



# NEWS FROM CITY NEIGHBORS FOUNDATION

MAY 2018

*An update on the work of City Neighbors Foundation, our City Neighbors schools, and our work to impact public education everywhere*

## ***The City Neighbors Children's Summer Program***

The City Neighbors Children's Summer Program enters its fourth summer. The camp serves rising first, second, third, and fourth graders attending City Neighbors schools.

The City Neighbors Children's Summer Camp is a four-week literacy-rich, experiential program designed to provide younger students the opportunity grow as readers, writers, artists, researchers, naturalists, and so much more. Day camp activities focus on targeted literacy instruction with plenty of singing, reading, writing, crafts, outdoor play, bicycling, and more. Weekly artists-in-residence provide deep experience with music, dance, and visual arts, while weekly field trips brings students to the pool, the library, local nature centers, and even blueberry picking. This year, we welcome 55 students, including our Counselors in Training. Stay tuned for reports on our summer adventures!

We extend a deep thanks to the Harry and Jeannette Weinberg Foundation who provided a \$20,000 grant to the City Neighbors Children's Summer Program to provide the necessary scholarships for the over 70% of students attending who require them. Their generosity will allow these students to have a high quality, four-week summer learning experience!

## ***City Neighbors High School Graduates: 100% College Acceptance and Almost Two Million Dollars in Scholarships***

Congratulations to our nearly 100 City Neighbors High School graduates! 100% of our graduates were accepted to two- or four-year colleges, with almost two million dollars in scholarships awarded. Accepting colleges include Bucknell University, Ithaca College, Morgan State University, University of Maryland, Towson University, and McDaniel College among many others.

## ***70% of City Neighbors 8<sup>th</sup> Graders Eligible for Criteria High Schools***

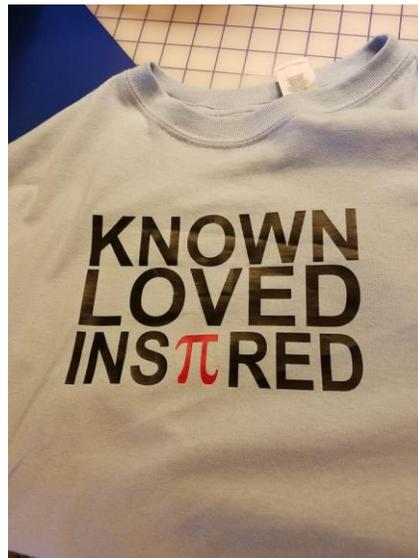
We are excited to announce that 70% of graduating 8<sup>th</sup> graders from City Neighbors Charter School and City Neighbors Hamilton are eligible for criteria high school options – Baltimore City criteria high schools, Baltimore School for the Arts, or independent schools. We are also excited to have over 20% of our graduating eighth graders join the 9<sup>th</sup> grade class at City Neighbors High School this fall!

## *The City Neighbors Fabrication Lab, Sparking the Imaginations of K-12 Students*

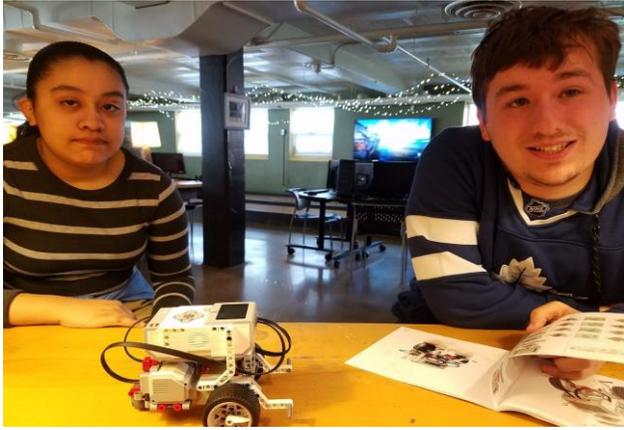
The City Neighbors Fab Lab, located on the Hamilton Campus of City Neighbors, promotes ingenuity, invention, and inspiration by introducing K-12 students to modern prototyping and fabrication equipment. Our goal is to create an environment that encourages creativity and inspiration, and impacts student achievement in science, technology, engineering, math, and the arts. We want students to experience the joy of being architects, artists, computer programmers, engineers, mathematicians, scientists, inventors, and designers.



