THE 9TH ANNUAL FINE ART BENEFIT AND SALE

January 17, 2020

Standing Tall by Leroy Campbell

MEGA MENTORS
MENTORS EXPECTING GREATER ACHIEVEMENT
LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings MEGA Mentors Friends and Supporters

MEGA Mentors started in 2009 with a challenge from Dr. Marcus Newsome, former Chesterfield County Public Schools (CCPS) superintendent. He asked for community men to unite and mentor local students in need assistance. From these humble beginnings, our organization now has a diverse population of over 300 members. We have evolved over the past 10 years to mentor over 2300 students in 14 schools, awarded $38,000 in financial aid to college and military-bound students, provided $45,000 in IBM sponsored STEM grants to schools, spent $395,000 for programs and related activities and accumulated 150,000 volunteer hours.

In 2018, Dr. James Lane, immediate past CCPS superintendent, issued a new challenge: develop programs to mentor students from elementary through high school. We are proud to announce that with the formal opening of the MEGA Mentors’ – Reading & Buddy Program at Ecoff and Reams Elementary Schools this fall. With our partners Second Baptist Church and Mt. Gilead Full Gospel Baptist Church, we have reached another milestone!

Keeping in line with his predecessors, current CCPS superintendent Dr. Mervin Daugherty issued MEGA a new challenge this year. He believes every child in the school system who needs a mentor should have one. He asked MEGA to set a goal to expand our programs to all CCPS schools over the next five years. MEGA will do its very best to meet this challenge. To meet this goal of helping students succeed, MEGA needs partnership assistance from community churches, businesses and organizations to adopt a school and supply volunteers to mentor, speak or read to students.

You’ve heard the adage, “It takes a village to raise a child.” I’m challenging each of you and the organizations to which you belong: leave the sidelines and join the village. Help us make a positive difference in the lives of the students we serve.

Sincerely,

Howard Corey
President, MEGA Mentors
“We are seeing how MEGA Mentors is exposing at-risk students to life-changing events and equipping them with the social and academic skills to make positive personal, academic and social choices.”

-Rob Thompson
Chair, Chesterfield County School Board
January 17, 2020

Dear Honored Guests:

Thank you for attending tonight’s Fine Art Benefit and Sale event, which supports the MEGA Mentors Program. Whether this is your first time at this event or you are a continuous support of the program, your participation tonight is extremely important to the continued success of MEGA Mentors.

- 95 percent of all funding that the program receives goes directly into mentoring and supporting Chesterfield County Public Schools students.
- The MEGA Mentors leadership team has developed a plan to provide support in all 65 schools by 2025.
- MEGA Mentors’ short-term goal is to reach 1,000 students this year.

The success of tonight’s event and MEGA Mentor’s short- and long-term goals depends greatly on your participation and support.

MEGA Mentors’ volunteers keep the success of students first in their philosophy and planning. This program provides weekly leadership and support to Chesterfield County students by challenging them to improve their attendance in school, become role models with their behavior, meet and exceed high academic standards and become outstanding citizens. Our mentors open the doors of opportunities for students to see their future as hopeful and valuable.

I cannot think of another program in the region or in Virginia that provides such a positive climate for children to be successful. Tonight, you have the opportunity to be part of a program that changes lives. Join the team tonight; your financial support is needed. Think about being a volunteer as a mentor and tell others about this program to help us touch the lives of students in need of mentors.

Tonight, I ask that you be a Game Changer.

Respectfully,

Mervin B. Daugherty, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Office of the Superintendent
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“MEGA Mentors’ volunteers keep the success of students first in their philosophy and planning.”

- Mervin B. Daugherty, Ed.D.
  Superintendent,
  Chesterfield County Public Schools
Thank you for joining us for the 9th annual Fine Art Benefit and Sale (FABS). We are proud to celebrate MEGA Mentors’ 10 years of dedication to community service.

In partnership with the Freedom Classic Festival, FABS is the annual Friday evening event that takes place at the historic Hippodrome Theater in Jackson Ward. This year, the Freedom Classic Festival is celebrating 25 years of community engagement in commemoration of Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Civil Rights Movement. The weekend of festivities culminates on Saturday with a double-header basketball game between CIAA rivals Virginia State (Trojans) and Virginia Union (Panthers) at the VSU Multi-Purpose Center.

Every year at FABS, we’re honored to provide a wide collection of art for all art lovers. Whether you’re a novice art enthusiast or a sophisticated collector looking to add to your portfolio, there is sure to be something here that will catch your eye. In addition to this, we will feature a silent auction with original art and a diverse assortment of fabulous items available for bidding. The event also features live musical entertainment, great food and refreshments.

Take pride in knowing that by supporting FABS, you directly impact the future of students in Chesterfield County Public Schools that participate in the MEGA program.

Lastly, we want to extend the upmost gratitude to our generous sponsors, patrons, volunteer mentors, school coordinators and administrators who make this event possible every year. And of course, we thank WaterKolours Fine Art (Danny Jenkins, Owner) for bringing this impressive selection of art to Richmond.

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### The 2020 Fine Art Benefit and Sale

**Friday, January 17, 2020**

**Fine Art Benefit and Sale**

The Hippodrome Theater, 6:30pm

**Master of Ceremonies, Micah “Bam-Bamm” White**

**Featured Artist and Guest Speaker, Leroy Campbell**

A Charleston, South Carolina native, Leroy Campbell’s art speaks of the contributions to humanity through the African American perspective. His paintings, infused with history, tie the past to the present in the practice of Sankofa, the understanding that you can’t move forward until you receive the lessons of the past. The vulnerability of his art, his soul, his ability to tell a story through the use of acrylic, paper, tapestries, and organic materials, creates an opportunity for conversation, for something real, for the human connection that we are all desperately seeking.

All art is coordinated by WaterKolours Fine Art Gallery.

**Silent Auction**

Participate in bidding via smartphone on a diverse collection of unique gifts, electronics, original arts, sports packages and memorabilia, travel and leisure options.

**Musical Guest, Cloud 9 Band**

Cloud 9 Band hails from Richmond, Virginia and although they’ve only been together for a little over nine years, the core members represent decades of performances across many musical genres. Cloud 9 performs regularly at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts ‘Jazz Café’ and has performed for masses at the Richmond Jazz Festival, Capital Jazz Festival and 2nd Street Festival. Cloud 9 has gained notoriety for the breadth of its musical offerings ranging from jazz standards to the latest R&B.

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### Friday, January 17, 2020

**Freedom Classic Festival**

VSU Multi-Purpose Center, Doors Open at 12:15pm

Join us on Saturday, January 18th as we celebrate 25 years of the Freedom Classic Festival. Commemorating the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the Civil Rights Movement, this annual event culminates in a high-octane double-header featuring Virginia State University and Virginia Union University men’s basketball teams and women’s basketball teams. The 25th annual Freedom Classic Festival will be filled with activities for the entire family, including a high school drumline competition, gospel choir showcase and special halftime performances from the VSU Trojan Explosion and VUU Ambassadors of Sound marching bands.

MEGA students and parents will experience the college activities and game compliments of the Freedom Classic Festival.

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**Saturday, January 18, 2020**

**Freedom Classic Festival**

VSU Multi-Purpose Center, Doors Open at 4pm
MEGA Mentors would like to send a special thank you to the Fine Art Benefit and Sale Event Sponsors that contributed to the success of this evening.

THANK YOU EVENT SPONSORS

Thank you to the following sponsors:

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CARING FOR FINANCIAL ADVISORS, OUR ASSOCIATES, AND THE COMMUNITY.

