It has been a busy and exciting summer and fall for everyone here at Madison. It seems like every week we celebrate another tremendous milestone, from successful community service projects to new and improved Clubhouse facilities for our members to enjoy. This year saw a particularly special milestone with the 30th anniversary of the Project Graduate Program. Created and launched by our now Associate Executive Director, Steve Melton, during his time as a staff member at our Navy Yard Clubhouse, the program was developed to empower members to realize their dreams of graduating high school and attending college.

The program is unique to Madison; our participants are provided guidance and specific skill-building opportunities to help them meet high school graduation requirements, successfully navigate the college application process, and make a seamless transition to college.

We are so proud of the work that is being accomplished every day at our four Clubhouses, and I am excited to share our news with you in the coming pages. In our Academic Success section you will read a story about the Project Graduate Program’s impact, and how thirty years later it is more imperative than ever that our members are able to bridge the gap between high school and college.

You will also have a chance to read about our alumni and dedicated staff, our robust special events calendar, and our current members who work every day to achieve Madison’s three priorities: Academic Success, Good Character & Citizenship, and Healthy Lifestyle.

Thanks to outstanding corporate partners and donors like yourself, we are saving and enhancing the lives of youth by providing after-school and summer programs for children in New York City’s most disadvantaged communities. Programs are engineered to empower each member to achieve three priority outcomes: Academic Success, Good Character & Citizenship, and Healthy Lifestyles. Every day, Madison provides thousands of children with a safe and positive environment, one where fun is encouraged and positive role models are plentiful. A founding member of Boys & Girls Clubs of America, Madison currently serves more than 5,000 youth, ages 6 to 18, at four Clubhouses throughout Brooklyn and the Bronx. www.madisonsquare.org

Administrative Offices
733 Third Avenue, Floor 2
New York, New York 10017
Phone: 212.760.9600
Executive Director: Joseph Patuleia
Co-Chairmen of the Board:
Victor F. Ganzi & Michael S. Geltzeiler
President: Barry Bregman
Please contact Madison Square Boys & Girls Club Director of Marketing and Communications, Christa McCarthy-Miller, with any questions or comments at cmccarthy-miller@madisonsquare.org or 212.760.9600 ext. 0211

Photo Credits: Kevin Garner, Jennifer Gonzeles, Cutty McGill, Vasti Venter

Warmest Regards,

Joseph Patuleia
Madison has been a safe haven for youth and staff alike for 131 years, and our history is rich in stories of people in New York City’s toughest neighborhoods overcoming adversity and thriving because of Madison. Even more remarkable are the scores of alumni and staff members who have gone on to give back to the communities which nurtured them. Many of our outstanding staff members leave a legacy of dedication to and passion for our Boys & Girls Club members, as well.

One such legacy is that of John Isaacs, a professional basketball player who inspired and empowered thousands of our members during his lifetime. This summer, Madison proudly took part in renaming the street of the Joel E. Smilow Clubhouse to “John ‘Boy Wonder’ Isaacs” Way. The basketball star and community legend was a positive presence in the Bronx community during a time of great conflict and was a pioneer in the racial equality movement. He said, “I never thought I would live to see the day that basketball would be integrated, there would be black coaches of NBA teams, general managers, team presidents and even an owner.”

Known as “Mr. I,” John was a Basketball Hall of Fame member who was one of the first-ever African American professional basketball players, first recruited in the 1920s to the all-African American Harlem-based team the New York Renaissance. His career spanned decades with various teams, but what we will always remember him for is his dedication to the thousands of Clubhouse kids he mentored and coached.

Isaacs inspired our members for more than 50 years as the recreation counselor at our Joel E. Smilow Clubhouse, and we are honored to have our gymnasium named after him, and now also the street our Clubhouse calls home.

If you are a Boys & Girls Club alumni or past staff member, we would love to hear from you! Email us at info@madisonsquare.org.

Build Your Legacy

You too can leave a lasting legacy like John Isaacs and join a community of people who have chosen to make an impact on Madison’s youth for generations to come. We hope you will consider making a planned gift today, which include:

- A gift in your will or living trust
- Life insurance (a gift of a new or existing policy)
- A gift of retirements benefits
- A gift of financial accounts

For more information on this, or other ways to create your legacy, please contact Salina Muellich at 212.760.0322.
Natasha S. didn’t know where to turn for help. As a high school senior, she wanted so badly to graduate and go to college, but had no idea where to begin. Her home situation was difficult, which made it almost impossible to concentrate on her school work, and the harder things got the more closed off she became. Natasha had always loved to dance and play volleyball at the Club, but when she heard about the Project Graduate Program, which helps members graduate from high school and navigate the college application process, it almost seemed too good to be true.

“I thought for sure I was too late and too far gone to finish high school and attend college,” says Natasha. But Kalea Davis, the Director of the Future at our Columbus Clubhouse, knew better. Over the course of the year, Kalea encouraged Natasha to attend workshops and panels at the Club and take advantage of the program’s college tours. It was on one of those college trips that Natasha finally envisioned herself on a campus, and knew that college was no longer an unreachable goal. With support and guidance from mentors and peers at the Club, Natasha began to gain the strength and courage she needed to successfully build her future.

