



## Beecher Spelling Bee

Urban Strategies recently hosted the “Beecher Bee” – an old-fashioned spelling bee for Beecher Terrace’s children. The idea for this initiative was suggested during one of the regular resident meetings that are held on the third Monday of each month. The event was designed to encourage children to increase their spelling skills and their comfort level with public speaking.

Ten students signed up initially and nine participated on the day of event, which was held on April 18<sup>th</sup> at the Baxter Community Center. To prepare for the contest, the children were encouraged to visit Urban’s office daily, where staff offered tips and strategies on how to read, memorize, spell, and recite the words. Spelling words were chosen to match the grade level of participants, who were all very excited about competing in the “Bee.”

The first place winner of the “Bee” was Ta’Miyah Hendricks, Anthony Allen came in second, and Jariyah Mason came in third. Coincidentally, our first place winner Ta’Miyah is a 1<sup>st</sup> grader at Coleridge Taylor Montessori School

and our third place winner Jariyah is a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader at the same school – plus these girls are also sisters. If competing with your sister wasn’t enough excitement, the Bee was held on one of their birthdays.

Initially, Jariyah, was reluctant to participate, explaining that she wasn’t a good speller, doubting herself as we often do when we feel uncomfortable. However, she stuck with it throughout the weeks of practice, and was able to excel and spell words that she initially believed would be too difficult. During the “Bee”, she even correctly spelled words that weeks before made her question whether she wanted to remain in the event. Jariyah thought about it, visualized it, then to her own surprise - spelled it correctly out loud in front of the au-

***If our minds can conceive it,  
 And our hearts can believe it,  
 Then we can achieve it.  
 -Inspired by Muhammad Ali***

dience. Despite being apprehensive, she was determined, and then filled with joy afterwards. Something that seemed impossible, had become a reality on her 9<sup>th</sup> birthday!

Ta’Miyah, who finished in first place, was excited about the Bee right



Above: Jariyah, Ta’Miyah, and Anthony with Urban Strategies Outreach Worker, Trenice.

from the beginning. While studying the words, she also helped her sister prepare. What teamwork! Ta’Miyah and Jariyah were both excited to be winners of the Beecher Bee. When asked, “How do you feel about winning?” Jariyah said “I can’t believe I won. Are you sure my scores were right?” Her sister simply said, “Thank you. I’m happy I won first place.”

All the children participating in the “Bee” are also preparing for an important transition in their lives – they live in the Phase II relocation area, meaning they will be moving during the upcoming months. Their concerns about relocating, plus the stress about the Bee itself, were challenges that each child faced. The sense of accomplishment the children experienced in preparing

**Have you made summer plans yet?** If not, contact Urban’s case managers about getting signed up, as several summer programs have spaces reserved especially for Beecher Terrace and Russell residents. Many of these programs are FREE for youth and located throughout the Louisville area. Please call your case manager or the Urban Strategies office at 384-0786 for more information or to complete a referral. The below programs have space left for Beecher Terrace residents. 🍌🍌

Agency	Address	Phone	Website
Family & Children's Place	828 S Jackson St.	502-893-900	<a href="https://www.familyandchildrensplace.org/">https://www.familyandchildrensplace.org/</a>
First Gethsemane Family Life Center After School Program	1159 Algonquin Pkwy.	502-635-7906	<a href="https://www.1stgchurch.org/">https://www.1stgchurch.org/</a>
Food Literacy Project Field to Fork	9001 Limehouse Ln.	502-491-0072	<a href="http://foodliteracyproject.org/">http://foodliteracyproject.org/</a>
Highland Park Community Development Center	3500 Shanks Ln.	502-449-3677	<a href="http://www.highlandparkcdc.com/">http://www.highlandparkcdc.com/</a>
Kentucky Refugee Ministries Family and Youth Services	969-B Cherokee Rd.	502-479-9180	<a href="https://kyrm.org/">https://kyrm.org/</a>
Lighthouse Academy	5312 Shepherdsville Rd.	502-964-5909	<a href="http://www.thelighthousecenter.org">http://www.thelighthousecenter.org</a>
Nativity Academy After School Program	529 East Liberty St.	502-855-3300	<a href="http://nativitylouisville.org/">http://nativitylouisville.org/</a>
Neighborhood House	201 N 25th St.	502-774-2322	<a href="https://www.nhky.org/">https://www.nhky.org/</a>
New Directions	925 South 26th St.	502-589-2272	<a href="http://www.ndhc.org">http://www.ndhc.org</a>
	1029 S Jackson St.		
	5809 Russett Pl.		
	673 Lindell Ave.		
Wesley House	5114 Preston Hwy.	502-968-8231	<a href="http://www.wesleyhouseky.org/">http://www.wesleyhouseky.org/</a>
Youthbuild	800 S Preston St.	502-290-6121	<a href="http://www.YBLKY.org">www.YBLKY.org</a>
YMCA- Childcare Enrichment Program	8815 Ferndale Rd.	502-637 1575	<a href="https://www.ymcalsouthern.org">https://www.ymcalsouthern.org</a>
	5650 Southern Pkwy.		
	2301 Clarendon Ave.		

for the event helped empower them to face the changes ahead. Beecher's children and their family members also have access to a variety of services and additional supports from Urban staff and LMHA Relocation staff that can ease their transition to their new homes.

The "Beecher Bee" was the first spelling bee held as part of our Vision Russell efforts. "What a fun way to increase educational involvement and self-esteem among Beecher's youth", said Ta'Londa Holland, Senior Project Manager with Urban Strategies. "We hope it will be the start of something great and look forward to next year's Beecher Bee 2!!"

