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TAG PTA Newsletter - Feb 2015

1 message

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To: Pamela <pamsim777@gmail.com>

Tue, Feb 17, 2015 at 11:01 AM

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**DONATE BOOKS!**

Share the gift of reading by **donating to the Book Drive for Metropolitan Pediatrics!** Have a stack of children's books you've been meaning to donate? Bring them to TAG! The PTA Community Outreach team is organizing a book drive to benefit Metropolitan Hospital Pediatrics department. Please bring very gently used children's books of all subjects to Ms. Bruno's office **by March 12th**.

DON'T MISS THE BALL!

The **March 7th Masquerade Ball** will be a day of music, games, and great food for all TAG families and friends (playdate, anyone?). Tickets include a fabulous mask, unlimited games, prizes, and entry to 2 different raffles.

[Click on the flyer to buy your tickets today!](#)

THERE'S STILL TIME TO BUY TICKETS

The deadline to buy tickets for the Ice Skate with TAG trip has been extended until

Thursday, Feb 19th!

[Buy them HERE.](#)





YOUR DONATIONS MADE A DIFFERENCE!

On behalf of Ms. Bruno, thank you to the many parents who made donations to the food drive! With their help, TAG donated over **500 POUNDS** to families in need.



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PTA PRESIDENT

Dear TAG Families,

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, Feb 23rd:

Last day to hand in
[Dave & Buster Power](#)
[Card](#) forms

Thursday, Feb 26th:

Exec Bd Mtg @ 6pm
(in library)

Saturday, Feb 28th:

[TAG Ice Skating Trip](#)
@ 1:30pm
(Aviator Sports Center in
Brooklyn)

Tuesday, Mar 3rd:

PTA Mtg @ 6pm
(in cafeteria)

Saturday, Mar 7th:

[Masquerade Ball](#) @
4pm
(in cafeteria)

Friday, Mar 13th:

Fundraising Mtg
@ 8am & 6pm
(in library)



\$11,500 DEBATE GRANT FOR TAG!

Working with the grants committee, TAG PTA secured an **\$11,500 grant** from Blackrock Gives (thanks also to Blackrock Employee & TAG

Undaunted by the ice and slush and snow outside, the 2014-2015 school year marches on! TAG PTA is getting an early glimmer of spring with the announcement that a generous grant from Blackrock will enable us to establish a professionally-coached middle school debate program! This is the culmination of two years of hard work by parent/coach William Castro, by our formidable student debaters, who consistently take top prizes at city tournaments, and by our indomitable TAG PTA Grants team, led by parent Catherine Martinez. Now, with Blackrock funding and coaching by Agape Leaders Institute, TAG's team will have the resources to compete on an even grander scale, both locally and nationally.

Our recent Ski trip to Shawnee Mountain, PA was another bright spot in the dark of winter. TAG hurtled at breakneck speeds down the Poconos slopes, showing impressive talent in body as well as mind, and most importantly having a good time together in a non-academic setting! There's more of that to come, with the Masquerade Ball, the Silent Auction, and the Talent Show right around the corner. With spring at TAG also comes the intensive phase of TAG PTA's planning for the next school year, so we need to hear your voices at the monthly meetings, or via email if you can't make it. Many new and exciting ideas are in the works, and we want as many parents involved in the process as possible.

From one TAG parent to another, thank you for everything you do for our kids and our school. Hope to see you at all the great events we have coming up this spring!

All the best,

Jason Gots
TAG PTA President, 2014-2015

parent- Paul Gross) to support TAG's award-winning middle school debate team. The funds will pay for our Agape partners, as well as cover the cost of transportation to competitions and debate t-shirts for the students. Blackrock Employees will also participate in debate competitions as judges!

The program has already attracted 13 students who meet on Fridays. During the first meeting on Jan 30th, students learned how to formulate arguments for both the pro and con sides of whether or not "Naturalized citizens should be allowed to become the President of the United States." **There first debate tournament will be Saturday March 21st.** For more information, contact:

debate@tagscholarspta.org

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE UPDATES

As of February 11, 2015 the
Fundraising & Grant Committees have raised over \$98,000.00!

DAVE & BUSTER POWER CARDS

The PTA Fundraising Committee asks TAG students to participate in our "Fun-Raiser" by selling **Dave & Buster Power Cards** to their family, friends, neighbors, & co-workers. The

iPLEDGE CONTINUES!

