

NYCDOE - Community School District 5

*Highlights of Community School
District 5
Harlem Schools*



Special points of Interest:

- *PS/MS 123 Building a Better Tomorrow*
- *Willie Mays at PS 46*
- *FDA Juniors Visits Malawi*
- *About the Swing Program at PS 46*
- *FDA Students Compete in NYC Science Fair*
- *PS 123 Builds with IKEA*
- *Words from CEC Councilmember Nianette Jackson*
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It's almost springtime! Spring is a time to reflect upon and celebrate our accomplishments as instructors, school based administrators and staff. It is not only the time for reflection and celebration, but it is a time to look toward the future and forge ahead with vigor, so that we can accomplish all of our professional objectives before the end of the school year.

Spring is also a crucial time since we are in the throes of student testing. During this time, we especially need to be motivated, focused and uncompromising so that we may help our students achieve their goals. Even though at this time we

are consumed with testing and outcomes, discipline and safety must remain a priority. We, as educators must continuously ensure that we are creating a safe, nurturing environment in our classrooms so that our students can flourish academically. In order to accomplish this task we must continue to remain diligent in following DOE policies and procedures. This spring, I applaud all of your accomplishments and all of your efforts thus far and I encourage you to keep striving toward excellence.

Sincerely,
Gale



*Community Superintendent
Gale Reeves*

Superintendent's Message

Building a Better Tomorrow- The Graham-Windham Beacon shines at PS/MS123Mahalia Jackson College Preparatory Academy

Since September 2010 the Beacon center has provided fun filled activities to support student achievement, parent involvement and preventive counseling for at risk youth and their families.

The school community has received the Beacon Program with excitement and exhilaration throughout it's halls, promoting a sense of school pride and school spirit. The Beacon has transformed the school into an educational hub for the entire community, and has made a tremendous impact and a difference at Mahalia Jackson.

The ground breaking work of the Beacon Center is demonstrated through the enrollment of 200 middle school youth who attend the after school, Saturday and programs on school closing holidays. The Beacon has been a lighthouse shining bright to the school community and continues

to build strong positive partnerships to help the school in reaching it's mission and goal.

The Beacon services are free and with the support from Graham-Windham and funding from New York City Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD), provides a safe haven and a viable alternative to the streets for young people and their families. The children at Mahalia Jackson can be observed participating in challenging and engaging activities such as homework assistance, tutoring, sports and recreation, dance, arts and culture, food and nutrition workshops, early college awareness to name a few. The adult activities for the parents such as ESL, GED, computer classes, fitness, aerobics have increased parent involvement in the school and working parents can take comfort in the knowledge that their children are

engaged in a healthy, safe environment during non-school hours.

The student participants expressed that the Beacon Program keeps them out of trouble after school which facilitates the importance of providing a safe haven for our youngsters.

The Graham-Windham Beacon Center is viewed as a leading, cutting-edge community based organization, that is hard to beat, not only through it's master performance and it's outcome results, but its heart is never to lose sight of the PS/MS123's students. The call for the continued Beacon services cannot be diminished so we must make a permanent commitment to stay on task to equip our youth. In summary the Beacon will continue to play a pivotal role at PS/MS123 and attention to the services the Beacon provides should not be overlooked.

Willie Mays Visits P.S. 46

The children of P.S. 46 were honored with a visit last month from Baseball Hall of Famer Willie Mays, who actually played baseball on the same ground that P.S. 46 was built on.

The Stadium, the Polo Grounds, and surrounding Harlem was an area Mays called home during his celebrated time with the New York Giants.

With a packed auditorium of about 200 attentive students, Mays shared stories about his time in Harlem. The children were well aware of the importance of Mays as our Principal George Young, had assigned a school wide project to research Mays' career and life. Some of our best students were rewarded with baseballs and replica 1951 Giant jerseys from Mays. One very lucky stu-

dent was handed a \$100 bill when they ran out of a baseball to give him. Mays had to trudge through some snow to meet the kids, but he was adamant in not disappointing the children. He likes spending time with children and said, "I think I'm more at home with kids than I am with grownups, because the kids are genuine. You see them and there's no falsehood there. You see what you see; that's what you're going to get".

Two Frederick Douglass Academy's Juniors Visits Malawi, Africa



Mujeeb Lawal and Jissel Ledesma two juniors at The Frederick Douglass Academy had the unique opportunity to travel to Malawi, Africa.

The trip to Malawi was a life changing experience. On February 12 the Buildon trek to Malawi team started a three days trip with the British Airways before we got to Malawi. When we arrived at the

village, the children rushed to the bus singing and dancing in excitement at our arrival, knowing that we will be building them a school.

All the people that went on the trip had to stay with an host family. Personally that was the best part of the trip. We spent a total of ten days in the village. The saddest moment of the trip for the team and the

villagers was when we were leaving the village. Our trip back to the US was a little shorter than the trip to Malawi.

"I am very grateful and privileged to have gone on this trip. This trip changed my life and now I am committed to doing more to help others in the future", says Mujeeb.



About The Swing Program at PS 46

The *About The Swing* program showcased another great group of jazz musicians at P.S 46 last month. This included several award winning and accomplished musicians who performed examples of sounds from Duke Ellington and the Swing Era. Our students participated as audience members that were taught about the history and era of jazz, with emphasis on Duke Ellington and his impact on the genre. They were also allowed to get into the "swing of it" with some supervised time to dance to jazz music. This event brought back the sounds and images of Harlem back in the 1920s where the noise and the energy of rhythm-filled music made people jump, twirl, stomp and laugh during the Harlem Renaissance.

