

TLP e-newsletter

In This Issue

[Youth News](#)

[2008 Gala](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Recent Grants](#)

Get Involved

TLP Community Meeting

March 20, 5:30 p.m.

Enjoy dinner at [Belfort House](#) and learn about the latest goings-on throughout the TLP community
5:30 p.m. March 20.

Dan Boadi and Ghannatta Performance at Old Town School of Folk Music

March 26, 8:30 p.m.

Join TLP youth for a performance by this West African dance band that

Dear Nia,

*Thank you to everyone who attended, donated to or otherwise participated in TLP's Annual Dream a Bigger Dream Gala - the evening was a huge success! Almost 500 people came to show their support, and by our **preliminary** calculations, we raised more than \$360,000. Thank you again for your support, and we hope to see you at next year's gala!*

Executive Director's Update

By David L. Myers



To put it lightly, March 1 was a very good night for [Teen Living Programs](#). If you count the band, 500 attended our Annual Dream a Bigger Dream Gala. We were delighted to see so many familiar faces, as well as welcome 200 new ones. And thanks to the generosity of TLP's guests, we surpassed our \$270,000 goal by nearly \$100,000!

Some perspective: In 2007, we raised \$238,000; in 2006, the number was \$166,000.

Many people helped make the 2008 Annual Dream a Bigger Dream Gala a success, in many ways - from serving on the committee to buying raffle tickets to donating auction items to attending the event. Thank you, all, for being a part of this historical evening for TLP and showing your support! ([Go here to see photographs from the event by Randy Belice.](#))

We were thrilled to honor our Corporate Partner of the Year, Merri Dee, WGN-TV director of community relations. And I would like to give a special thanks to Mary Lou Skalkos, whose passion, leadership and generosity are **the** reason for the gala's growth

blends African hi-life, soukous, reggae and jazz band. Call the school at 773-728-6000 to reserve tickets. The performance is at **8:30 p.m. March 26.**

TLP Associates Meeting
April 7, 6 p.m.

We will be discussing A Toast to TLP at the Hubbard Street office at **6 p.m. April 7.**
Contact [Pilara Felgate](#) for more information.

TLP Community Meeting
April 17, 5:30 p.m.

Special guest will be Professor Timuel Black, a Bronzeville community elder, political activist, oral historian, philosopher, author - and Chicago native. This is Professor Black's fifth-annual presentation, where he tells stories and answers questions presented by the youth. Join us at **5:30p.m. April 17.**

A Toast to TLP
May 29, 7 p.m.

Raise a glass (or two) to TLP with the TLP Associates during this fundraiser at U.S. Beer Co. (1801 N. Clybourn).
Contact [Pilara Felgate](#) for more information.

Join Our Mailing List!

and success. Please see our special Gala Thank-You section below for a full list of sponsors, hyperlinked to their Web sites.



Youth News

Team-Building Night at Belfort House

The [Belfort House](#) Youth Council hosted an evening of team-building activities Feb. 28. Similar to what employees do at corporate retreats, TLP's activities entailed lowering a "helium stick" to the ground using just one finger, untying knots in a large piece of rope, guiding blindfolded team members, etc., and all required communication and teamwork. Even though some of the activities presented challenges, the youth successfully completed all of them. After an unsuccessful attempt at one activity, the youth eventually revisited and successfully completed it: "Sometimes, you have to walk away from a problem for a little while and come back to it," one youth said.

2008 Annual Dream a Bigger Dream Gala

Oh, what a night! Beginning with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres amid silent auction items in the foyer of the [Hyatt Regency Chicago's Crystal Ballroom](#), followed by heartfelt speeches, dinner, dancing and live auctions, [Teen Living](#)



[Programs'](#) 2008 Annual Dream a Bigger Dream Gala was a night to remember.

Of the \$360,000 raised from the gala,

\$168,000 came from sponsorships, tables and ticket sales; \$80,000 from underwriting; and \$57,000 from the silent auction. Some of the exciting items up for bid in the silent auction included tickets to "Wicked," a wine party at Quartino, a Diamond Suite Skybox for a White Sox game, a Green Bay Packers helmet autographed by Brett Favre and a Nintendo Wii. For the live auction, attendees bid on two first-class tickets to Hawaii with a four-night stay at the JW Marriott Ihilani Resort and Spa, attending batting practice before watching a White Sox game and two tickets to "The Oprah Winfrey Show."



