

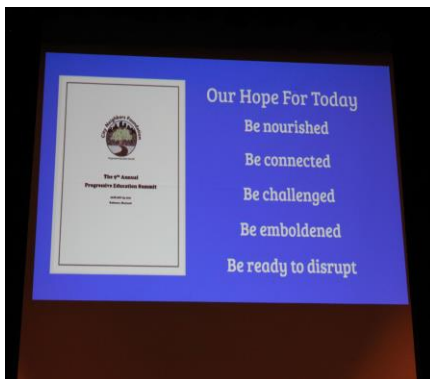


NEWS FROM CITY NEIGHBORS FOUNDATION

FEBRUARY 2020

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

The 9th Annual Progressive Education Summit is in the Books!



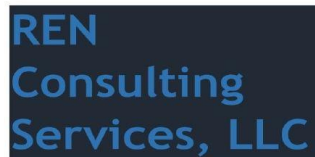
Thank you to the hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of people who joined us for our 9th Annual Progressive Education Summit. The day, anchored by a profound, confronting, and aspirational call to action by our Keynote Speaker, Dr. Bettina Love, was a day of connecting, pushing our collective practice, learning and sharing, and aspiring for the truly child-centered, democratic ideals of education.

Mark your calendars for our 10th Annual Progressive Education Summit: January 23, 2021!





We gratefully acknowledge the sponsors of our 2020 Progressive Education Summit:



City Neighbors Honored by the Diverse Charter Schools Coalition



On January 31, the City Neighbors schools were honored by the national organization, Diverse Charter Schools Coalition, for demonstrating excellence in providing high quality educational opportunities for students in diverse-by-design settings. The award acknowledged our schools' commitment to integration and equity. Fellow nominees included High Tech High in San Diego and Central Queens Academy Charter School in Queens, New York.

Lashawn Gardner, first grade teacher and former City Neighbors Teaching Fellow, helped to accept the award on behalf of City Neighbors.

For more information on the Diverse Charter Schools Coalition, check out their [website](#).

Check Out City Neighbors Foundation Blog

Check out our [City Neighbors Foundation Blog](#) – highlighting voices from throughout our community. Rooted in our commitment to the grass-roots, cooperative nature of our school, our blog will highlight voices from throughout our community. Check out the latest blog from Gwendolyn Unoko, “It’s Leap Year!”

It’s Official! City Neighbors High School Renewed for Five Years!



On January 14, 2020, City Neighbors High School officially earned its second consecutive five-year renewal from the Baltimore City School Board of Commissioners. The five-year renewal recognized the marked academic progress, high graduation rates and attendance, the strong culture, and the effective governance and leadership of our school.

City Neighbors High School Students and the Civil Rights Trip

Each year, City Neighbors students join colleagues from Baltimore City College and The Park School of Baltimore on a week- long exploration of the Civil Rights Movement – traveling by bus to the Deep South. This annual trip is a profound and impactful one for the both students and the educators who travel with them. Please check out highlights on their blog [here](#). You can also check out press coverage of their journey on [Today with Dr. Kaye](#) and on [WBAL](#).



Students on the steps of the 16th Street Baptist Church

Interested in Becoming a City Neighbors Educator, 2020-2021?

Teachers! Imagine the best school you can – in the heart of Baltimore City. Deep in-depth project studies. The Arts as an integral piece to all learning. The vision of children as creative, capable, powerful, and worthy of the deepest respect. A workshop model where students actively learn and teachers facilitate. A place where teachers co-create practice, policy and direction of the school. A community with parents as valuable and active partners in the work. An approach where standardized testing does not drive instruction.

Interested in starting a conversation for the 2020-2021 school year? Check out our [website](#) and [email](#) your cover letter and resume.

