



APROPOS

BATSHAW YOUTH AND FAMILY CENTRES

News from Michael Udy, Executive Director

T.A.P. (Teens Acting Project)

(Contributed by Lynn Dion, STI-HIV Prevention and Youth Sexuality Resource Person)

On Thursday, June 7th, Batshaw Youth and Family Centres presented a play created entirely by some of our clients in care who have been participating in the Teens Acting Project (T.A.P.). This project started in March 2007. The objective of T.A.P. is for participants to experience a creative process by means of a performing art, in this case, theatre. With the T.A.P. pilot project we wanted to introduce the participants to another form of expression and give them a chance to live the different steps in the creative process of a play and also to find a new way to express their feelings and thoughts. T.A.P. allowed them to explore new territories and allowed them to «act out» differently.

In the afternoon of June 7th, we saw three different groups of talented girls and boys perform on stage for the first time (for the majority of them). I want to congratulate Marie-Noel, Jamal, Robert, Nicholas, Dezerai, Kayla, Kristi-Ann, Rodney, JP, Katarina and Kathleen for their amazing performances. I was very fortunate to see them go through all the creative processes and I raise my hat to them for all the efforts they put in and the excellent work they have done. I have received only positive feedback.

The critics are unanimous, it was a great show!

TOBIN HOUSE KIDS BRING WARM SUMMER SMILES TO MAIMONIDES HOSPITAL

(Contributed by Darlene Job and Rick Carpanzano, Child Care Workers, Tobin House)

For the last 2 months Tobin House clients were creatively responding to a proposal from Maimonides Hospital to add inspiration to their Elder Care Art Therapy program. Patients at Maimonides, a geriatric hospital, were looking for someone to benefit from their art work. Tobin House welcomed the offer and a craft exchange was proposed, aimed to empower our kids to take stock of their abilities, channel their energy and make a positive impact on another. Months of hard work ensued as the planning and assembly phases of an inspiring, practical and visually appealing craft project went into gear.

The final presentation occurred Thursday June 7th, when the Tobin Clients visited their counterparts at Maimonides Hospital and presented them a hand-crafted duffle bag to hang behind their wheelchairs, and a lap blanket with a decorative pocket. The hospital patients were extremely touched and surprised by the detail that went into each element of the craft. For their effort, the Tobin kids received an oversized tie-dye T-shirt from the elderly clients which they wore proudly.

Crafts were not the only items of note to be exchanged that day, as the children gave the hospital patients laughter and courteous attention. The kids displayed the values that we in the helping profession aim to model,

namely caring, thoughtful, sensitive and empathetic interactions. In the end the Tobin House kids were the stars of the elder care hospital, bringing warm smiles to the Maimonides patients.

BATSHAW-THON 2007 – KIDS FIRST New Event for all Batshaw employees

(Contributed by Samantha Batten, Human Resources Agent)

On the morning of September 12, 2007, you are all invited to get physically active and to go a step further to help our clients by participating in a new 10 km walk/run fundraising activity. The activity will take place along the Lachine canal. Employees are invited to get sponsorship to raise funds for our Batshaw Youth and Family Centres Foundation.

You are required to register to obtain an official sponsor sheet form from Antoinette Valiante: 514-989-1885, ext. 285. For further details please consult the intranet.

THE RUTH ET MANNY BATSHAW AWARD OF EXCELLENCE 2007

(Contributed by Claire Roy, Manager of Communications and Public Relations)

The second edition of the Ruth and Manny Batshaw Award of Excellence will be launched at the end of August. This award recognizes a Batshaw employee who has demonstrated excellence in his or her accomplishments over the last 5 years for which it is awarded. The award consists of \$1,000, a sculpture and a certificate of honour. It will be presented on October 15th at Batshaw's Annual Information Meeting.

Get a head start, and think about who you would like to nominate...

THE BATSHAW CALENDAR

August 5th (Sunday): Annual Staff Family BBQ at Camp Weredale
12 (noon) to 4 p.m.
Information: Darlene Job
514-932-7161, ext: 316

August 25th: Prévost Campus Centennial Celebration
1 to 3 p.m.
Information: 514-932-7722
Kim Parker at ext: 320 or
Merv Atta-Segal at ext: 0

September 12th: Batshaw-thon 2007
Information: Antoinette Valiente
514-989-1885, ext: 285

September 21st: Staff Golf Tournament at Club Bonniebrook
Information: Leo Ferguson
514-932-7161, ext: 455