



Phyllis Wheatley Times

Winter 2011
202-667-9100

Published by the Board of Directors, Phyllis Wheatley YWCA, Inc.
901 Rhode Island Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20001

1905-2011 – 106th Anniversary

“Working and Serving Together for a Better Community”



From the President

Dear Friends,
This year 2011, we are celebrating 106 years of existence

and service in the Washington community...

Our theme is: “Working and Serving Together for a Better Community”

Last year at our Annual Meeting we inducted three outstanding Board members. They were: Ms. Monica B. Perry, Ms.J.Shannon Powell and Mrs Shirley D. Richardson.

We continue to provide affordable housing for women in transition, we sponsor an after school reading Enrichment program with students of Seaton Elementary School, Artsy Ladies Craft Club and Booklovers Club. We also sponsor our Annual Soiree, Jazz Brunch, and an annual Prayer Breakfast.

Many thanks to our Board of Directors for their continuous hard work and dedication to the mission of the PWYWCA.

In order to continue to work and serve this diverse community we will need resources If you would like to assist us to carry out our theme: please send your donations; to Phyllis Wheatley YWCA, Inc. 901 Rhode Island Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20001-4192: Attn: Ernestine D. Lyon, President.

Don't forget to pay your membership dues and support all the programs. May God continue to bless you!

Ernestine D. Lyon, President.



Afternoon of Smooth Jazz

The Board of Directors presents an “After-noon of Smooth Jazz,”



Sunday, March 27, 2011, 3 p.m., at the Washington Navy Yard Catering and Conference Center, 8th and M Street, SE, Washington, DC - Tickets \$55. Call Theresa Leeke, 301-350-0925, for advertising/corporate sponsorship or any Board member for tickets. A valid, picture ID is required to enter the WNY.

Friends of Phyllis Wheatley YWCA

Do you want to become more involved in Y activities (e.g., fundraisers, committees, and outreach) but not overly committed? Then, this may be the group for you. If you are interested in becoming a part of the charter group, please contact Ernestine Lyon, deloroso9@comcast.net.

Phyllis Wheatley Annual Meeting

Save the date: Saturday, May 7, 2011, at 12 noon. You are cordially invited to our Annual Meeting of the membership. We will celebrate our 106th birthday. Your ideas and participation are needed. Contact Ernestine Lyon, deloroso9@comcast.net or Brenda Fortenberry, bdfortenberry@verizon.net Monica B. Perry, monicaperry@yahoo.com.

Phyllis Wheatley YWCA, Inc.

Board of Directors

2010-2013

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Mid-Summer Soiree

SAVE THE DATE: We hope everyone will join us for the Mid-Summer Soiree is Sunday, July 17, 2011, at the 19th Street Baptist Church, 4606 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC, 5-7 pm. Last year's soiree featured five lovely and talented young ladies who shared their vocal and oratorical talents. Information should be posted on the website: www.pwywca.org soon.



New organizations are welcome to join us at the 69th Annual Mid-Summer Soiree by soliciting donations. This event is free.

Meeting Space Available

Rose Room—Seats 25-50

Multipurpose Room—Seats 100-250

To rent facilities, please contact the
On Site Manager: 202-667-9100

Phyllis Wheatley YWCA is the only YWCA in the area providing affordable residences to women. Single rooms and efficiencies are available for rent. Call the on-site manager.

Annual Membership Campaign

The Phyllis Wheatley YWCA, Inc., is a membership organization. Memberships help defray the operating expenses of the association. Categories include:

- Organization Life (500+ members) - \$500.00
- Organization Life (<500 members) - \$300.00
- Individual Life - \$150.00
- Sustaining - \$35.00
- Annual - \$20.00
- Teen Annual (ages 12-17) - \$10.00
- Child Annual (ages 6-11) - \$7.00

Members receive a periodic newsletter of events and invitations to special programs. Call 202-667-9100 and leave a message for Monica B. Perry, Membership Chair.

Donations & memberships online: www.pwywca.org

The mission of the Phyllis Wheatley YWCA is *"to provide housing and programs to women regardless of race, creed or color. We serve women in transition to prevent homelessness. We also provide outreach services to children and the community. Phyllis Wheatley YWCA operates as an independent living facility."*

Phyllis Wheatley YWCA, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) organization.