Third Grade Inclusive Bookstore at City Neighbors Charter School



This month, City Neighbors 3rd Graders were busy with their Inclusive Community Bookstore. Students wrote original fiction stories that they wish existed in the world, creating diverse, multifaceted characters with struggles and motivations that reflect their real lives. Our class visited the Ivy Bookshop in Baltimore to get inspired and speak to employees about how to run a great store. Students then broke into four committees to manage the various tasks: Customer Service Committee practiced making change, Marketing Committee promoted our store with posters and commercials, Cafe Committee baked sweet treats, and Store Design created decorations and displays. Students also solicited donations of books from families and community members to ensure that every child could browse our selection of free books and leave with their next favorite title. We're grateful to the Ivy Bookshop for providing dozens of free books for our customers.



City Neighbors Hamilton First Graders: The Best Part of Me

The Best Part of Me

First Grade Artwork from City Neighbors Hamilton

The first graders started off exploring their identities by illustrating aspects of their lives that make them similar and different. They thought about their families, their favorite activities and even their favorite places to visit. Students then used these images to create a drawing on fabric. Their fabric would become the background for the embroidery.

Next, we read the book "The Best Part of Me" by Wendy Ewald. Students responded to the book by writing and drawing their favorite part of themselves.

Before sewing on the fabric, students practiced sewing on paper to make sure they understood this new art process. Students then transferred the drawing of their favorite part of themselves to the fabric. Black embroidery thread was then used to sew on top of their drawn lines.





Annapolis, Here We Come!



We have a once in a generation opportunity. This year, in the Maryland General Assembly, we have the opportunity to pass landmark educational reform, the Blueprint for Maryland's Future.

The City Neighbors Advocacy Team, composed of City Neighbors parents and teachers, is mobilizing our

community to support adequate and equitable resources in our schools through this legislation.

We showed up strong on Monday, February 17 with the Coalition for the Blueprint for Maryland's Future for the bill's hearing. And we're showing up in Annapolis on February 27 to speak with our legislators and lawmakers. We are writing and calling from here in Baltimore. And, in March, our 4th graders from City Neighbors Hamilton and our 5th graders from City Neighbors Charter School will be traveling to Annapolis to learn more about the legislative process.

Find more information [here](#).

City Neighbors High School Choir Performance Schedule



The City Neighbors High School Choir is making a name for itself! Check out our thriving choir, led by our extraordinary music teacher, Shakia Paylor.

February 2020

Thursday, 2/27 CNHS Beginner's Chorus @ Oak Crest for a Black History Tribute, 1:00pm (open to the public)

Thursday, 2/27 CNHS Choirs performs for the CNHS's black history program, 3:00pm

March 2020

Tuesday, 3/17 CNHS Choirs @ BCPS Music Department Adjudication @ Morgan State University, 10:00am

April 2020

Friday, 4/4 CNHS Choirs and Band @ City Neighbors Hamilton All-School located in the auditorium, 2:30pm

May 2020

Wednesday, 5/13 CNHS Band @ WTMD Studios in Towson, 5:00pm

Wednesday, 5/20 CNHS Choirs and Band @ City Neighbors High's Spring ARTS celebration in cafeteria, 6:30pm

Thursday, 5/21/2020 CNHS's Music Department Spring Concert 2020; Cost: \$10 at the door, 6:30pm



FINAL DAYS TO REGISTER!

You are invited to join a small group of other educators interested in the child-centered, democratic ideals of progressive education!

On February 25, City Neighbors Foundation is hosting its third DIY PD session of the school year, where up to 30 participants can choose two of four 30-minute learning sessions.

Share a practice or learn from the strategies and practices of colleagues.

Afterward, participants will have the opportunity to prepare a simple, delicious dinner together to take out or enjoy with their colleagues.

5:00-5:30	Mini-Workshop 1
5:30-6:00	Mini-Workshop 2
6:00-6:30	Make- and-Take Dinner

Location: City Neighbors Charter School, 4301 Raspe Avenue, Baltimore, MD.

[Register here](#)

Please share this free event with other colleagues and educators.

Interested in leading one of the 30-minute sessions on a good progressive teaching strategy, approach, or idea? Send your quick idea to Mike at mchalupa@cityneighbors.org.