Not only did Natasha pass all of her classes and graduate from high school, she was accepted to all six colleges to which she applied and is currently a freshman at Bronx Community College!
At Madison, we empower our members to become caring, responsible citizens of their community and offer as many hands-on experiences as possible to understand what that means. Our members recently had the unique experience to take a tour of the United Nations and meet with delegates from around the globe. They sat down and met with the UN Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth Ahmad Alhendawi, to whom they spoke about the various issues facing not only their own communities, but the youth communities around the world. Together, they brainstormed service projects and other cultural enrichment activities that will promote peace and unity not just here in New York but around the world.

Did you know that every day, approximately 10 people drown in the United States and that more than one in five of those victims are children younger than 14? What is more concerning for the communities we serve is that 70% of African American children and nearly 60% of Hispanic children do not know how to swim.

Our aquatics program is working to combat those startling statistics, with more than 700 members taking part in swimming lessons, swim meets, and lifeguard training this summer. Our members learn to swim, show good sportsmanship, and receive job training through our lifeguarding certification programs. In addition to swimming, our program empowers our members to adopt a healthy diet, practice positive life choices, and make a lifelong commitment to fitness.

Thank you to Disney, Heisman Trophy Trust, and the New York Giants Foundation for their ongoing support of our Triple Play Initiative.

87% of our members developed conflict resolution skills because of their Clubhouse programs and experience.

92% of our teens reported no involvement with the juvenile justice system last year.

93% of our members took part in regular, moderate-to-physical activity at the Clubs.

88% of our members increased their knowledge of health, nutrition, and fitness through our programs.
At Madison we recognize that a supportive relationship with caring adults is one of the key elements in positive youth development. Through these relationships, members discover their strengths, are encouraged to take risks and learn from mistakes, and are provided with a variety of opportunities that encourage the development of new interests.

This summer, we were thrilled to welcome more than 270 volunteers from American Express, Con Edison, Deloitte, Goldman Sachs, HSBC, PwC, Santander, Salesforce, and Yahoo!, who helped beautify our Clubhouses and spent over 90 hours with our youth as inspiring mentors for a day.

PwC volunteers shared their thoughts on their Clubhouse Experience:

• “The members started to feel like little brothers and sisters to me after just one afternoon! The best thing was when they asked us if we could come back and volunteer again the next day!”

• “I would tell anyone who is thinking about volunteering to do it. It was such a rewarding experience and just one day helped me to personally grow as well.”

• “The kids were so great to be around, but I was also so impressed by the staff! They were enthusiastic and passionate, and the programs were all run so well.”
CELEBRATING SUCCESS AT OUR YOUTH OF THE YEAR DINNER!

Our 3rd Annual Youth of the Year Dinner was held on May 27th, where our four Youth of the Year inspired more than 650 businessmen and women with their personal stories of character and determination in the face of adversity. Special Guest Speaker Robin Roberts shared her experiences with the tremendously positive impact a Boys & Girls Club can have in a community, while CNN anchor Poppy Harlow served as Master of Ceremonies. Ronald Parker, President and CEO of The Executive Leadership Council was recognized as Champion of Youth.

We hope you will join us for next year’s event on April 27, 2016!

SHOPPING FOR A CAUSE AT PURSES & PURSENALITIES

Our 10th Annual luncheon was held on April 21st with more than 300 guests celebrating Madison while bidding on designer handbags to benefit our members. Special Correspondent to Vanity Fair Amy Fine Collins served as this year’s Master of Ceremonies, which honored Sandra Choi (Creative Director at Jimmy Choo), Tim Gunn (Author and Educator); Karen Klopp (Founder of “What 2 Wear Where”), and Amber Sabathia (Creator & Designer of CCandy). Guests also heard from Madison alumna Carline Balan, who shared the impact the Clubhouse Experience had on her life.

We hope you will join us for next year’s event on May 24, 2016!

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME!

Thank you to the New York Yankees for their generous hospitality on June 22nd when they hosted more than 150 friends of Madison and 100 Madison members at Yankee Stadium to watch the Yankees take on the Philadelphia Phillies.

BRONX GRAND GALA

On June 11th, the Bronx Board of Managers was proud to honor Antonio Cabrera, founder of High Class Limousine & Car Service, with the Community Award and Nemesio Ortiz, Vice President of Medicare Sales at Healthfirst, as Man of the Year.

BROOKLYN GREAT FUTURES GALA

On May 7th, our Brooklyn Board of Managers proudly honored Joanne M. Oplustil, President and CEO of CAMBA, with the Agnes Gautier Leadership Award and Felicia Johnson, Vice President of Product Management for ElderPlan and Executive Director of HomeFirst, with the Albert Wiltshire Community Service Award.

FORE THE KIDS GOLF TOURNAMENT

More than 80 friends of Madison took part in the 21st Annual Fore the Kids Golf Tournament with a dinner and live auction at the exclusive Sleepy Hollow Country Club. Thanks to our sponsors: Discovery Communications and Prudential.
The mission of Madison Square Boys & Girls Club is to save and enhance the lives of New York City boys and girls who by means of economic and/or social factors are most in need of its services.

The Madison Council

The Madison Council is a diverse group of dedicated young professionals committed to advancing the mission of Madison Square Boys & Girls Club. These leaders volunteer their time, talents, and energy to positively impact the lives of our members! Through networking and volunteer events, the Madison Council supports the organization by raising awareness and serving as Madison ambassadors while fundraising for the array of programs that occur every day at our Clubhouses.

Contact Megan Olson at Molson@madisonsquare.org or 212.760.9600 ext. 0215 to join today!