MEET OUR 2018 YOUTH OF THE YEAR!
The success of our programs and the impact of our supporters are best seen within the walls of our Clubhouses. Each member provides a unique look into the importance of our mission: to save and enhance the lives of New York City youth.

This year, Madison is celebrating a number of exciting milestones. This spring we are proud to honor a group of young adults who epitomize what it means to overcome obstacles, work through struggles, and realize their dreams. Our 2018 Youth of the Year ambassadors represent the very best of the values and aspirations we as an organization have for each member. With a combined 32 years at Madison's Clubhouses, these four young adults are shining examples of our programs at work, and we are honored to stand by them as they take on the future. As we celebrate the success of our members and the incredible impact of our supporters, we also continue to look forward to the fall, when we will welcome hundreds of new members to their home away from home: the Pinkerton Clubhouse in Harlem.

Without a doubt, 2018 will be one of Madison's most monumental years yet. We are excited to grow as an organization, expand our membership, and continue to serve the families and neighborhoods who need us most. We thank everyone, especially you, who make Madison a second home for 5,000 youth in New York City each year.

Warmest Regards,

Tim McChristian
The Building Hope Campaign has launched Madison’s next chapter, in which more of today and tomorrow’s young people will know the joy of being a “Club kid.” In the fall of 2018, Madison will celebrate one of the Campaign’s most anticipated milestones. We will open the doors of our fifth and largest Clubhouse on 155th Street and Bradhurst Avenue in one of New York City’s most under-resourced neighborhoods. The Pinkerton Clubhouse will serve as a beacon of hope for youth in Harlem. Over 400 youth will have daily access to our comprehensive after-school and summer programs and new community amenities. The Club will house modern educational spaces, a regulation basketball court, rooftop soccer field, teen center, technology lab, performing arts spaces, as well as Madison’s administrative headquarters.

The Building Hope Campaign will bring opportunity, not only to Harlem, but also to the members and families of Madison’s existing Clubhouses. The $90 million initiative has also helped establish a long-term Capital Improvements Fund that will continue to support necessary renovations to preserve all sites and continue to expand our members’ realm of possibility. We are committed to making our facilities modern and fresh so that members not only come through our doors, but also have an optimal experience and want to keep coming back. One such example is the newly renovated swimming pool at the Thomas S. Murphy Clubhouse, which you will read about on page 6. Lastly, the Campaign is allowing us to expand our endowment to underpin this unprecedented growth.

We look forward to sharing these exciting milestones with our partners, welcoming the Harlem community, and furthering our commitment to New York City’s youth.

To learn more about these initiatives, visit www.madisonsquare.org/campaign
The Youth of the Year Program Fosters Good Character & Citizenship

The Youth of the Year program celebrates the remarkable lives of Madison Square Boys & Girls Club members who have distinguished themselves by rising above challenging circumstances. Finalists are chosen from each of our four Clubhouses based on moral character, community involvement, academic achievements, and obstacles they have overcome.

Grace Assabil-Bentum, 17
Joel E. Smilow Clubhouse
Member: 9 Years
Future Plans: Doctor

“My nine years at the Smilow Clubhouse have helped me grow not only through my education, but as a person and into a mature teenager. The staff sees greatness in me and every child that attends the Club. I was pushed to believe that I am composed of greatness.”

Omar Carwin, 17
Columbus Clubhouse
Member: 6 Years
Future Plans: Actor

“My time at the Columbus Clubhouse helped me realize I am someone special. It allowed me to build my community, impact the lives of younger kids in a positive manner, and provide me with constant motivation. Over the years, the Clubhouse has become my second home, and I can’t even begin to thank this home for everything it has done for me.”

Destiny Griffiths, 18
Navy Yard Clubhouse
Member: 10 Years
Future Plans: Psychologist

“The Club has been my rock, my home away from home. It gives me the strength that I need to take the risks required for success. I stand tall and am able to look down over the mountains to the breathtaking view of my victory.”

Diamond Lewis, 17
Thomas S. Murphy Clubhouse
Member: 7 Years
Future Plans: Neonatologist/ Pediatrician

“Madison Square Boys & Girls Club has done so much for me that my mother often says signing me up for the Club was one of the best things she did for me. I am grateful for my mother’s decision because I often reflect on all the opportunities I have been given at the Thomas S. Murphy Clubhouse. Madison Square Boys & Girls Club is who I am.”
Next Stop: College!

