

THE HARBOR REPORTER

Fall 2007

Volume 30, Issue 1

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Hans E. Hageman, Esq.



It feels good to have played even a small part in an organization with 70 years of history. What is the best way to honor that history? Reminiscence and reflection have an important place but if we are to truly honor the Harbor's past, we must build on it.

Adding to the outdoor experience of camp, the Harbor historically created an important safety net when it took advantage of government funding to create early childhood education, college access, and after school programs. The Harbor has always looked around at the need and gone into action, productive action that always involves change. As we look around us now, the need for action remains as strong as ever.

Our increasing focus on the education of every child will lead the charter school, as well as our private high school and performing arts conservatory, to provide more coherence for our programs, a trajectory for participation, and accountability for results. In this way we are strengthening the organization while moving the mission forward, honoring the right of every child to be treated as an individual while being prepared with the academic, social, emotional, and cultural tools for success.

(continued on page 3)

BOYS & GIRLS HARBOR: CELEBRATING 70 YEARS OF SERVICE

EDITOR'S NOTE

We embrace the past in celebrating the 70th Anniversary of our founding, and we recognize the enduring values that shape our future. Below is an excerpt from *Uncharted Course: The Voyage of My Life*, the autobiography of the Harbor's founder, Tony Duke, that highlights what mattered at the beginning, and what continues to matter at the Harbor today.

Of paramount importance to me was to get to know the boys as well as possible—really know how they lived, what they thought and felt. I would talk to Paul Moore* or to the head of the Boys Club, who also sent kids to Boys Harbor.** I would make every effort to develop a rapport with the boys any way I could, and I would visit them in their homes after they left camp. I found that many of them lived positively Dickensian lives. There was a boy, one of nine children, whose mother was rarely home, whose apartment had no furniture, and whose dinner was typically a slice of bread dipped in grease. There was a boy whose alcoholic father beat him and his sibling routinely. Another boy would pretend to be asleep while his mother, a drug addict, entertained men in the same room. We had many boys—abused, neglected, or simply crowded out of their homes—who had lived on the streets.



I had no degree in social work or psychology, but transformed myself into a practical expert. While reading a book by a social work professor at Ohio State University named Leontine R. Young, I came upon a quote that struck a chord with me: "The attempt to make people be good has always failed. The only possibility for change is to help them want to be good... If the child is to learn that there is such a thing as adult interest in him for his own sake the worker must take the initiative and prove that interest, in action which can be bold, imaginative, and as flexible as the situation demands."

Considering the background of many of our boys, I believed that making clear that we considered education paramount in their lives and that putting that belief into practice constituted the kind of bold and imaginative action for which the Harbor should stand. □

*Later to become the Right Reverend Paul Moore, Jr. a bishop of the Episcopal Church and the 13th Bishop of New York, presiding at St. John's the Divine Cathedral.

**Boys Harbor was renamed Boys & Girls Harbor in 1976.

NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION CHANCELLOR JOEL I. KLEIN VISITS THE HARBOR SCIENCE AND ARTS CHARTER SCHOOL ON OPENING DAY



On the first day of the 2007-08 school year, New York City Department of Education Chancellor Joel I. Klein visited one school in each of the five boroughs of New York City. In Manhattan, the Chancellor visited the Harbor Science and Arts Charter School, the only charter school he visited that day, and his second visit to our school in the last four years.

Chancellor Klein commended Principal Joanne Hunt for the School's continuing progress as measured by the accomplishments of its students, who on standardized test scores have outperformed their peers in Community School District #4.

On his tour of the classrooms, the Chancellor spoke with a number of students, in one case asking a fourth grader why he liked the School. "Because almost all of us pass the State exams," was the response which caused everyone, including Chancellor Klein, to smile.