Combined Federal Campaign CFC #31203

www.pwywca.org



Programs at Phyllis Wheatley YWCA

The Program Committee opened the 2010 year by supporting the Phyllis Wheatley YWCA's 105th Anniversary Launch with a historical exhibit on January 30. Pictures and memorabilia dating back to the early 1900's were included. The Y's anniversary theme – "Sustaining a Legacy – Changes for a Brighter Tomorrow" – permeated the Committee's work for 2010. Throughout the year, the Committee continued its commitment to its on-going programs – the Booklovers Club; the Artsy Ladies Craft Club; the Helping Hands Program, in partnership with World Vision D.C.; the Seaton Young Readers Enrichment Program; The Shaw Enrichment Program, focusing on study and social skills; the Tobacco Free Families Program; and the Staying Alive Series with monthly health displays, seminars, etc.

In February, also Black History Month, the Committee expanded the anniversary exhibit for the students, the residents and invited guests with short lectures and dramatizations. Students again participated in the Black History Month Quiz Bowl, challenging their classmates with their knowledge of African American heritage. The winning team was served their prized pizza by the other teams.

On Wednesday, March 24, during Women's History Month, the Booklovers Club read and discussed eight motivational stories and essays focusing on ones written by women. Students also focused on readings by women. The Committee also assisted with the annual "Afternoon of Smooth Jazz" on Sunday, March 21 by providing several door prizes.

During April, the committee designed its programs to coincide with the Staying Alive Series for the month – Minority Health Month. Both the Shaw students and Y residents participated on panels entitled "Being Smoke Free." The Smoke

Cessation sessions were also continued for the Y residents.

On Saturday, May 1, the Committee participated in the Annual Meeting followed by the 105th Birthday Celebration, highlighted by special guests and a beautifully decorated cake enjoyed by all. On May 18th, the Committee hosted the end-of-school celebration for the Seaton and Shaw students with a career talk with summer handouts and a presentation of certificates for participation and awards for contest winners. Also, since May is Mental Health Month, both the Artsy Ladies and the Booklovers were given *A Different Kind of Laughter*, a book dedicated to the ever-laughing believers who find joy and peace in the deep end of life.

During June, the Booklovers took the lead as the entire Y population was encouraged to participate in the citywide program, The Big Read, an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts "designed to revitalize the role of literary reading in American popular culture." (NEA Big Read p.3). Prior to reading the selected book, Ernest Gaines's *A Lesson Before Dying*, the Y residents received a reader's guide, viewed the movie at a local theater, and engaged in a lively discussion with librarians from the Waltha Daniels Library.

In July, both Committee members continued their service legacy by serving as Mistress of Ceremonies and key judge at the 68th Annual Mid-Summer Soiree, a fundraiser with great entertainment, tasty treats and the crowning of a princess.

During the month of August, the Committee recessed to plan for the upcoming year.

In addition to celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month in September, the ladies at the Y helped launch the Y's yearlong "Staying Alive" series with a Health and Fitness Day at the Y. They walked or jogged around the Shaw neighborhood as a "start-up" to the monthly sessions focusing on physical, mental and spiritual wellness. Board members, staff and friends were also invited to exercise on that fitness day.

On October 16, the well attended Prayer Breakfast served not only as a continuing celebration of 105 years of service to the community but also as the annual kick-off for the Committee's 2010-2011 Program Year. Invited guests included Mr. Richard Corley representing his mother Ms. Angie Corley, Past President, PWYWCA, educator and community activist; Ms. Diane Robinson, educator honored internationally for vision and action, Rev. Tyrone Queen, Pastor of Mt. Sinai Baptist Church; Rev. Brenda Girton-Mitchell, attorney and founder of Race and Grace Ministries; and Mrs. Florence Radcliffe, educator and Past President, PWYWCA. Performers included

musician Mr. Omar Knight and poet, Y resident Ms. Mary Jane Owens. However, in addition to the delightful meal, the individual prayers for world peace, America, communities, families, and the PWYWCA were most memorable.

