



Celebrating Community Leaders Event



From L to R: Ms. Candice Strett; Dr. Cynthia Newbille; Mr. Mike Mulvihill; Ms. Rosa Coleman; Ms. Penny McPherson; Mrs. Kara Zinchuck; Mr. Wayne Crocker; Mr. Robert Walker

Virginia LISC honored Mr. Robert Walker and Mr. Wayne Crocker with the Petersburg Library efforts, Ms. Rosa Coleman and Mrs. Kara Zinchuck with Greater Fulton's Future and the Honorable Dr. Cynthia Newbille from the Richmond City Council for their leadership on Oct. 26, 2013 for their ability to turn vision into reality.



In This Issue

Community Leaders p. 1, p. 3

LISC Brings Artspace to town p. 2

Ukrop's Scholars p. 2

Lifting out of Public Housing into Homeownership p. 4

Is Richmond Ready for Artspace? We Think So.

Artspace is visiting Richmond next week to see if the river city is compatible to host an affordable arts facility.

The nonprofit is America's leader in arts-driven community transformation. Its mission is to create, foster and preserve affordable space for artists and arts organizations. With headquarters in Minneapolis and offices in Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Seattle and Washington DC, Artspace runs a network of 33 affordable arts facilities in 13 states. Representing a \$500 million investment in America's arts infrastructure, their facilities provide more than 1,100 affordable live/work units for artists and their families as well as a million square feet of non-residential space for artists, arts organizations and creative enterprises.

artspace

There will be a public meeting on Oct. 24, at 7 p.m. at Plant Zero Poetry Slam Stage, 400 Hull St. Come show your support of the arts and see how Artspace can add to the rapidly growing arts community in Richmond. We know Richmond is ready for Artspace; now it's time to show Artspace that we want them here.

Thank You to Our Sponsors!

Virginia LISC would like to give a special thanks to all of our sponsors who have supported us this year in our neighborhood work on the East End in Fulton and Church Hill, on the Northside and in Petersburg.

- The Dominion Foundation
- Wells Fargo Bank
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- The Cameron Foundation
- The Rosenthal Foundation
- The City of Richmond
- Ukrop's Endowment Fund
- Susan Bailey and Sidney Burford Scott Endowment Trust
- And All of our Individual Donors

Introducing this Year's Ukrop's Scholars

Two local nonprofit employees received the VHDA/ LISC funded Ukrop's Scholarships to participate in Richmond leadership programs.

Shantell Malachi, Executive Director and founder of Dress for Success Central Virginia, received the Ukrop's Scholarship, which will pay the fees of the Emerging Nonprofit Leaders Program, where she was accepted as a participant for the coming year.

"The ENPL program actually attached the Ukrop's Scholarship application to their regular application, which made it so easy to fill out," said Malachi.

ENPL is an eight-month training program for the next generation of nonprofit leaders. Malachi is part of the 6th ENPL class.

"It's a great program because it is specific to the nonprofit population; it's like the MBA for nonprofits," she said.



Bernard Rogers, Senior Project Manager at Better Housing Coalition received the Ukrop's Scholarship to pay for the participation costs of the Leadership Metro Richmond Program to which he was accepted.

"LMR is important to our community because it focuses on regional issues and collaboration," said Rogers.



Leadership Metro Richmond is a Chamber-based program designed to connect a diverse group of emerging leaders for thoughtful examination of the challenges within the community and gather multiple perspectives on these challenges.

The Ukrop's Scholarships were created by the Virginia Housing Development Authority and LISC in 2010 as a way to support both LMR and ENPL. The scholarships were named after Jim Ukrop, an influential and much loved leader of the Richmond community.

Celebrating Community Leaders Event Continued

Everyone from Richmond and Petersburg city council members to Fulton residents to Petersburg Library supporters to community development partners to friends and family joined in the festivities at Maymont's Nature Center on Thursday, September 26.



From L to R: Corliss Archer, Wells Fargo; Kelly Pickerel, Wells Fargo; Delores McQuinn, Virginia House of Delegates; Mark Strickler, Henrico County; William Johnson, Petersburg City Manager

"I thought this event was fabulous and a truly great opportunity to recognize neighborhood leaders as well as local political leadership, both of which are essential to neighborhood revitalization," said Lynn McAteer, Planning and Special Projects Consultant for the Better Housing Coalition.

Penny McPherson, VP of Community Development at Wells Fargo Bank and a LISC board member, served as Master of Ceremonies for the program, urging the crowd to chant "*LISC builds strong communities,*" and Mike Mulvihill, VP of Padilla/CRT and Virginia LISC's Board Chair, gave the opening remarks.



From L to R: Penny McPherson, VP Community Development, Wells Fargo Bank; Greta Harris, Executive Director of Better Housing Coalition; Yvette Roots, Pathways; Cheryl Groce-Wright, Executive Director of the Neighborhood Resource Center

"LISC helps bring together the resources and partners needed to help execute the neighborhood's vision and then leverages the financing power of the national LISC organization to be a catalyst for, and in some cases a complement to, local funding," explained Mulvihill during his comments.

Special thanks goes out to all of our sponsors—Padilla/CRT, Virginia Housing Development Authority, Wells Fargo Bank, Virginia Dominion Power, Bon Secours Richmond Health System, BB&T, Richmond Association of Realtors, Nationwide Insurance and Williams Mullen—without whom the opportunity to recognize local leaders would not have happened.



Above, L to R: Honorable Delores McQuinn, Virginia House of Delegates; Honorable Michelle Mosby, Richmond City Council; Honorable Cynthia Newbille, Richmond City Council.

Below, L to R: Laura Lafayette, CEO of Public Affairs and MLS at Richmond Association of Realtors; Susan Dewey, Executive Director VHDA and Vice Chair of Virginia LISC's Board.



From Public Housing to Homeownership: City Loan Fund



Ever since Ms. Brenda Harvey moved into Whitcomb Court, a public housing project on the East End, she was determined to get out.

"I told my two girls the day we moved into the projects that I would get us out. I promised them that," said Harvey. "And their belief in me was my motivation."

Harvey's dream turned into a reality. She will be moving into her own house on Boston Avenue in the beginning of November.

How did she do it? She got in contact with Southside Community Development and Housing Corporation, a nonprofit that renovates homes and then offers closing cost and down payment subsidies.

"I first met Brenda back in 2011 when I was working for a different organization," said Ms. Donna Stallings, Housing Program Manager at SCDHC. "She came to me seeking help on finding a house, but her credit was too low to be house-ready."

Stallings and Harvey worked out a plan to get Harvey out of debt. Harvey stuck to the plan, carefully budgeted her money and met periodically with Stallings. Two years later

she came to Stallings out of debt and ready for homeownership. So Stallings took her on a SCDHC house tour.

The Boston Avenue house that Harvey chose to buy was financed in part by the Vacant Properties Loan Fund—a fund created by Virginia LISC and the City of Richmond to provide revolving loans to for-profits and nonprofits like SCDHC, so that they can rehabilitate vacant properties in Richmond.

"Our hope is that this loan fund will help turn neighborhoods into healthy sustainable communities," said John Bolton, Loan Officer at Virginia LISC.

LISC and the City of Richmond provided the loan to SCDHC so that they could rehabilitate the vacant property, SCDHC renovated the house and provided down payment and closing cost subsidies as well as counseling services to Harvey, and Harvey brought her determination and hard work to make a better life for her and her daughters.

"So many people who hear my story, ask me how I got out of the projects," said Harvey. "And I tell them you can do it too. You just have to want it so badly that you work for it nonstop, and you have to go to the right sources."

Local Advisory Committee

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