

## WTEF Celebrates Another Successful Year at 2009 Tennis Ball Honoring Sheila Johnson and Andrea Jaeger

### Dinner Recognizes Student Achievements

On May 8<sup>th</sup> over 600 attendees joined WTEF for the evening to support both WTEF programs and honorees Sheila Johnson and Andrea Jaeger. With the help of Co-Chairs, Hillary Baltimore and Alan Raul, the Tennis Ball was an incredible success, raising over \$775,000 for WTEF programs, the second largest event in WTEF history. The evening consisted of a new mini-live auction component as well as the live and silent auctions, dinner, and program.

WTEF chose to honor two strong and powerful women who have used their success to help those in need. The William H.G. Fitzgerald Distinguished Service Award was presented to Ms. Johnson. Upon accepting, she spoke of her dedication to children lacking health and educational nourishment. The WTEF Champion of Tennis Award was presented to Ms. Jaeger for her achievements both on and off the court. She co-created the Little Star Foundation which works to improve the quality of life for children with cancer and children in need worldwide.

In a memorable and heartfelt speech WTEF senior Bianka Locklear moved the crowd while detailing her experiences with WTEF since she began in the Arthur Ashe Children's Program at the age of nine. Eleven of her peers from WTEF's Center for Excellence honor roll as well as the Ladies of Promise teen girls' group joined Ms. Locklear on stage as student honorees.

The next morning, Tennis Ball sponsors had the opportunity to participate in the Chevy Chase VIP Round Robin tennis tournament with Andrea Jaeger and Grand Slam doubles champion and tennis personality, Murphy Jensen. WTEF welcomed local celebrities and media as team captains, and the teams had the opportunity to play with Jaeger and Jensen.



Tennis Ball Co-Chair Hillary Baltimore with Tennis Ball honoree Sheila Johnson



WTEF President Peter Davidson with Tennis Ball honoree Andrea Jaeger



Team captain Congressman Dicks and his team with Andrea Jaeger and Murphy Jensen



Washington Tennis & Education Foundation  
The William H.G. Fitzgerald Tennis Center  
16th & Kennedy Streets, NW  
Washington, DC 20011  
202.291.9888  
wtef.org

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## WTEF Sponsor Profile: The J. Willard and Alice S. Marriott Foundation

The Washington Tennis & Education Foundation is a proud partner of The J. Willard and Alice S. Marriott Foundation. The J. Willard and Alice S. Marriott Foundation was established in 1965 with the purpose of giving back to the community. Under the current direction of J.W. Marriott, Jr. and Richard E. Marriott, the Marriott Foundation is dedicated to helping youth secure a promising future, especially through education on the secondary and higher education levels, mentoring and youth leadership programs. Equally important are organizations that help provide relief from hunger and disasters; support people with disabilities; and create gainful employment opportunities for vulnerable youth and adults.

Based in Washington, DC, the Marriott Foundation is proud to support programs like WTEF: "The J. Willard and Alice S. Marriott Foundation is committed to providing today's youth with better opportunities.

THE J. WILLARD AND ALICE S.  
MARRIOTT FOUNDATION

With WTEF's excellent management skills, successful programs, and impressive vision for the future - including a new facility in Ward 7 - we could not ask for a better partnership," said Anne Gunsteens, Executive Director of The J. Willard and Alice S. Marriott Foundation.

Since 2006, The J. Willard and Alice S. Marriott Foundation has been a generous supporter of WTEF's Arthur Ashe Children's Program (AACP). The AACP is one of WTEF's three after school programs and for the past 16 years has been engaging children in DC's public schools with academic, tennis and life skills programming during the dangerous after school hours. The program operates four days a week during the academic year. Each day begins with a healthy snack and 45 minutes of homework help and is followed by life skills and academic mentoring two days a week and tennis instruction two days a week.



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## WTEF to Build New Tennis, Education, and Community Center

### DC City Council Provides Unanimous Support for WTEF's New Facility



AACP school location map displays the long distance between WTEF's current facility at 16th Street and where the children we serve live.

With the support of Mayor Adrian Fenty, WTEF was thrilled to receive unanimous support from the DC City Council in November 2008 for its plans to build a new tennis, education, and community center in Washington, DC's Ward 7. The center will be complete with six indoor and nine outdoor courts including regulation and QuickStart courts and an academic building. The interior space will consist of classrooms, a computer lab, a community room, locker rooms and weight room, as well as offices and staff space.

The new facility will enable WTEF to expand its capacity to serve more disadvantaged youth and serve them in an expanded support model, by extending the number of hours of programming each day and providing programs all weekend and all summer long. Currently, students in WTEF's intensive year-round academic

and athletic program, the Center for Excellence (CFE), must commute two to three hours each day to WTEF's tennis and education center in Northwest, DC, but the new tennis, education, and community center will be located in an area that is home to the majority of kids we currently serve. In addition, to meet the needs of the surrounding community, WTEF plans to partner with other community organizations to provide programs outside of tennis and education that the community needs, such as early childhood training and pregnancy prevention.