Upon the conclusion of his visit, Chancellor Klein expressed his appreciation that the students of the Harbor Science and Arts Charter School "are truly getting a sound education" because in addition to an excellent academic program, the students are receiving the "perks" of the school's relationship to Boys & Girls Harbor — ranging from performing arts to physical education, and including other forms of curriculum support. In response, Ms. Hunt thanked him for his visit which provided "a great start to a new school year." □

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

Elyse Stines, a graduate of Boys & Girls Harbor's Upward Bound college preparation program, has received a Thomas R. Pickering Undergraduate Foreign Affairs Fellowship. The Pickering Fellowship is funded by the United States Department of State and administered by the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation. By accepting the Pickering Fellowship, Ms. Stines has committed to pursuing a master's degree in international studies and then to enter the United States Department of State Foreign Service.

Darrell Grand Moultrie, a Harbor alumnus and faculty member, is a recipient of the 2007 Princess Grace Award, a Fellowship in Choreography to create a new work for the Cincinnati Ballet. The award, given by The Princess Grace Foundation—USA, was presented to Darrell at the 25th Anniversary Princess Grace Awards Gala held at Sotheby's in New York. He was honored with 23 other recipients who distinguished themselves in the categories of theater, dance and film. Darrell was the recipient of the Harbor's 1st Annual R. Lonnie Williams Award presented at the 2006 *Salute to Achievement*. □

BOYS & GIRLS HARBOR

THE HARBOR REPORTER is published
by the Boys & Girls Harbor staff.

The Harbor's mission is to empower children and their families to become full, productive participants in society through education, cultural enrichment and social services.

If you would like more information, would like to volunteer or make a contribution, please contact Julia Donaldson, Associate Director of Development, at 646.981.2682 or jdonaldson@theharbor.org.

If you would like to receive The Harbor Reporter and other Harbor updates by email, please sign up on our website, www.theharbor.org, or contact Elizabeth de Almeida at edealmeida@theharbor.org to be added to the Harbor mailing list.

Thank you!

PRINCETON DAYS, PRINCETON NIGHTS

BY
RENEE BECERRA



This summer, my Emily N. Carey Harbor schoolmate Alexis Ramos and I (along with four hundred other high school students from all over the United States and other countries) attended Princeton University for four weeks to be taught college level courses by college

professors. The two three-hour classes per day were some of the most challenging I've ever taken. My morning class, *A.P. U.S. Government*, was taught by Prof. Steven M. Thomason. Each day we discussed the readings from Tocqueville's "Democracy in America," what we thought democracy meant, and how it applied to our government. Afternoons were devoted to *Politics and Speech and Communications* taught by Prof. Biff Rocha, in which we analyzed speeches made by Martin Luther King, Jr., John F. Kennedy, Barack Obama and others. We would then write our own persuasive speeches and read them to the class at least once a week. After a break to eat dinner, we participated in a Congressional Workshop, in which we debated political issues selected by students. By the end of the day, we were exhausted but took some time to hang out in the quad until we returned to our rooms and did our homework. (Some days until 2:00 a.m.!)

While at Princeton we shared dorms with the other high school students, some of whom felt like best friends after the four weeks were over. There was a lot of diversity — liberal kids from California and Massachusetts, conservative ones from Illinois, Texas, and Wisconsin; and students from Honduras, Guam, and Puerto Rico. At first I wasn't sure I was going to be able to relate to some of them since it seemed our political views were so different, but I was pleasantly surprised by how, after furiously debating someone over the Stem Cell issue, we could still get along with each other and just agree to disagree. It became pretty much a nightly ritual for my friends and me to sit under a tree and discuss everything from the Israel – Palestine conflict to dating.

The Princeton summer session is something I am incredibly proud of myself for doing because it challenged me in ways I wasn't sure I could handle. By the end of the first week I thought for sure I was going to fail. With the support of my Residence Advisor, Harbor English teacher, Tim Ignaffo, and my Principal, Hans Hageman, I soon overcame my fear and did better than I ever expected. I also formed friendships with kids I'd never in a million years believe I would be able to relate to, but to this day, almost three months since the program ended, I still talk to many of them daily. We all agree how much we would do the whole thing over again, in a heartbeat. □

FROM THE DIRECTOR

(continued from page 1)

We honor the Harbor's roots by continuing our commitment to environmental awareness and the fight against "nature deficit disorder." Students travel to Alaska with Outward Bound, learn survival skills in Utah, go rafting in Maine, and learn fine and performing arts in Montana. "Service before self" will be the axiom for our children as they move through adolescence. Local volunteer efforts and international service projects in Africa, Asia, and Central America will be ongoing.

