



HERE AND THERE
 Congratulations to the writers and contributors of the Quest Newsletter, an informational portal to everyday happenings of the Quest organization celebrating 16 years of publications.

Music day camp coming February 21, 22, 23, 2017 from 9am to 6pm. Students will be preparing for the coming competition and performance season, and completing project based learning original student compositions. It is a joy watching these young people create, team build and learn from one another.



Quest Newsletter



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25th Anniversary of Program Operations! "Project Based Learning"

October 3, 2016 marked our twenty-fifth anniversary of continuous operations of tuition free direct program services through the musical arts.

Re-structuring the program curriculum yields great promise for current students of Quest! Yes, we have improved student outcomes using "Project Based Learning" activities. It is more than just a teaching method. It is a revitalization of education for students so that they can develop intellectually and emotionally. By using real-world scenarios, challenges, and problems, students gain useful knowledge and skills that increase during their designated project periods. The goals of using complex questions or problems are to develop and enhance student learning by encouraging critical thinking, problem solving, teamwork and self-management. The project's proposed question drives students to make their own decisions, perform their own research, and review their own and fellow students' processes and/or projects.

Program Director: Rachiim Sahu

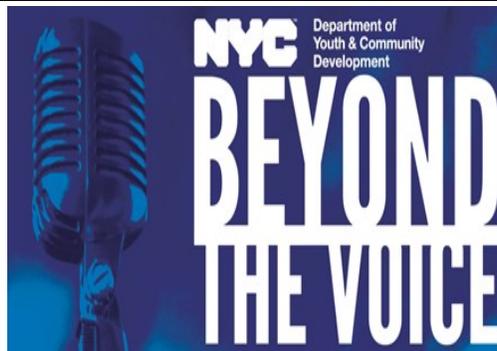
Youth Jazz Jamboree Competition

Quest is partnering with Central Brooklyn Jazz Consortium (CBJC) to facilitate the Youth Jazz Jamboree Competition on April 29, 2017 at Restoration Plaza, under the tent. Last year was our inaugural competition which was attended by over five-hundred community audience members and performers.

This year we hope to double attendance and increase the number of youth jazz ensembles.

Flyer on Website!

SYEP For the second year, Quest will be operating our SYEP teaching training music program for youth. Look out for the city application coming out in March 2017. Sign up with one of the following service providers; Ages 14 to 24 Catholic Charities Ages 16 to 24, Medgar Evers Research Foundation & Restoration Corporation!



Q City Soundz entered the Beyond The Voice talent competition, auditioned and was selected to advance to the top ten of the competition. Quest will be performing at the concert finale on April 22, 2017. Students started working on their original songs about growing up in NYC which they'll be performing at the final concert. We are looking for the next great New York City anthem that amplifies youth voices across the city!

Quests' "Annual Holiday Party" A New Direction

Quest held its 10th Annual Holiday Toy Giveaway Party on December 17, 2016. It was determined that this party would be the last in its present format. The 11th Annual Holiday Toy Giveaway Party will be renamed "The Joy of Giving"! Quest students will be taught through round table discussions that the little things they do can make a world of difference for others which positively affects the lives

of the recipients of the toys. Students will personally be involved in the collection and distribution of toys to young children by traveling to shelters and hospitals to distribute toys. We trust and believe that knowledge gained will be with our youth throughout their life time and help to make this world a better place. A Big "Thank You" to the Marines "Toys For Tots" program for the many years of support of our annual toy drive.

This year we partnered with Ms. Tashima Flowers, Executive Director, "My Sisters Keeper" again to distribute a great deal of toys to children in shelters. Toys were also delivered to children in the Good Will Baptist Church, Brooklyn, NY. It is important that young people are exposed to volunteering and philanthropy in a meaningful way at a young age. It demonstrates the lasting, positive impact of community involvement.