MEGA Mentors would also like to express sincere gratitude to tonight’s host committee members. We appreciate you for joining us in this effort.

Ken & Patrice Ampy
Carlos & Tamara Brown
Finis & Lynda Cook
Matt & Carrie Coyner
Dr. Merv Daugherty
Tyren Frazier
Kym & Kyle Grinnage
Drs. Monroe & Jill Harris
Devon & Angela Henry
Ralph & Cassandra Hodge
Iris Holliday
Brian & Tammy Jackson

Dante Jackson
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Dr. Rob & Cheryl Nelson
Alex Nyerges
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Tim & Daphne Reid
Jamal & Vanessa Slappy
Adrienne Whitaker
The 9th Annual Fine Art Benefit and Sale
6:30 PM, Friday, January 17, 2020
at The Hippodrome Theater
in Us For An Evening Of Fine Art & Fun

Watercolours Artists
Woodrow Nash
Heather Moss
Lee White
Mark Richardson
Phyllis Stephens
Lobyn Hamilton
Charly Palmer
Richard Mayhew
Elizabeth Catlett
William Tolliver
And Many More

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MEGA Mentors would like to thank Danny Jenkins and WaterKolours Fine Art for seven years of fundraising partnership to support the initiatives of our organization.
Willing hands and hearts are welcome in Chesterfield schools, where volunteers play a vital role in the academic success of our students.

We make it easy for everyone to participate — whether you can help every day, once a week, once a month or once a year. There are many ways to volunteer, and we will help you find your place:

• read to elementary students
• help in a school office, cafeteria or clinic
• sell tickets at a game
• speak at a career day
• organize information packets
• chaperone a field trip
• fill another need

There is a place for you in Chesterfield County Public Schools! If there is a specific school where you’d like to volunteer, please contact the principal or the school's volunteer coordinator. If you don’t have a specific school in mind, call 748-1405 to talk with the community outreach coordinator. After volunteers fill out an application, their names will be checked against the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry.
Leroy Campbell’s artwork has the contemporary aspects of his ancestors, and spirit of the Harlem Renaissance. He’s capable of documenting that time/space continuum when all things cultural are at a visual apex of renewed creativity of the abducted and displaced African Diaspora. Campbell’s art reflects its beauty, handsomeness, and intelligence. All finally embraced.

Campbell’s work tells stories in individual paintings or suites that, collectively, go beyond the aspect of documenting every day life in Africa America to renderings of a diamora of love, freedom, and passion with a masterful veneer of joie de vivre. Southern colors. Northern hues. He uses color like they reflect the sun of Africa. His brush hand guided by the spirit of his ancestors that he channels in each stroke.

A proud familiarity consumes us when viewing Campbell’s work. It’s probably because we grew up with it. Though many of us probably couldn’t own one of his original paintings, they were on display in our homes every week. Most often when they appeared on popular television programs during the nineties: The Jamie Fox Show, The First Wives Club, Martin, The Cosby Show, The Fresh Prince of Bel Aire and In Living Color are a few that come to mind.

The faces of the subjects of his paintings are blank. Devoid of color. Le noir. Their lips . . . pretty. Pronounced in a prideful half smile; half serious expression. Natural, beautiful lips.

They are the lips of people you see daily. Their surroundings and attire rendered in the palettes of life you see everyday. The suites various scenes, memorials to the precious life of pre and post civil rights era, fueled by civil fights. Then there are the themes and reflections of the late seventies. Eighties. Nineties. Black then. Back then.


Now.

I just discovered I’m EVO from Nigeria,” said Campbell. “Anything I create it becomes a portal for my spirit and my ancestors spirit to stay connected. So when I paint no eyes, mouths and no nose, it allows for every body in the African Diaspora to see themselves and be connected to that portal.

That is hardly the sum of the art of Leroy Campbell definitely not the sum of him. Campbell says that is yet to be explored because, as ubiquitous as art, life flourishes with experiences.

A love of life at the end of the proverbial rainbow, oblivious to Jim Crow, racism and the negativity of hatred. Somehow Campbell is capable of rendering that love/hate relationship. The existentialism of Black life in America that reflect the sum of Africa and the polychromatic respect for life’s prism. His work takes you to the porch with the little girl doing the silver haired lady on the clapboard porch; the dinner table on a Sunday after church y’all; on the stoops of the shotgun apartments in your Easter dress with the crinoline slip. Holding hands while courting a young lady on the stripped Duncan Phyfe sofa.

To say he is a contemporary artist is condescending. Iconic is much more accurate.

You see one of his paintings and you see Campbell. You see life. You experience the culture of his southern roots. His period of enlightenment and growth in the north. In a unique, albeit, stylistic juxtaposition Lenoy Campbell is virtually a generation’s doppelganger of Norman Rockwell.

Where did the art begin?

“I started drawing when I was in second grade,” said Campbell, reminiscing. He lives and creates in the College Park area of Atlanta, GA.

“Tracing introduced me to drawing. I was tracing comic books as a way to recover emotionally from being teased by a few boys. They used to tease and torment me about my hand. I was born with a birth defect. So I was a little isolated after that. So I traced. It helped me recover emotionally from being teased,” said Campbell who was born in 1956.

His youth is evident in his use of colors. The colors that is Campbell said that they are the colors of his halcyon days. Unlike today’s immense digital palette, comics books and funny pages used four-color presses when he was coming up, limited to magenta, cyan, yellow and black.

When he was asked Campbell revealed that he has never used the (left) hand he was teased about to paint.

“No I don’t use it to paint,” he responded.

“It’s a beautiful irony, though,” Campbell shared pensively. “Art, at that time, was more of a healing force. As a matter of fact, at this stage of my life I was thinking wouldn’t it be interesting to go ahead and do a body of work with this (left) hand. The irony is even though I was teased about my hand. Now I am known by my hand.

“It’s a beautiful time for me. My life has always had different turning points. I’m going to jump in,” said Campbell. “Taste it’s lemonade!” The zeal emerging in his voice palpable. His mind’s eye reflecting, capturing would be an ill term here, visualizing the colors of Africa that connects us.

Instead of Raphael and Donatello the Renaissance painters of Italy that students are forced to study, Campbell says he was moved by images of Romare Bearden, Ernie Barnes and Jacob Lawrence as he looked for his own motif. Yet, on the contrary, Leroy’s art, his virtuosity is his style.

Campbell was self-taught. One may argue that he was born with the innate ability to mirror life as it is, finding the subtle beauty of each viable moment. His work immortalize those scenes out of the commonality of the African Diaspora he spiritually reflects, channels and conveys along with visually adaptive media that stimulate memories of emotions past.

The Mega Mentors Ninth Annual Fine Art Benefit and Sale is a new and exciting path for Campbell to explore.

“There are so many ways to break new ground. Opportunities for me to inspire,” said Campbell, anticipating his visit to Richmond. He continued.

“I’m loving that I get to use my art and my words to give people permission to live their best life and to be in their best life. To own their spirit and to gravitate to that,” said Campbell. “It’s an beautiful time for me because I’m loving that I get to use art, and my words to give people permission to live their life as a being. And to own their own spirit!

“To be in their best life. And to gravitate to that. I love seeing people gravitate to that. Because owning your spirit is a birthright.

“There are a lot of things that have been our birthright abdicated to the fact, that I know, that it was different systems; politics, education, religion exposed that. And many of us have struggled through these systems. But I have always known for you to help these systems you have to do a better job or do the best job to come as a whole person first,” said Campbell.