**Did you know?**

Did you know that Urban's case managers will stay connected to you even after you relocate? Your case manager can visit with you in your new residence and continue to assist you with whatever your needs may be.

For more information, contact your case manager at 502-384-0786.

**I am Ali Festival**

Inspiration\*\*\*Service\*\*\*Celebration  
JUNE 1 -10, 2018

Join Louisville in celebrating our famous son, the late, great Muhammad Ali, during the Second Annual "I Am Ali" Festival. When our hometown champion passed away in June 2016, the Louisville community shone brightly to the world with

collective pride, compassion, and humanity. Last year, Louisville came together again to recognize the anniversary of his passing and to honor "The Greatest's" life and legacy with exciting events and activities for all ages. The 2018 "I Am Ali" Festival will mark the second anniversary of Muhammad Ali's passing. It will include local arts, cultural groups, performances, events, films, entertainment, and other activities throughout the city that reinforce Muhammad Ali's great legacy as a global citizen, athlete, and humanitarian.

Questions?

Contact [info@alicenter.org](mailto:info@alicenter.org) or call 502.992.5334.



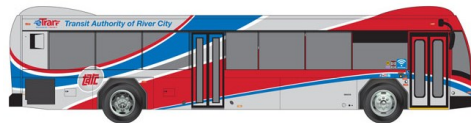
**Tuesdays, June 5<sup>th</sup>—August 28<sup>th</sup>  
3-5p.m. All ages welcome!**

**Western Library, 604 S. 10th St.**

Each ArtsBridge Visual Arts Class will allow students the opportunity to express themselves with a variety of arts media. Through scribble and doodling, spontaneous expression, painting, cartooning and working as a team to create a group drawing. Students will learn life skills such as conflict resolution, problem solving, goal setting, positive thinking, and develop increased confidence and self-esteem through visual arts expression. For more information, call 574-1779 or visit [LFPL.org/Summerreading](http://LFPL.org/Summerreading)

**Monthly Bus Passes**

TARC is working with Urban and the Vision Russell team to make monthly bus passes available to Beecher Terrace and Russell residents. Residents may receive these passes for assistance to employment, school, or job hunting. These passes are available on a first-come first-serve basis. If you are in need of a monthly pass, please visit Urban's offices at 434 S.10<sup>th</sup> St. Bldg. 46. This is also a great time to check-in with your Urban case manager and provide them with updates.



**Beecher "Be" Program**

We want Beecher Terrace middle-schoolers to "Be all that they can Be"! Starting June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Urban will be hosting a six-week youth development program. The program will be held once a week on Wednesdays at Urban's offices at 434 S.10<sup>th</sup> St. Bldg. 46.

Urban, LMHA, Louisville Metro Government and Jefferson County Public Schools are working together to ensure that Beecher Terrace youth of all ages have the connections, opportunities, and support they need to be able to pave the way to the future they envision for themselves. Local community partners, including the Society for Human Resource Management,

are dedicated to ensuring that this path forward exists for all children. Once a week, The Beecher "Be" program will offer skill development, career awareness and readiness training and other development activities necessary for Beecher youth to further their education and launch productive careers. A brief explanation of each key area is identified below.

**1) Applied Skills Development**

Applied skills development teaches participants relevant skills that will improve their eligibility for employment or post-secondary education. Participants will learn the connection with basic academic skills, 21<sup>st</sup> century skills and transferrable job skills.

**2) Career Awareness and Readiness**

Career exposure improves youth's awareness of the career opportunities that lead to a family-sustaining living wage. Youth will learn about careers that match their interests, and gain information about the skills and credentials required to enter and advance into the field of their choice.

**3) Youth Development Activities**

Youth development activities address barriers and challenges that prevent or hinder success. Youth will be connected to appropriate services and resources to sustain growth and awareness.

**Cultural Pass**

**Attention Families:** Are you looking for **FREE**, kid-friendly summer activities? Then make plans to sign your child(ren) up for the Cultural Pass presented by Churchill Downs! With this pass, you enjoy one-time free admission with your kid(s) to 46 world-class arts and cultural institutions. You can visit places like the Louisville Science Center, Speed Art Museum, Louisville Zoo, and more! Participants between the ages of 0-21 are eligible for a Cultural Pass.

Passes are good from June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 through August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Pick up your pass at any Louisville Free Public Library location or on June 9th at the Louisville Free Public Library's Main Branch at 301 York Street during their Summer Reading kick-off event from 10:00am to 12:30pm. Children and families will be able to track their progress online via the LFPL Cultural Pass website. Kids can also win prizes!

For more information, visit: <https://fundforthearts.org/culturalpass/>



**More Ideas for Summer Fun**

- 1) Plan and regularly schedule fun activities as a family.
- 2) Read stories and books – challenge your child to create their own story. 
- 3) Sing, make creative instruments, and write songs. AMPED can also provide your child with free music lessons in the Chickasaw Neighborhood! Call 574-2821 for more information.
- 4) Grow a garden – flowers, tomatoes and greens  grow great in containers.
- 5) Visit local parks, including the new spraygrounds at Sheppard Park, pictured below.
- 6) Take advantage of free concerts, events, and activities. Local libraries have free programming daily for all ages!
- 7) Get creative at home with arts, crafts and cooking. Fresh Stop Markets are a great way to get fresh produce weekly and new recipes to try. Call 509-6770 for more information.
- 8) Get to know your neighbors by starting a conversation or arranging a BBQ.



Above: Sheppard Park's new sprayground, located at 1601 Magazine St.