Whether addressing early childhood, elementary or secondary education, we will provide foundational skills as well as address the needs of the "whole child." We will shift the meaning of getting into college to having several colleges to choose from. Our immediate goal will be for Harbor graduates to have a successful freshman year, thereby making graduation much more likely. We will help all our students to become full participants in our society and we will train many of them to become leaders. And, in service to present and future students, we will spread the word out about their individual achievements, their schools' high performance, the unmatched excellence of the Conservatory for the Performing Arts, and the critical role the Harbor plays in New York City's quality of life.

There are new initiatives and a new focus at the Harbor. Some familiar programs are no longer present, however, some things never change and nor should they. Our continued commitment to the children we serve is for them to become their very best, and to provide them with a ladder to opportunity and leadership. The best tribute to the Harbor's 70 years is for us to take the actions that will make sure that our society will become a fairer and better reality for all children. □

SUMMER FUN AND FELLOWSHIP IN THE HARBOR'S GENESIS PROGRAM



Launched in 1973, the Harbor's Genesis Program serves youth ages 12-19 each year. In addition to academic tutoring, sports, performing arts, computer technology, and team entrepreneurial projects, young men and women participate in a weekly social skills group where they are able to challenge common misconceptions about substance use, and other risky behaviors. During the summer, Genesis kicks back a bit, and in place of academic tutoring Program Director Al Hunter and his dedicated staff create a fun-filled nine week program of visual arts, karate, basketball, culinary adventures, dance, media and field trips. This summer was a

memorable one and included swimming at New York State parks, and trips to Great Adventures and Dorney Park. Every summer's highlight is sailing on the Schooner, *Pioneer*, thanks to the generosity of John O. Duke. Here is a photo of some of our young people seeing the sights before they embark. □

FROM EAST HARLEM TO BERMUDA – A MUSICAL EXCHANGE: BERMUDA MINISTRY OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS INVITES THE HARBOR LATIN YOUTH ENSEMBLE TO PERFORM

At the invitation of the Bermuda Ministry of Cultural Affairs, 10 members of the Harbor Latin Youth Ensemble and their teachers (Pablo Mayor, Gustavo Schartz, and David Oquendo) traveled to Bermuda for a series of performances and cultural exchanges this July. The trip was the result of the Conservatory's hosting visiting students from Bermuda's largest music school, the Eddie Ming Rhythm Lab, who have attended the Conservatory's Latin Music Summer Intensive Program for the past three years.

In addition to a performance for young people attending a summer camp, the ensemble performed at Harbour Nights St. Georges, a festival of music, food, arts and crafts with an audience of about 500 to 1,000 people. The following night they performed at Harbour Nights Town, similar to St. Georges but with an even larger audience of about 1,000 to 2,000 people. In addition, the final event, at the Delwood Open Theater was a fundraiser to support students from Bermuda and the United States for the 2008 Summer Latin Intensive Workshop at the Harbor Conservatory.



The Harbor Latin Youth Ensemble is comprised of the most advanced students ages 12-19 enrolled in the Harbor Conservatory's Pre-Professional Latin Music Program. In addition to ensemble work, students study theory, harmony and sight-reading along with private instruction in their instrument. These young musicians study a variety of musical forms such as danzon, son, cha cha cha and mambo, as they learn music illustrating different periods and artists in Latin music history. At the Conservatory, students enjoy the unique opportunity to learn while playing classic music made popular by artists such as Tito Puente, Celia Cruz, Johnny Pacheco and others. Through the ensemble experience students learn the role of the different instruments and most importantly the need to play as collaborative members of a larger group. □

VOICES FROM THE HARBOR

IF BY STEPHANIE PERRY (12)

If everyone would just be nice
people wouldn't have to think twice
when asking for help from someone you don't know
or just saying hello on the go

If everyone would help each other a little more
we could open up doors
for the future and soar

If everyone would just take a moment to think
this is our planet and it could be gone in a blink
we need to stop stepping on it like a rug
but instead wrap our arms around it
and give it a big hug

PEOPLE BY SKYLAH GUNTLEY (10)



BLIND BEACH BY DONTAY DOWNER (12)

This story is about a volcano erupting at Blind Beach. The people at Blind Beach are blind. Lava is bursting in the air (pink dots) and lava is running down the volcano (black and red dots) and a guy is on fire (single pink dot).

