

VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

Issue 1

July 1, 2014 - August 31, 2014

Volunteer Spotlight Johnny Carpenter

It's amazing what kids can learn by playing board games and card games with each other. This issue's volunteer spotlight, Johnny Carpenter, realizes these valuable lessons and has been helping teach them for at least one hour every day since September.

Johnny is a volunteer at the Frank & Edith Morton Clubhouse where he comes in to teach kids new board games and play old ones with them as well. "Johnny has been one of our most consistent volunteers," says Youth Program Director, Jasmine McEachern. "Our members always look forward to having him here and it's a real help to us to be able to rely on him so consistently." It is because of volunteers like Johnny that the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tucson can operate so sufficiently while providing our members with games that teach them the importance of following rules, playing fairly, and sharing with one another.

Thank you to Johnny and all volunteers like him that donate their time so generously!



In This Issue

- Volunteer Spotlight
- Volunteer Needs
- Alumni Hall of Fame
- How to...
⇒ Encourage Good Behavior

Volunteer Needs

- 4th of July Barbecue—This year, the clubs will each celebrate the 4th of July with a barbecue on Thursday, July 3 from 12pm -4pm. Clubs will need volunteers to help with set up, clean up, playing in water games, and passing out food during this time
- Wacky Water Wednesdays—the Steve Daru Clubhouse located at 1375 N El Rio Dr. is looking for volunteers who can help with supervision of their weekly "Wacky Water Wednesdays"
- Guest DeeJays— the Steve Daru Clubhouse is in need of guest DeeJays for their Beatmasters Club

Contact the Volunteer Coordinator, Lisa Curran, for more details!

Lcurran@bgctucson.org; 520.573.3533



How to...

How to Encourage Good Behavior

Here are a few things you can do while volunteering that will help promote good behavior. Try them out the next time you're volunteering with us!

Children do as you do—Members are going to watch you to get clues on how to behave. While you're volunteering, you're their role model, so use your own behavior to guide them. What you DO is much more important than what you SAY. For example, if you want members to say please and thank you, you should say please and thank you.

Catch them being 'good' - This simply means that when members are behaving in a way you like, you can give them some positive feedback. For example, 'Wow, you are playing so nicely. I really like the way you are sharing with one another'. This works better than waiting for something to go wrong before you take notice and bark, 'Hey, stop that'.

Get down to a child's level—Kneeling or squatting down next to children is a very powerful tool for communicating positively with them. Getting close allows you to tune in to what they might be feeling or thinking. It also helps them focus on what you are saying or asking for. If you are close to a member and have his attention, there is no need to make him look at you.

Keep it simple and positive . If you can give clear instructions in simple terms, your members will know what is expected of them. ('Please raise your hand before saying the answer.') Stating things in a positive way gets their heads thinking in the right direction. For example, 'Please shut the gate' is better than 'Don't leave the gate open'.

Be the ONE.

Be GREAT.

Be a VOLUNTEER.

Alumni Hall of Fame Misty Copeland

San Pedro Boys & Girls Club
Los Angeles, CA

It was a volunteer dance instructor that first got Misty Copeland started on the path of ballerina stardom. She is now the American Ballet Theater's first African-American soloist in twenty years.

As one of six children in a single parent home, Misty's mother relied on the Boys & Girls Clubs to provide a safe place where her children could try new things as well as keep up with their school assignments. It was at the clubs that Misty was first introduced to the world of artistic expression in a woodshop class. "It was the first time I felt like I could express myself in an artistic way," she says.



Although shy at first, it was her first ballet class, led by the hand of a volunteer, that she felt like she could truly identify with something. "It was through ballet that I felt like, 'wow, I really found my outlet, my voice'," she remembers.

Today she is an ambassador of the Clubs, hoping to reach out to as many boys, girls, and community members to tell her story and inspire others to get involved. With the success she's had, it's hard to want to be a part of the organization that helps start great futures.

Contact Us

For more information about volunteering, contact the Volunteer Coordinator

Lisa Curran

lcurran@bgctucson.org
(520) 573-3533

Visit us on the web at
www.bgctucson.org