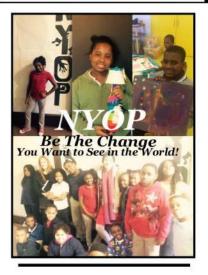
# YOP

Neighborhood Youth Outreach Program Serving in Ministry for Over 20 Years

Check Out Our New Web Page: www.nyopkids.org



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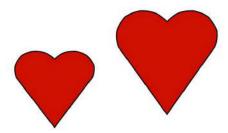
#### NYOP in 'Celebrate the Seasons' Parade

We are excited to announce that our NYOP kids will be participating in this years WXPI "Celebrate the Seasons Day Parade" on Saturday November 28th.

Our theme will be based on the classic Dr. Seuss book "How the Grinch Stole Christmas"

The parade begins at 9 a.m. in Downtown Pittsburgh on 5th Avenue. The parade will also be broadcast live on WPXI-Channel 11.

See you at the parade!!!!





#### **NYOP Board of Directors Profile:**

Dr. Marcia Sturdivant

Recently we sat down with Dr. Marcia Sturdivant. Dr. Sturdivant is President and CEO of the NEED program and also serves as a member of the NYOP board. Dr. Sturdivant, along with her husband, Larry Dean Anderson Sr. have supported both of their sons, Larry and Marshall, through their time in the NYOP program since 2010. She expressed that she's pleased with the program's emphasis on education, hard work, integrity, cultural pride, community service and Christian living. When asked what her boys enjoyed the most about coming to the program, Dr. Sturdivant shared that both of their boys loved the program from the very beginning because they felt a sense of warmth and welcoming support.

"Due to their previous experiences when taking music lessons, both Larry and Marshall had a love for the theater and performing arts and were enticed by the specialty programs offered at NYOP. The boys were also able to meet new friends from different schools who all shared similar interests," said Dr. Sturdivant.

"NYOP has had a tremendous and positive impact on our children,"

From performance showcases to summer overnights at Ligonier Camp; Dr. Sturdivant and her family have thoroughly enjoyed the fellowship they have experienced since joining the NYOP. We are grateful to have Dr. Sturdivant and her family to be a part of the NYOP family.

#### **NYOP Art:**

### **Diving Into Fall Colors**

With summer coming to a close NYOP's art department has been diving head first into fall with bright colors and exciting new projects. From our vividly painted decoupage bottles and vinyl record flowers, to our flying pinecone bats and Frankenstein magnets, the students have embraced the radiance of the season. As always the talent never ceases to amaze me, and I look forward to

working with all of our students both new and old.

~ Danielle P.

"Good art is not what it looks like, but what it does to us."

~Roy Adzak







## Student Spotlight



**Kevin Blackwell** is an 11th grader at Wilkinsburg high school and a former NYOP student who has dreams of being a professional musician.

With all the negative things happening in this community such as the closing of his high school at the end of the school year and the continued rise in crime, Kevin finds solace in his music.

You can always find Kevin walking the local streets with a guitar in his hand playing and plucking a familiar melody. Kevin is a self taught musician and learned how to play watching YouTube videos.

He knows songs by Tracy Chapman, Eric

Clapton, and many other national recording artists.

Kevin's dream is to make it into the Pittsburgh High School for the Creative and Performing Arts, (C.A.P.A.), where he could receive lessons and grow his God given talents. He has applied and has an audition for the school in November. Meanwhile, Kevin continues to come to the NYOP to play for the kids and learn new music in hopes of getting better.

Dreams do come true when you continue to work hard and have vision beyond your current circumstances. We all believe and support you, Kevin Blackwell.

#### **NYOP Dance:**

# "Students Taking It to New Level"

The NYOP Dance Department has been an absolute joy so far!

The students have taken their dance to a new level. The returning students are becoming more "professional" with their study of the dance technique; while the newer students are eager to learn and mature in the craft as well. Currently, the students are preparing to perform in the Celebrate the Seasons Holiday parade.

