

2020 NEWSLETTER

# CHARLES A. MELTON ARTS AND EDUCATION CENTER

501 E Miner St, West Chester, PA 19382 • 610-692-9290 • [www.meltoncenter.org](http://www.meltoncenter.org)



## PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

The Mission of the historic Charles A Melton Arts and Education Center is to contribute to the quality of life for all people of the greater West Chester community by continuing its long commitment of providing educational, recreational, cultural and civic services. Whether you are part of an organization that is looking for space(s) to host your events, or part of our community & looking to try something new, please read the programs that we offer!

- Summer STEAM Camp
- Summer Basketball League
- West Chester Craft Beer Festival
- CommUnity Day
- New Directions
- Annual Gala
- Community News & Events

## WHATS NEW?

- Mud Row
- Dance Team
- Gospel Concert



The Charles A. Melton Arts and Education Center is a registered 501(c)3 organization, and all donations are tax deductible to the amount allowable by the IRS. Registration and financial information for the Melton Center may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling (800) 732-0999.

# SUMMER BASKETBALL SPONSORS

Barclay Friends

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Chester Police

Buckets Skills & Drills  
Academy

Cap't LH Lodge #159

Dayna's ICare  
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East Goshen UPS  
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Mabel's BBQ

Main Line Concrete  
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Thomas Comitta  
Associates

West Chester Que's



Thank you WIN NAACP!



## SUMMER BASKETBALL LEAGUE

The Melton Center co-ed basketball league holds games at the center's outdoor courts. The games take place from June through August.



## DANCE TEAM

Under the direction of Clyde Evans, the Dance Team has performed in the 2019 Community Day and the Borough's 2019 Halloween Parade.



We can look forward to the Dance Team performing at the People's Light Theater for a Holiday Panto of Red Riding Hood. The team will also be performing at the East, Rustin and Henderson boys' basketball halftime shows.

## SUMMER STEAM PROGRAM

The New Directions Summer Steam program is a 6 week affordable summer camp that focuses on enrichment activities, weekly trips, and STEAM activities that enhance critical thinking skills with an integration of science, technology, engineering, arts, and math. This program runs through the months of July and August.



## COMMUNITY GARDEN

The outdoor garden provided a multitude of cucumbers, tomatoes, lettuce, collard greens, squash and melons. We distributed over 200 pounds to community residents and Chester County Food Bank



Special thanks to TJ Max for their donation.



## NEW DIRECTIONS COORDINATOR



Miss Jaime

The **New Directions Program**, started in 2010, is an affordable academic skill-building and leadership development program for students in grades K-6. In **New Directions**, students work with Academic Coaches to achieve academic growth, positive social-emotional development, and leadership skills.

## ACADEMICS

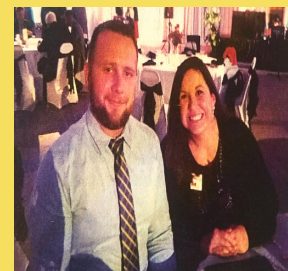
Using research-based methods, academic coaches interact with students to complete homework, participate in active reading and literacy education, and help students reach their potential as individuals and as a team!

## WHOLE-CHILD ENRICHMENT & LEADERSHIP

An important part of New Directions is our enrichment program to develop the whole child. Every day, our students have dedicated time for physical activity, play, and the arts, through activities such as Yoga, Mindfulness, Theater, Dance, Sports, Visual Arts, and Gardening. Students also have the opportunity to participate in cultural and educational field trips.

New Directions students also develop their civic and leadership skills by learning about social justice issues and participating in hands-on community service to make a difference.

Please contact Program Director Jamie Atkins at [Jamie.comfort.atkins@gmail.com](mailto:Jamie.comfort.atkins@gmail.com) or 610-692-9290 Ext. 103 if you would like to learn more about New Directions.



Former New Direction Coordinator  
Brad Steese with new Coordinator  
Jaime Atkins

*Thank you to Brad Steese for a  
great 2 years of service.*

Thank you to our program sponsors for your generosity and support.