On November 10 at 6 PM two interns and one health care director from Georgetown Hospital's Aspire Project presented a stroke education class.

Y residents learned that strokes are the leading cause of disability and can be treated. They left the session with free giveaways and important information on how to reduce the risk of strokes. Also, on November 17 at 4PM, the Artsy Ladies met with Mrs. Brenda Bland, a professional jewelry designer who taught them how to make beaded necklaces, bracelets and earrings. The ladies were given all materials needed and left wearing colorful handmade sets. On that same day at 6PM, they joined the Booklovers whose special guest was author Ananda Leeke, daughter of Board member Theresa Leeke. The ladies seemed almost mesmerized by the young dynamic author who shared personal insights into her novel, *Love's Troubadours*. The resultant exchange around people learning and living as they love has warranted a return in 2011. The Program Committee closed the month by helping to host the Thanksgiving luncheon with turkey, ham and all the trimmings prepared by the Board for the Y residents.

On December 15, the holiday celebration was held for the students, the Artsy Ladies and the Booklovers. The students read and listened to stories, sang carols, met Santa, received gifts donated by our Helping Hands Partner, World Vision, D.C and enjoyed several treats. Later, the Y resident program participants did much of the same with an overview of Dr. Dorothy Height's last work, *Living With Purpose*. Several copies were gifted to the ladies to share for holiday reading. However, all Y residents were treated to a Christmas luncheon on Saturday December 18, again with all the trimmings. The final sharing activity was held on

December 20 – the closing Helping Hand Project for the year. The ladies received high quality personal care items and clothing from the project, and holiday gift bags. The Program Committee was blessed to have received donations from organizations and individuals which helped to make its December Holiday activities successful.

The Program Committee had a busy and exciting year as it helped the Y celebrate 105 years of service to the community. The Committee received positive and encouraging feedback from students, parents, school administrators, Y residents, Board members, invited guests and Y members. With input from the participants, the Committee will continue to enhance its programs and grow new ones as needed to support the mission of the Y. For the year 2011 – the Y's 106th year- the theme is a natural outgrowth of the last:

Working and Serving Together for a Better

Community. To that end, with greater input from the students, their parents and teachers; and residents of the Y, the Committee hopes to stage in 2011 using *Living With Purpose* as a guide the following:

1. A Vintage Black Movies Marathon Weekend with pre and post discussions.
2. A Zumba Exercise Day
3. A Tea at the Y
4. A Service to the Community Day
5. A Swing Dance Holiday Social
6. Bible Study Series

Submitted by the Program Committee:

Brenda Fortenberry, Chair

Dr. Judith Webb, Co-Chair



**PHYLLIS Wheatley YWCA
Program Committee Calendar
2010-2011**

Theme: Working and Serving Together for a Better Community

DATE ACTIVITY TIME

**SEPTEMBER 2010
HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH
The Launch of our Year Long Health Series**

9-29-10 PWYWCA encourages women who reside at the Y to be pro-active with regard to their health. They are encouraged to begin a personal walking program for exercise. Today, they will begin exploring the historic Shaw neighborhood with friends as they improve their physical, mental and spiritual well-being.

Helping Hands Project: dates to be announced

**OCTOBER
NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH**

10-6-10	Seaton School	4:00 PM
10-13-10	Shaw School	4:00 PM
10-16-10	Prayer Breakfast	9:00AM
10-20-10	Seaton School	4:00 PM
10-27-10	Seaton School	4:00 PM
	Artsy Ladies	4:00 PM
	Booklovers Club	6:00 PM

**NOVEMBER
AMERICAN DIABETES MONTH**

11-3-10	Seaton School	4:00 PM
11-10-10	Seaton School	4:00 PM
	Health Series: Preventing Strokes	6:00 PM
11-17-10	Seaton School	4:00 PM
	Artsy Ladies	4:00 PM
	Booklovers Club	6:00 PM

**DECEMBER
NATIONAL HANDWASHING AWARENESS WEEK**

12-1-10	Seaton School	4:00 PM
12-8-10	Seaton School	4:00 PM
12-15-10	Holiday Celebration	
	Seaton and Shaw	4:00 PM
	Artsy Ladies and Booklovers Club	6:00 PM