“You have to tap into what’s already there. And I’m finding that I’ve always been like that. I kind of felt like an oddball along the way in social situations and different relationships, knowing that I knew this. Now, I’m watching people trying to grab the rope of spiritual survival that they have not found.

And here it is I’m providing them a rope . . . with my work. Owning a spirit is a birthright.

“I want to use my story as a source to help them. Use my story as a source to help them. I want to help people gravitate to that. I’m using a lot of affirmation messages which is enlightening,” Campbell proclaims. “What is reassuring, which is giving people a chance to actually feel their own power. walk in your own . . . walk in the power you were born with not put all of your energy into looking for power outside of yourself. Those things (systems) have co-opted that.

And that’s why many people haven’t been successful at being in a place where they cannot have fear. But not be afraid to die.”

Campbell declared. But know what’s going on anyway, walk as an adult empowered with the things you were born with by nature.

Toussaint L’Ouverture said that it is by nature that I knew that I was free.”

By Glen Mason
Independent Writer, Director, Producer
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Artwork brought to you by WaterKolours Fine Art Gallery.

Additional art on display by Richard Mayhew, Paul Goodnight, Lee White, Lobyn Hamilton, Rosa Gallardo, Mark Richardson and others.
Who We Are

Our purpose is to maintain the spirit of the Chester Village Plan and expand the original vision to keep our community a unique village within Chesterfield County.

To join the Chester Community Association, call Elliott Fausz at 804-405-5443

"Creating a Sense of Place"
The Fine Art Benefit and Sale is MEGA Mentors annual signature fundraiser to support the initiatives of the organization. In addition to the expansive array of artwork that is available for purchase on this night, we also bring to the greater Richmond region an impressive silent auction with items ranging from electronics, sports memorabilia, art, date nights and vacation getaways.

Our Silent Auction features smart phone e-bidding allowing our supporters to easily bid and check the status of bids at the event or from home. We encourage you to share this opportunity with your friends, family and networks.

### Silent Auction

**Art Items**
- Original paintings
- Sculptures

**Entertainment**
- Venue rentals
- Music festival tickets
- Wine and whisky tastings
- Jazz, theater, comedy show tickets
- Date night packages
- Museum memberships

**Wellness**
- Gym memberships
- Massage packages
- Dental packages

**Getaways**
- Staycations
- Bed and breakfast stays
- International travel

**Sports**
- Sporting event tickets
- Autographed memorabilia
- Custom sports team apparel
- Golf packages

**Other Great Items**
- Outerwear accessories
- Home and garden tools
- Electronics
Supporting the mission of MEGA Mentors to “make a positive and measurable difference in the lives of African American students in Chesterfield County Public Schools”

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In the fall of 2009, the Chesterfield County School Superintendent, Marcus Newsome approached six community leaders about the need to provide positive African American role models in Chesterfield County Public Schools to improve academic performance, graduation rates and reduce discipline issues. The request was the catalyst that ignited a movement and the formation of MEGA Mentors…Mentors Expecting Greater Achievement in 2010. Less than a year later, these six leaders grew to more than 12 to form the first MEGA. We realized early in our journey that our mission was to provide guidance and teach life relevant skills to help students find success. MEGA therefore determined that we could impact behaviors and attitudes. If we could influence those things, then performance would come. Our goals became very clear. We would devise ways to build hope, self-regulation and leadership skills.

Ten years later, the movement continues. Here are a few highlights of MEGA’s ten-year journey.

**2009-2011**
- MEGA created the organization mission and goals, and formed a formal board.
- Partnered with Providence Middle School’s Young Men on a Mission (YMOM) program supporting annual field trips, talent nights, goal-setting seminars and workshops.
- Added its first woman to the board – Carol Dalesa Mack-Grisby. Shortly thereafter we increased women representation on the board and started working with female students in the classroom.
- Altria Corporation granted MEGA its first grant of $10,000 to build capacity for mentoring expansion.
- Began recognition of school and student achievement at the MEGA Excellence Award and Recognition Celebration at Virginia State University in 2010. The event has hosted numerous renown speakers and has continued to grow in student, parent and staff attendance each year. In 2019, the event was hosted at CTC Hull and attended by 400+ students and guests.
- Created a vertical model, in 2018, where MEGA will mentor students from elementary through high school.
- Program was designed for portability to allow any group to train mentors and activate the MEGA Mentor program.

**2012-2015**
- First website was designed by technology students at CTC Courthouse with the assistance of AST YRA in 2012.
- Began the signature fundraising event, the Fine Art Benefit Sale (FABS) in 2012, hosted at the historic Hippodrome Theater. Under Greg Cummings’ leadership, and with the support of Al and Jackie Lester, the Freedom Classic Festival – Johnson, Inc and The Hippodrome Theater, FABS was launched and featured renowned artists with a live auction and raffle. Partnering with the Freedom Classic Festival, each year students and parents experience the annual rivalry basketball game between Virginia State and Virginia Union Universities.
- Added tutoring at Carver Middle School in 2012.
- Designed and executed the annual HOPE survey in 2013 as a means of measuring the effectiveness of the program in each school with the support of CCPS Statistics Department.
- Falling Creek Middle School added Speaker’s Bureau in 2013. The concept was taken division-wide in 2014.
- Co-sponsored over 3,000 students to see the historical drama, Selma in theaters in 2015.
- Recognized and awarded as the recipient of the “President’s Volunteer Service Award” by President Barack Obama for community service in 2014. MEGA received the Gold Medal, which signifies over 1,000 hours of service.
- Recognized by Chesterfield County School Board and Administration as the “Community Partner of the Year” in March 2015, the highest Chesterfield County Public Schools award.

**2016-2018**
- Received 501c3 Tax Exempt status in April 2016.
- Numerous articles written about MEGA Mentors – Chesterfield Observer, Richmond Times Dispatch and Village News.
- Developed priorities with school board members and administration staff over the year.
- Expanded MEGA’s organizational model to Petersburg, VA in 2016 and became “Petersburg PROMISE”.
- Co-sponsored over 3,000 students to see historical movie Hidden Figures in March 2017.
- Created a vertical model, in 2018, where MEGA will mentor students from elementary through high school.
- Program was designed for portability to allow any group to train mentors and activate the MEGA Mentor program.
MEGA HISTORY

10 Years of MEGA

- Over 2,300 students have participated in the MEGA Programs.
- Mentors have donated over $38,000 to graduating seniors who are pursuing education options after high school.
- IBM Corp contributed STEM grants through MEGA, a total of $45,000 since 2014.
- MEGA has contributed over $395,000 in program related activities to CCPS students and Schools.
- 86 percent of all revenues goes to student programs.
- MEGA has awarded over $38,000 to graduating seniors that are pursuing education options after high school.
- Mentors have donated over 150,000 hours of service to CCPS students and Schools.
- Over 2,300 students have participated in the MEGA Programs.
- MEGA has coordinated annual ment-based field trips for deserving students. The venues have included:

Colleges and Universities:
- Howard University
- George Washington University
- Old Dominion University
- Longwood University
- Norfolk State University
- University of Virginia
- Hampton University
- University of Richmond
- Reynolds Community College
- Virginia State University

Museums and Other Historic Sites:
- Smithsonian Air and Space Museum
- Lincoln Monument and Reflecting Pool
- Martin Luther King Monument
- Moton Museum
- The Library of Congress
- U.S. Capitol
- International Spy Museum
- National Zoo
- Nauticus Museum
- National African American Museum
- Thomas Jefferson’s Monticello
- Hampton University African American Museum
- Virginia Air & Space Center
- Black History Museum

Today, MEGA has over 300 volunteers and has grown from 20 students to over 700 by the end of this academic year. With the guiding principles of Respect, Responsibility, Effort and Achievement, MEGA Mentors mission is to ‘enhance student success by providing positive experiences and role models to mentor, tutor and teach leadership and life skills’.