Next a guy is looking for his dog while the dog is surfing on the lava (right side of the volcano) and two people are complaining about the heat.

Lastly, a guy is surfing and is about to crash into the lava (black dots). As you can see, the waves are moving (white dots) and the birds are flying (paper).

I was inspired to write this story because I love beaches and islands, surfing, waves and volcanoes. Also my grandmother always calls me blind because I can't find anything.



IKEA ARTIS is a senior at the Emily N. Carey Harbor School. She is painting a mural for a preschool classroom. Ikea is looking at colleges in Atlanta where she can continue her education and pursue her dream to become a professional artist.

PARTNERSHIPS ARE A WIN-WIN FOR ALL

Thanks to a multi-year grant through the NYC Department of Health, we are collaborating with the **Manhattan Center for Early Learning**. Onsite screening and short-term services are provided to young children (and their families) who have social, emotional and developmental challenges at three of our Preschool Daycare Centers. This partnership is under the direction of Dr. Gilbert Foley, and service training for our teachers is provided by Dr. Serena Wieder, both nationally known experts. This is a wonderful advantage for some of our most vulnerable Harbor families!

Winant and Clayton Volunteers, Inc. provides volunteers from the United Kingdom to work at organizations throughout the United States. Thanks to their coordinator, Nanette Rousseau, we have a volunteer every summer that brings interesting cultural, recreational and academic activities to our students. Last summer Sarah Catherine Day had a wonderful time, and it was terrific learning about her home in London. Below is a photo of her (red T-shirt) joining a tug of war. Hold on, Sarah!



Thanks to Sharon Bonnani and Kara Gerardi, Co-Chairs of the **Junior League's Performance of a Lifetime Committee**, generous volunteers

share one Saturday a month with children in our After-School and Summer Program. They provide tickets and transportation and accompany our students to wonderful performances throughout the city. Members of the Junior League also visit the Harbor to teach dance, composition, and how to make musical instruments. We enjoy learning and having fun together!

Children at the Harbor Morningside Children's Center learn to play tennis thanks to our partnership with the **NY Tennis Association** and the **NYC Parks Department**. Faculty at the **Diller-Quaile Music School** teach elementary school age children music and dance. The classes culminate in a delightful performance for family and friends.



Thanks to the NYC Department of Youth and Community Development, the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, and the NYC Council, Harbor students embark on Cultural Afterschool Adventures. So far, they have been to the **Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts** for a Meet the Composer series, and to the **Museum of the City of New York** to learn about the evolution of NYC. These are terrific opportunities for our girls and boys!

For many years, Boys & Girls Harbor has partnered with our good friends at the **Central Park Conservancy** to

help our students learn about ecosystems, botany, zoology and geology. We really enjoy learning at the Dana Discovery Center at the Harlem Meer, and our teachers always appreciate the sample lesson plans and other resources that they can use in the classrooms. Through our partnership, Harbor students have a special understanding of ecology and are learning to be very acute observers! □

EDGES FOR EDUCATION: A SKATING EXHIBITION TO BENEFIT THE HARBOR LITERACY CENTER

Jenny Bloom and Katrina Hacker, both sixteen years of age, have been skating together since the age of seven. Exercising their passion to help people, they decided to work for children's literacy (and for the Harbor Literacy Center), a cause that is near to both their hearts... "We are both passionate readers and know how important reading and writing skills are for ultimate success in school and in life...We would greatly appreciate your donations to this wonderful organization."

This was the start of a fantastic campaign called *Edges for Education*. Jenny and Katrina decided they would become part of the many voices to rally support for the Harbor Literacy Center. The Edges for Education campaign culminated in a skating exhibition featuring nationally and internationally recognized figure skaters from all over the United States.