**JANUARY 2011
CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING MONTH**

1-12-11	Seaton School	4:00 PM
1-19-11	Seaton School	4:00 PM
1-26-11	Shaw School	4:00 PM
1-26-11	Seaton School	4:00 PM
	Artsy Ladies	4:00 PM
	Booklovers Club	6:00 PM



Women's History Month

1916 - Margaret Sanger opens the first birth control clinic
 1903 - Marie Curie is awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics for the discovery of radioactivity
 1854-1860 - Susan B. Anthony crusades for women's rights in the United States and internationally
 1920 - With the passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, U.S. women get to vote
 1542 - Mary, Queen of Scots is the first known female golfer
 1849 - Elizabeth Blackwell becomes the first American woman to receive a medical degree
 1908 - National Organization for Women (NOW) is founded
 1964 - Women compete for the first time in Olympic field events
 1968 - Satish Organization for Women (SOW) is founded
 1964 - Golda Meir becomes prime minister of Israel
 2570 B.C. - Queen Nefertari rules Egypt, calling herself "God's wife."



**FEBRUARY
BLACK HISTORY MONTH
AMERICAN HEART MONTH**

Month long Special Showcase Exhibit Black Cinema at the Y
(Classic Black movies with pre and post discussions)

2-02-11	Seaton School	4:00 PM
2-09-11	Seaton School	4:00 PM
2-16-11	Shaw School/Seaton School BHM Quiz	4:00 PM
2-23-11	Black History Month Program	4:00 PM
	Artsy Ladies	4:00 PM
	Booklovers Club	6:00 PM
2-27-11	Black History Program	3:00 PM

**MARCH
WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH**

3-02-11	Seaton School	4:00 PM
3-09-11	Seaton School	4:00 PM
3-15-11	Smoke Cessation Activity	
3-16-11	Shaw School	4:00 PM
3-22-11	Smoke Cessation Activity	
3-23-11	Artsy Ladies	4:00 PM
	Booklovers Club	6:00 PM
3-29-11	Smoke Cessation Activity	

**APRIL
MINORITY HEALTH MONTH
FOOT HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH**

4-05-11	Smoke Cessation Activity	
4-06-11	Seaton School	4:00 PM
4-13-11	Seaton School	4:00 PM
4-20-11	Shaw School	4:00 PM
4-27-11	Seaton School	4:00 PM
	Artsy Ladies	4:00 PM
	Booklovers Club	6:00 PM

**MAY
MENTAL HEALTH MONTH**

5-04-11	Seaton School	4:00 PM
5-11-11	Shaw School	4:00 PM
5-18-11	Closing Activity for ALL Programs	4:00-6:00 PM

JUNE

Program planning sessions for Program Committee and volunteer residents.

July-August – Recess

TBA'S and dates for the Helping Hands and other special programs and activities will be shared after confirmation from specific organizations, presenters, teachers, etc.

Phyllis Wheatley YWCA, Inc.
901 Rhode Island Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20001
Voice: 202-667-9100; Fax: 202-319-3595
Website: pwywca.org CFC #31203

MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Date: _____

New Membership Renewal Membership

Membership Categories (Check One)

- Organization Life (500+ members) - \$500.00
- Organization Life (<500 members) - \$300.00
- Individual Life - \$150.00
- Sustaining - \$35.00
- Annual - \$20.00
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- Child Annual (ages 6-11) - \$7.00

Name: _____
First Name Middle Name/Initial Last Name

Address: _____

City _____ Zip _____
State _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Yes, send my communications by email.

Thank you for your membership in Phyllis Wheatley YWCA, Inc., a 501(c)(3) organization. Membership fees in excess of \$20.00 are deductible as charitable contributions.

If you would like to volunteer your services, please check or list how you would like to help:

- Membership Drive
- Mid-Summer Soiree
- Other: _____

Mail to Membership Chair at the above address or charge memberships or donations at the website: pwywca.org.

Phyllis Wheatley YWCA, Inc.
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Name: _____
First Name Middle Name/Initial Last Name

Address: _____

City _____ State _____
Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Yes, send my communications by email.

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