They have the opportunity to take a childhood classic, "The Grinch", and put a dancing twist on it. Helping the students to learn to add silly facial expressions and comedy to their dance performance has been incredible!

I am so excited to see what the rest of this year has in store for the NYOP Dance Department.

~Kontara M.

#### **Upcoming Events**

**November 28th**– NYOP is in the "Channel 11 WPXI Celebrate the Seasons Parade". The parade will be held in downtown Pittsburgh on 5th Avenue from 9am-12 noon and televised live on channel 11 at 9am.

November 29th- "Family and Friends Day" at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Worship begins at 10:30 am.

December 18th- "NYOP Holiday church service and Community open house" Worship begins at 7:00 pm.

#### NYOP Staff

Anthony Jackson Program Director, Minister of Outreach

Steve Edmunds Media Instructor

Angela Nichols Office Administrator

Kontara Morphis

Dance Instructor

Danielle Pazuchanics Art Instructor

### **Support NYOP's Arts Programming**

The NYOP needs your support.

The ministry of the NYOP has been serving the Wilkinsburg community for 20 years. Not many youth programs can give testimony to such an accomplishment. However, we still continue to seek funding sources in order to continue our tradition and build toward the future in serving young people.

The NYOP strives to be a place where children can discover their God given talents while developing healthy relationships with their peers and caring adults. We continue to share and learn about our faith through being good stewards of God's word.

Our students' extraordinary gifts are found throughout the NYOP from the artwork hanging in the corridors of the NYOP hallways, to the joyful voices heard coming from the music room and the inspirational choreography performed in



our dance studio. The arts are not just something to do, but a way to express our inner emotions. This is why it is so important to keep our doors open for another 20 years; this is why we need to support the arts.



### **Finding Peace By Practicing Peace**





The holiday season is upon us and the NYOP kids are diligently preparing for the Celebrate the Seasons day parade and music for an upcoming holiday church service. As one child kindly put it "Practice does not make you perfect, Mr. Tony; it only makes you tired!"

I must say I totally agree with this statement.

Sometimes we get so busy trying to perfect ourselves we miss out on the simple blessings around us. I cannot recall the last time I sat in our chapel building in complete silence and just meditated in the moment. Seeking peace and slowing down to breathe and enjoying simple serenity. Every person should have this moment, and every child should discover how to find it. It's easy to teach children movement, yet when do we show them how to find peace?

This world keeps spinning and it will not stop. But we can allow ourselves to slow down. So, let me go to my class and change the curriculum for a day.

"Class, today we will practice something new....it's called "Finding peace." How do we do it? Easy....practice.

May God help you discover your peace this holiday season!

Blessings,

Minister Tony Jackson

### Thank You To Our Sponsors!

Continued Support Please Send

Donations to:

#### Neighborhood Youth Outreach Program

600 Pitt Street Pittsburgh, PA 15221

Phone: 412-243-6100 Fax: 412-243-6105

E-mail: NYOP1@verizon.net www.nyopkids.org



# **NYOP Parent Committee**



Ramsey to our ministry family. Ms. Ramsey will be volunteering her talents to oversee the first NYOP Parent Committee group. The NYOP Parent Committee group will help support the NYOP by getting parents of the children more involved with fundraising projects, evaluating NYOP special projects and improving daily ministry functions. Ms. Ramsey is a certified accountant and has two daughters currently enrolled in the NYOP. We are so excited to have her dedication and support to help our mission.

Nano



# Save The Date

Come Salsa With Us

February 26, 2016

SUPPORT THE NEIGHBORHOOD YOUTH OUTREACH PROGRAM
AND HAVE SOME SALSA FUN!

Salsa Music — Professional Dance Performances — Dance Instructors

Dancing for Everyone — Mexican Food — Non-Alcoholic Margaritas

More Details and Registration Information Coming Soon