive to better themselves through community service, education workshops, and who have a desire to give back to their community. Members advocate for youth by pledging to become a mentor and an advocate to inner-city youth and by promoting education through educational workshops in inner-city schools. We currently serve the North Philadelphia area.

DonCARES of Philadelphia is organized to support Philadelphia school aged students, educators and families in Lower North Philadelphia, a neighborhood of underserved, below the poverty guideline, largely minority population. DonCARES of Philadelphia will train only college student of color mentors to work with elementary and secondary school students, encouraging school attendance, scholastic achievement, choosing college or vocational track, and valuing education as a way out of poverty and crime and as a viable career choice.

Follow us on social media:

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