Thank you to all the donors listed below for their support of iPledge! Because of your generosity we have raised over \$73,000.00. For those of you who have not yet donated

TAG PTA will earn a generous 50% from the sale of each card. You can purchase Power Cards on tagscholarpta.org. All orders forms are **due Monday, February 23rd**. REMEMBER, the TOP selling student will receive a \$100 American Express Gift Card, delicious lunch & dessert, and a Dress Down Day! The 5 top-selling students will enjoy a delicious lunch & dessert plus a Dress Down Day! If you have any questions please contact Trina Edmundson at fundraising@tagscholarpta.org.



time or funds- **you still have time!** Make your donations online today at tagscholarpta.org or by leaving a completed form in the drop box in Ms. Bruno's office.

THANK YOU!!

Thank you to all the donors listed below for their support of iPledge!
Because of their generosity, iPledge has raised over **500 volunteer hours** and **\$70,000!**
And congratulations to the raffle winners:

- Debasish Das (winner of the iPad)
- Class 1-119 (Most funds raised; wins 1 dress down, ice cream party, & surprise gift!)
- Class 3-117 (Most time donated; wins 1 dress down, ice cream party, & surprise gift)
- Class 1-121 (Most participation; wins 1 dress down, ice cream party, & surprise gift)

Meier (841)	Galbati (840)	Goodin (741)
Aravinda Chiva King Merrille King Stephanie Lai	Annie Budhus	
Dolginko (4-210)	Maitram (640)	
Alicia Gallagher Chandni Sparks Ellen Placens Jonathan Ennis Kathy Powell Manning Kiana Lorenson Patricia Prais Phil Simmons Sara Andrade-Cortes Sasha Foreman Stephanie Griffin Simmons Tanya Washinton	Danielat (740)	
	Claudette Hetmeyer	
	Syed (5-213)	
	Alissa Schwanke Hanna Carpenter Khandaker Hadele Norman Steiner V.C. Chavler Austin Victor Vysoch Yusuf Ali	
	Brown (4-124)	
	Alyssa Daniel Eliza Kozim Joanne Wong Mohammad Karim Nasra Shah	
Sheridan (2-120)	Jimenez (2-122)	
Amy Birlo Anning Lin Bradley Wortman Bry Barroso Gavin McCormick Jessica Bellinder Jessica Ramirez-Bellon Jian Ho Joe Delloia Michelle J. Anderson Owen Grier Robert Wortman Zhan Li	Alangini Roman Alyssa Daniel Catherine Martinez Cooper Li Dale Harrison Fatima Doukoure Havahin Doukoure Jenny Phung Nichelle Mykolas Paul Gross Tawehua Hall-Huff Van Fang Chen	
Diarr (K-113)	Sun (K-112)	
Angelique Begarian Anika Bjerdn Charlene Joseph Clyde Barrow Emily Mathieu Hania Mogno Ingrid Kullberg James Tracy Jay Godfrey Jing Hao Lacie Brown Marco Tomaschett Melinda Li Michael Fugate Natalie Carpinthroy Sandy Mo Yue Stacy Coleman Wenhua Ju Yuki Stomov	Adrienne Fottich Brian Wang Chunh Soon Dedra Nichols Dionti Chitrahbanu Emily Mathieu Helder Coelho Jimmie Liu John Proelich John Johnson Kaitlin Carmahan Li Su Michael Liu Miri Persaud Nicoletta Vorestius Qi Chen Rurik Bradbury Soraya Santiago Yen Fang Lin	
	Chiu (4-212)	
	Mohammed Chowdhury Sagid Khatun	
	Doide Nicholas Johnson Jackson Gay Jenny Phung Patricia Saydsh Paul Gross Sandy Mo Yue Shahid Chowdhury Shawette Parker Thompson	
	Liu (1-119)	
	Christina Matt David Kwak Erika Nohale Jene Yang Judi Meliel June Choi Katha Gray Kenech Ob Kinani Foreman Laura Langer Stockmyer Lorene M. Phillips Mudalar Mario Antonio Napza Nogman Moss Rebecca Yofallie Rita Delina Sandra Shin Sasha Norman Shen Tap Sunderson S. Mudalar Tafadzwa Mwarandani	
	Ruiz (5-217)	
	Etien Placens Jorge Alvarado Kamari Foreman Mohammed Chowdhury Sagid Khatun	
	Donnelly (3-117)	
	Anna Lato Anna Rodriguez Aurora Latorre Barbara Adior Catherine Levine HAR Rodriguez Javier Chof Kazumiya Ohi Kenny Perceus Marissa Cuevas Monica Stevens Richard Aubrey Robyn King Veronica Paez	
	Blount (3-125)	
	Nicholas Delle Carmen Rodriguez Giovanna Specht Henry Huang Jacquelin Nepton Katherine Huang Kamisha Hamilton Kenny Persaud Nastasha Davis Rumaisa Guliamoo Sherritt Corrine Tim Oshonogh-Powell Trina Edmundson Verna Persaud William Castro	
	Jeffit (1-121)	
	Adi Laurel Andre Darr Annie Soier Anna Wolf Byron Scott Celine Rodriguez Christy Senior Debasish Das Doreen Goh Gabrie Beniz Giovanna Specht Haley Safford Jason Gots Jeffrey David Joseph Wack Marko Baylor Michelle Keane Michelle Macarag Mili Daring Monica Actman Najun Ling Rina Zvonozkova Patricia Chiu Pashani George Smita Das Stephanie Griffin Simmons Tavis Specht Yui Morishita	