With the ability to extend our programming hours throughout the day, weekends and summer, WTEF's facility will be a safe haven for at-risk children and families in a severely underserved neighborhood.

## Legg Mason & WTEF Celebrate Graduation of Center for Excellence Senior Scholars

### WTEF Graduate Bianka Locklear Ranked 5th in High School Class

WTEF staff, Legg Mason representatives, distinguished guests, and proud parents gathered for the 12<sup>th</sup> consecutive year to celebrate the achievements of this year's Legg Mason/WTEF Center for Excellence (CFE) Senior Scholars and Honor Roll students. Meeting June 8<sup>th</sup> at the Dirksen Senate Office Building, Willis Thomas opened the event with a warm welcome to the WTEF family assembled.

Saida Bennou (Class of 2010) acted as the student host of the event and Tamika Mitchell (Class of 2008), now a student at the University of Arizona, remarked on the role WTEF has played in her life from her new perspective as a college student. The audience was captivated with the musical presentation by Jessica Stamp (Class of 2010), who performed the song "Wind Beneath My Wings." Zina Garrison, a longtime WTEF supporter, gave the keynote speech and reminded the graduates that the knowledge and skills they have acquired at WTEF will stay with them forever.

Michael Ray, a native Washingtonian who now serves as Director of Trading for Legg Mason, imparted motivational words to the graduates, reminding them that they can achieve anything if they set their mind to it and work hard. WTEF alum and special guest The Honorable Henry H. Kennedy, Jr., a former participant of WTEF, interacted with the graduates as he answered questions ranging from his childhood mentors to his career as a federal judge.

#### College Acceptances for Graduating Seniors

- Bianka Locklear (Winston-Salem State University)
- Lawrence Manley (University of Delaware)
- Brandon Thomas (South Carolina State)
- Charrisha Watkins (Gettysburg College)
- Kesia Webster (Boston University)

In addition to honoring the graduating seniors and honor roll students, WTEF presents the Dwight Mosley Award each year to recognize a senior for exceptional scholastic achievements and involvement in the community. This year, Bianka Locklear was presented with a laptop computer donated by CFE volunteer and friend of Dwight Mosley, Anthony Brown. Locklear was ranked 5<sup>th</sup> in her high school class as well as ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in her business and finance program. She has been accepted on a tennis scholarship to attend Winston-Salem State University in North Carolina.



WTEF/Legg Mason Senior Scholars celebrated their graduation with Legg Mason Director of Trading and Guest Speaker, Michael Ray, Tennis Champion and Keynote Speaker, Zina Garrison, and Legg Mason Corporate Citizenship Senior Associate, Kelly Spilman.



Bianka Locklear smiles with grandmother and mother as she is announced the 2009 Dwight Mosley Award recipient.

## Tyler Elementary Captures AACP Academic Competition Title

### Beats Payne Elementary School for the First Time in Two Years

It was another exciting year of the interactive Academic Competition for DC Elementary students competing in the Arthur Ashe Children's Program (AACP). Tyler Elementary defeated last year's winner, Payne Elementary to win the Academic Competition. Payne Elementary won the previous two Academic Competitions and was the early favorite for the 2008-2009 school year. Tyler Elementary students were up to the challenge, however, and were led to victory by AACP teacher Ms. Truss who encouraged active participation among her students. Ms. Truss described the experience of upsetting Payne Elementary as putting "icing on the cake" of an already great season of competition.

With the help of DC Public School teachers, elementary students had the opportunity to participate in the annual round robin style Academic Competition. The competition format is beneficial because it allows students several opportunities to participate and contribute to a team. The four schools that accumulated the most points were able to move onto the semi-final and final competition. Students travel to schools outside their immediate neighborhoods to



Tyler Elementary School, the AACP Academic Competition winner and Life Skills Competition co-winner, poses with their trophy and medals

compete against other schools, which breaks down barriers between neighborhoods.

The students in the competition had to answer questions related to math, reading, vocabulary, and grammar moderated by Ms. Byrd, an academic advisor for the AACP program. Students kept their composure and showed confidence when answering questions among their peers and competitors.

At the conclusion of the Academic Competition season, students prepared for and competed in the Life Skills competition. The theme this year was "Health and Nutrition." Participating students worked in teams to discuss and develop their own skit on the topic. Students created a skit around the theme, wrote scripts and songs as well as made props and designed sets. Each team member is also required to have a speaking part to ensure everyone participates. In the end, Payne Elementary and River Terrace Elementary tied and were awarded the title of Co-Champions. Runner up was Randle Highlands Elementary. Congratulations to all participating students!



AACP student figures out math problem at AACP Academic Competition