## THANK YOU COMMUNITY DAY SPONSORS

*Main Line Concrete  
and Supply Inc.*

*Citadel*

*Franklin Mint  
Federal Credit Union*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Lisa Dorsey -  
Board President*

*Deborah Fell -  
Vice President*

*Mallory Perrotti -  
Secretary*

*Richard Bocclair*

*Daryl Durnell*

*Glenn Fricke*

*Matthew Holiday*

*Jonathon Long*

*Darryl McLain*

*Jean Newsome*

*Deb Sahjiwani*

*Mark Stevens*

*Alice Thomas*

*Thomas Walsh*

*Larry Washington*



## COMMUNITY DAY

CommUnity Day on August 18, 2019 was well attended with over 30 booths from several agencies, churches, food vendors, church & community bands, activities for children, moon bounce and music provided by DJ Papo (Raul Hernandez). CommUnity Day increased its vendors to 45; the committee collaborated with the Midtown Makers Market and added an artisan village. Music provided by DJ Papo (Raul Hernandez).



(Left to right) Melton Center Board members Deb Sahjiwani & Daryl Durnell, Judge Bret Binder, Executive Director Kenneth Winston, and Chester County Commissioner Marian Moskowitz

## WEST CHESTER CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL

On Saturday, June 22nd the Center hosted the West Chester Annual Beer Festival from 12:00-5:00pm. The festival was a huge success with over 50 breweries and 10 food vendors in attendance.



Photo by Ed Williams



## 2019 ANNUAL GALA

This year's gala was held on Saturday, October 12th from 6-10pm. Over 200 guests were in attendance. The evening included dinner, dancing, and a silent auction.

Our emcee was Mr. Bill Anderson, Fox 29 reporter. He also has his own news series called, "For Goodness' Sake." The keynote speaker was Mr. Ryan P. Haygood, President & CEO of the New Jersey Institute of Social Justice. He is one of the nations leading civil rights lawyers and his inspiring speech encouraged all to be more aware and sensitive to the African American community.



Keynote Speaker Ryan P. Haygood (right) and Emcee Bill Anderson (left).

The Center honored Mrs. Wilma Ford and Mr. Samuel C. Stretton as our 2019 Legacy Award Recipients for their tireless contribution in bringing the ward voting system back to West Chester after 100 years.



Sam C. Stretton and Wilma Ford with Board President Lisa Dorsey

Music by DJ Steve Cofield & Sweet

## 2019 DONORS AND PARTNERS

WCU	WC East DECA
Biosafe Systems LLC	People's Light
EXELON Foundation	WC Rt 3 WAWA
Chester County Community Foundation	Joanne Rossi
Cochran Trust	WCAEA
Mary Wallace Hewlett	Saunders Dixon
Linda & Bill Seybold	Taquanta Merchant
Baldev Raj & Shudesh Shurma Hari (Om Yoga Studio)	S & J Jewelers, Inc.
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Knox	Richard and Julie May
Zukin Realty	Friends of Stephen Kinsey
O'Rourke Steel	Daniel & Jennifer Coffey
Footprints to Recovery	West Chester BID
Will & Terry Tolbert (in honor of Dwight Allen)	West Chester YMCA
Greg Butcher	Goshen Signs
Bruce & Karen Cavin	Haille Romanaski
Double Dutch Donors	Phoenixville Area Positive Alternatives
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Westminster Presbyterian	West Chester Area School District
Assembly of Pent Church of Jesus Christ	Trinity Assembly of God
	Youth Connecting with Communities, Inc.
	Unitarian Congregation
	Lasko
	Landmark
	Jim Scanlon

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**



## HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

We are wishing you a wonderful holiday season. We appreciate working with all of you and hope that your holidays will be filled with joy and laughter through the New Year!



Executive Director, Kenneth Winston with Mud Row writer, Dominique Morisseau.



## MUD ROW

Mud Row is a play **written by Dominique Morisseau** and **directed by Steve H. Broadnax** at People's Light. It debuted July 26th.

Two generations of sisters protect and defy the legacy of their fore-mothers in this riveting, funny, and ultimately hopeful world premiere play set in, and inspired by, the East End of West Chester, PA.