With spring just around the corner, our Project Graduate members are getting ready to make some pretty big decisions, including where to go to college. The process behind applying for higher-education, visiting schools, and finding the best fit can be daunting, but with the help of our Clubhouse staff, members are truly set up for success.

Navigating the world of college applications is made manageable thanks to amazing staff that help run our Project Graduate Program (PGP) across all four Clubhouses. One such staff member, Martha Sotelo, Director of Future and Options at the Columbus Clubhouse is giving her teens the chance to explore their next steps.

Recently, PGP participants have had the chance to hear from a few guest speakers, focusing on entrepreneurship, the challenges they faced, as well as advice on steps to success. Additionally, members have had the opportunity to visit some campuses including SUNY Delhi, Mercy College, Lincoln University and Franklin & Marshall. Teens got the chance to experience a real day in the life of a college student and visited lectures, dined in the Student Hall Centers, and even got a peek at dorm life. Finally, the Columbus Clubhouse hosted a small college fair where counselors from Mercy College, Baruch and Concordia College answered questions, provided tips and advice, and familiarized our members with their programs.

Because of staff members like Martha, and thanks to the support of our partners like Wells Fargo, our members learn that there is no limit to their potential.

We thank Wells Fargo for their support of the Project Graduate program.
Diving back in at the Thomas S. Murphy Clubhouse

The newly renovated aquatics facility at the Thomas S. Murphy Clubhouse is one initiative made possible by the Building Hope Campaign. With the support of former Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz and Council member for the 40th District of the New York City Council Dr. Mathieu Eugene, Madison was able to implement a full-scale renovation of the swimming pool and adjoining facilities. We celebrated the new pool with a ribbon cutting ceremony last fall.

Madison’s Executive Director, Tim McChristian says, “We are elated to finally give the members at our Thomas S. Murphy Clubhouse the opportunity to dive back into one of their favorite activities. With drowning ranked as the fifth leading cause of accident injury death in New York City and second nationally, we know how important it is to give our members the opportunity to learn basic swimming skills while being monitored by trained lifeguards and staff.”

The renovation included a complete reconfiguration of the 4-lane, 20 foot by 60 foot pool, replacement of all tile and plaster finishes throughout the pool, addition of a beautiful 100 foot long mosaic tile mural that features images of Clubhouse members taken by Clubhouse members, and installation of new state-of-the-art lighting, piping, and handicap accessible features.

“I am honored to support the new aquatics facility at the Thomas S. Murphy Clubhouse,” Dr. Mathieu Eugene said. “I want to thank Madison Square Boys & Girls Club and former Borough President Marty Markowitz for partnering with me on this important renovation. As a lifelong advocate for youth causes, I am committed to providing our young people with the resources they need to grow as individuals. This new facility will be an ideal setting to teach water safety and to engage our children in positive community activities.”

The Thomas S. Murphy Clubhouse is one of two Madison Clubhouse locations that offer aquatics facilities and swimming lessons to its members.

Thank you to our partners, Anthem Foundation, Disney, ESPN, and William E. Weiss Foundation, for supporting Healthy Lifestyle programs at our Clubs.
51st Annual Christmas Tree Ball

On Friday, December 1, 2017, more than 400 friends of Madison gathered at Cipriani 42nd Street to celebrate another year of empowering 5,000 children from New York City’s most under-resourced neighborhoods. The evening raised more than $1.7 million to support our mission to save and enhance the lives of New York City youth. Guests were treated to a special performance by the Columbus Clubhouse and Thomas S. Murphy Clubhouse dance teams and singers. We were proud to have the 2017 Murphy Clubhouse Youth of the Year Anastasia Dosunmu serve as the Mistress of Ceremonies. In addition to celebrating the holidays, the evening served as a special tribute to late Board of Trustees member and founding partner of the event, George J. Gillespie III, who passed away last year. Mr. Gillespie was a regular attendee of the event which echoed his life’s mission of helping to save and enhance the lives of New York City’s boys and girls. A special thank you to all who supported and attended!

Mark Your Calendars!

6th Annual Youth of the Year Dinner: May 23, 2018
Bronx Grand Gala: June 14, 2018
A Night at Yankee Stadium: Coming Soon!
Fore the Kids Golf Tournament: August 6, 2018
Christmas Tree Ball: November 30, 2018

For more information, or to purchase tickets to any of our upcoming events, please call our Director of Special Events, Lauren Downing at 212.760.0074.
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.