



Mt. Hope Learning Center

140 Cypress Street
Providence, RI 02906

Phone: (401) 455-8875
Fax: (401) 455-9875

Winter 2011— Issue 1

An Unparalleled Opportunity from New England Patriot Matt Light

We are pleased to announce an incredible opportunity for 8th grade boys thanks to the Matt Light Foundation. Matt Light is the starting left tackle for the New England Patriots, the man who protects Tom Brady's blindside, and he and his foundation have partnered with the Learning Center to provide an amazing opportunity for a few young men in the



Mount Hope neighborhood. The Matt Light Foundation works directly with 16 students from four different states over a four year period, and during this time the students take part in a 10-day leadership camp every summer in Ohio. This year four new students from RI will start the program. If you or someone you know is an eighth grade boy in good academic standing, please consider applying for this potentially life-changing program. The Learning Center will be providing the foundation with three candidates for the program. Interested candidates should submit a one-page essay titled, "The Leader In Me" that explains why he should be considered for this incredible opportunity. For more detailed information about Matt Light's Foundation and program, please visit: www.matlightfoundation.org



In This Issue

- ◆ Matt Light Foundation
- ◆ Young Women's Group
- ◆ The "Dream Steppers"
- ◆ Institute for Non-Violence
- ◆ Student Spotlight
- ◆ Volunteer Spotlight
- ◆ Behind the Desk

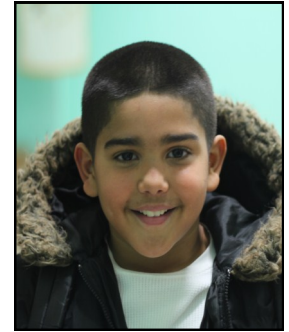
Mt. Hope Learning Center Classes

21st Century After School Program	Monday-Friday; 3:00-5:30; King Elementary School
Young Women's Group	Friday Evenings
STEP Team	Monday-Friday; 3:00-4:30
Hip-Hop 101 Class	Tuesday & Thursday; 3:00-4:30

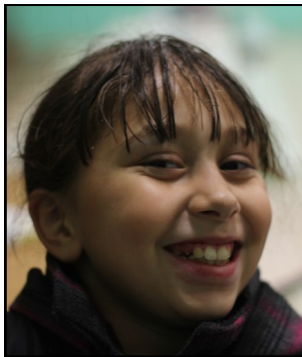
Students of the Quarter

This quarter's student spotlight will highlight two fourth grade students from King Elementary and the 21st Century After School Program, Isaac Laughlin and Taleeyah Silva.

Isaac Laughlin regularly models the three rules of the After School Program; follow the instructors' directions, ask for help, and use kind words and actions. Isaac has demonstrated great teamwork and sportsmanship during basketball club. His attitude has had a positive impact on his third and fourth grade peers.



Isaac Laughlin



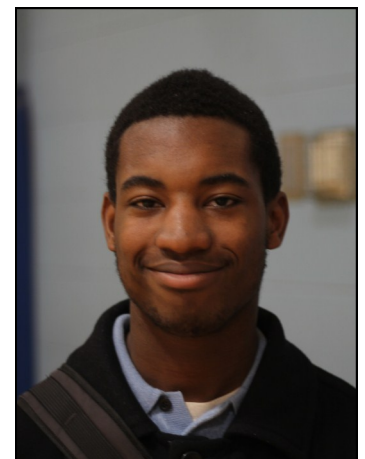
Taleeyah Silva

Taleeyah Silva is never without a smile, and is always looking for ways to help instructors and peers during the After School Program. Taleeyah fully engages in daily enrichments, and respects her classmates and all of the adults in program. She also makes it a point to ask her fourth grade after school teacher for ways to improve the culture of the class by contributing to cleaning up, collecting pencils and reminding her classmates to listen and follow directions.

Congratulations to Isaac and Taleeyah for being named the Mt. Hope Learning Center's Students of the Winter Quarter .

Spotlight on Volunteerism

Antonio Smith, a sophomore at Brown University studying Education, has been consistently volunteering two days per week with first graders in our 21st Century After School Program. Antonio has been tutoring a student one-on-one for the past several weeks with great success. He took the initiative to work closely with the student's mom and after school instructor to be sure the student received the same directions and positive reinforcement. He has also consistently been committed to positively engaging the students in the After School Program by assisting during snack time, homework, and enrichment. Before serving in the After School Program, Antonio volunteered at the Learning Center this past summer greeting visitors, answering phone calls, and assisting patrons from the Mount Hope community. We would like to thank Antonio for volunteering his time to help students at King Elementary and the Learning Center.



Antonio Smith

The "Dream Steppers" are Making Some Noise

Former AmeriCorps member and Mount Hope community resident, Ayanna Johnson, has started a STEP program for middle school students at the Learning Center after school. The program targets 6th graders who have aged out of our 21st Century After School Program at King Elementary and are now looking for a new afternoon activity. The program operates 5 days a week. During those five days, two of them the girls will choreograph and practice



The "Dream Steppers" take a break to pose for a picture

their step routines, and on two other days the girls are utilizing our computer lab, creating a blog about the Dream Steppers, designing a logo for t-shirts, and learning various computer programs. One day per week the girls focus on a service project that benefits the Learning Center; they are currently re-organizing our library. So far, we have eight students participating, most of whom live in Mount Hope and can walk here after school from Nathan Bishop Middle School and then walk home with Ayanna after the program.

Please Support the Mt. Hope Learning Center!

The Learning Center is dedicated to meeting the needs of families in the Mount Hope neighborhood and throughout Providence, by providing academic enrichment, promoting personal health and well-being, increasing participation in the arts, and providing adult literacy, learning and job readiness. Please help us by making a financial contribution, which will be used to maintain and expand our programs. Donations can be made via PayPal on our website mthopelearningcenter.org or by mailing a check to us at 140 Cypress Street, Providence, RI 02906. All donations are 100% tax deductible. We sincerely appreciate your support.



A New Partnership Thanks to an Old Friend

The Learning Center has created a new partnership with the Institute for the Study and Practice of Nonviolence thanks to former Mount Hope AmeriCorps member Charles Welch. Charles is now serving as an AmeriCorps member for the Institute, and he and his partner, Kevin, are serving the Mount Hope community. Recently they started a Hip-Hop 101 class on Tuesdays and Thursday for middle and high school students. In January they will be providing nonviolence training at the Learning Center. If this is something you or someone you know may be interested in, please give us a call.



THE INSTITUTE FOR
THE STUDY & PRACTICE
OF NONVIOLENCE