Today, MEGA has Mentorship/Reading Programs in 10 schools in Chesterfield County:

- Ecoff Elementary
- Reams Elementary
- Harrowgate Elementary
- Carver Middle
- Falling Creek Middle
- Manchester Middle
- Providence Middle
- Salem Church Middle
- Meadowbrook High
- Thomas Dale High School

MEGA plans to start Mentorship/Reading Programs at two schools in the spring of 2020:

- Chafin Elementary
- Curtis Elementary

MEGA has partnership programs in two schools:

- Carver College & Career Academy
- Monacan High

MEGA HISTORY

MEGA would not be successful without the support of our sponsors.
Our sponsors over the past ten years have included:

- A Plus Driver Improvement School Inc.
- Abraham Youth and Family Services
- ACAC of Midlothian
- Accent Fashion Accessories, LLC.
- Alan Turas
- Alfa Group, Inc.
- April Smiles LLC
- Ashley Corporation
- Athelvo Massage Therapy, LLC
- Auditech, Inc.
- Bank of America
- Bee Croft and Bull
- Beiler’s Trophys
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- Black River Outfitters
- Black Women Empowered Inc.
- Bourbon Excursions
- Branch Banking & Trust Corporation
- Breckenridge Carpet
- Brown’s Richmond Jaguar
- Callaway Family Giving Fund
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- Eyes Inc.
- Fine Art Images
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- First Baptist Church Centralia
- G&G Sports Wear USA
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- Gwaltney Consulting Company, LLC
- Han’s Your Glory
- Haley Automotive Group
- Haywood’s Hair Images
- Healthy Heart Plus
- Hippodrome Theater
- Herschel Flescher A Professional Corporation
- Home Team grille
- Howell’s Restaurant
- IBM
- International House of Pancakes – Chester
- Ironbridge Sports Park
- Jaden Jones Photography
- Jazz Barter Shop
- Jazz Inside Out
- Jefferson Lakeside Country Club
- John Tyler Community College
- Johnny on The Spot Services
- Joyner Paint & Framing
- JM – A Johnson, Inc. Company
- Kanesiffeins, LLP
- Kvawins Club of Central Chesterfield
- Kroger Company – Short Pump
- LaGrande Gardens
- Lake Chesdin Golf Club
- Life’s Realities Greeting Cards LLC
- Luminous Skin Care
- Luminous Skin Care and Wellness
- McGuireWoods LLP
- Midlothian Athletic Club
- Midlothian Rotary Club
- Miracle Beavers & Corn PC
- National Court Appointed Special Advocate
- NBC Channel 12 News
- Old School Barber Shop
- Owens Financial Services
- Paladin Global Services LLC
- Premier Bank
- Providence International Inc.
- PurposeBound Partners
- Red Door
- Renaissance Community Partners
- Richmond Canal Cruises
- Richmond Flying Squirrels
- Richmond Funny Bone
- Richmond International Raceway
- Richmond Jazz Festival
- Richmond Kickers

These organizations have enabled the vision and mission of MEGA to be realized in the lives of students who will become our future leaders. Thanks to all who have contributed to the vision.

MEGA would not be successful without the support of our sponsors.
Our sponsors over the past ten years have included:

- Acme Fitness
- A Plus Driver Improvement School Inc.
- Abraham Youth and Family Services
- ACAC of Midlothian
- Accent Fashion Accessories, LLC.
- Alan Turas
- Alfa Group, Inc.
- April Smiles LLC
- Ashley Corporation
- Athelvo Massage Therapy, LLC
- Auditech, Inc.
- Bank of America
- Bee Croft and Bull
- Beiler’s Trophys
- Bermuda Golf Club
- Black River Outfitters
- Black Women Empowered Inc.
- Bourbon Excursions
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- Central Virginia Kvawins
- Channel 12 News (NBC)
- Chesapeake Property
- Chester Community Association
- Chester YMCA
- Chesterfield County Public Schools
- Chesterfield Education Foundation
- CineBistro
- Claudio’s Mobile Detail
- Collective Thinking Consultants, LLC.
- Colonial Athletic Association
- Commonwealth 20 & Uphamn Alley
- Commonwealth Lodge 81, FVA
- Community Health Acupuncture
- Danny Jenkins Arts
- Davis & Noyce Orthodontists
- Dog and The Oyster
- Dominion Energy Foundation
- Don Pepe Restaurant
- DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel
- Douglas Optometry
- Eaterhe Industrial Service, Inc.
- Edward Jones Investments
- El Patron Mexican Restaurant & Canina
- Eyes Inc.
- Fine Art Images
- Finch & Wellers
- First Baptist Church Centralia
- G&G Sports Wear USA
- Greg & Marilyn Cummings Charitable Fund
- Gwaltney Consulting Company, LLC
- Han’s Your Glory
- Haley Automotive Group
- Haywood’s Hair Images
- Healthy Heart Plus
- Hippodrome Theater
- Herschel Flescher A Professional Corporation
- Home Team grille
- Howell’s Restaurant
- IBM
- International House of Pancakes – Chester
- Ironbridge Sports Park
- Jaden Jones Photography
- Jazz Barter Shop
- Jazz Inside Out
- Jefferson Lakeside Country Club
- John Tyler Community College
- Johnny on The Spot Services
- Joyner Paint & Framing
- JM – A Johnson, Inc. Company
- Kanesiffeins, LLP
- Kvawins Club of Central Chesterfield
- Kroger Company – Short Pump
- LaGrande Gardens
- Lake Chesdin Golf Club
- Life’s Realities Greeting Cards LLC
- Luminous Skin Care
- Luminous Skin Care and Wellness
- McGuireWoods LLP
- Midlothian Athletic Club
- Midlothian Rotary Club
- Miracle Beavers & Corn PC
- National Court Appointed Special Advocate
- NBC Channel 12 News
- Old School Barber Shop
- Owens Financial Services
- Paladin Global Services LLC
- Premier Bank
- Providence International Inc.
- PurposeBound Partners
- Red Door
- Renaissance Community Partners
- Richmond Canal Cruises
- Richmond Flying Squirrels
- Richmond Funny Bone
- Richmond International Raceway
- Richmond Jazz Festival
- Richmond Kickers

These organizations have enabled the vision and mission of MEGA to be realized in the lives of students who will become our future leaders. Thanks to all who have contributed to the vision.
Each year, the MEGA Mentors leadership evaluates program results and asks students, parents, and schools “what can be improved or how can we better serve our clients (students and schools)?” Parents and students provided feedback that requested increased MEGA presence in the high schools. Middle school administrators asked if MEGA could focus on elementary schools, and elementary school principals wanted help with reading, resources and presence in the schools. This feedback produced what is called the MEGA Continuous Education Program.

The purpose of this program is to provide mentorship for underrepresented students throughout their grade school years and hopefully throughout life. The program has the goals of:

- **Elementary Schools**: Partner with CCPS to increase literacy by focusing on reading, providing books and mentors/reading partners.
- **Middle Schools**: Teach life skills, leadership skills, experiences – Character development.
- **High Schools**: Focus on career preparation, life after high school and provide speakers.