PROGRAM SITE
 SCO Family Dynamics Beacon @ M.S. 35
 272 Macdonough Street, Room 101
 Brooklyn, NY 11233
 Between Marcus Garvey & Lewis Ave.

YOUTH JAZZ JAMBOREE COMPETITION!
 APRIL 29, 2017
 SYEP
 TEACHING TRAINING PROGRAM FOR YOUTH!

A Brother and Sister Story of Resilience



It is important to tell the story of what an effective direct service community organization can do for the youth of the world and the difference it can make in their lives'. In 2009 two young people came through our doors with their parent to sign up. They are sister and brother, and have been with the program since that day! We are now going on approximately seven years. Their story is unique in that during one of the many round table discussions in 2011, where we learn about each others issues, problems, successes or plans, our round table discussion facilitator managed to get these two siblings to speak about who they are, where they came from and their journey moving forward. The following is Nicolson and Christina's story, told by them.



"After the 2010 earthquake ravaged the capital city of Haiti, the country in which we lived with my family seven years ago, I had to leave the only home I've ever known and move here to the United States. After bouncing from one family member's home to another, we finally settled in Brooklyn, NY. Following the first month of school, my aunt suggested for my sister and I to join the Quest program, so in her own words she said, we "can have a life." Being the shy kid that I am and the oldest, I quickly turned down her proposition and became very angry with her when she signed us up anyway. We weren't sure what instrument we wanted to play, so we were assigned instruments. My sister was given a clarinet and I was given drum sticks to play the drums. During the first year, we kept to ourselves, was very quiet. I kept a straight face at all times to hide the fact that I was really enjoying it and my aunt was right to sign us up.

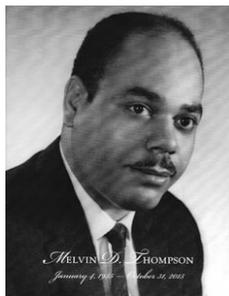
Quest is a great program for young kids, teenagers and young adults to learn and develop the musical instruments of their choice. The instructors give us the tools we need, based on our level of knowledge, and help us build more knowledge and discipline to play our instruments and/or sing. Besides instruments, we learn about the history of music, the different types and where it came from. The program consists of Guitarists, Violinists, Pianists, Drummers, Horn Players, and Vocalists. I am now a vocalist. The more advanced students are part of the Q City Sounds Band. We go out to different venues and play. Aside from music, Quest also provides academic help for students and require to see each students' report card every semester. If a student's average is below a "B" or 80%, the students will be put into another room and given help with whatever he or she needs. This program provides a safe environment for us to learn more about music and make great friends in the process. Today, I am writing and arranging a song of my own, with the help of my band mates and instructors. This is one of the many opportunities Quest has given to its members. I am excited to have this chance and to be in the program, although at first, my attitude towards being in the program wasn't like it is today. *Thank you Auntie!*



Christina (Clarinet) and Nicolson (Singer)

Melvin D. Thompson Master Musician Training Scholarship

The Melvin D. Thompson Master Musician Training Scholarship program under Quest Youth Organization has proven its self to be extremely helpful to me by providing a variety of studies that are tailored to my needs as a musician. This program has provided me with music appreciation, music history, vocal training and more. I started out heavily on music history, specifically with African American music history. It is important that I know where I came from to know where I'm going. Understanding the history will help me with my emotional expressions of music and song writing. I've had to read and take notes from the book, "The Music of Black Americans" by Eileen Southern. Besides the historical studies, we have worked on vocal training. First Mr. Rachiim Sahu assessed my voice, then he gave me exercises to help strengthen my voice. He has worked on my breathing and properly developing my voice to find my sound. With my vocal training, we have also worked on articulation, cadence, dynamics. We haven't started working on particular genres but we will. I am very grateful that I was chosen for this program and it is helping me in so many different ways, especially college preparation and auditions.



Jasmine (Vocalist / Guitarist)



Quest Youth Organization, Inc.,

Enriching The Lives' of Youth through the Musical Arts"



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