Above (Left): CNH middle-school students coming off stage after presenting their finished game, after working for 12 hours to create one from scratch. Above (Right): Featured in the Arts Every Day show earlier this year, our 10th graders combined several different techniques to laser engrave their own portraits on wood. They took the pictures with a digital camera, cut the wood with a table saw, painted with watercolors, engineered their photo with Adobe Illustrator, and finally used our laser cutter to engrave their image.



Above (Left): In anticipation of the new Star Wars movie, we celebrated by creating everyone's favorite Wookiee during one of our Family Maker Nights. Above (Center): Gearing up for Pi Day (3/14), the high school math team designed and created their own City Neighbors-themed pi shirts. Above (Right): As part of a year-long unit, Mr. Dietzen's and Mrs. McGarvey's 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes created this model of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed with some help from the Fab Lab. Can you find Baltimore?



Above (Left): Students used this robot to explore concepts of robotics. Once they finished building it, they learned how to program it.  
Above (Right): A group of CNCS students created working models of various kinds of medieval catapults.

### ***City Neighbors High School Highlighted in the Baltimore Sun***

City Neighbors High School was recently highlighted in the Baltimore Sun for its participation in an annual Civil Rights trip, a collaboration between City Neighbors High School and The Park School of Baltimore. Check it out!

*“When people think of the civil rights movement, they concentrate on the deep South,” said City Neighbors math teacher Rodney Wallace, one of the project organizers. “But there was activism everywhere, including here in our back yard. This is about giving kids the chance to make connections to history and to home.”*

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/education/bs-md-ci-civil-rights-experience-20180411-story.html>

### ***City Neighbors Presents at the Century Foundation***

City Neighbors was invited to serve on a panel entitled, “*How Do You Reap the Benefits of Diversity*” at the Century Foundation’s Conference, Diversity Matters: Getting Public School Choice Right. Kate Seidl, Principal of City Neighbors Charter School, joined three other educators from across the nation in discussing the challenges and opportunities of intentionally diverse schools like ours. There was a lively discussion about the ways in which classroom teaching and learning, school staffing, and school policies can address and improve educational opportunity and ensure all students from all backgrounds achieve. The topics examined included equitable disciplinary practices, family engagement, hiring teachers from diverse backgrounds, and addressing bias in tracking. City Neighbors' innovative, robust learning environments are the result of our teacher-crafted, student-centered policies that acknowledge and address the impact of economic, racial, linguistic, and social forces on Baltimore's students. At the Century Foundation, Kate used concrete examples from the ongoing work at our schools--including restorative justice practices, social justice curriculum, teacher autonomy, parent governance, advisory models, and out-of-school time learning opportunities--to show the ways multiple overlapping efforts equitably serve City Neighbors students.

### ***Thank You to the Joseph and Harvey Meyerhoff Family Charitable Funds***

Thank you to the Joseph and Harvey Meyerhoff Family Charitable Funds for their recent award of a three-year, \$150,000 grant to support the work of City Neighbors Foundation. We are grateful for their support, confidence, and investment in our work of operating three strong schools and working to support public education throughout our city and beyond.

### ***Thank You to the Robert W. Deutsch Foundation***

Thank you to the Robert W. Deutsch Foundation for their grant of \$80,000 to support City Neighbors Foundation, with targeted investment in our City Neighbors Fabrication Lab, our annual Progressive Education Summit, our City Neighbors Teaching Fellows Program, and our other initiatives to create professional learning communities of teachers.

### ***Thank You to the Goldsmith Family Foundation***

Thank you to the Goldsmith Family Foundation for their grant of \$10,000 to support the work of our City Neighbors schools. Their ongoing support of our commitment to the profession of teaching and to our innovative approach to teaching and learning is invaluable.