Based on various studies of mentoring programs, youth with mentors have higher rates of high school graduation and are less likely to drop out of school. They find more self-confidence, self-esteem, and are able to create big goals for themselves. Additionally, studies show that behavior, attitudes and relationships improve when a youth has a mentor (Mentoring high-risk minority youth: Evaluation of the brothers project, David Royse and The Importance of Youth Mentorship, Boston University Community Service Center 3/15/2016). MEGA Mentors and partners have confirmed these results over the past 10 years.

This expansion could not occur without our partnerships with First Baptist Church Centralia, Second Baptist Church Chester, Chester YMCA, Mt. Gilead Full Gospel International Church, Spring Creek Baptist Church, John Tyler Community College, Chesterfield County Public Schools and Chesterfield Education Foundation. Our Community partners and supporters like Altria, Dominion Energy, Robins Foundation, UJIMA Fund and many others have allowed expansion into five elementary, five middle and four high schools. Currently, MEGA and our community partners will serve over 700 students by year end.

We have been asked to continue to support CCPS at all levels. Volunteer to help join our speaker’s bureau, mentor, donate resources or call to find out how you can help make a difference.
MEGA HIGHLIGHTS

Organization Highlights of 2018-2019
Partnered with 12 schools to provide mentors:

- Ecoff Elementary
- Harrowgate Elementary
- Reams Elementary
- Carver Middle
- Falling Creek Middle
- Manchester Middle

Ecoff Elementary
Ecoff Elementary Lunch Buddies is off to an outstanding start this 2019-2020 school year! What began as a pilot for MEGA’s Elementary mentoring program during the 2018-2019 school year has been exemplary mentoring model for all elementary schools in Chesterfield County. The partnership under the direction of MEGA Liaison Dr. Bobbie Anderson, Ecoff Elementary principal Mrs. Tail, Literacy specialist Mrs. Cheatham, and school counselor Mrs. Watts is a joint initiative with Second Baptist Church of Chester.

Harrowgate Elementary
The MEGA Mentors Reading Program at Harrowgate Elementary School was launched the second week in December thanks to the support of Christina Serola, principal; Sharon Webb, Literacy specialist and school coordinator; and volunteers from John Tyler Community College. Eight students have mentors to read and talk with during their lunch period. The Harrowgate mentoring team hopes to grow so more students can experience this special time of sharing.

Reams Elementary
Reams Elementary Breakfast Book Buddies launched in November 2019 strategically serving 12 to 16 students each week. Elementary Assistant Principal Kristin Saady and Guidance Counselor Lisa St. Pierre welcomed Mega Liaison Pastor Daniel Robertson II of Mt. Gilead Full Gospel International Ministry and his team of volunteers. This partnership is a mega opportunity to serve the Reams Elementary community.

Carver Middle
Dr. Anthony McLaurin, new principal at Carver Middle School, embraces the adage “It takes a village.” He partnered with CMS MEGA Mentors, Second Baptist Church, and Signs and Wonders Ministries to kick off the school year with a back-to-school cookout. With the threat of rain and an impending storm, the ‘village’ convened at the Broadwater community to show their care and support to CMS students and families. CMS MEGA Mentors demonstrate the same spirit. For the 2019-2020 school year, they faced the challenge of mentoring sessions being held at the end of the school day. They adjusted their schedules. Eleven mentors returned from last year, and one new mentor joined the team to show their care and support to over 60 mentees.

Falling Creek Middle
The Falling Creek MEGA Mentors team continues a successful program working with new School Coordinator Ashton Bohannon, School Counselor and her supervisor Dr. Pamela Wilkerson, School Counseling Coordinator. This year the 2019-2020 program has 38 students (13 boys and 19 girls). Many of the 7th & 8th grade students are continuing in the program. However, there are 16 brand new 6th graders who have entered the program, and these students are thrilled to have the opportunity to remain a part of MEGA Mentors for the next few years.

Manchester Middle
At Manchester Middle School, we’ve teamed with the school administration and our community partner, Spring Creek Baptist Church, to realize our organizational goal. For example, in support of the 30 plus MEGA students and 10 volunteers, Manchester Middle added counseling and administrative support to complement the current school coordinator’s role. Also, in support of the 6th grade community, MEGA funds snacks for the after-school tutoring program that is led by Spring Creek Baptist Church. Mr. David Atitzer, Principal of Manchester Middle summed it up best when he said: “You are truly making a difference for our students and our community.” We’re encouraged by the progress but are excited about the possibilities that lie ahead. It’s our firm belief that “the best is yet to come”.

MEGA HIGHLIGHTS

Organization Highlights of 2018-2019 (Cont’d)

- Providence Middle
- Salem Church Middle
- Meadowbrook High
- Thomas Dale High
- Carver College & Career Academy
- Monacan High

Providence Middle
For the second time in seven years Providence Middle School was awarded MEGA’s “School of The Year.” Providence had 14 mentors and 49 students of which 75 percent qualified for MEGA’s year-end merit field trip. The School has gone beyond to meet participating student needs and make MEGA’s Mentorship Program inclusive and productive. At the highest levels of the organization, there is unmistakable evidence of personal leadership commitment from Dr. Amanda Voelker, Principal, and Sandra Judge-Harden, Assistant Principal and School Coordinator. Their ongoing cooperation and support are a model for other MEGA schools.

Salem Church Middle
During this past year the Mega Mentor team at Salem Church Middle School worked collaboratively with the school coordinator and administration to provide mentoring support for 22 students. We are blessed to have 9 volunteers from our community partner First Baptist Church-Centralia who diligently served as mentors. We are all eager and excited to begin the new year and continue to support our youth.

Meadowbrook High
The Meadowbrook Speakers Bureau continues to enlighten students. This year, professionals in the healthcare and financial industries were featured. At the healthcare session, students were able to learn about the professional’s educational requirements, and get a broad perspective on available positions and salary ranges. The financial session attracted 40 students and was hosted by Kevin Nicholson. He shared information on his background, how he landed in finance, and covered the options career in the financial industry.

Thomas Dale High
MEGA Mentors lives up to its goals of increasing awareness of higher education and decreasing disciplinary incidents among African American students. MEGA has done a terrific job committing to our students for the second year in a row. Along with Clint Patterson, Coordinator and Dean of Students, MEGA works hard to build solid relationships with our students and is intentional about enlightening students on the importance of personal responsibility, effort and achievement. We look forward each year to collaborating with MEGA Mentors!

Carver College and Career Academy
MEGA Mentors is working with the faculty of Carver Academy to enlighten the students body on the fastest growing industries and career opportunities in Chesterfield County over the next five years. So far over 40 students have participated in discussions on the healthcare and personal service industries. Future sessions are planned for the construction, engineering, small business and real estate industries. One student stated after the healthcare sessions “I never knew that there was that many opportunities that paid such salaries in the healthcare industry.

Monacan High
About 50 Monacan high school students had the opportunity to spend six hours working on the farm owned by its community partner Mt. Gilead Full Gospel International Church. The students picked, clean and prepared for shipment about 1300 pounds of produce from the fall crop. All food was donated to the Food Bank.
MEGA HIGHLIGHTS

MEGA High School Students Tour UR and Black History Museum
MEGA Mentors sponsored the annual merit trip on April 10th for over 20 students from Chesterfield Career and Technical Center at Hull (Academy 360) and Meadowbrook High School to experience University of Richmond (UR) and the Black History Museum and Cultural Center of Virginia. At their first stop at UR’s O’Kally Center, administrations intern Cady Green addressed academic, financial and graduation aspects the university could offer. A campus guide then took the group on a detailed tour of the UR facilities where the students gained a general understanding of the school’s advantages.