THE ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION

Are you craving some adult time in an evening accompanied by, delicious food, an open bar, conversation, and dancing? Want to help TAG at the same time? Sounds like you need to come to the **Annual Silent Auction on April 25th!** Individual tickets are \$55.00 Early Bird Tickets (until March 2rd). Tables are \$165 (seats 2) and \$325 (seats 4). **The tables for 8 have SOLD OUT!**

Buy your ticket [HERE](#) or by leaving a completed form and payment in the drop box in Ms. Bruno's office. We are still seeking donations of enticing items to be auctioned off. So if you or someone you know can donate services, items, or tickets to events, please contact: Trina Edmundson at fundraising@tagscholarpta.org.

The TAG PTA is a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization so donations are tax deductible! Questions? Contact Trina Edmundson at fundraising@tagscholarpta.org or Catherine Martinez at grants@tagscholarpta.org

A vertical poster with a red-to-black gradient background. The top right corner features a cluster of colorful bokeh lights. The word "Gala" is written in a large, elegant, gold-colored script font. To its right, the text "TAG YOUNG SCHOLARS" is in white, with "TAG" in a larger, bold font. Below this, in a smaller white script font, it says "requests the pleasure of your company at their". Further right, the words "ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION" are stacked vertically in a white, bold, sans-serif font. Below "Gala", the date and time "Saturday, April 25th, 2015 7:00 - 10:00 pm" are written in a white script font. The address "DCTV • 87 Lafayette Street, New York, NY 10013" is in a white sans-serif font. Below that, "ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT TAG" is in a white sans-serif font. A paragraph in white sans-serif font follows: "THIS IS THE OPPORTUNITY FOR TAG PARENTS, TEACHERS & FRIENDS TO ENJOY A NIGHT OF MUSIC, DELECTABLE FOOD & DANCING WHILE HELPING TAG! WE ARE ALSO OFFERING AFFORDABLE CHILDCARE ON-SITE FOR KIDS, AGES FOUR TO THIRTEEN." Below this, "TICKETS & SPONSORS" is in a white sans-serif font. Then, "PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS OR TABLE AT: TAGSCHOLARSPTA.ORG/AUCTION OR BY COMPLETING THE FORM ON THE BACK" is in a smaller white sans-serif font. Below that, "DINNER • OPEN BAR • DANCING" is in a white sans-serif font. Finally, "Classy Casual to Cocktail Attire" is written in a white script font at the bottom. The bottom of the poster also features a cluster of colorful bokeh lights.

PARENTS WORKING TO IMPROVE OUR PARK

The TAG PTA has spearheaded **Friends of Poor Richard's Playground**, a community

group which is gathering ideas and momentum for improvements to Poor Richard's Park and playground area, including using the green space on the corner as a garden, upgrading the equipment and repairing, and improving the grounds. **The group has a website:** <http://meganfotog.wix.com/poorrichards>. We are looking for a few more dedicated parents to join our efforts! **Please contact Megan Joplin** if you would like to be involved in helping to make Poor Richard's Playground a beautiful, usable park and playground for our kids and community.

THE LATIN JAZZ CONCERT IS COMING...

Last spring's Latin Jazz fundraiser concert was a wonderful opportunity for TAG musicians to rub shoulders with professional players. First, the Latin Jazz Ensemble performed a set of their own music. Special guests Bobby Sanabria and Carlos Henriquez brought in a band of top-flight pros to play a couple of numbers. And, as a conclusion, everyone played together on an exciting, impromptu version of Tito Puente's "Oye Como Va." The best comment was from one of the 8th grade flute players: as the last notes died away, and the applause swelled, she said, "This is the best day of my life!" Be on the lookout for details about this year's upcoming must-see concert!

Have feedback or an event/ article you'd like included in the monthly newsletter or the weekly digest? Email it to: communications@tagscholarspta.org

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