### ***The City Neighbors Fellows and Post-Fellowship Program***

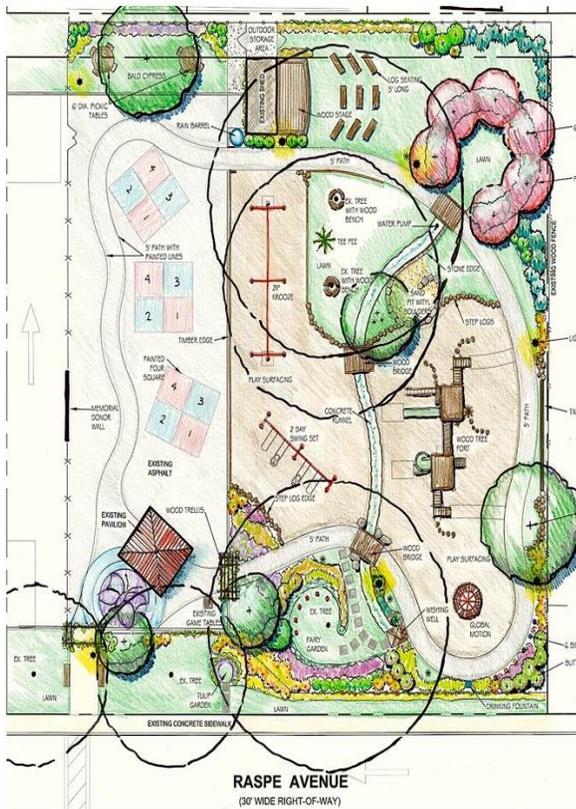
The City Neighbors Foundation Teaching Fellows Program is designed for those aspiring to teach in a student-centered and progressive teaching environment. In this two-year fellowship, aspiring educators work in our City Neighbors classrooms, receive targeted mentoring and professional development, and have structured opportunities to develop and refine teaching practice in alignment with a progressive, City Neighbors approach to teaching and learning.

This June, our first two-year cohort will complete their Fellowship! Congratulations to Tanisha Carpenter, LaShawn Gardner, Adilah Haris, Sharon Jackson, Ashley Novak, Idris Olabode, and Shardonnay Wright.

We are also excited to announce that Teaching Fellow graduate, LaShawn Gardner, will serve as first grade teacher at City Neighbors Hamilton next year.

And, ever trailblazing, Ashley Novak, Sharon Jackson, and Idris Olabode have been named City Neighbors Post-Fellows, deepening their work of this year, increasing their instructional role, leading a self-designed special school-wide project, and taking on mentorship of new Teaching Fellows.

## ***The Malone Memorial Playground: Coming Summer 2018***



As we approach the one-year anniversary of the devastating fire that led to the loss of six of the Malone family's nine children—two of whom were students at City Neighbors Charter School—we are closer to our goal of creating a memorial play space in honor of the Malone children: Bridgette, Amelia, Zoe, Amanda, Billy, and Daniel.

JP Morgan Chase generously donated the land next to the current play space at City Neighbors Charter School on Raspe Avenue, which will allow us to create a beautiful space that symbolizes hope, love, and community.

Over the past semester we brought together students, teachers, and families to design a playground that honors the lives of the Malone children. After a year of planning, collaboration, community input, and community investment, we are on the verge of breaking ground.

Thank you to the many individuals, foundations, and businesses who have contributed! Recently Flanigan Construction agreed to donate \$63,000 worth of in-kind services to make sure we can build the playground this summer.

We are still seeking donations to meet our playground building costs. Please consider making a donation—no matter the amount. Every dollar counts! [Malone Children Memorial Playground](https://www.cityneighborsfoundation.org)

To the hundreds of people who have made donations, thank you! We know with your help and belief in this project, we will see children playing and dreaming together in the circle of six cherry trees this fall.

### ***Check Us Out!***

Check out City Neighbors Foundation at [www.cityneighborsfoundation.org](http://www.cityneighborsfoundation.org), join our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/cityneighborsfoundation>, or follow us on Twitter @CityNeighbors.