After lunch in the campus dining facilities, the students headed to the Black History Museum and Cultural Center of Virginia where Ms. Adele Johnson, the museum’s executive director, greeted them with an overview of the center. As the students walked the galleries and studied the various displays and paintings, they gained a better understanding of the footprint African Americans made on the Capital City’s history.

Middle School Students Visit RCC and Monticello
MEGA middle school students embarked on their annual merit trip on April 15th. During their excursion, the students visited Reynolds Community College where they learned about their academic options after high school. The group also traveled to Charlottesville where they visited Monticello, the primary plantation of Thomas Jefferson, the third President of the United States.

The annual middle and high school trips are part of MEGA’s mission reward student achievement and expose them to experiential activities to broaden their perspectives. To participate, students must meet or exceed goals regarding attendance, grades and disciplinary actions.

Financing the Future with Knowledge
MEGA Mentor Kevin Nicholson spoke with students at Meadowbrook on April 11th as part of MEGA’s Speakers’ Bureau program. Mr. Nicholson spoke about his life’s journey, not being afraid to fail, saving money and careers in financial management. Mr. Nicholson is chief market strategist at Riverfront Investment Group in Richmond.

Recognition Celebration Honors Outstanding Students and Members
Over 350 students, family members, school officials and MEGA members attended the 2019 Excellence Awards and Recognition Celebration which was held on May 30th. This year’s guest speaker was Ms. Christy Coleman, the current CEO of the American Civil War Museum in Richmond. Ms. Coleman engaged the crowd with stories of her struggles in deciding a career path and starting over several times before she found her passion in history.

It’s okay if you don’t know what you want to do right now,’ said Coleman while specifically addressing the students. ‘Enjoy your youth. Take your time and find your passion. It’s okay to change your mind along the way.’

Annual Membership Meeting Hosted by JTCC
Over 70 members attended MEGA’s Annual Meeting September 17th at John Tyler Community College Midlothian Campus where the president spoke. Members learned about MEGA’s past school year accomplishments and goals for the current school year.

Comedian Micah “Bam-Bamm” White hosted a MEGA Mentors edition of the Family Feud game show where attendees learned about MEGA in a fun-charged environment.

2020 Fine Art Benefit and Sale
MEGA Mentors 9th Annual Fine Art Benefit and Sale is being held on Friday, January 17th, 2020. This event will be attended by over 300 patrons and will feature fine art, a silent auction featuring electronic bidding, music by Cloud 9, as well as an assortment of food and beverages.
We’re proud to support MEGA Mentors and encourage positive traits in our youth.

MEGA TESTIMONIALS

Student Testimonials

“MEGA makes me feel good about myself.”

“MEGA is an excellent program, and I learned respect, responsibility and caring.”

“He MEGA Mentor was nice and cool and he helped me with reading, and he was always there for me at lunch.”

“MEGA Mentors is an amazing group. I learned study habits, how to give a speech and how to respond and react during a conflict.”

“Thank you for doing what you did for me and my fellow MEGA Mentors friends.”

“I learned how to show more respect, that honesty is the key and you will not get anywhere in life if you don’t try.”

“I learned that there’s always hope.”

“All I can say is thank you. We are beyond grateful for the support we are receiving from MEGA and Spring Creek. You are truly making a difference for our students and community!”

David J. Altizer, Principal, Manchester Middle School

“As a mentor, I have the ability to bring the youth someone who looks like them and someone who can bring experiences that they can learn from.”

Thomas Branch, MEGA Mentor First Baptist Church, retired Postal Worker

“I am proud and extremely grateful to have MEGA Mentors as a member of the Salem community because they have demonstrated their investment in our children on a routine basis and our kids love having them as a part of our experience... our students have been soaring as a result of their contact.”

Shantay Knight, Principal, Salem Church Middle School

“The MEGA Mentor Program has been a gateway that has enlightened and encouraged our students towards windows of aspirations and opportunities.”

Daniel “Coach” Connor, Meadowbrook High School Liaison
Over 350 students, family members, school officials and MEGA members attended the 2019 Excellence Awards and Recognition Celebration held on May 30, 2019. This year’s guest speaker was Ms. Christy Coleman, the current CEO of the American Civil War Museum in Richmond. Ms. Coleman engaged the crowd with stories of her struggles in deciding a career path and starting over several times before she found her passion in history.

“It’s okay if you don’t know what you want to do right now,” said Coleman while specifically addressing the students. “Enjoy your youth. Take your time and find your passion. It’s okay to change your mind along the way.”

Kevin Nicholson, a MEGA board member and integral member of the Events Committee, was honored when Ms. Coleman accepted his request to be the guest speaker at this year’s event.

“Although I know Ms. Coleman personally, I was still intrigued when she shared her journey with the audience,” said Nicholson. “Her message will inspire the young men and women to not settle for a job or career that does not excite them, but instead seek to find their passion.”

MEGA AWARDS 2018 – 2019 EXCELLENCE AWARDS AND RECOGNITION CELEBRATION

MEGA School of the Year Award - This award is based on the partnership with MEGA Mentors (Principal involvement, Coordinator involvement) and promoting the MEGA Values (Respect, Responsibility, Effort, and Achievement).

Sandra Judge-Harden Providence Middle School

MEGA Mentors School Coordinator of the Year Award - This is awarded to the high and middle school coordinator that puts forth exceptional effort to partner with MEGA and assure student success. This coordinator not only schedules activities but takes extra effort to assure the program is running smoothly, participates in activities, helps solve problems and shares best practices.

Maia Johnson Carver Middle School

MEGA Mentors Community Partnership Award - This award is given to a community partner who helped MEGA achieve its mission of funding, enrollment, and recruitment.

Second Baptist Church Chester, Virginia

MEGA Mentors of the Year Award - One (1) male and one (1) female will be awarded. This award goes to the mentor that went above and beyond in their mentoring students, tutoring, and coordination of school activities, advocacy, teamwork, recruiting and retaining mentors and participation in all MEGA Mentor activities.

(L) Gregory Hillman – Manchester Middle School (R) Delores Taylor – Falling Creek Middle School
MEGA Mentors Students of the Year Award – The school coordinator, teachers, administrators and MEGA coordinator select a student from each school/from each grade that demonstrated Respect, Responsibility, Effort and Achievement.

Carver Middle School
6th Grade: Kyheem Lawson and Timara Jones
7th Grade: Asia Kelson and Jahsai Fife
8th Grade: Tre'mya Conner and Kymonte Moore

Falling Creek Middle School
6th Grade: Aniya Walker and Rah'Jeem Moore
7th Grade: Brianna Hollingsworth Kidd and Kevin Ortiz
8th Grade: Catherine Dixon and Jake Martinez

Manchester Middle School
6th Grade: Inaisia Washington and Dustin Jewell
7th Grade: Erica Lara Mateo and Amor Abdallah
8th Grade: Elizabeth Bonilla and Jayden Bland

Providence Middle School
6th Grade: Bradley Chase-Cobbs and Jayde Brooks
7th Grade: Orion Solomon and Jasmine Greenidge
8th Grade: Timothy Micah Weathers and Nailah Pegram

Salem Church Middle School
7th Grade: Ashley Almonte-Pichardo
7th Grade: Dreean Lancaster and Craig Taylor

CTC Hull 360 Academy
8th Grade: Analiah Harris
8th Grade: Lester Machan

Courthouse Phoenix Center
Jason Franco
Kaiyn Perdomo

Meadowbrook High School
9th Grade: Darnasia Deaderick
10th Grade: Foxi White and Josiah Johnson
11th & 12th Grade: Tania Berry, Kenneth Hayes and Haley Stewart

Students of the Year Award 2019

Wakeshi Benson, DDS
804-454-1888
wb-orthodontics.com | 12230 Iron Bridge Road, Suite B • Chester, VA 23831

Second Baptist Church Congratulates MEGA Mentors!