Mud Row play

**Mud Row** is the second production to emerge from the New Play Frontiers (NPF) Residency & Commission program at **People's Light**. The play focuses on the contrasting life trajectories of an African American family in the 1960's and today, including the impact of activism, gentrification and addiction on their lives.

## GOSPEL CONCERT

Please join us for our first annual **Gospel Concert** in collaboration with the iCare Foundation on January 19, 2020 from 3:00-5:00pm. The event will be **in honor of Martin Luther King** with the inclusion of his famous "I Have A Dream" speech given by Reverend Dayna Spence, founder of the iCare Foundation.

**Gospel Concert**  
JANUARY 19, 2020 | 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM  
501 E. Miner St, West Chester, PA

DAVINA'S

Event hosted by Darryl McLain

<b>Reverend Spence</b> I Have A Dream Speech		<b>Minister &amp; Evangelist</b> Founder of iCare Foundation	
<p><i>Performers</i></p>			
 <b>Alice's Voices and Presbyterian Church</b>	 <b>Trinity Assembly of God Church</b> Assembly of God Church	 <b>Dayshawn Jacobs</b> Youth Singer	 <b>Janina Simone</b> Soul Gospel Sounds
 <b>David Charles</b> Inspirational Rap M Star Fellowship	 <b>St. Paul's Baptist Church</b> Inspirational Choir	 <b>Agentda</b> Kingdom Royalty Productions	

*In honor of Martin Luther King*

Donations will go towards the audio, visual, and production programming of the Melton Center's auditorium.

Among the performances are Alice's Voices, Trinity Assembly of God, Dayshawn Jacobs, Janina Simone, David Charles, St. Paul's Baptist Church, and Agentda. Donations will go towards the critical programming of the Melton Center.



The Site Plan

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECT

Plans for the Charles A. Melton Arts and Education Center to build about 50 affordable workforce development housing units along Market Street, Miner and Worthington streets have been approved. Church Housing of Phoenixville and NRP LLC are also involved in construction expected to cost \$15.4 million.

The grant from the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency has approved and ground-breaking at the 2.5 acre site to the east of the current building is scheduled to take place in the Spring of 2020.

## RENTALS

The Charles A. Melton Arts and Education Center has some of the most unique & diverse rental spaces in West Chester, which are all available to host a multitude of different events. From the grandeur of the historical, Dr. Leslie Pinckney Hill Theater to the AAU rated Gymnasium, we're sure you'll find the space you need to make your event come to life.

## SUPPORT & PARTNER WITH US!

We are excited to present a partnership opportunity. Can you commit to a monthly sustaining contribution to the Center of one dollar (or whatever amount is feasible for you) per member of your family, church, synagogue, mosque, or place of employment to provide the opportunity for more children to learn, play and grow into fine adults.

## 31<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL MELTON CENTER SCHOLARSHIP RECEPTION

**Date:** Saturday,  
December 21, 2019

**Time:** 12:00 PM in  
the Leslie Pinckney  
Hill Auditorium  
(Miner St. Entrance).

**Where:** Melton  
Center, 501 East  
Miner Street, West  
Chester, PA

**Cost:** \$20 for adults,  
\$5 for students

*This is an event  
where we  
congratulate and  
award deserving  
college students  
from local church,  
civic, social and  
educational  
institutions. We are  
all aware of the  
importance of  
education today,  
and how imperative  
it is to support such  
efforts!*

Please consider a donation to the center. For more questions, call 610-692-9290.

**YES! Count on me to help make that change!**

Please make checks payable to **Charles A. Melton Arts and Education Center.**

You may also donate online at: <https://www.meltoncenter.org/support>

**Contribution Amount:**

☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25 ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Credit Card No.** \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Discover

**Please earmark my gift for:**

☐ New Directions ☐ Dance Team ☐ Summer Basketball  
☐ Garden ☐ Auditorium



**Charles A. Melton  
Arts and Education Center  
P.O. Box 834  
West Chester PA 19381-0834**

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

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