On April 21, 2007, more than 200 people attended the event at the Hommock Park Ice Rink in Larchmont, New York. In contrast to the chill emanating from the ice, the audience

(continued on page 7)

EDGES FOR EDUCATION...

(continued from page 6)

generated warmth and excitement for a spectacular show. The evening opened with welcoming remarks from David Hertz, Director of Institutional Advancement at Boys & Girls Harbor, and Gloria Schwartz, Director of the Harbor Literacy Center. The event then commenced with an acappella performance of the National Anthem sung by the students of the Scarsdale High School. The show then shifted into gear with performances by single skaters and pairs, and even a fifteen member figure skating team called *The Skyliners*, who ranged in age from 8 to 11. All the skaters presented their best routines, which highlighted their talent and years of training. But as the skaters themselves expressed their passion on ice, their dedication to raising awareness of the Harbor Literacy Center was also evident.

Edges for Education raised more than \$32,000 for the Harbor Literacy Center, whose goal is to help students read and write with fluency and comprehension, giving them the chance to stay in school, gain academic achievement and knowledge, and earn the high school and college degrees that will enrich their lives and strengthen their community. Edges for Education, was more than a fundraising campaign. It was an opportunity for all to dedicate themselves to a program that will make a difference in the lives of young people. □

VOLUNTEERISM LIVES AT THE HARBOR!

Volunteerism, like philanthropy, is embraced by many NYC corporations. When employees are involved in a day of community service, especially here at the Harbor, it is difficult to determine who is having the richer experience, the adults or the children. What is certain is that the joy of learning and doing is a mutually beneficial reward, as these three examples illustrate:

Goldman Sachs' Community Team-Works program is an annual, global volunteering initiative embedded in the firm's culture. For the second year in a row, Goldman employees gave their time and enthusiasm to making a difference in the lives of Harbor students. This year 15 GS volunteers and 25 Harbor high school students spent a day with the Roundabout Theatre Company. Roundabout educators first facilitated a fun-filled drama workshop that served as an ice-breaker bringing adults and teenagers together. After lunch in a theatre district restaurant where the volunteers and students sang along with the singing waiters, they attended a stunning performance of *110 in the Shade*, starring Tony Award winner Audra McDonald, the first African-American to play the lead role of Lizzie Curry. For many Harbor students this was their first exposure to Broadway and to musical theatre; for all it was a day to remember.



Lehman Brothers volunteers participated in a *Day of Service and Inspiration* sponsored by Children for Children, a not-for-profit organization that fosters community involvement and social responsibility in young people. Lehman employees (70) and Harbor Summer Program students (120) decorated pots for seniors for a local senior center, created kits filled with notebooks, pencil cases, and pencils for the students to use during the school year, and painted inspirational artwork celebrating and encouraging making a difference in another person's life everyday. Other activities included face painting, cookie decorating, and games that were facilitated by corporate volunteers.

Weil, Gotshal & Manges, a premier international law firm, strives to instill the spirit of service in the lives of its associates. This past June, over two days, 150 of the firm's summer interns worked alongside Harbor Charter School students in a Central Park beautification project organized by the Central Park Conservancy. Together they shoveled, raked and spread mulch around glens of trees. On another day they dug and planted a field of bulbs that will glorify the Park next spring, and for many springs thereafter. "What's better than getting dirt under your nails and being with children," was the summary remark of one future all-star lawyer.



At the Harbor we encourage our students to become exemplars of service. The efforts of our volunteers demonstrate that a corporate career and community volunteerism can go hand-in-hand, and enrich the lives of others. To all, we say, "Thank you." □

Boys & Girls Harbor, Inc.
One East 104th Street
New York, NY 10029
www.theharbor.org

Boys & Girls Harbor

MARK YOUR CALENDAR...

**SALUTE TO ACHIEVEMENT 2008
70TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

Tuesday May 6, 2008, 6:30 p.m.

The Waldorf=Astoria, New York City



For more Harbor event information please contact
Julia Donaldson, Associate Director of Development,
at 646.981.2682 and visit www.theharbor.org.

EDUCATING CHILDREN TO BE THEIR BEST