Senior Pastor: Ralph Steven Hodge
Worship Services:
Sundays 8 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.
Wednesday Bible study: 6:30 p.m.
www.2bcsouthside.org
CEF
Chesterfield Education Foundation
Fueling minds through opportunity.

Providing equitable educational opportunities and increasing classroom innovation for all Chesterfield County Public Schools’ students since 1989.

CEF

Classroom Innovation Grants
Through public and private partnerships CEF awards over $45,000 to faculty, staff & administration annually.

PSAT/SAT for All
The Foundation is partnering with CCPS to provide PSAT tests to nearly 20,000 8th-11th grade students and free SAT’s for every 11th grade student.

Support for CCPS Initiatives
The Foundation meets regularly with the CCPS Superintendent to identify critical needs that align with our mission.

January 17
9th Annual Fine Art Benefit & Sale

January 18
Freedom Classic Festival Field Trip

February 1
New Mentor Training & Orientation

April 2
Annual Merit Field Trip for High Schoolers

April 16
Annual Merit Field Trip for Middle Schoolers

April 24
“Walk A Mile” Program

May 28
10th Annual Excellence Awards and Recognition Celebration

June
MEGA Golf Tournament

School Schedules and Contacts 2019-2020 School Year

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<td>Chalkley ES</td>
<td>Scheduled based upon student and mentor availability</td>
<td>Jawanda Smith, Program and Events Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>Curtis ES</td>
<td>Scheduled based upon student and mentor availability</td>
<td>Delores Banks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ecoff ES</td>
<td>Scheduled based upon student and mentor availability</td>
<td>Dr. Bobbi Anderson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harrowgate ES</td>
<td>Scheduled based upon student and mentor availability</td>
<td>Dr. Laura Taylor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reams ES</td>
<td>Scheduled based upon student and mentor availability</td>
<td>Dena Reams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carver MS</td>
<td>2nd and 4th Tuesdays 2nd and 4th Thursdays</td>
<td>Dr. Laura Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falling Creek MS</td>
<td>2nd Wednesday 4th Tuesdays 2nd Tuesdays 4th Wednesdays</td>
<td>Dalesa Mack-Grisby, Derrick Thomas</td>
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<td>Manchester MS</td>
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<td>Providence MS</td>
<td>2nd and 3rd Tuesdays 1st and 3rd Thursdays</td>
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<td>Thomas Dale HS</td>
<td>2nd and 4th Thursdays</td>
<td>Phil Daniel, Brenda White</td>
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</tbody>
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** Schedules are subject to change. Contact school liaisons to confirm exact times and dates.
“...education is the greatest investment that any individual or corporation or foundation could possibly make. It is something that has an impact not only on the present generation but on many, many generations to come.”

– E. Claiborne Robins, Sr.

We support the efforts of MEGA MENTORS to enhance student success for ‘underrepresented’ students in Chesterfield County Schools.

VALUES
Claiborne Robins, Sr. was a compassionate, empathetic and accessible leader who valued integrity, ethical practices and generosity. As a thoughtful philanthropist and visionary, he used his wealth to improve the quality of life for the Richmond community.

Robins Foundation highly values his legacy, and seeks to honor his example through our philanthropic work.

VISION
Robins Foundation envisions Richmond as a vibrant community in which to live work and raise a family, where all its citizens have abundant opportunities to thrive.

MISSION
Our mission is to understand and serve the best interests of the Richmond community by listening, learning, engaging and supporting.
MEGA NEEDS YOU!

How can you help?
If you would like to support MEGA Mentors as we work devotedly to improve the future of students in Chesterfield County Public Schools, do so in any of the following ways:

Artwork/Raffle/Silent Auction
at the Fine Art Benefit and Sale

- MENTOR
- SPEAKERS BUREAU
- TUTOR
- BOARD COMMITTEES
- IN-KIND SERVICES
- MONETARY DONATIONS

Go to www.megamentors.org or email megamentors14@gmail.com

Direct tax-deductible donations to MEGA Mentors, c/o Chesterfield Education Foundation
13900 Hull Street Road, Midlothian VA 23112
We’ve never lost sight of putting others first.

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Complimentary Initial Consultation and diagnostic records! (A $300 value)

BOARD CERTIFIED ORTHODONTISTS

MIDDLE SCHOOL YEAR-END MERIT TRIP
RCC & MONTICELLO- APRIL 2019
MEGA ELEMENTARY PROGRAM

MEGA Mentors’ new and exciting elementary school program is up and running. A few years ago, former Chesterfield County Superintendent and current Virginia Superintendent of Public Instruction, Dr. James Lane asked MEGA leadership to create a program for elementary schools. After some study and benchmarking, the beta program was launched at Ecoff Elementary in the spring of 2019. The implementation of this program was the brainchild of a partnership between Dr. Dena Reams and Dr. Bobbie Anderson – Ecoff Elementary staff members and MEGA Mentors. They developed the program, processes and training for staff and mentors.

The purpose of the program is to:
1) Teach MEGA’s core values: Respect, Responsibility and Effort equals Achievement through mentoring and LITERACY.
2) Partner with Chesterfield County Public Schools (CCPS) to improve youth reading
3) Demonstrate how to overcome hurdles in their lives through mentorship

The program targets students in second through fifth grades. The mentors meet with the students during their lunch periods or in a group meeting during school hours two to four times a month. MEGA Mentors, and its partners, also provide over 100 approved books to each participating elementary school and $1,000 for the administration to devote to school or teacher needs.

Two out of three children do not meet the standards for reading proficiency set by the National Assessment of Educational Progress, a test administered by the National Center for Education Statistics, the research arm of the Education Department. The dismal results reflect the performance of about 600,000 students in reading and math, whose scores made up what is called the “nation’s report card” (Source NY Times, 10/30/19 Reading Scores on National Exam Decline in Half the States, Enca Green and Dana Golstein).

MEGA’s objective is to partner with the community and CCPS to bring resources to teachers that will help students learn to read early in school so that later those students are reading to continue learning.

The implementation of our elementary school and our career development Speakers’ Bureau programs means MEGA has fulfilled its goal of developing a vertical mentoring program that offers CCPS students an opportunity to have a mentor from elementary through high school. MEGA has implemented at Ecoff, Harrowgate and Reams Elementary schools. Plans are to start up at Chalkley and Curtis Elementary schools in the spring of 2020.

Community organizations currently partnering with CCPS and MEGA in the elementary program are Mt. Gilead Full Gospel International Ministries, Second Baptist of Chester, YMCA of Chester, Signs and Wonders of Chester and John Tyler Community College Chester Campus.

A five-year plan is under development to expand into all elementary schools by partnering with community churches, civic and community organizations and parents. Our goal also includes recruiting at least 50 new mentors a year.

To accomplish this goal, we need your help. If you know of an individual, church, business or social organization that would like to adopt and mentor at a school, please contact the Recruiting Committee at: info@megamentors.org or volunteer on our website at www.MEGAmentors.org.
MEGA Recognizing Excellence

Throughout the school year, MEGA Mentors works with students from 14 elementary, middle and high schools in the Chesterfield County district. As the school year draws to an end, MEGA Mentors recognizes the performance of its students throughout that year’s program with an annual excellence awards and recognition celebration. In May of 2019, MEGA recognized two students, one boy and one girl, per grade level from each school. School coordinators, teachers, administrators and MEGA liaisons selected students that demonstrate MEGA’s core values of Respect, Responsibility, Effort and Achievement. These students have been recognized for their achievement as leaders, maintaining a performance grade point average (GPA), active participation in sessions, demonstrating the ability to take responsible actions, displaying role model characteristics, having been the most improved in their class and so much more.