FDA Students Competed in NYC Science and Engineering Fair

Representatives from CollegeNow, organizers of the event, spoke highly of the enthusiasm Cynthia and Paul showed for their project: *The Need for Greenspace in Harlem*. Randy's project, *Determining the Effects of Filtration on Airborne Particulate Matter in a NYC Public School*, won him an award: Sarah & Morris Wiesenthal Awards from Environmental Quest. This award will be distributed in the form of a bond.

These students worked long and hard to achieve this success. Their commendation is well-deserved. However none of this would be possible without the guidance, support and encouragement of their men-

tors and teachers who worked tirelessly to make their success a reality, in particular Mauricio Gonzalez who worked with Randy and Jason Douglass who worked with Cynthia and Paul.

Congratulations to the following students who competed in the New York City Science and Engineering Fair held on Sunday, March 6, 2011 in the Lincoln Corridor of Sheppard hall. The projects were displayed in the Great Hall.

- Randy Garcia,** 12th grade
- Paul Rivers** 11th grade
- Cynthia Ortigoza** 11th grade



6th Grade Future Marketers Visits Brooklyn IKEA



PS/MS 123's students from the 6th Grade *Future Marketer's Program* visited the new IKEA in Brooklyn. IKEA is the client for whom the 6th graders are developing an advertising campaign targeting "twens", students between ages 8 and 12.

The program is a collaboration between Ogilvy and Mathers, an advertising company, and PS/MS 123, celebrating its 8th year of introducing and training a group of students in the world of advertising.



This is one of the pieces of furniture built by the students.



This year, IKEA opened its doors to the Future Marketer's Program in an effort to showcase their products and design concepts. In turn, the students will come up with ideas that will capture the attention of a younger audience. These campaign ideas were presented to IKEA and Ogilvy executives in early February. Once approval is given to their ideas, Future Marketer's will embark upon a full campaign utilizing varied media to advertise IKEA's "tween" designs.

Words from CEC 5

Councilmember Nianette Jackson

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Publisher Gale Reeves
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<http://csd5.nycdoe.org>

I have great things to say about some of the teachers I've seen this past week. As you are aware the Math and Reading test for NYC students are coming up.

There are many programs put into effect to help our children succeed. The program that I have seen doing great wonders is the *Saturday Academy at PS 46*. The teachers there are making a difference.

I have great respect and admiration for these teachers. They take each student and make sure that they understand what is being covered. This gives me great hope for our children to succeed throughout this process.

We should be very thankful for the dedication of the teachers I have come across this year. They are leaving **NO CHILD BEHIND** So I say to you the teachers that are giving it their all **"THANK YOU"**.

District 5 Annual STEM EXPO

Super Saturday! Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Expo!!

(Grades PK – 12) Schools have the opportunity to exhibit STEM projects!



Saturday, May 21, 2011
11:00am—3:00pm

PAL Harlem 369th Armory
One West 142nd Street
New York, New York 10037
(212) 749 - 1570 or (212) 769 -7500 X 236

Celebrating Women's History Month — Famous Black /Latina Women in History

Josephine Baker (1906-1975) - A civil rights activist and [World War II](#) heroine.

Ida B. Wells Barnett (1862-1931) - Educator, anti-lynching campaigner and founder of NAACP.

Mary McLeod Bethune (1875-1955) - educator, founder of Bethune-Cookman College, Daytona Beach, Florida; became the Presidential adviser and recipient of Spingarn Medal.

Mary Elizabeth Bowser (1839 - date of death unknown) - A freed slave who became the Union spy during Civil War in Confederate White House.

Eliza Bryant (1827-1907) - She founded the Cleveland Home for Aged Colored People.

Antonia Novello (1944-) Appointed Surgeon General by President George W. Bush.

Bessie Coleman (1893-1926) - The first black woman to earn a pilot's license.

Zelma Watson George (1903-1994) - She

was a Opera singer, speaker, educator and delegate to the UN.

Celia Cruz (1924- 2003) Grammy Award singer; she was awarded medal by President Bill Clinton 1994.

Fannie Lou Hamer (1917-1977) - She was a civil rights worker and founder of MS Freedom Democratic Party.

Jane Edna Hunter (1882-1971) - She was a social worker, attorney and founded the Phyllis Wheatley Association of Cleveland.

Zora Neale Hurston (1903-1960) - She was one of the writers from the Harlem Group.

Mahalia Jackson (1912-1972) - She was the first Black woman who earned national acclaim for gospel music.

Margaret Douglas (1901-1967) - She is the first black woman superintendent in NYC school system.

Harriet Tubman(1820?-1913) - Over the course of 10 years she led hundreds of slaves to freedom (*Underground Railroad*).

Ellen Ochoa (1958 -) - Scientist, astronaut ; mission was on the Discovery Space Shuttle in 1993.

Barbara Jordan (1936-1996) - An excellent orator and Congresswoman.

Rita Moreno (1931-) Performer; one of the only two people to ever win an Oscar, a Tony, an Emmy, and a Grammy!

Wilma Rudolph (1940-1994) - She was the first African American women to win 3 gold medals in track and field in a single Olympic Games (she ran with a sprained ankle to win the gold!).

Susie King Taylor (1848-1912) - First Black nurse during the Civil War.

Susan McKinney Steward (1848-1918) - First African American woman doctor in New York State.

Madame C.J. Walker (1867-1919) - She was an entrepreneur, who became an millionaire and was a well known philanthropist.