



Educate the Child, Engage the Family, Empower the Community

As the 2014 calendar year draws to a close, please remember Peter Paul in your year-end giving. An incredible 95% of revenue for the organization is from generous donors who believe in advancing Peter Paul's mission to support the East End and educate its students, equipping them to serve as positive contributors to their family, community, and society. Support at any level ensures that our students, families, senior citizens, and community are successful.

Our deepest thanks to all donors - you can see from the stories below just how much of an impact that your support provides to Peter Paul, its programs, and especially to those we serve. During this holiday season, we all pause in honor of you, to celebrate your dedication to make this organization thrive!

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A Great Year for After School

The first half of the school year has been wonderful for the After School Learning Immersion Program. We are proud to announce that **fifty-three of our student made Honor Roll for the first nine weeks!**

We continue to try new things in order to provide an even better experience to students and parents. For example, PPDC is now utilizing Class Dojo software to monitor student behavior and communicate more effectively with parents. To emphasize the importance of higher education and to get students excited about learning, each classroom has adopted a college/university and decorated their rooms with college paraphernalia.

We continue to expose students to unique experiences, which compliment their academics. Twelve PPDC students are currently participating in an outdoor adventure club, through a partnership with **Blue Sky Fund**. Our 5th grades are learning the importance of healthy eating thanks to **Bon Secours' Class-A-Roll** program. **Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield** is promoting a healthy lifestyle to 4th grade students with their Catch Healthy Habits program. The **Visual Arts Center** held photography classes for our middle school students. And students are learning about the true spirit of Christmas by performing Christmas carols at a nearby senior living facility.



Peter Paul's Holiday Program

On December 18, Peter Paul hosted its annual Holiday Program. In front of a packed audience of parents, volunteers, donors, and fellow students, PPDC students performed acts that they had been planning over the past few weeks. Performances included songs and carols, drumming and violin, and African dance with a modern twist. Students did a fantastic job and got everyone into the holiday spirit right before winter break!



So Much to Be Thankful For

On Tuesday, October 25, Peter Paul hosted its second annual Thanksgiving Dinner. Approximately 300 Peter Paul staff, students, parents and seniors came together for a sit-down, home-cooked meal in the cafeteria. Some people stood up before the audience and shared those things in their life for which they were thankful - for many, it was family, friendships, and community.

This event was also a wonderful opportunity because it brought together families whose children attend both Peter Paul sites - Fairfield Court Elementary School (PPDC@FCES) and the PPDC building (1708 N 22nd St). We loved seeing the entire Peter Paul family together in one place!

Thank you everyone who came out and made the event such a success. Thank you especially to all the parents who volunteered their time setting up the gymnasium and preparing and serving food.



Mentor Mash Up

On Saturday, November 22nd, eleven mentors and mentees took a picnic lunch to Jefferson Park. Some mentors shared stories about the history of Richmond as they looked out over the city. After the picnic, the group toured the Maggie Walker Historic House, where they learned about the life and legacy of Maggie Walker, the first African-American woman to found a bank. Mentors and mentees alike walked away knowing a little more about themselves, each other, and the powerful legacy left by a great African-American woman.

If you are interested in mentoring a PPDC student this school year, please email Mentor Program Coordinator [CasSandra Calin](mailto:CasSandra.Calin@ppdc.org) or call her at (804) 780-1195.



Powerful Community Events

Peter Paul and its Promise Neighborhood Program hold East End community event throughout the year.

The Powerful Parents Info Feast was held on Thursday, October 30 and an unprecedented 370 people showed up to access information and engage with others in a positive setting! Info Feasts provide a forum for information sharing and relationship building among students, families, local organizations and schools.

We would like to thank The Gents, a fantastic local step team, for performing. We would also like to thank the CIS of Richmond staff, who prepared, cooked and served food for the community. You can see some great pictures of the event [here](#).



The Back to School Block Party, held on September 6, brought together families from around the East End to celebrate a new school year and the addition of Richmond Promise Neighborhood to the Peter Paul family of programs. Thanks to the generous effort of JC Polk and Vicissitude Productions, we now have a wonderful video that showcases the event. Click [here](#) to view this short video.



Peter Paul Development Center

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