Making A Lasting Impression

Each year the Fine Arts Benefit and Sale (FABS) featured artist goes to one of the local Chesterfield County schools and works with the students hands on in designing and creating a work of art. Heather Moss, featured 2019 artist, spent time with the Meadow Brook High School students mentoring, teaching and fostering their creativity to develop a featured piece. Heather a Mobile, Alabama native currently resides in the Mississippi country side and has lived in South America, Europe and Asia. Heather is a self-taught artist that draws inspiration from her surroundings and has inspired the MEGA Mentors students.

Mentors Expecting Greater Achievement

MEGA Mentors have dedicated their time to the development of today’s youth for tomorrow’s future. Mentors are volunteers from the local community committed to making a positive, measurable difference in the lives of African-American and other underrepresented students in the Chesterfield County Public School System. During sessions, Mentors facilitate the discussions and encourage student interaction and participation. Students are encouraged to voice their opinions and ideas, discover and learn among themselves instead of being lectured.

Mentors build trust by respecting the students and being consistent, and by providing positive role models, a structured process and core values. Mentors hope to reshape students’ attitudes toward self and what they are capable of being. MEGA’s goal is that student’s academic performance, disciplinary action, and attendance will improve over the long term by building leadership, self-confidence, hope, goal attainment and self-efficacy.

Interested in becoming a mentor? Visit the MEGA Mentors website to complete a new member application: https://www.megamentors.org/index.php/application-form-submit or contact MEGA Mentors at (804) 639-8774.

Each year, our calendar includes:

- Weekly mentoring sessions
- Structured tutoring
- Goal-setting discussions
- College visits
- Guest speakers
- Educational field trips
- Cultural and social activities
- Parental engagement events
- Student and Mentor awards and recognition

We believe MEGA Mentors inspires possibilities through these experiences and helps to make the future brighter for our students and their families.

Make a difference. Become a Mentor today!

megamentors.org
Congratulations MEGA Mentors! Thank you for your commitment to the development and growth of our future leaders.

Owens Financial Services
Assisting individuals and businesses with health, life and disability insurances.

4110 E. Parham Road, Suite 203, Richmond, VA 23228

MEGA ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Established mentoring programs in 14 Chesterfield County Public Schools
- Over 2300 have participated in MEGA Programs
- Spent over $395,000 for mentoring program and related activities
- 91 percent of total expenditures are spent directly on program and student activities
- Awarded graduating seniors over $38,000 in tuition assistance grants
- Provided over $45,000 through the MEGA Excellence Award grant (donated by IBM) to Chesterfield County Public Schools
- MEGA Mentors was selected by the Chesterfield Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Inc. as the 2020 Founders Day Public Service Project and awarded over $5,500.

What Differences Have We Made with Chesterfield County Public Schools Students since 2009?

- Hope, self-initiation and self-regulation all demonstrated statistically significant improvement
- Discussed grades and behaviors each grading period and performance has improved in all areas over time
- Supported school-based student activities (Sea Perch, Young Men on a Mission, school and PTA activities)
- Encouraged Seniors to have a graduation plan and graduation preparation (FAFSA, applications, etc.)
- Over 350 parents, students, teachers, etc. regularly attend the annual MEGA Recognition and Awards Celebration
- Visited 12 universities, colleges and technical colleges
- Facilitated over 21 field trips with 0 incidents

Left to right (back row): Reuben Turner, Phil Daniel, Ed Bane, Michelle Wingo
Left to right (middle row): Cortez Dial, Greg Cummings, McKinley Moore, Charles Owens, Derrick Thomas, Kevin Nicholson
Left to right (front row): Misha King, Howard Corey, C. Dalesa Mack-Grisby
MEGA MEMBERS

Courtney Adie
Rosa Alvarez
Anita Anderson
Bobbie Anderson
Robert Anderson, Jr.
Eric Armstrong
Emie Armstrong
Teresa Ashe
Ed Baine
Bonnie Baker
Debores Banks
Amber Banett
Johnny Beaton
Carolyn Bentley
Donald Bentley
Audrey Berry
Vema Bradby
Tommy Branch
Tyressa Braxton
Tracy Britt
Ann Brunner
Tara Campbell
Eddie Camp
Debora Camron
Carol Carr
Jean Cauble
Jessica Chambers
Tara Cherry
James Clark
Jerrell Caughton
Casey Claytor
Lee Cole
Clinton Cole
Effie Cole
Danny Connor
Finis Cook
Justin Cook
Betty Corey
Howard Corey
Greg Cummings
Marilyn Cummings
LaQuan Daniel
Phil Daniel
Bill Day
James Delph
Cortez Dial
Jennifer Drummond
Pamela Duren-Browne
Andy Edow
Gwen Epps
Art Espey
Kinda Fernandez
Cardali Fisher
Earl Fisher
Clementine Fleming
Johnny Fleming
Paul Flowers
Chuck Fontenot
Monica Fontenot
Tyren Frazier
Michael Graves
Barrington Green
Nashasha Grimes
Ricky Grimes
Kyle Grinnage
Kym Grinnage
Ola Gunn
Danniele Harrison
Ben Haygood
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Deborah Hillman
Greg Hillman
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Shelby Jackson
Troy Jackson
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Adelle Johnson
Andria Johnson
Karen Johnson
Mae Johnson
Rachel Johnson
Carmel Jones-Boyd
Jennifer Jones
Machel Jones
Otis Jones
Tammie Jones
Thomas Jones
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Darlene Kiah
Misha King
Fernando Kittrell
Linda Knight
Clifford Knittel
Sheri Layton
Tonya Leeper
Donald Leverett
Shir Leverett
C. Dalesia Mack-Grisby
Thomas Mandley, Jr.
Malcolm Manning
Jonathan Marrow
Joey Mason
Lindsey Masouras
L.J. McCoy
Linda McFarland-Jones
Chris McNeil
Wille Miles
Shawn Miller
McKinley Moore
Terrence Moore
Rosemary Morton
Bemestine Mullins
Karen Mullins
Rodney Mullins
Lary Murphy
Sharon Murphy
Robert Myles
Cathy Nicholas
Terry Nichols
Kevin Nicholson
Dwan O’Neal
Barbeota Oliverwayu
David Outing
Charles Owens
Adria Parkam
Alverta Patterson
Maureen Patterson
Teresa Peple
Toni Penn
Carl Pierce
Larunatta Pollard
Lester Pryor
Dena Reams
Chantny Reese
Malcolm Reid
Annette Reynolds
Joyce Ricks
Sandra Roots
Etta Rose
Stephen Ross
Dan Ryan-Richards
Cyrene Saunders King
Ivan Schwartz
Azela Scott
Cecil Shorte
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2019

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We are committed in supporting the mission to improve the lives of students across Chesterfield County Public Schools.

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**MEGA Mentors Volunteers**

Bottom Row (left to right): Tara Campbell, Brenda White, Pearlala Duren-Brownie, Ota Gunn, Joyce Hicks and Clementine Fleming. Not pictured: Zita Smith and Rev. Charles Sampers, Dr. Ethel Rose, Cherrywine Hunter, Effie Cole and Betty Corey.

**Pastor: Rev. Johnnie Fleming, Jr.**

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