Merri Dee, WGN-TV's director of community relations, accepted the award for TLP's Corporate Partner of the Year. After receiving the award ([designed by David Orth](#)), Ms. Dee shared her inspirational story. Then, two TLP youth, Derrick and Sabrina, shared their own stories and how TLP has contributed to their success. They described their struggles before coming to TLP, what they have accomplished while living at TLP and their goals for the future. Both said that even though the path to independence has not been easy, they have received unfailing support from TLP and are grateful to be part of the TLP community.

In addition to a brief segment on WGN-TV's 9 p.m. news broadcast the night of the event, TLP's Annual 2008 Dream a Bigger Dream Gala was publicized in several media outlets:

[Chicago Defender](#)
[Crain's Chicago Business](#)
[Chicago Sun-Times](#)
[WGN-TV Community Calendar](#)

Keep your eyes open for the May issue of [Shore Magazine](#) for additional photographs from the 2008 Annual Dream a Bigger Dream Gala.

Additionally, TLP would like to thank all the sponsors of the 2008 Dream a Bigger Dream Gala for their generous support:

Event Underwriters

Mulvihill Family Foundation
Sage Foundation

Teen Benefactor \$10,000

[Goldman Sachs](#)
[Seyfarth Shaw LLP](#)
The Hughes Family

Teen Patron \$7,500

[Best Buy](#)

Teen Sponsor \$5,000

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[UBS Securities LLC](#)

Teen Friend \$3,500

[Allpoints Security & Detective Inc.](#)

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Brenna Berman and Kendrew Witt

[Bridgeview Bank](#)

Tim Calkins and Carol Saltoun

[First Chicago Bank & Trust](#)

[The John Buck Co.](#)

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[McHugh Development](#)

Eric Misenheimer

[National Black MBA Association Inc.](#)

Walnut Street Properties

Michelle and Timothy Zahler

Auction Underwriter and Official Airline of Teen Living Programs

[United Airlines](#)

Upcoming Events

A Toast to TLP

Join the TLP Associates for a fundraiser from 7 to 10 p.m. Thursday, May 29 at U.S. Beer Co. (1801 N. Clybourn). Tickets are \$40 in advance and \$50 at the door. To purchase tickets in advance, contact [Pilara Felgate](#) at 312-568-5700, ext. 225.

Recent Grants

Thank you, Polk Bros. Foundation, The Chicago Community Trust, Gap Inc. and Goldman Sachs, for your recent grants in support of Teen Living Programs!

Polk Bros. Foundation has awarded Teen Living Programs a \$120,000 two-year grant in support of our Stable Housing program to expand the supportive services and skills-training opportunities for youth in the program. Thank you, Polk Bros. Foundation, for your continued support and partnership!

The Chicago Community Trust has awarded Teen Living Programs a \$100,000 grant to help launch Project Youth Works, a transitional jobs program for youth who are homeless. Thank you to The Chicago Community Trust for your continued support and partnership!

Gap Inc. has awarded Teen Living Programs a \$50,000 grant to help launch Project Youth Works, a transitional jobs program for youth who are homeless, as well as a \$9,093 grant in support of organizational capacity building. Thank you, Gap Inc., for your support and partnership!

Goldman Sachs has accepted Teen Living Programs' application for a volunteer project through its charitable services group, Community TeamWorks. Thank you, Goldman Sachs, for your partnership!

Donate Now

Donations to Teen Living Programs are tax-deductible as charitable contributions and can be made with a check, by a transfer of stock, or online with a credit card.

Note: Online donations ARE eligible for Matching Gift Programs. Just mail TLP the paperwork, and we'll take it from there.

Checks should be made payable to **Teen Living Programs** and can be mailed to:

Teen Living Programs
162 W. Hubbard
Suite 400
Chicago, IL 60610-4524

or visit our [Web site](#) to make a secure online donation.

Questions? Call [Nia Tavoularis](#), director of development, at 312-

568-5700, ext. 228.

Thank you for your support!

www.teenliving.org